

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020



2019 #RealCollege Survey Report

Institution Report

January 2020



HOPE4COLLEGE.COM

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

2019 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY RESULTS

INSTITUTION REPORT FOR COMPTON COLLEGE

**Prepared by
The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice
at Temple University**

January 2020

OVERVIEW

* Invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent by email to approximately 6,700 students from Compton College and 637 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 9.5%.

* **Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:**

- 56% of respondents experienced food insecurity in the prior 30 days
- 63% of respondents experienced housing insecurity in the previous year
- 23% of respondents experienced homelessness in the previous year

* 74% of students at Compton College experienced at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year.

* There is substantial variation in basic needs insecurity across subgroups.

* 34% of food insecure students utilize SNAP benefits and 12% of homeless students utilize housing benefits.

For more information on the research methodology and survey participants, please refer to the online appendices for the 2019 National #RealCollege Survey report (available at www.hope4college.com).

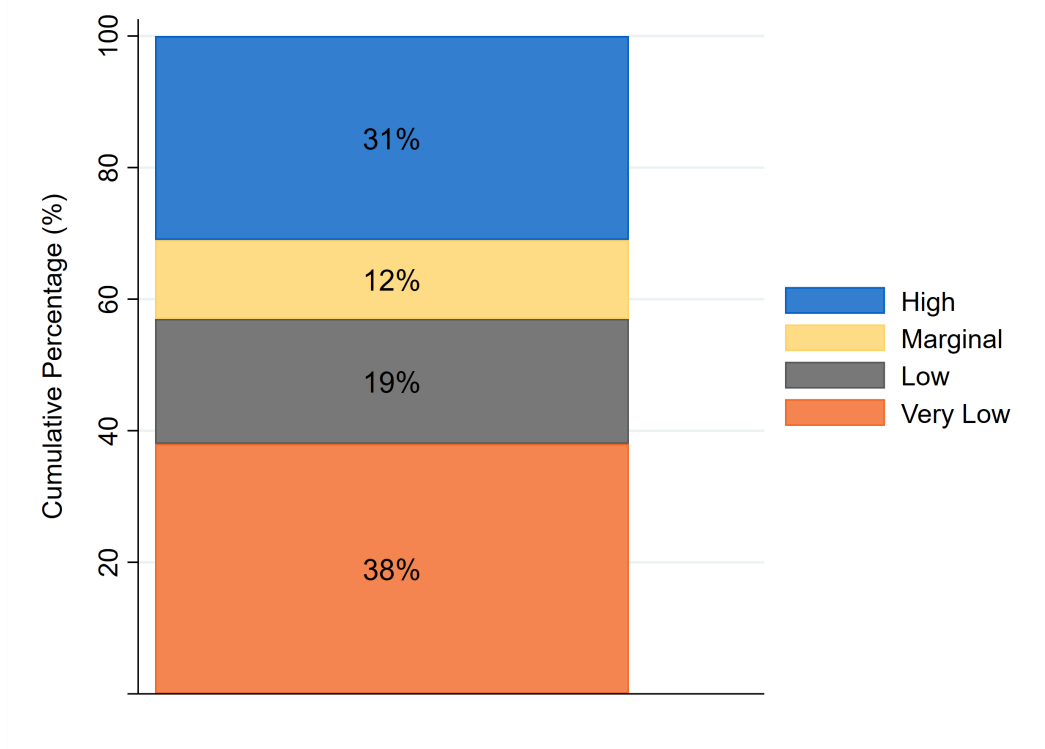
PREVALENCE OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food, or the ability to acquire such food in a socially acceptable manner. The most extreme form is often accompanied with physiological sensations of hunger. We assessed food security among students using the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 18-item set of questions.

During the 30 days preceding the survey, approximately 56% of survey respondents at Compton College experienced low or very low levels of food security (Figure 1). Moreover, 57% of survey respondents cannot afford to eat balanced meals and 59% worry about running out of food before they have money to buy more.

