

#RealCollege 2021: Basic Needs Insecurity During the Ongoing Pandemic

WEB APPENDICES

March 31, 2021

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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]

COLLEGE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

In 2020, 202 postsecondary colleges and universities fielded the survey early in the fall term, as students enduring basic needs insecurity are at greater risk for dropping out of college later in the year.

TABLE A-1 | CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPATING COLLEGES (WEIGHTED BY SURVEY RESPONDENTS)¹

	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
N (colleges)	130	72	202
N (survey respondents)	112,204	83,425	195,629
	%	%	%
Sector			
Public	98	94	97
Private, not-for-profit	2	6	3
Region			
West	41	32	37
Midwest	15	20	17
South	35	29	32
Northeast	9	20	14
Setting			
City	64	70	66
Suburb	24	9	18
Town	5	18	11
Rural	6	2	5
Size			
Under 5,000	6	7	7
5,000 - 9,999	11	6	9
10,000 - 19,999	23	21	22
20,000 or more	60	65	62
Percent Pell			

Below 25%	30	21	26
25% - 49%	55	68	61
50% - 74%	13	10	12
75% or above	2	1	1
Endowment Per Pupil			
Less than \$1,200	n/a	11	11
Between \$1,200 and \$25,500	n/a	73	73
Over \$25,500	n/a	16	16

Source | Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2019), #RealCollege 2020 Survey.

Notes | The information above reflects the characteristics of 202 colleges as of the end of 2019. San Diego Continuing Education is missing all IPEDS information and is not included in the above table. One four-year institution did not provide endowment information in the IPEDS data system. 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 colleges sent survey invitations to an estimated 1.8 million students² and 195,629 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 10.6%.³ Participating two-year colleges sent survey invitations to an estimated 1.0 million students, and 112,204 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 10.8%. Participating four-year colleges and universities sent survey invitations to an estimated 0.8 million students, and 83,425 students participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 10.5%.

Colleges were asked to distribute the survey to all actively enrolled students in the fall of 2020. We computed responses rates using the number of survey participants divided by the number students invited to take the survey. The survey completion rate reflects the ratio at which a respondent answered all #RealCollege 2020 questions asked to all survey participants.

TABLE A-2 | STATISTICS ON RESPONSE AND COMPLETION RATES, BY SECTOR

	Standard Average	Standard Deviation	First Minimum	First Quartile	Second Quartile	Third Quartile	Third Maximum
Two-Year Colleges							
Response rate	13	7	1	8	12	18	37
Completion rate	82	3	76	81	82	85	89
Four-Year Colleges							
Response rate	12	7	0	8	12	15	45
Completion rate	82	4	68	80	83	85	88
Overall							
Response rate	13	7	0	8	12	17	45
Completion rate	82	3	68	80	83	85	89

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Participating colleges provided the number of students invited to complete the survey, two colleges fielded the survey to a random sample of students. Averages shown in the table are unweighted average response rates across all colleges.

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-3 | CHARACTERISTICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

	Two-Year Colleges %	Four-Year Colleges %	Overall %
Gender Identity			
Female	72	70	71
Male	26	28	27
Non-binary/Third gender	2	2	2
Prefer to self-describe	1	1	1
Prefer not to answer	1	1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>85,957</i>	<i>66,086</i>	<i>152,043</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,247</i>	<i>17,339</i>	<i>43,586</i>
Transgender Identity			
Transgender	1	1	1
Non-transgender	97	98	98
Prefer not to answer	1	1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,462</i>	<i>66,293</i>	<i>152,755</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>25,742</i>	<i>17,132</i>	<i>42,874</i>
Sexual Orientation			
Heterosexual or straight	77	76	77
Gay or lesbian	4	4	4
Bisexual	10	12	11
Prefer to self-describe	3	3	3
Prefer not to answer	6	4	5
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>85,782</i>	<i>66,212</i>	<i>151,994</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,422</i>	<i>17,213</i>	<i>43,635</i>
Racial or Ethnic Background			
White	49	69	58
Black	14	13	14
Hispanic or Latinx	34	13	25

American Indian or Alaskan Native	3	3	3
Indigenous	2	2	2
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	2	2	2
Southeast Asian	4	4	4
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	2	1	1
Other Asian or Asian-American	7	7	7
Other	3	2	2
Prefer not to answer	2	2	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>85,651</i>	<i>65,941</i>	<i>151,592</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,553</i>	<i>17,484</i>	<i>44,037</i>
Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident			
Yes	94	95	95
No	4	4	4
Prefer not to answer	1	0	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,620</i>	<i>66,385</i>	<i>153,005</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>25,584</i>	<i>17,040</i>	<i>42,624</i>
Highest Level of Parental Education			
No diploma	14	6	11
High school diploma	21	13	17
Some college	34	26	31
Bachelor's degree or greater	25	52	37
Don't know	4	1	3
Prefer not to answer	2	1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,323</i>	<i>66,240</i>	<i>152,563</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>25,881</i>	<i>17,185</i>	<i>43,066</i>
Age			
18 to 20	33	38	35
21 to 25	23	36	29
26 to 30	14	11	13
Over 30	29	16	23
Prefer not to answer	<1	<1	<1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>84,691</i>	<i>65,542</i>	<i>150,233</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>27,513</i>	<i>17,883</i>	<i>45,396</i>
Parenting Student Status			
Parenting Student	27	12	20
Non-parenting Student	73	88	80
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>91,977</i>	<i>69,631</i>	<i>161,608</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>20,227</i>	<i>13,794</i>	<i>34,021</i>
Relationship Status			
Single	47	50	48

