

Food and Housing Insecurity among Philadelphia College Students: A #RealCollegePHL Report

WEB APPENDICES

Appendix A. Participating Colleges

Two-Year Colleges

Community College of Philadelphia
Orleans Technical College

Four-Year Universities

Drexel University
La Salle University
Temple University

Appendix B. Survey Methodology

SURVEY ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

Together with administrators, the Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice fielded this survey to all participating institutions. Each institution agreed to administer an online survey in the fall of 2019 and offer ten \$100 prizes to their students in order to boost response rates. Institution staff sent a series of invitations and follow-up reminders to all enrolled students encouraging them to participate.

The Hope Center provided the email invitation language as well as hosted the survey as shown below. Upon opening the survey, students were presented with a consent form in compliance with Institutional Review Board standards. To actually take the survey, the student must have clicked continue as a record of consent and completed a minimum of the first page of the survey. Participants were asked to use only the provided invitation language to ensure consistency across institutions.

Subject: Real talk: We need your help

From: email address [someone students “know” at COLLEGE NAME]

[COLLEGE LETTERHEAD FOR EMAIL]

Dear [student first name],

Let’s get real. You’re the expert when it comes to what’s happening in college. So we need your help to make [COLLEGE NAME] the best it can be for you and your friends.

Share your real talk in the #RealCollege survey. We chose you simply because you attend [COLLEGE NAME]. In appreciation, you can win \$100 for completing the survey.

Click here to share your story. [SURVEY LINKED HERE]

Be honest— everything you say is confidential. If you have questions, send us a note at hopesrvy@temple.edu.

Thank you.

COLLEGE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

In 2019, five postsecondary institutions in Philadelphia fielded the survey early in fall term, as students enduring basic needs insecurity are at greater risk for dropping out of school later in the year.¹

Table B-1. Characteristics of Participating Institutions (weighted)

	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
N (colleges)	2	3	5
N (survey respondents)	940	4,732	5,672
	%	%	%
Sector			
Public	95	71	75
Private, not-for-profit	5	29	25
Private, for-profit	0	0	0
Size			
Under 5,000	5	0	1
5,000–9,999	0	6	5
10,000–19,999	95	0	16
20,000 or more	0	94	78

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2019). Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>

Notes: Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding error. Survey statistics are weighted by the number of survey responses from each college.

STUDENT SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

Who Answered the Survey?

Most students who were sent the #RealCollege survey did not answer it. Participating Philadelphia institutions sent survey invitations to an estimated 73,400 students and 5,672 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 7.7%.²

We surveyed all students rather than drawing a subsample due to legal and financial restrictions. The results may be biased—overstating or understating the problem—depending on who answered and who did not. As readers ponder this issue, consider that the survey was emailed to students, and thus they had to have electronic access to respond. The incentives provided were negligible and did not include help with their challenges. Finally, the survey was framed as being about college life, not about hunger or homelessness.

Table B-2. Characteristics of Philadelphia Survey Respondents

	Two-Year Colleges %	Four-Year Colleges %	Overall %
Gender Identity			
Female	53	53	53
Male	21	24	24
Non-binary/Third gender	1	1	1
Prefers to self-describe	1	<1	<1
Prefers not to answer	1	<1	1
Missing	25	22	22
Transgender Identity			
Transgender	1	1	1
Non-transgender	73	77	76
Prefers not to answer	1	1	1
Missing	25	22	22
Sexual Orientation			
Heterosexual or straight	56	60	59
Gay or Lesbian	3	4	4
Bisexual	8	10	10
Prefers to self-describe	3	3	3
Prefers not to answer	4	2	2

Missing	25	22	22
Racial or Ethnic Background			
American Indian or Alaska Native	3	1	1
Black	36	11	15
Hispanic or Latinx	12	7	8
Indigenous	1	1	1
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	2	2	2
Other Asian or Asian-American	6	10	9
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	1	1	1
Southeast Asian	5	6	6
White	21	51	46
Other	4	2	2
Prefers not to answer	2	1	1
Missing	25	22	22
Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident			
Yes	71	73	72
No	3	5	5
Prefers not to answer	1	<1	<1
Missing	25	22	22
Highest Level of Parental Education			
No high school diploma	9	4	5
High school	21	9	11
Some college	27	19	20
Bachelor's degree or greater	14	46	41
Does not know	3	1	1
Prefers not to answer	1	<1	<1
Missing	25	22	22
Age			
18 to 20	26	41	38
21 to 25	19	30	28
26 to 30	12	4	5
Older than 30	17	3	6
Prefers not to answer	0	<1	<1
Missing	26	22	23
College Enrollment Status			
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	58	95	88

Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	42	5	11
Missing	<1	<1	<1
Level of Study			
Undergraduate	79	94	91
Graduate	10	6	6
Non-degree	11	1	2
Missing	<1	<1	<1
Years in College			
Less than 1	43	26	29
1 to 2	36	29	30
Three or more	21	45	41
Missing	0	<1	<1
Dependency Status			
Dependent	16	38	34
Independent	46	19	24
Does not know	12	20	19
Prefers not to answer	1	1	1
Missing	25	22	22
Student Receives the Pell Grant			
Yes	56	33	37
No	30	53	49
Missing	14	15	15
Student Athlete			
Yes	<1	3	3
No	74	75	75
Prefers not to answer	1	1	1
Missing	25	22	22
Parenting Student			
Yes	18	3	5
No	65	81	78
Missing	17	16	17
Relationship Status			
Single	42	46	46
In a relationship	20	28	27
Married or domestic partnership	9	3	4
Divorced	1	<1	<1
Widowed	<1	<1	<1

Prefers not to answer	2	1	2
Missing	25	22	22
Student Has Been in Foster Care			
Yes	4	1	1
No	70	77	76
Prefers not to answer	<1	<1	<1
Missing	25	22	22
Student Served in the Military			
Yes	3	1	1
No	71	77	76
Prefers not to answer	1	<1	<1
Missing	25	22	22
Employment Status			
Employed	23	28	27
Not Employed, Looking	7	6	6
Not Employed, Not looking	8	8	8
Missing	63	58	59
Student is a Returning Citizen			
Yes	3	1	1
No	74	80	79
Prefers not to answer	2	1	1
Missing	21	18	19
Disability or Medical Condition			
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	9	9	9
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	6	3	4
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	14	10	10
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	23	27	27
Other	2	2	2
No disability or medical condition	38	41	41
Prefers not to answer	3	2	2
Missing	24	21	22

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Classifications of gender identity, racial and ethnic background, and disability or medical condition are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. Percentages of mutually exclusive

groups may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding error. Survey questions about employment status were randomly administered to a subset of respondents.

Appendix C. Three Survey Measures of Basic Needs Insecurity

FOOD SECURITY

To assess food *security* in 2019, we used questions from the 18-item Household Food Security Survey Module (shown below) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It is important to note that while we mainly discuss *insecurity*, the standard is to measure the level of *security*, referring to those with low or very low security as “food insecure.”

Food Security Module

Adult Stage 1

1. “In the last 30 days, I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)
2. “In the last 30 days, the food that I bought just didn’t last, and I didn’t have money to get more.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)
3. “In the last 30 days, I couldn’t afford to eat balanced meals.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)

If the respondent answers “often true” or “sometimes true” to any of the three questions in Adult Stage 1, then proceed to Adult Stage 2.

Adult Stage 2

4. “In the last 30 days, did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)
5. [*If yes to question 4, ask*] “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?” (Once, Twice, Three times, Four times, Five times, More than five times)
6. “In the last 30 days, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)
7. “In the last 30 days, were you ever hungry but didn’t eat because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)
8. “In the last 30 days, did you lose weight because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)

If the respondent answers “yes” to any of the questions in Adult Stage 2, then proceed to Adult Stage 3.

Adult Stage 3

9. “In the last 30 days, did you ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)

10. *[If yes to question 9, ask]* “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?” (Once, Twice, Three times, Four times, Five times, More than five times)

If the respondent has indicated that children under 18 are present in the household, then proceed to Child Stage 1.

Child Stage 1

11. “In the last 30 days, I relied on only a few kinds of low-cost food to feed my children because I was running out of money to buy food.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)
12. “In the last 30 days, I couldn’t feed my children a balanced meal, because I couldn’t afford that.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)
13. “In the last 30 days, my child was not eating enough because I just couldn’t afford enough food.” (Often true, Sometimes true, Never true)

If the respondent answers “often true” or “sometimes true” to any of the three questions in Child Stage 1, then proceed to Child Stage 2.

