

# Washington State Community and Technical Colleges #RealCollege Survey:

## WEB APPENDICES

## Appendix A. Participating Colleges

Bellevue College  
Centralia College  
Clark College  
Clover Park Technical College  
Columbia Basin College  
Edmonds Community College  
Everett Community College  
Green River College  
Highline College  
Lake Washington Institute of Technology  
Lower Columbia College  
North Seattle College  
Olympic College  
Pierce College-Fort Steilacoom  
Pierce College-Puyallup  
Renton Technical College  
Seattle Central College  
Shoreline Community College  
Skagit Valley College  
South Puget Sound Community College  
South Seattle College  
Spokane Community College  
Spokane Falls Community College  
Tacoma Community College  
Walla Walla Community College  
Wenatchee Valley College  
Whatcom Community College  
Yakima Valley College

## 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 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]*

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*[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](mailto:hopesrvy@temple.edu).*

*Thank you.*

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## COLLEGE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

In 2019, 28 postsecondary institutions 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.<sup>1</sup>

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

N (colleges)		28
N(survey respondents)		13,546
		%
<b>Sector</b>		
Public		100
Private, not for profit		0
Private, for profit		0
<b>Region</b>		
West		100
Midwest		0
South		0
Northeast		0
<b>Urbanization</b>		
City		73
Suburb		26
Town		1
Rural		0
<b>Size</b>		
Under 5,000		24
5,000–9,999		72
10,000–19,999		4
20,000 or more		0

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.

## STUDENT SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

### Who Answered the Survey?

Most students who were sent the #RealCollege survey did not answer it. Participating institutions sent survey invitations to an estimated 143,750 students and 13,546 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 9.4%.<sup>2</sup>

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 Survey Respondents**

	%
<b>Gender Identity</b>	
Female	53
Male	23
Non-binary/third gender	2
Prefers to self-describe	1
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Transgender Identity</b>	
Transgender	2
Non-transgender	75
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	
Heterosexual or straight	59
Gay or lesbian	3
Bisexual	9
Prefers to self-describe	3
Prefers not to answer	4
Missing	22
<b>Racial or Ethnic Background</b>	

American Indian or Alaskan Native	4
Black	6
Hispanic or Latinx	14
Indigenous	2
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	1
Other Asian or Asian-American	8
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	3
Southeast Asian	5
White	52
Other	3
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	22
<b>Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident</b>	
Yes	71
No	6
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Highest Level of Parental Education</b>	
No high school diploma	10
High school	14
Some college	29
Bachelor's degree or greater	22
Does not know	3
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Age</b>	
18 to 20	29
21 to 25	16
26 to 30	10
Older than 30	21
Prefers not to answer	<1
Missing	23
<b>College Enrollment Status</b>	
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	69
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	31
Missing	<1
<b>Level of Enrollment</b>	

Undergraduate	67
Graduate	
Non-degree	18
Missing	<1
<b>Years in College</b>	
Less than 1	37
1 to 2	40
Three or more	22
Missing	<1
<b>Dependency Status</b>	
Dependent	19
Independent	45
Does not know	13
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Student Receives the Pell Grant</b>	
Yes	32
No	52
Missing	16
<b>Student Athlete</b>	
Yes	2
No	75
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Parenting Student</b>	
Yes	18
No	66
Missing	15
<b>Relationship Status</b>	
Single	36
In a relationship	23
Married or domestic partnership	15
Divorced or widowed	3
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	22
<b>Student Has Been in Foster Care</b>	
Yes	3

No	74
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Student Served in the Military</b>	
Yes	4
No	73
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	22
<b>Employment Status</b>	
Employed	22
Not employed, looking	6
Not employed, not looking	11
Missing	60
<b>Student is a Returning Citizen</b>	
Yes	4
No	76
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	18
<b>Disability or Medical Condition</b>	
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	14
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	7
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	13
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	31
Other	3
No disability or medical condition	37
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	20

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.

- a. “Often true” and “sometimes true” were counted as affirmative answers.
- b. 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 (children present)	18-item (no children present)
High	0	0
Marginal	1-2	1-2
Low	3-7	3-5
Very Low	8-18	6-10

## 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. <sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup>

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. Food Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 1)**

	N	%
High	5,310	46
Marginal	1,556	13
Low	1,853	16
Very low	2,838	25

Source: 2019 #RealCollege survey

Notes: According to the USDA, students at either low or very low food security are considered “food insecure.” For more details on the food security module used in this report, see Appendix C. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding error.

