

# TWO-GENERATION STRATEGIES

## What are two generation strategies?

“Two Generation” refers to approaches to **family learning, well-being and economic success** that serve children and their parents at the same time, and support parent-child bonds.

## Why two generations?

### Children live in families.

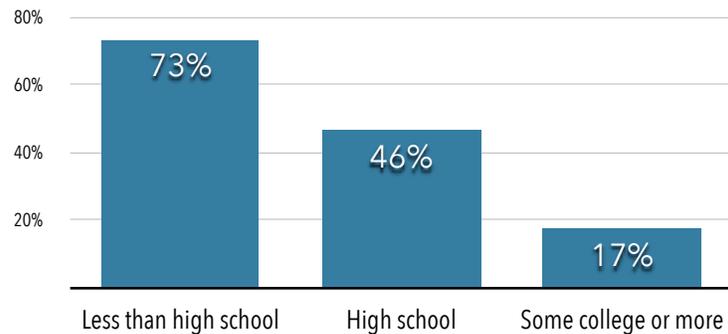
Parents are crucial to a family’s ability to move out of poverty. For many of the most in need parents, however, lack of education and illiteracy limit their chances for personal and economic success and the literacy and education of their children.

We need two generation strategies to **break the cycle of Poverty.**

## The need:

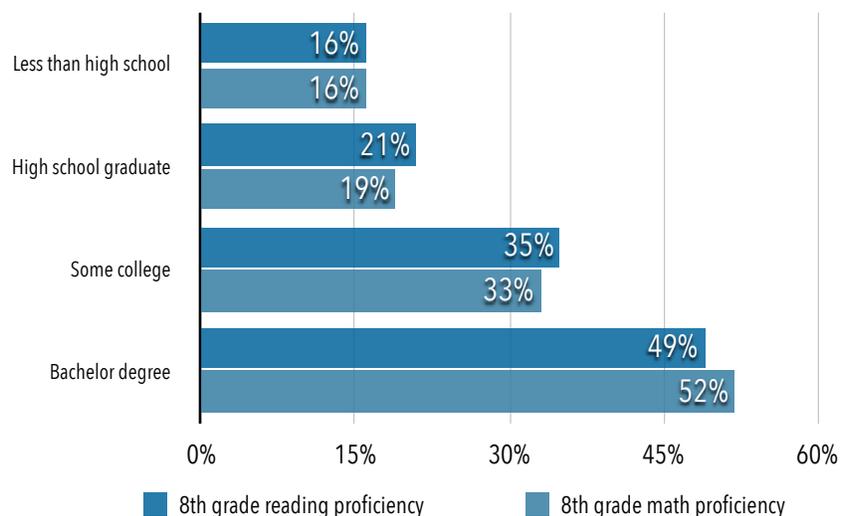
The educational level of parents is a key predictor of children’s well being:

Percentage of low-income children by parent’s education, full time workers only (2006, national data)

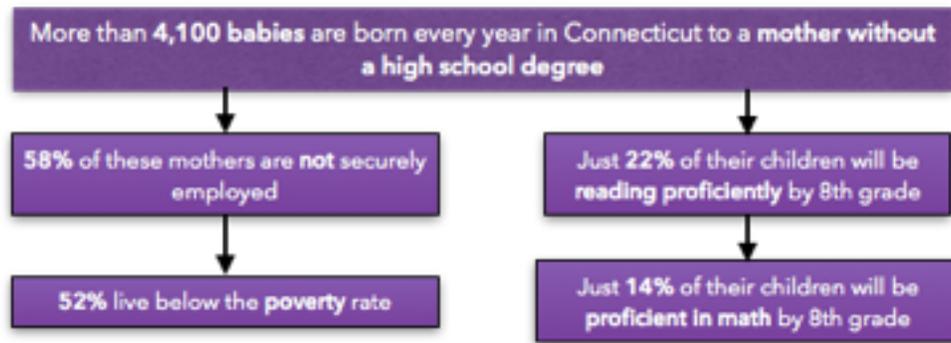


It also has a clear, direct effect on their educational achievement:

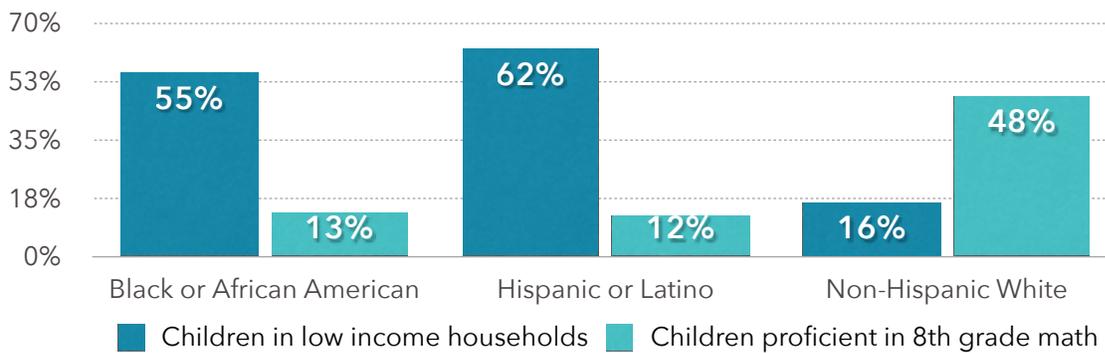
Children’s math and reading proficiency, by parental education (2013, national data)



## In Connecticut:



This includes some considerable racial disparities:



To address this, Connecticut needs **targeted, strategic two-generation programs**.

## Components of two generation learning:

Financial Stability	Parent Involvement	Quality Early Care and Elementary Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and job training</li> <li>• Access to income and work support benefits</li> <li>• Financial coaching</li> <li>• Access to affordable financial products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treating parents as assets and experts on their kids</li> <li>• Having culturally competent staff</li> <li>• Addressing family stress</li> <li>• Enhancing social networks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to high-quality early education programs</li> <li>• Successful transition to elementary school</li> <li>• Quality elementary school experiences</li> <li>• Effective teaching</li> </ul>

**Sources:** Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau data quoted on Hernandez, D. and Napierala J. (2013) "Mother's Education and Children's Outcomes" Foundation for Child Development, National Center for Children in Poverty.