Child Stage 2

14. “In the last 30 days, did you ever cut the size of your children’s meals because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)
15. “In the last 30 days, did your children ever skip meals because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)
16. *[If yes to question 15, ask]* “In the last 30 days, how often did this happen?” (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or more times)
17. “In the last 30 days, were your children ever hungry but you just couldn’t afford more food?” (Yes/No)
18. “In the last 30 days, did any of your children ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn’t enough money for food?” (Yes/No)

To calculate a raw score for food security, we counted the number of questions to which a student answered affirmatively.

- “Often true” and “sometimes true” were counted as affirmative answers.
- Answers of “Three times” or more were counted as a “yes.” We translated the raw score into food security levels as follows:

Food security level	Raw Score	
	18-item	18-item

	(children present)	(no children present)
High	0	0
Marginal	1–2	1–2
Low	3–7	3–5
Very Low	8–18	6–10

To determine whether the children in the household were food insecure, we looked at responses to the Child Stage 1 and Child Stage 2 questions above among parenting students with children in the household. If a respondent answered affirmatively to *any* of the questions numbered 12–18, their children were counted as food insecure.

HOUSING INSECURITY

To assess housing insecurity, we used a series of survey questions adapted from the national Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) Adult Well-Being Module to measure students' access to and ability to pay for safe and reliable housing.³ In 2019, we asked students the following questions:

Housing Insecurity Module

1. “In the past 12 months, was there a rent or mortgage increase that made it difficult to pay?” (Yes/No)
2. “In the past 12 months, have you been unable to pay or underpaid your rent or mortgage?” (Yes/No)
3. “In the past 12 months, have you received a summons to appear in housing court?” (Yes/No)
4. “In the past 12 months, have you not paid the full amount of a gas, oil, or electricity bill?” (Yes/No)
5. “In the past 12 months, did you have an account default or go into collections?” (Yes/No)
6. “In the past 12 months, have you moved in with other people, even for a little while, because of financial problems?” (Yes/No)
7. “In the past 12 months, have you lived with others beyond the expected capacity of the house or apartment?” (Yes/No)
8. “In the past 12 months, did you leave your household because you felt unsafe?” (Yes/No)

9. “In the past 12 months, how many times have you moved?” (None, Once, Twice, 3 times, 4 times, 5 times, 6 times, 7 times, 8 times, 9 times, 10 or more times)

Students were considered housing insecure if they answered “yes” to any of the first eight questions or said they moved at least *three* times (question #9).

HOMELESSNESS

To measure homelessness, we asked a series of survey questions that align with the definition of homelessness dictated by the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Please refer to pp. 31–32 in Crutchfield and Maguire (2017) for further discussion of this measure.⁴

In 2019, students were considered homeless if they answered affirmatively to question #1 OR any part of question #2 (parts e through m) in the Homelessness Module (below).

Homelessness Module

1. “In the past 12 months, have you ever been homeless?”
2. “In the past 12 months, have you slept in any of the following places? Please check all that apply.”
 - a. Campus or university housing
 - b. Sorority/fraternity house
 - c. In a rented or owned house, mobile home, or apartment (alone or with roommates or friends)
 - d. In a rented or owned house, mobile home, or apartment with my family (parent, guardian, or relative)
 - e. At a shelter
 - f. In a camper or RV
 - g. Temporarily staying with a relative, friend, or couch surfing until I find other housing
 - h. Temporarily at a hotel or motel without a permanent home to return to (not on vacation or business travel)
 - i. In transitional housing or independent living program
 - j. At a group home such as halfway house or residential program for mental health or substance abuse
 - k. At a treatment center (such as detox, hospital, etc.)
 - l. Outdoor location (such as street, sidewalk, or alley; bus or train stop; campground or woods, park, beach, or riverbed; under bridge or overpass; or other)
 - m. In a closed area/space with a roof not meant for human habitation (such as abandoned building; car, truck, or van; encampment or tent; unconverted garage, attic, or basement; etc.)

