

Parenting While in College: Racial Disparities in Basic Needs Insecurity During the Pandemic

WEB APPENDICES

February 2022

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Appendix A. Survey Methodology

SURVEY ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

Together with administrators, the Hope Center fielded this survey at all participating colleges. Each institution agreed to administer an online survey in the fall. To boost response rates, a limited number of \$100 incentives were offered to randomly selected survey participants at each college. Additionally, incentives valued at \$150 were offered to 133 parenting students randomly selected across all participating colleges. 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 take the survey, the student had to click continue as a record of consent and complete a minimum of the first page of the survey. Participating colleges were asked to use only the provided invitation language to ensure consistency across colleges. In order to boost survey response rates, some colleges also spread the word about the survey using text messages and social media. In these cases, they used language and materials provided by the Hope Center.

Subject: College and you, during a pandemic
From email address: [someone students “know” at YOUR COLLEGE]

[COLLEGE LETTERHEAD FOR EMAIL]

Dear [STUDENT FIRST NAME],

Let’s get real. Life is a lot right now. You’re the expert when it comes to what’s happening with your college experience. So we need your help supporting [COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY NAME] with information it can use to help.

Share your story in the #RealCollege Survey. We asked the Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice at Temple University to help us do this because we value you. You were chosen simply because you are one of our students. In appreciation, you can win \$100 for completing the survey.

[STUDENT FIRST NAME], please get started now.

Click here to begin:
[LINK]

If the link is not working, try to copy and paste it into your web browser.

Be honest—everything you say is confidential. If you have questions about the survey, send a note to the Hope Center at hopesrvy@temple.edu.

Thank you.

[NAME AND EMAIL SIGNATURE OF PERSON SENDING EMAIL]

STUDENT SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

Who Answered the Survey?

Most students who were sent the #RealCollege Survey did not answer it. Participating colleges sent survey invitations to an estimated 1.8 million students¹ and 195,629 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 10.6%.² Among these 195,629 participants, 16.6% (n=32,560) students are parenting students.

We surveyed all students, in compliance with legal and financial restrictions, rather than draw a sample. 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 A-1 | CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPATING COLLEGES ATTENDED BY PARENTING STUDENTS (WEIGHTED BY SURVEY RESPONDENT)

		Overall
N (colleges)		71
N(survey respondents)		32,560
		%
Sector		
Two-Year		75
Four-Year		25
Public		97
Private, not-for-profit		3
Region		
West		39
Midwest		18
South		34
Northeast		10

Setting	
City	63
Suburb	20
Town	8
Rural	7
Size	
Under 5,000	8
5,000 - 9,999	13
10,000 - 19,999	22
20,000 or more	57
Percent Pell	
Below 25%	26
25% - 49%	62
50% - 74%	10
75% or above	2

Source | Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2019), #RealCollege 2020 Survey.
 Notes | The information above reflects the characteristics of colleges as of the end of 2019.
 Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding error.

TABLE A-2 | CHARACTERISTICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS – PARENTING STUDENTS

	%
Gender Identity	
Female	81
Male	18
Non-binary/Third gender	1
Prefer to self-describe	1
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,131</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,429</i>
Transgender Identity	
Transgender	1
Non-transgender	99
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,239</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,321</i>
Sexual Orientation	
Heterosexual or straight	85
Gay or lesbian	1
Bisexual	6
Prefer to self-describe	2

Prefer not to answer	5
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>29,964</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,596</i>
Racial or Ethnic Background	
White or Caucasian	51
Black or African American	19
Hispanic or Latinx	27
American Indian or Alaskan Native	4
Indigenous	2
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab	2
Southeast Asian	2
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	1
Other Asian or Asian-American	5
Other	3
Prefer not to answer	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,000</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,560</i>
Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident	
Yes	95
No	4
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,320</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,240</i>
Highest Level of Parental Education	
No diploma	15
High school diploma	20
Some college	39
Bachelor's degree or greater	21
Don't know	3
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,276</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,284</i>
Age	
18 to 20	4
21 to 25	11
26 to 30	18
Over 30	67
Prefer not to answer	<1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>29,730</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,830</i>
Parenting Student Status	

Parenting Student	100
Non-parenting Student	0
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>32,560</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>0</i>
Relationship Status	
Single	24
In a relationship	16
Married or domestic partnership	50
Divorced	6
Widowed	1
Prefer not to answer	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,234</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,326</i>
Student is Foster Care-Involved	
Yes	5
No	94
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,143</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,417</i>
Student Served in the Military	
Yes	7
No	92
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,276</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,284</i>
Employment Status	
Employed	64
Not employed, looking	17
Not employed, not looking	19
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>31,427</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>1,133</i>
Students Has Been Justice System-Involved	
Yes	6
No	91
Prefer not to answer	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,984</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>1,576</i>
Disabilities and/or Medical Conditions	
Learning disability	12
Physical disability	5
Chronic illness	19

