



2019 #RealCollege Faculty and Staff Survey: Results for Educators

Institution Report

November 2020

2019 #REALCOLLEGE FACULTY & STAFF SURVEY: RESULTS FOR EDUCATORS

INSTITUTION REPORT FOR COMPTON COLLEGE

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

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OVERVIEW

* Invitations to complete the pilot #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey were emailed to approximately 280 faculty and instructors at Compton College. Ultimately, 55 participated, yielding an estimated response rate of 20.0%.

*** Overall Basic Needs Insecurity Rates:**

- 30% of respondents experienced food insecurity in the prior 30 days
- 40% of respondents experienced housing insecurity in the previous year
- 4% of respondents experienced homelessness in the previous year

* 46% of instructional staff at Compton College experienced at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year.

* 48% of basic needs insecure respondents at Compton College utilized public benefits.

For more information on the research methodology and survey participants, please refer to the web appendices for the Basic Needs Insecurity in the Higher Education Workforce report (available at www.hope4college.com).

INTRODUCTION

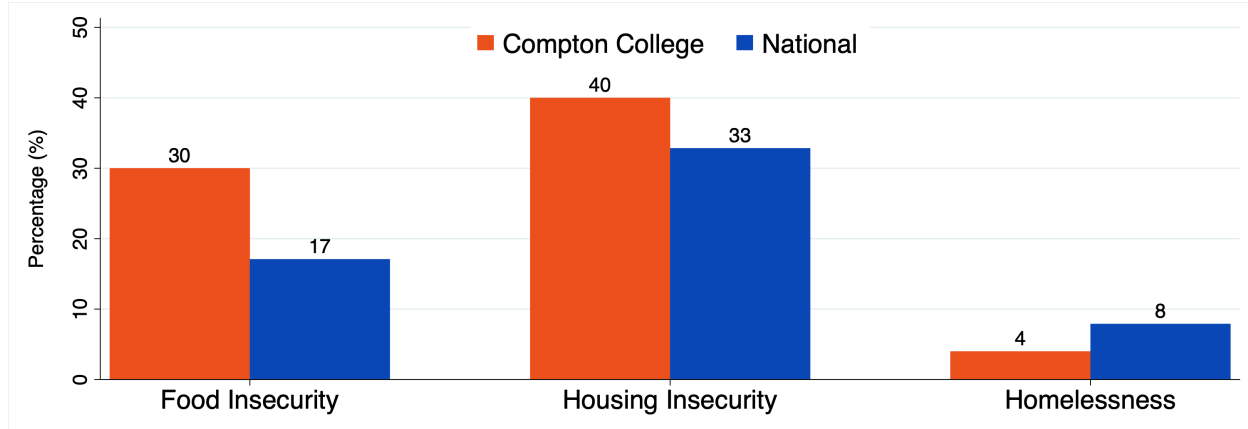
In the fall of 2019, nearly 550 instructional staff members from four community colleges and one university responded to a pilot #RealCollege survey designed specifically for faculty and staff members. This report describes the results of that pilot survey examining basic needs insecurity among educators (i.e., faculty members and instructors) at Compton College.

PREVALENCE OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

During the 30 days preceding the survey, approximately 30% of survey respondents at Compton College experienced food insecurity (Figure 1). In the previous year, 40% of survey respondents were housing insecure and 4% of survey respondents experienced homelessness.

In comparison to rates for respondents across all five participating colleges, Compton College has a higher rate of food insecurity, a higher rate of housing insecurity, and a lower rate of homelessness.

Figure 1. Basic Needs Insecurity Rates Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey

Notes: For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, please refer to the web appendices for the Basic Needs Insecurity in the Higher Education Workforce report (available at www.hope4college.com).

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 faculty and instructors using the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 18-item set of questions.

