



University of California
San Francisco

Basic Needs for Students Annual Report

July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

UCSF Student Life
basicneeds.ucsf.edu

9/3/2025





In accordance with research findings, the University defines student basic needs as an ecosystem of **financial stability; healthy and sufficient food; safe, secure and adequate housing (to sleep, study, cook, and shower); access to healthcare to promote mental and physical well-being; access to affordable transportation; and emergency needs for dependents of parenting students.** This list of comprehensive needs represents the minimum necessary to support students in their holistic experience through the University of California.

UC Basic Needs Definition

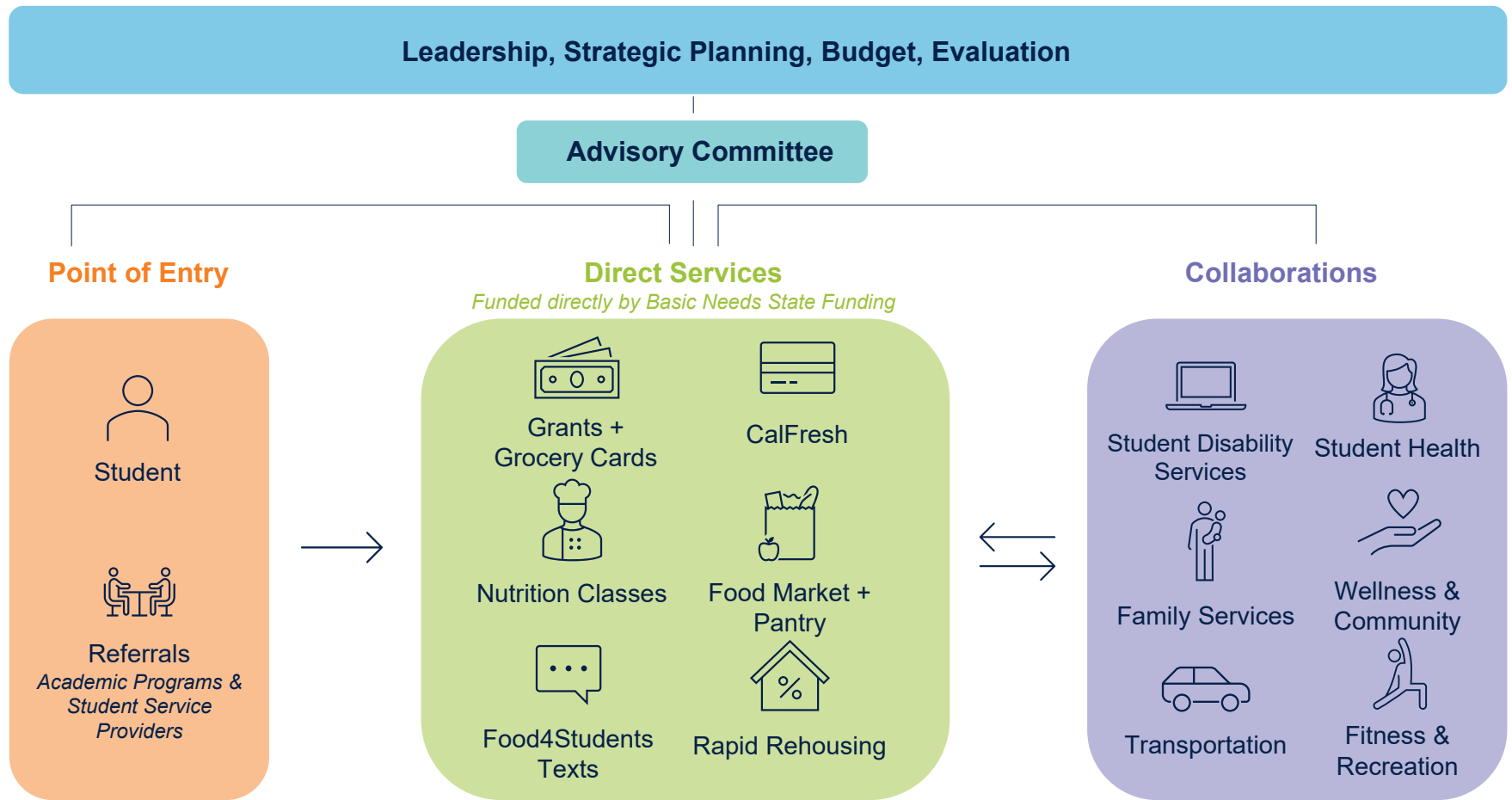
Regents of the University of California Special Committee on Basic Needs

November 2020

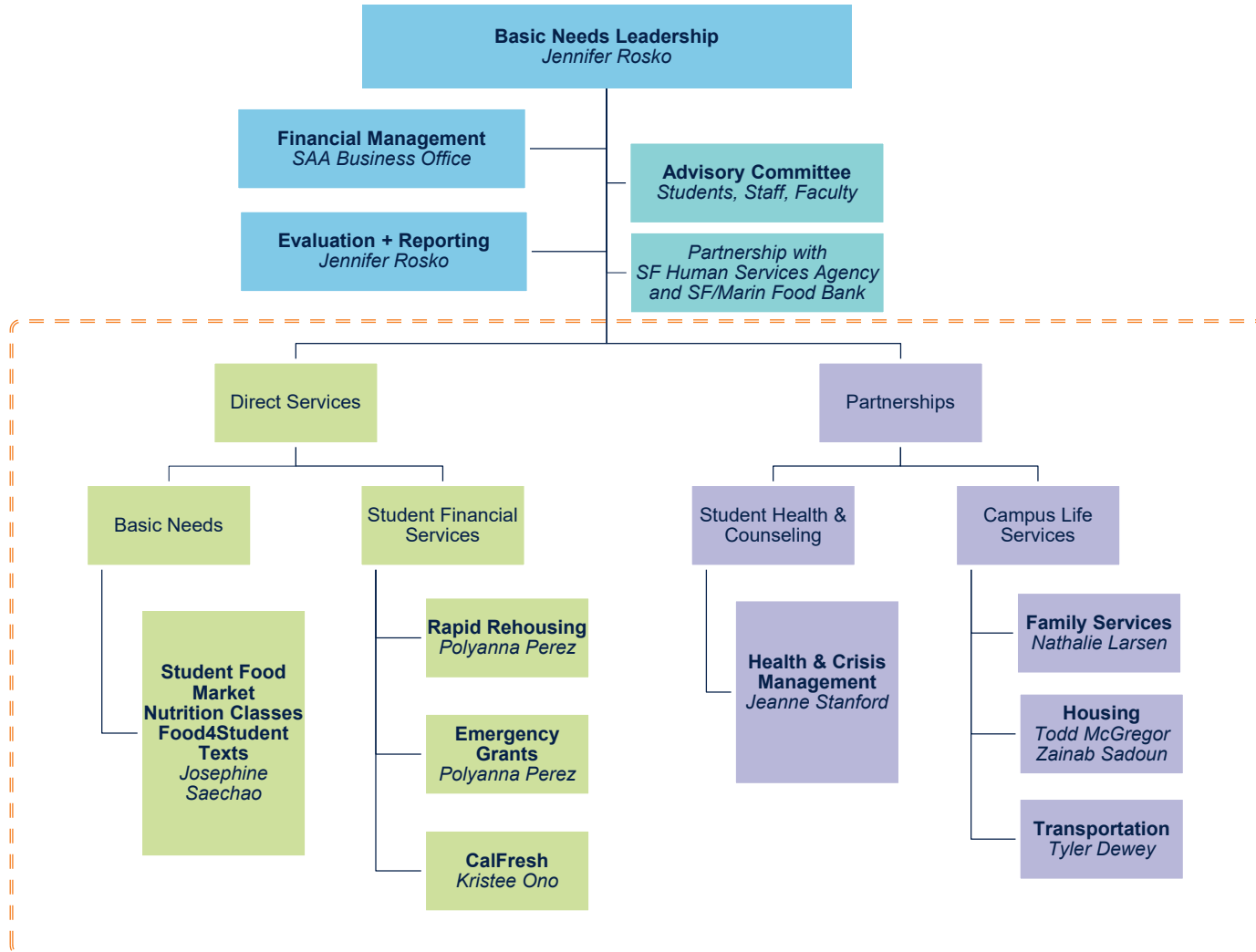
Overview

- UCSF Basic Needs for Students supports students with the essential resources to thrive here at UCSF. These resources include:
 - Finance & budget
 - Accessibility
 - Health & wellness
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Dependent care

Overview

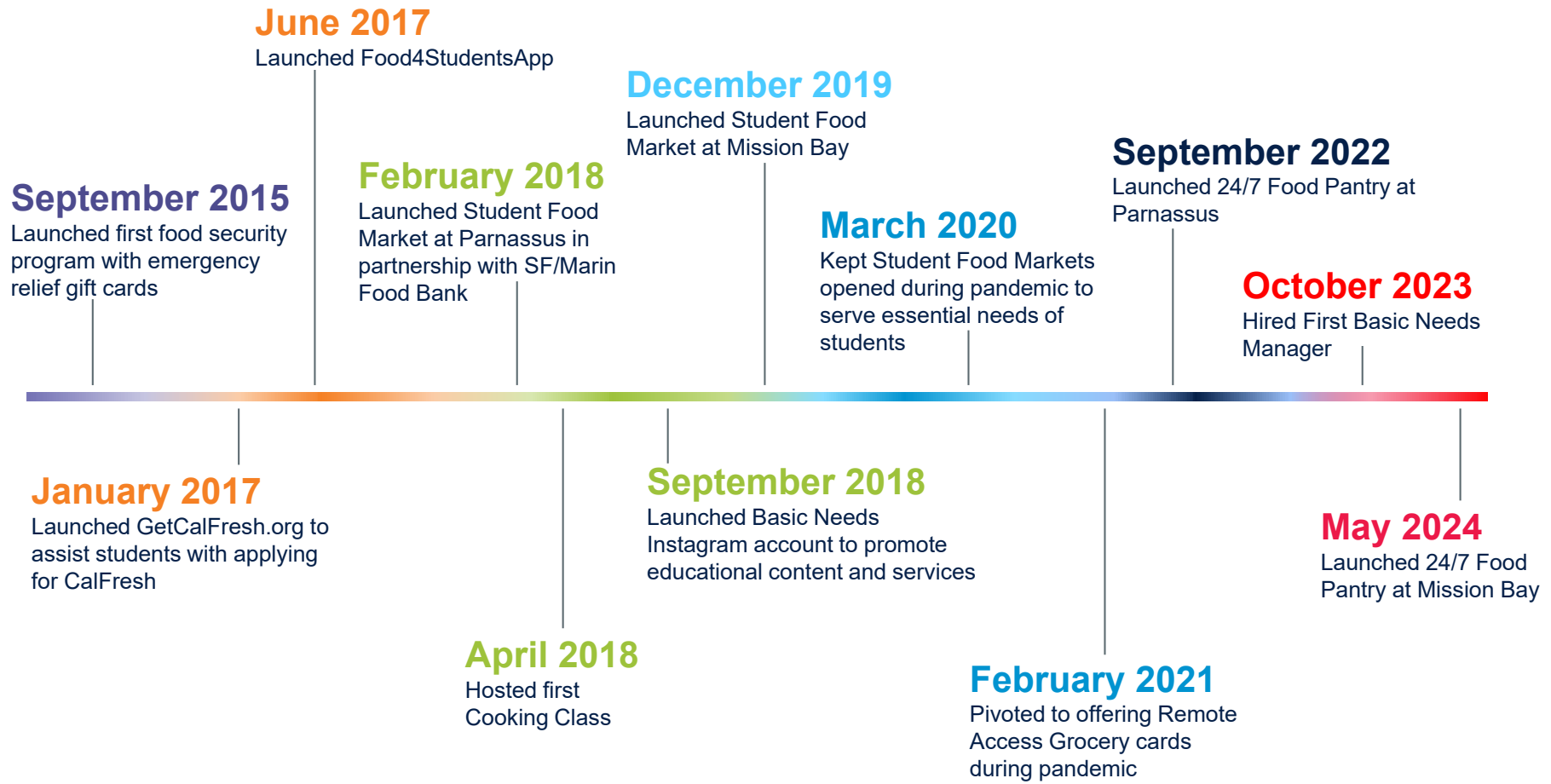


Overview



History

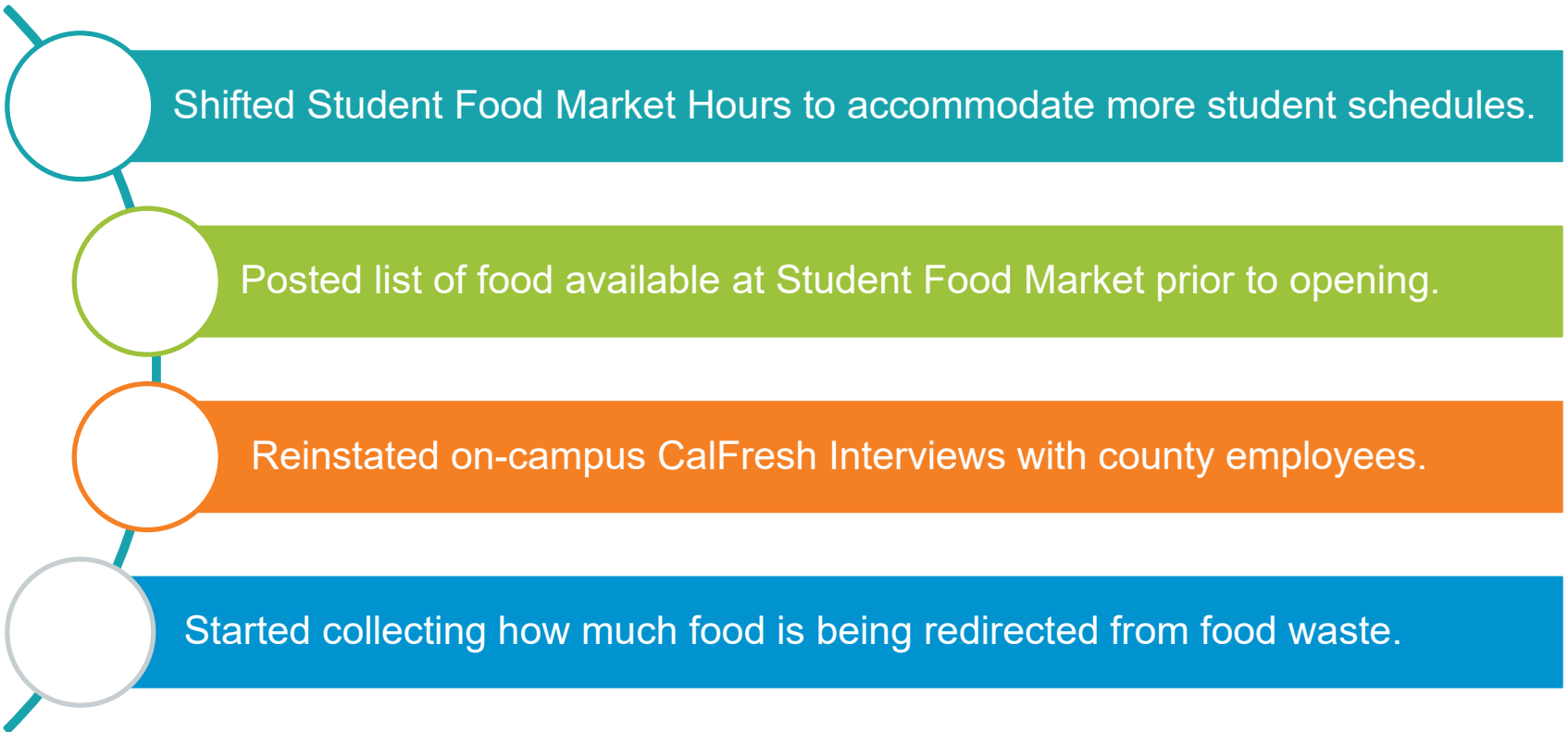
Timeline of development and expansion of basic needs services at UCSF.



