



# THE CURRENT PROJECT NATIONAL SURVEY ON BLACK SINGLE MOTHERS

thecurrentproject.org

The Current Project surveyed over 500 Black, middle-to-low income single mothers of school-aged children to determine their attitudes toward the overall direction of the country, indicators of social and economic wellbeing, and perspectives on education.

# 77%

of those surveyed identified as **middler** moms.

The Current Project, 2024

So what is a

## “middler mom?”

Coined by The Current Project, the term “Middler Mom” identifies a mother who out earns social safety net programs, but under earns to economically thrive based on local cost of living.



out-earns social safety net



under-earns based on cost of living



sole earner



educated



Ages 26-44



She's the chief decision maker in the house or the head of the household



She's employed or an entrepreneur



She out earns place-based social safety net programs and eligibility

who are

## middler moms?



Under earns based on the median cost of living



77% describe their stress to be moderate to high level



72% find that their income is too high to qualify for any government benefits or public assistance while still not making enough to comfortably make ends meet



69% are renting while 45% live in urban areas

3 in 4

Describe their stress as moderate to high

91%

Feel the impacts of inflation

66%

Struggle with basic expenses

77%

Describe their stress to be moderate to high level.

↑ HOUSING

# 42%

of black single mothers have had challenges maintaining stable housing in the **last 12 months.**

“ We estimate over half of the 4.2 million Black single mothers in the U.S. fall into this category - moving this group toward economic and social thriving accelerates community thriving by ten fold.

**Alisha L. Gordon**  
Executive Director,  
The Current Project



Data shows Black single mothers who earn more, have a better access to mental health, and community support experience lower chronic stress, making the entry point into economic skill building more accessible and have an increased capacity for the academic and social needs of children.

Source: The Current Project, 2024

### IN THE MEDIA

Moving the needle on this work involves strategic opportunities to shift narratives in public discourse. Click any logo for media coverage on our groundbreaking report.

