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2-12-2024

## ASA Task Force on First Generation and Working Class Persons in Sociology Infographic

Isabella Cantu

*University of California, Davis*, [idcantu@ucdavis.edu](mailto:idcantu@ucdavis.edu)

José A. Muñoz

*California State University - San Bernardino*, [munoz@csusb.edu](mailto:munoz@csusb.edu)

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### Recommended Citation

Cantu, Isabella and Muñoz, José A., "ASA Task Force on First Generation and Working Class Persons in Sociology Infographic" (2024). *Sociology Faculty Publications*. 7.

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# REPORT OF THE ASA TASK FORCE

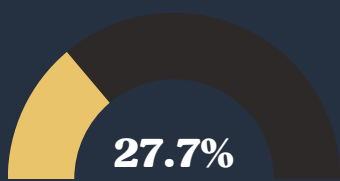
## ON FIRST-GENERATION AND WORKING-CLASS PEOPLE IN SOCIOLOGY

### TASK FORCE

charge 1 & 2A

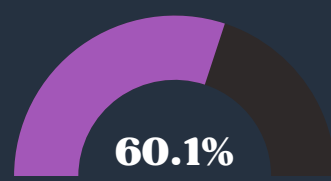
#### Documenting Representation of First-Generation and Working-Class People in the Discipline

(Source: ASA-FGWC July 2022 Report)



249 FGWC  
203 non-FGWC

Graduate Student Respondents



536 FGWC  
446 non-FGWC

Faculty Respondents  
tenure-track/tenured  
adjunct, or lecturer

#### Defining First-Generation and Working-Class



**no** parent or caregiver had obtained a bachelor's degree  
&  
**all** parents' or caregivers' occupational status was working class

Continuing-generation - those for whom at least one parent/caregiver had earned a bachelor's degree or higher (non-FGWC)

### RECOMMENDATION #2

Adding an occupational class-based indicator

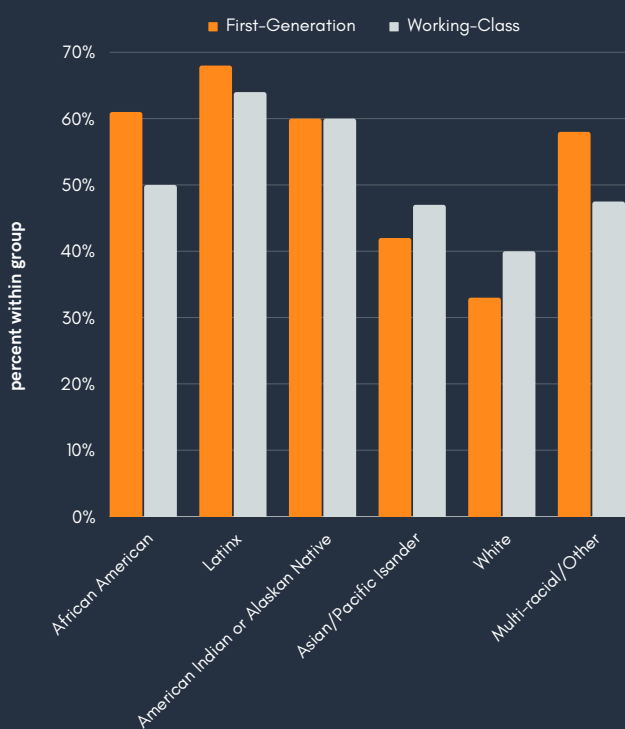
to first-generation status indicator can provide even more precision when needed

### RECOMMENDATION #3

Whenever possible in data collection and programmatic efforts treat **race/ethnicity and FGWC status** as intersectional variables considering both their **unique and joint effects**

Among graduate students, 33.6% of FGWC respondents and 19.7% of the non-FGWC graduate students were BIPOC