2024-25 Annual Report

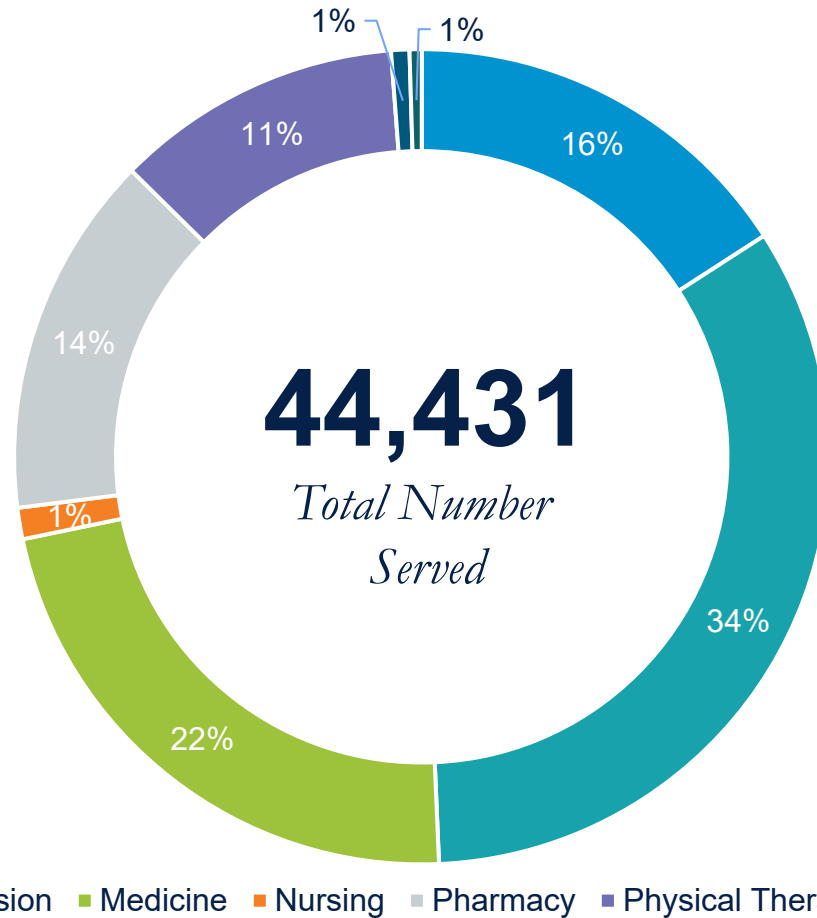
Program Adjustments

Based on feedback, the following adjustments were made for 2024-25.

- 
- Shifted Student Food Market Hours to accommodate more student schedules.
 - Posted list of food available at Student Food Market prior to opening.
 - Reinstated on-campus CalFresh Interviews with county employees.
 - Started collecting how much food is being redirected from food waste.

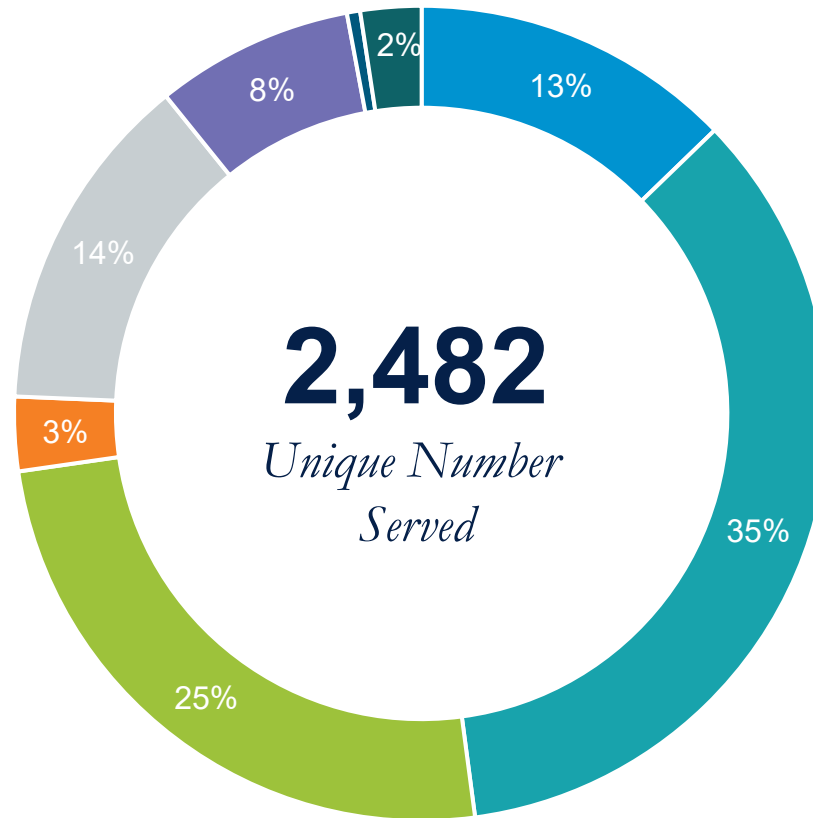
Student Summary

Total Number Served through Basic Needs Programs



Student Summary

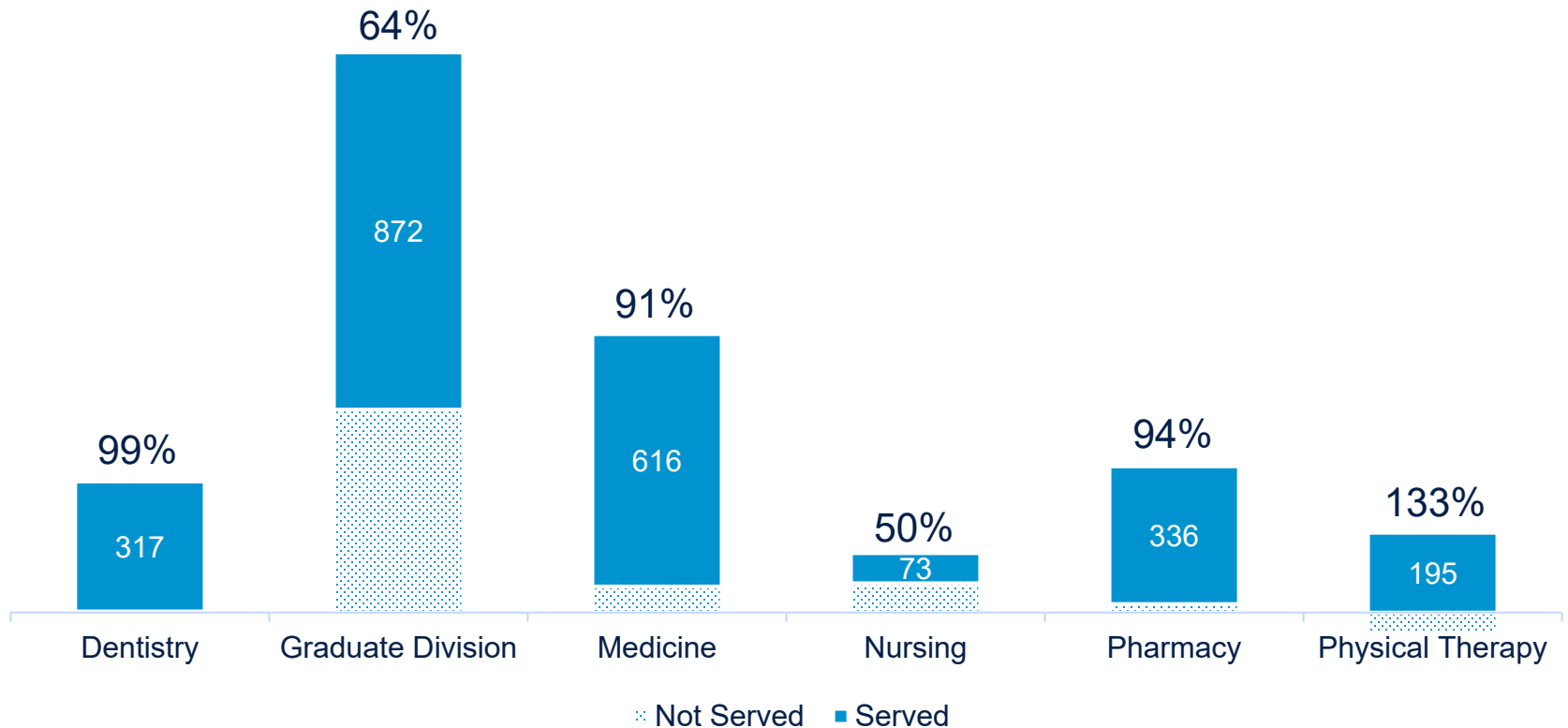
Unique Number Served through Basic Needs Programs



■ Dentistry ■ Graduate Division ■ Medicine ■ Nursing ■ Pharmacy ■ Physical Therapy ■ Visiting Student ■ Other

Student Summary

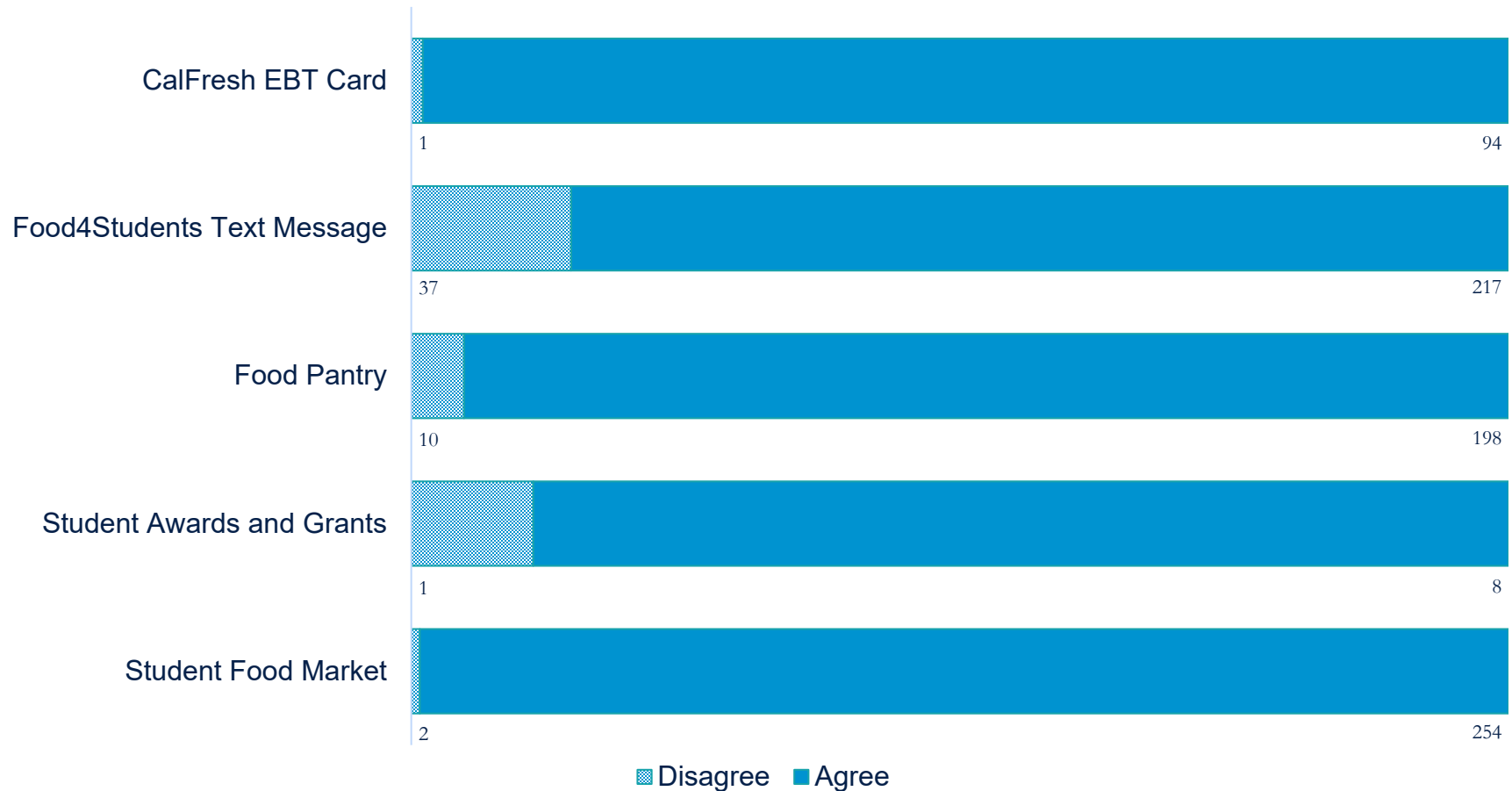
Unique Number of Students Served per Academic Program



Note: Percentage of usage was determined by comparing the unique count of students from July 1-June 30 to the total enrollment numbers published by the Office of Institutional Research in November 2024. Over 100% of physical therapy were served as a result of serving graduating and incoming students during the summer months.

Basic Needs for Students

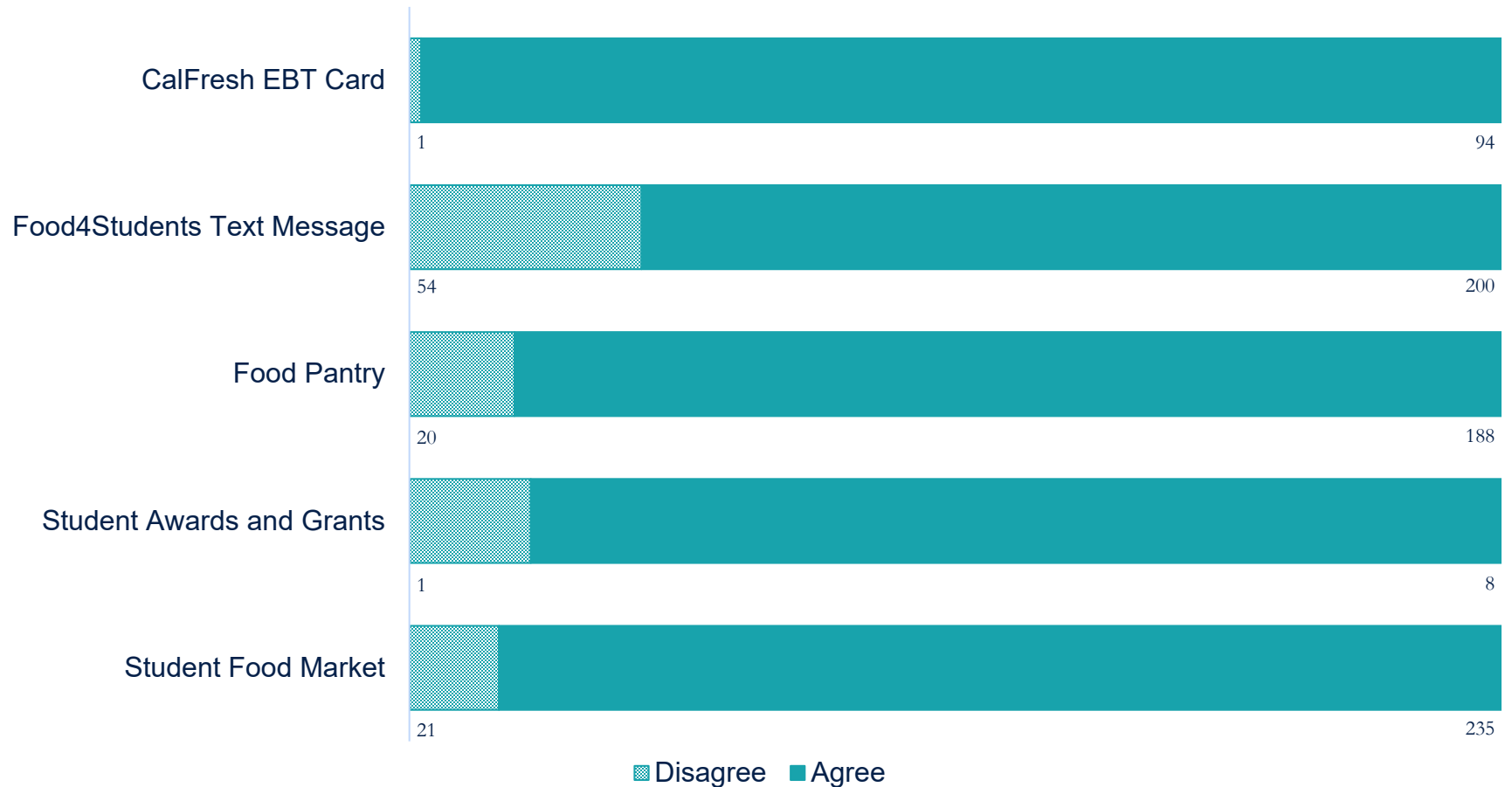
Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



NOTE: Food security data compiled from each individual program evaluation and displayed in a single chart. Student Awards and Grants are comprised of Basic Needs Awards, emergency Grocery Cards, Grocery Grants, and Rapid Rehousing.

