



January 14, 2022

## Student Affairs Committee Report

The following summarizes the Student Affairs Committee meeting on December 2021.

### **Commissioner's Office staff changes**

Melanie Heath is taking over the work of the USHE Student Affairs Committee, including the staff lead in the Commissioner's Office on Student Affairs-related activities.

### **LGBTQ+ discussion**

Board Member Tanner Marcum presented a proposal for the USHE Board to adopt a resolution/letter of support for LGBTQ+ students. Several Chief Student Affairs Offices spoke in favor of a "governing principle" in support of serving LGBTQ+ students. Chair Church directed staff to plan to have institution LGBTQ+ center leaders/directors at the next committee meeting (February 2022) and a resolution for the Board's consideration in March 2022.

### **Dream Center updates**

Brenda Santoyo (Coordinator, Dream Center, Salt Lake Community College) and Xris Macias (Director, Dream Center, University of Utah) provided an update on services these centers provide to various undocumented/DACAmented/mixed context students. They presented several recommendations to better support undocumented students, including a common HB 144 (residency affidavit) form, expanded data collection of undocumented students, and increased concurrent enrollment.

### **Enrollment management feedback**

Committee Chair Lisa Michele Church and Kris Coles, Assistant Commissioner for Student Affairs, presented feedback from recent campus visits. Feedback summary included: improved K-12 data sharing, standardized high school e-transcripts, scholarship applications integration with admissions and college application fee waivers.

### **Mental health stigma PSA contest**

The Huntsman Mental Health Institute has partnered with the Utah Student Association to reduce mental health stigma among college-aged students. The contest kicks off in February 2022 and culminates with an awards showcase of student entries in May 2022.

**Food security survey – preliminary findings**

Yesenia Quintana, Weber State University, and Melissa Hall, University of Utah, presented early findings of their statewide food insecurity survey. The survey is the first statewide snapshot on food security among USHE students; preliminary results show that 1 in 5 higher education students in Utah's higher-ed are so food insecure, they are skipping meals.

A full report and individual campus reports are expected at the end of January.

**Commissioner's Recommendation**

This is an information item only; no action is required.

**Attachments**



# HEALING OUT LOUD



## A UTAH STUDENT SHORT FILM CONTEST

Presented by  
Huntsman Mental  
Health Institute



**1 in 5** Americans deal with mental health issues.

Suicide is the

**SECOND-LEADING  
CAUSE OF DEATH**

for people age 10-24.

**DEPRESSION, SUICIDAL THOUGHTS,  
SUBSTANCE USE, AND SELF-HARM**

are growing every year.

IT'S TIME TO END THE STIGMA AROUND MENTAL HEALTH. YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD AND HELP US START HEALING OUT LOUD THROUGH INCLUSIVE AND OPEN CONVERSATIONS.

### HOW TO ENTER:

Post your 30-second video to Instagram

Tag Huntsman Mental Health Institute (@uofuhmhi) with the hashtag #HealingOutLoud

Entries must be posted and tagged on Instagram by April 5, 2022

Follow Huntsman Mental Health Institute for notifications, tips and announcements

Win great prizes, including XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XX  
XX  
XX

Contest winners will be featured in a May 2022 showcase event and integrated into the statewide suicide prevention awareness marketing campaign









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# **HIGHER EDUCATION FOOD SECURITY SURVEY**

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**A First Look**



**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Center for Community Engaged Learning



# Survey Information

- **USDA Household Food Security Module**

- High Food Security: No reported indications of food access problems or limitations.
- Marginal Food Security: One or two reported indications – anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage. Little or no indication of changes in diets or food intake.
- Low Food Security: Reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake.
- Very Low Food Security: Reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake.

