



2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY

SCHOOL REPORT

APRIL 2019



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2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY SCHOOL REPORT FOR CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

**Report prepared by the Hope Center for College, Community, and
Justice at Temple University**

April 2019

OVERVIEW

* Invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent by email to approximately 6,700 students from Contra Costa College and 668 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 9.9%.

* Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:

- 52% of respondents were food insecure in the prior 30 days
- 66% of respondents were housing insecure in the previous year
- 22% of respondents were homeless in the previous year

* 77% of students at Contra Costa 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.

* 22% of food insecure students utilize SNAP benefits and 11% of homeless students utilize housing benefits.

For more information on the research methodology and survey participants, please refer to the appendices of the National 2018 #RealCollege Survey report.

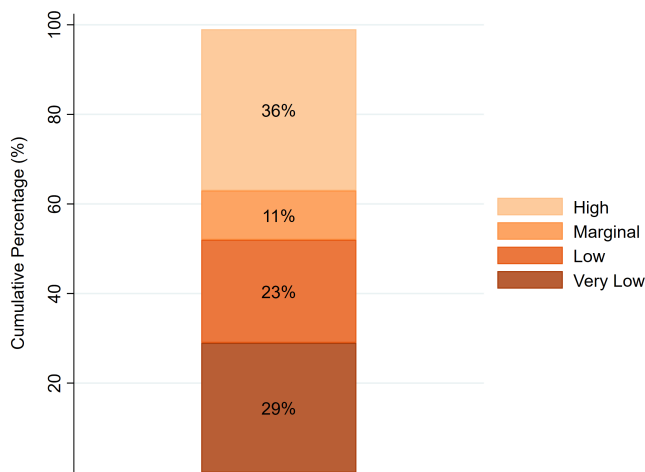
PREVALENCE OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

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 52% of survey respondents at Contra Costa College experienced low or very low levels of food security (Figure 1). Moreover, 56% of survey respondents at Contra Costa College worry about running out of food before having money to buy more and 52% cannot afford to eat balanced meals.

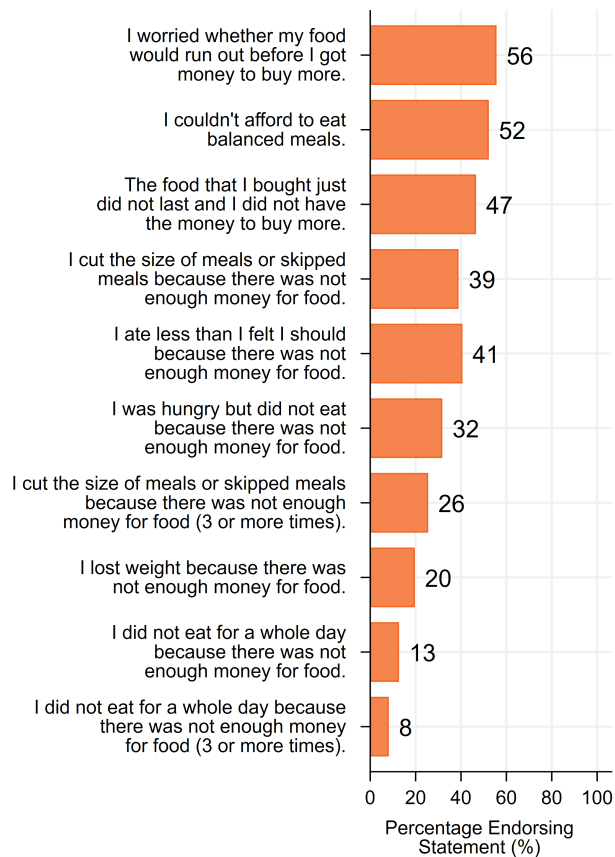
Figure 1. Food Security Among Survey Respondents at Contra Costa College



Source: 2018 #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 Contra Costa College