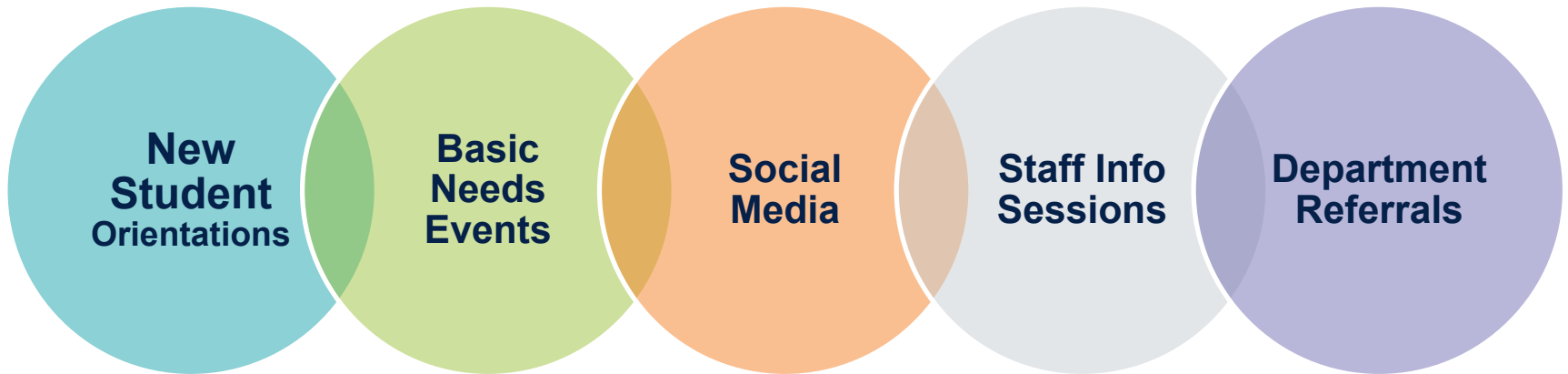
Academic Performance

Has utilizing the program helped you to stay enrolled and perform academically?



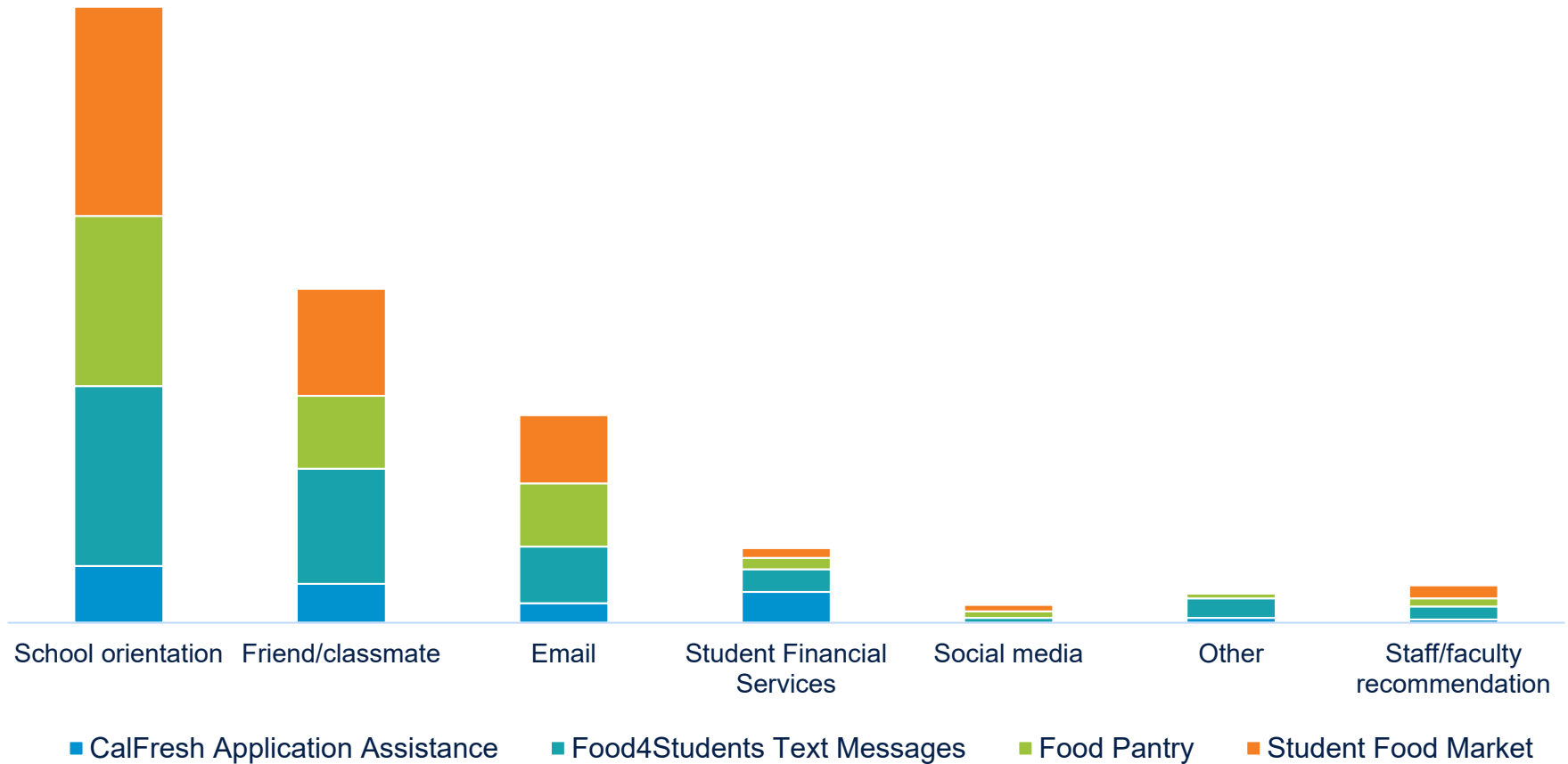
NOTE: Academic performance data compiled from each individual program evaluation and displayed in a single chart. Student Awards and Grants are comprised of Basic Needs Awards, emergency Grocery Cards, Grocery Grants, and Rapid Rehousing.

Outreach Efforts

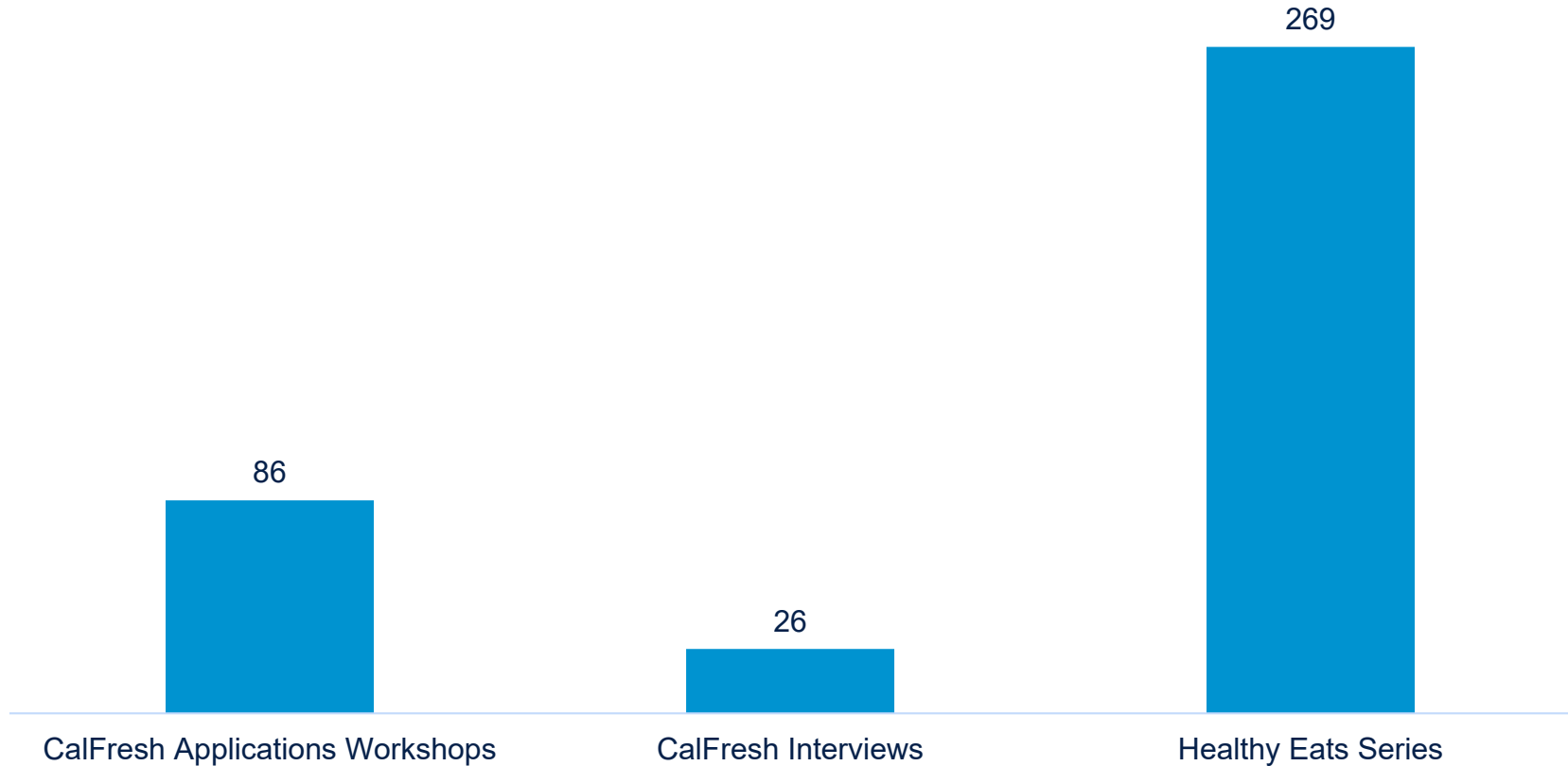


Outreach Strategy

How did students hear about our programs?

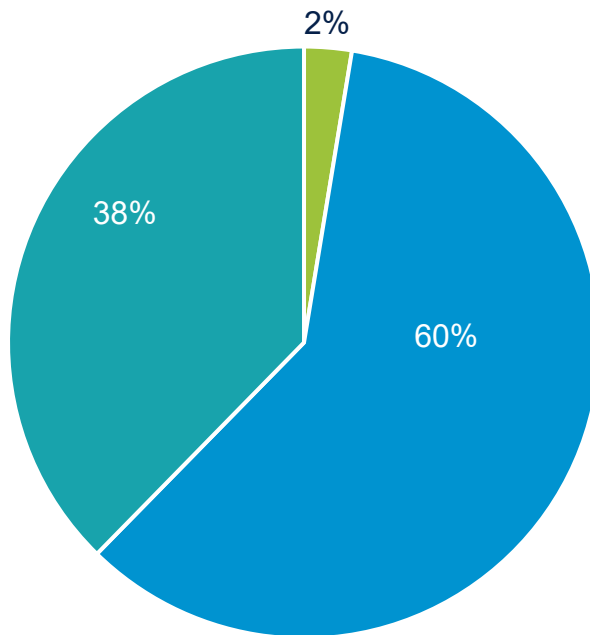


Event Attendance



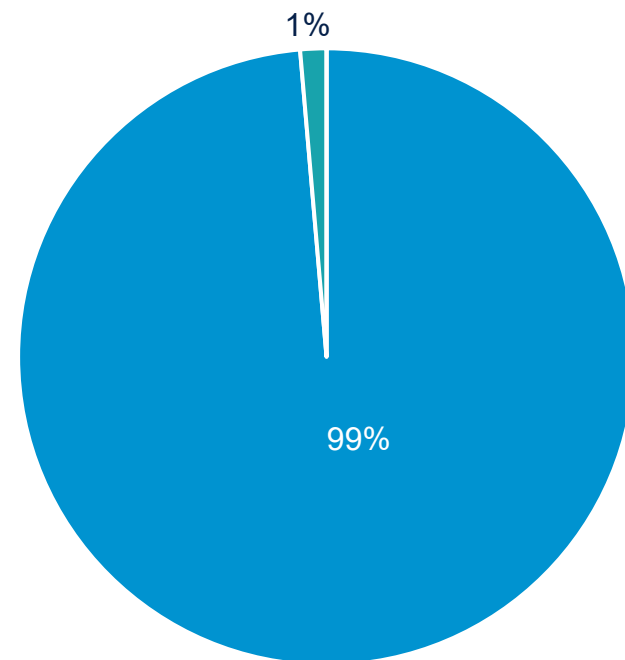
Event Evaluations $n=77$ (20%)