- **PRAPARE Assessment (Social Determinants of Health)**

- **Other survey questions**

- 11% response rate (n=5,721)
- 91% completion rate



# Extent and Severity of Food Insecurity among Higher Education Students

## Results of the USDA Household Food Security Module

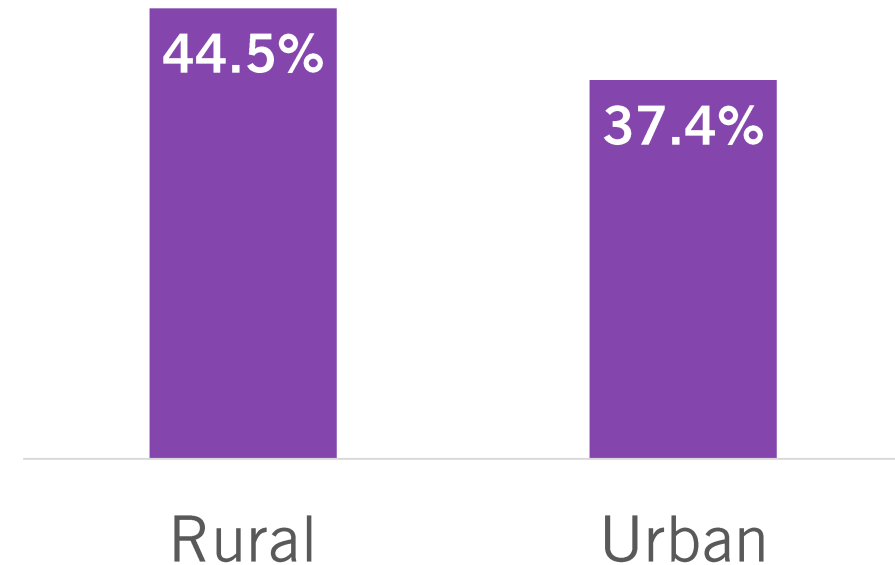
- Thirty-nine percent of students are food insecure; about 1 in 5 experience very low food insecurity.
- There was no difference in food insecurity among households with children compared to households without children.
  - Food insecure with children: 38.3%
  - Food insecure without children: 38.9%
- Hispanic/Latinos are more likely to be food insecure (49.4%) compared to White, non-Hispanic individuals (36.3%).

	<b>% of Students</b>
High Food Security	40.0
Marginal Food Security	21.2
Low Food Security	17.7
Very Low Food Security	21.1

# Urban and Rural Food Insecurity

- For students living in Utah, students from rural areas reported higher levels of food insecurity.
- Rural students represented 19.7% of the survey sample (n=1,126)
- Urban counties include Cache, Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah

Rural students are more likely to report food insecurity.

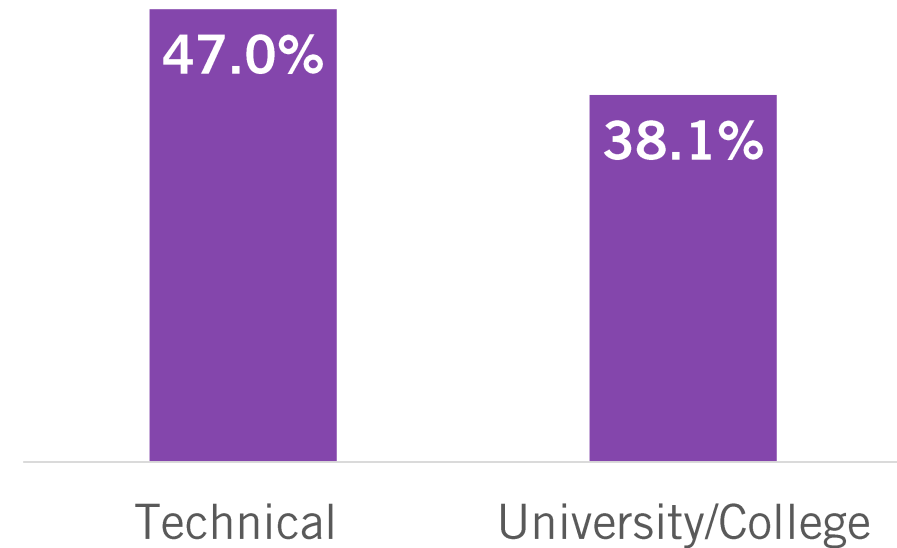




# Technical and University/College Students and Food Insecurity

Technical college students are more likely to report food insecurity.

- Technical students represent 7.8% of the survey sample (n=447).



# Coping with Food Insecurity

Q: How do you cope with not having enough or the right foods to eat?

- Over half of food insecure students skipped a meal or went hungry if they didn't have enough food.
- Nearly half of food insecure students relied on family or friends for food.
- About 15% of food insecure students visited a food pantry.
- Few food insecure students used SNAP or WIC benefits.

	Food Secure	Food Insecure
Food pantry	4.7%	15.4%
Family/Friends	16.6%	45.4%
SNAP/EBT	1.1%	5.9%
WIC benefits	1.2%	2.5%
Religious community	3.1%	7.6%
Free food events	12.8%	36.4%
Go hungry/Don't eat	8.2%	53.5%
Not applicable	72.0%	12.5%
Other	2.0%	4.0%



# Basic Needs

**Q: In the past year, have you or any family members you live with been unable to get or pay for any of the following when it was really needed?**

- Nearly 45% of food insecure students were unable to afford or get medicine or healthcare in the past year.
- About 30% were unable to make rent or a mortgage payment.
- Other typically referred to car repairs or academic expenses such as tuition or books.
- Only 3% of food insecure students reported that they were able to meet all of their basic needs last year.

