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"When you are invisible, so are your problems."

STUDENT PARENT DATA COLLECTION

ISSUE Student parents are invisible in Oregon's higher education institutions.

Currently institutions lack data on the enrollment and graduation rates of students with children creating an unfortunate blind spot in colleges' ability to improve student outcomes.

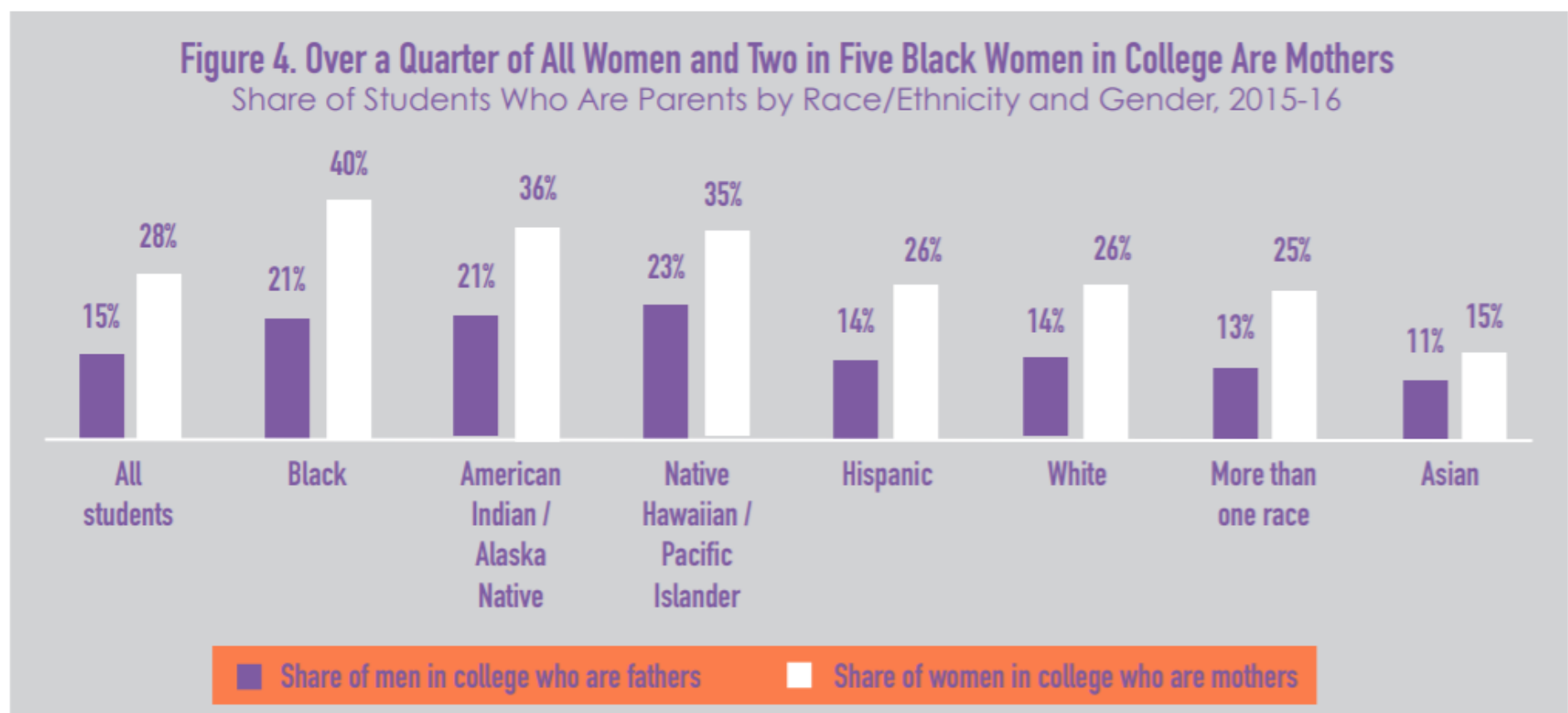
SOLUTION Legislation mandating public colleges and universities ask students to share whether they are parents on forms used to collect demographic data.

IMPORTANCE Without data there is no quantitative means of measurement to track the successes and shortfalls of parenting students.

- More than **one in five** college students—or 22 percent of all undergraduates—are parents, according to new analysis of data from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.
- Nationally just **37 percent** of student parents graduate within six years, compared with nearly **60 percent** of students without children.

WHAT WE KNOW

*All information sourced from IWPR



Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015-16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

- Students of color are **more likely** to be parents and **more likely** to stop out before graduation.
- Nearly **two in five** parents are single parents, the large majority of whom **live in or near poverty**
- **77 percent** of student parents experience housing insecurity and/or homelessness **during** their studies.

ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT BETTER DATA COLLECTION