Psychological disorder	33
Other	3
No disability	52
Prefer not to answer	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,392</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,168</i>
College Enrollment Status	
Full-time	33
Part-time	64
Don't know	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>31,965</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>595</i>
Years in College	
Less than 1	17
1 to 2	30
3 or more	53
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>31,640</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>920</i>
Student is Considered a Dependent	
Yes	4
No	91
Don't know	3
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,134</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,426</i>
Student is a Pell Recipient	
Yes	59
No	41
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>30,880</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>1,680</i>
Level of Study	
High school equivalency/GED	4
Undergraduate degree: Associate	50
Undergraduate degree: Bachelor's	24
Graduate degree	10
Certificate or license	10
Non-degree	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>32,512</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>48</i>
Student is a Varsity Athlete	
Yes	<1

No	99
Prefer not to answer	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>29,695</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,865</i>

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | A parenting student is defined as a student who is a parent, primary caregiver, or guardian (legal or informal) of any children in or outside their household. 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 due to rounding error. Justice system-involved is defined by whether a student has been convicted of a crime. Foster care-involved is defined by a student who is or was placed in the home of a state-certified caregiver or a family member approved by the state. A dependent is a student who does not earn sufficient income to be an independent student or who must report parental income when qualifying for federal student aid. Percentages were rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B. Three Survey Measures of Basic Needs Insecurity

FOOD SECURITY

To assess food *security* in the fall of 2020, 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 the fall of 2020, 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 the fall of 2020, 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 C. Detailed Tables on Data Referenced in Full Brief

TABLE C-1 | DISPARITIES IN EXPERIENCING ANY BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY AMONG PARENTING STUDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND GENDER (FIGURE 1)

	Parenting Students		Single Female with Young Children		Single Male with Young Children	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Racial or Ethnic Background						
Overall	22,893	70	3,656	86	345	84
White or Caucasian	9,733	64	1,382	84	109	84
Asian, Black, and Latinx	11,958	78	2,446	87	248	85
Black or African American	4,740	83	1,217	90	128	86
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab	395	72	40	91	10	83
Southeast Asian	484	68	46	79	16	94
American Indian or Alaska Native	966	79	181	91	25	86
Indigenous	1,245	80	236	91	33	85
Hispanic or Latinx	6,235	78	1,193	86	101	85
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	337	77	46	88	13	100
Other Asian or Asian American	954	64	103	82	25	83
Other	603	73	81	89	17	85
Prefer not to answer	630	74	98	93	10	91

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Classifications of gender identity and racial/ethnic background are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. Students experiencing “Any BNI” includes students who experienced food insecurity in the past 30 days, or housing insecurity or homelessness within the last year. However, some students may have experienced multiple forms of insecurity at the same time. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was created, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE C-2 | FOOD INSECURITY AMONG SINGLE PARENTING STUDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY (FIGURE 2, PART 1)

	Overall		Single with Young Children		Single without Young Children	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Racial or Ethnic Background						
Overall	6,653	60	2,913	61	3,740	59
White or Caucasian	2,481	57	1,048	59	1,433	55
Asian, Black, and Latinx	4,308	62	1,962	62	2,346	62

Black or African American	2,035	64	1,008	66	1,027	63
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab	89	60	39	71	50	53
Southeast Asian	115	59	47	64	68	57
American Indian or Alaska Native	353	70	167	74	186	67
Indigenous	463	71	223	75	240	67
Hispanic or Latinx	2,116	61	920	60	1,196	62
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	104	67	41	66	63	68
Other Asian or Asian American	247	58	100	65	147	54
Other	188	63	74	66	114	61
Prefer not to answer	208	66	87	70	121	63

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Classifications of racial/ethnic background are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. For more detail on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B. Some students may have experienced more than one of the circumstances listed above.

TABLE C-3 | FOOD INSECURITY QUESTIONS RELATED TO CHILDREN AMONG PARENTING STUDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY (FIGURE 2, PART 2)

Parenting Students		
	N	%
Skip/Not Eat for Whole Day		
Overall	1,338	4
White or Caucasian	386	3
Asian, Black, and Latinx	859	6
Cut Meal Size		
Overall	2,508	8
White or Caucasian	773	5
Asian, Black, and Latinx	1,635	11
Couldn't Afford Balanced Meals		
Overall	7,061	22
White or Caucasian	2,949	19
Asian, Black, and Latinx	3,905	25

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Classifications of racial/ethnic background are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications. For more detail on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B. Some students may have experienced more than one of the circumstances listed above.