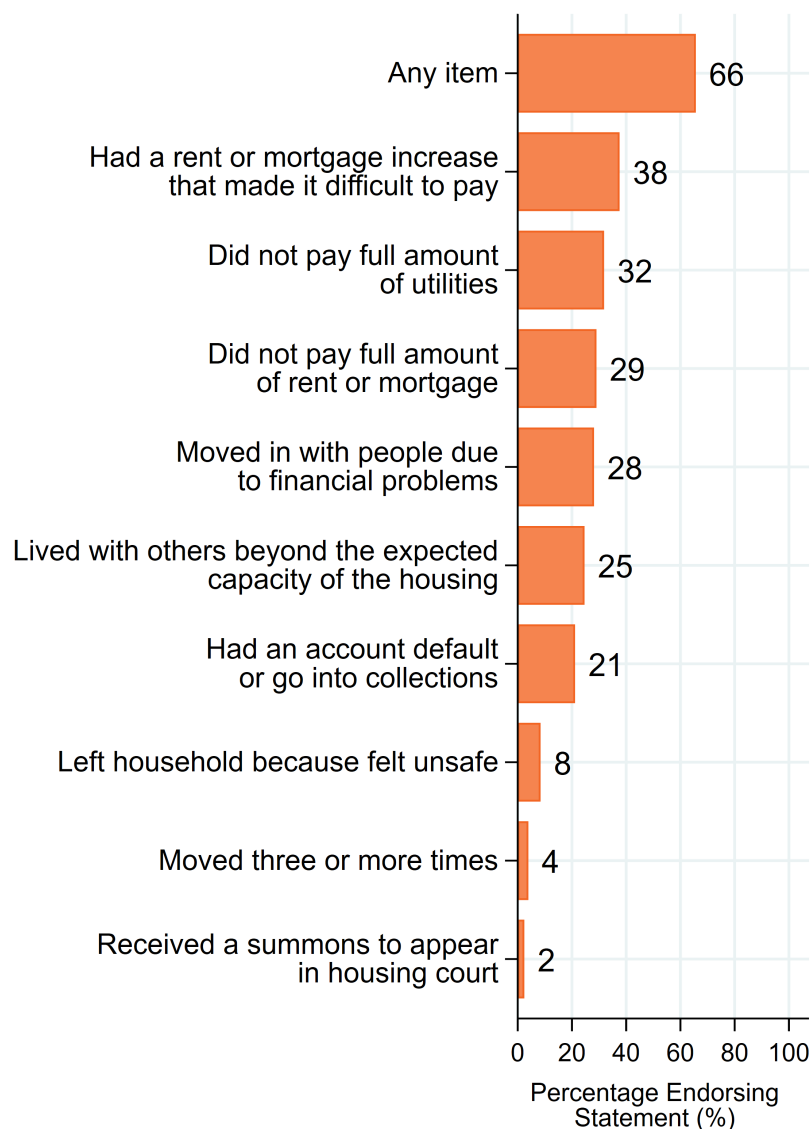
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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 Contra Costa College? As displayed below, 66% of survey respondents are housing insecure (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Housing Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Contra Costa College



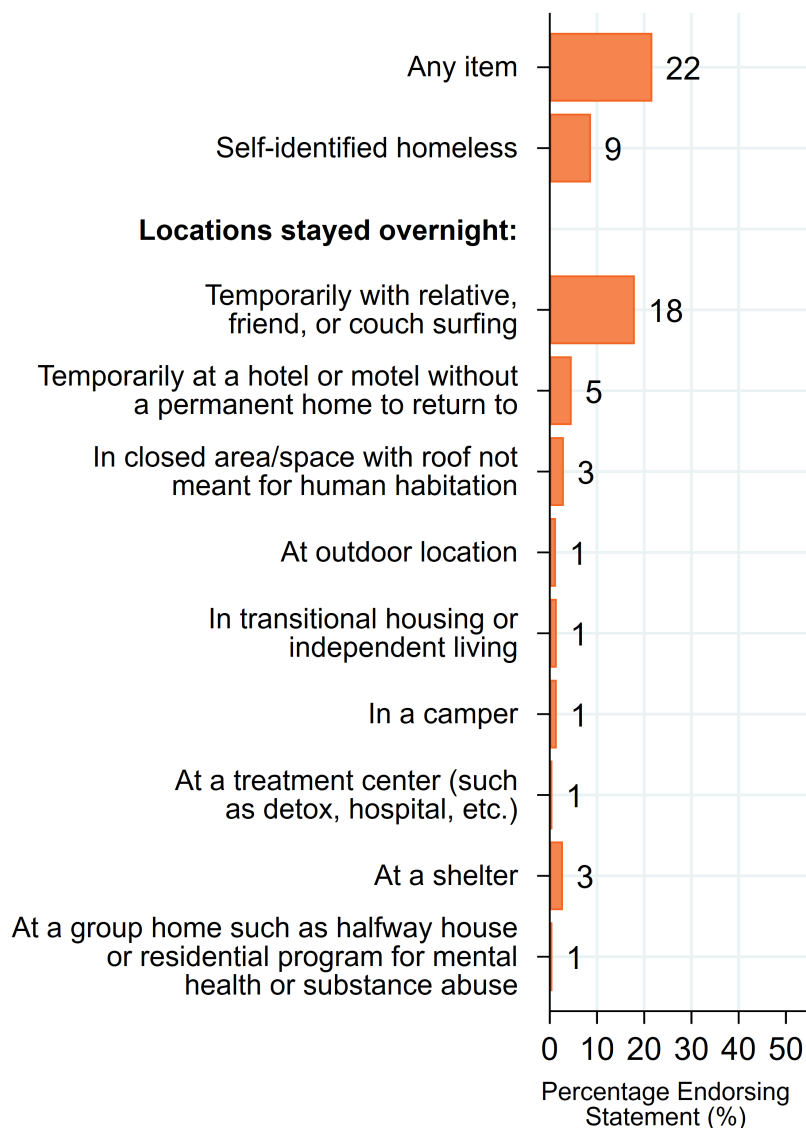
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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 Contra Costa College? As displayed below, 22% of survey respondents experience homelessness (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Contra Costa College