Appendix D. Tables on Data Used in Figures

Table D-1. Number and Percentage of Students Who Are Food Insecure, Housing Insecure, and Homeless Among Philadelphia and National Survey Respondents (Figure 1)

		Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Philadelphia	Food insecure	407	52	1,396	35	1,803	38
	Housing insecure	443	55	1,307	32	1,750	36
	Homeless	150	19	494	12	644	13
National	Food insecure	38,504	42	13,621	33	55,793	39
	Housing insecure	47,023	50	14,869	35	66,184	46
	Homeless	16,053	17	6,677	16	24,260	17

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-2. Number and Percentage of Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Are Food Insecure, Housing Insecure, and Homeless by Institution (Figures 2-4)

Institution	Food Insecure		Housing Insecure		Homeless	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Community College of Philadelphia	386	52	425	55	142	18
Drexel University	294	32	323	35	127	14
La Salle University	93	35	76	29	29	11
Orleans Technical College	21	57	18	49	8	22
Temple University	1,009	36	908	32	338	12

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Drexel University had a lower response rate (4.5%) than the general response rate (8%). For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-3. Demographic Disparities in Rates Basic Need Insecurity Among Philadelphia Survey Respondents (Tables 1 & 2)

	Two-Year Colleges				Four-Year Colleges				Overall			
	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
All survey respondents	808	52	55	19	4,037	35	32	12	4,845	38	36	13
Gender Identity												
Female	498	52	55	17	2,510	35	34	11	3,008	38	37	12
Male	193	51	52	21	1,140	31	28	16	1,333	33	31	16
Non-binary/Third gender	10	70	70	30	59	53	42	20	69	55	46	22
Prefer to self-describe	.	.	.	.	14	50	29	36	19	63	47	32
Prefers not to answer	11	73	45	27	23	70	52	43	34	71	50	38
Missing	106	47	57	19	341	42	34	10	447	43	40	12
Transgender Identity												
Transgender	.	.	.	.	43	51	35	21	51	57	39	22
Non-transgender	685	52	54	18	3,631	34	32	12	4,316	37	36	13
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	26	46	42	35	34	56	53	41
Missing	107	47	56	18	337	42	34	10	444	43	39	12
Sexual Orientation												
Heterosexual or straight	530	50	53	17	2,816	31	30	12	3,346	34	34	12
Gay or Lesbian	29	59	55	21	174	44	39	17	203	46	41	17
Bisexual	75	54	57	19	480	45	40	14	555	46	42	15
Self-describe	30	73	63	47	135	47	40	16	165	52	44	22
Prefers not to answer	38	58	58	21	99	40	28	15	137	45	36	17
Missing	106	47	57	18	333	43	35	10	439	44	40	12
Racial or Ethnic Background												
American Indian or Alaska Native	24	58	63	21	58	57	41	22	82	57	48	22
Black	336	56	58	18	498	51	42	14	834	53	49	16
Hispanic or Latinx	113	62	56	19	315	54	46	18	428	56	48	18
Indigenous	11	55	64	36	27	74	56	30	38	68	58	32

Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	21	38	48	29	112	41	42	18	133	41	43	20
Other Asian or Asian American	54	46	39	19	453	32	25	9	507	33	26	10
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	.	.	.	.	37	46	32	11	44	45	34	14
Southeast Asian	44	49	39	20	307	32	27	13	351	34	29	14
White	196	42	52	16	2,417	31	31	13	2,613	32	32	13
Other	34	44	56	29	100	49	43	16	134	48	46	19
Prefers not to answer	18	72	56	39	42	60	55	19	60	63	55	25
Missing	104	47	58	19	343	42	34	9	447	43	39	11
Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident												
Yes	666	53	55	18	3,443	35	32	12	4,109	38	36	13
No	30	40	37	23	240	32	36	15	270	33	36	16
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	16	44	44	6	23	39	43	4
Missing	105	48	57	19	338	41	34	9	443	43	39	12
Highest Level of Parental Education												
No high school diploma	80	59	55	23	180	50	41	15	260	53	45	17
High school	198	50	55	18	416	47	39	13	614	48	44	14
Some college	255	57	62	20	885	45	40	14	1,140	47	45	16
Bachelor's degree or greater	136	44	41	16	2,160	27	27	11	2,296	28	28	12
Does not know	28	68	54	14	49	38	37	18	77	49	43	17
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	18	44	33	11	26	35	31	12
Missing	103	46	57	18	329	41	34	9	432	42	39	11
Age												
18 to 20	241	48	33	17	1,922	31	23	11	2,163	33	24	11
21 to 25	178	56	61	24	1,421	39	39	15	1,599	40	42	16
26 to 30	115	57	69	20	170	36	54	14	285	45	60	16
Over 30	162	53	69	14	160	34	50	11	322	43	60	13
Prefers not to answer

