



2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY

SCHOOL REPORT

APRIL 2019



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2018 #REALCOLLEGE SURVEY SCHOOL REPORT FOR ST. CLOUD TECHNICAL AND 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 4,200 students from St. Cloud Technical and Community College and 504 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 11.9%.

* Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:

- 44% of respondents were food insecure in the prior 30 days
- 57% of respondents were housing insecure in the previous year
- 24% of respondents were homeless in the previous year

* 68% of students at St. Cloud Technical and 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.

* 20% of food insecure students utilize SNAP benefits and 8% 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.

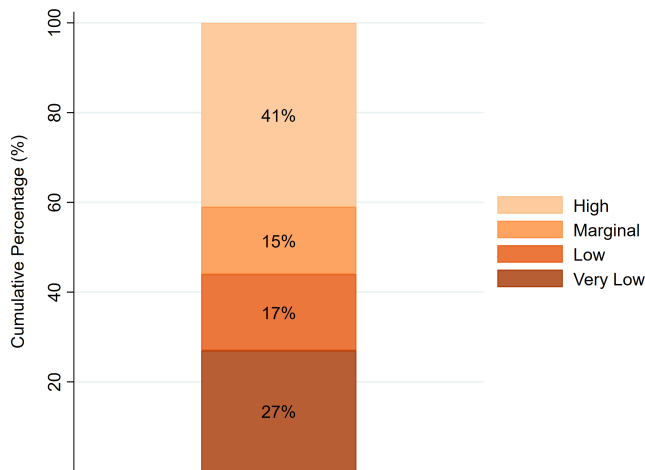
PREVALENCE OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

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 44% of survey respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College experienced low or very low levels of food security (Figure 1). Moreover, 48% of survey respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College worry about running out of food before having money to buy more and 49% cannot afford to eat balanced meals.

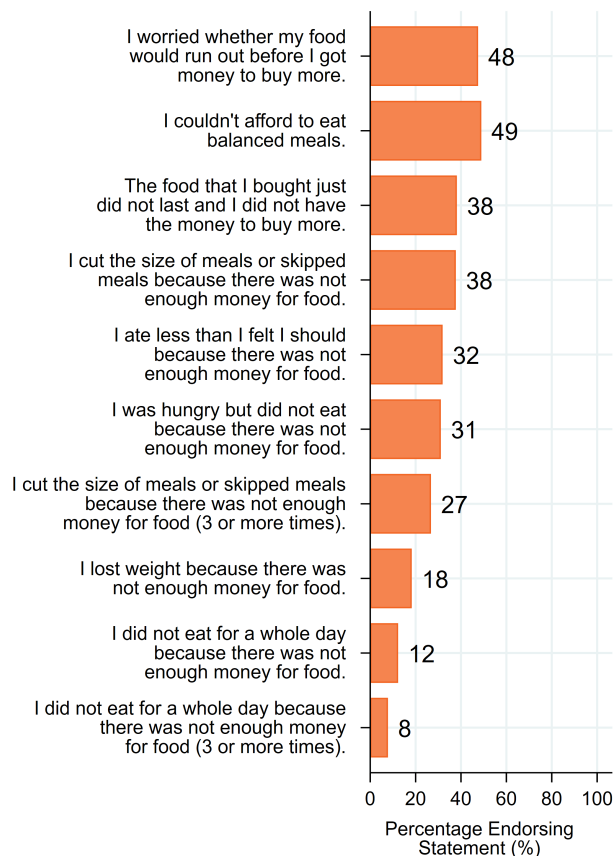
Figure 1. Food Security Among Survey Respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College



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. Cumulative percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding error.