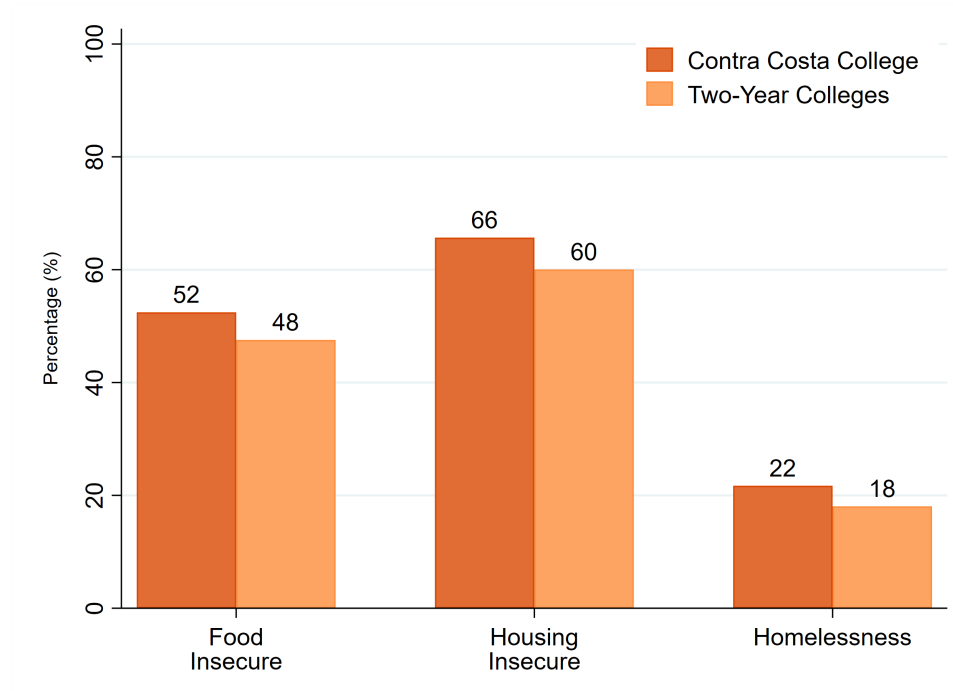


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

COMPARISON TO TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

In comparison to the overall rates for students attending a two-year college in 2018, Contra Costa 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

