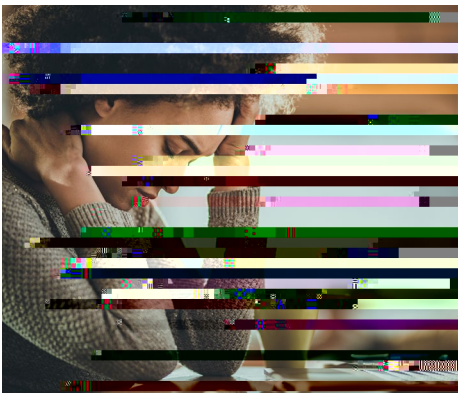




Cornett, A. (2022, October). Basic needs insecurities among college students at minority-serving institutions. Trellis Company.



Key Findings

- Almost two-thirds of students at HBCUs, PBIs, and HSIs had experienced basic needs insecurities (i.e., food insecurity, housing insecurity, or homelessness) while in college.
- Nearly half (44 percent) of surveyed students at participating minority-serving institutions were food insecure.
- Eleven percent had faced all three forms of basic needs insecurity within the past year (from October/November 2020 to October/November 2021).
- Respondents with basic needs insecurities were more likely to be female, identify as a first-generation student, and indicate they were likely suffering from anxiety and/or depressed mood.



F I

Forty-four percent of students at participating MSIs (n=11,362) exhibited signs of low food security (27 percent) or, even more concerning, very low food security (21 percent) in the past 30 days from time of administration.⁴

The most common expression of food insecurity among surveyed students at MSIs was the inability to eat balanced meals, with 45 percent indicating they often or sometimes were unable to do so in the past 30 days. Previous studies conducted by Trellis and others (see _____ E _____) have not only connected food insecurity to poor health outcomes, but also to students' mental health, academic performance, and their overall ability to be successful in college.^{vii}

In SFWS, respondents with low or very low food security were more likely to report certain demographics and hardships compared to their food secure peers. Higher percentages of food insecure students at HBCUs, PBIs, and HSIs identified as female, a first-generation college student, were likely experiencing at least one mental health challenge, and reported financial challenges while enrolled at higher rates.

H I & H .

Many students struggle with housing insecurity, and its most extreme form, homelessness, while enrolled in college. Housing insecurity encompasses a wide range of challenges, including difficulty paying for rent and utilities (in part or in full), needing to move frequently, exceeding the capacity of a dwelling, and more.

Fifty-one percent of respondents attending MSIs were housing insecure in the prior 12 months; these students were more likely to experience housing insecurity and





A D / M .

The Student Financial Wellness Survey (SFWS) is a self-reported, online survey that seeks to document the well-being and student success indicators of post-secondary students across the nation. While not nationally representative, responses were weighted to reflect the total student composition at participating institutions. The survey opened on October 25, 2021 and closed on November 15, 2021. One hundred four (104) institutions participated in the survey—71 two-year colleges, 20 public four-years, and 13 private not-for-profit four-years. A total of 715,545 undergraduate students were invited to take the survey, of whom 63,751 responded, yielding a 9.0 percent response rate.

H : W 91 ..