#### Graduate Students

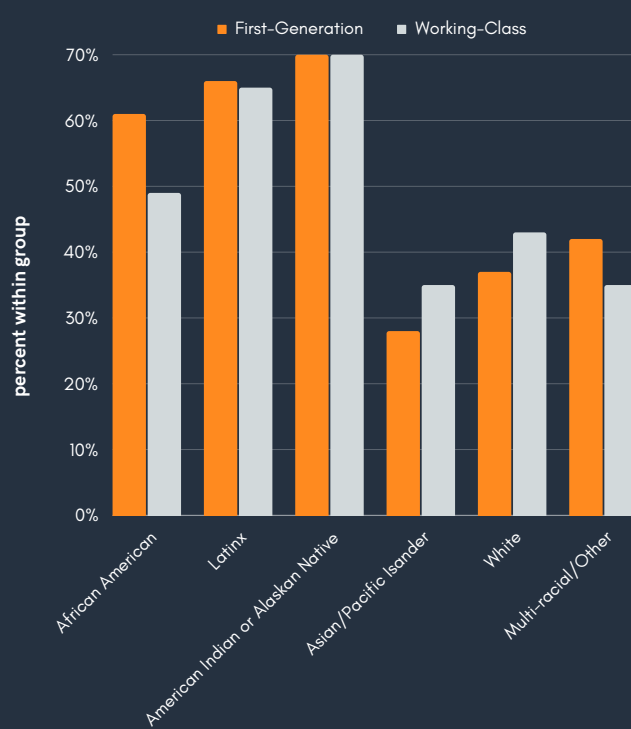


Across the sample, African American, Latinx, American Indian, and other/multiracial graduate students are about **twice as likely** as their White counterparts to be first-generation and about **one and a half times more likely** to be working-class<sup>1</sup>

Among graduate students:  
61.6% of FGWC respondents were women compared to 68.1% of the non-FGWC respondents

Among faculty, 25.9% of the FGWC respondents and 16.6% of the non-FGWC faculty were BIPOC

#### Faculty



Across the sample of faculty members, African American and Latinx respondents are up to **twice as likely** as their White and Asian counterparts to be of first-generation and working-class background<sup>2</sup>

Among faculty:  
there were almost no differences in gender proportions across the two groups

For more details please see the recent publications from the ASA Task Force on *First-Generation and Working-Class Persons in Sociology Project*

<sup>1</sup>The Graduate School Pipeline and First-Generation/Working-Class Inequalities, 2023 ([here](#))

<sup>2</sup>Mobility and Inequality in the Professoriate: How and Why First-Generation and Working-Class Backgrounds Matter, 2023 ([here](#))

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# REPORT OF THE ASA TASK FORCE

ON

FIRST-GENERATION AND WORKING-CLASS PEOPLE IN SOCIOLOGY

## TASK FORCE

charge 2B & 2C

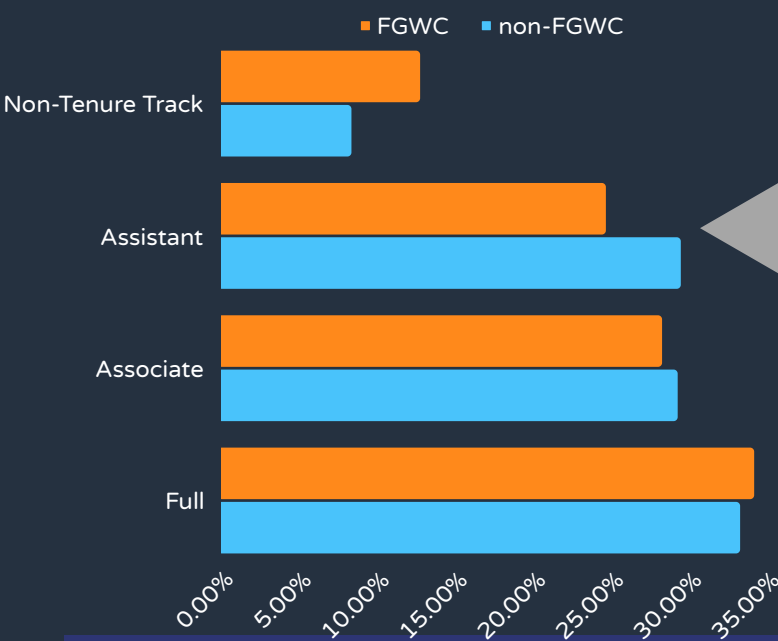
(Source: ASA-FGWC July 2022 Report)

Documenting Conditions for First-Generation and Working-Class Faculty in the Discipline

representational gaps and job-specific pipeline inequalities may be due to resource and/or compensation differences across institutional types

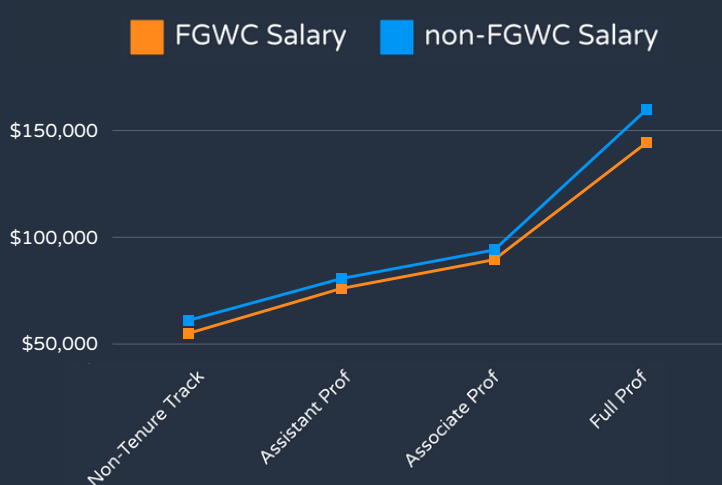
Faculty by Program Rank/Status	FGWC	Non-FGWC
Top 20 Private/Public	16.3%	21.9%
Mid-Ranked (21-50) Private/Public	23.2%	23.3%
Non-Ranked Private/Public	27.5%	24.9%
Regional Public University	10.5%	10.3%
Private College	19.4%	17.1%
Community College	3.1%	2.5%