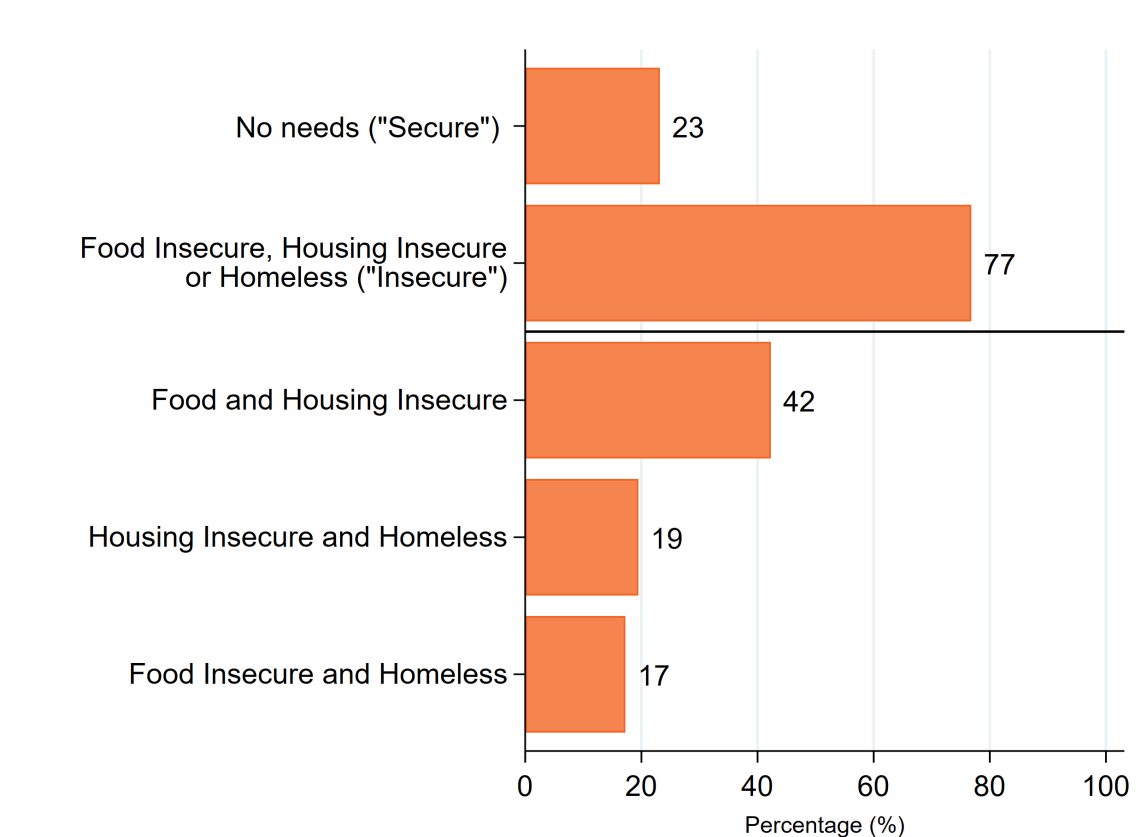


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

OVERLAPPING CHALLENGES

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness are overlapping concerns, with 77% of students at Contra Costa 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 Contra Costa College



Source: 2018 #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.

By Demographic Background

Table 1. Demographic Disparities in Rates of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Contra Costa College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
GENDER ORIENTATION				
Male	123	49	60	27
Female	378	54	67	21
Transgender	.	.	.	.
Other	.	.	.	.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION				
Heterosexual or straight	418	52	66	23
Gay or lesbian	12	50	67	8
Bisexual	44	68	68	18
Other	19	47	37	11
RACIAL OR ETHNIC BACKGROUND				
White or Caucasian	92	58	67	33
African American or Black	83	77	78	34
Hispanic or Latinx	191	48	64	16
American Indian or Alaskan Native	.	.	.	.
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	17	35	76	29
Southeast Asian	44	48	55	20
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	14	57	57	21
Other Asian or Asian American	65	43	52	17
Other	29	48	76	17
Prefers not to answer	16	75	69	19
STUDENT IS A U.S. CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT				
Yes	430	52	65	23
No	51	51	67	18
Prefers not to answer	24	71	71	17
HIGHEST LEVEL OF PARENTAL EDUCATION				
No high school diploma	112	49	73	17
High school diploma	120	58	60	23
Some college	176	59	70	26

Bachelors degree	76	38	57	21
Does not know	22	55	59	9
AGE				
18 to 20	174	47	49	19
21 to 25	138	54	69	27
26 to 30	68	57	78	25
Older than 30	125	58	78	19

Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

Note: Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table.

By Student Academic, Economic, and Life Experiences

Table 2. Rates of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness by Student Life Experiences Among Survey Respondents at Contra Costa College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATUS				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	328	51	64	23
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	210	55	68	19
YEARS IN COLLEGE				
Less than 1	121	46	51	21
1 to 2	196	58	69	23
3 or more	197	54	73	21
DEPENDENCY STATUS				
Dependent	157	43	45	15
Independent	342	58	75	25
STUDENT RECEIVES THE PELL GRANT				
Yes	234	61	71	24
No	305	46	62	20
STUDENT HAS CHILDREN				
Yes	132	67	81	25
No	407	48	61	21
RELATIONSHIP STATUS				

Single	264	53	62	27
In a relationship	140	59	67	18
Married or domestic partnership	91	42	74	13
Divorced	10	70	80	30
Widowed	.	.	.	.
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN FOSTER CARE				
Yes	23	74	78	48
No	483	52	65	21
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN MILITARY				
Yes	.	.	.	.
No	499	53	66	22
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Employed	324	56	69	20
Not employed, looking for work	85	62	68	34
Not employed, not looking for work	100	33	52	14
STUDENT HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME				
Yes	22	77	95	45
No	501	51	64	21
DISABILITY OR MEDICAL CONDITION				
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	37	84	84	43
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)	34	79	79	44
Autism spectrum disorder	.	.	.	.
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	19	79	74	26
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes,	61	57	75	33

autoimmune disorder, cancer, etc.)				
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	151	63	75	26
Other	.	.	.	.
No disability or medical condition	309	45	60	17

