

FORTÉ

MORE WOMEN LEADING

Forté MBA Partnership Impact Report 2024

10%

of Fortune 500
CEOs are women

8%

of S&P 600
CEOs are
women

42%

of MBA
graduates are
women

33%

of S&P 500
board seats
are held by
women

WHAT CALLED **FORTÉ TO ACTION?**

Forté was founded following a 2000 Catalyst and University of Michigan study that identified key barriers preventing women from pursuing business leadership and business education



A business career doesn't align with my values.

No one is encouraging me to attend business school.

I don't have the right skills for business.

I don't see women having satisfying careers in business.



WHO WE ARE

Forté's Powerful Alliance

Influential companies

Leading undergraduate and business schools

Talented women

Pioneering donors

**125,000+ Women
rising in business**

MORE WOMEN LEADING



What We Do

WE HELP WOMEN:

Reimagine what's possible

By exploring the endless career options in business, from healthcare to hospitality

Accelerate their careers

By providing equal access to an infrastructure — business education, role models, professional networks, leadership training

Find financial support

With subsidized programs, workshops, and scholarship to help women advance throughout their education and careers



OUR IMPACT

9,000

Leadership conference attendees since their inception

50,000+

Total candidates reached by our MBA Forums

\$475M

In scholarships awarded thanks to our partner schools

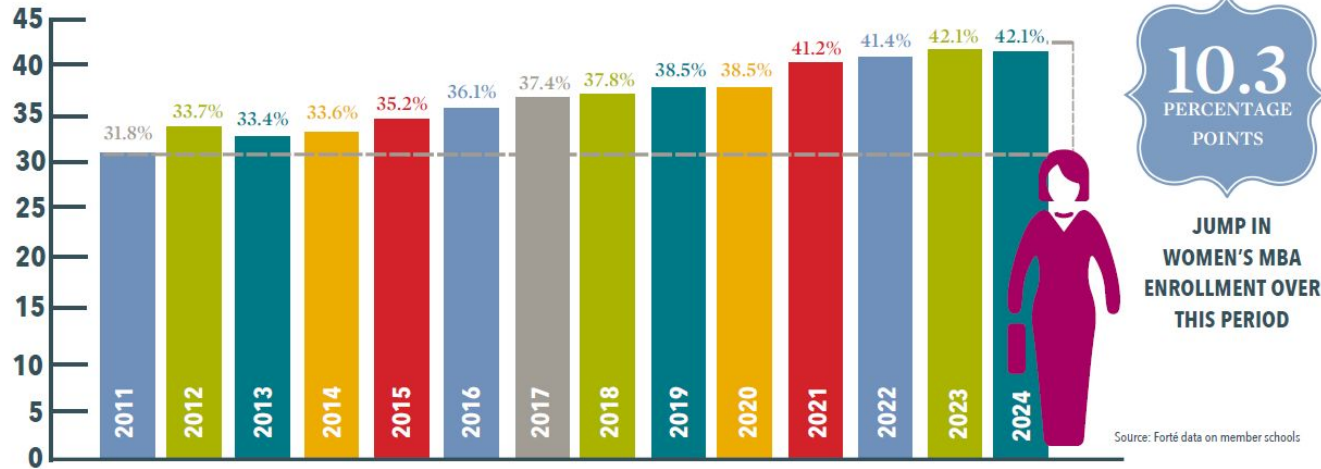
+48%

Increase in women's MBA enrollment since 2001

MORE WOMEN LEADING

MBA Enrollment

WOMEN'S FULL-TIME MBA ENROLLMENT PERCENTAGES FALL 2011-2024



36
Programs

Programs reporting 40+%

19
Programs

Programs reporting 45+%

8
Programs

Programs reporting 50+%

MORE WOMEN LEADING

A woman with long brown hair and glasses is speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a dark t-shirt and a watch. In the background, several other people are seated, listening. The image has a teal overlay.

FORTÉ:

Growing the Pipeline of
Women MBAs

MORE WOMEN LEADING



2024 Forté MBA Launch Profile



625 Participants



30 States +
34 Countries
Represented

* 73% U.S. Citizens



- 200+ Undergrad Institutions
- 3.48 Average Undergrad GPA

- Top Undergrad Majors:

- 24% Business
- 23% STEM
- 15% Poli Sci/Econ
- 15% Liberal Arts

28

Average Age

33%

First Generation
College Student

95

Participants who have
an advanced degree
(M.S., Ph.D., etc.)

