Over 3.1 million undergraduate students in the U.S. higher education system are student-parents. With the generous support of Imaginable Futures, the American Council on Education (ACE) is spotlighting student-parents to emphasize the need to better understand and support this growing student population.

**Student-Parent Demographics**

- **88%** Ages 25 years and older
- **74%** Women
- **55%** People of color**
- **31%** Living at or below the poverty line

**Educational Trajectories and Pathways**

Nearly **one-half** of student-parents attended two-year public institutions.

- **49%** 2-year public
- **20%** For-profit
- **16%** 4-year public
- **11%** 4-year private
- **3%** Other

Approximately **44 percent** of student-parents were enrolled in entirely online or virtual postsecondary education programs.

Nearly **three in five** student-parents worked full time while enrolled in higher education.

Approximately **one in three** student-parents were enrolled in majors or programs related to health care.

**Note:** Total may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

*The term student-parents denotes respondents who indicated that they have dependent children.

**The term people of color denotes respondents who identified as a racial and ethnic category other than White.