Missing	112	47	56	19	358	42	34	9	470	43	39	12
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Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number (N) column indicates the number of survey respondents to our measure of homelessness. The number of survey respondents for our measures of food insecurity and housing insecurity may vary slightly. Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table above. Classifications of racial or ethnic background and gender identity are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-4. Disparities in Basic Needs Insecurity by Student Life Experiences Among Philadelphia Survey Respondents (Table 3)

	Two-Year Colleges				Four-Year Colleges				Overall			
	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
All survey respondents	808	52	55	19	4,037	35	32	12	4,845	38	36	13
College Enrollment Status												
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	474	56	50	20	3,817	35	31	12	4,291	37	33	13
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	331	46	62	17	218	33	47	14	549	41	56	16
Missing	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Level of Study												
Undergraduate	643	51	54	18	3,783	35	32	12	4,426	38	35	13
Graduate	82	54	56	20	235	29	36	13	317	36	42	15
Non-degree	81	56	57	22	18	17	28	6	99	48	52	19
Missing	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Years in College												
Less than 1	339	50	49	22	1,001	24	15	10	1,340	31	24	13
1 to 2	293	55	52	15	1,189	37	31	12	1,482	40	35	12
Three or more	176	50	71	18	1,844	40	43	14	2,020	41	45	14
Missing	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dependency Status												
Dependent	146	55	47	20	1,803	35	31	12	1,949	37	32	12
Independent	430	53	63	19	915	35	41	14	1,345	41	48	16
Does not know	116	47	32	16	945	33	26	12	1,061	34	27	13
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	37	36	19	16	46	36	26	15

Missing	107	48	58	20	337	40	33	9	444	42	39	11
Student Receives the Pell Grant												
Yes	480	57	57	18	1,386	48	44	15	1,866	51	47	16
No	250	43	51	20	2,226	28	26	11	2,476	29	28	12
Missing	78	48	51	21	425	29	28	10	503	32	32	12
Student Athlete												
Yes	.	.	.	.	138	22	22	11	142	23	23	11
No	692	53	54	18	3,541	35	33	13	4,233	38	36	14
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	25	36	16	16	31	45	29	23
Missing	106	45	58	18	333	41	34	9	439	42	39	11
Relationship Status												
Single	397	57	52	21	2,183	32	29	13	2,580	36	32	14
In a relationship	188	50	59	17	1,316	38	36	13	1,504	39	39	13
Married or domestic partnership	83	37	58	8	122	31	48	8	205	34	52	8
Divorced	11	64	73	27	12	83	75	17	23	74	74	22
Widowed	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Prefers not to answer	19	47	37	11	67	43	35	13	86	44	36	13
Missing	107	48	58	19	335	41	34	9	442	43	39	11
Student Has Been in Foster Care												
Yes	37	78	76	51	40	60	45	33	77	69	60	42
No	661	51	53	17	3,637	34	32	12	4,298	37	35	13
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	19	63	47	21	22	64	55	23
Missing	107	48	58	19	341	41	34	9	448	43	40	11
Student Served in the Military												
Yes	25	60	64	32	47	49	55	19	72	53	58	24
No	672	52	54	18	3,629	34	32	12	4,301	37	35	13
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.	18	44	50	33	25	48	52	36
Missing	104	46	57	19	343	42	34	9	447	43	39	12
Employment Status												
Employed	203	53	62	19	1,249	39	37	12	1,452	41	40	13
Not Employed, Looking	60	53	52	27	258	39	27	14	318	42	31	17
Not Employed, Not looking	63	33	43	10	332	17	15	8	395	20	19	8
Missing	482	54	54	18	2,198	35	33	13	2,680	38	37	14

Student is a Returning Citizen												
Yes	31	55	71	35	45	44	51	18	76	49	59	25
No	692	52	53	17	3,789	34	32	12	4,481	37	35	13
Prefers not to answer	19	84	79	47	34	59	50	41	53	68	60	43
Missing	66	38	56	20	169	45	34	10	235	43	40	13
Disability or Medical Condition												
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	84	63	68	26	441	42	42	20	525	46	46	21
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	54	65	74	19	150	43	42	17	204	49	50	18
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	127	62	60	20	456	41	38	17	583	46	42	17
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	216	62	62	25	1,288	45	40	15	1,504	47	43	17
Other	18	44	61	22	75	47	37	21	93	46	42	22
No disability or medical condition	361	47	47	14	1,952	28	27	10	2,313	31	30	11
Prefers not to answer	26	38	50	23	112	31	23	13	138	33	28	15
Missing	96	45	56	18	300	42	34	9	396	43	40	11

