

# 2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY

## SCHOOL REPORT

APRIL 2019



For College, Community, and Justice

[HOPE4COLLEGE.COM](http://HOPE4COLLEGE.COM)

# 2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY SCHOOL REPORT FOR NORMANDALE COMMUNITY 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 9,800 students from Normandale Community College and 524 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 5.3%.

\* Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:

- 36% of respondents were food insecure in the prior 30 days
- 48% of respondents were housing insecure in the previous year
- 19% of respondents were homeless in the previous year

\* 59% of students at Normandale Community 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.

\* 9% of food insecure students utilize SNAP benefits and 6% 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.*

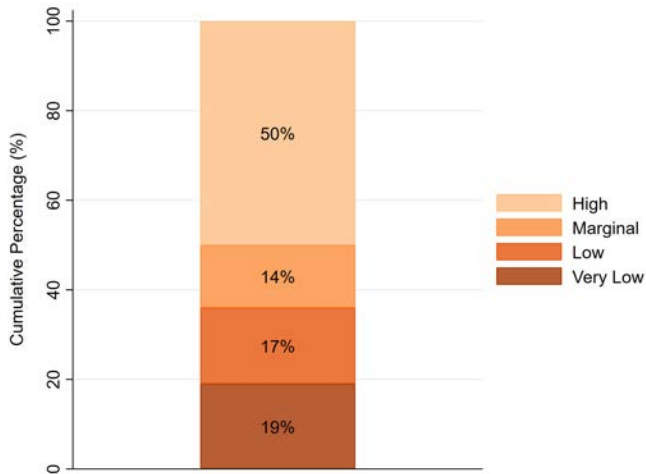
## PREVALENCE OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

### 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 36% of survey respondents at Normandale Community College experienced low or very low levels of food security (Figure 1). Moreover, 38% of survey respondents at Normandale Community College worry about running out of food before having money to buy more and 41% cannot afford to eat balanced meals.

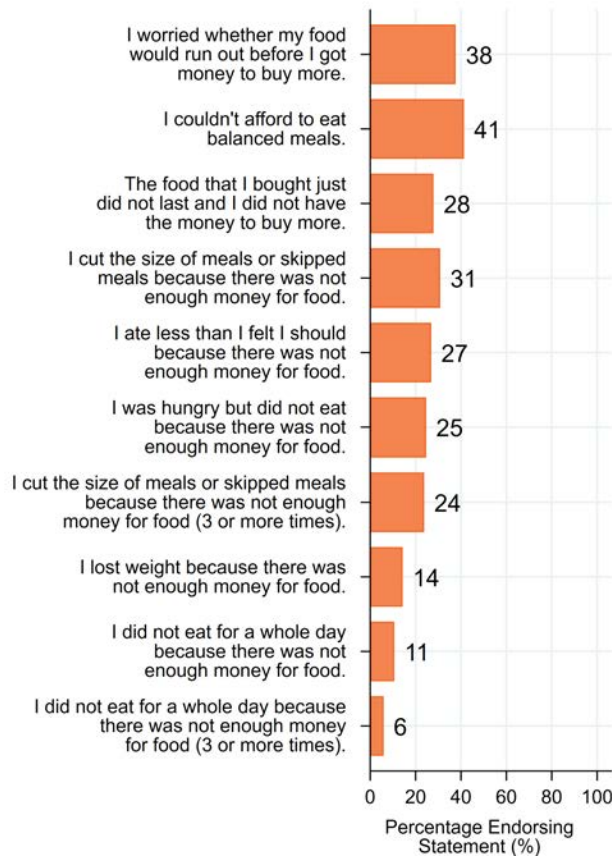
**Figure 1. Food Security Among Survey Respondents at Normandale Community College**



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](http://www.hope4college.com). Cumulative percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding error.