665

Average GMAT
Score Reported
at Start of Cohort



- 28% White, Not of Hispanic Origin
- 27% Black, African American
- 21% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 15% Hispanic/Latinx
- 5% Two or More Races
- 3% Prefer Not to Share
- 1% Other



6

Average Years
Work Experience

MBA Program Interest

- 84% Full-time MBA
- 6% Executive or Professional MBA
- 10% Unsure

Top 5 Employers

- Deloitte
- PwC
- Accenture
- JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- ZS

2024 Spring Virtual MBA Forums

MBA Forum for Undergrads

February 21

Annual Spring Event

Registered - 255
Attended - 80

*MBA Pipeline
Partner Event*

Exec MBA & Part-Time MBA Programs

March 20

Annual Spring Event

Registered - 421
Attended - 166

*Executive and
Professional MBA
Partner Event*

Full-Time MBA Programs

April 11

Annual Spring Event

Registered - 1,410
Attended - 858

*MBA School
Partner Event*

MBA Forums for Women

7,766 CANDIDATES REACHED

2024 IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL FORUMS

In-Person Forums Week 1

Washington DC, Aug. 12
Chicago, Aug. 13
Atlanta, Aug. 14
Boston, Aug. 15

In-Person Forums Week 2

Los Angeles, Aug. 19
Seattle, Aug. 21
San Francisco, Aug. 22

In-Person Forums Week 3

Toronto, Aug. 26
New York I, Aug. 27
New York II, Aug. 28
Dallas, Aug. 29

In-Person U.K. Forum

London, Nov. 11

Virtual Forums - RingCentral

Full-time: Sept. 5, Sept. 25, Dec. 6
EMBA/Part-time: Oct. 3

MORE WOMEN LEADING



2024 Fall In-Person MBA Forums



3,065

Registered



1,361

Attended



28

Average
Age



2018

Average
Undergrad Grad Year



MBA PROGRAM OF INTEREST

- 67% Full-Time
- 13% Part-Time or Executive
- 16% Still Exploring Options



Interested in starting
their MBA in 2025



Cities

Atlanta

Boston

Chicago

Dallas

London

Los Angeles

New York City

San Francisco

Seattle

Toronto

Washington D.C.

MORE WOMEN LEADING



Forté

2024 Fall Virtual MBA Forums



4 Virtual Events



4,544

Registered



2,264

Attended

2017

Average
Undergrad Grad Year

29

Average
Age



Candidates from:

- 46 U.S. States
- 108 Countries

TOP 5 COUNTRIES OUTSIDE OF U.S.

- India
- Ghana
- U.K.
- Nigeria
- Canada



MBA PROGRAM OF INTEREST

- 82% Full-Time
- 8% Part-Time or Executive
- 10% Still Exploring Options



Interested in starting
their MBA in 2025

How did you hear about the Forum?

23%

Email From
B-school

13%

B-school Website

2024 Pre-MBA Webinar Series

Pre-MBA Webinar Series

2024

Event Delivery Format

Zoom

Total # of Webinars

24

Total # of Registrants

3,280

TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Exploring Executive MBA Programs
- MBA Programs for Working Professionals
- Financing Your MBA
- Women of Color Alumni
- Applying for B-School with a Nontraditional Background
- Global Careers with an International MBA





FORTÉ:

Supporting MBA
Students

MORE WOMEN LEADING



2024 MBA Campus Leadership Summit

Hosted by Deloitte in Chicago, IL | April 6, 2024

Leaders of mission-aligned graduate student organizations learned from thought-leaders at Deloitte and connected with peers who are initiating generational change.



58

Total Registrants

MORE WOMEN LEADING



2024 MBA Financial Services Fast Track - New York, NY



Final Registration & Attendance



158
REGISTERED



146
MBA WOMEN &
ALLIES ATTENDED



38
MBA PROGRAMS
REPRESENTED



Survey respondents who
were "Very Satisfied" or
"Satisfied" with the event.

Top 5 Participating Schools

Duke University (Fuqua) - 16
University of Chicago (Booth) - 13
University of Pennsylvania (Wharton) - 13
Cornell University (Johnson) - 12
Columbia Business School - 9

Survey Says

"I never would have felt capable and comfortable committing to a career switch into IB if I had not attended this conference."