### Academic Rank Among Faculty

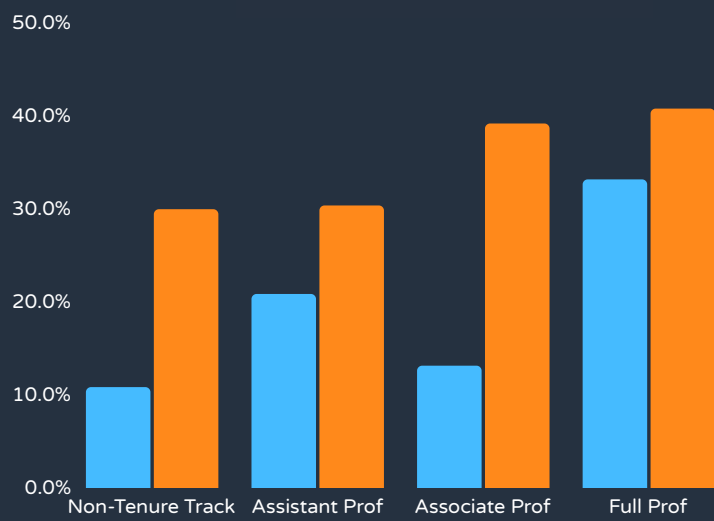


FGWC respondents were **more likely to be in non-tenure track positions** compared to their non-FGWC peers & **less likely to be assistant professors**

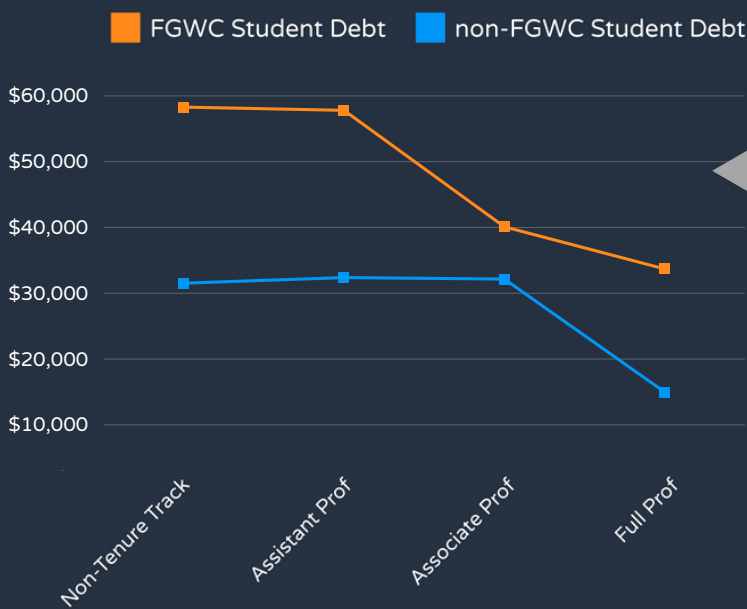
The analysis identified salary compensation & and two sources of **financial precarity** FGWC individuals may encounter at higher levels:



### 1. Financial Support to Family



### 2. Student Loan Debt



Among non-tenure track faculty and associate professors, FGWC individuals were nearly **3x more likely** to be providing support to family members despite **lower compensation and higher student debt on average**

### Mobility and Inequality in the Professoriate

Less money coming in in the form of salary and more money going out for debt and familial support creates **unique and significant resource challenges** among FGWC faculty across all ranks

Impact of Debt on Major Life Decisions	FGWC	Non-FGWC
Choice of graduate program	22.2%	14.3%
Ability to purchase a home or rent a decent place to live	40.1%	20.4%
Ability to attend professional conferences	34.0%	20.4%
Choice to start a family	22.0%	15.3%
Ability to be food secure	7.5%	4.7%

For more details please see the recent publications from the ASA Task Force on First-Generation and Working-Class Persons in Sociology Project

Mobility and Inequality in the Professoriate: How and Why First-Generation and Working-Class Backgrounds Matter, 2023 ([here](#))  
The Graduate School Pipeline and First-Generation/Working-Class Inequalities, 2023 ([here](#))