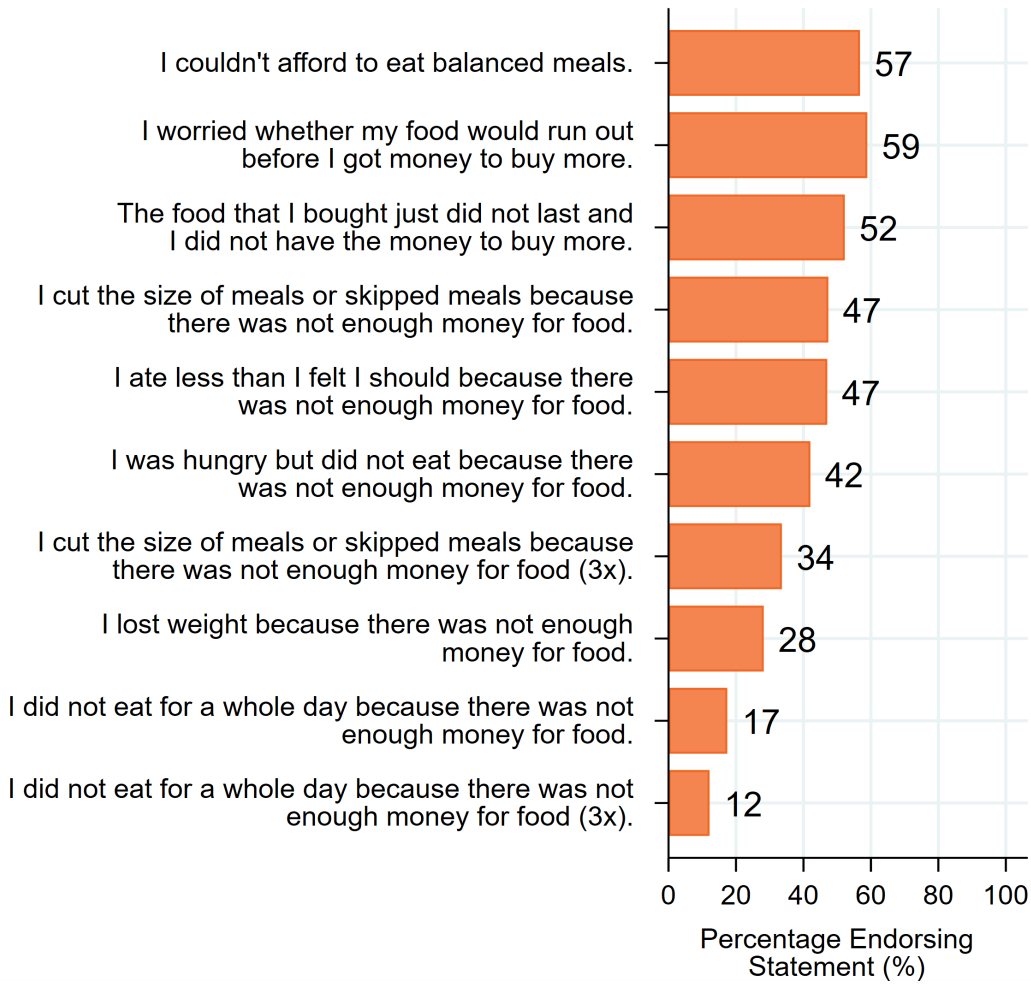
Figure 1. Food Security Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Notes: According to the USDA, students at either low or very low food security are termed food insecure. For the full list of questions used to measure food security, see our full report available at www.hope4college.com. Cumulative percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding error.

