

Tribal Colleges and Universities

#RealCollege Survey:

WEB APPENDICES

Appendix A. Participating Colleges

Diné College (AZ)

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (MN)

Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College (WI)

Oglala Lakota College (SD)

Salish Kootenai College (MT)

United Tribes Technical College (ND)

White Earth Tribal and Community College (MN)

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]

[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, seven 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.¹

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

N (colleges)		7
N (survey respondents)		1,045
		%
Sector		
Public		72
Private, not for profit		28
Private, for profit		0
Region		
West		41
Midwest		59
South		0
Northeast		0
Urbanization		
City		0
Suburb		12
Town		10
Rural		79
Size		
Under 5,000		100
5,000–9,999		0
10,000–19,999		0
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 4,878 students and 1,045 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 21.4%.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 Survey Respondents

	%
Gender Identity	
Female	62
Male	22
Non-binary/third gender	1
Prefers to self-describe	<1
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	16
Transgender Identity	
Transgender	1
Non-transgender	83
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	16
Sexual Orientation	
Heterosexual or straight	70
Gay or lesbian	3
Bisexual	6
Prefers to self-describe	2
Prefers not to answer	4
Missing	16
Racial or Ethnic Background	

American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	74
Black	2
Hispanic or Latinx	3
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	<1
Other Asian or Asian-American	<1
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	<1
Southeast Asian	<1
White	19
Other	2
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	15
Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident	
Yes	83
No	1
Prefers not to answer	<1
Missing	16
Highest Level of Parental Education	
No high school diploma	10
High school	18
Some college	43
Bachelor's degree or greater	11
Does not know	3
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	15
Age	
18 to 20	16
21 to 25	21
26 to 30	14
Older than 30	32
Prefers not to answer	<1
Missing	16
College Enrollment Status	
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	75
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	25
Missing	<1
Level of Enrollment	
Undergraduate	84

Graduate	11
Non-degree	4
Missing	0
Years in College	
Less than 1	29
1 to 2	30
Three or more	40
Missing	<1
Dependency Status	
Dependent	12
Independent	63
Does not know	9
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	15
Student Receives the Pell Grant	
Yes	75
No	18
Missing	6
Student Athlete	
Yes	3
No	80
Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	16
Parenting Student	
Yes	41
No	51
Missing	9
Relationship Status	
Single	42
In a relationship	25
Married or domestic partnership	13
Divorced or widowed	3
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	16
Student Has Been in Foster Care	
Yes	9
No	74

Prefers not to answer	1
Missing	16
Student Served in the Military	
Yes	3
No	81
Prefers not to answer	<1
Missing	16
Employment Status	
Employed	24
Not employed, looking	7
Not employed, not looking	10
Missing	59
Student is a Returning Citizen	
Yes	11
No	72
Prefers not to answer	5
Missing	12
Disability or Medical Condition	
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	11
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	6
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	15
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	28
Other	3
No disability or medical condition	44
Prefers not to answer	2
Missing	15
Finances College with Loans	
Yes	17
No	81
Missing	3

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 administered to a subset of randomly selected respondents.. “Returning citizen” in this report refers to a student who was convicted of a crime, some of whom were previously incarcerated.

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.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. Food Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 1)

	N	%
High	238	25
Marginal	130	13
Low	233	24
Very low	362	38

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 Insecurity Among Survey Respondents (Figure 2)

	N	%
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.	590	61
I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.	643	67
The food that I bought just didn't last and I didn't have the money to buy more.	570	59
I cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food.	491	51
I ate less than I felt I should because there wasn't enough money for food.	458	48
I was hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food.	365	38
I cut the size of meals or skipped because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	331	35
I lost weight because there wasn't enough money for food.	250	26
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food.	177	19
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	98	10

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	670	69
Had a rent or mortgage increase that made it difficult to pay	200	21
Did not pay full amount of rent or mortgage	295	30
Did not pay full utilities (gas, oil, or electricity bill)	385	40
Had an account default or go into collections	309	32
Moved in with other people, even for a little while, due to financial problems	252	26
Lived with others beyond the expected capacity of the house or apartment	213	22
Left household because felt unsafe	103	11
Moved three or more times	67	7
Received a summons to appear in housing court	19	2

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	286	29
Self-identified homeless	126	13
Locations stayed overnight:		
Temporarily staying with relative, friend or couch surfing until I find other housing	224	23
In a camper or RV	45	5
Temporarily at a hotel or motel without a permanent home to return to (not vacation or business travel)	51	5
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.)	36	4
At outdoor location (such as street, sidewalk or alley; bus or train stop; campground or woods, park, beach, or riverbed; under bridge or overpass)	26	3
At a treatment center (such as detox, hospital, etc.)	24	2
In transitional housing or independent living program	15	2
At a shelter	17	2

At a group home such as halfway house or residential program for mental health or substance abuse	12	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)

	TCU		National	
	N	%	N	%
No needs ("Secure")	182	19	59,246	41
Food insecure, housing insecure, or homeless ("Insecure")	789	81	84,963	59
Food and housing insecure	499	51	41,032	28
Housing insecure and homeless	257	26	18,614	13
Food insecure and homeless	214	22	15,672	11