In a relationship	27	32	30
Married or domestic partnership	20	14	17
Divorced	3	1	2
Widowed	<1	<1	<1
Prefer not to answer	3	2	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,160</i>	<i>66,132</i>	<i>152,292</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,044</i>	<i>17,293</i>	<i>43,337</i>
Student is Foster Care-Involved			
Yes	3	1	2
No	96	98	97
Prefer not to answer	1	1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>85,953</i>	<i>65,969</i>	<i>151,922</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,251</i>	<i>17,456</i>	<i>43,707</i>
Student Served in the Military			
Yes	4	3	4
No	95	96	96
Prefer not to answer	1	<1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,479</i>	<i>66,297</i>	<i>152,776</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>25,725</i>	<i>17,128</i>	<i>42,853</i>
Employment Status			
Employed	61	63	62
Not employed, looking	20	16	18
Not employed, not looking	19	20	20
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>100,460</i>	<i>75,864</i>	<i>176,324</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>11,744</i>	<i>7,561</i>	<i>19,305</i>
Student Has Been Justice System-Involved			
Yes	4	2	3
No	94	97	95
Prefer not to answer	2	1	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>88,662</i>	<i>67,665</i>	<i>156,327</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>23,542</i>	<i>15,760</i>	<i>39,302</i>
Disabilities and/or Medical Conditions			
Learning disability	15	14	15
Physical disability	5	4	5
Chronic illness	16	15	16
Psychological disorder	33	35	34
Other	3	2	3
No disability	52	51	52
Prefer not to answer	2	1	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>86,753</i>	<i>66,485</i>	<i>153,238</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>25,451</i>	<i>16,940</i>	<i>42,391</i>

College Enrollment Status			
Full-time	41	74	55
Part-time	55	25	42
Don't know	4	2	3
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>109,592</i>	<i>82,459</i>	<i>192,051</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>2,612</i>	<i>966</i>	<i>3,578</i>
Years in College			
Less than 1	26	20	24
1 to 2	38	23	31
3 or more	36	57	45
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>108,755</i>	<i>81,491</i>	<i>190,246</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>3,449</i>	<i>1,934</i>	<i>5,383</i>
Student is Considered a Dependent			
Yes	25	44	33
No	59	43	52
Don't know	14	13	13
Prefer not to answer	2	1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>85,919</i>	<i>65,993</i>	<i>151,912</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>26,285</i>	<i>17,432</i>	<i>43,717</i>
Student is a Pell Recipient			
Yes	52	38	46
No	48	62	54
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>101,425</i>	<i>75,703</i>	<i>177,128</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>10,779</i>	<i>7,722</i>	<i>18,501</i>
Level of Study			
High school equivalency/GED	5	1	3
Undergraduate degree: Associate	66	3	39
Undergraduate degree: Bachelor's	15	74	40
Graduate degree	2	20	10
Certificate or license	8	1	5
Non-degree	4	1	2
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>111,648</i>	<i>82,950</i>	<i>194,598</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>556</i>	<i>475</i>	<i>1,031</i>
Student is a Varsity Athlete			
Yes	1	2	2
No	98	97	98
Prefer not to answer	1	<1	1
<i>Total respondents (N)</i>	<i>84,631</i>	<i>65,026</i>	<i>149,657</i>
<i>Non-reporting respondents (N)</i>	<i>27,573</i>	<i>18,399</i>	<i>45,972</i>

Source | 2020 #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 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.

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.⁴ 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.⁵

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. Measures of Anxiety and Depression

ANXIETY

Students' anxiety levels were assessed using a validated seven-item instrument called the Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7).⁶ In the #RealCollege 2020 survey instrument, the items were separated into two sections (items 1-2 and items 3-7). The student needed to cross a certain score threshold in the first two items to progress to the remaining items. The assessment asked students about the number of times in the last two weeks – 0 days (0), 1-6 days (1), 7-12 days (2), or 13-14 days (3) – they were bothered by any of the following items:

Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) Module

1. Feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge
2. Not being able to stop or control worrying
3. Worrying too much about different things
4. Trouble relaxing
5. Being so restless that it's hard to sit still
6. Becoming easily annoyed or irritable
7. Feeling afraid as if something awful might happen

To calculate a raw score for anxiety, we counted the response score (0 to 3) for each of the questions to which a student answered. Those who indicated that they felt bothered at least some of the days were considered moderately to severely anxious.

Anxiety level	Raw Score
	Seven-item
None to minimal	0–4
Mild	5–9
Moderate	10–14
Severe	15+

DEPRESSION

Students’ depression levels were assessed using a validated nine-item instrument, called the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9). In the #RealCollege 2020 survey instrument, the items were separated into two sections (items 1-2 and items 3-9). The student needed to reach a certain response threshold in the first two items to progress to the remaining items. The assessment asked students about the number of times in the last two weeks – 0 days (0), 1-6 days (1), 7-12 days (2), or 13-14 days (3) – they were bothered by any of the following items:

Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) Module

1. Little interest or pleasure in doing things
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless
3. Trouble falling asleep, staying asleep, or sleeping too much
4. Feeling tired or having little energy
5. Poor appetite or overeating
6. Feeling bad about yourself—or that you’re a failure or have let yourself or your family down
7. Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television
8. Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed; or the opposite—being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual
9. Thought that you would be better off dead or hurting yourself in some way

To calculate a raw score for depression, we counted the response score (0 to 3) for each of the questions to which a student answered. Those who indicated that they felt bothered at least some of the days were considered moderately to severely depressed.

Depression level	Raw Score
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Nine-item	
None to minimal	0-4
Mild	5-9
Moderate	10-14
Moderately Severe	15-19
Severe	20+

Appendix D. Weighting the #RealCollege 2020 Survey Data

Survey weights are used to account for disproportionate representation of subsets of survey participants with respect to the total population. To determine the extent to which our #RealCollege 2020 findings reflect results we would see had we surveyed students from a broader set of colleges and universities in the United States, we weighted to account for the types of colleges that participated.

Specifically, we created three sets of survey weights for different categories of institution-types: sector, Carnegie classification, and enrollment size (Table D). We found that the weighted results remained relatively unchanged when compared to the unweighted results. Differences in overall rates, on outcomes such as basic needs insecurities, support usage, and pandemic-related experiences, ranged from one to two percentage points.

These results suggest that our findings do not depend on which types of colleges participate in our survey, meaning our results may apply to a broader population. To further investigate these findings, we will implement student-based survey weightings in the future.

