Food and Housing Insecurity at Penn State Harrisburg

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Overview

- The Survey
- Results
  - Food Insecurity
  - Housing Insecurity
- April 5 Panel Event
The Issue - Where Do We Fit?

FOOD INSECURITY in higher ed

The Urban Institute study “Assessing Food Insecurity On Campus” found that students at four-year colleges are less likely to be food insecure than students at two-year colleges.

Here are the percentages of post-secondary students who were food insecure between 2011 and 2015, by type of institution.*

17%
2-YEAR PUBLIC COLLEGE

21%
2-YEAR PRIVATE COLLEGE

12%
4-YEAR PUBLIC COLLEGE

9%
4-YEAR PRIVATE COLLEGE

*Data refers to “percentage of adults identified as food insecure in the past 12 months.” Percentages represent a 5-year average between 2011-2015.

Figure: WBGH 2017

Where do graduate students and online students fit?
The Survey

- November 5 to December 4, 2018
- Three follow-ups
- Qualtrics and E-mail
- Graduate (445) and Undergraduate (860) random samples
- Population sample of PADM online and residential (333)
- Gift card raffle ($1,000)
- Response rates: Graduate (31%), Undergraduate (20%), PADM (36%)
- Funded by Outreach & Community Engagement Fund (SPA)
Some Descriptives

Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-Time</th>
<th>Part-Time</th>
<th>No Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADM</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where Students Live

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>On-Campus</th>
<th>Off-Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>0.7 %</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADM</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Some Descriptives

**Age**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>PADM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some Descriptives

Class Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 174
Food Insecurity

Undergraduate

Graduate

N = 174

N = 138

Mallinson (OCEF)  Food and Housing Insecurity  April 24, 2019
Food Insecurity
International Students

N = 50

Food Security (USDA)

High (0) 14 Marginal (1−2) 8 Low (3−5) 12 Very Low (6−10)

N = 50

Mallinson (OCEF)
Food Insecurity

“What financial resources do you use for daily food purchases?”

N = 322

Parents | Own Job | PSU Plan | SNAP | WIC | Food Pantry | Other
---------|---------|----------|------|-----|-------------|------
36       | 71.4    | 10.2     | 1.9  | 0.3 | 0.9         | 7.5  

N = 322
Use Programs

Policy Choices (Use)

- In-House Pantry: 37.9%
- Outside Pantry: 25.3%
- Room Board Program: 31.6%
- Stacks Meal Program: 51.7%
- Meal Vouchers: 46%
- Grocery Scholarship: 43.1%
- SNAP: 19%
- None: 23%

N = 174
Student Support for Programs

Contribute to Programs

Policy Choices (Contribute)

- In-House Pantry: 48.9%
- Outside Pantry: 34.5%
- Food Recovery: 43.1%
- Student Fees: 15.5%
- None: 27%

N = 174
Awareness of We Care Pantry

“Do you know that Penn State Harrisburg has a food pantry available to students?”

Yes (26.9%)
No (73.1%)
Food Insecurity

“What financial resources do you use for daily food purchases?”

N = 121
Food Insecurity

All PADM Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Security (USDA)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High (0)</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginal (1–2)</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low (3–5)</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low (6–10)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 121

World Campus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Security (USDA)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High (0)</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginal (1–2)</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low (3–5)</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low (6–10)</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 97
Student Support for Programs

Use Programs

- In-House Pantry: 15.7%
- Outside Pantry: 14.9%
- Room Board Program: 9.9%
- Stacks Meal Program: 15.7%
- Meal Vouchers: 14%
- Grocery Scholarship: 27.3%
- SNAP: 10.7%
- None: 62.8%

N = 121
Housing Insecurity

Only 1.1% (1.4%) reported experiencing homelessness within past 12 months, but 10% (9.8%) reported at least a few instances of not knowing where they would sleep

Housing Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>UG</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>WC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Not having enough money to pay rent”</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Rent increase made it difficult to pay rent”</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Leaving place living because you felt unsafe”</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Threatened with Foreclosure”</td>
<td>1 person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Being thrown out by someone in your household”</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Being evicted by landlord”</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 people</td>
<td>1 person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Lost house due to fire or building problems”</td>
<td>1 person</td>
<td>1 person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Lost house due to foreclosure”</td>
<td>1 person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
April 5, 2019 Panel

Food and Housing Insecurity at Penn State Harrisburg

April 5, 2019
Noon to 1:30 pm
Gallery Lounge (W-107)

At this event, Dr. Dan Mallinson will briefly present the results of his Fall 2018 food and housing insecurity survey of Penn State Harrisburg undergraduate and graduate students. Then, representatives from student life, student government, the WE cARE Food Pantry, and Health Education will discuss with the audience how to address these issues on our campus.

Panelists:
- Dr. Mallinson, School of Public Affairs
- Elizabeth Gutman, Graduate Assistant, Health Education
- Ashley Schools, WE cARE Steering Committee
- TaLisa Ramos, Office of Student Affairs
- Justin Jones, Student Government Association President

Lunch is available, please register at:
https://food-housing-insecurity-psh.eventbrite.com

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Mallinson at djm466@psu.edu.
Thank You!