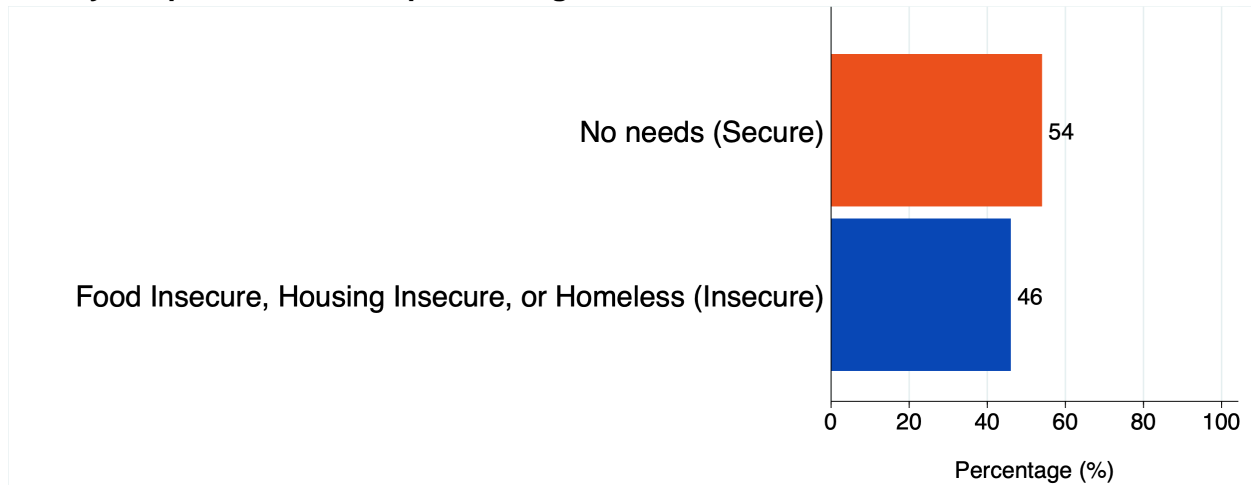
Housing insecurity includes a broad set of challenges such as the inability to pay rent or utilities or the need to move frequently. Housing insecurity among instructional staff was assessed with a nine-item set of questions developed by the Hope Center.

Homelessness means that a person does not have a fixed, regular, and adequate place to live. Educators 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.

OVERLAPPING CHALLENGES

Food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness are overlapping concerns, with 46% of instructional staff at Compton College experiencing at least one of these forms of basic needs insecurity in the past year (Figure 2). However, only 48% of instructional staff who experienced basic needs insecurity received public benefits (not shown).

Figure 2. Intersections of Food Insecurity, Housing Insecurity, and Homelessness Among Survey Respondents at Compton College