Figure 2. Food Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



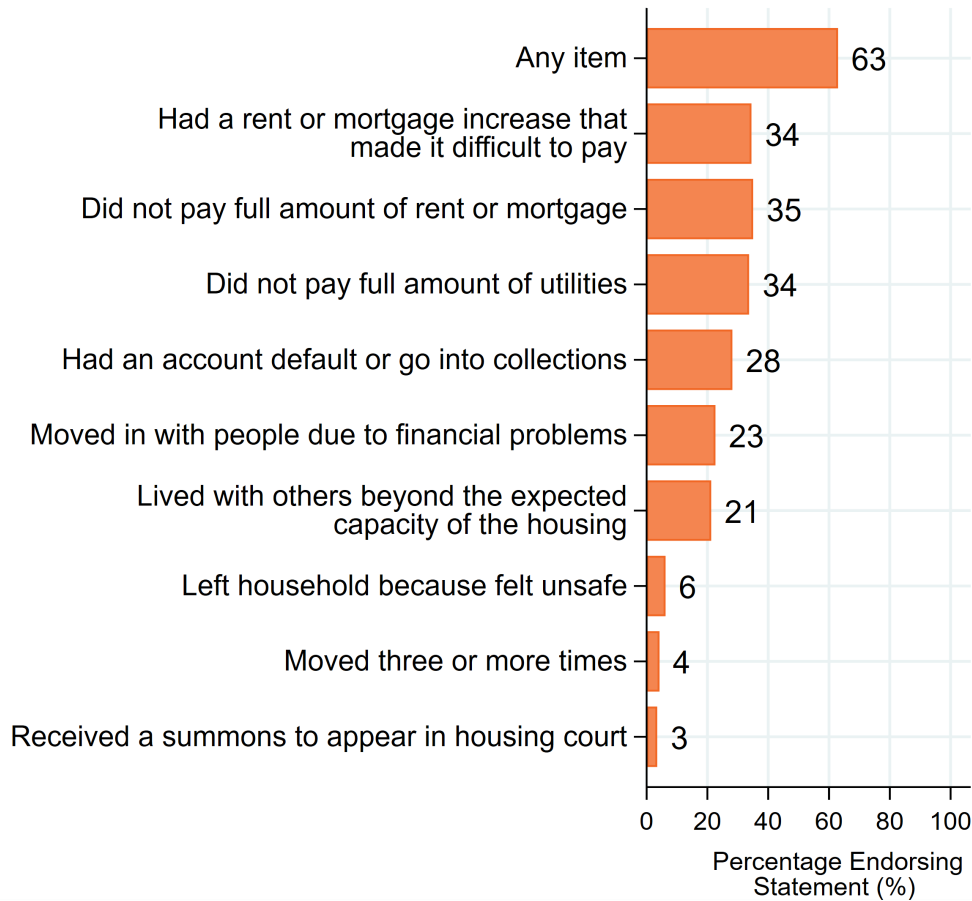
Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Housing Insecurity

Housing insecurity includes a broad set of challenges such as the inability to pay rent or utilities or the need to move frequently. All of these challenges affect students, and results suggest they are more likely to suffer some form of housing insecurity than to have all their needs met during college. Housing insecurity among students was assessed with a nine-item set of questions developed by the Hope Center. Students are classified as housing insecure if they answered affirmatively to experiencing at least one of those items in the previous year.

How prevalent is housing insecurity at Compton College? As displayed below, 63% of survey respondents are housing insecure (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Housing Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



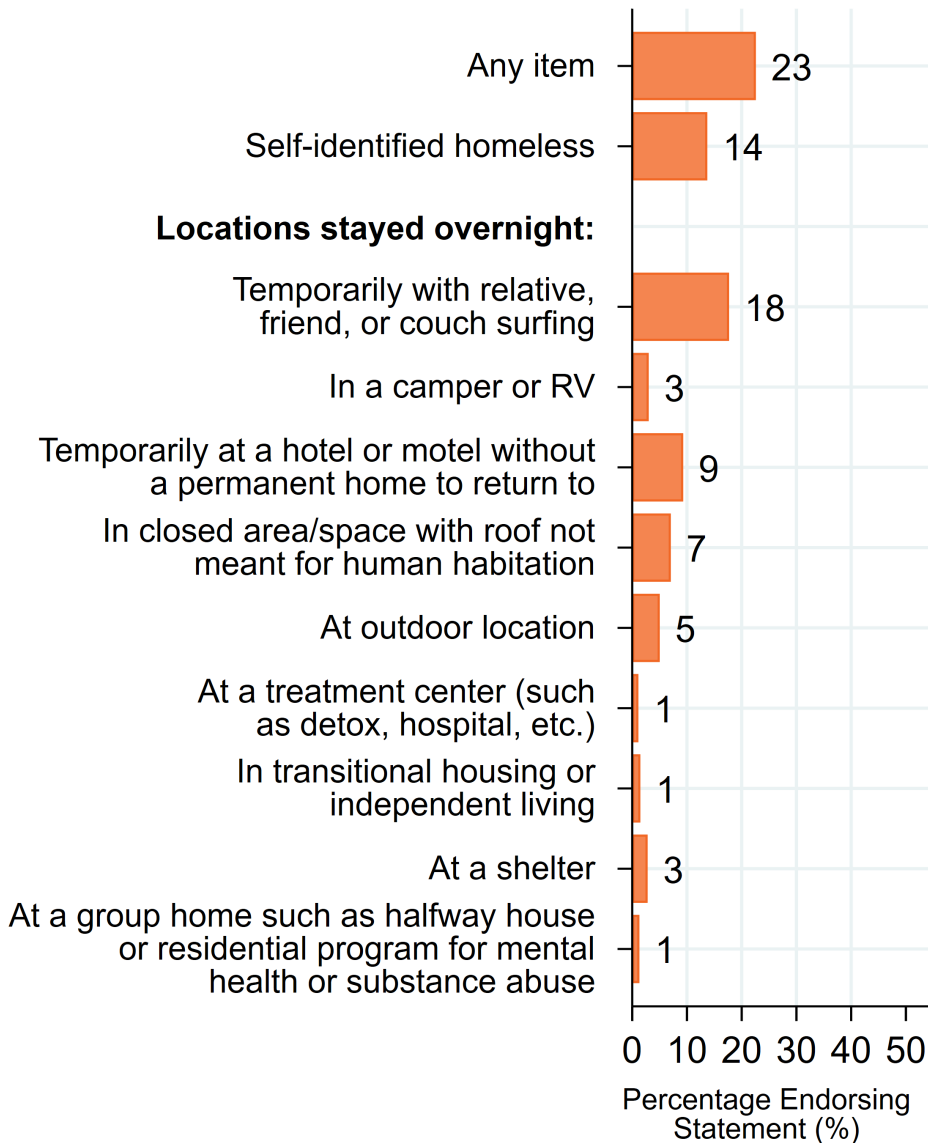
Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Homelessness

