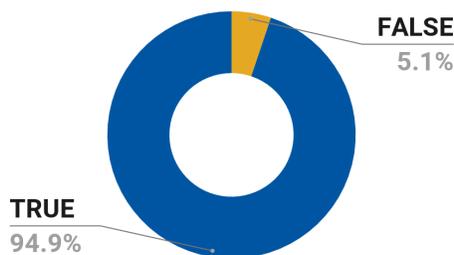


SJSU Received \$28.8 million in [Federal CARES Act](#) funding (Spring 2020) & HEERF II Funding in (Spring 2021) [both federal COVID 19 funds to distribute to students]. Using Federal, State, CSU System and SJSU guidance the funds were distributed to our students. SJSU also provided state grants to Undocumented students in the same period; we included those students in this assessment as well. A brief May 2021 survey was sent to assess the impact the funds had on our students. The survey was distributed to 21,308 students with 13.2% (n = 2817) responding. 56.3% provided their student ID for us to review demographic information in relation to their responses. The system showed that 37.6% completed it on a phone or tablet. With just seven questions, students took care in responding, with an average of four and a half minutes to finish. Data compiled by [SJSU Cares](#) ([sjsucares@sjsu.edu](mailto:sjsucares@sjsu.edu)).

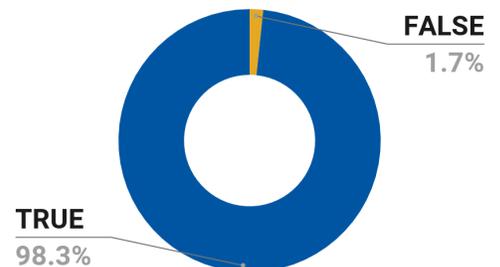
### Connection to Education & SJSU:

These funds allowed me to continue my education:



The vast majority of students found that the funds both assisted them in continuing their education as well as showing that SJSU cared about supporting students during times of crisis. 100% of the Undocumented students receiving a State grant felt the distribution showed SJSU cared. Of those 1.7% who indicated they didn't feel it showed SJSU cared for students during times of crisis, and of those who provided their student ID for demographic

Showed SJSU cared about supporting students during times of crisis:



comparisons, we found the majority had a high EFC (Expected Family Contribution) value which would have placed them in a group receiving the lower values of the grant distributions.

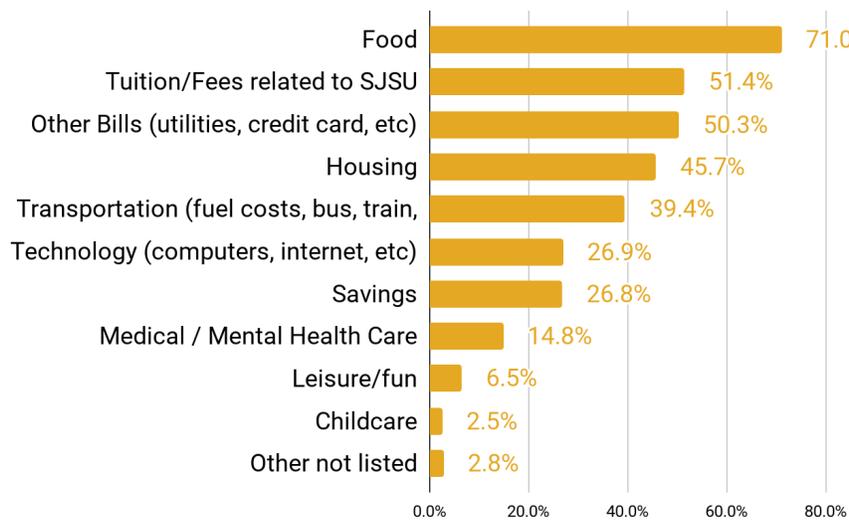
Over 650 students typed in additional comments at the end of the survey giving context on how the funds assisted them & their impact. Although many students expanded not just on being thankful for receiving the funds but how they came at just the right time. A number of students indicated that the funds were not enough because of the severe costs of living in the area.

*"I was able to take summer classes and not worry about tuition so I could graduate on time"*

*"The funding ... allowed me to successfully persist in my degree towards graduation this semester; the funding was immeasurably helpful and went to necessities. It allowed me to breathe a bit easier and not fall behind on bills while in school and working as well."*

*"I just really didn't have anywhere else to turn, and SJSU Cares program really showed me that it is okay to seek assistance and there are people who care."*

## What did students use the funds for?



Students responded with food (71.0%), Tuition/Fees (51.4%), and Housing (45.7%) as the top uses of the funds.

*"The grant I got from school really helped me fund my living expenses. I was struggling with food."*

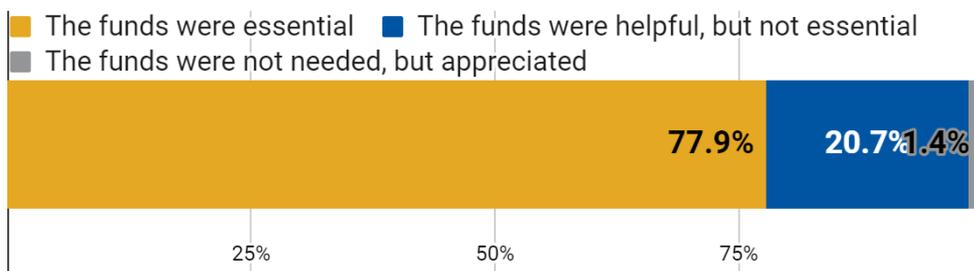
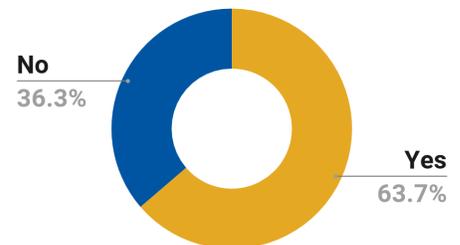
*"This saved me a month from becoming homeless."*

As many of our students live in inter-generational homes within Silicon Valley's high cost of living it is no surprise that 63.7% indicated the funding was also used to support their family. For Asian, Black, and Hispanic students this averaged 72.0% and down to 43.8% for White students.

*"Being able to help family members in these difficult times gave me peace of mind. I was grateful to receive help without having to ask. I am part of an organization that knew to help me. I will not forget."*

*"I was able to help my mom and dad when they needed it the most! At time we didn't know if we were gonna make enough for rent and food"*

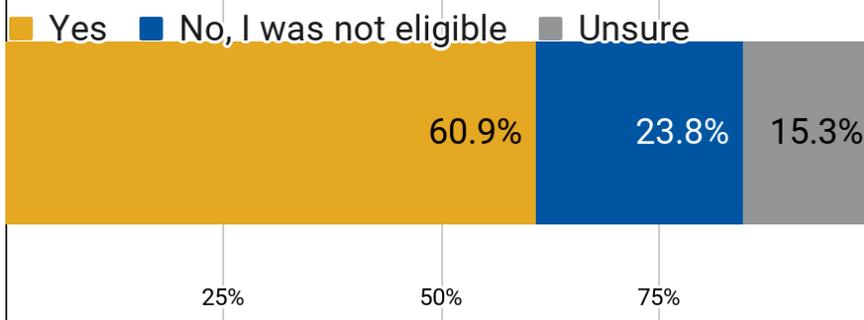
Did you use the funding to help with family support/obligations?



The chart on the left shows that 77.9% of students felt the funds were essential for them at the time, 20.7% that they were helpful, but not essential. 1.4% of the students

indicated they were not needed, but appreciated. Students indicating the funds were essential were more likely to use the funds to support family obligations vs those who indicated they were just helpful or were not needed.

## Did you receive any Federal Stimulus Funds?

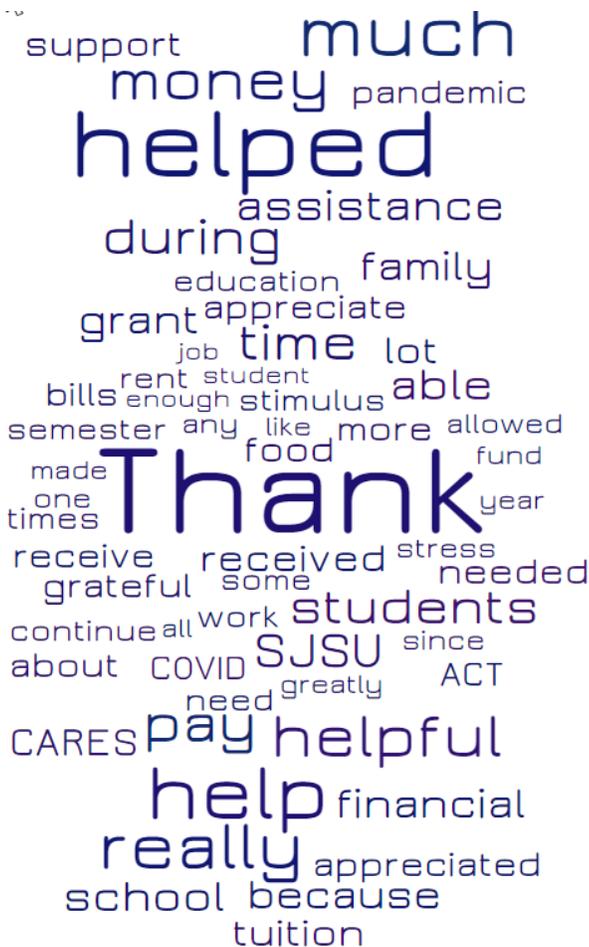


Outside of Federal & State funding provided through SJSU 60.9% of respondents indicated that they received Federal Stimulus Funds.

### Optional Comments

Besides the quotes in this document we've created a word cloud showing the frequency of topics in the additional comments.

*"I honestly broke into tears receiving this"*



*"I am out of debt thank u"*

While emails were sent directly to students addressing the process two themes appeared in additional comments which indicated some may have not fully read/comprehended the messaging.

- Some students had questions about how peers received differing amounts. Most amounts were dictated by the students existing Expected Family Contribution (EFC) value calculated by filing a FAFSA. A process outside of SJSU.
- Students felt that SJSU had the funds the moment that the federal government announced it on the news. Universities had a process for requesting & receiving funds from the government.

*"thank you enough for helping me in the time where I honestly didn't have a Plan B or 'way out'"*

*"I was in really bad credit card debt, and CARES allowed me to pay off my credit card at the time."*

*"The money definitely helped my sense of security"*