"This event inspired me to pursue a career in finance and I am excited to further build upon the connections I forged."

2024 MBA Takeoff - Virtual

Final Registration



297

REGISTERED



46

MBA PROGRAMS
REPRESENTED

92%

Survey respondents who
were "Very Satisfied" or
"Satisfied" with the
program.

Top 5 Participating Schools

Duke University (Fuqua) - 65
Indiana University - Bloomington (Kelley) - 35
University of North Carolina (Kenan-Flagler) - 28
Cornell University (Johnson) - 20
University of Washington (Foster) - 14

Survey Says

"I learned that it is okay to be anxious and excited about starting my MBA journey. Most importantly, I experienced the power and liberation that come from discussing aspects of this journey... with other women in my Forté community."

"The Forté sessions were fantastic. They prepared me better for my MBA journey in so many ways—how to network more effectively, how to be seen as a leader, how to manage my time, and more. Plus, I got to meet other peers who are also heading for their MBAs, which helped me build a valuable support network. "

2024 MBA Women's Leadership Conference - Chicago, IL

Final Registration & Attendance



678
REGISTERED



629
MBA WOMEN &
ALLIES ATTENDED



54
MBA PROGRAMS
REPRESENTED



Survey respondents who
were "Very Satisfied" or
"Satisfied" with the event.

Top 5 Participating Schools

Duke University (Fuqua) - 56
University of Virginia (Darden) - 37
Cornell University (Johnson) - 33
New York University (Stern) - 33
University of Rochester (Simon) - 30

Survey Says

"Being able to see and speak to so many successful women who were talking authentically about the realities of the doubts, struggles, and challenges that women face when progressing in their careers and then balancing family life with professional life was very impactful to me."

2024 MBA Women of Color Pre-Conference Symposium

Final Registration & Attendance



187

REGISTERED



111

MBA WOMEN &
ALLIES ATTENDED



45

MBA PROGRAMS
REPRESENTED

Thank You Sponsors!



accenture

BCG

Davita

Deloitte.

Gartner

M&T Bank

PEPSICO



Top 5 Participating Schools

Duke University (Fuqua) - 17

University of Rochester (Simon) - 9

Emory University (Goizueta) - 8

University of California - Los Angeles (Anderson) - 7

Cornell University (Johnson) - 6

Survey Says

"As a woman of color entering an MBA program, knowing deep down that I belong in and can thrive in these spaces is something I hope to cultivate all the more, and events like these help."

Forté Alumni Conference

June 2024: Inaugural Program

- Daylong event with inspiring speakers on topics that resonate with post-MBA women: personal finance, negotiation & mentorship/sponsorship
- Networking opportunities: pre-conference meet-up, peer coaching and resume review, small group alumni dinners

Impact

- 60 MBA alumnae attendees from partner schools and companies - many of whom are also involved in their own alma mater's programs!
- 98% of attendees would attend again and recommend this program to their peers
- 40% increase in confidence on next steps in career



"Having a community of values-aligned, connected women is key to creating a successful, thriving career. Forté gets that and steps in to create that for us." - Michelle O.

2024 Summer MBA Meet-Ups



In-Person “Meet-Up” Networking Event

- Throughout July and August



Target Audience

- Incoming MBAs, current students, and recent graduates
- Recent MBALaunch Alumni
- Forté Alumni in each respective city



Student Hosts

- Forté MBA Ambassadors and incoming Forté Fellows



197 Total Attendees



Cities

July 11, 2024:	Denver, CO
July 13, 2024:	Chicago, IL
	Seattle, WA
July 20, 2024:	Minneapolis, MN
July 27, 2024:	Austin, TX
Aug. 2, 2024:	Houston, TX
Aug. 24, 2024:	Toronto, ON
Aug. 30, 2024:	Bloomington, IN

2024 Forté Alumni Welcome Parties

Final Attendance



208
MBA ALUMNI

19 Cities

64 partner schools represented
109 new alumni ambassador
volunteers participated



Survey respondents who
would recommend this
event to a friend



Survey Says

"So glad to see Forté expand alumni initiatives! Although we were all in different life stages, we identified some common themes where we are looking for support, which was really valuable."