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 (Figure 6)

	Number of					
	Institutions	Mean	SD	P25	P50	P75
Food insecurity rate	7	62	5	56	63	66
Housing insecurity rate	7	70	5	65	71	75
Homelessness rate	7	30	7	23	27	38

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	971	62	69	29
Gender Identity				
Female	650	62	71	28
Male	229	62	66	34
Non-binary/third gender	.	.	.	.
Prefer to self-describe	.	.	.	.
Prefers not to answer	12	75	67	25
Missing	90	59	63	27
Transgender Identity				
Transgender	.	.	.	.
Non-transgender	864	62	69	30
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
Missing	91	59	63	24
Sexual Orientation				
Heterosexual or straight	729	62	70	28
Gay or lesbian	28	54	61	39
Bisexual	65	66	65	42
Self-describe	16	63	63	31
Prefers not to answer	43	65	72	40
Missing	90	59	63	24
Racial or Ethnic Background				
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	775	64	71	30
Black	23	70	65	35
Hispanic or Latinx	35	66	77	31
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	.	.	.	.
Other Asian or Asian American	.	.	.	.
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	.	.	.	.
Southeast Asian	.	.	.	.
White	194	56	68	30
Other	23	61	78	26
Prefers not to answer	15	60	73	27
Missing	87	58	63	25

Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident				
Yes	871	62	70	30
No	.	.	.	.
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
Missing	89	58	62	24
Highest Level of Parental Education				
No high school diploma	108	66	70	32
High school	187	63	61	33
Some college	445	64	75	29
Bachelor's degree or greater	112	50	61	23
Does not know	27	67	78	33
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
Missing	86	58	63	24
Age				
18 to 20	170	47	47	39
21 to 25	218	64	70	32
26 to 30	150	72	82	27
Over 30	337	64	75	26
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
Missing	92	60	64	24

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. Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table. 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	971	62	69	29
College Enrollment Status				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	724	64	68	31
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	245	55	72	24
Missing	.	.	.	.

Level of Enrollment				
Undergraduate	820	63	71	29
Graduate	111	60	60	32
Non-degree	40	50	60	33
Missing	.	.	.	.
Years in College				
Less than 1	280	58	65	36
1 to 2	292	61	65	26
Three or more	397	64	75	27
Missing	.	.	.	.
Dependency Status				
Dependent	124	60	57	31
Independent	659	64	75	29
Does not know	89	51	48	35
Prefers not to answer	12	58	67	25
Missing	87	57	62	24
Student Receives the Pell Grant				
Yes	744	65	71	32
No	184	51	63	24
Missing	43	56	58	16
Student Athlete				
Yes	31	58	61	39
No	839	62	70	29
Prefers not to answer	12	75	75	58
Missing	89	58	64	25
Parenting Student				
Yes	425	66	78	26
No	528	58	62	32
Missing	18	90	67	22
Relationship Status				
Single	435	66	68	35
In a relationship	261	61	70	31
Married or domestic partnership	138	47	70	12
Divorced or widowed	28	68	79	25
Prefers not to answer	18	78	89	33
Missing	91	58	64	24
Student Has Been in Foster Care				

Yes	94	78	86	41
No	772	60	67	28
Prefers not to answer	14	71	93	50
Missing	91	57	63	25
Student Served in the Military				
Yes	30	57	73	33
No	850	62	69	30
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
Missing	88	59	64	25
Employment Status				
Employed	247	59	75	33
Not employed, looking	74	64	69	32
Not employed, not looking	95	57	58	32
Missing	555	64	68	27
Student is a Returning Citizen				
Yes	114	70	81	37
No	757	61	67	27
Prefers not to answer	52	58	79	54
Missing	48	68	63	27
Disability or Medical Condition				
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	113	71	75	42
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	66	68	80	27
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, cancer, etc.)	156	68	78	27
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	292	70	82	38
Other	29	79	86	24
No disability or medical condition	464	56	62	26
Prefers not to answer	22	64	73	23
Missing	79	62	62	24
Finances College with Loans				
Yes	168	61	71	32
No	798	62	69	29
Missing	.	.	.	.

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. Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table. Classifications of disability or medical condition are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with

multiple classifications. Survey questions about employment status were administered to a subset of randomly selected respondents. “Returning citizen” in this report refers to a student who was convicted of a crime, some of whom were previously incarcerated. Only two of the 35 accredited TCUs explicitly offer federal student loans, so students’ loans may come from many other sources. 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	%
Experienced Food Insecurity—No		
Not employed, not looking for work	40	24
Not employed, looking for work	27	16
Working 1 to 20 hours	41	24
Working 21 to 30 hours	13	8
Working more than 30 hours	47	28
Experienced Food Insecurity—Yes		
Not employed, not looking for work	54	22
Not employed, looking for work	47	19
Working 1 to 20 hours	60	24
Working 21 to 30 hours	20	8
Working more than 30 hours	65	26
Experienced Housing Insecurity—No		
Not employed, not looking for work	40	32
Not employed, looking for work	23	19
Working 1 to 20 hours	24	19
Working 21 to 30 hours	11	9
Working more than 30 hours	26	21
Experienced Housing Insecurity—Yes		
Not employed, not looking for work	55	19
Not employed, looking for work	51	17
Working 1 to 20 hours	77	26
Working 21 to 30 hours	22	8
Working more than 30 hours	87	30
Experienced Homelessness—No		
Not employed, not looking for work	65	23
Not employed, looking for work	50	18
Working 1 to 20 hours	63	22
Working 21 to 30 hours	25	9