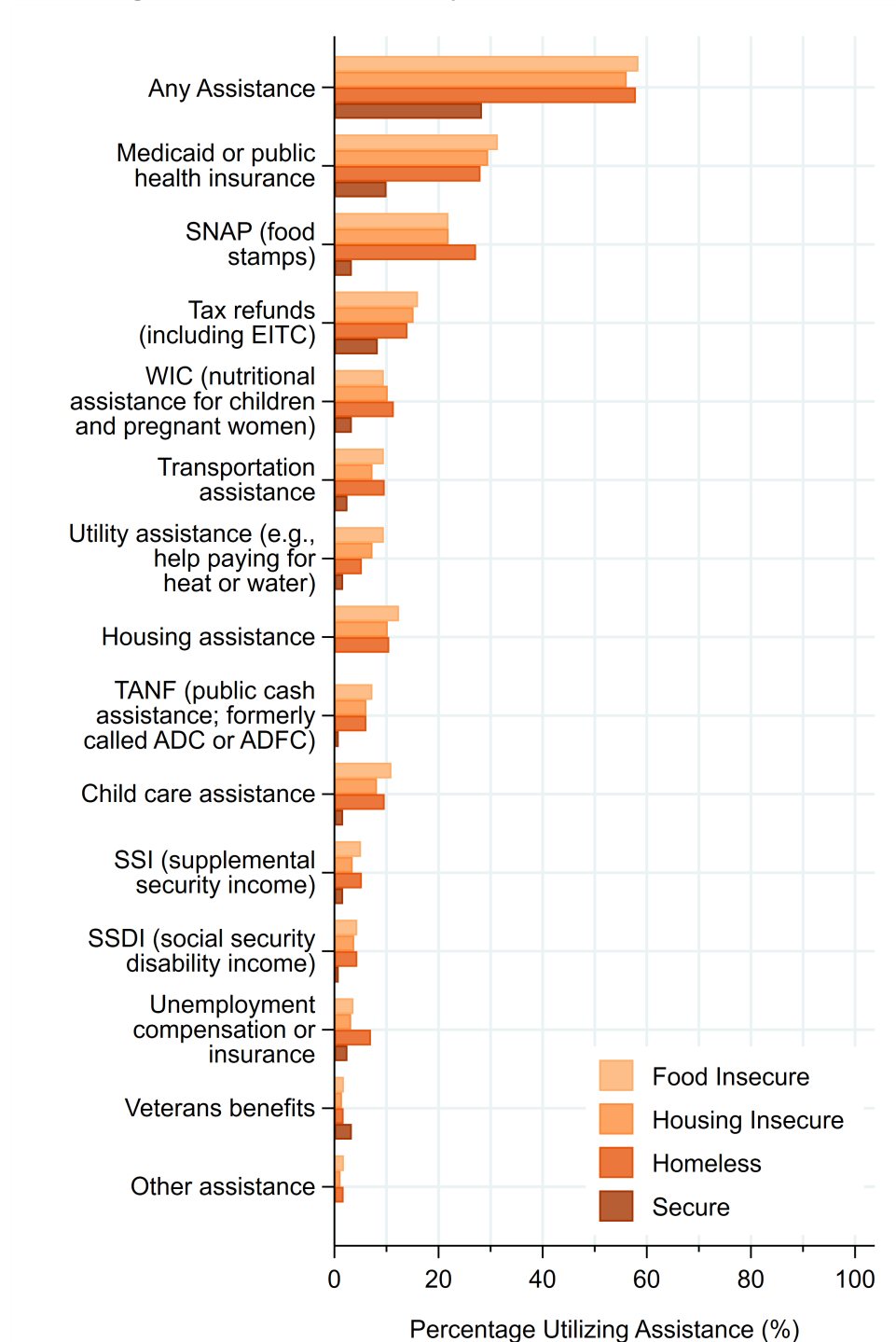
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

Note: Results from any category with fewer than 10 participants are not shown in the table.

UTILIZATION OF SUPPORTS

Many students at Contra Costa College who experience basic needs insecurity do not receive public assistance (Figure 7). Fully 22% of food insecure students receive SNAP. In addition, 11% 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 (28%) than their peers.

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



Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

CONCLUSION

The #RealCollege survey affirms what has been evident to many 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 at Temple University is home to an action research team using rigorous research to drive innovative practice, evidence-based policymaking, and effective communications to support #RealCollege students. For more information, visit <https://www.hope4college.com>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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