**Figure 2. Food Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Normandale Community College**



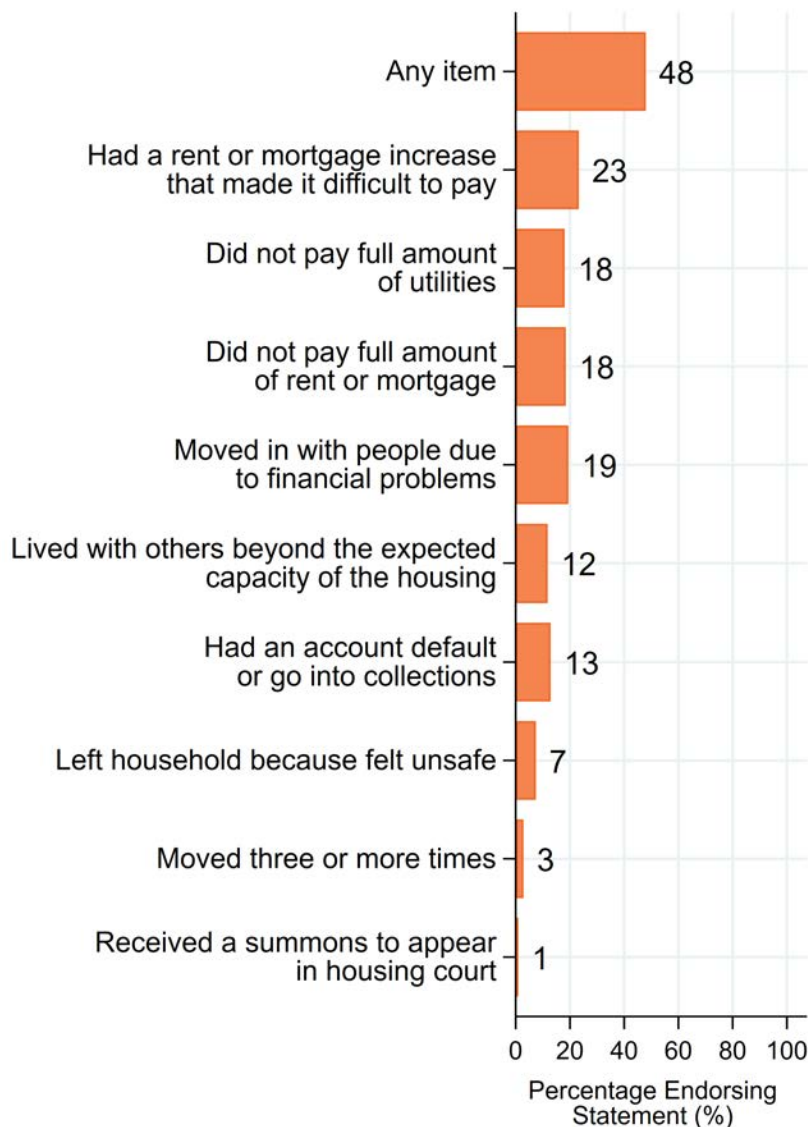
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

## 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 Normandale Community College? As displayed below, 48% of survey respondents are housing insecure (Figure 3).

**Figure 3. Housing Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at Normandale Community College**



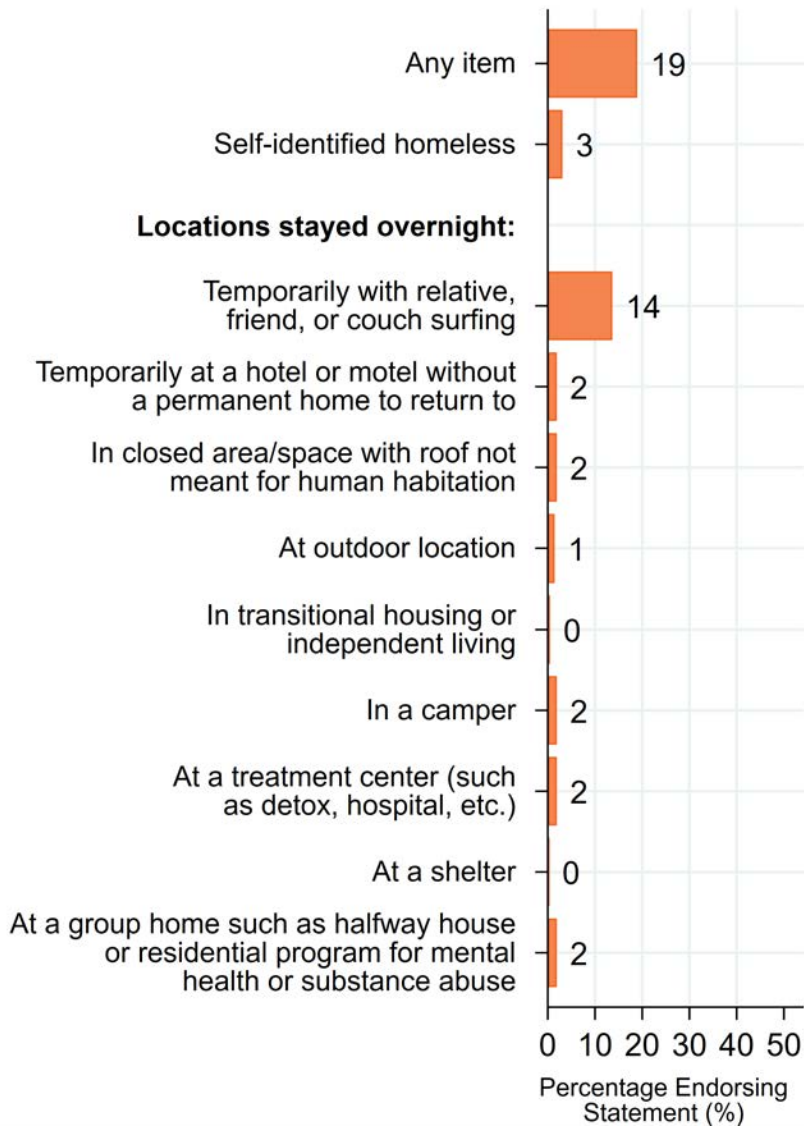
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