Homelessness means that a person does not have a stable place to live. Students were identified as homeless if they responded affirmatively to a question asking if they had been homeless or they experienced living conditions that are considered signs of homelessness in the previous year. Homelessness among students was assessed with a tool developed by California State University researchers.

How prevalent is homelessness at Compton College? As displayed below, 23% of survey respondents experience homelessness (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Compton College

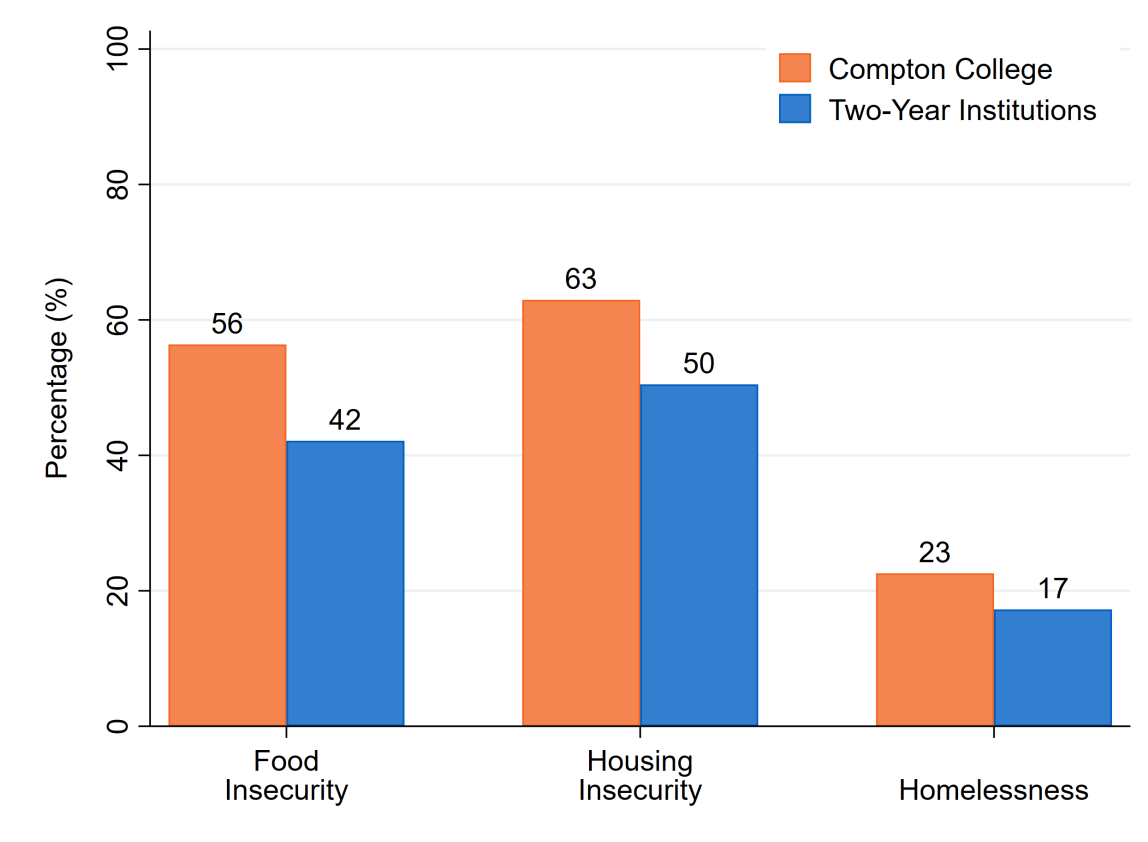


Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

COMPARISON TO SURVEY RESPONDENTS ATTENDING TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

In comparison to the rates for all survey respondents at two-year institutions nationwide in 2019, Compton College has a higher rate of food