

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INSIGHTS

No. 05-24 March 2024

RESEARCH BRIEF

Student Parents Outcomes at NOVA: 2022-23

Student parents are defined as any student who declared one or more children on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This research brief presents data on student parents, including demographic information, retention rates, and course success rates.

Based on FAFSA data, there were 3,441 student parents enrolled at NOVA in 2022-23, making up 5 percent of the student population (71,513 students). Forty-nine percent of students enrolled at NOVA in 2022-23 completed a FAFSA (34,829 students). The data on student parents presented in this research brief does not represent all student parents at NOVA, only those that submitted a FAFSA. College-wide data presented in this research brief consists of all students at NOVA, including those who did not submit a FAFSA.

Section 1. Demographics of Student Parents: 2022-23

Section 1 presents demographic information for student parents at NOVA in 2022-23.

Most student parents (54 percent) were enrolled in A.S. programs in 2022-23, and a third were enrolled in A.A.A. or A.A.S. programs. Only 2 percent of student parents were not program placed, compared to 40 percent college-wide.

Table 1. Student Parent Enrollment by Program Placement: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College	e-Wide
	#	%	#	%
A.A.	104	3.0	2,012	2.8
A.S.	1,857	54.0	28,393	39.7
A.F.A.	25	0.7	1,101	1.5
A.A.A. or A.A.S.	1,164	33.8	9,454	13.2
Certificate	241	7.0	2,275	3.2
Not Placed	50	1.5	28,278	39.5
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0

60% 54% 50% 40% 40% 40% 34% 30% 20% 13% 7% 10% 3% 3% 3% 2% 1% 2% 0% A.A.A. or A.S. Not Placed A.A. A.F.A. Certificate A.A.S. ■ Student Parents ■ College-Wide

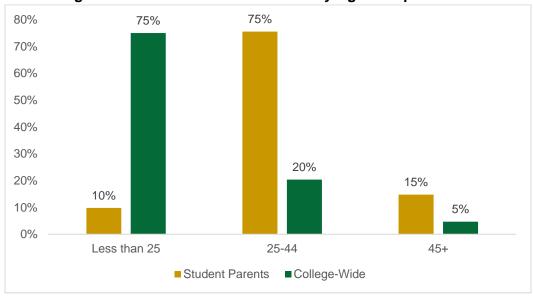
Figure 1. Student Parent Enrollment by Program Placement: 2022-23

Three-quarters of student parents were between the ages of 25 and 44 in 2022-23, compared to only 20 percent college-wide. Only 10 percent of student parents were under the age of 25, compared to 75 percent college-wide.

Table 2. Student Parent Enrollment by Age Group: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	#	%	#	%		
Less than 25	337	9.8	53,591	74.9		
25-44	2,597	75.5	14,560	20.4		
45 or older	507	14.7	3,362	4.7		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Figure 2. Student Parent Enrollment by Age Group: 2022-23



Twenty-nine percent of student parents enrolled in 2022-23 were Black/African American, compared to only 14 percent college-wide. Twenty-three percent of student parents were Hispanic/Latino, compared to 22 percent college-wide.

Table 3. Student Parent Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College-Wide		
	#	%	#	%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	0.3	174	0.2	
Asian	525	15.3	12,015	16.8	
Black/African American	1,013	29.4	10,133	14.2	
Hispanic/Latino	795	23.1	15,870	22.2	
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	10	0.3	169	0.2	
Not Specified	103	3.0	3,085	4.3	
Two or More Races or Nonresident Alien	117	3.4	5,256	7.4	
Unknown	20	0.6	246	0.3	
White	848	24.6	24,565	34.4	
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0	

Most student parents (79 percent) were enrolled part-time in 2022-23. This is similar to college-wide, where 80 percent of students were enrolled part-time.

Table 4. Student Parent Enrollment by Enrollment Status: 2022-23

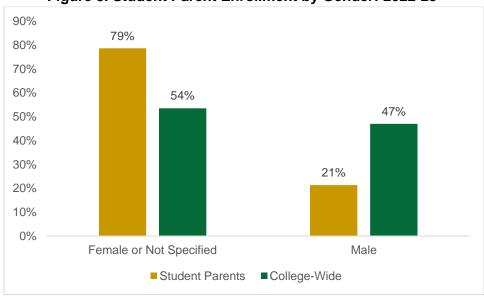
	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	# %		#	%		
Full-Time	727	21.1	14,411	20.2		
Part-Time	2,714	78.9	57,102	79.9		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Almost 79 percent of student parents were female or not specified in 2022-23, compared to only 54 percent college-wide. Only 21 percent of student parents were male, compared to 47 percent college-wide.

