Over 1/3 of public campuses report that hunger & homelessness are on the rise.

- 34% of campuses report an increase in students being served by food pantries.
- 38% of campuses report an increase in students living with food insecurity.
- 45% of campuses report an increase in student homelessness.

24 out of 29 campuses operate food pantries or partner with community pantries.

Campuses operating or partnering with brick-and-mortar or mobile food pantries:
- 13 Community Colleges
- 7 State U’s
- 4 UMass Campuses

18 campuses offer additional or other types of assistance programs.

- 88% of these campuses report offering community resources and referrals.
- 50% of these campuses report offering hunger awareness programs.
- 56% of these campuses report offering food drives.
- 56% of these campuses report offering voucher programs.

Some also offer:
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Meal cards
- Student-to-student donations of meal plan credits
- Short-term emergency loan programs

ABOUT MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION
- 29 CAMPUSES
  - 15 COMMUNITY COLLEGES
  - 9 STATE UNIVERSITIES
  - 5 UMASS CAMPUSES
- 290,000 STUDENTS
- 40,000 FACULTY AND STAFF
- 43,000 NEW GRADUATES ANNUALLY

January 2017
24 out of 29 campuses are aware of enrolled students who are homeless.

Campuses aware of homeless students in 2016:

15 Community Colleges

7 State U’s

2 UMass Campuses

Campuses report a variety of places where homeless students sleep.

Most campuses report knowledge of students:

1. Couch surfing
2. Living in shelters
3. Living in cars

Some also report students living in:

- State housing through Dept. of Children & Families (DCF)
- 24-hour businesses such as Dunkin’ Donuts, McDonald’s, airports, etc.
- Outdoors in warmer weather
- Campus residence halls during holidays or intersession

Many reasons were proposed to explain increases in student hunger & homelessness.

Insufficient Funds
Selection of Insufficient Meal Plan
Cost of Living
Lack of Family Support
Student Debt
Poor Budgeting
Low-Paying Jobs
Financial Aid Issues

Supporting Student Success: Comments from Campus Officials

“As soon as the college community became more aware of the problem here, faculty and staff responded with donations and our Student Life Office started to incorporate opportunities to donate non-perishables. We also increased student awareness of our Stop Hunger on Campus fund, which gives $7 food vouchers to students who are hungry and in need of food.”

—NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

“We are helping to create a welcoming environment where students will not feel ashamed when they need food or help with housing. We are helping students to realize that the best way out of poverty is through their education.”

—BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

“We are engaging the whole university with food drives across campus and attempting to remove the stigma of food insecurity among our students.”

—UMASS BOSTON

“Our student philanthropy group, overseen by Alumni Affairs, is doing a Grilled Cheese for Giving event. The proceeds will be donated to the (campus) pantry.”

—SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

“We are looking into creating supply closets (with) toiletries and other household items that students can take to help bring down their cost of living.”

—UMASS AMHERST