Working more than 30 hours	78	28
Experienced Homelessness—Yes		
Not employed, not looking for work	30	22
Not employed, looking for work	24	18
Working 1 to 20 hours	38	28
Working 21 to 30 hours	8	6
Working more than 30 hours	35	26

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

	N	%
Experienced Food Insecurity—No		
A	130	40
B	145	44
C	46	14
D or F	7	2
Experienced Food Insecurity—Yes		
A	196	37
B	232	44
C	94	18
D or F	10	2
Experienced Housing Insecurity—No		
A	107	39
B	119	43
C	47	17
D or F	3	1
Experienced Housing Insecurity—Yes		
A	220	37
B	262	44
C	96	16
D or F	14	2
Experienced Homelessness—No		

A	247	40
B	270	43
C	97	16
D or F	9	1
Experienced Homelessness—Yes		
A	80	33
B	111	45
C	46	19
D or F	8	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	%
Food Insecure		
Any assistance	411	72
Medicaid or public health insurance	246	43
Tax refunds (including EITC)	139	24
SNAP (food stamps)	227	40
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	93	16
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	84	15
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)	63	11
Transportation assistance	39	7
Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	8	1
SSDI (social security disability income)	26	5
Child care assistance	44	8
SSI (supplemental security income)	15	3
Unemployment compensation or insurance	13	2
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	41	7

Other assistance	25	4
Housing Insecure		
Any assistance	463	72
Medicaid or public health insurance	280	44
Tax refunds (including EITC)	166	26
SNAP (food stamps)	256	40
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	123	19
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	102	16
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)	76	12
Transportation assistance	45	7
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Administration benefits for a servicemen's, widow's, or survivor's pension, service disability or the GI bill)	11	2
SSDI (social security disability income)	26	4
Child care assistance	52	8
SSI (supplemental security income)	17	3
Unemployment compensation or insurance	17	3
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	55	9
Other assistance	28	4
Homeless		
Any assistance	195	71
Medicaid or public health insurance	109	40
Tax refunds (including EITC)	66	24
SNAP (food stamps)	117	43
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	42	15
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	32	12
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)	22	8
Transportation assistance	26	10
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Administration benefits for a servicemen's, widow's, or survivor's pension, service disability or the GI bill)	4	1
SSDI (social security disability income)	8	3
Child care assistance	21	8

SSI (supplemental security income)	11	4
Unemployment compensation or insurance	6	2
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	26	10
Other assistance	8	3
Secure		
Any assistance	90	53
Medicaid or public health insurance	52	31
Tax refunds (including EITC)	21	12
SNAP (food stamps)	34	20
WIC (nutritional assistance for children and pregnant women)	22	13
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	7	4
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)	8	5
Transportation assistance	3	2
Veterans benefits (Veteran’s Administration benefits for a servicemen’s, widow’s, or survivor’s pension, service disability or the GI bill)	3	2
SSDI (social security disability income)	5	3
Child care assistance	7	4
SSI (supplemental security income)	7	4
Unemployment compensation or insurance	2	1
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADFC)	8	5
Other assistance	4	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 On-Campus Supports According to Basic Need Security Among Survey Respondents (Figure 10)

	N	%
Food Insecure		
Any campus support	145	53
Food from a campus food pantry	68	25
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	32	12
Free food from another campus resource not listed	56	20
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	39	14

Emergency financial aid	36	13
Food from a campus garden	39	14
Emergency housing	6	2
Help finding affordable housing	16	6
Housing Insecure		
Any campus support	160	51
Food from a campus food pantry	74	24
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	39	12
Free food from another campus resource not listed	60	19
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	40	13
Emergency financial aid	38	12
Food from a campus garden	43	14
Emergency housing	6	2
Help finding affordable housing	16	5
Homeless		
Any campus support	72	58
Food from a campus food pantry	39	31
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	19	15
Free food from another campus resource not listed	40	32
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	19	15
Emergency financial aid	15	12
Food from a campus garden	19	15
Emergency housing	3	2
Help finding affordable housing	12	10
Secure		
Any campus support	24	28
Food from a campus food pantry	13	15
A campus health clinic and/or counseling	8	9
Free food from another campus resource not listed	6	7
Help obtaining food stamps/SNAP	2	2
Emergency financial aid	8	9
Food from a campus garden	7	8
Emergency housing	1	1
Help finding affordable housing	1	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

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 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.

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.