Figure 2. Food Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College



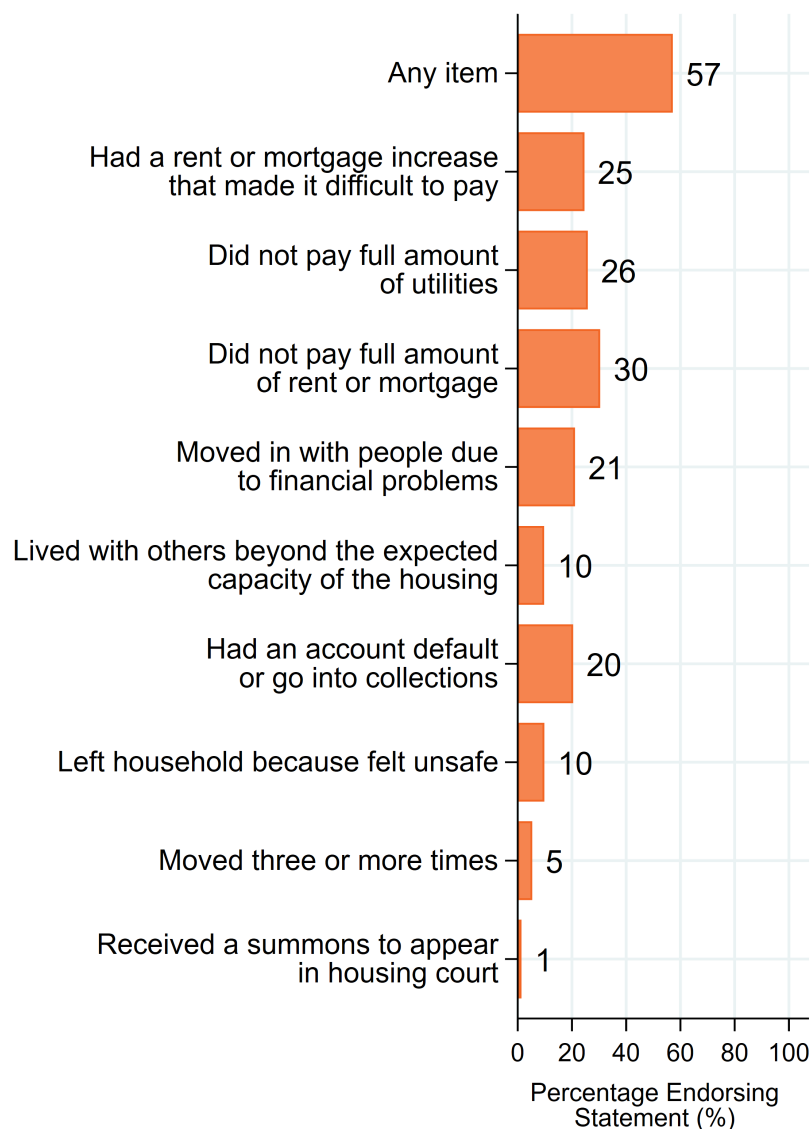
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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 St. Cloud Technical and Community College? As displayed below, 57% of survey respondents are housing insecure (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Housing Insecurity Among Survey Respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College



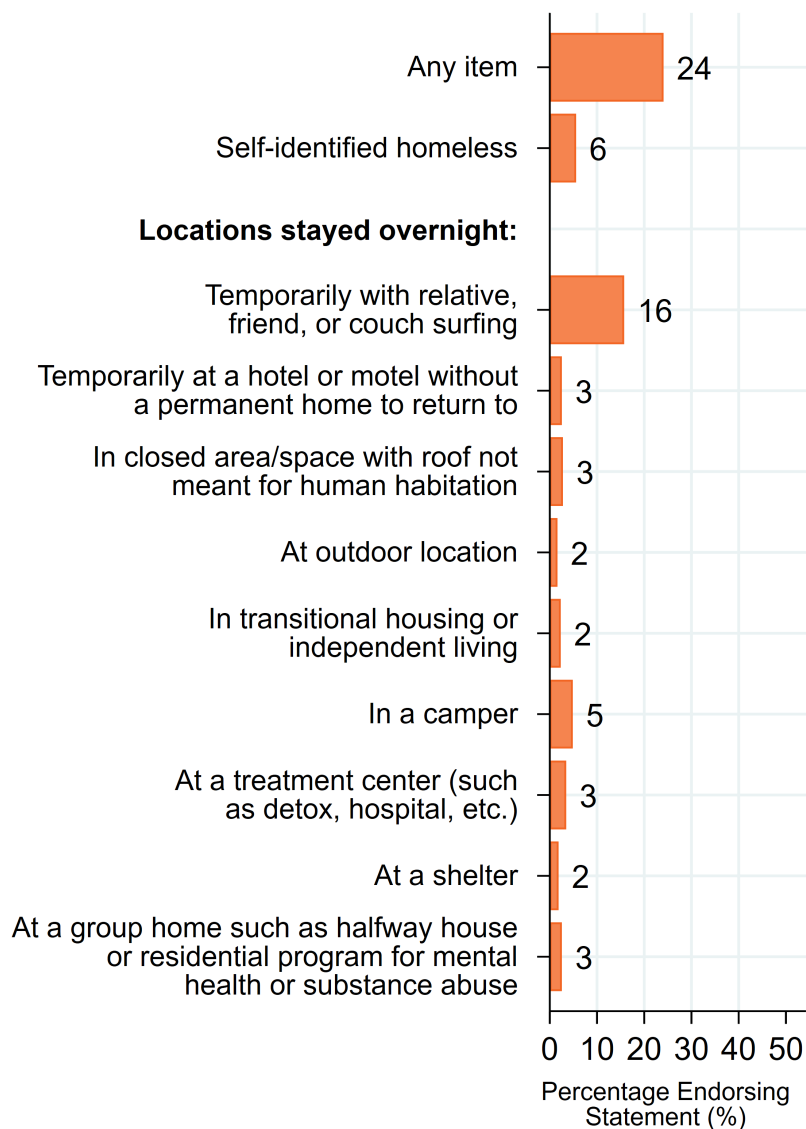
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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 St. Cloud Technical and Community College? As displayed below, 24% of survey respondents experience homelessness (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at St. Cloud Technical and Community College

