



**Report on**  
**Food and Housing Insecurities**  
The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice  
Survey

Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 26, 2019

# Survey History

The first two studies conducted by The Hope Center focused on community college students, while their most recent studies expanded to include students from four-year universities. The San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) participated in the **2015, 2017, and 2018** surveys.

## ***Hungry to Learn, 2015***

- Surveyed 4,000 students at 10 community colleges (SDCCD participated)
- Found that 39% of respondents reported low or very low food security, 52% were housing insecure, and 13% experienced homelessness

## ***Hungry and Homeless in College, 2016***

- Surveyed 33,000 students at 70 community colleges
- Found that 56% of students experienced low or very low food security, 51% were housing insecure, and 14% experienced homelessness

## ***Still Hungry and Homeless in College, 2017***

- Surveyed 43,000 students from 66 institutions - 33 community colleges, 35 four-year universities (SDCCD participated)
- Found that 42% of community college students experienced low or very low food security, 46% were housing insecure, and 12% experienced homelessness

## ***College and University Basic Needs Insecurity, 2018***

- Surveyed 86,000 students from 123 institutions - 90 community colleges, 33 four-year universities (SDCCD participated)
- Found that 47% of community college students experienced low or very low food security, 60% were housing insecure, and 18% experienced homelessness

# SDCCD 2018 Survey Methodology and Sample

## Methodology Changes

- Because of a change of research design at The Hope Center, the number of email invitations sent to SDCCD students increased significantly between 2017 and 2018 (2017: 13,200, 2018: 75,100) resulting in an increase in the number of responses.
- A higher number of survey respondents may be more reflective of the population of SDCCD students, even though the overall response rate is low.