TABLE D | COMPARISON OF PROPORTIONS OF INSTITUTIONS ACCORDING TO IPEDS AND THE #REALCOLLEGE 2020 SURVEY

Category	Type	Proportion of Institutions in IPEDS	Proportion of Institutions in #RealCollege 2020
Sector	Two-Year	53.8%	64.4%
	Four-year	46.2%	35.6%
Carnegie classification	Doctoral/research universities	8.2%	12.9%
	Master’s colleges and universities	18.6%	9.4%
	Baccalaureate colleges	17.5%	8.9%
	Associate’s colleges	38.4%	64.9%
	Specialized colleges	16.3%	1.5%

	Tribal colleges and universities	1.0%	2.5%
Enrollment	Under 1,000	59.2%	5.0%
	1,000 to 4,999	24.2%	32.2%
	5,000 to 9,999	7.7%	23.3%
	10,000 to 19,999	5.5%	22.8%
	20,000 and above	3.5%	16.8%

Source | Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS, 2019), #RealCollege 2020 Survey

Notes | Colleges included in the population of institutions listed in IPEDS are limited to Title IV degree-granting institutions as reported to IPEDS. Specialized colleges include theological seminaries; medical schools; schools of engineering and technology; schools of business management; schools of art, music, and design; schools of law; and teacher's colleges.

Appendix E. Detailed Tables on Data Referenced Full Report

TABLE E-1 | GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF 2020 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY PARTICIPATION, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 1)

State	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
	N	N	N
Alabama	0	2	2
Arizona	0	2	2
Arkansas	4	2	6
California	19	2	21
Colorado	13	2	15
Connecticut	1	0	1
Florida	2	0	2
Georgia	0	3	3
Hawaii	6	3	9
Idaho	0	1	1
Illinois	1	2	3
Iowa	1	1	2
Kansas	0	2	2
Louisiana	0	3	3
Maryland	2	1	3
Massachusetts	2	2	4
Michigan	2	0	2
Minnesota	5	0	5
Mississippi	0	2	2

Missouri	0	2	2
Montana	0	1	1
Nebraska	1	0	1
Nevada	1	1	2
New Hampshire	1	0	1
New Jersey	3	1	4
New Mexico	1	0	1
New York	2	2	4
North Carolina	3	3	6
North Dakota	2	1	3
Ohio	4	3	7
Oklahoma	0	1	1
Oregon	2	1	3
Pennsylvania	2	11	13
South Carolina	0	1	1
Tennessee	5	2	7
Texas	10	4	14
Utah	0	1	1
Vermont	1	0	1
Virginia	23	1	24
Washington	8	3	11
West Virginia	0	2	2
Wisconsin	3	1	4

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | The table details the states where the colleges that conducted the 2020 #RealCollege Survey reside. The table excludes Alaska, Maine, Rhode Island, and Wyoming where the survey was not conducted. The table reflects the 202 colleges and universities that fielded the survey. See the full report for the list participating institutions.

TABLE E-2 | CHANGES IN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT IN FALL 2020, BY SECTOR, GENDER, AND RACE/ETHNICITY (FIGURE 2)

	% Change from Previous Year		
	Overall	Public Two-Year	Public Four-year
Overall	-4.4	-9.5	-1.9
First-time freshman only	-13.0	-18.9	-10.5
Gender			
Male	-6.9	-14.4	-3.7
Female	-2.6	-6.0	-0.5
Race/Ethnicity			
White	-6.6	-9.9	-5.2
Asian	-3.1	-5.5	-1.7

Black	-7.5	-12.8	-4.0
Hispanic	-5.4	-10.8	-1.8
Native American	-9.6	-13.1	-6.7

Source | National Student Clearinghouse

Notes | Information above are a part of the *Stay Informed with the Latest Enrollment Information*, published by National Student' Clearinghouse Research Center.

TABLE E-3 | CHANGES IN #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY SAMPLE FROM 2019 TO 2020 FOR COLLEGE X AND ALL COMMUNITY COLLEGES (TABLE 1)

		College X		Community Colleges	
		% Change	Change in Percentage of Group	% Change	Change in Percentage of Group
Overall		32	n/a	8	n/a
By Gender	Females	31	4	13	2
	Males	7	-3	-1	-3
By Race/Ethnicity	White or Caucasian	37	3	-4	-6
	Black or African American	16	-3	8	0
	Hispanic or Latinx	29	1	15	2
	Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander	14	-1	10	0
By Study Intensity	Full-Time Students	-19	-21	-22	-14
	Part-Time Students	82	18	30	11
By Age	18 through 20 Years Old	-4	-8	-12	-7
	21 through 24 Years Old	13	-2	1	-1
	25 through 29 Years Old	32	1	23	2
	At Least 30 Years Old	67	9	32	6

Source | 2019 and 2020 #RealCollege Surveys

Notes | Change in proportion represents the percentage point difference between the proportion of each student subgroup from 2019 to 2020. "Community College" denotes the 41 colleges that participated in both the 2019 and 2020 #RealCollege surveys. Not all available categories are shown. Students can identify as more than one race, ethnicity, or gender.

TABLE E-4 | PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 3)

	#RealCollege 2019			#RealCollege 2020		
	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Anxiety Level						
Minimal or mild	67	69	68	64	61	63
Moderate to severe	33	31	32	34	37	35
Depression Level						
Minimal or mild	62	65	63	66	65	65
Moderate to severe	38	35	37	34	35	35

Source | 2019 #RealCollege Report and 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | The Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) was used to measure anxiety. Students “experienced anxiety” if they experienced moderate to severe levels of anxiety in the last two weeks according to the GAD-7. The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) was used to measure depression. Students “experienced depression” if they experienced moderate, moderately severe, or severe levels of depression in the last two weeks according to the PHQ-9. See Appendix C for more information on the 2020 measures.