Expectations



- Did not meet expectations
- Exceeded expectations
- Met expectations

Recommendation



- Yes
- Maybe
- No



Event Evaluations

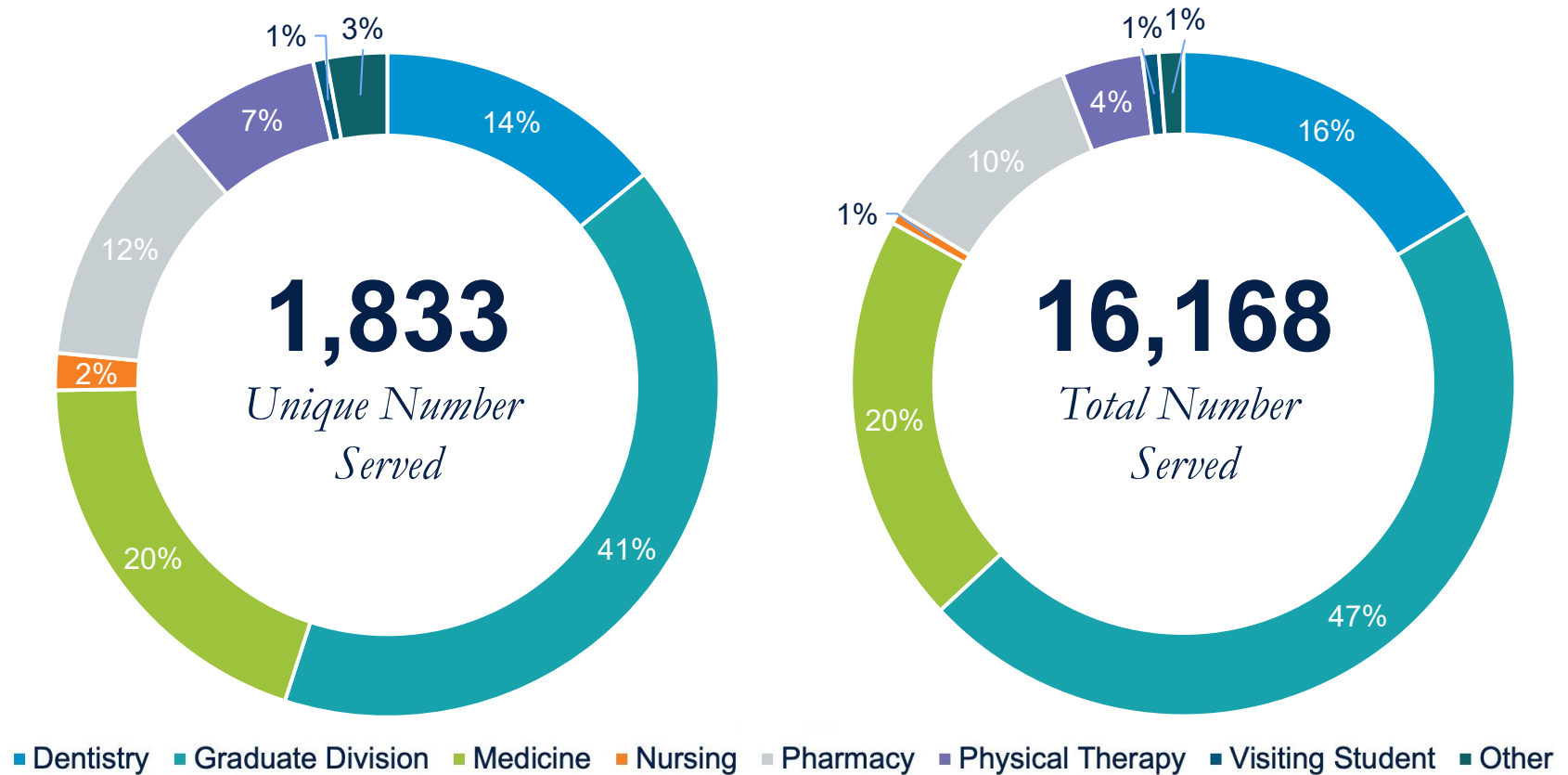
Areas of Strengths

- I loved [**Healthy Eats**] so much! It was so nice to have so many sandwich options, as well as be able to receive goodie bags. It was such a nice pick me up especially during exams season. Also, the protein bars in our goodie bags were so yummy!! I've never tried Built Puff protein bars before and they were so delicious!
- [**CalFresh Application Workshop**] was awesome, thank you for answering all of our questions and providing so many helpful tips!
- I really liked the timing of [**Healthy Eats**] though! It was great that it was held before finals and that snacks/food was given with a small note as to how they are good choices!

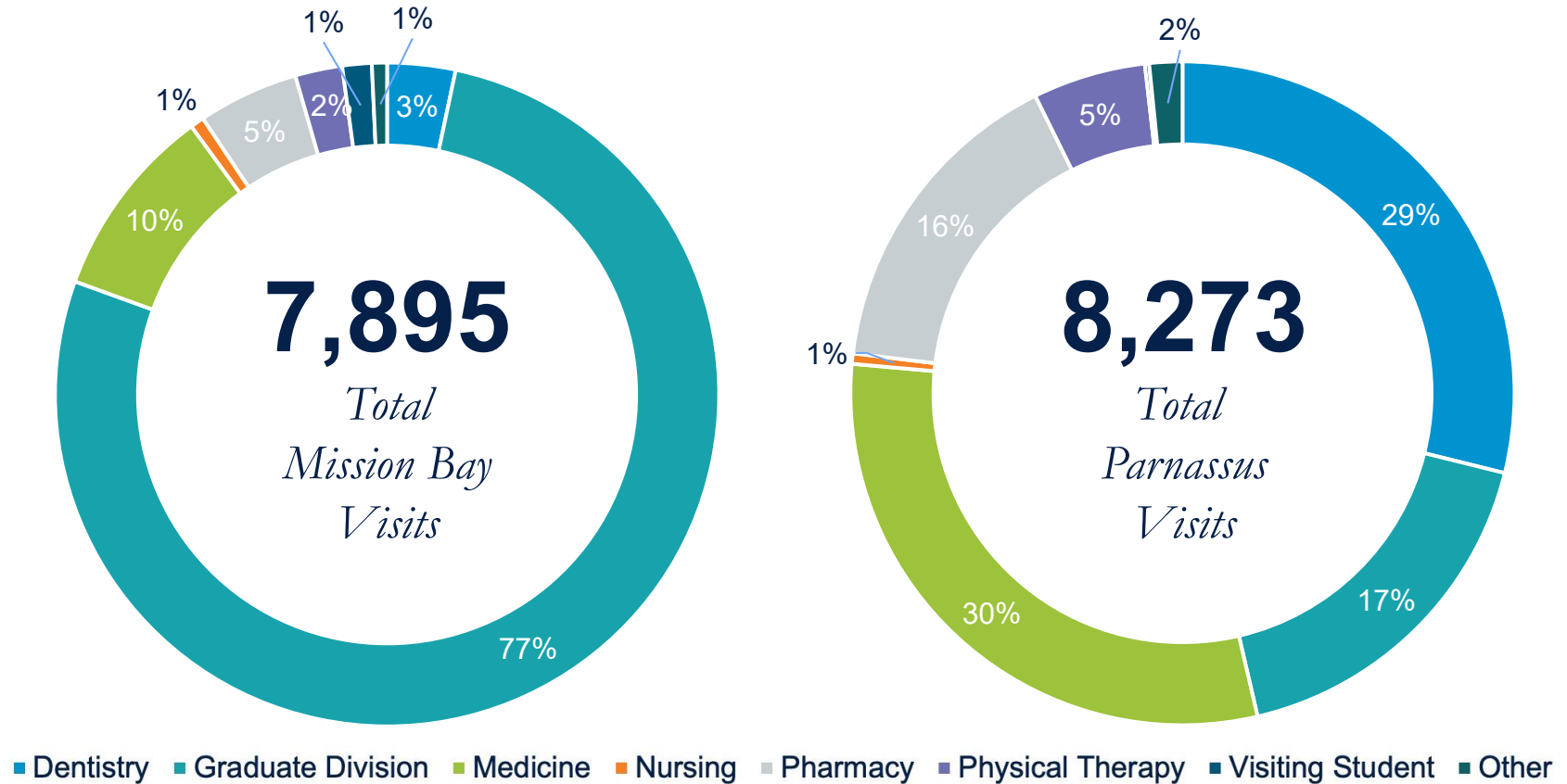
Areas for Improvement

- More events like [**Healthy Eats**] would be great. Really appreciated the high quality (and FREE!) food. Wish it happened more often.
- Possibly allow for a recording [of the **CalFresh Application Workshop**] -- especially for those who may be internationally-based until school starts.
- Making [**CalFresh Application Workshop**] more frequent.
- I was expecting [**Healthy Eats**] to be more of an informative session, with a nutritionist giving a short lecture on how to eat healthier and offering practical tips for improving daily nutrition.

Student Food Market

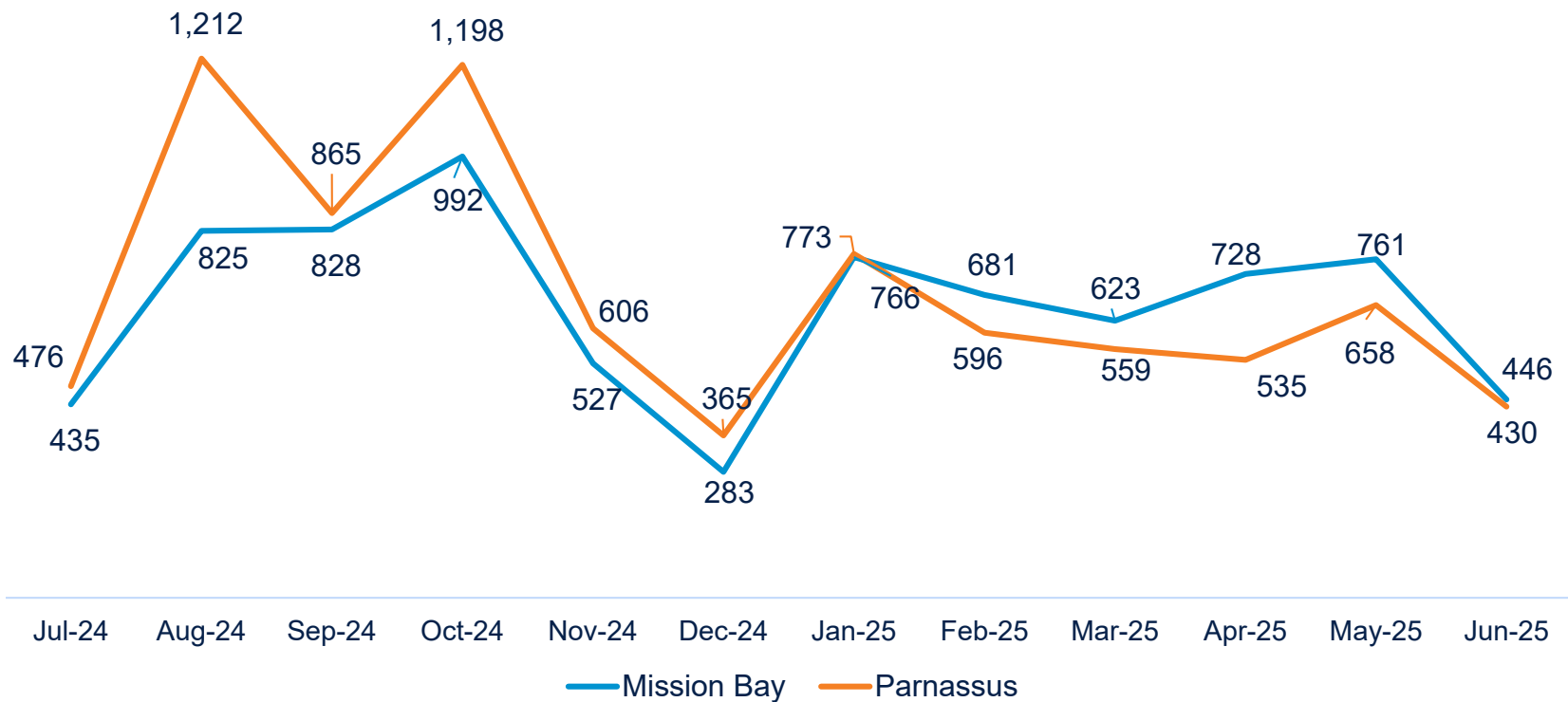


Student Food Market



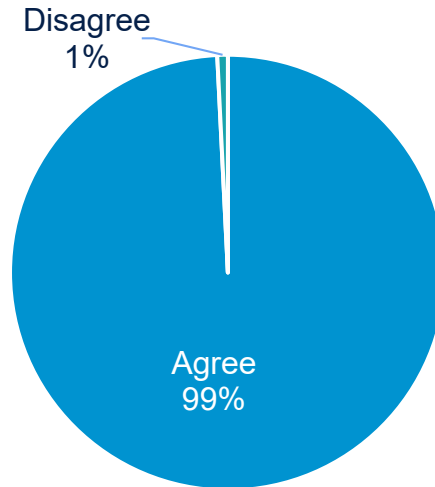
Student Food Market

Monthly visits per market location

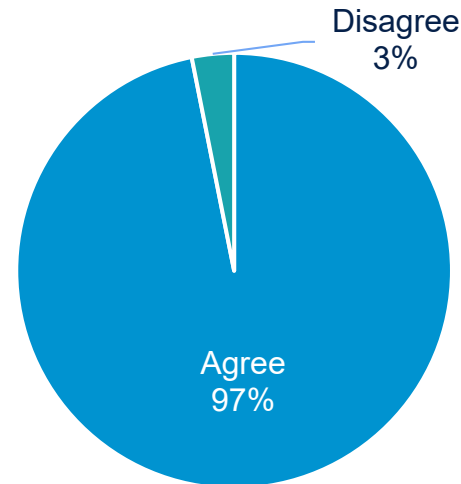


Student Food Market Evaluations $n=256$ (16%)

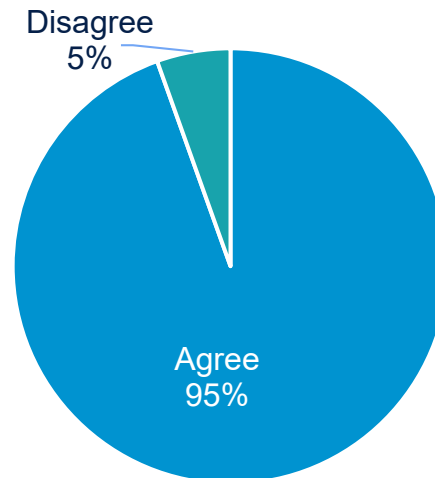
Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



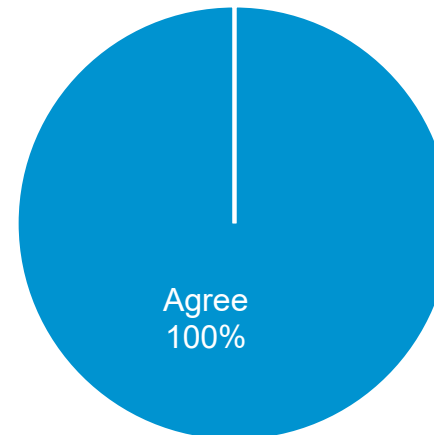
Participating in the program has reduced my food security stress.



I have eaten healthier food as a result of the program.

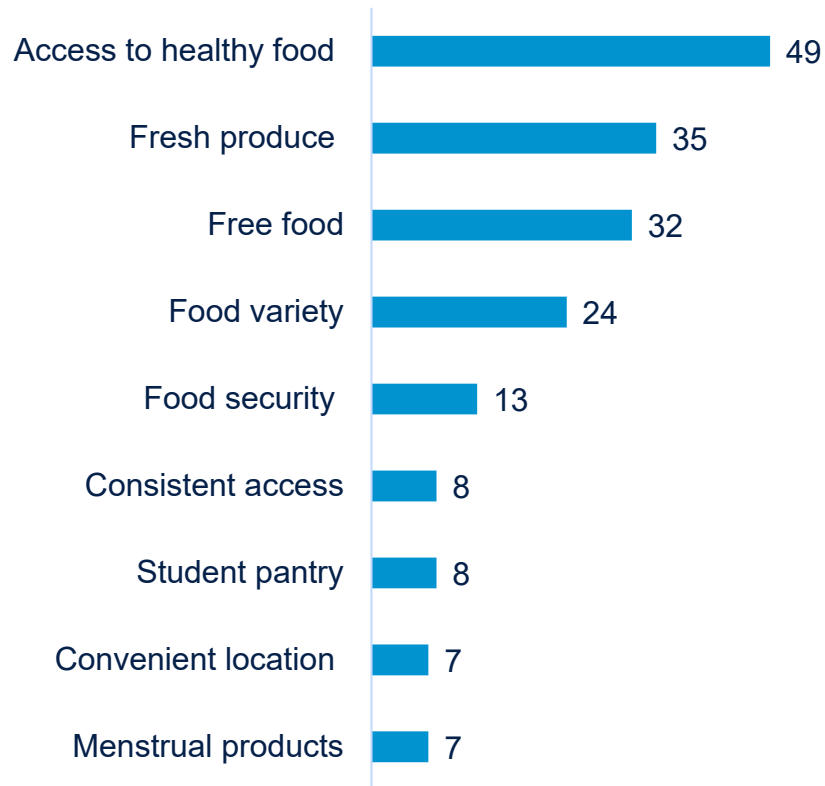


I have found the program helpful.