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number (N) column indicates the number of survey respondents to our measure of homelessness. The number of survey respondents for our measures of food insecurity and housing insecurity may vary slightly. Classifications of disability or medical condition are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. Survey questions about employment status were randomly administered to a subset of respondents. Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-5. Number and Percentage of Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Take of Public Transit by Institution Type (Figure 5)

Do you use public transit to get from home to your college campus?	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes	268	65	772	38	1,040	42
No	145	35	1,281	62	1,426	58

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Survey questions about public transit use and transportation costs were randomly administered to a subset of respondents (approximately half of all respondents in this sample).

Table D-6. Perceptions of Affordability of Public Transit Among Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Use Public Transit, by Weekly Amount Spent on Transportation (Figure 6)

How affordable are public transit tickets or passes?	N	%
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$0-9 per week		
Not affordable at all	16	5
Somewhat affordable	149	51
Very affordable	98	33
Extremely affordable	31	11
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$10-14 per week		
Not affordable at all	6	6
Somewhat affordable	71	70
Very affordable	22	22
Extremely affordable	3	3
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$15-19 per week		
Not affordable at all	6	8
Somewhat affordable	58	73
Very affordable	13	16
Extremely affordable	3	4
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$20-24 per week		
Not affordable at all	24	16

Somewhat affordable	109	72
Very affordable	15	10
Extremely affordable	3	2
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$25-29 per week		
Not affordable at all	22	13
Somewhat affordable	123	71
Very affordable	22	13
Extremely affordable	6	3
Amount spent on transportation between home and college—\$30 or more per week		
Not affordable at all	51	22
Somewhat affordable	155	67
Very affordable	16	7
Extremely affordable	8	3

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Survey questions about public transit usage and transportation costs were randomly administered to a subset of respondents (approximately half of all respondents in this sample). Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding error.

Table D-7. Rates of Basic Needs Insecurity According to Public Transit Affordability Among Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Use Public Transit (Table 4)

How affordable are public transit tickets or passes to you?	Two-Year Colleges				Four-Year Colleges				Overall			
	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
Not affordable at all	39	87	62	33	81	61	46	23	120	69	51	27
Somewhat affordable	173	57	54	23	470	41	40	12	643	45	44	15
Very affordable	31	48	39	6	149	24	21	9	180	28	24	8
Extremely affordable	15	50	53	20	37	8	19	8	52	20	29	12

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Survey questions about public transit usage and transportation costs were randomly administered to a subset of respondents (approximately half of all respondents in this sample). The Number (N) column indicates

the number of survey respondents who responded to our homelessness module. The number of survey respondents for our measures of food insecurity and housing insecurity may vary slightly. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-8a. Rates of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness by Whether Survey Respondent is a Parenting Student (Table 5)

	Two-Year Colleges				Four-Year Colleges				Overall			
	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
Parenting Student	167	58	72	14	140	51	56	18	307	55	65	16
Not a Parenting Student	610	50	50	20	3,809	34	31	12	4,419	36	34	13

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number (N) column indicates the number of survey respondents to our measure of homelessness. The number of survey respondents for our measures of food insecurity and housing insecurity may vary slightly. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-8b. Rates of Food Insecurity of Children in Household Among Parenting Students with Children in the Household (Table 5)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	Child FI (%)	N	Child FI (%)	N	Child FI (%)
Parenting Students	158	29	130	18	288	24

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number (N) columns indicate the number of parenting students who answered questions about the food security of the children in the household. For more details on the measure of food insecurity among children was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-9. Affordability of Childcare among Philadelphia Parenting Students Who Need, Use, or Plan to Use Childcare This Year, by Amount Spent on Childcare per Week (Figure 7)