**Table D-2. Food Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 2)**

	N	%
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.	5,119	44
I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.	5,005	43
The food that I bought just didn't last and I didn't have the money to buy more.	4,027	35
I cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food.	3,951	34
I ate less than I felt I should because there wasn't enough money for food.	3,778	33
I was hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food.	3,090	27
I cut the size of meals or skipped because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	2,844	25
I lost weight because there wasn't enough money for food.	1,908	17
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food.	1,101	10
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	657	6

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: For more details on the food security module used in this report, see Appendix C.

**Table D-3. Housing Insecurity Among Survey Respondents (Figure 3)**

	N	%
Any item	6,050	51
Had a rent or mortgage increase that made it difficult to pay	2,947	25
Did not pay full amount of rent or mortgage	2,454	21
Did not pay full utilities (gas, oil, or electricity bill)	2,393	20
Had an account default or go into collections	1,913	16
Moved in with other people, even for a little while, due to financial problems	2,189	19
Lived with others beyond the expected capacity of the house or apartment	1,517	13
Left household because felt unsafe	968	8
Moved three or more times	465	4
Received a summons to appear in housing court	132	1

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: For more details on the housing insecurity module used in this report, see Appendix C.

**Table D-4. Homelessness Among Survey Respondents (Figure 4)**

	N	%
Any item	2,233	19
Self-identified homeless	637	5
<b>Locations stayed overnight:</b>		
Temporarily staying with relative, friend or couch surfing until I find other housing	1,501	13
In a camper or RV	418	4
Temporarily at a hotel or motel without a permanent home to return to (not vacation or business travel)	364	3
In closed area/space with roof not meant for human habitation (such as abandoned building; car, truck, or van; encampment or tent; unconverted garage, attic, or basement; etc.)	400	3
At outdoor location (such as street, sidewalk or alley; bus or train stop; campground or woods, park, beach, or riverbed; under bridge or overpass)	267	2
At a treatment center (such as detox, hospital, etc.)	199	2
In transitional housing or independent living program	205	2
At a shelter	157	1
At a group home such as halfway house or residential program for mental health or substance abuse	108	1

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: For more details on the homelessness module used in this report, see Appendix C.

**Table D-5. Intersections of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness Among Survey Respondents (Figure 5)**

	N	%
No needs ("Secure")	4,496	38
Food insecure, housing insecure, or homeless ("Insecure")	7,312	62
Food and housing insecure	3,742	32
Housing insecure and homeless	1,821	15
Food insecure and homeless	1,457	12

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

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

**Table D-6. Variation in Institutional Rates of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness Among Survey Respondents by Sector (Figure 6)**

	Number of					
	Institutions	Mean	SD	P25	P50	P75
Food insecurity rate	28	42	5	39	42	45
Housing insecurity rate	28	53	6	49	52	54
Homelessness rate	28	20	3	18	20	22

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

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

**Table D-7. Demographic Disparities in Rates Basic Need Insecurities (Tables 1 & 3)**

	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
All survey respondents	11,798	41	51	19
<b>Gender Identity</b>				
Female	7,172	43	54	18

Male	3,177	36	46	21
Non-binary/third gender	241	50	61	32
Prefer to self-describe	113	47	59	34
Prefers not to answer	130	47	55	28
Missing	1,237	39	50	18
<b>Transgender Identity</b>				
Transgender	216	47	59	23
Non-transgender	10,209	41	51	19
Prefers not to answer	158	47	53	26
Missing	1,215	39	50	18
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>				
Heterosexual or straight	8,021	39	50	18
Gay or lesbian	419	43	56	19
Bisexual	1,245	49	60	25
Self-describe	392	48	60	27
Prefers not to answer	507	44	50	17
Missing	1,214	39	50	18
<b>Racial or Ethnic Background</b>				
American Indian or Alaskan Native	570	55	65	33
Black	850	54	63	24
Hispanic or Latinx	1,936	47	57	17
Indigenous	271	57	69	27
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	187	46	59	26
Other Asian or Asian American	1,056	36	41	20
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	365	43	52	24
Southeast Asian	733	38	41	18
White	7,087	39	51	19
Other	407	49	61	23
Prefers not to answer	229	48	54	26
Missing	1,244	39	50	18
<b>Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident</b>				
Yes	9,659	41	52	19
No	784	40	47	20
Prefers not to answer	151	43	66	23
Missing	1,204	39	50	18
<b>Highest Level of Parental Education</b>				
No high school diploma	1,358	50	59	21