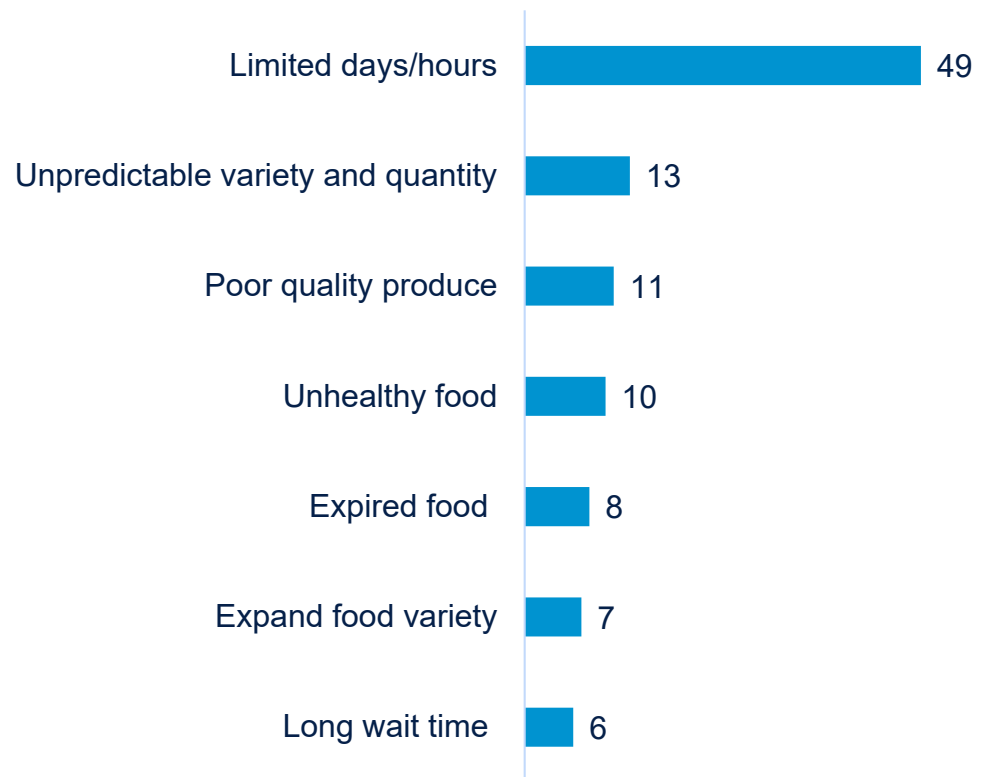


Student Food Market Evaluations $n=256$ (16%)

Areas of Strengths



Areas for Improvement





Student Food Market Evaluations

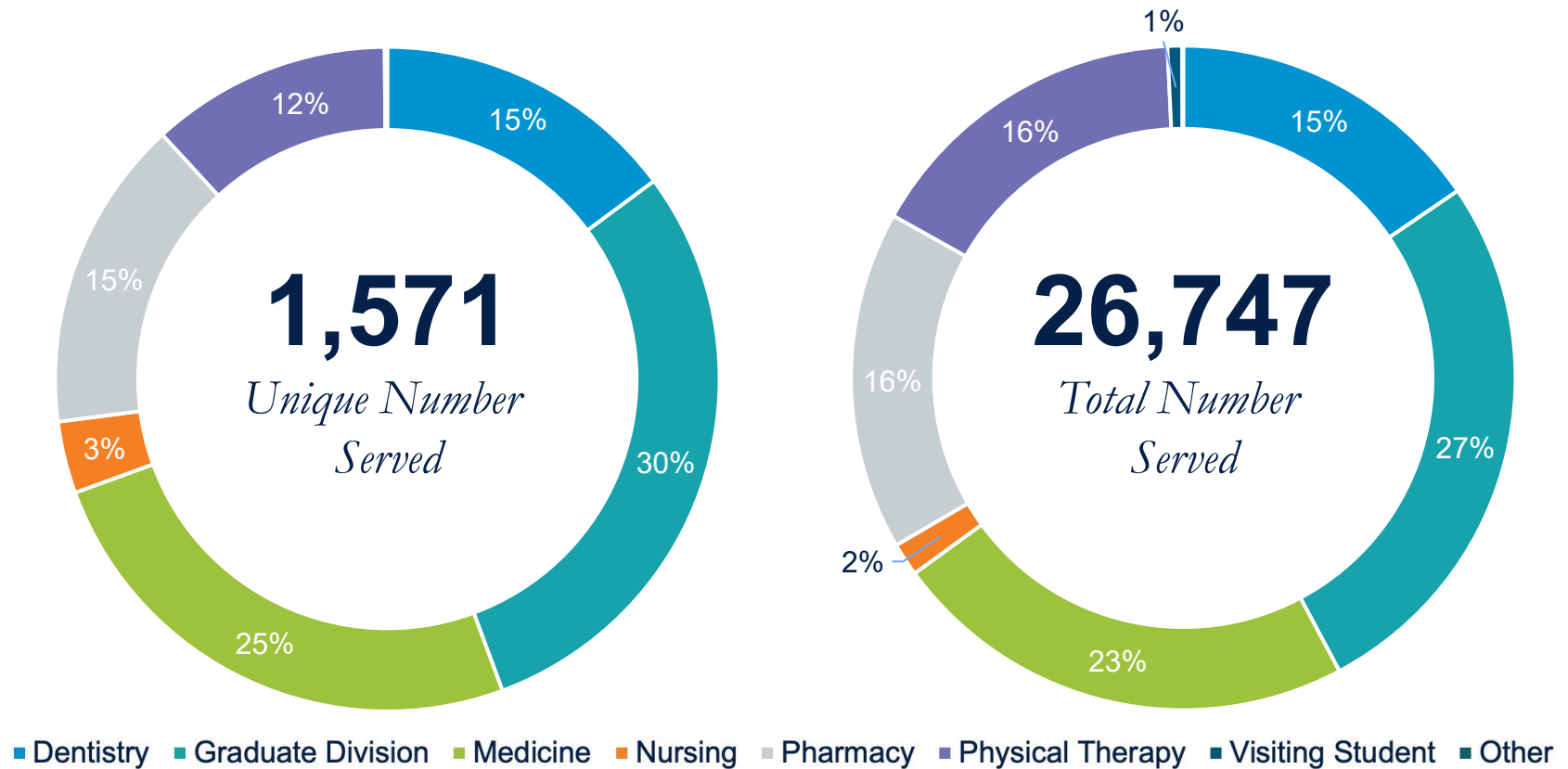
Areas of Strengths

- I love the [Student Food Market] every Thursday. It relieves the stress of thinking about what to buy for food and is a great resource for fresh veggies and fruits.
- Saves a lot of time and money. Especially given the nearest grocery to Mission bay campus is Gus which is very expensive, it's very helpful in weeks where time is pressured.
- The produce has been amazing, I love to cook with whatever seasonal veggies I end up getting.
- I love this program! It is so nice to get fresh fruits and vegetables that are in season and it has dramatically reduced my grocery bill. I go every week and rave about it to everyone I know!
- Getting access to produce and snacks, especially when I have been unable to find the time to go to the grocery store. Especially since I don't have a car, it's been very useful.

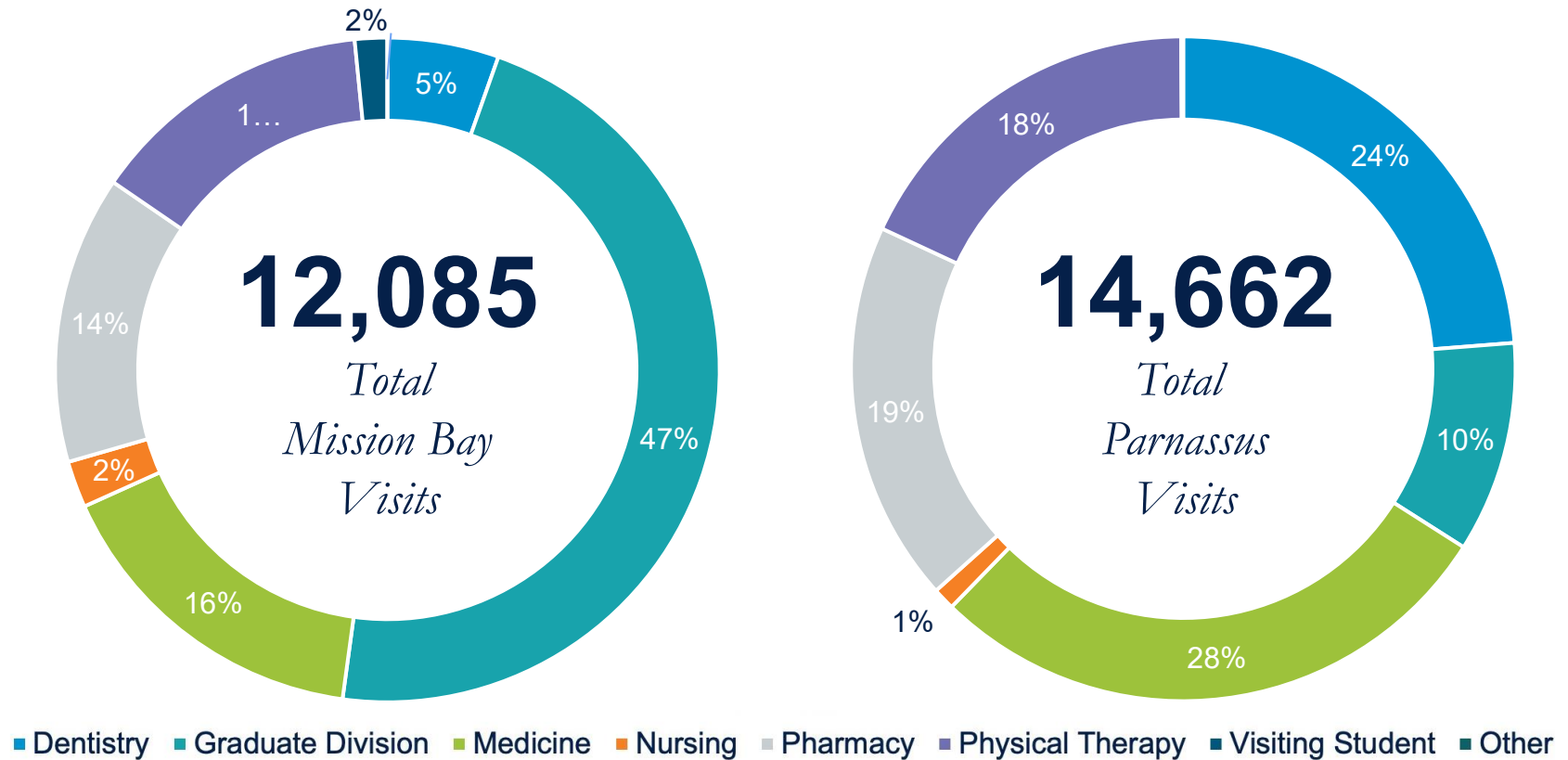
Areas for Improvement

- Sometimes the hours aren't as convenient to come by for, and if you can only make the later part of the [Student Food Market] hours, some items are no longer available/in stock.
- Some weeks are better than others in terms of variety and availability of fruits and vegetables.
- I'm located at a satellite campus (SFGH) so I have to travel to Mission Bay to get them, though I appreciate having a market at Mission Bay and thus not having to travel to Parnassus! But just planning out my days to be able to make it within the window that the market is open, sometimes (often) I'm not able to make it to Mission Bay in time.
- I wish the student market was open more! I have had class or lab meetings during the time its open and there is not much left over by the time I get there.

Food Pantry

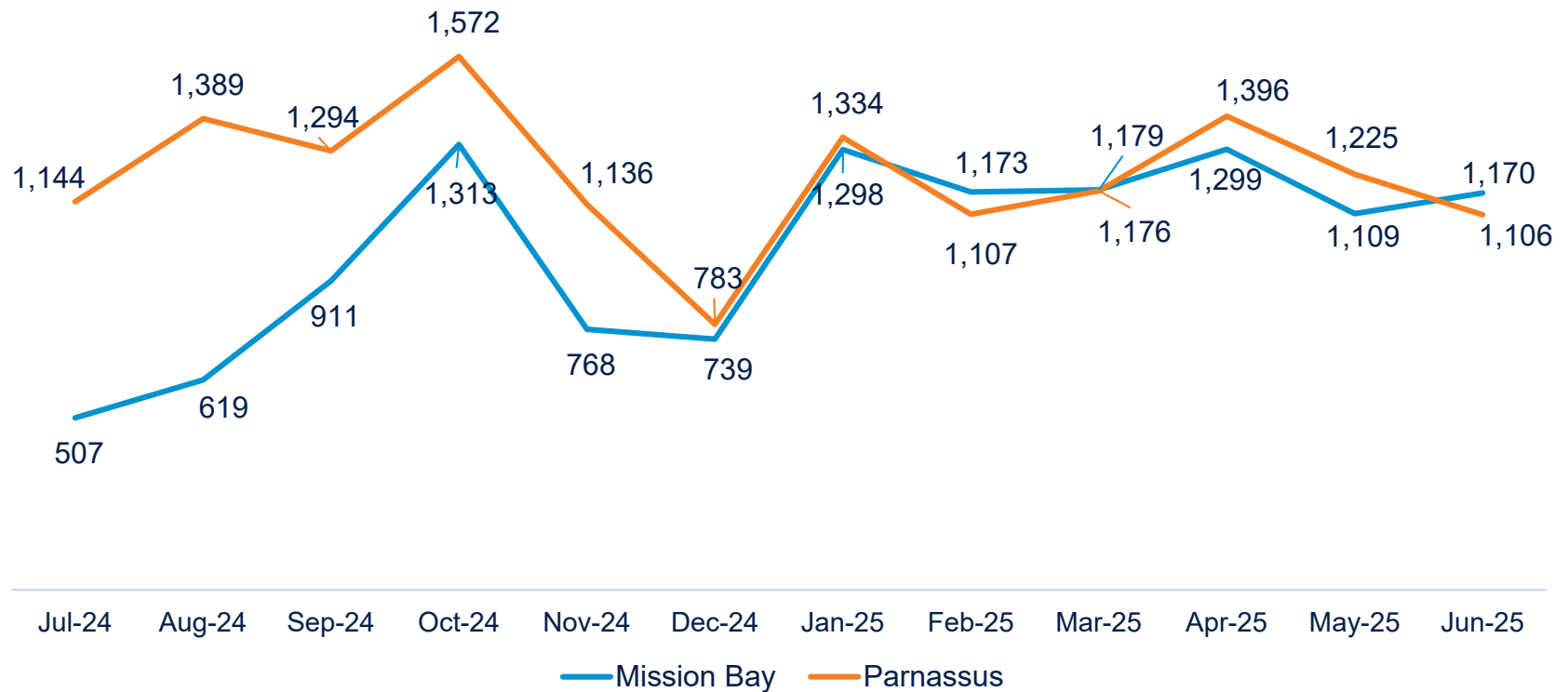


Food Pantry



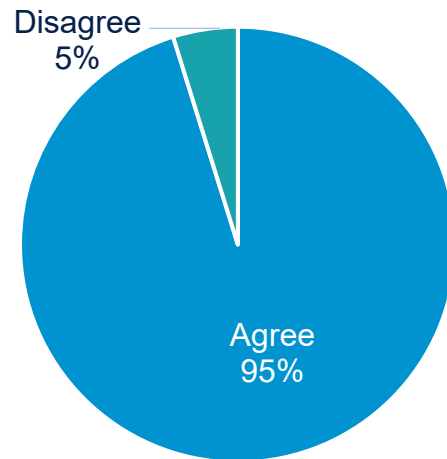
Food Pantry

Monthly visits per pantry location

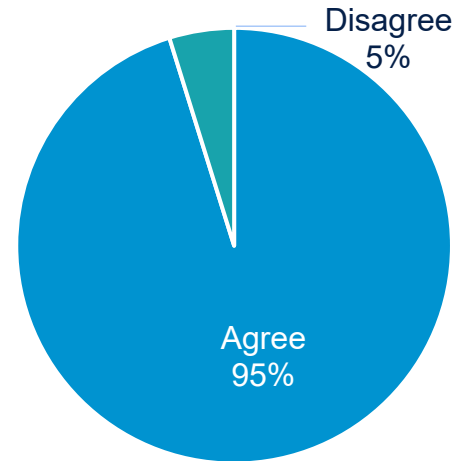


Food Pantry *n=208 (17%)*

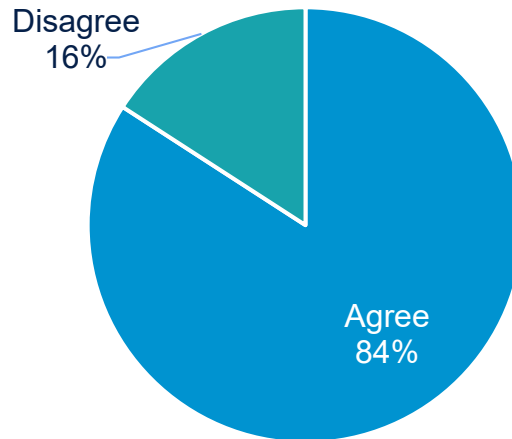
Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



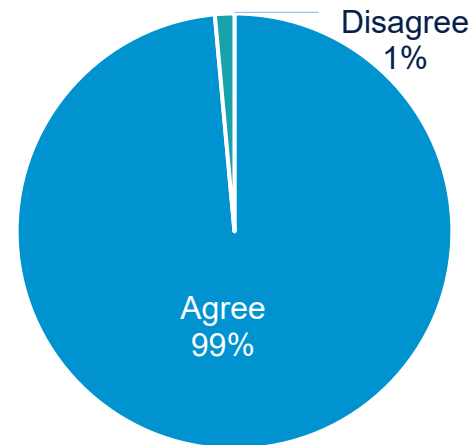
Participating in the program has reduced my food security stress.