## 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 Normandale Community College? As displayed below, 19% of survey respondents experience homelessness (Figure 4).

**Figure 4. Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Normandale Community College**

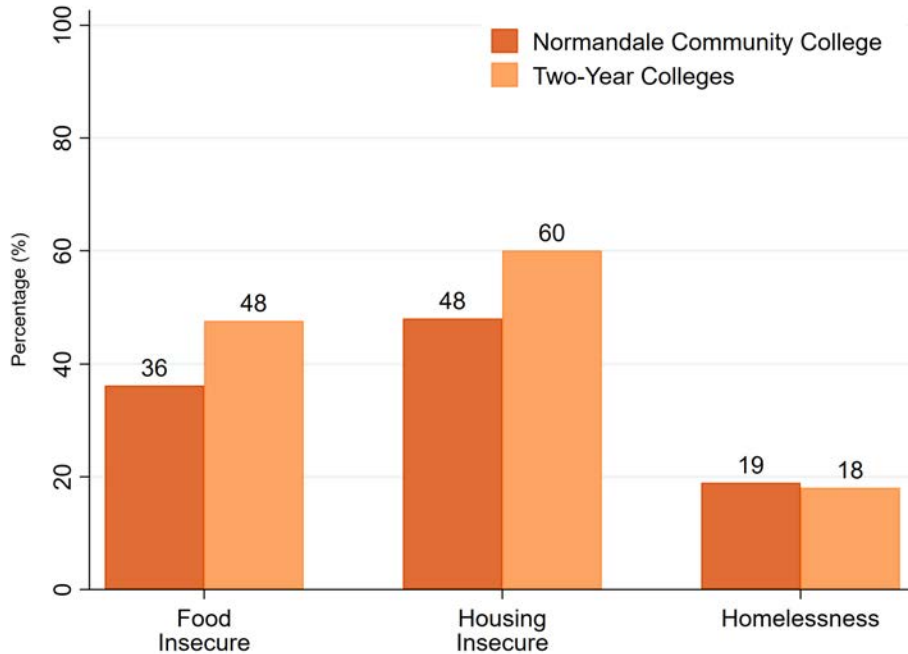


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

## COMPARISON TO TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

In comparison to the overall rates for students attending a two-year college in 2018, Normandale Community College has a lower rate of food insecurity, a lower rate of housing insecurity, and a higher rate of homelessness (Figure 5).