Table 5. Student Parent Enrollment by Gender: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	#	%	#	%		
Female or Not Specified	2,706	78.6	38,284	53.5		
Male	735	21.4	33,229	46.5		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Figure 3. Student Parent Enrollment by Gender: 2022-23

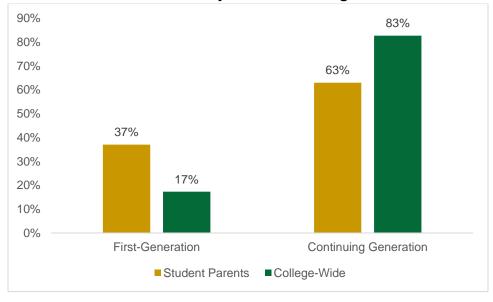


Over a third of student parents (37 percent) were first-generation in 2022-23. This is higher than collegewide, where only 17 percent were first-generation.

Table 6. Student Parent Enrollment by First-/Continuing Generation Status: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	#	%	#	%		
First-Generation	1,273	37.0	12,363	17.3		
Continuing Generation	2,168	63.0	59,150	82.7		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Figure 4. Student Parent Enrollment by First-/Continuing Generation Status: 2022-23

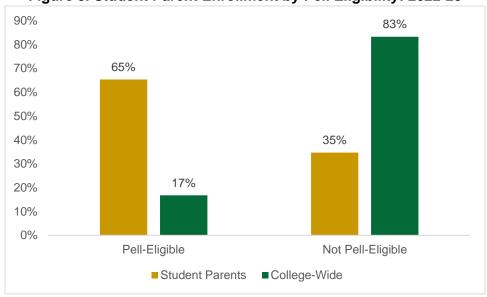


Nearly two-thirds of student parents (65 percent) were Pell-eligible in 2022-23. This is much higher than college-wide, where only 17 percent of students were Pell-eligible.

Table 7. Student Parent Enrollment by Pell Eligibility: 2022-23

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	Student	Parents	College-Wide					
	#	%	#	%				
Pell-Eligible	2,248	65.3	11,983	16.8				
Not Pell-Eligible	1,193	34.7	59,530	83.2				
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0				

Figure 5. Student Parent Enrollment by Pell Eligibility: 2022-23



Almost 13 percent of student parents graduated in 2022-23. This is a higher percentage than collegewide, where only about 8 percent of enrolled students graduated.

Table 8. Student Parent Enrollment by Graduation Status: 2022-23

	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	#	%	#	%		
Graduated	444	12.9	5,507	7.7		
Did Not Graduate	2,997	87.1	66,006	92.3		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Section 2. Retention and Course Success of Student Parents: 2022-23

Section 2 presents data on retention and course success rates of student parents.

Almost 63 percent of student parents enrolled in Spring 2023 either re-enrolled or completed their program by the Fall 2023 semester. This is higher than college-wide, where only 56 percent of students either re-enrolled or finished their program by Fall 2023.

Table 9. Spring 2023 to Fall 2023 Retention

	Student	Parents	College-Wide			
	# %		#	%		
Retained	1,474	62.7	25,140	56.0		
Not Retained	878	37.3	19,745	44.0		
Total	3,441	100.0	71,513	100.0		

Note: Data is preliminary as of 10/9/2023.

Student parents had lower course success rates than college-wide in all courses except MTH 154, where they had a 70 percent success rate, compared to a success rate of 66 percent college-wide. The largest difference in success rates was in ACC 211, where student parents had a success rate of 63 percent, compared to a success rate of 72 percent college-wide.

Table 10. Course Success Rate: 2022-23

	ACC	211	BIO	101	ENG	111	MTH	154	MTH	161	Ove	rall
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Student Parents	80	63.0	194	71.1	506	75.5	294	69.8	110	59.5	1,184	70.6
College- Wide	1,897	72.2	4,077	74.7	14,543	77.5	3,861	66.3	3,111	61.8	27,489	72.9

Figure 6. 2022-23 Course Success Rate