I have eaten healthier food as a result of the program.



I have found the program helpful.





Food Pantry

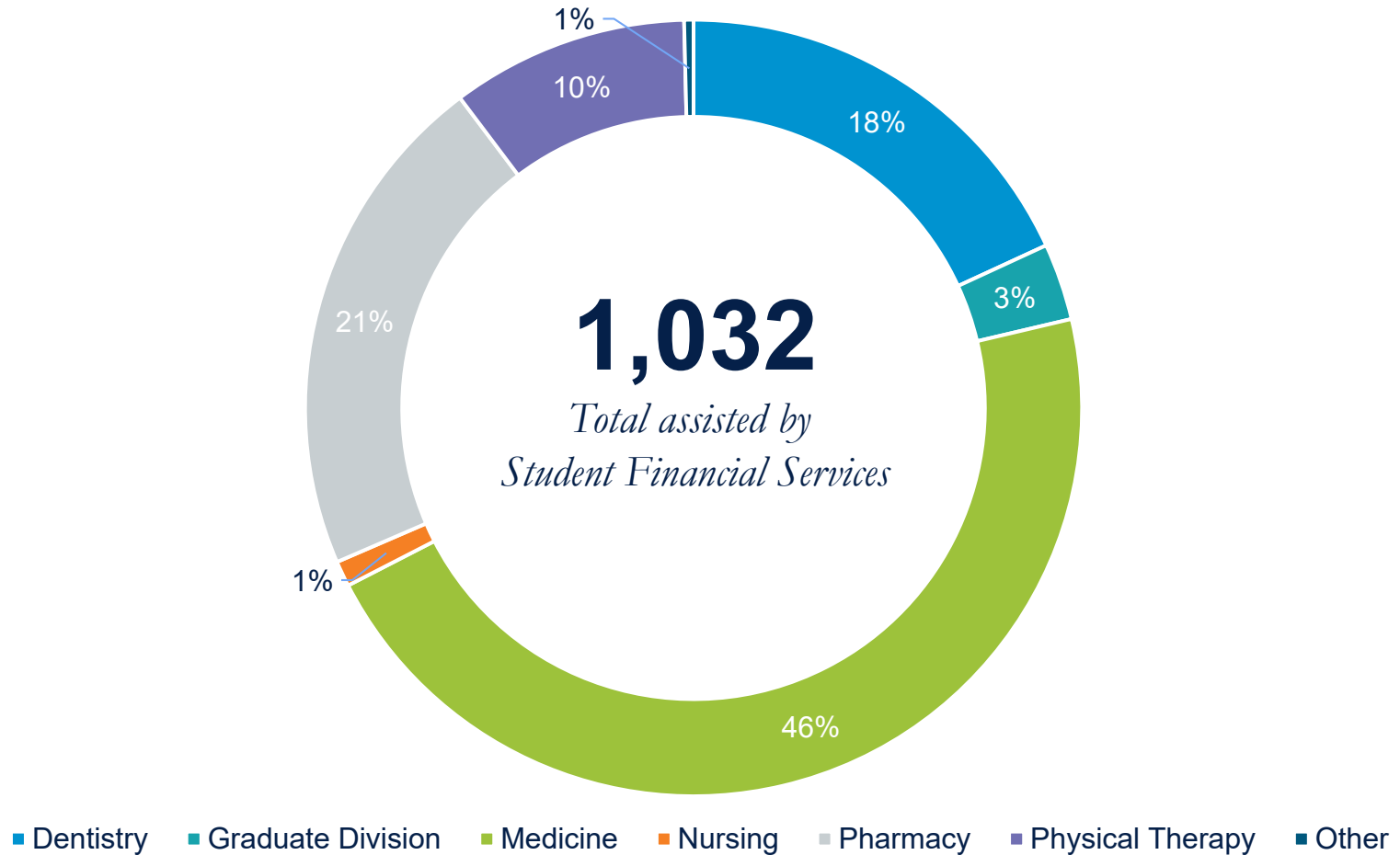
Areas of Strengths

- Getting a few snacks and canned goods while on campus when my EBT is running low. Easy to enter whenever I choose without people watching me.
- The accessibility is great. All my classes are in Mission Hall so I go there whenever I need something. Really appreciate the travel size items like toothpaste, deo, shampoo, etc. The snacks are only sometimes good though.
- When I am working or studying late and I don't have time to go to the grocery store, the pantry is super useful for grabbing an item or two that can make a complete meal.
- Everything! It helps decrease my stress of finding time to buy food as well as decrease financial burden on buying groceries.

Areas for Improvement

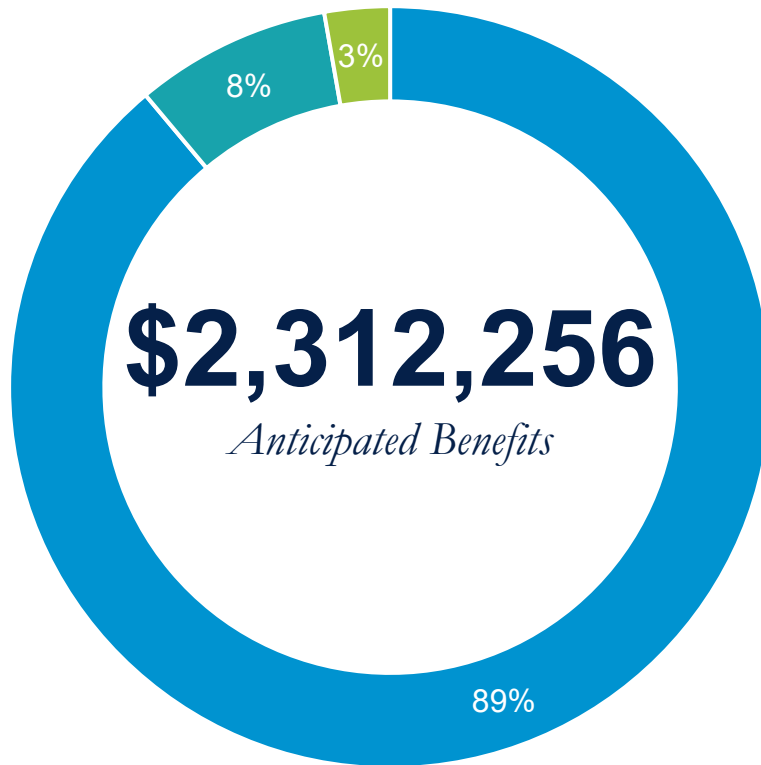
- The food choices are generally not healthy. I understand that it has to be non-perishables, but it would be great to find options that aren't heavy on salts or sugar.
- Maybe more high protein or fiber options would be nice. I have diabetes and some of the food items may not be the best for my health (even though they are tasty).
- A lot of people utilize the program, so sometimes the pantry is not always stocked with on-the-go snacks.
- Lack of cultural variety.
- That the food pantry is closed during the food market, which sometimes I would rather go to the pantry than the market.

CalFresh Application Assistance

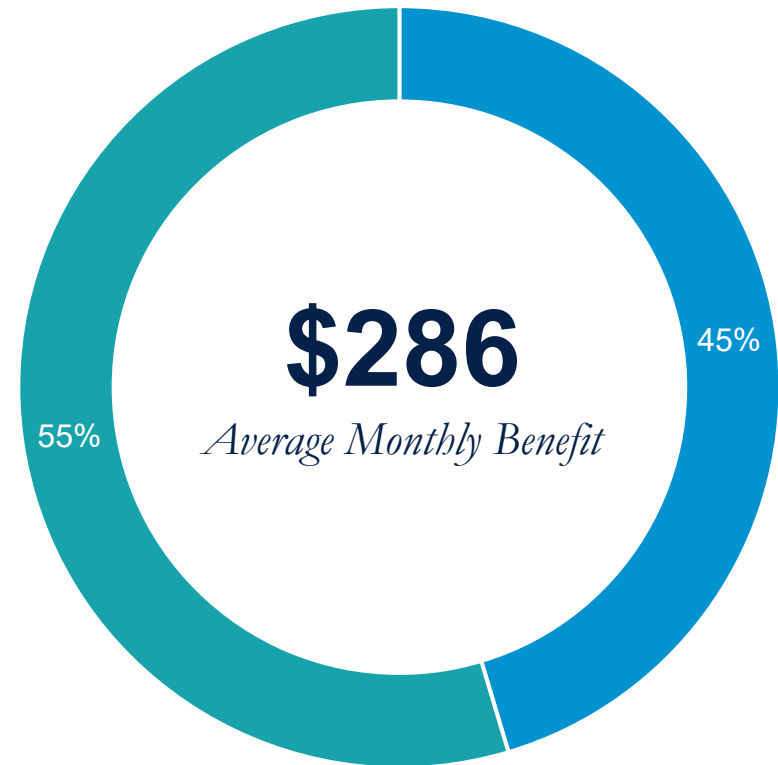


CalFresh Applications

Application statistics for San Francisco County



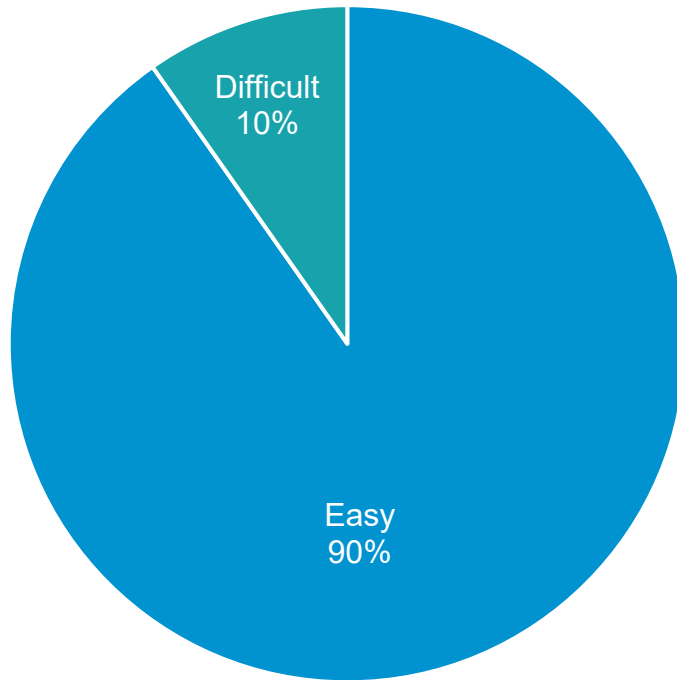
■ Approved ■ Denied ■ Pending/Other



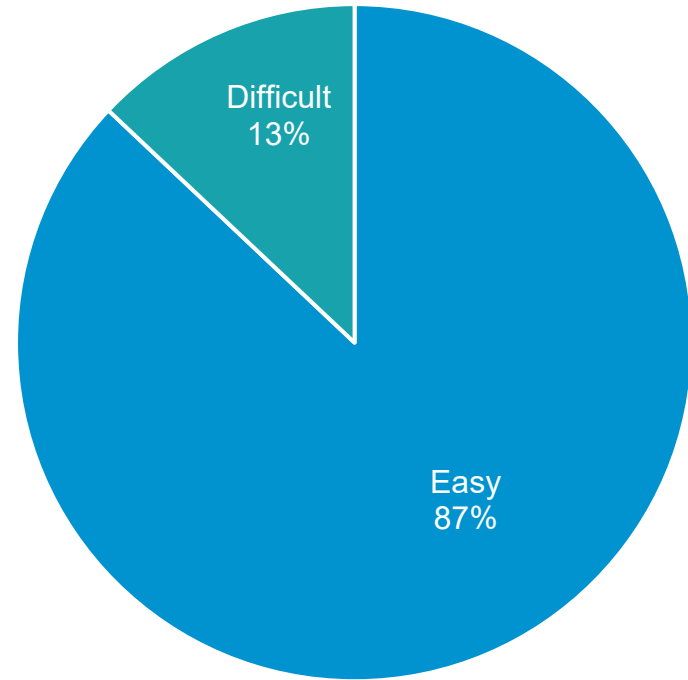
■ New ■ Renewal

CalFresh Applications Evaluations *n=95 (13%)*

How would you rate your experience applying for CalFresh?

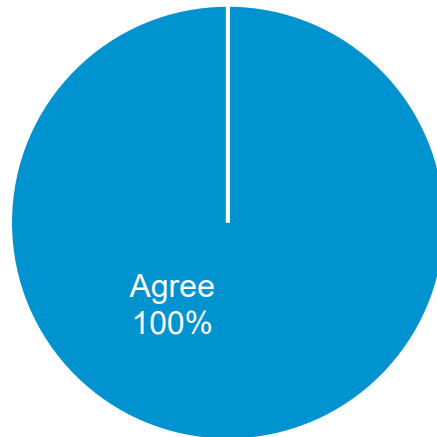


How would you rate your experience renewing CalFresh?



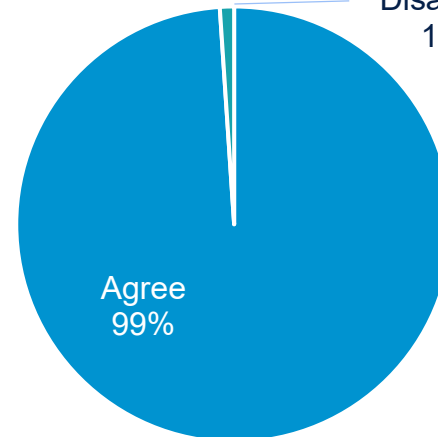
CalFresh Applications Evaluations *n=95 (13%)*

Participating in the program has made me more food secure.

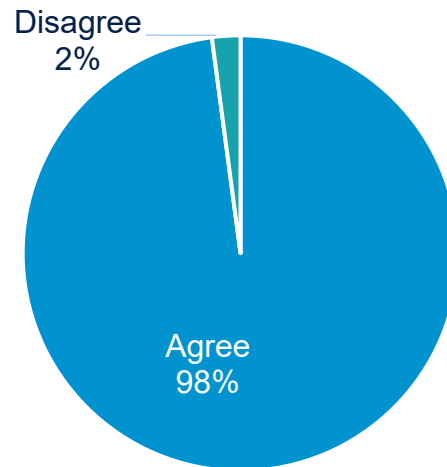


Disagree
1%

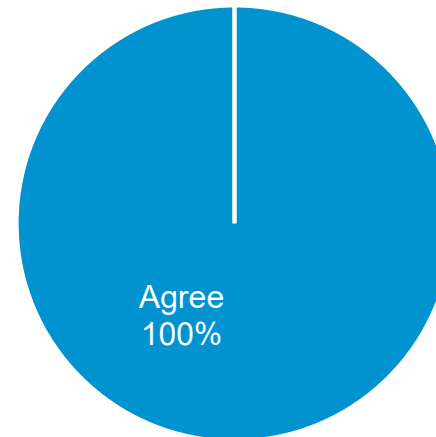
Participating in the program has reduced my food security stress.



I have eaten healthier food as a result of the program.



I have found the program helpful.





CalFresh Evaluations

Areas of Strengths

- CalFresh and Medi-Cal are the single most impactful services the school has provided for me.
- Student Financial Services is very good at helping students navigate the process and make it fairly straight forward.
- It has significantly helped reduce my monthly cost of living and allowed me to decrease the amount of loans I take out.
- It has positively impacted my monthly budget in a significant manner. I am currently enrolled in the accelerated pharmacy program, and part-time work is heavily discouraged by faculty. I do not know how I would be able to function without CalFresh.

Areas for Improvement

- Start the renewal process early so you don't end up having a gap in your benefits! Keep an eye on your mail or elect to sign up for electronic updates.
- Perhaps a summary sheet that provides a visual for important deadlines and helpful tips.
- Just to let them know that it can take a while per the county and they may need to call the office multiple times to be able to watch the progress of getting the EBT card and having the application be processed.
- If documents for applying and renewing can be automatically sent out to students eligible for CalFresh (instead of having students reach out and requesting documentation).

Student Awards & Grants



Basic Needs Awards

\$20,000
\$110 to \$3,399
20 students



Grocery Grants

\$94,500
\$300 *average per month*
28 students



Grocery Cards

\$900
\$300 *per card*
3 students

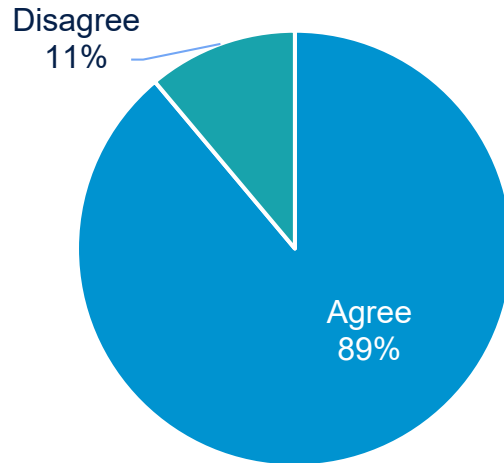


Rapid Rehousing Awards

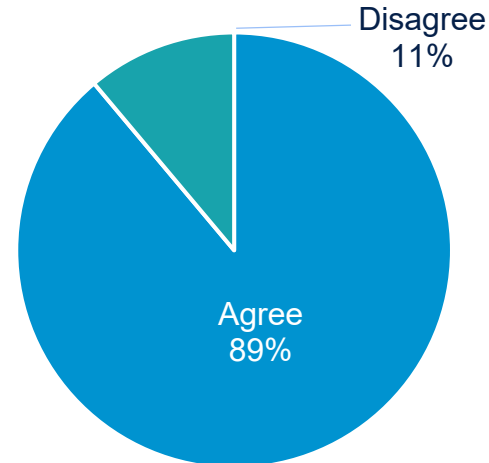
\$142,000
\$560 to \$3,600
52 students

Student Awards & Grants Evaluations $n=9$ (14%)

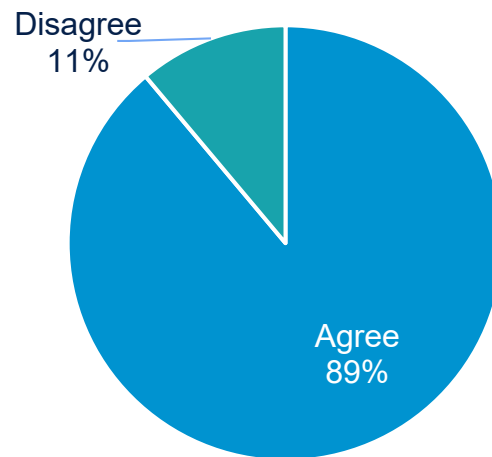
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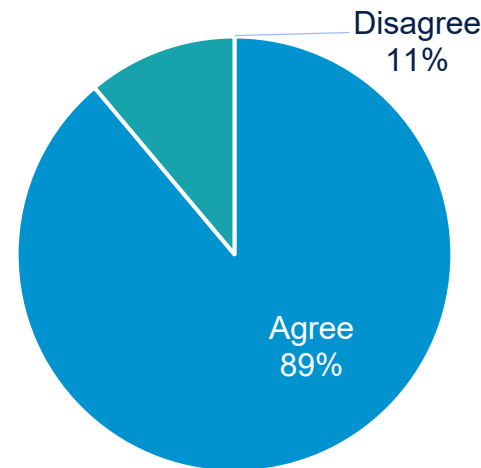
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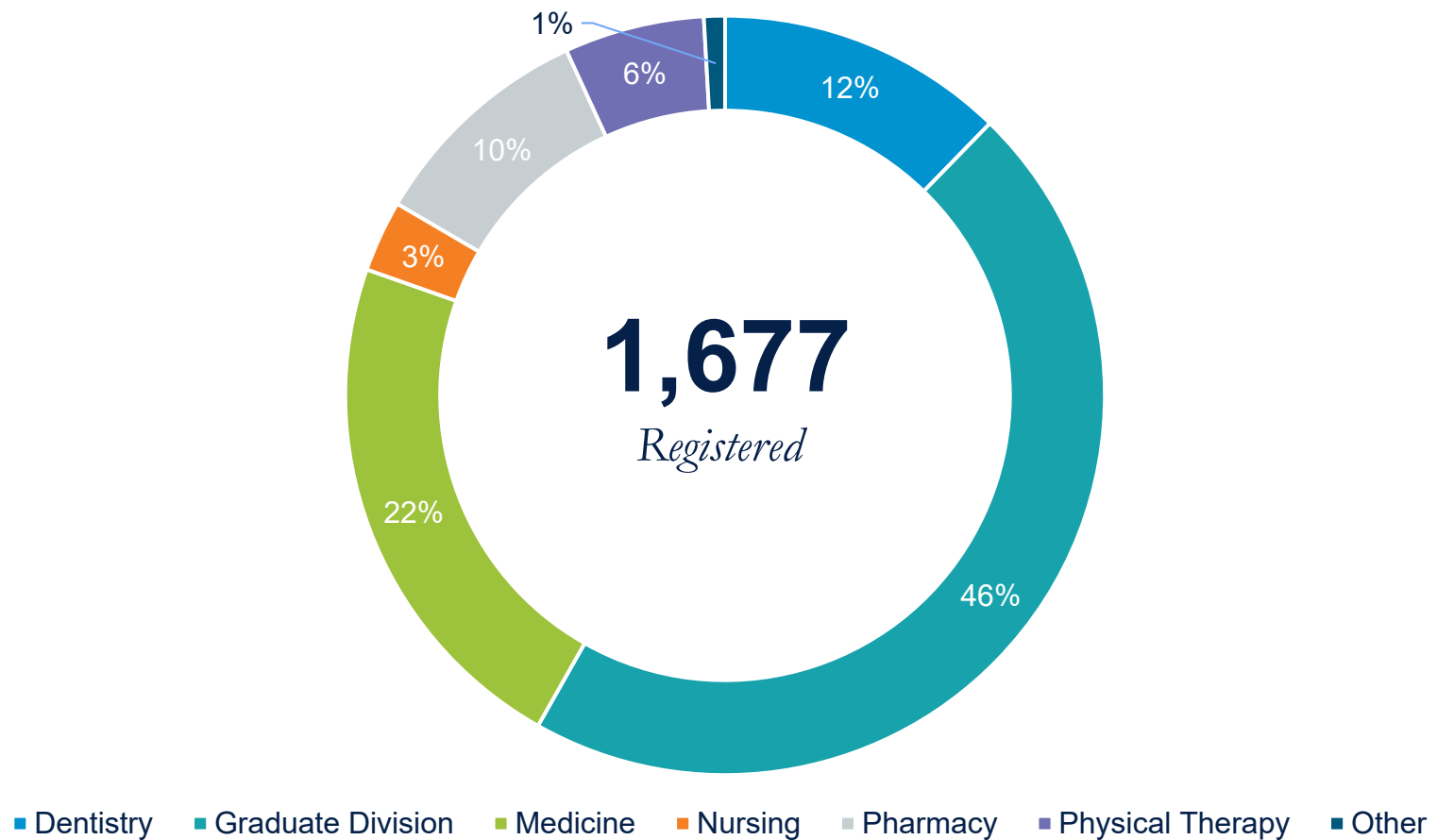
I have eaten healthier food as a result of the program.



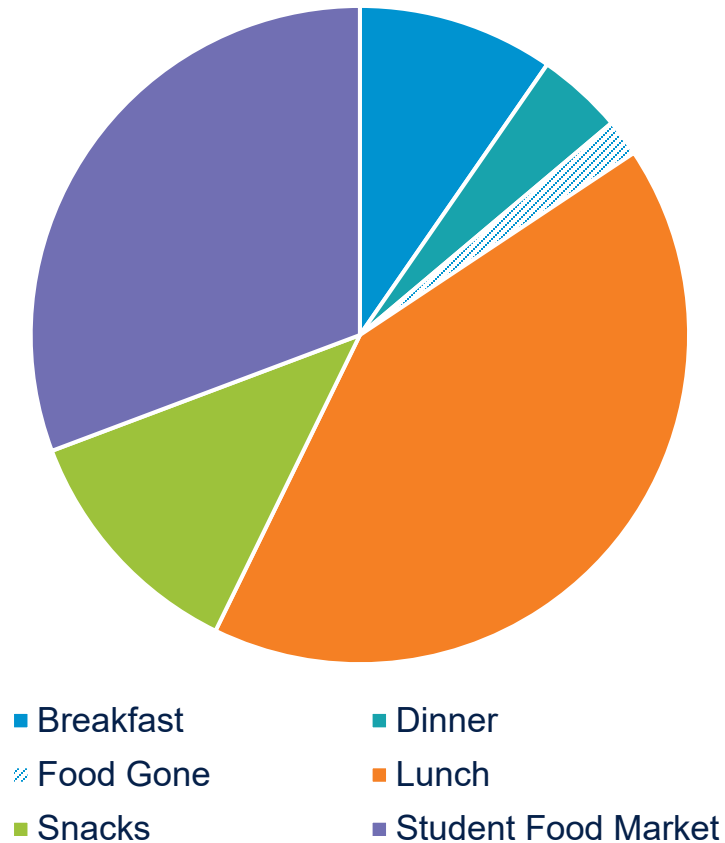
I have found the program helpful.



Food4Students Text Message



Food4Students Text Message



55%

of student body
signed up

166

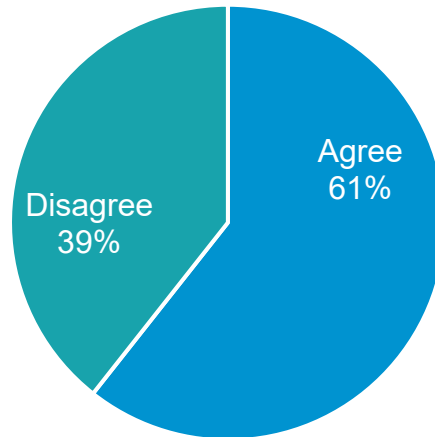
texts messages sent
July 1-June 30

131

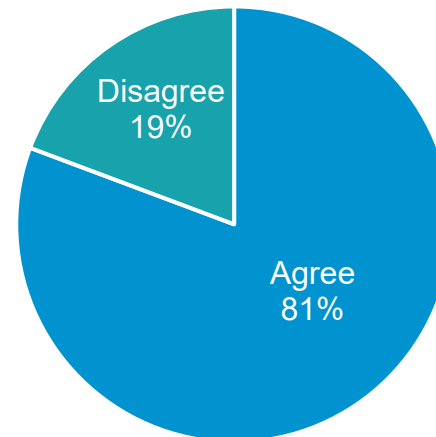
campus partner
food providers

Food4Students Evaluations *n=254 (15%)*

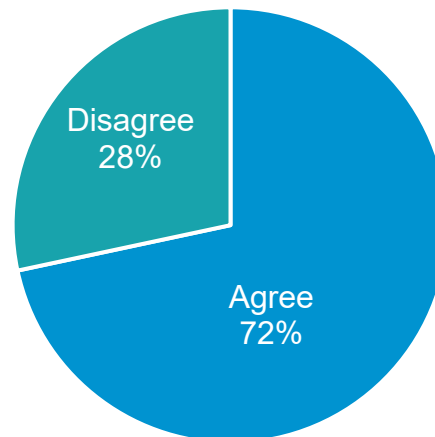
Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



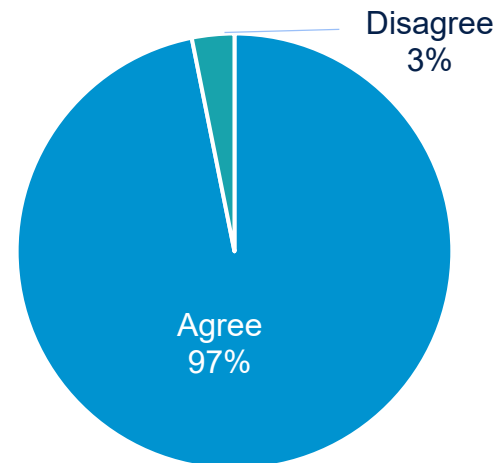
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I have found the program helpful.