**Figure 5. Comparison of Basic Needs Insecurity**

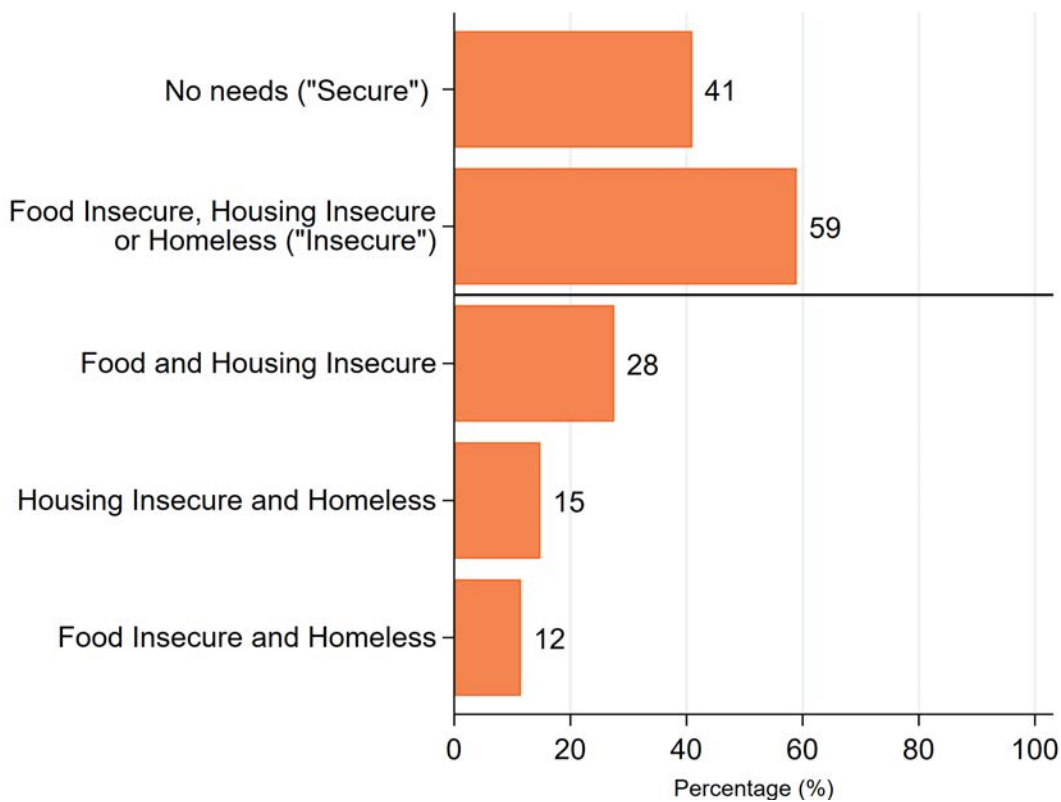


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

## OVERLAPPING CHALLENGES

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness are overlapping concerns, with 59% of students at Normandale Community 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 Normandale Community 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 Normandale Community College**

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
<b>GENDER ORIENTATION</b>				
Male	108	28	44	20
Female	276	39	51	19
Transgender	.	.	.	.
Other	.	.	.	.

<b>SEXUAL ORIENTATION</b>				
Heterosexual or straight	303	33	48	16
Gay or lesbian	19	32	53	16
Bisexual	43	56	63	42
Other	26	46	46	27
<b>RACIAL OR ETHNIC BACKGROUND</b>				
White or Caucasian	254	31	46	19
African American or Black	57	61	70	26
Hispanic or Latinx	50	42	56	26
American Indian or Alaskan Native	12	50	67	42
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	.	.	.	.
Southeast Asian	27	41	41	19
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	.	.	.	.
Other Asian or Asian American	22	45	41	18
Other	11	55	73	18
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
<b>STUDENT IS A U.S. CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT</b>				
Yes	371	35	48	20
No	13	69	77	15
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
<b>HIGHEST LEVEL OF PARENTAL EDUCATION</b>				
No high school diploma	42	57	64	26
High school diploma	78	37	50	21
Some college	139	34	54	22



Bachelors degree	118	30	36	14
Does not know	14	50	57	29
<b>AGE</b>				
18 to 20	215	33	38	21
21 to 25	96	46	64	22
26 to 30	39	38	72	28
Older than 30	38	37	58	3

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 Normandale Community College**

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
<b>COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	259	36	44	19
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	158	37	54	20
<b>YEARS IN COLLEGE</b>				
Less than 1	167	34	42	22
1 to 2	145	35	48	16
3 or more	96	42	57	18
<b>DEPENDENCY STATUS</b>				
Dependent	168	35	42	22
Independent	219	38	55	18
<b>STUDENT RECEIVES THE PELL GRANT</b>				
Yes	132	56	66	23
No	285	27	40	17
<b>STUDENT HAS CHILDREN</b>				
Yes	93	46	59	17
No	324	33	45	19
<b>RELATIONSHIP STATUS</b>				

Single	203	31	40	22
In a relationship	133	45	59	19
Married or domestic partnership	50	32	58	18
Divorced	.	.	.	.
Widowed	.	.	.	.
<b>STUDENT HAS BEEN IN FOSTER CARE</b>				
Yes	.	.	.	.
No	390	36	49	20
<b>STUDENT HAS BEEN IN MILITARY</b>				
Yes	.	.	.	.
No	385	36	49	20
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>				
Employed	294	41	53	18
Not employed, looking for work	33	48	42	36
Not employed, not looking for work	73	11	26	12
<b>STUDENT HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME</b>				
Yes	.	.	.	.
No	393	36	48	19
<b>DISABILITY OR MEDICAL CONDITION</b>				
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	25	28	40	20
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)	64	41	59	23
Autism spectrum disorder	12	33	67	8
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	21	52	52	14
Chronic illness (asthma, diabetes, etc.)	57	44	60	26

autoimmune disorder, cancer, etc.)				
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	156	44	57	25
Other	20	25	50	25
No disability or medical condition	185	34	45	18