TABLE C-4 | CHALLENGES FACED BY SINGLE PARENTING STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC, BY RACE/ETHNICITY (PAGE 3)

	Overall		Single with Young children		Single without Young Children	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
I Experienced Cuts to My Hours or Pay at Work.						
Overall	3,812	34	1,609	34	2,203	35
White or Caucasian	1,397	32	545	30	852	33
Black or African American	1,104	35	550	36	554	34
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab	68	46	29	53	39	41
Southeast Asian	70	36	26	35	44	37
American Indian or Alaska Native	157	31	68	30	89	32
Indigenous	209	32	96	32	113	32
Hispanic or Latinx	1,245	36	530	34	715	37
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	52	34	21	34	31	33
Other Asian or Asian American	126	29	45	29	81	30
Other	114	38	39	35	75	40
Prefer not to answer	115	36	44	35	71	37
I Lost a Job.						
Overall	2,628	24	1,163	24	1,465	23
White or Caucasian	959	22	404	23	555	21
Black or African American	781	25	390	26	391	24
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab	64	43	27	49	37	39
Southeast Asian	60	31	22	30	38	32
American Indian or Alaska Native	119	24	57	25	62	22
Indigenous	167	26	82	28	85	24
Hispanic or Latinx	847	24	381	25	466	24
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	37	24	15	24	22	24
Other Asian or Asian American	104	24	38	25	66	24
Other	87	29	44	39	43	23
Prefer not to answer	84	27	31	25	53	28

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Some students may have more than one personal experience with COVID-19. Some students may have selected multiple racial/ethnicity groups. Single parenting students are parenting students who indicated that they are not living with a spouse or partner. Parenting students are characterized as with young child if they indicate they have at least one child age under six.

TABLE C-5 | HOMELESSNESS AND USE OF CAMPUS-BASED HOUSING SUPPORTS AMONG BLACK FATHER STUDENTS (FIGURE 3)

Black Father Students	
N	%

Experiencing homelessness	218	23
Among Black Fathers Experiencing Homelessness		
Using affordable housing supports	25	11
Living in emergency housing	19	9

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Some students may have experienced more than one of the circumstances listed above. For more details on how we measure homelessness, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE C-6 | RATES OF USING SUPPORTS AMONG PARENTING STUDENTS EXPERIENCING ANY BNI, BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND GENDER (FIGURE 4)

	Parenting Students		Single Female with Young Children		Single Male with Young Children	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Used Any Campus Supports						
Overall	10,401	45	2,386	65	117	34
White or Caucasian	4,113	42	880	64	35	32
Asian, Black, and Latinx	5,817	49	1,627	67	79	32
Black or African American	2,513	53	835	69	44	34
Used Any Public Supports						
Overall	16,643	73	3,261	89	218	63
White or Caucasian	7,419	76	1,247	90	77	71
Asian, Black, and Latinx	9,202	77	2,189	89	145	58
Black or African American	3,792	80	1,104	91	77	60
Used Child Care Assistance						
Overall	2,070	9	902	25	32	9
White or Caucasian	923	9	372	27	15	14
Asian, Black, and Latinx	1,180	10	561	23	22	9
Black or African American	620	13	336	28	16	12

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Students experiencing “any basic needs insecurity” includes students who experienced food insecurity in the past 30 days, or housing insecurity or homelessness within the last year. For more detail on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed refer to Appendix B.

Appendix D. Questions Used to Capture Student Background Characteristics 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 starting with 2002)
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. 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. Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American
 - d. Southeast Asian
 - e. American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - f. Indigenous
 - g. Hispanic or Latinx/Latina/Latino or Chicanx/Chicana/Chicano
 - h. Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian
 - i. Other Asian or Asian American
 - j. Other (please specify)
 - k. 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 or trade/vocational certificate
 - g. Associate 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. Do you have a spouse or partner that lives with you?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer
12. Have you ever been in foster care?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to answer
13. Are you the parent, primary caregiver, or guardian (legal or informal) of any children?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
14. 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
15. Do you have any of the following disabilities or medical conditions? (Mark Yes or No for each item.)
- 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)

16. Are you a varsity student-athlete on a team sponsored by your college or university's athletics department?
- Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to answer

¹ This count is based on institution-based self-reports of how many students were sent invitations to take the survey.

² For most participating institutions, the number of survey invitations sent is based on the total number of students at each institution, aged 18 or above, in the fall of 2020, as reported by each institution. Two four-year colleges sent Invitations to a sample of students.

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.