High school	1,923	44	55	20
Some college	3,874	45	57	20
Bachelor's degree or greater	2,934	29	40	16
Does not know	400	40	47	20
Prefers not to answer	115	39	42	16
Missing	1,194	39	50	18
<b>Age</b>				
18 to 20	3,935	31	35	16
21 to 25	2,211	45	58	21
26 to 30	1,306	50	67	22
Over 30	2,862	48	63	21
Prefers not to answer	53	28	25	11
Missing	1,431	36	47	17

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number of Students 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 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-8. Disparities in Basic Needs by Student Life Experiences (Tables 2 & 4)**

	N	FI (%)	HI (%)	HM (%)
All survey respondents	11,798	41	51	19
<b>College Enrollment Status</b>				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	8,111	42	51	20
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	3,665	39	52	17
Missing	22	29	62	32
<b>Level of Enrollment</b>				
Undergraduate	7,994	41	52	19
Graduate	1,762	45	56	20
Non-degree	2,007	35	45	17
Missing	35	42	48	29
<b>Years in College</b>				
Less than 1	4,197	39	48	21
1 to 2	4,835	41	52	18

Three or more	2,748	41	55	17
Missing	18	24	31	28
<b>Dependency Status</b>				
Dependent	2,584	33	39	16
Independent	6,102	46	60	21
Does not know	1,768	34	40	18
Prefers not to answer	126	35	42	16
Missing	1,218	39	50	18
<b>Student Receives the Pell Grant</b>				
Yes	4,024	56	67	24
No	6,375	32	42	16
Missing	1,399	34	49	17
<b>Student Athlete</b>				
Yes	305	31	31	14
No	10,196	41	52	19
Prefers not to answer	97	45	52	27
Missing	1,200	39	50	18
<b>Parenting Student</b>				
Yes	2,488	55	69	20
No	8,982	37	46	19
Missing	328	50	53	19
<b>Relationship Status</b>				
Single	4,863	38	46	19
In a relationship	3,108	46	55	22
Married or domestic partnership	2,004	34	54	13
Divorced or Widowed	359	64	77	29
Prefers not to answer	261	52	56	26
Missing	1,203	39	50	18
<b>Student Has Been in Foster Care</b>				
Yes	389	67	72	36
No	10,054	40	50	18
Prefers not to answer	132	50	58	33
Missing	1,223	39	50	18
<b>Student Served in the Military</b>				
Yes	605	41	56	22
No	9,890	41	51	19
Prefers not to answer	85	50	62	29

Missing	1,218	39	50	18
<b>Employment Status</b>				
Employed	2,890	44	56	21
Not employed, looking	769	43	50	21
Not employed, not looking	1,418	31	38	14
Missing	6,721	41	52	19
<b>Student is a Returning Citizen</b>				
Yes	571	63	75	37
No	10,328	39	49	17
Prefers not to answer	247	61	64	36
Missing	652	44	54	20
<b>Disability or Medical Condition</b>				
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	1,834	50	60	24
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	917	54	64	26
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	1,715	54	63	26
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	4,191	52	63	25
Other	373	46	61	25
No disability or medical condition	4,980	32	42	14
Prefers not to answer	299	34	48	17
Missing	1,032	43	52	18

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: The Number of Students 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. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

**Table D-9. Employment Behavior by Basic Need Insecurity Status (Figure 7)**

	N	%
<b>Experienced Food Insecurity—No</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	958	32
Not employed, looking for work	421	14
Working 1 to 20 hours	768	26

Working 21 to 30 hours	374	13
Working more than 30 hours	453	15
<b>Experienced Food Insecurity—Yes</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	428	21
Not employed, looking for work	323	16
Working 1 to 20 hours	575	29
Working 21 to 30 hours	293	15
Working more than 30 hours	385	19
<b>Experienced Housing Insecurity—No</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	876	35
Not employed, looking for work	388	15
Working 1 to 20 hours	663	26
Working 21 to 30 hours	312	12
Working more than 30 hours	299	12
<b>Experienced Housing Insecurity—Yes</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	541	21
Not employed, looking for work	381	15
Working 1 to 20 hours	704	28
Working 21 to 30 hours	359	14
Working more than 30 hours	554	22
<b>Experienced Homelessness—No</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	1,224	30
Not employed, looking for work	607	15
Working 1 to 20 hours	1,089	26
Working 21 to 30 hours	522	13
Working more than 30 hours	682	17
<b>Experienced Homelessness—Yes</b>		
Not employed, not looking for work	194	20
Not employed, looking for work	162	17
Working 1 to 20 hours	277	29
Working 21 to 30 hours	149	16
Working more than 30 hours	171	18

