



## Women in the College Presidency

The American Council on Education (ACE) produced the latest iteration of the American College President Study (ACPS) with generous sponsorship from the TIAA Institute. *The American College President: 2023 Edition* is the ninth iteration of ACPS, and the data it presents provide a comprehensive view of the demographics, challenges, and experiences of college presidents. While there are more women serving as college presidents today than ever before, men continue to outnumber women two-to-one, highlighting a continued need to examine women's educational and professional pathways and their experiences in the college presidency.

### Where Women Led

**33 percent**

Percentage of college presidents in 2022 who were women

**29 percent**

Percentage of women who led **doctoral institutions**, compared with 70 percent of men

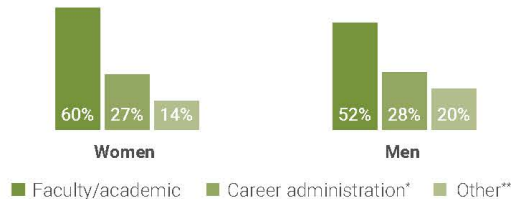
**44 percent**

Percentage of women presidents at **associate institutions**, the institution type that had the highest share of women leaders

### Career Trajectories and Pathways



Women presidents were more likely than men to come from a **faculty or academic background**.



\*Such as student affairs officer, auxiliary services or finance.

\*\*Includes public sector/government, business executive, nonprofit executive, and those career paths not listed.

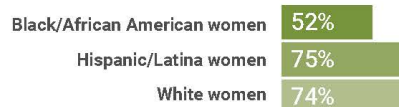
**Women presidents were more likely to be promoted to the presidency from within their current institution**



### Opportunities for Mentoring & Support

More than **two in three women presidents (69 percent)** reported some level of agreement that they struggled to find people who understand the experience of being a president.

**Women presidents who indicated that they struggled to find people who could relate to their experience as president, by race and ethnicity\***



\*Due to small sample sizes, disaggregated data for all racial and ethnic categories (such as Middle Eastern/Arab American women, American Indian/Alaska Native women, Asian/Asian American women, Asian Indian women, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander women and Multiracial women) cannot be reported.

### Continued Areas for Development

As the sector seeks to support more women on a pathway to the presidency, these are the top four areas in which current women presidents want more training or development.



Suggested citation: American Council on Education. 2023. *The American College President: 2023 Edition—Women in the College Presidency*. Washington, DC: American Council on Education.