2024 Fall MBA Women's Virtual Leadership Conference - Virtual

Final Registration & Attendance



646

REGISTERED



471

MBA WOMEN &
ALLIES ATTENDED



68

MBA PROGRAMS
REPRESENTED

88.24%

Survey respondents who
were "Very Satisfied" or
"Satisfied" with the event.

Top 5 Participating Schools

Cornell University (Johnson) - 68

Indiana University - Bloomington (Kelley) - 29

Johns Hopkins University (Carey) - 27

University of Rochester (Simon) - 24

Georgetown University (McDonough) - 21

Survey Says

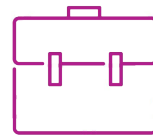
"The conference had a significant personal impact on me, particularly through Denise Woodard's inspiring entrepreneurial journey. As a mother myself, her 'why' deeply resonated with me. I learned a great deal about her empathetic leadership style and how she manages to balance various aspects of her life. Denise's advice on taking calculated, measured risks was particularly insightful and made a lot of sense to me. Her story not only inspired me but also provided practical insights into entrepreneurship and leadership."

Forté Membership and Job Center



FORTÉ MEMBERSHIP

Our community of motivated and inspiring women — college students, MBA students, and business professionals — is more than 125,000 women strong. Gain access to webinars, conferences, programs, and Job Alerts through your free Professional Access Pass.



FORTÉ JOB CENTER

800 jobs posted in 2024

Upload your resume, customize your job search, and access job postings from Fortune 500 companies thanks to your Forté membership.



Connect With Forté on Social



Follow us:
[@fortefoundation](https://twitter.com/fortefoundation)

Tag us:
[#MoreWomenLeading](https://twitter.com/fortefoundation)



Save *the* Date

IN-PERSON PARTNER MEETING

June 12, 2025 - Denver, CO

PARTNER WEBINARS

Jan. 23, 2025: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

May 1, 2025: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

Aug. 7, 2025: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!

ELISSA SANGSTER
Chief Executive Officer
elissa@fortefoundation.org
(713) 301-9039

KRYSTAL BROOKS
Senior Director of Development,
Academic Partners
krystal@fortefoundation.org
(512) 593-0290

JESSICA WALKER MAY
Development Manager,
Academic Partners
jessica@fortefoundation.org
(419) 705-2505

MORE WOMEN LEADING



APPENDIX

Forté Contacts & List of Corporate & School Partners

MEET YOUR TEAM

**Krystal
Brooks**



Senior Director, Development
krystal@fortefoundation.org

**Jessica
Walker May**



Development Manager,
Academic Partners
jessica@fortefoundation.org

**Ashley
Lautzenheiser**



Director, Pre-MBA Programs
ashley@fortefoundation.org

**Wendy
Dukes**



Director, MBA Programs
wendy@fortefoundation.org

**Mariska
Morse**



Vice President, Development
mariska@fortefoundation.org

MBA Partners



The University of Manchester
Alliance Manchester Business School



Arizona State University



Carnegie Mellon University
Tepper School of Business



Johnson
Cornell
SC Johnson College of Business



Corporate Partners

accenture

Alexander
group

AlixPartners

amazon

ABInBev
To a Future With More Cheers

BAIN
& COMPANY

BANK OF AMERICA

BARCLAYS

BlackRock

Blackstone

BCG BOSTON
CONSULTING
GROUP

BOSE

**CAPITAL
GROUP**

Chevron

citi

Davita

Deloitte

Deutsche Bank

DISCOVER

DOW

ECOLAB

EVERCORE

ExxonMobil

EY
Building a better
working world

Fidelity
INVESTMENTS

F T I
CONSULTING

Gartner

GCM GROSVENOR

GUGGENHEIM

Harris Williams

Hines

J.P.Morgan

KEARNEY

LAZARD

L.E.K.

MACQUARIE

McKESSON

MOELIS & COMPANY

Morgan Stanley **NOMURA**

PEGA

PEPSICO

PIMCO

PNC

pwc

**RAYMOND
JAMES**

REPUBLIC
SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON**
Energy for What's Ahead™

TD

**WELLS
FARGO**

TRUIST



WESTERN ASSET
A Franklin Templeton Company

UBS

Whirlpool
CORPORATION



U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
★ CAREERS REPRESENTING AMERICA ★

Vanguard

vaco

ZS

**Graduate
Management
Admission
Council**

THANK YOU