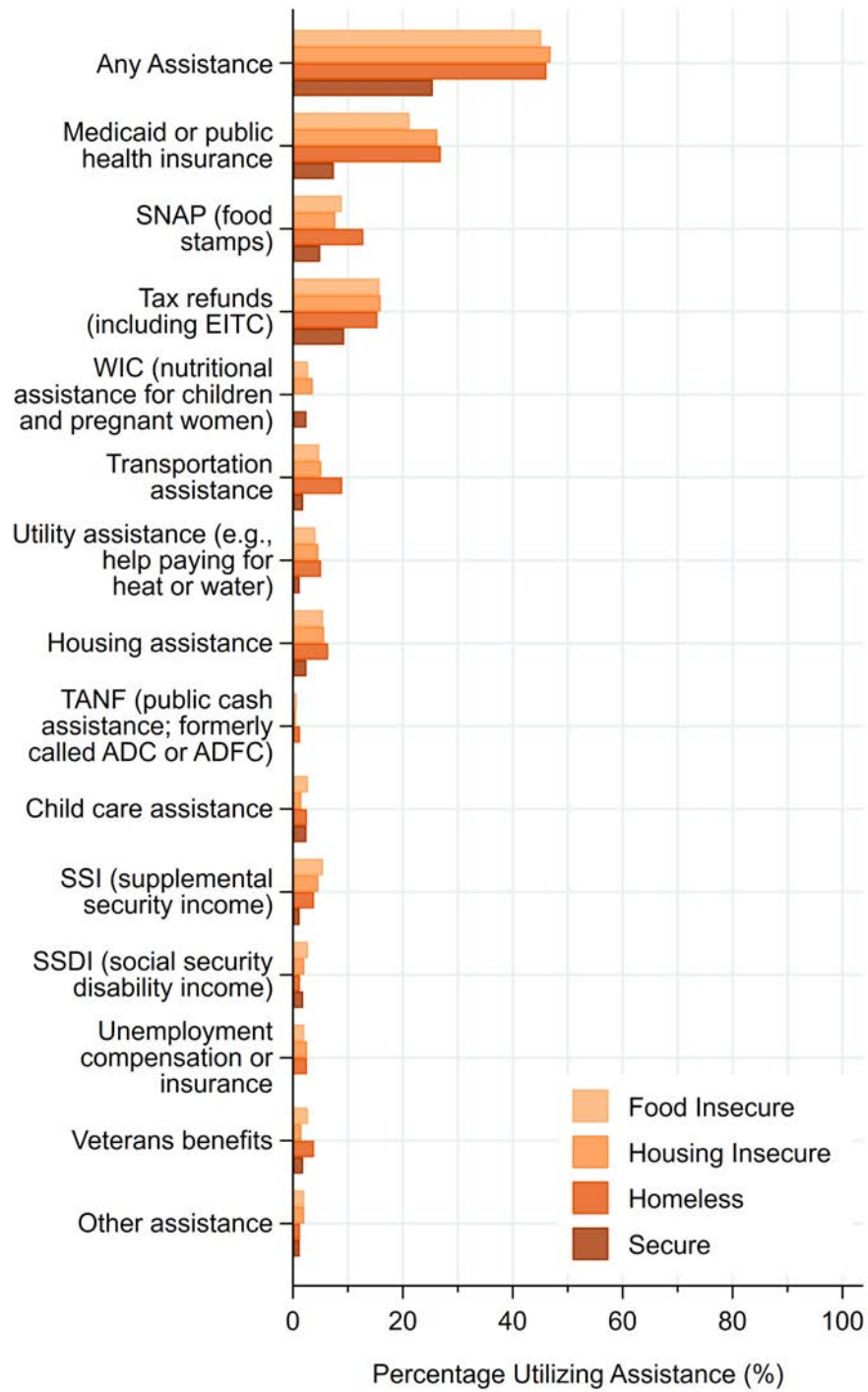
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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

### UTILIZATION OF SUPPORTS

Many students at Normandale Community College who experience basic needs insecurity do not receive public assistance (Figure 7). Fully 9% of food insecure students receive SNAP. In addition, 6% 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 (25%) than their peers.

**Figure 7. Use of Assistance Among Survey Respondents at Normandale Community 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](mailto:hopesrvy@temple.edu).