insecurity, a higher rate of housing insecurity, and a higher rate of homelessness (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Comparison of Basic Needs Insecurity Rates

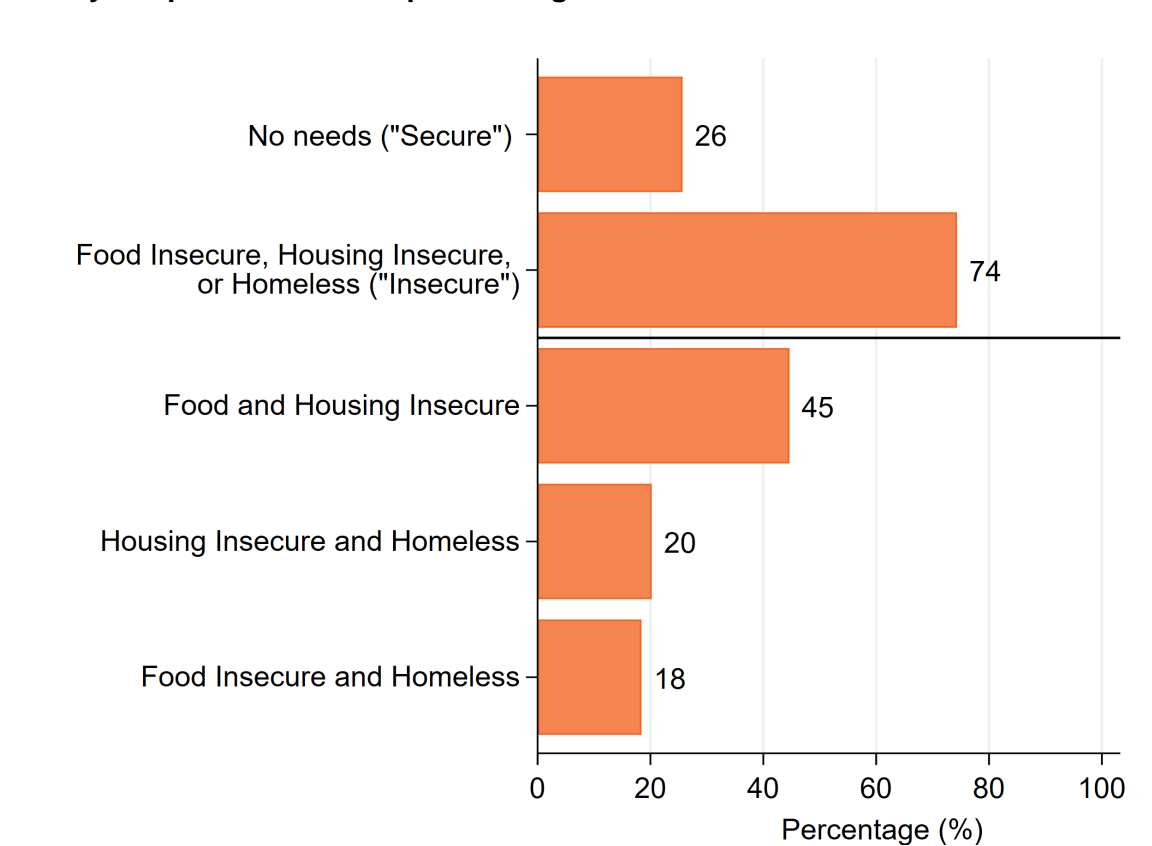


Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

OVERLAPPING CHALLENGES

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness are overlapping concerns, with 74% of students at Compton College experiencing at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Intersections of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

DISPARITIES IN BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

Some students are at higher risk of basic needs insecurity than others. The tables in this section present rates of food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness according to students' demographic, academic, and economic circumstances, as well as their life circumstances.