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. Survey questions about work status and number of hours worked were administered to a subset of randomly selected respondents. For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

Table E-10. Self-Reported Grades by Basic Need Insecurity Status (Figure 8)

	N	%
<b>Experienced Food Insecurity—No</b>		
A	3,387	54
B	2,281	36
C	584	9
D or F	64	1
<b>Experienced Food Insecurity—Yes</b>		
A	1,907	44
B	1,747	41
C	562	13
D or F	84	2
<b>Experienced Housing Insecurity—No</b>		
A	2,818	53
B	1,939	37
C	474	9
D or F	54	1
<b>Experienced Housing Insecurity—Yes</b>		
A	2,574	46
B	2,187	39
C	698	13
D or F	94	2
<b>Experienced Homelessness—No</b>		
A	4,457	51
B	3,336	38
C	913	10
D or F	96	1
<b>Experienced homelessness—Yes</b>		
A	935	46
B	787	39
C	258	13
D or F	52	3

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. For more details on how each measure of insecurity was constructed, see Appendix C.

**Table D-11. Use of Public Assistance According to Basic Need Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 9)**

	N	%
<b>Food Insecure</b>		
Any assistance	2,817	63
Medicaid or public health insurance	1,651	37
Tax refunds (including EITC)	889	20
SNAP (food stamps)	1,308	29
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	350	8
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	316	7
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)	399	9
Transportation assistance	402	9
Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	263	6
SSDI (social security disability income)	208	5
Child care assistance	302	7
SSI (supplemental security income)	163	4
Unemployment compensation or insurance	208	5
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	238	5
Other assistance	123	3
<b>Housing Insecure</b>		
Any assistance	3,550	62
Medicaid or public health insurance	2,028	36
Tax refunds (including EITC)	1,194	21
SNAP (food stamps)	1,532	27
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	432	8
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	381	7
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)	452	8
Transportation assistance	494	9

Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	342	6
SSDI (social security disability income)	237	4
Child care assistance	360	6
SSI (supplemental security income)	181	3
Unemployment compensation or insurance	266	5
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	271	5
Other assistance	152	3
<b>Homeless</b>		
Any assistance	1,329	63
Medicaid or public health insurance	786	37
Tax refunds (including EITC)	373	18
SNAP (food stamps)	663	31
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	144	7
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	139	7
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)	211	10
Transportation assistance	257	12
Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	129	6
SSDI (social security disability income)	106	5
Child care assistance	155	7
SSI (supplemental security income)	83	4
Unemployment compensation or insurance	85	4
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	137	7
Other assistance	73	3
<b>Secure</b>		
Any assistance	1,382	33
Medicaid or public health insurance	586	14
Tax refunds (including EITC)	470	11
SNAP (food stamps)	232	5
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	102	2
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	59	1

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)	92	2
Transportation assistance	136	3
Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	204	5
SSDI (social security disability income)	69	2
Child care assistance	49	1
SSI (supplemental security income)	71	2
Unemployment compensation or insurance	95	2
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	28	1
Other assistance	64	2

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

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

**Table D-12. Use of Campus Supports According to Basic Need Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 10)**

	N	%
<b>Food Insecure</b>		
Any campus support	893	41
Food from a campus food pantry	522	24
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	224	10
Free food from another campus resource not listed	272	12
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	175	8
Emergency financial aid	176	8
Food from a campus garden	71	3
Emergency housing	32	1
Help finding affordable housing	89	4
<b>Housing Insecure</b>		
Any campus support	974	35
Food from a campus food pantry	539	19
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	248	9
Free food from another campus resource not listed	294	11
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	201	7
Emergency financial aid	202	7



Food from a campus garden	78	3
Emergency housing	36	1
Help finding affordable housing	97	3
<b>Homeless</b>		
Any campus support	426	42
Food from a campus food pantry	245	24
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	125	12
Free food from another campus resource not listed	136	13
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	95	9
Emergency financial aid	83	8
Food from a campus garden	40	4
Emergency housing	25	2
Help finding affordable housing	68	7
<b>Secure</b>		
Any campus support	335	16
Food from a campus food pantry	187	9
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	98	5
Free food from another campus resource not listed	87	4
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	30	1
Emergency financial aid	35	2
Food from a campus garden	20	1
Emergency housing	5	0
Help finding affordable housing	14	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 Alaskan 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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%).

<sup>2</sup> For most participating 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' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

<sup>3</sup> See [https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about/sipp-content-information.html#par\\_textimage\\_5](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about/sipp-content-information.html#par_textimage_5)

<sup>4</sup> 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.