TABLE E-5 | PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION, BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND SECTOR (PAGE 12)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Students Experiencing at Least Moderate Anxiety:						
Overall	29,609	34	24,835	37	54,444	35
Race / Ethnicity						
White or Caucasian	16,316	39	17,891	39	34,207	39
Black or African American	3,514	29	2,738	32	6,252	30
Middle Eastern	628	36	489	41	1,117	38
Southeast Asian	987	33	799	34	1,786	33
American Indian	1,028	40	754	41	1,782	40
Indigenous	672	45	446	44	1,118	45
Hispanic or Latinx	9,628	33	3,341	39	12,969	34
Pacific Islander	518	38	315	41	833	39
Other Asian	1,936	32	1,522	33	3,458	32
Other race	748	34	447	35	1,195	35
Prefer to not answer	629	32	389	35	1,018	33
Students Experiencing at Least Moderate Depression:						
Overall	30,054	34	23,813	35	53,867	35
Race / Ethnicity						
White or Caucasian	15,325	36	16,307	36	31,632	36

Black or African American	3,789	31	2,984	35	6,773	33
Middle Eastern	634	36	489	41	1,123	38
Southeast Asian	1,105	36	883	37	1,988	37
American Indian	1,020	40	737	40	1,757	40
Indigenous	676	46	445	44	1,121	45
Hispanic or Latinx	10,236	35	3,353	39	13,589	36
Pacific Islander	576	43	299	39	875	41
Other Asian	2,143	35	1,595	34	3,738	35
Other race	787	36	455	36	1,242	36
Prefer to not answer	679	34	383	35	1,062	34

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | The Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) was used to measure anxiety. Students “experienced anxiety” if they experienced moderate to severe levels of anxiety in the last two weeks according to the GAD-7. The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) was used to measure depression. Students “experienced depression” if they experienced moderate, moderately severe, or severe levels of depression in the last two weeks according to the PHQ-9. See Appendix C for more information on the 2020 measures. Classifications of racial and ethnic background are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications.

TABLE E-6 | PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH COVID-19, BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND SECTOR (FIGURE 4)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Students Experiencing Any of the Following from Spring 2020 to Present During the Pandemic						
<i>I Was Sick with COVID-19.</i>						
Overall	4,933	7	3,533	7	8,466	7
White or Caucasian	1,566	6	1,946	6	3,512	6
Black or African American	520	7	400	7	920	7
Middle Eastern	94	8	76	9	170	8
Southeast Asian	104	5	68	4	172	5
American Indian	130	8	88	7	218	8
Indigenous	91	10	59	8	150	9
Hispanic or Latinx	1,896	10	490	9	2,386	10
Pacific Islander	58	7	27	5	85	6
Other Asian	172	4	113	4	285	4
Other Race	115	8	73	8	188	8
Prefer to Not Answer	88	7	55	7	143	7
<i>Close Friend or Family Member Was Sick with COVID-19.</i>						
Overall	28,634	42	21,264	39	49,898	41
White or Caucasian	9,204	35	11,211	36	20,415	36
Black or African American	3,438	44	2,810	49	6,248	46
Middle Eastern	507	41	385	47	892	44

Southeast Asian	661	33	508	31	1,169	32
American Indian	721	45	541	43	1,262	44
Indigenous	471	51	343	49	814	50
Hispanic or Latinx	10,726	55	2,990	52	13,716	55
Pacific Islander	360	41	214	41	574	41
Other Asian	1,225	31	968	30	2,193	31
Other race	563	39	339	38	902	38
Prefer to not answer	485	36	317	40	802	38
<i>Close Friend or Family Member Died of COVID-19.</i>						
Overall	10,572	15	5,521	10	16,093	13
White or Caucasian	2,443	9	1,918	6	4,361	8
Black or African American	1,574	20	1,201	21	2,775	21
Middle Eastern	212	17	122	15	334	16
Southeast Asian	267	13	179	11	446	12
American Indian	307	19	210	17	517	18
Indigenous	221	24	138	20	359	22
Hispanic or Latinx	4,456	23	992	17	5,448	22
Pacific Islander	156	18	71	14	227	16
Other Asian	468	12	311	10	779	11
Other race	252	17	107	12	359	15
Prefer to not answer	211	16	104	13	315	15

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Some students may have more than one personal experience with COVID-19

TABLE E-7 | ONLINE VS IN-PERSON CLASSES, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 5)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Online only	93,523	84	54,872	66	148,395	76
In-person (on-campus at least one day/week)	16,787	15	27,239	33	44,026	23
Don't know	1,375	1	753	1	2,128	1

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Cumulative percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

TABLE E-8 | COLLEGE CLOSED FOR IN-PERSON CLASSES, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 6)

	Two-Year Colleges	Four-Year Colleges	Overall
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	N	%	N	%	N	%
Is Your College or University Closed for In-Person Classes This Term?						
Closed for in-person classes	64,231	58	21,926	26	86,157	44
Open for in-person classes	31,645	28	53,581	65	85,226	44
Don't know	15,761	14	7,340	9	23,101	12

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

TABLE E-9 | FALL ENROLLMENT STATUS AMONG STUDENTS TAKING CREDIT-BEARING COURSES, BY SECTOR AND YEAR (FIGURE 7)

	2019		2020	
	Two Year	Four Year	Two Year	Four Year
Full-time	61	90	44	75
Part-time	39	10	56	25

Source | 2019 & 2020 #RealCollege surveys

Notes | Results above only include students who reported taking at least one credit in the fall. Part-time is defined as students taking up to 11 credits in the fall, while full-time is defined as students taking 12 or more credits in the fall. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

TABLE E-10 | OTHER CHALLENGES FACED IN SPRING 2020 DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 8)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Which of the Following Did You Experience With Your Spring 2020 Term During the COVID-19 Pandemic?						
My college or university moved classes online.	67,061	96	52,607	96	119,668	96
My campus closed.	61,599	89	44,867	82	106,466	86
I had difficulty concentrating on classes.	45,910	66	43,979	80	89,889	72
I had to take care of a family member while attending class.	33,480	48	17,772	32	51,252	41
I had problems with internet or computer access.	27,612	40	21,263	39	48,875	39
I had to help children in my home with their schooling while attending classes.	26,128	38	12,878	24	39,006	31
I attended classes less often.	23,247	34	23,184	42	46,431	38
I stopped attending my college or university for at least one month.	12,087	18	7,025	13	19,112	15

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Results are limited to students who were enrolled in college in spring 2020. Some students may have experienced more than one of the challenges listed above.

TABLE E-11 | JOB LOSS OR REDUCTION IN PAY OR HOURS, BY PRE-PANDEMIC JOB STATUS (FIGURE 9)

	Full-Time Job		Part-Time Job		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Students Experiencing Any of the Following From Spring 2020 to Present During the Pandemic						
I lost a job.	18,082	31	30,315	42	49,884	37
My current hours/pay are lower than they were before COVID-19.	13,720	23	18,446	25	33,113	24

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Results are limited to students who were enrolled in college in spring 2020 and had at least one job before the pandemic. Full-time employment is defined as working 35 or more hours a week, while part-time employment is defined as working less than 35 hours a week. Some students may have experienced a job loss and a reduction in pay or hours.

