Hispanic and black parents put higher value on their children earning college credentials.

How parents value college education for their children

- **Black**
  - Extremely important: 62%
  - Very important: 17%

- **Hispanic**
  - Extremely important: 52%
  - Very important: 34%

- **White**
  - Extremely important: 34%
  - Very important: 32%


A new Pew Research Center study shows that parents’ aspiration and educational values for their children vary across demographic lines. It argues that many of the differences are interconnected with socioeconomic conditions and family structure, especially among low-income families. Sixty-two percent of surveyed African-American families and 52 percent of Hispanic families said a college degree is “extremely important” to their children’s success, noting that educational progress leads to economic prosperity. College enrollment data of African-American and Hispanic students show promising progress. In 1994, there were 585,333 African-Americans and 579,410 Hispanics enrolled at community colleges. By 2014, community college enrollment among the two groups grew to 1.6 million Hispanics and 1 million African-Americans.

For more information, contact Kent Phillippe, associate vice president for research and student success at the American Association of Community Colleges, at (202) 416-4505 or kphillippe@aacc.nche.edu, or Rahel Tekle, AACC research associate, at (202) 416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu.