During the summer of 2020, an online survey was administered to graduate students who had received Basic Needs services at seven University of California campuses. Respondents reported COVID-19 exposures and infections, COVID-19 impacts on work, basic needs (food and housing) and academics, and campus Basic Needs service utilization. The following infographics pertain to COVID-19 impacts on graduate students' basic needs.

**RESPONSES PER CAMPUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UC San Diego</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Los Angeles</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Riverside</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Berkeley</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC San Francisco</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Davis</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>791</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAMPLE**

- **77%** Employed for pay
- **31%** Lived in graduate-housing
- **30%** Lived with a spouse or partner
- **9%** Had at least 1 child dependent
RESULTS

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON EMPLOYMENT/PAY

Have you had a change in paid work due to COVID-19?

- Yes: 28%
- No: 52%
- I wasn't employed at the time: 20%

133 students had hours decreased or lost a job
29 students had hours increased or got a 2nd job
21 students had no paid work

Has your work income changed due to COVID-19?

30% of employed students had a decrease in pay (n=183)

$2,809 students' monthly (pre-taxed) household income prior to COVID-19
-$1,069 average decrease in students' income (n=121)

With the nature of your job, are you able to work remotely?

- Yes, 100% of the time: 50%
- Yes, less than 100% of the time: 35%
- No, not at all: 16%

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON FINANCES & FINANCIAL AID

49% of students reported that their expenses had increased since COVID-19 (n=384)

During COVID-19, how often did you share your money with loved ones?

- About half the time: 47%
- Most of the time: 17%

42% of students reported having a financial aid package in AY 2019-20 (n=329)

How did COVID-19 impact your use of your financial aid package?

- My usage didn't change: 46%
- Received additional COVID-19 financial aid: 33%
- Accepted more of my package than otherwise: 16%

28% have had difficulty covering costs like credit cards during COVID-19
23% applied for housing subsidies or allowances due to COVID-19
22% have had difficulty paying for basic needs like food & housing during COVID-19
EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON HEALTH & WELLNESS

STUDENTS EXPERIENCED THE FOLLOWING NEARLY EVERY DAY DURING COVID-19...

- 61% Had trouble concentrating on schoolwork
- 57% Experienced stress or anxiety
- 47% Had sleep issues
- 46% Felt depressed or hopeless

Most common challenges disrupting students' academic, teaching, and/or research responsibilities:

- Spending more time on errands, like groceries (54%)
- Caring for family more than usual (36%)

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON HOUSING SECURITY

1 in 10 students reported being housing insecure or at risk of being housing insecure during COVID-19

- 21% of students relocated as a result of COVID-19 (n=162)

With whom students have relocated:

- Family 48%
- Friends 16%
- Romantic partner 20%
- Other 16%

[TOP 5] Have you experienced any of the following housing issues due to COVID-19?

- 20% Unable to afford full housing cost
- 12% Notice of rent increase after pandemic
- 12% Moved in with others bc of financial issues
- 18% Difficult conflicts w/ roommates
- 12% Stayed on campus-couldn’t afford to relocate

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON FOOD SECURITY

- 45% OF STUDENTS REPORTED BEING FOOD INSECURE SINCE COVID-19 (n=345)

Top factors preventing students from getting the food they needed:

- 44% Afraid to go to grocery store
- 38% Didn’t feel safe going to pantry/grocery store due to risk of exposure
- 33% Long lines at grocery store
BASIC NEEDS RESOURCES DURING COVID-19

52% reported that basic needs resources have often or always been accessible for grad. students at their campuses

33% noted hours of operation as a barrier to accessing basic needs resources at their campuses

CALFRESH 86% are not currently enrolled in CalFresh

56% of students who are not currently enrolled do not know if they are CalFresh eligible

50% accessed food assistance
- 34% accessed the food pantry & pop ups
  - 87% rated as helpful
- 13% accessed the grocery vouchers
  - 95% rated as helpful
- 12% accessed the pantry boxes/bundles
  - 91% rated as helpful

25% accessed financial relief
- 34% accessed emerg. grants/loans
  - 81% rated as helpful
- 6% accessed emerg. gift cards
  - 78% rated as helpful
- <2% accessed grants for student parents or former foster youth, and/or emergency medical relief

6% accessed housing assistance
- 4% accessed emerg. rental assistance, housing grants, or vouchers
  - 74% rated as helpful
- <2% accessed emergency housing, security deposit funds, and/or housing case management

68% of students reported that at least 1 service reduced stress or anxiety related to meeting their basic needs (N=515)

NEARLY 50% of students indicated this service as food assistance

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT TEACHERS (n=224)
- 44% concerned about their students' abilities to meet basic needs during campus shut-downs
- 93% connected students to basic needs resources at their campuses

PARENTING STUDENTS (n=71)
- 82% have difficulty focusing on work w/ their children around
- 76% concerned with children's social/mental well-being while confined
- 58% concerned about children's future academic performance

STUDENTS' SPOUSES OR PARTNERS (n=233)
- 21% are full-time students

STUDENTS W/ DEPENDENTS (n=46)
- 76% have 1 or 2 adult deps. (n=35)
- 67% concerned w/ health & well-being of dependents
- 59% have difficulty focusing on work w/ dependent around

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