I Can Afford To Pay For Childcare	N	%
Amount spent on childcare—I don't pay for childcare		
Disagree or Strongly Disagree	9	75
Undecided	3	25
Agree or Strongly Agree	0	0
Amount spent on childcare—\$99 or less per week		
Disagree or Strongly Disagree	17	61
Undecided	2	7
Agree or Strongly Agree	9	32
Amount spent on childcare—\$100-199 per week		
Disagree or Strongly Disagree	14	64
Undecided	4	18
Agree or Strongly Agree	4	18
Amount spent on childcare—\$200 or more per week		
Disagree or Strongly Disagree	10	45
Undecided	5	23
Agree or Strongly Agree	7	32

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Questions about childcare affordability and childcare-related absences were asked only of survey respondents who stated they need, use, or plan to use childcare this year. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Table D-10. Childcare-Related Absences among Philadelphia Parenting Students Who Need, Use, or Plan to Use Childcare This Year (Figure 8)

Approximately How Many Days In The Last Semester Were You Absent From Work/Class Because Of Childcare Arrangements?	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
0 days	34	52	12	31	46	44
1 – 2 days	16	24	16	41	32	30
3 – 5 days	10	15	7	18	17	16

5+ days	6	9	4	10	10	10
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Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Questions about childcare affordability and childcare-related absences were asked only of survey responses who stated that they need, use, or plan to use childcare this year. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Table D-11. Number and Percentage of Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Use SNAP According to Food Security Status, Overall and by Institution (Figure 9)

	N	%
Food Insecure		
All colleges	246	14
Temple University	77	8
Drexel University	18	6
La Salle University	13	15
Orleans Technical College	4	21
Community College of Philadelphia	134	36
Food Secure		
All colleges	140	5
Temple University	51	3
Drexel University	10	2
La Salle University	4	2
Orleans Technical College	2	13
Community College of Philadelphia	73	22

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Drexel University had a lower response rate (4.5%) than the general response rate (8%). For more details on the food security module, see Appendix C.

Table D-12. Number and Percentage of Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Use Public Assistance, by Basic Need Security Status (Figure 10)

	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
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	N	%	N	%	N	%
Insecure						
Any assistance	335	64	648	34	983	40
Medicaid or public health insurance	192	37	284	15	476	20
Tax refunds (including EITC)	117	22	336	18	453	19
SNAP (food stamps)	174	33	138	7	312	13
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	33	6	20	1	53	2
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	42	8	41	2	83	3
Housing assistance (e.g., housing choice voucher, subsidized site-based housing, public or non-profit-owned housing, income-based housing or rent, rental or homeowner assistance)	30	6	22	1	52	2
Transportation assistance	39	7	36	2	75	3
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Administration benefits for a servicemen's, widow's, or survivor's pension, service disability or the GI bill)	16	3	34	2	50	2
SSDI (social security disability income)	17	3	17	1	34	1
Child care assistance	35	7	18	1	53	2
SSI (supplemental security income)	32	6	29	2	61	3
Unemployment compensation or insurance	24	5	30	2	54	2
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADCFC)	21	4	16	1	37	2
Other assistance	11	2	12	1	23	1
Secure						
Any assistance	86	40	362	19	448	21
Medicaid or public health insurance	43	20	142	7	185	9
Tax refunds (including EITC)	24	11	180	9	204	9
SNAP (food stamps)	39	18	35	2	74	3
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	11	5	1	<1	12	1
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	2	1	4	<1	6	<1
Housing assistance (e.g., housing choice voucher, subsidized site-based housing, public or non-profit-owned	3	1	7	<1	10	<1

housing, income-based housing or rent, rental or homeowner assistance)						
Transportation assistance	7	3	9	<1	16	1
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Administration benefits for a servicemen's, widow's, or survivor's pension, service disability or the GI bill)	2	1	26	1	28	1
SSDI (social security disability income)	3	1	12	1	15	1
Child care assistance	6	3	6	<1	12	1
SSI (supplemental security income)	2	1	12	1	14	1
Unemployment compensation or insurance	1	<1	9	<1	10	<1
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADCFC)	2	1	0	0	2	0
Other assistance	0	0	6	<1	6	<1

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table D-13. Number and Percentage of Philadelphia Survey Respondents Who Use of Campus Supports, by Basic Need Security Status (Figure 11)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Insecure						
Any campus support	84	32	431	44	515	42
Food from a campus food pantry	45	17	137	14	182	15
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	19	7	258	27	277	22
Free food from another campus resource not listed	24	9	170	17	194	16
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	31	12	30	3	61	5
Emergency financial aid	19	7	32	3	51	4
Food from a campus garden	17	6	48	5	65	5
Emergency housing	6	2	6	1	12	1
Help finding affordable housing	7	3	29	3	36	3
Secure						
Any campus support	23	22	237	25	260	25