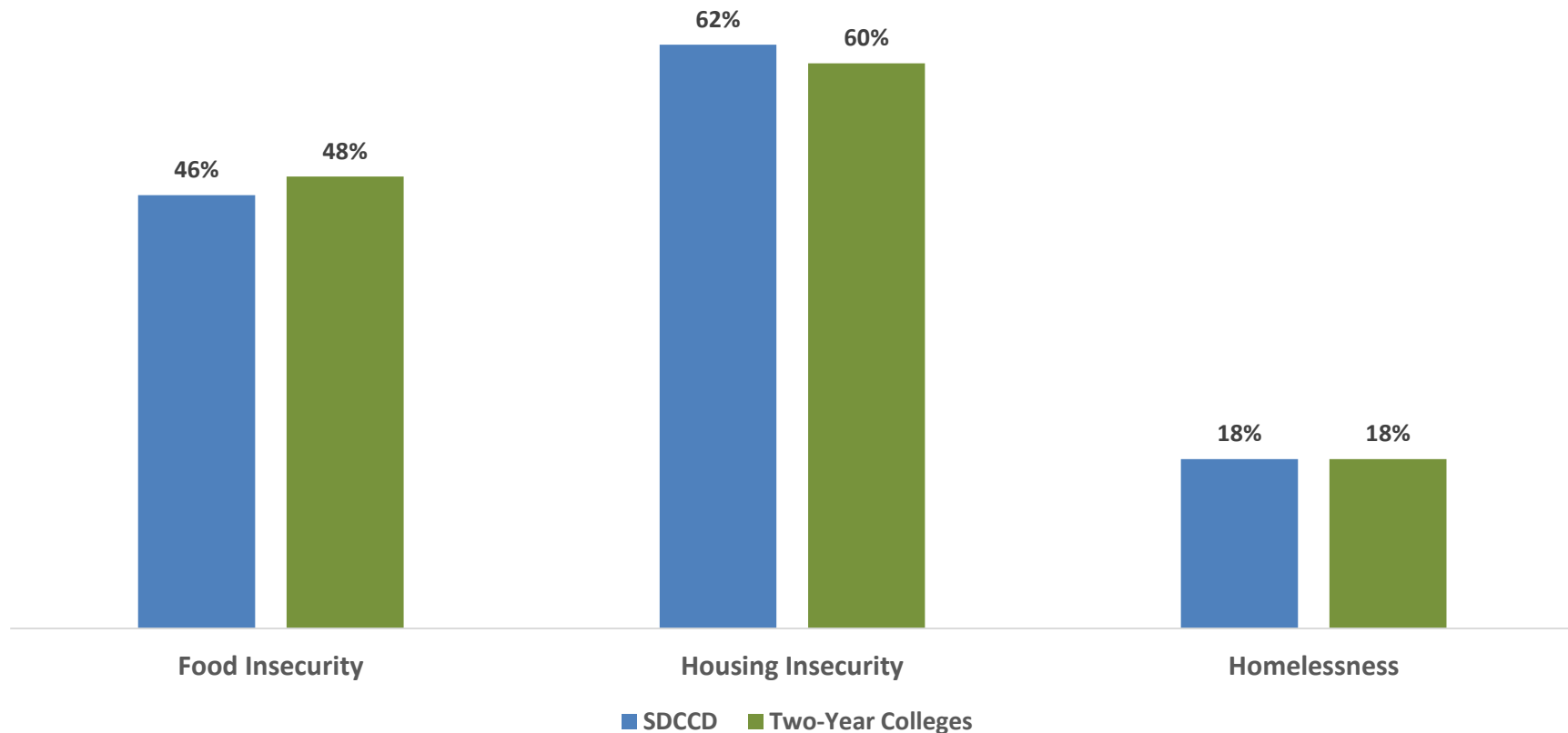
# Fall 2018 Survey Sample

- Invitations to complete the Fall 2018 questionnaire were sent by email to students from each of the colleges and Continuing Education. Because of the small response rates, care should be used in interpreting the results or drawing conclusions.



Note: 341 students completed the survey but did not specify a location.

# SDCCD Outcomes Comparison – Fall 2018



- Overall district outcomes are comparable to other two-year colleges in the survey.
- Food insecurity at SDCCD is 2% lower than at other two-year colleges in the survey.
- Housing insecurity is 2% higher at SDCCD than at other two-year colleges surveyed.
- Homelessness rates are equal to other two-year colleges in the survey.

# Trend Analysis 2015-2018

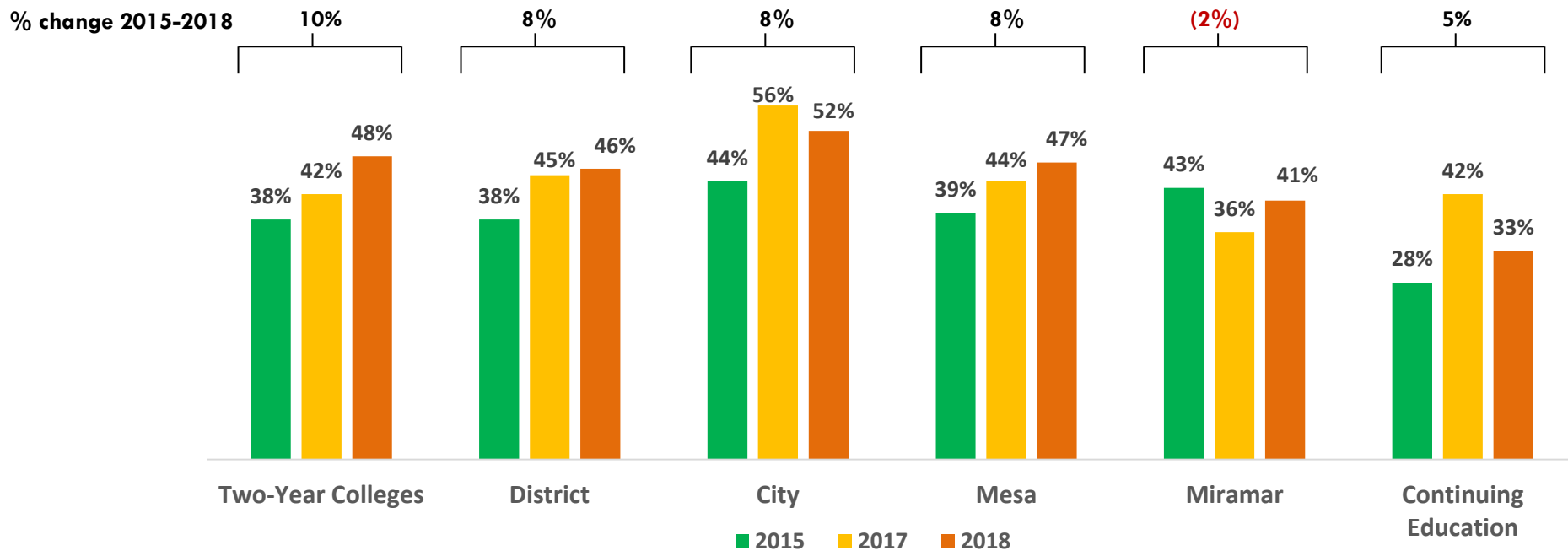
## Food Insecurity

**Food insecurity** is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or the ability to acquire such foods in a socially acceptable manner. The most extreme form is often accompanied with physiological sensations of hunger.



# Food Insecurity

What percentage of SDCCD survey respondents experienced food insecurity?



- Overall trends show an increase in food insecurity districtwide.
- City College has the highest rate of food insecurity, higher than the other two-year colleges that participated in the survey.
- Mesa College tracks closely with other two-year colleges.
- Miramar College and Continuing Education have lower rates of food insecurity both locally and among other two-year colleges in the survey.
- The spike in food insecurity for City College and Continuing Education in 2017 is most likely because of the small sample size compared to 2018.

# Trend Analysis 2017-2018 Housing Insecurity

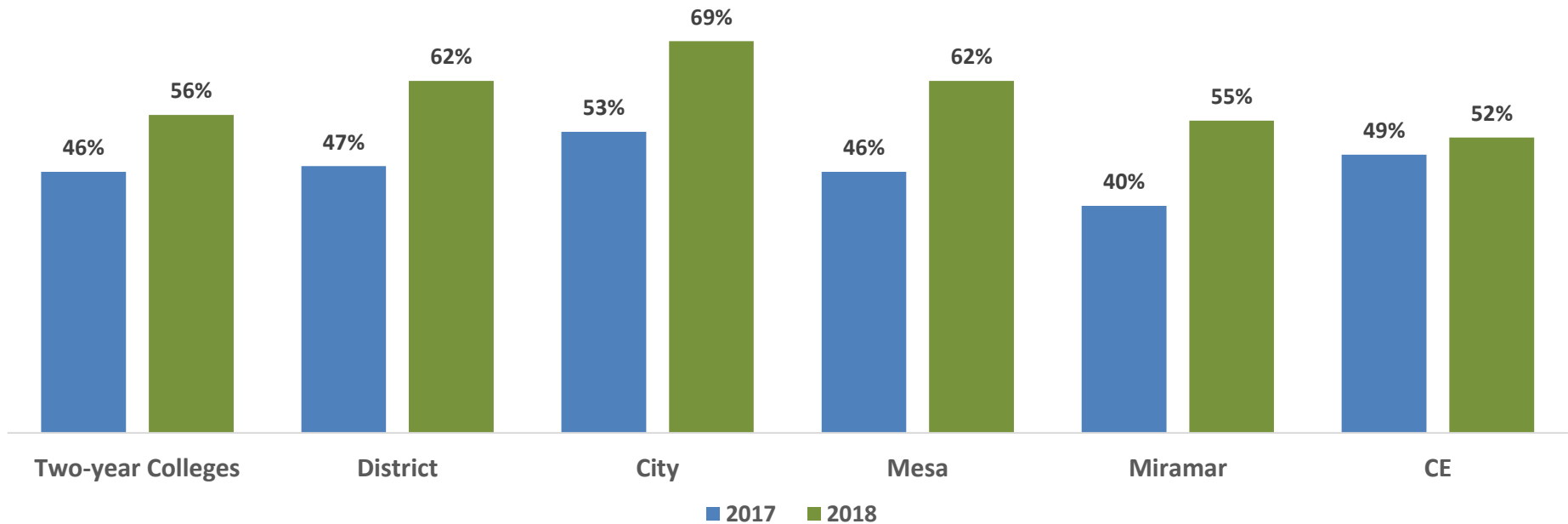


**Housing insecurity** includes a broader set of challenges such as the inability to pay rent or utilities or the need to move frequently.



# Housing Insecurity

How prevalent is housing insecurity amongst SDCCD survey respondents ?



*Note. There is no aggregate housing data reported in the 2015 report.*

- Respondents at the three credit colleges and Continuing Education report higher levels of housing insecurity in 2018 when compared to 2017.
- In the 2018 survey:
  - City College respondents report the highest level of housing insecurity.
  - Two out of three Mesa College respondents report housing insecurity.
  - Miramar College respondents report housing insecurity at about the two-year college average.
  - Continuing Education respondents report the lowest rates of housing insecurity, although the sample size for Continuing Education was very small.

# Trend Analysis 2015-2018

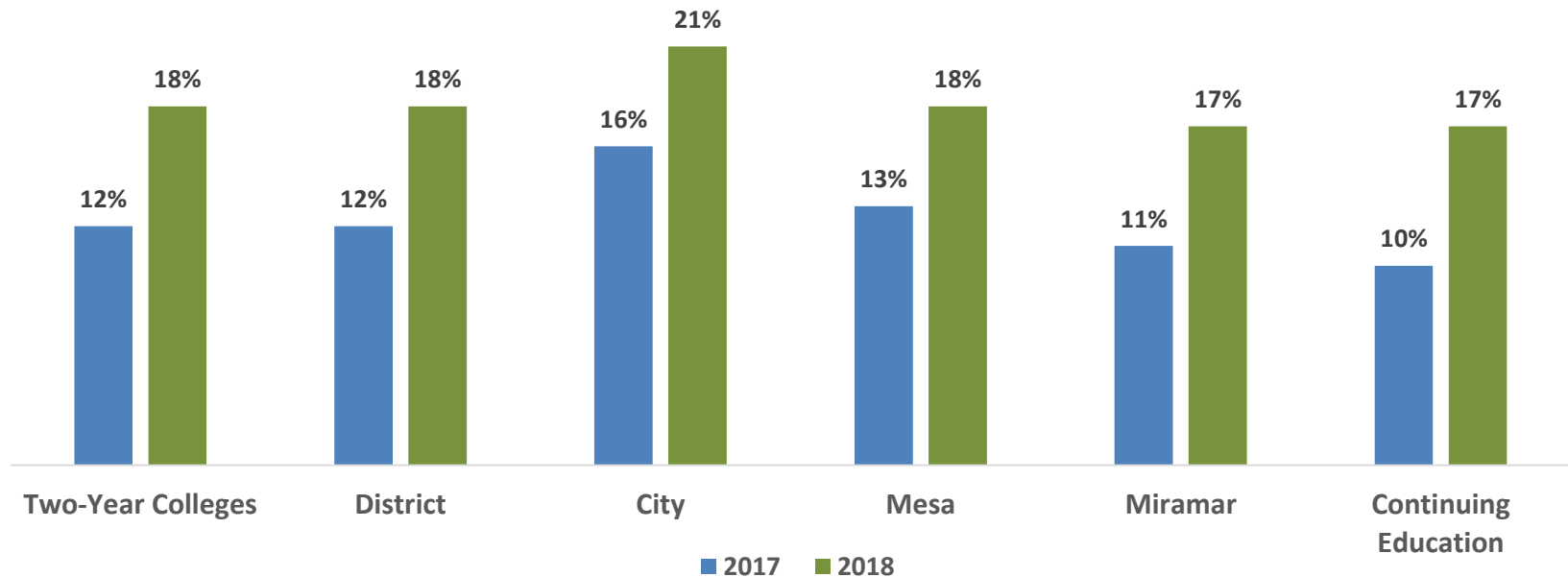
## Homelessness



**Homelessness** means that a person is without a place to live, often residing in a shelter, an automobile, an abandoned building, or outside.

# Homelessness

How prevalent is homelessness amongst SDCCD survey respondents ?



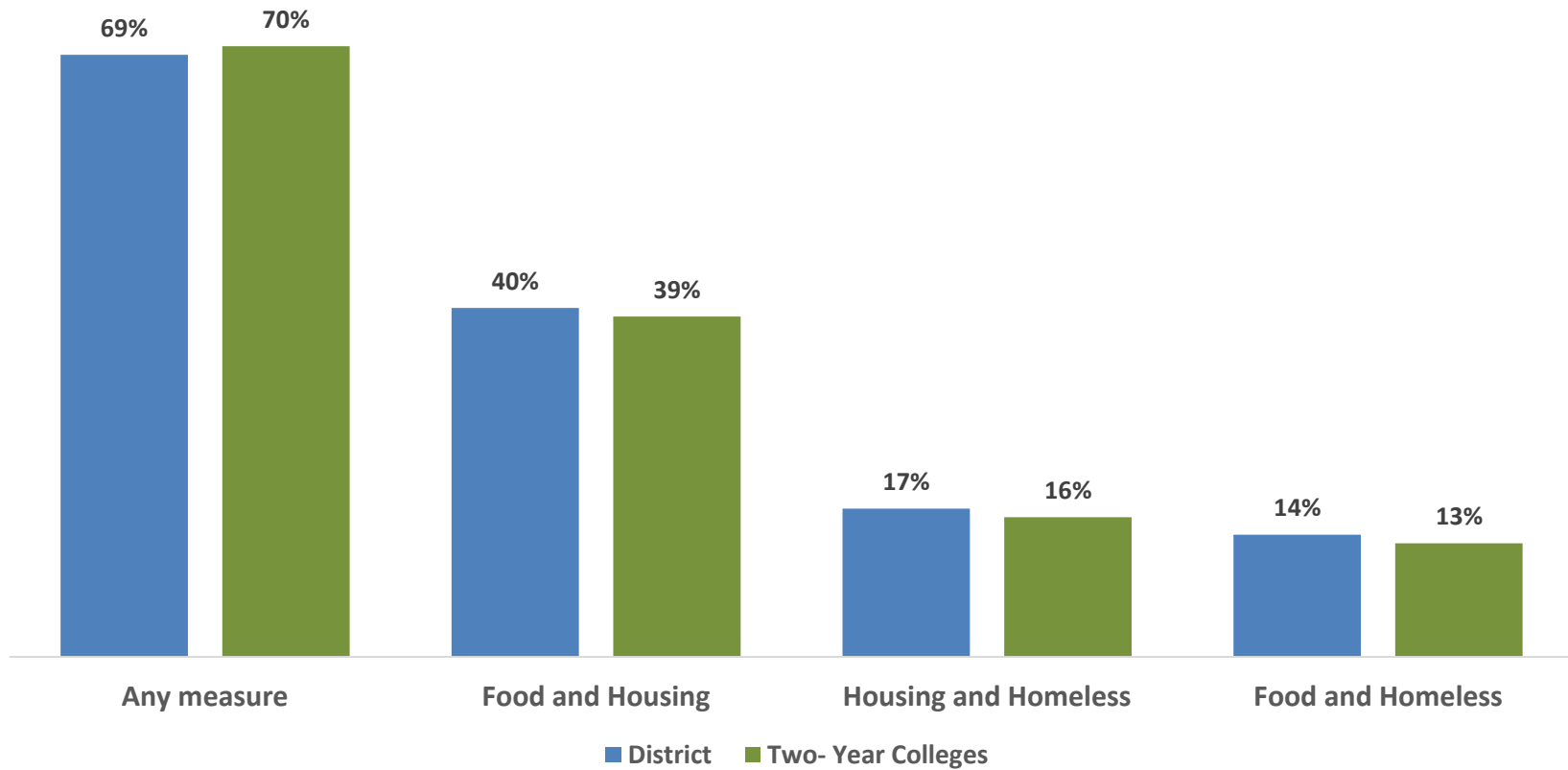
*Note. There is no aggregate housing data reported in the 2015 report.*