TABLE E-12 | JOB LOSS OR REDUCTION IN PAY OR HOURS, BY RACE AND PRE-PANDEMIC JOB STATUS (FIGURE 10)

	Full-Time Job		Part-Time Job		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Students Who Experienced a Job Loss or Reduction in Hours or Pay:						
White or Caucasian	14,706	52	23,504	64	39,273	59
Black or African American	4,187	56	5,372	73	9,845	64
Middle Eastern	514	65	837	73	1,394	69
Southeast Asian	642	57	1,470	68	2,166	64
American Indian	932	58	1,104	71	2,093	64
Indigenous	537	62	625	72	1,190	67
Hispanic or Latinx	7,187	58	9,593	71	17,285	65
Pacific Islander	416	59	578	74	1,019	67
Other Asian	1,328	57	2,973	69	4,415	65
Other race	641	60	868	70	1,551	65
Prefer to not answer	645	57	780	70	1,458	63

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Results are limited to students who were enrolled in college in spring 2020 and had at least one job before the pandemic. Full-time employment is defined as working 35 or more hours a week, while part-time employment is defined as working less than 35 hours a week. Some students may have experienced a job loss and a reduction in pay or hours. Classifications of racial or ethnic background are not mutually exclusive. Respondents could self-identify with multiple classifications.

TABLE E-13 | CHALLENGES FACED BY PARENTING STUDENTS DUE TO THE PANDEMIC (FIGURE 11)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Which of the Following Did You Experience with Your Spring 2020 Term During the Pandemic?						
I had to help children in my home with their schooling while attending classes.	12,577	79	4,164	75	16,741	78
Approximately How Many Days in the Spring 2020 Term Did You Miss Work/Class Because of Childcare Arrangements?						
None	1,589	30	574	31	2,163	30
1-2	1,191	23	359	20	1,550	22
3-5	1,173	22	392	21	1,565	22
6 or more	1,322	25	508	28	1,830	26
Will Your Child(ren) Be Home at Least Part-Time (i.e., Not Attending Daycare or School In-Person) Due to the Pandemic This Fall?						
Yes	17,571	80	5,722	78	23,293	79
No	3,387	15	1,277	17	4,664	16
Don't know	1,006	5	343	5	1,349	5

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Results to questions about spring 2020 are limited to parenting students who were enrolled in that term. 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.

TABLE E-14 | CHILDCARE CHALLENGES PARENTING STUDENTS FACE DUE TO THE PANDEMIC (FIGURE 12)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
I spend at least 20 hours a week caring for a child.	20,727	85	6,602	81	27,329	84
I spend at least 40 hours a week caring for a child.	18,278	75	5,547	68	23,825	73

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.

TABLE E-15 | PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION, PARENTING STATUS AND SECTOR (PAGE 22)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Students Experiencing at Least Moderate Anxiety:						
Parenting Student	6,283	27	2,310	30	8,593	28
Non-Parenting Student	23,263	36	22,481	38	45,744	37
Students Experiencing at Least Moderate Depression:						
Parenting Student	5,857	26	1,958	25	7,815	25
Non-Parenting Student	24,138	37	21,818	37	45,956	37

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | The Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) was used to measure anxiety. Students “experienced anxiety” if they experienced moderate to severe levels of anxiety in the last two weeks according to the GAD-7. The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) was used to measure depression. Students “experienced depression” if they experienced moderate, moderately severe, or severe levels of depression in the last two weeks according to the PHQ-9. See Appendix C for more information on the 2020 measures. 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.

TABLE E-16 | FALL ENROLLMENT STATUS AMONG PARENTING STUDENTS TAKING CREDIT-BEARING COURSES, BY SECTOR (PAGE 22)

	Two Year %	Four Year %
Full-time	33	43
Part-time	67	57

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Surveys

Notes | Results above only include students who reported taking at least one credit in the fall. Part-time is defined as students taking up to 11 credits in the fall, while full-time is defined as students taking 12 or more credits in the fall. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

TABLE E-17 | BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY RATES, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 13)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Any BNI	62,733	61	41,021	53	103,754	58
Food insecurity	38,550	39	21,473	29	60,023	34
Housing insecurity	53,226	52	32,722	43	85,948	48
Homelessness	13,991	14	10,855	14	24,846	14

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | 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 E-18 | LEVEL OF FOOD SECURITY, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 14)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
High	48,202	48	44,084	59	92,286	53
Marginal	12,873	13	9,363	12	22,236	13
Low	16,181	16	8,932	12	25,113	14
Very low	22,369	22	12,541	17	34,910	20

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | According to the USDA, students at either low or very low levels of food security are termed “food insecure.” Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. For more details on how we measure food insecurity, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-19 | FOOD SECURITY QUESTIONS, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 15)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.	43,858	44	23,764	32	67,622	39
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.	39,937	40	24,608	33	64,545	37
The food that I bought just didn't last and I didn't have the money to buy more.	34,200	34	17,181	23	51,381	29
I cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food.	31,556	32	18,207	24	49,763	29
I ate less than I felt I should because there wasn't enough money for food.	30,394	31	17,612	24	48,006	28
I was hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food.	23,332	23	13,348	18	36,680	21
I cut the size of meals or skipped because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	20,790	21	12,680	17	33,470	19
I lost weight because there wasn't enough money for food.	17,430	17	9,238	12	26,668	15
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food.	9,598	10	4,366	6	13,964	8
I did not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food. (3 or more times)	5,791	6	2,576	3	8,367	5

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Some students may have experienced more than one of the circumstances listed above.

