

# SURVEY: IMPACT OF PARENTHOOD ON CAREER PROGRESSION IN STEMM

Women are vastly underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) fields, particularly in leadership roles. Motherhood is a determinant factor driving women away from their career track, yet few interventions or policies address the career obstacles faced by mothers, such as motherhood discrimination, a chronic lack of affordable childcare, and unequal sharing of childcare and housework.

## AIM

This survey aims to measure the impact of parenthood on the career progression of professionals and students in STEMM, and to begin identifying the specific career obstacles faced by people with children.

## IMPACT

The data collected will be used for creating solutions to advise the development of interventions and policies for increasing the retention of women in STEMM fields and ensuring that parents and people with caregiving responsibilities have equal opportunities for career advancement. The survey results will also help to raise awareness of the challenges of combining work and family life in STEMM careers, particularly for women.

**42% of mothers and 15% of fathers in the US leave full time STEM employment within 3 years of having children.**

## PARTNERS

This study is being conducted by Mothers in Science in collaboration with Washington University in St. Louis, 500 Women Scientists, Parent in Science, Femmes & Sciences and International Network of Women in Engineering and Sciences.



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## WHO SHOULD ANSWER?

People of any gender, with or without children, who are working or studying in any professional sector in STEMM, at any career stage.

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