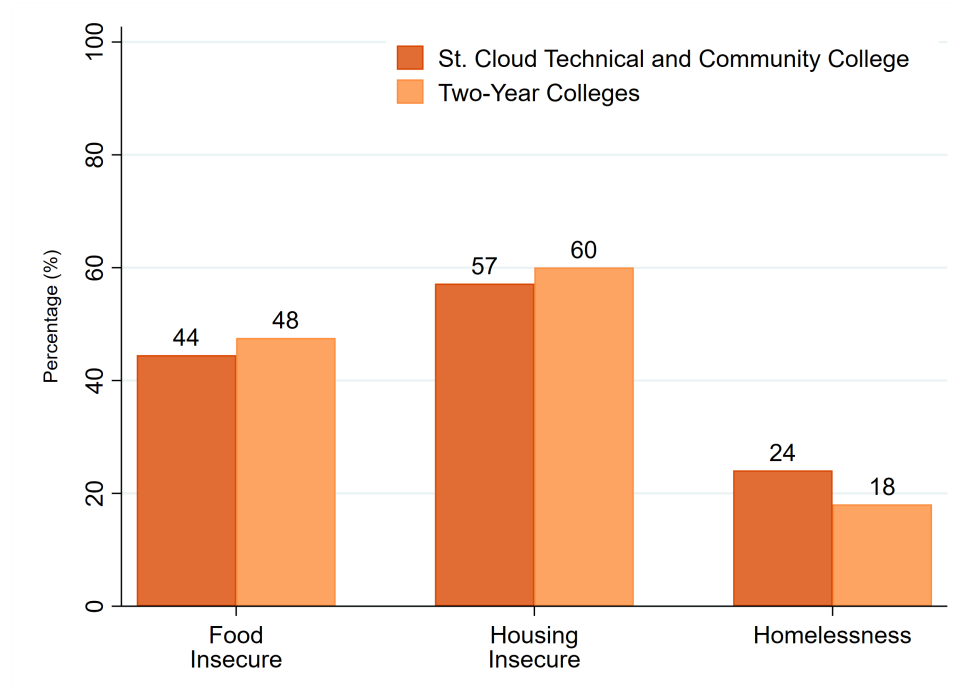


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

COMPARISON TO TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

In comparison to the overall rates for students attending a two-year college in 2018, St. Cloud Technical and 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