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

By Demographic Background

Table 1. Demographic Disparities in Rates of Basic Needs Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Compton College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
GENDER IDENTITY				
Male	126	52	49	29
Female	347	58	67	20
Non-Binary/Third gender	.	.	.	.
Prefers to self-describe	.	.	.	.
TRANSGENDER IDENTITY				
Identifies as transgender	.	.	.	.
Does not identify as transgender	471	56	62	23
SEXUAL ORIENTATION				
Heterosexual or straight	417	55	60	21
Gay or lesbian	12	83	75	50
Bisexual	22	59	64	36
Prefers to self-describe	.	.	.	.
HIGHEST LEVEL OF PARENTAL EDUCATION				
No high school diploma	142	54	58	21
High school diploma	102	58	60	28
Some college	170	59	68	24
Bachelors degree or higher	36	64	64	17
Does not know	21	29	48	5

Table continued on next page.

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

Table 1 (continued). Demographic Disparities in Rates of Basic Needs Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Compton College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
RACIAL OR ETHNIC BACKGROUND				
White or Caucasian	56	63	70	30
African American or Black	160	65	72	34
Hispanic or Latinx	285	52	57	15
American Indian or Alaskan Native	16	75	81	44
Indigenous	11	64	82	36
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	.	.	.	.
Southeast Asian	.	.	.	.
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	13	77	62	31
Other Asian or Asian American	11	64	55	9
Other	14	79	64	43
STUDENT IS A U.S. CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT				
Yes	459	57	62	22
No	11	36	45	18
AGE				
18 to 20	134	43	39	16
21 to 25	119	62	64	20
26 to 30	85	61	73	27
Older than 30	132	62	77	28
STUDENT IS AN ATHLETE				
Yes	21	71	57	24
No	448	55	63	23

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Note: Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table. The Number of Students column indicates the number of survey respondents to our measure of homelessness. The number respondents to our measures of food and housing insecurity may vary slightly. Classifications of gender and race/ethnicity are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications.

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

By Student Academic, Economic, and Life Experiences

Table 2. Rates of Basic Needs Insecurity by Student Life Experiences Among Survey Respondents at Compton College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
LEVEL OF STUDY				
Undergraduate	445	59	63	25
Graduate	56	40	64	16
Non-degree	45	47	56	11
COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATUS				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	304	57	60	24
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	243	55	66	21
YEARS IN COLLEGE				
Less than 1	126	53	62	27
1 to 2	231	58	65	24
3 or more	192	56	62	18
DEPENDENCY STATUS				
Dependent	85	41	35	12
Independent	301	62	73	25
Does not know	78	53	47	23
STUDENT RECEIVES THE PELL GRANT				
Yes	380	60	68	25
No	130	46	49	14
RELATIONSHIP STATUS				
Single	274	59	59	24
In a relationship	116	53	65	20
Married or domestic partnership	50	52	70	14
Divorced	.	.	.	.
Widowed	.	.	.	.

Table continued on next page.

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

Table 2 (continued). Rates of Basic Needs Insecurity by Student Life Experiences Among Survey Respondents at Compton College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
STUDENT HAS CHILDREN				
Yes	155	65	78	26
No	369	52	56	21
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN FOSTER CARE				
Yes	28	79	86	43
No	436	54	60	21
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN MILITARY				
Yes	.	.	.	.
No	468	57	62	22
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Employed	111	62	66	28
Not employed, looking for work	41	59	61	24
Not employed, not looking for work	70	41	47	11
STUDENT HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME				
Yes	30	80	87	70
No	464	55	61	19
DISABILITY OR MEDICAL CONDITION				
Learning disability	35	71	86	34
Physical disability	30	53	70	27
Chronic illness	65	68	69	29
Psychological disorder	108	75	81	39
Other disability or condition	15	47	60	27
No disability or medical condition	307	50	55	18

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

Note: Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table. The Number of Students column indicates the number of survey respondents to our measure of homelessness. The number respondents to our measures of food and housing insecurity may vary slightly. Survey questions about employment status were randomly administered to a subset of respondents. Classifications of Disability or Medical Condition are not mutually exclusive. Students could self-identify with multiple classifications.