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey

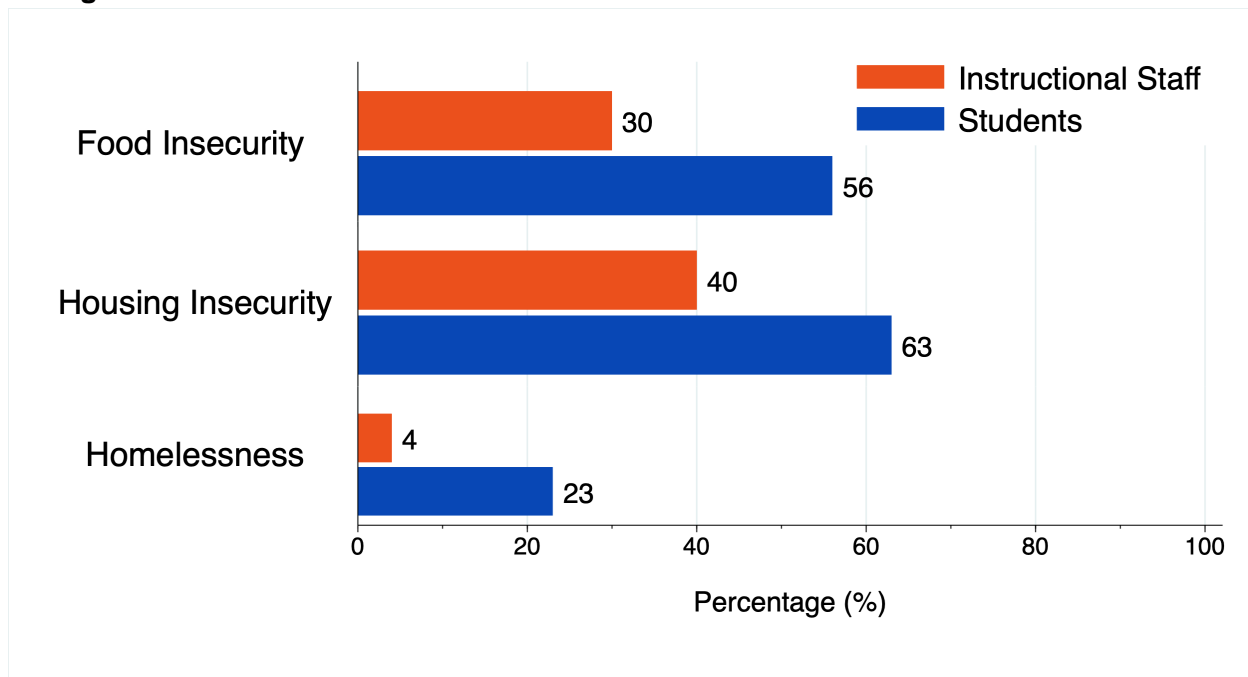
Notes: For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, please refer to the web appendices for the Basic Needs Insecurity in the Higher Education Workforce report (available at www.hope4college.com).



COMPARISON OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY ACROSS EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Next, we compare rates of basic needs insecurity among educators to rates assessed for students, since both were surveyed at the same time. In general, rates of basic needs insecurity were lower among instructional staff than among students at Compton College (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Basic Needs Insecurity Among Educator and Student Respondents at Compton College



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey

Notes: For more details on how each measure of basic needs insecurity was constructed, please refer to the web appendices for the Basic Needs Insecurity in the Higher Education Workforce report (available at www.hope4college.com).



BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY AND OTHER CHALLENGES

Faculty in higher education face additional challenges beyond meeting their basic needs. Table 1 presents rates of food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness according to level of student loan debt and number of jobs worked.

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

	Number of Educators	Food Insecurity (%)	Housing Insecurity (%)	Homelessness (%)
STUDENT LOAN DEBT				
None	15	20	20	0
Less than \$20,000
\$20,001 - \$75,000	12	42	50	0
More than \$75,000	16	25	50	12
NUMBER OF JOBS				
One	22	23	32	0
More than one	26	35	42	8

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey

Notes: Results from any category with fewer than 10 respondents are not shown in the table. The 'Number of Educators' 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.

Table 2 presents differences in anxiety levels by basic needs insecurity status. Among educators experiencing basic needs insecurity, 22% percent experienced severe anxiety.

Table 2. Level of Anxiety Among Survey Respondents at Compton College, by Basic Needs Insecurity Status

	Number of Educators	Minimal (%)	Mild (%)	Moderate (%)	Severe (%)
BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY STATUS					
Insecure	23	43	17	17	22
Secure	27	52	11	19	15

Source: 2019 #RealCollege Faculty & Staff Survey

Notes: Results from any category with fewer than 10 respondents are not shown in the table. Cumulative percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. The Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) was used to measure anxiety.

CONCLUSION

#RealCollege students are not the only ones at higher education institutions who experience basic needs insecurity. Our pilot study shows that instructional staff—those tasked with educating and supporting students—also experience basic needs insecurity, and at troubling rates. As the cumulative price of a degree continues to increase and salaries fail to keep up with adjusted costs of living, the next generation of educators will likely experience higher rates of basic needs insecurity.

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.