- Survey respondents at the three credit colleges and Continuing Education report increased homelessness in 2018, compared to 2017.
- In both 2017 and 2018, City College respondents report the highest rate of homelessness in the district and compared to other community colleges in the survey.
- Continuing Education responses show the greatest increase in homelessness.
- Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education have roughly the same rate of homelessness as other community colleges in the survey.

# Overlapping Basic Needs



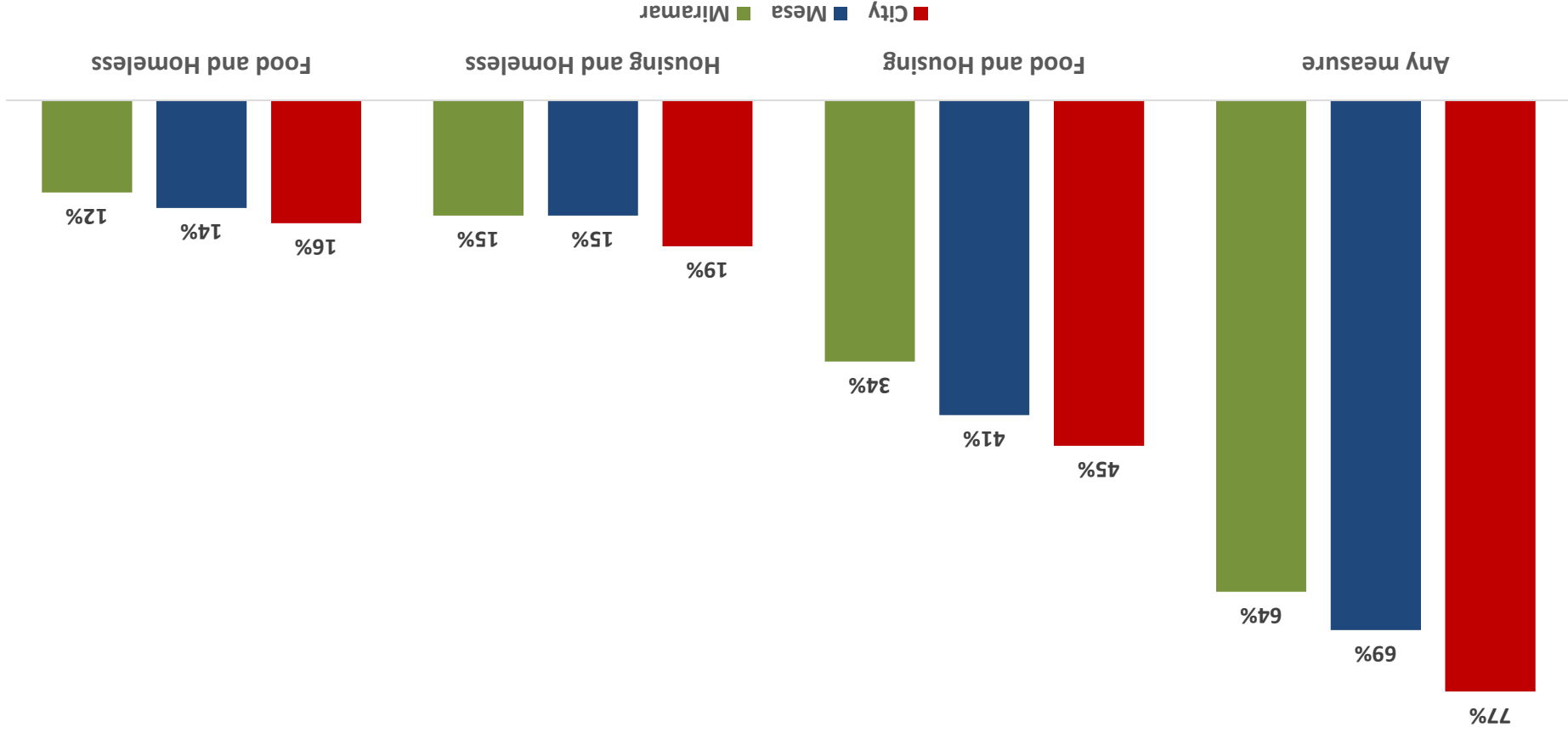
# Overlapping Basic Needs



In the 2018 survey:

- Basic needs insecurity rates at SDCCD are about the same as those for all two-year colleges in the survey.
- A majority of SDCCD respondents report at least one basic needs insecurity.
- Two in five SDCCD respondents report more than one basic needs insecurity.

# Students with Multiple Basic Needs



In the 2018 survey:

- City College survey respondents report the greatest rate of basic needs insecurities.
- Mesa College survey respondents rates are about the same as the two-year college average.
- Miramar College respondents report the lowest rates of basic needs insecurities.
- Response rates for Continuing Education on this question were not provided by the Hope Center.

# Comparison to Other San Diego Regional Needs Surveys

- **Public Policy Institute of California Housing Survey**
  - 58% of San Diego residents report housing causes a financial strain
  - 60% of SDCCD survey respondents reported housing insecurity
- **San Diego Hunger Coalition Survey**
  - 20% of San Diego County residents report food insecurity