	Food Secure	Food Insecure
Food	2.7%	35.9%
Rent/mortgage	9.4%	29.8%
Utilities	5.8%	24.6%
Phone	3.5%	17.4%
Medicine or Healthcare	21.4%	44.8%
Childcare	2.7%	5.8%
Clothing	6.1%	30.4%
Other	3.3%	5.1%
Prefer not to say	35.1%	25.1%
None	32.0%	3.0%

# Survey Response Breakdowns

n= 5,721

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Characteristic	%
Female	62.0
Male	34.7
Non-binary	2.0
Self-identify	0.6
Undergraduates	78.4
Graduate students	14.2
Technical students	7.4
Full-time status	79.5
Part-time status	20.5

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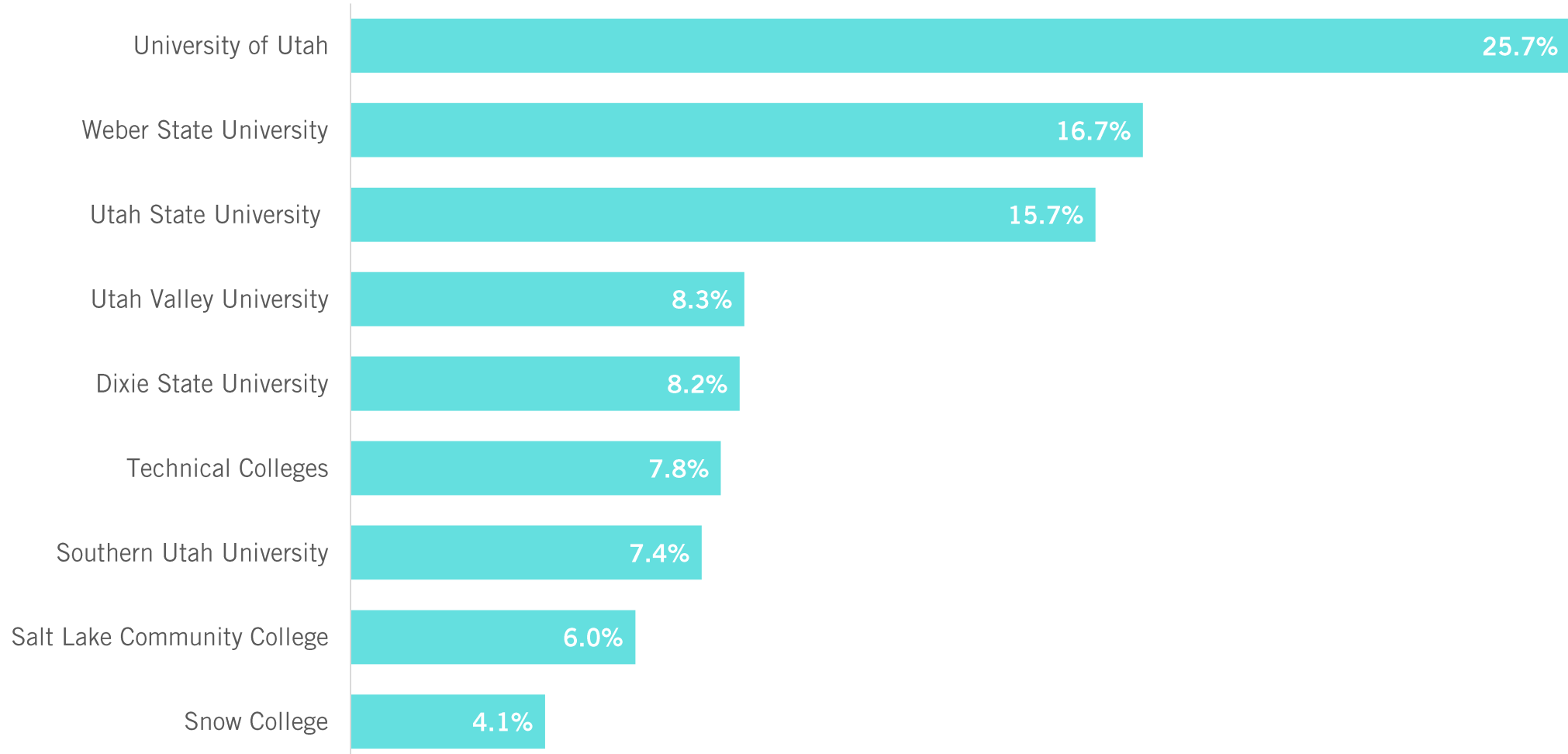
Race & Ethnicity	%
White, Not Hispanic	79.8
Hispanic	11.5
Asian	7.0
Prefer not to answer	3.3
Other	2.4
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1.9
Black	1.8
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.5

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# Survey Response Breakdowns

n= 5,721



# Coming up

- Statewide report and individual campus reports estimated to be completed by end of January.
- Infographic with key points
- Feel free to reach out with questions or requests:  
[yeseniaquintana@weber.edu](mailto:yeseniaquintana@weber.edu)