

READY TO LEAD

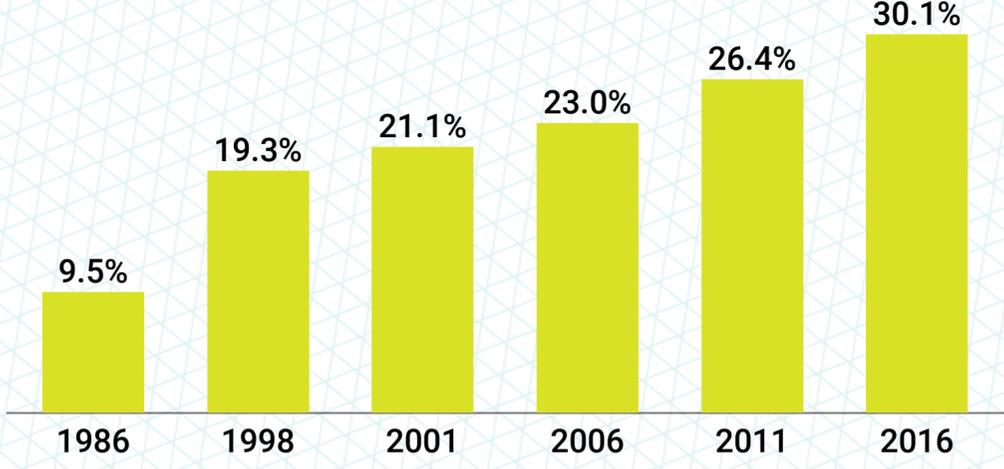
Women in the Presidency

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Creating Gender Parity

Creating gender parity among college presidents necessitates acknowledging and appreciating what women bring to the academy. The current state of higher education presents substantial opportunities for women to further progress as institutional leaders.

PERCENTAGE OF PRESIDENCIES HELD BY WOMEN
(SELECTED YEARS, 1986 TO 2016)



According to the *American College President Study 2017*, **54%** of presidents plan to leave their current position within five years. However, nearly **80%** of presidents surveyed reported that their institutions have no succession plans in place to fill these roles. There are women candidates who are equipped to meet this pressing need for incoming presidents.

Preparation for the Role

This urgent need for qualified leaders supports the importance of bringing women into higher levels of institutional leadership and—in particular—the presidency.



86%

Women presidents with a PhD or EdD—of these, 56% specialized in higher education of education as their field of study



72%

Women presidents who participated in a formal leadership training program prior to becoming a president



85%

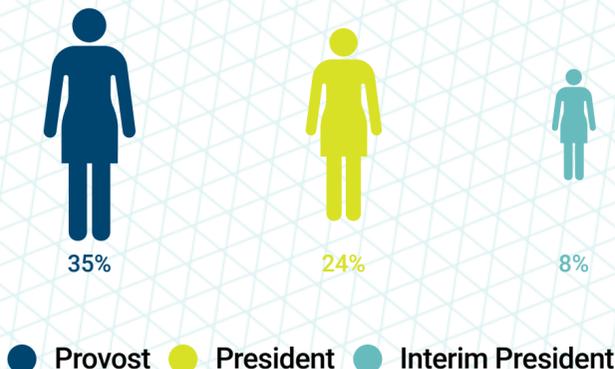
Women presidents who previously served as senior institutional leaders



52%

Women presidents who have spouses/partners that altered their careers as a gesture of support

IMMEDIATE PRIOR POSITION



Role Responsibilities

Widening the pathway to the presidency for more women requires transparency regarding the nature of the role. To better inform future leaders, this graph illustrates the top areas that women presidents identified as occupying most of their time.

TOP AREAS IDENTIFIED BY WOMEN PRESIDENTS