UTILIZATION OF SUPPORTS

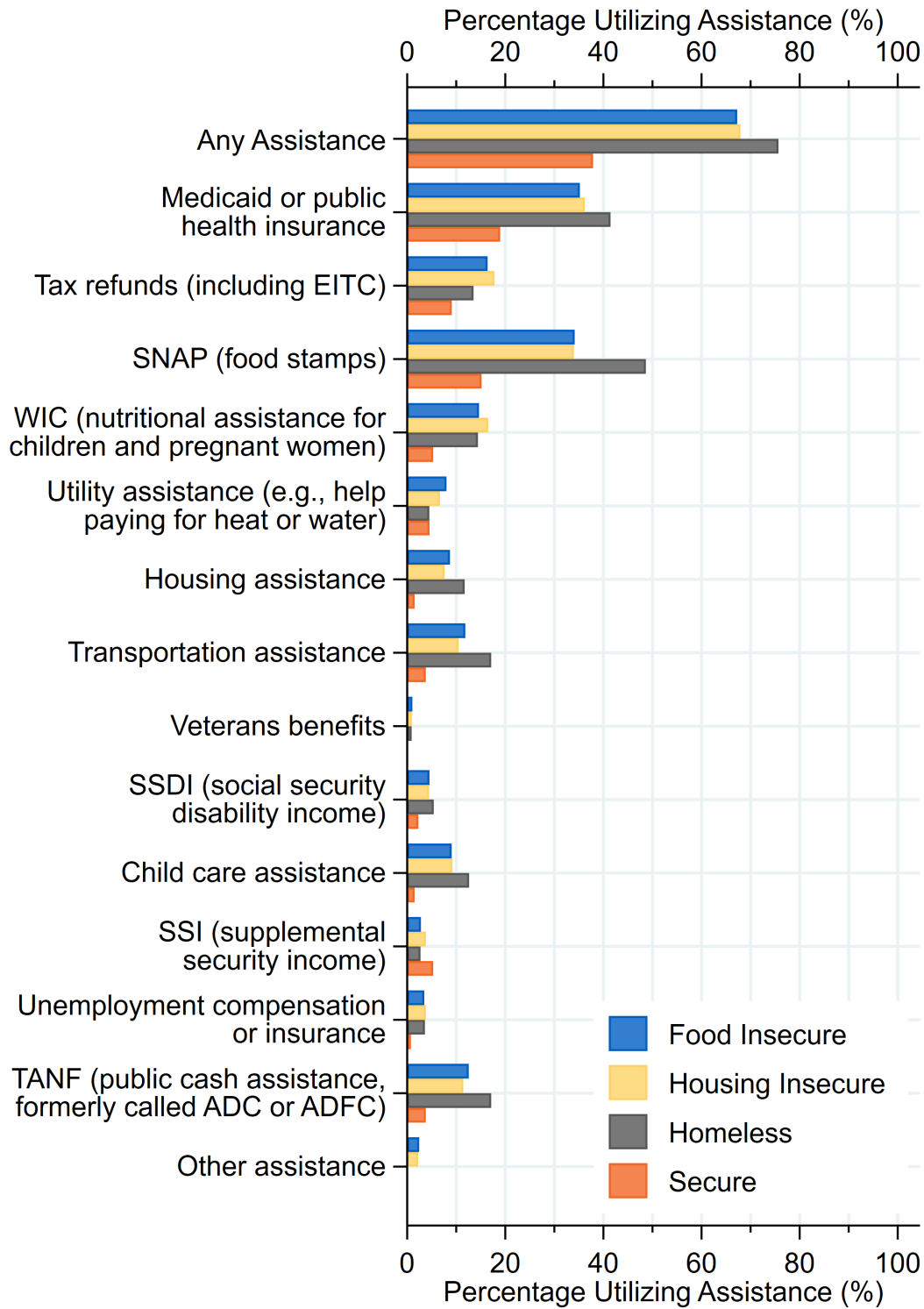
Many students at Compton College who experience basic needs insecurity do not receive public assistance (Figure 7). Among food insecure students, 34% receive SNAP benefits. In addition, 12% of students who experience homelessness receive housing assistance. It is also worth noting that students who are secure in their basic needs are still accessing public benefits, albeit at lower rates (38%) than their peers.

A growing number of on-campus supports are being offered but again, few students are accessing them (Figure 8). Of the students experiencing basic needs insecurity at Compton College, only about 16% use on-campus supports.



EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

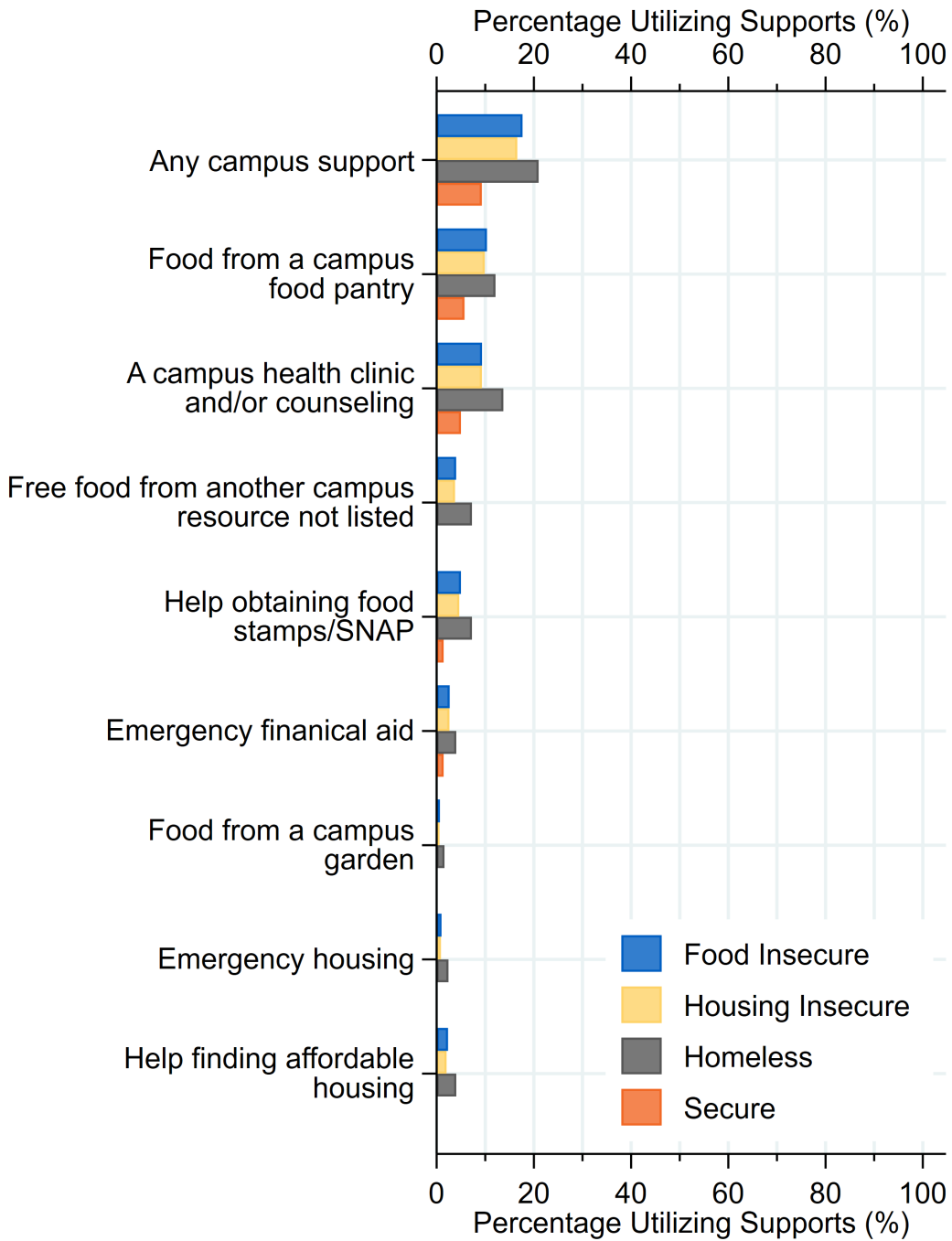
Figure 7. Use of Assistance Among Survey Respondents at Compton College According to Basic Needs Security



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

Figure 8. Use of Campus Supports Among Survey Respondents at Compton College According to Basic Needs Security



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey

EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2020

CONCLUSION

The #RealCollege survey affirms what has been evident to college administrators, faculty, staff, and students for years: basic needs insecurity is a condition challenging many undergraduates pursuing credentials. The scope of the problem described here is substantial and should be cause for a systemic response.

ABOUT US

The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice is redefining what it means to be a student-ready college with a national movement centering #realcollege students' basic needs. In order to advance the necessary systemic changes to support those needs, our work includes four pillars: action research, engagement and communication, advocacy, and sustainability. For more information, visit www.hope4college.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions about this report, please contact the Hope Center Research Team at hopesrvy@temple.edu.