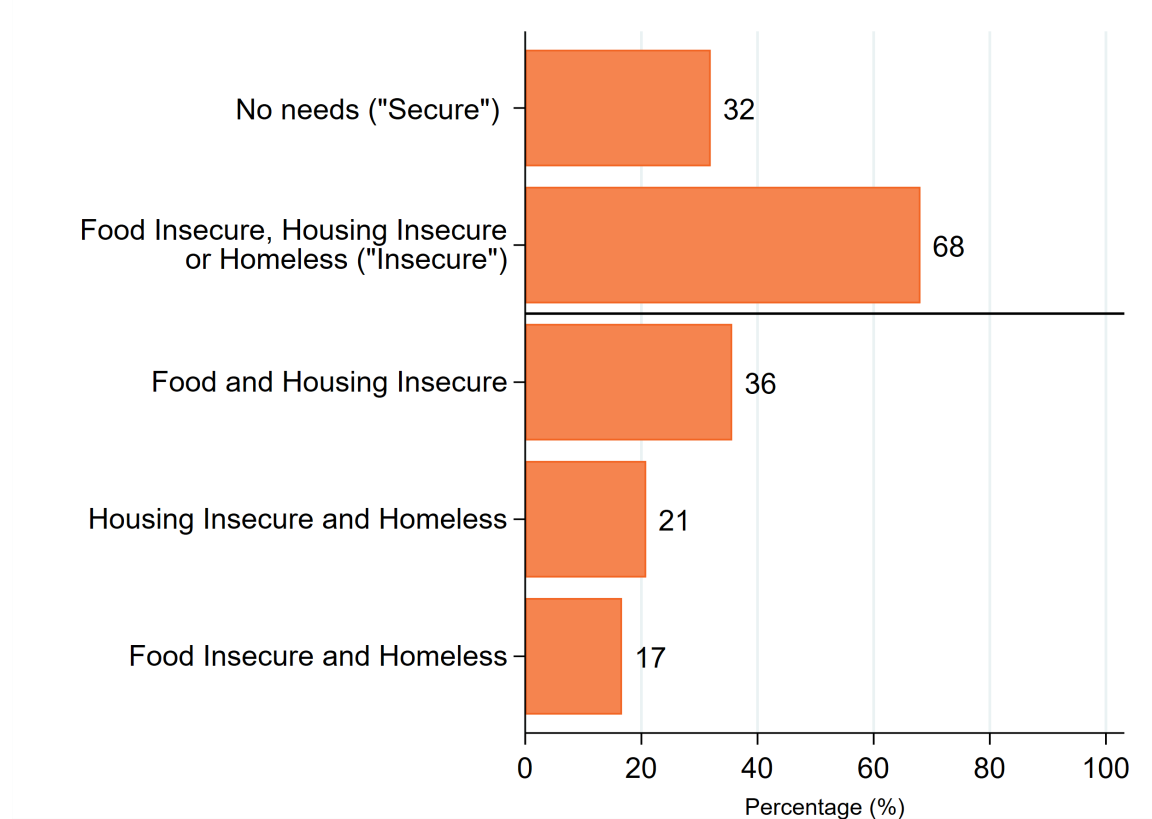


Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

OVERLAPPING CHALLENGES

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness are overlapping concerns, with 68% of students at St. Cloud Technical and 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 St. Cloud Technical and 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 St. Cloud Technical and Community College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
GENDER ORIENTATION				
Male	90	37	49	27
Female	317	47	60	24
Transgender	.	.	.	.

Other	.	.	.	.
SEXUAL ORIENTATION				
Heterosexual or straight	360	44	57	24
Gay or lesbian	.	.	.	.
Bisexual	27	56	74	33
Other	15	60	67	33
RACIAL OR ETHNIC BACKGROUND				
White or Caucasian	342	42	55	22
African American or Black	42	64	60	40
Hispanic or Latinx	26	54	81	19
American Indian or Alaskan Native	11	73	82	36
Middle Eastern or North African or Arab or Arab American	.	.	.	.
Southeast Asian	.	.	.	.
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	.	.	.	.
Other Asian or Asian American	.	.	.	.
Other	.	.	.	.
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
STUDENT IS A U.S. CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT				
Yes	398	45	58	24
No	10	60	60	40
Prefers not to answer	.	.	.	.
HIGHEST LEVEL OF PARENTAL EDUCATION				
No high school diploma	28	43	64	36
High school diploma	87	46	55	24

Some college	207	50	61	25
Bachelors degree	79	34	51	22
Does not know	13	31	46	23
AGE				
18 to 20	155	43	41	22
21 to 25	128	45	68	31
26 to 30	48	54	79	31
Older than 30	77	44	62	16

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 St. Cloud Technical and Community College

	Number of Students	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATUS				
Full-time (at least 12 credits)	282	43	56	25
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	150	47	59	23
YEARS IN COLLEGE				
Less than 1	153	38	47	24
1 to 2	142	54	61	23
3 or more	108	44	68	31
DEPENDENCY STATUS				
Dependent	131	38	47	21
Independent	280	48	63	27
STUDENT RECEIVES THE PELL GRANT				
Yes	166	57	68	30
No	266	37	50	21
STUDENT HAS CHILDREN				
Yes	130	51	63	19
No	302	42	55	26

RELATIONSHIP STATUS				
Single	170	48	54	34
In a relationship	168	44	60	21
Married or domestic partnership	68	35	59	12
Divorced	.	.	.	.
Widowed	.	.	.	.
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN FOSTER CARE				
Yes	19	58	79	42
No	394	44	57	24
STUDENT HAS BEEN IN MILITARY				
Yes	24	38	63	17
No	387	45	58	25
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Employed	301	45	59	22
Not employed, looking for work	39	47	62	33
Not employed, not looking for work	74	35	46	26
STUDENT HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME				
Yes	31	65	84	45
No	391	43	55	23
DISABILITY OR MEDICAL CONDITION				
Learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)	33	64	70	39
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)	63	52	63	30
Autism spectrum disorder	.	.	.	.
Physical disability (speech, sight, mobility, hearing, etc.)	24	42	54	21
Chronic illness	72	46	60	29

(asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorder, cancer, etc.)				
Psychological disorder (depression, anxiety, etc.)	180	57	65	29
Other	16	56	75	25
No disability or medical condition	192	36	52	20

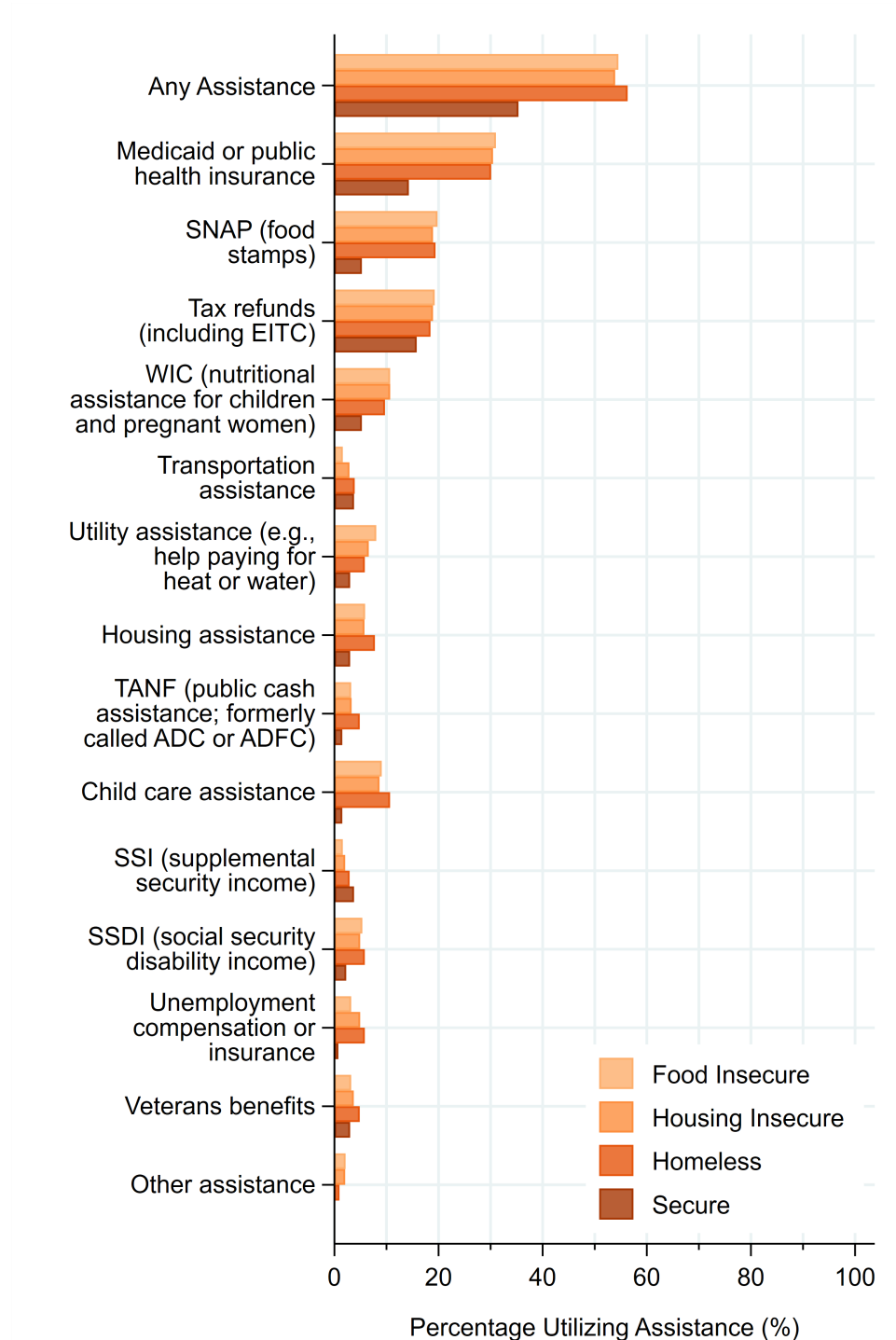
Source: 2018 #RealCollege Survey

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

UTILIZATION OF SUPPORTS

Many students at St. Cloud Technical and Community College who experience basic needs insecurity do not receive public assistance (Figure 7). Fully 20% of food insecure students receive SNAP. In addition, 8% 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 (35%) than their peers.

Figure 7. Use of Assistance Among Survey Respondents at St. Cloud Technical and 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.