  - 48% of SDCCD survey respondents report food insecurity
- **Regional Taskforce on the Homeless Count**
  - 6% decrease in homeless population
  - 6% increase in homelessness among SDCCD survey respondents

# Campus Support Services for Student Food and Housing Needs

- Emergency food resources have been established at each of the colleges to support students' ability to concentrate and successfully complete their classes.
- The colleges and Continuing Education maintain a list of local resources to provide information to students in need of shelter or a meal.





# Student Support

## City College

- Created a Food Pantry that supports enrolled students in need by providing free, pre-packaged items suitable for lunch or meal
- The Food Pantry is operated by student interns and supported through donations from the staff and faculty of City College, and the community
- SEEDS Farmer's Market every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



# Student Support

## Mesa College

- Established The Stand, which provides free food and professional clothing to students

- Partnering with Feeding San Diego and San Diego Food Bank to facilitate monthly Farmer's Markets to provide fruits and vegetables to the Mesa College community

- Partnering with Feeding San Diego to coordinate

CalFresh (food stamps) sign up days, to provide resources and support to our students to apply for CalFresh resources

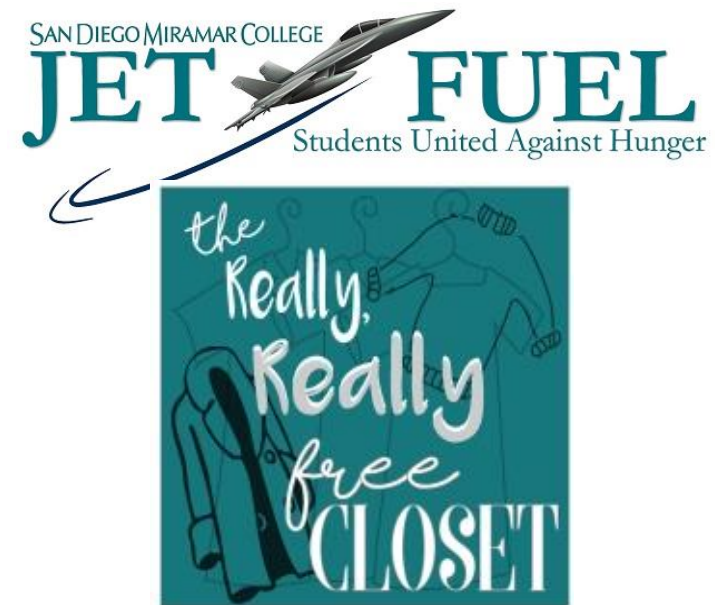
- Partnering with Ronald McDonald House, through Feeding San Diego Retail Rescue Program, to provide weekly food distributions of perishable goods
- Partnering with San Diego Food Bank to provide monthly mobile markets, to begin October 2019