TABLE E-20 | HOUSING INSECURITY, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 16)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Any item	53,226	52	32,722	43	85,948	48
Did not pay full utilities (gas, oil, or electricity bill)	29,428	29	11,006	14	40,434	23
Did not pay full amount of rent or mortgage	27,858	27	12,315	16	40,173	22
Had a rent or mortgage increase that made it difficult to pay	19,445	19	9,470	12	28,915	16
Had an account default or go into collections	16,547	16	5,957	8	22,504	13
Moved in with other people, even for a little while, due to financial problems	13,329	13	9,662	13	22,991	13
Lived with others beyond the expected capacity of the house or apartment	10,408	10	5,635	7	16,043	9
Left household because felt unsafe	4,642	5	3,625	5	8,267	5
Moved three or more times	3,266	3	8,473	11	11,739	7
Received a summons to appear in housing court	1,426	1	498	1	1,924	1

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 housing insecurity, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-21 | EXPERIENCES WITH HOMELESSNESS, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 17)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Any item	13,991	14	10,855	14	24,846	14
Self-identified homeless	3,352	3	1,423	2	4,775	3
Locations Stayed Overnight:						
Temporarily staying with relative, friend or couch surfing until I find other housing	10,465	10	8,614	11	19,079	11
Temporarily at a hotel or motel without a permanent home to return to	3,174	3	1,652	2	4,826	3
In closed area/space with roof not meant for human habitation (such as abandoned	1,905	2	957	1	2,862	2

building; car, truck, or van; encampment or tent; unconverted garage, attic, or basement)						
In a camper or RV (not for vacation)	1,313	1	802	1	2,115	1
At outdoor location (such as street, sidewalk or alley; bus or train stop; campground or woods, park, beach, or riverbed; under bridge or overpass	1,297	1	813	1	2,110	1
At a treatment center (such as detox, hospital, etc.)	1,160	1	726	1	1,886	1
In transitional housing or independent living program	1,142	1	317	<1	1,459	1
At a shelter	840	1	226	<1	1,066	1
At a group home such as halfway house or residential program for mental health or substance abuse	744	1	247	<1	991	1

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 E-22 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY, LGBTQ STATUS, GENDER IDENTITY, AND SECTOR (FIGURE 18)

	Two-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Four-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Overall Any BNI %
Racial or Ethnic Background			
White or Caucasian	57	50	54
African American or Black	73	65	70
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab American	65	58	62
Southeast Asian	59	54	57
American Indian or Alaska Native	72	67	70
Indigenous	76	72	75
Hispanic or Latinx or Chicanx	65	59	64
Pacific Islander	68	63	66
Other Asian or Asian American	56	48	53
Other	67	59	64
LGBTQ Status			
Yes	67	62	65
No	60	51	56
Gender Identity			

Female	64	54	60
Male	56	50	53
Non-binary	70	67	69
Prefer to self-describe	66	64	65

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 who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary/third gender, or preferred to self-describe their gender identity or sexual orientation are considered LGBTQ. For more detail on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-23 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY FIRST-GENERATION STATUS, PELL GRANT STATUS, ENROLLMENT STATUS, AND SECTOR (FIGURE 19)

	Two-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Four-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Overall Any BNI %
First-Generation Student			
Yes	66	59	64
No	59	52	55
Pell Grant Recipient			
Yes	69	63	67
No	53	48	50
Enrollment Status			
Part-time student	63	52	60
Full-time student	60	54	57

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | First-generation status is defined as whether a student’s parents’ highest level of education completed is a high school diploma or GED. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-24 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY PARENTING STATUS, FOSTER CARE INVOLVED, JUSTICE INVOLVED, AND SECTOR (FIGURE 20)

	Two-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Four-Year Colleges Any BNI %	Overall Any BNI %
Foster-Care Involved			
Yes	81	70	78
No	61	53	57
Justice-System Involved			
Yes	79	67	75
No	61	53	57
Parenting Student			

Yes	75	58	70
No	57	53	55

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Justice system-involved is defined by whether a student has been convicted of a crime. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-25 | VARIATION IN INSTITUTIONAL RATES OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITIES ACROSS COLLEGES, BY SECTOR (FIGURES 21 & 33)

	Standard Average	Standard Deviation	Minimum	First Quartile	Second Quartile	Third Quartile	Maximum
Two-Year Colleges							
Rates of Students Experiencing Basic Needs Insecurity	60	8	36	54	60	64	80
Rates of Use of Supports Among Those with Basic Needs Insecurity	33	9	11	27	33	39	65
Four-Year Colleges							
Rates of Students Experiencing Basic Needs Insecurity	56	9	34	51	54	62	82
Rates of Use of Supports Among Those with Basic Needs Insecurity	27	9	11	21	26	33	46
Overall							
Rates of Students Experiencing Basic Needs Insecurity	58	9	34	52	58	64	82
Rates of Use of Supports Among Those with Experienced Basic Needs Insecurity	31	9	11	24	31	37	65

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | For more details on institutional rates shown in the table above or details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-26 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY SECTOR, REGION, SETTING, AND HBCU STATUS (TABLE 2)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Region						
West	26,816	63	13,728	56	40,544	61
Midwest	9,143	61	8,048	53	17,191	57
South	20,952	59	12,120	54	33,072	57
Northeast	5,822	61	7,125	48	12,947	53
Setting						
City	40,581	62	28,907	54	69,488	58
Suburb	14,647	60	3,578	50	18,225	58
Town	2,902	56	7,485	54	10,387	55
Rural	3,628	56	1,051	57	4,679	56
HBCU						
Yes	n/a	n/a	2,822	67	2,822	67
No	62,733	61	38,199	53	100,932	58

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey & Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2019)

Notes | Rates are weighted by the number of student responses per type of institution. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-27 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY SECTOR AND ENDOWMENT (FIGURE 22 & TABLE 4)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	Use of Any Support (Among those Any BNI with BNI)		Use of Any Support (Among those Any BNI with BNI)		Use of Any Support (Among those Any BNI with BNI)	
	Any BNI %	with BNI %	Any BNI %	with BNI %	Any BNI %	with BNI %
Institutional Endowment Per Pupil						
Less than \$1,200	62	33	55	29	61	33
Between \$1,200 and \$25,500	58	37	54	23	55	27
More than \$25,500	65	34	49	22	51	24

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey & Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2019)

Notes | Rates above are weighted by the number of student responses per type of institution. Colleges that did not report information on their endowments are excluded from the figure. Of the participating colleges that did not report endowment, 41 are two-year institutions and one is a four-year institution. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-28 | KNOWLEDGE OF, APPLICATION FOR, AND RECEIPT OF CARES ACT GRANT, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 23)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Heard of CARES Act Grant program	42,156	45	37,849	53	80,005	48
Applied for CARES Act Grant this year	20,030	21	14,894	21	34,924	21
Received a CARES Act Grant This year	17,604	19	16,079	22	33,683	20

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Because of different systems for the distribution of CARES Act grant dollars across colleges, some students may have received CARES Act grant dollars but did not have to apply for them. For example, some colleges use information from students FAFSA to determine eligibility.