Food from a campus food pantry	15	14	56	6	71	7
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	4	4	160	17	164	16
Free food from another campus resource not listed	5	5	57	6	62	6
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	2	2	3	<1	5	<1
Emergency financial aid	1	1	8	1	9	1
Food from a campus garden	6	6	31	3	37	4
Emergency housing	0	0	1	<1	1	<1
Help finding affordable housing	1	1	10	1	11	1

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Survey questions about campus supports were administered to a subset of randomly selected respondents. For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Appendix E. Other Survey Questions Used in the Hope Center's #RealCollege Survey

1. What is your gender? (Mark Yes or No for each item)
 - a. Female
 - b. Male
 - c. Non-binary/third gender
 - d. Prefer to self-describe
 - e. Prefer not to answer
2. Do you identify as transgender?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer
3. What is your sexual orientation?
 - a. Heterosexual or straight
 - b. Gay or lesbian
 - c. Bisexual
 - d. Prefer to self-describe
 - e. Prefer not to answer
4. In what year were you born? (answers by dropdown)
5. Are you a U.S. citizen or permanent resident?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer
6. Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces, Military Reserves, or National Guard?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. I prefer not to answer
7. How do you usually describe your race and/or ethnicity? (Select “Yes” to all that apply if you identify with multiple groups)
 - a. White or Caucasian
 - b. African American or Black
 - c. Hispanic or Latinx/Latina/Latino or Chicanx/Chicana/Chicano
 - d. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - e. Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American
 - f. Southeast Asian
 - g. Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian
 - h. Other Asian or Asian-American

- i. Other (please specify)
 - j. Prefer not to answer
8. What is the highest level of education completed by either of your parents/guardians?
- a. Eighth grade or lower
 - b. Between 9th and 12th grade (but no high school diploma)
 - c. High school diploma
 - d. GED
 - e. Some college (but no college degree)
 - f. College certificate or diploma
 - g. Associate's degree
 - h. Bachelor's degree
 - i. Graduate degree
 - j. I don't know
 - k. Prefer not to answer
9. In the last year, did a parent or guardian claim you as a "dependent" for tax purposes?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. I don't know
 - d. Prefer not to answer
10. How would you describe your current relationship status?
- a. Single
 - b. In a relationship
 - c. Married or domestic partnership
 - d. Divorced
 - e. Widowed
 - f. Prefer not to answer
11. Have you ever been in foster care?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer
12. Are you the parent or guardian to any biological, adopted, step, or foster children who live in your household?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
13. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? (Felony and misdemeanor convictions only. Don't include violations or traffic infractions)
- a. Yes
 - b. No

- c. Prefer not to answer
- 14. Do you have any of the following disabilities or medical conditions?
 - a. Cognitive, learning, or neurological disorders/disabilities (dyslexia, ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, epilepsy, etc.)
 - b. Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)
 - c. Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)
 - d. Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, PTSD, etc.)
 - e. Other: (fill in)
- 15. Are you a student-athlete on a team sponsored by your institution's athletics department?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer

¹ Although assessments of basic needs insecurity made early in the fall semester are likely to capture more students, these assessments may also understate students' basic needs. In fact, Bruening et al. (2018) surveyed the same population at the beginning and at the end of a semester and found that rates of food insecurity were higher at the end of the semester (35%) than at the beginning (28%).

² Response rates for participating institutions are as follows: Drexel University—4.5%, Community College of Philadelphia—5.9%, La Salle University—6.0%, Temple University—11.6%, Orleans Technical College—15.3%. For most participating Philadelphia institutions, the estimated number of survey invitations is based on the total number of students at institutions, age 18 or above, in the fall of 2017, as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. Temple University's Office of Institutional Research & Assessment provided the number of undergraduates invited to participate in the #RealCollege survey.

³ See https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about/sipp-content-information.html#par_textimage_5

⁴ Crutchfield, R. M. & Maguire, J. (2017). *Researching basic needs in higher education: Qualitative and quantitative instruments to explore a holistic understanding of food and housing insecurity*. Long Beach, California: Basic Needs Initiative, Office of the Chancellor, California State University.