# Student Support

## Miramar College

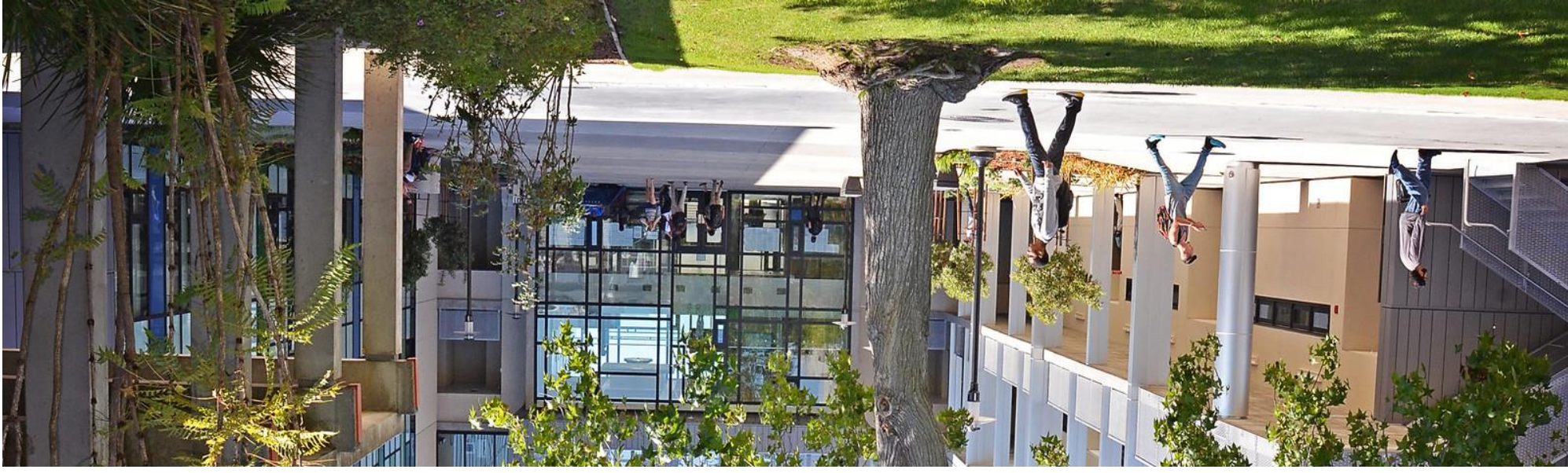
- Miramar operates the JET FUEL Food Pantry five days a week; serves close to 1,000 students per month
- The JET FUEL Pantry has partnered with Feeding San Diego's Retail Rescue program to receive high quality, fresh produce and other items for the Pantry which may have otherwise ended up being thrown away
- Miramar also offers The Really Really Free Farmer's Market the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month



# Student Support

## Continuing Education

- San Diego Health and Human Services Administration Outstations on campus; City and County resources and referrals including eligibility for social service programs
- Formed partnerships with SDCeats! *The Marketplace*, a choice pantry, *Farm to Family Fair*, to host a free Farmer's Market and fair bringing resources to students and our community from health to financial literacy
- Rising to Success Centers deliver CalWORKs, Outreach, Veterans, and R2S PATHWAYS (retention model) programming and SDCeats! Mini-marts at the Chavez, ECC, and MCC campuses





**QUESTIONS?**