TABLE E-29 | KNOWLEDGE OF, APPLICATION FOR, AND RECEIPT OF EMERGENCY AID, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 24)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Heard of an emergency aid grant program	35,242	37	27,868	38	63,110	37
Applied for an emergency aid grant this year	18,940	20	12,553	17	31,493	19
Received an emergency aid grant this year	17,338	18	13,331	18	30,669	18

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Because of different systems for the distribution of emergency aid across colleges, some students may have received emergency grant dollars but did not have to formally apply for them. For example, some colleges use information from students FAFSA to determine eligibility.

TABLE E-30 | APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIPT OF ANY EMERGENCY AID FOR ALL SURVEY RESPONDENTS, BY SECTOR AND TERM (FIGURE 25)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Applied for Any Emergency Aid (CARES or Non-CARES Grant)						
Before 2020	6,116	6	2,685	4	8,801	5
Spring 2020	14,644	15	12,076	17	26,720	16
Summer 2020	13,103	14	6,810	9	19,913	12
Fall 2020	18,627	19	8,434	12	27,061	16
Received Any Emergency Aid (CARES or Non-CARES Grant)						
Before 2020	2,433	3	1,274	2	3,707	2
Spring 2020	14,180	15	14,459	20	28,639	17
Summer 2020	9,870	10	6,013	8	15,883	9
Fall 2020	11,612	12	6,744	9	18,356	11

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Rates above include students who were not aware of CARES or non-CARES emergency aid grant programs at their college or university. Some students may have applied for and received aid across multiple terms. Also, some students reported receiving aid, but not applying for aid.

TABLE E-31 | APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIPT OF EMERGENCY AID (CARES OR NON-CARES) AMONG STUDENTS EXPERIENCING BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 26)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Applied for EA	20,507	35	12,967	33	33,474	34
Received EA	17,915	30	13,264	34	31,179	32

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Rates include students who were not aware of CARES or non-CARES emergency aid grant programs at their college or university. Some students may have received aid without applying for it. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-32 | STRESS WHEN SEEKING EMERGENCY AID (CARES OR NON-CARES), BY BNI STATUS AND SECTOR (FIGURE 27)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Overall, How Stressful Was Your Experience with Seeking Emergency Grants?						
<i>All Respondents</i>						
Not stressful at all	9,745	42	6,311	40	16,056	41
Slightly to extremely stressful	13,521	58	9,561	60	23,082	59
<i>Among Those Who Experienced Basic Needs Insecurity</i>						
Not stressful at all	6,593	37	3,541	32	10,134	35
Slightly to extremely stressful	11,253	63	7,397	68	18,650	65

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Rates above are among students who experienced basic needs insecurity and applied for a CARES Act grant or an emergency aid grant this year. To determine stressful experiences when seeking aid, students were asked “How stressful was your experience with seeking an emergency grant?” Students with the following responses are defined as experiencing any stress when seeking aid: slightly stressful, moderately stressful, very stressful or extremely stressful (as opposed to students responding “not stressful at all”). For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-33 | TOP USES OF ANY EMERGENCY AID, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 28)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Stay enrolled in my college or university	17,013	78	11,043	61	28,056	70
Afford educational materials for my classes	16,825	77	12,164	67	28,989	73
Reduce stress	16,909	77	13,658	74	30,567	76

Have more or better food to eat	13,347	60	9,304	51	22,651	56
Fix my car / buy gas / pay for transit	11,986	55	8,519	46	20,505	51
Pay for housing	10,196	46	9,103	49	19,299	48
Support my family members with their bills	8,398	38	4,534	25	12,932	32
Buy or improve my laptop / computer	9,182	43	5,262	29	14,444	36
Avoid eviction	4,997	23	3,235	18	8,232	21
Afford educational materials for my child	4,165	19	1,169	6	5,334	13
Paid for entertainment/relaxation	4,626	21	4,290	24	8,916	22
Get medical care	3,634	17	2,277	12	5,911	15
Pay back a loan	3,320	15	2,923	16	6,243	16
Paid for childcare	2,383	11	719	4	3,102	8
Afford to travel home	2,410	11	3,518	19	5,928	15
Leave an unsafe living situation	1,831	8	1,051	6	2,882	7

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Some students may select more than one use of emergency aid funding.

TABLE E-34 | USE OF PUBLIC BENEFITS, BY SECTOR AND BASIC NEEDS SECURITY STATUS (FIGURE 29)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Any Basic Needs Insecurity						
Any public assistance	32,858	52	16,522	40	49,380	48
Medicaid or public health insurance	15,072	28	5,800	16	20,872	23
SNAP (food stamps)	12,901	24	3,522	10	16,423	18
Unemployment compensation/insurance	11,878	22	5,132	14	17,010	19
Tax refunds (including EITC and CTC)	8,858	16	6,057	17	14,915	17
WIC (nutritional assistance for pregnant women and children)	3,820	7	741	2	4,561	5
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	2,752	5	838	2	3,590	4
Housing assistance (e.g., housing choice voucher, subsidized site-based housing, public or nonprofit owned housing, income-based housing or rent, rental or homeowners assistance)	2,635	5	780	2	3,415	4
Health services from an income-based organization or community health center	2,435	4	1,370	4	3,805	4
Childcare assistance	1,854	3	457	1	2,311	3
Services or support from a local nonprofit/ nongovernmental agency	1,842	3	879	2	2,721	3

LIHEAP (Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program)	1,799	3	448	1	2,247	2
SSDI (social security disability income)	1,615	3	460	1	2,075	2
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Affairs benefits for a service member's, widow's, or survivor's pension; service disability; or the GI Bill)	1,688	3	1,318	4	3,006	3
SSI (supplemental security income)	1,403	3	408	1	1,811	2
Transportation assistance	1,377	3	581	2	1,958	2
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADCF)	1,221	2	230	1	1,451	2
Legal services or assistance	1,052	2	543	2	1,595	2
Services or support from a housing community-based organization or nonprofit including emergency shelters or domestic violence shelters	708	1	189	1	897	1
No Basic Need Insecurities						
Any public assistance	12,579	32	9,594	27	22,173	29
Medicaid or public health insurance	4,713	14	2,707	9	7,420	11
SNAP (food stamps)	2,510	7	1,109	4	3,619	6
Unemployment compensation/insurance	4,274	13	2,784	9	7,058	11
Tax refunds (including EITC and CTC)	3,471	10	3,777	12	7,248	11
WIC (nutritional assistance for pregnant women and children)	766	2	244	1	1,010	2
Utility assistance (e.g., help paying for heat or water)	358	1	134	<1	492	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 homeowners assistance)	365	1	171	1	536	1
Health services from an income-based organization or community health center	650	2	567	2	1,217	2
Childcare assistance	307	1	125	<1	432	1
Services or support from a local nonprofit/ nongovernmental agency	299	1	238	1	537	1
LIHEAP (Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program)	240	1	98	<1	338	1
SSDI (social security disability income)	476	1	201	1	677	1
Veterans benefits (Veteran's Affairs benefits for a service member's, widow's,	990	3	1,095	3	2,085	3

or survivor’s pension; service disability; or the GI Bill)						
SSI (supplemental security income)	491	1	185	1	676	1
Transportation assistance	352	1	196	1	548	1
TANF (public cash assistance; formerly called ADC or ADCF)	111	<1	51	<1	162	<1
Legal services or assistance	209	1	174	1	383	1
Services or support from a housing community-based organization or nonprofit including emergency shelters or domestic violence shelters	31	<1	19	<1	50	<1

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.

TABLE E-35 | USE OF CAMPUS SUPPORTS AMONG STUDENTS WHO EXPERIENCED BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 30)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Help Obtaining Any Supports (Including EA)						
Have not heard of	33,637	56	23,621	60	57,258	57
Heard of but have not used	45,332	75	30,402	77	75,734	76
Used	20,533	34	9,396	24	29,929	30
Help Obtaining Food Stamps/SNAP						
Have not heard of	14,168	24	12,154	31	26,322	26
Heard of but have not used	31,690	53	23,178	58	54,868	55
Used	14,269	24	4,341	11	18,610	19
Help Finding Affordable Housing						
Have not heard of	22,972	38	16,030	40	39,002	39
Heard of but have not used	33,130	55	21,711	55	54,841	55
Used	3,878	6	1,911	5	5,789	6
Help Obtaining Emergency Housing						
Have not heard of	26,966	45	19,240	49	46,206	46
Heard of but have not used	31,107	52	19,536	49	50,643	51
Used	1,827	3	858	2	2,685	3
Help Obtaining Emergency Financial Aid						
Have not heard of	23,996	40	15,916	40	39,912	40
Heard of but have not used	26,877	45	18,106	46	44,983	45
Used	9,147	15	5,636	14	14,783	15

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Rates above are among students who experienced any basic needs insecurity. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B. Some students may have used or heard of multiple campus supports. Therefore, “Help Obtaining Any Supports” reflects all supports and will not total to 100.

TABLE E-36 | REASONS WHY STUDENTS EXPERIENCING BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY DID NOT USE CAMPUS SUPPORTS, BY SECTOR (FIGURE 31)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
I do not think I am eligible.	39,683	71	29,087	77	68,770	73
Other people need those programs more than I do.	35,841	64	28,471	75	64,312	69
I do not know how to apply.	28,134	51	19,973	53	48,107	52
I did not know they existed or were available.	28,321	51	19,048	50	47,369	51
I do not need these programs.	20,879	38	19,957	53	40,836	44
I am embarrassed to apply.	14,681	26	9,200	24	23,881	26
People like me do not use programs like that.	9,073	16	8,639	23	17,712	19
I had difficulty completing the application.	9,116	16	4,120	11	13,236	14

Source | 2020 #RealCollege Survey

Notes | Rates above are among students who experienced basic needs insecurity. Some students may have reported multiple reasons for why they did not use campus supports. For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, refer to Appendix B.

TABLE E-37 | DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY AND USE OF ANY CAMPUS SUPPORT, BY SECTOR AND GENDER AND RACE/ETHNICITY (FIGURE 32)

	Two-Year Colleges		Four-Year Colleges		Overall	
	Any BNI	Use of Any Support (Among those with BNI)	Any BNI	Use of Any Support (Among those with BNI)	Any BNI	Use of Any Support (Among those with BNI)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Gender Identity						
Female	64	36	54	24	60	31
Male	56	27	50	19	53	24
Non-binary	70	29	67	26	69	28
Prefer to self-describe	66	33	64	26	65	30
Racial or Ethnic Background						

White or Caucasian	57	30	50	20	54	25
African American or Black	73	43	65	33	70	39
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab American	65	37	58	23	62	32
Southeast Asian	59	30	54	24	57	27
American Indian or Alaska Native	72	40	67	30	70	36
Indigenous	76	37	72	32	75	35
Hispanic or Latinx or Chicax	65	34	59	26	64	33
Pacific Islander	68	34	63	28	66	32
Other Asian or Asian American	56	29	48	24	53	27
Other	67	36	59	28	64	33
Cross Sections of Gender and Race/Ethnicity						
Black females	74	47	66	35	71	42
Black males	68	31	62	28	66	30
Latino females	67	36	60	26	65	34
Latino males	59	28	56	23	58	27
White females	59	32	51	21	55	27
White males	50	24	47	17	48	20
Asian females	58	31	50	25	55	29
Asian males	54	25	50	22	52	24

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

Appendix F. 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?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Prefer not to answer

¹ Survey responses for #RealCollege 2020 were conducted and collected in Qualtrics. The Hope Center team organized, cleaned, and merged survey data with other sources (IPEDS and internal databases) using Stata. Tables and figures produced for the #RealCollege 2020 report were constructed in Stata and Tableau.

² This count is based on institution-based self-reports of how many students were sent invitations to take the survey.

³ 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.

⁴ See https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about/sipp-content-information.html#par_textimage_5

⁵ 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.

⁶ Spitzer, R.L., Kroenke, K., Williams, J.B., & Löwe, B. (2006). A brief measure for assessing generalized anxiety disorder. *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 166(10), 1092–1097.