Food4Students Evaluations

Areas of Strengths

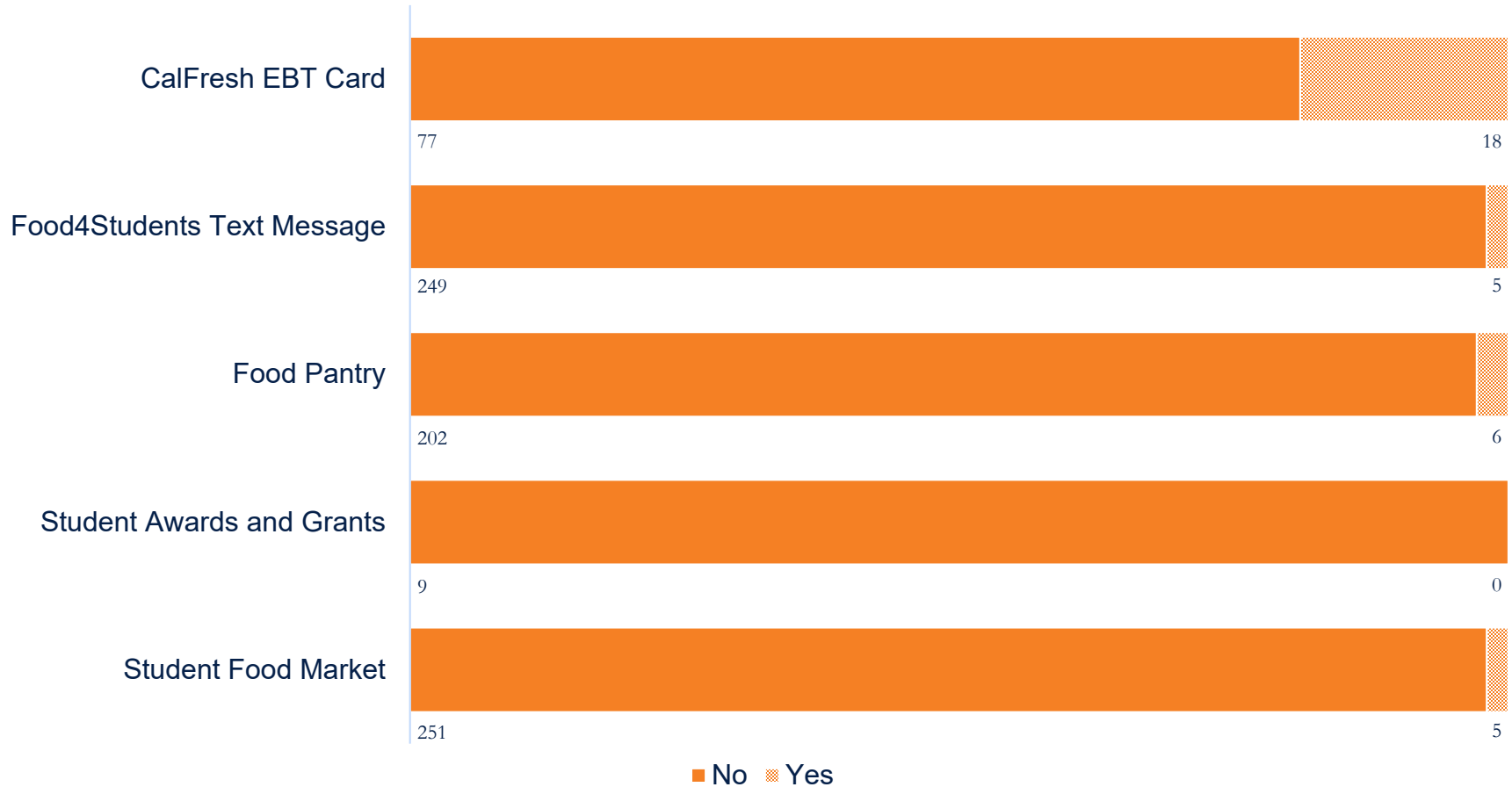
- I appreciate that it helps notify me when there's food available and reduces food waste.
- Letting students know when there is leftover/extra food from events -- this has greatly helped me as a student.
- I like how informative and detailed the texts are - I know exactly where to go, and what kind of food to expect when I get there.
- Good to know time and location of available food. I appreciate when there's a follow up text saying food is gone.
- It helps reduce food waste and while I wouldn't rely on it for meals during the day, it is nice to have some additional leftovers for another day.

Areas for Improvement

- Not all people who host events know how to add their food surplus on there, AND many students only know by word of mouth. I would recommend advertising.
- I'm located at a satellite campus (SFGH) so rarely am I able to take advantage of the opportunities, and the few times I'm at either Mission Bay or Parnassus, I'm usually not quick enough to get the food before it's gone.
- I haven't been able to make use of it. Mostly due to being located far at the time of the announcement. It could be helpful for the texts to include a photo so as to visually size up amount.
- The alerts are for sporadic, it's not a daily or even necessarily weekly thing, so it's nice when it happens but I can't count on it.

Stigma

Do students feel any stigma using the following programs?



NOTE: Stigma data compiled from each individual program evaluation and displayed in a single chart. Student Awards and Grants are comprised of Basic Needs Awards, emergency Grocery Cards, Grocery Grants, and Rapid Rehousing.



Stigma Feedback

Areas for Improvements

Student Food Market

- Walking out with a cardboard box versus something more subtle, like bags.

CalFresh EBT Card

- It's just the stigma that comes with being on government assistance.
- The school has been amazing and supportive. Slight stigma is more on a general societal level, like at some grocery stores.

Food4Students Text Messages

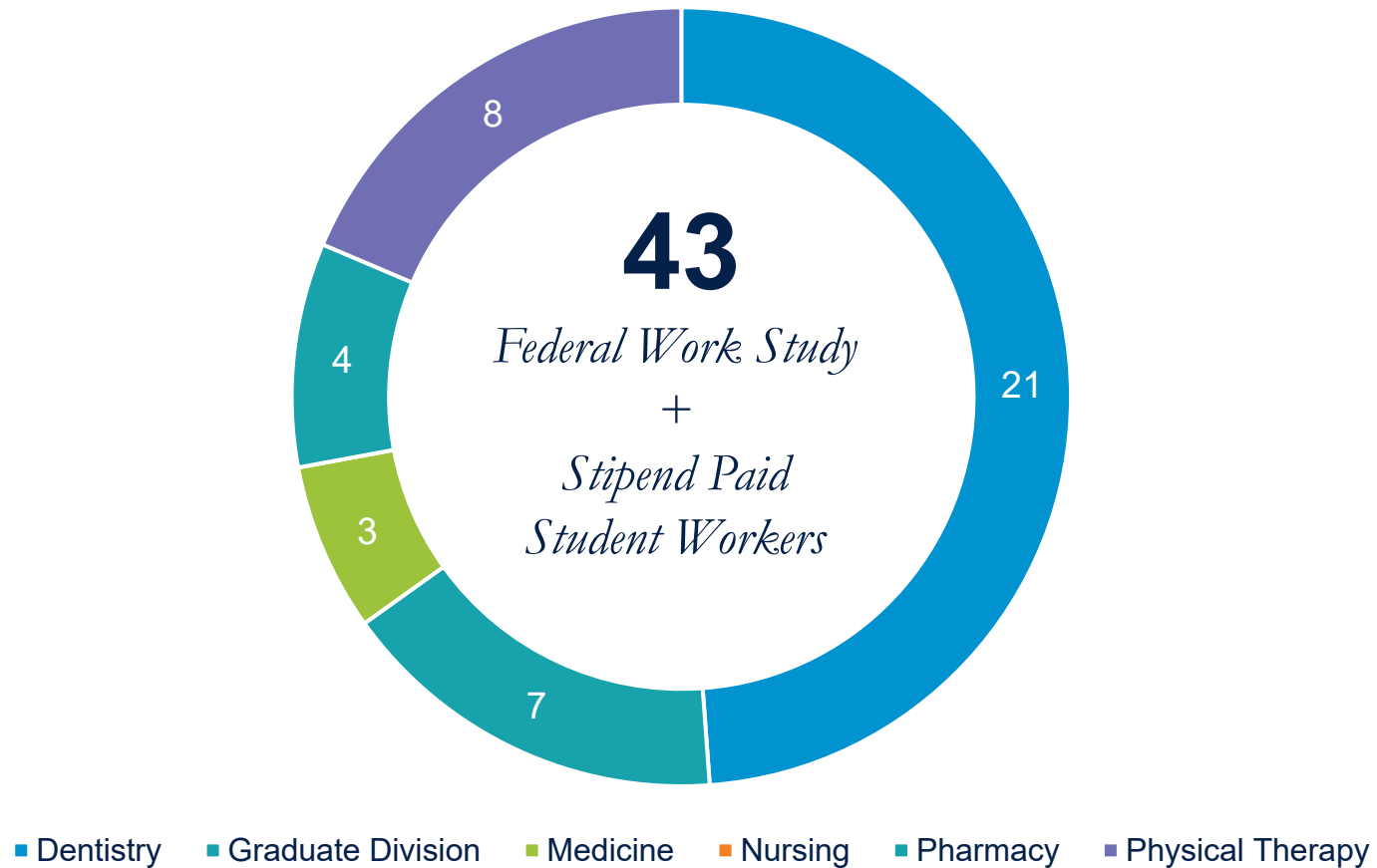
- Sometimes I feel like I'm being judged while picking up the food.
- It feels too similar to a breadline (I mean, it literally is a breadline).

Food Pantry

- The pantry in Mission hall is a clear glass room. It makes me feel guilt when I have to enter while everyone can see me.

Student Workers

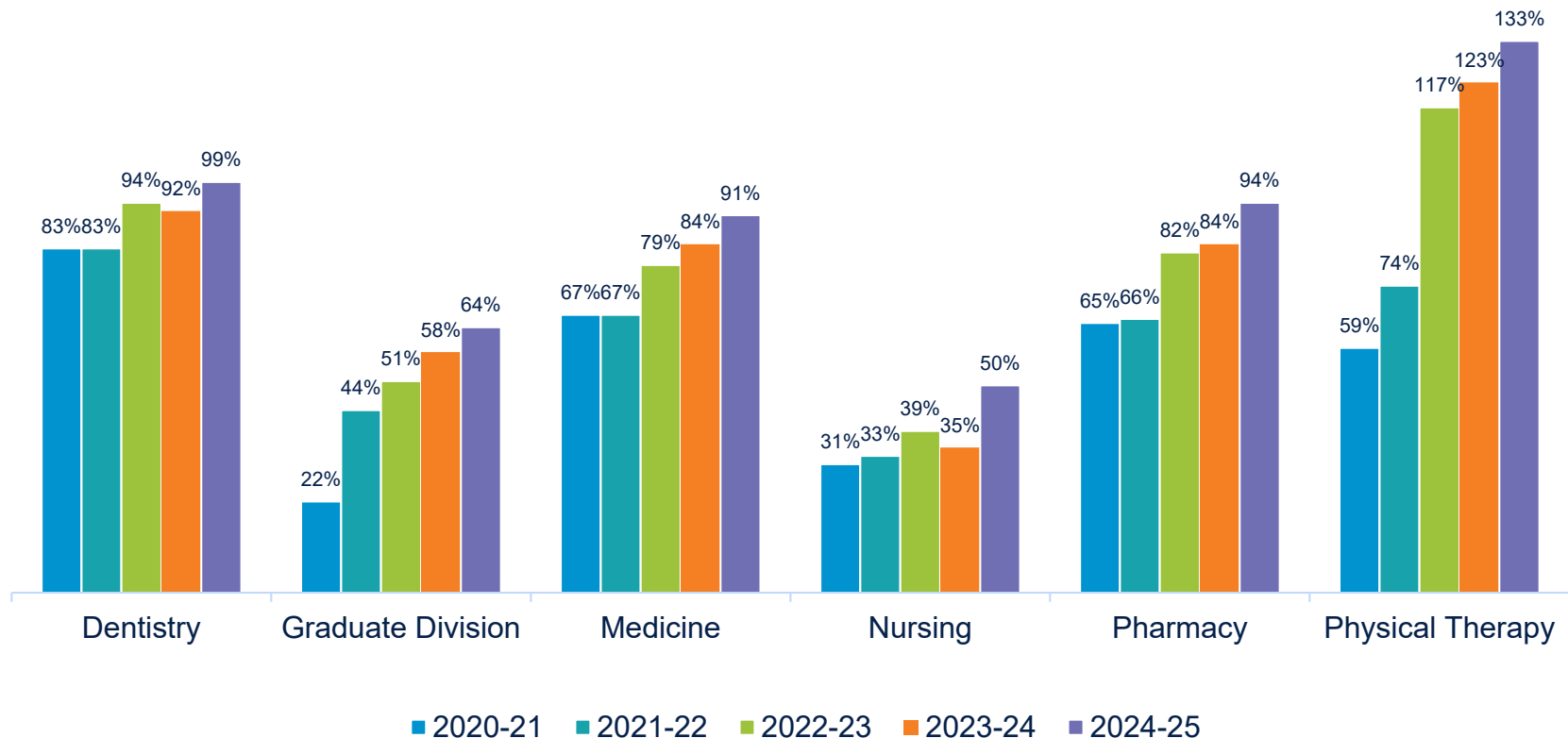
Federal work study and stipend paid students dedicated to supporting Basic Needs



Year-Over-Year Comparisons

Overall Unique Usage Statistics

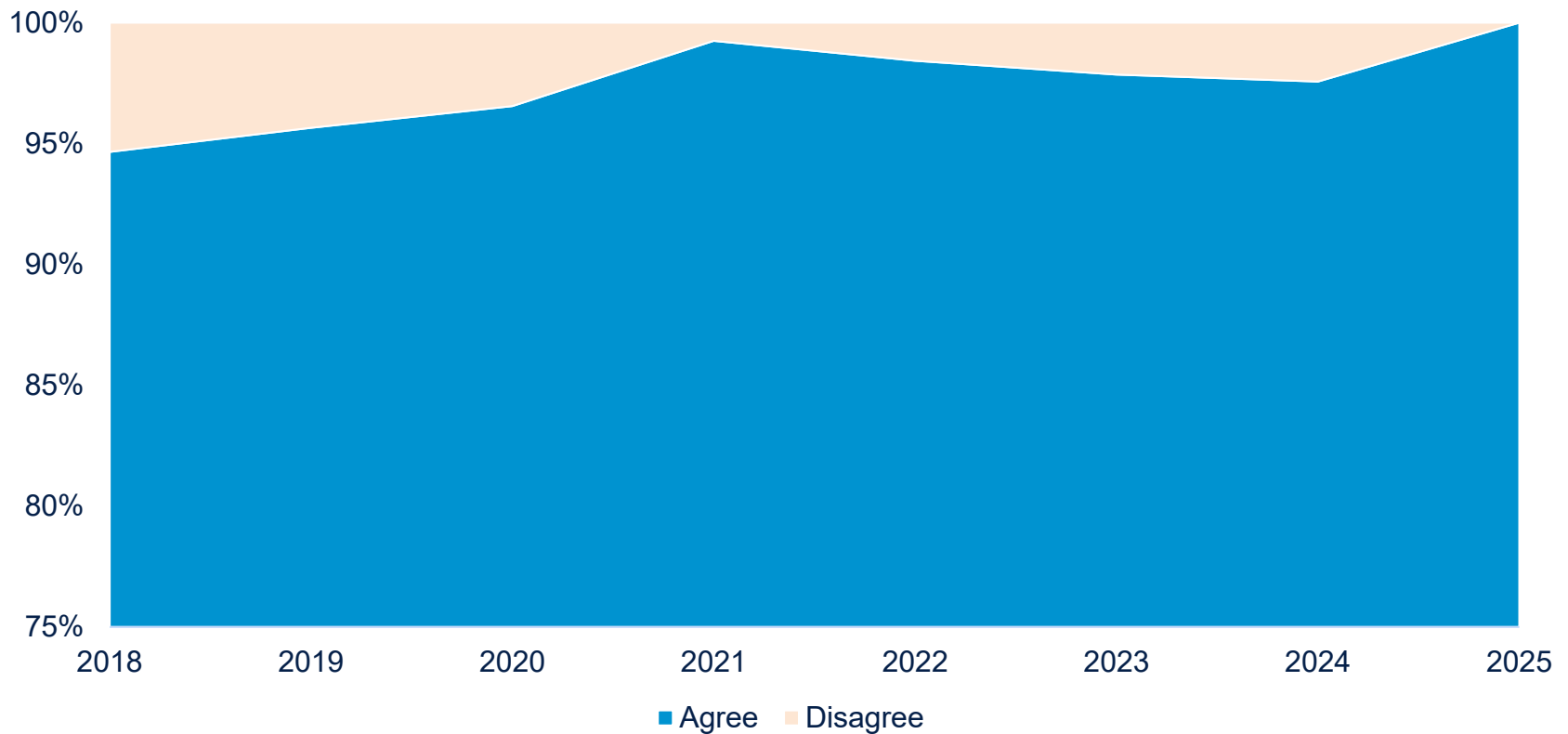
Comparison of percent of population served through Basic Needs programs



Note: Percentage of usage was determined by comparing the unique count of students from July 1-June 30 to the total enrollment numbers published by the Office of Institutional Research in November 2023. Over 100% of physical therapy were served as a result of serving graduating and incoming students during the summer months.

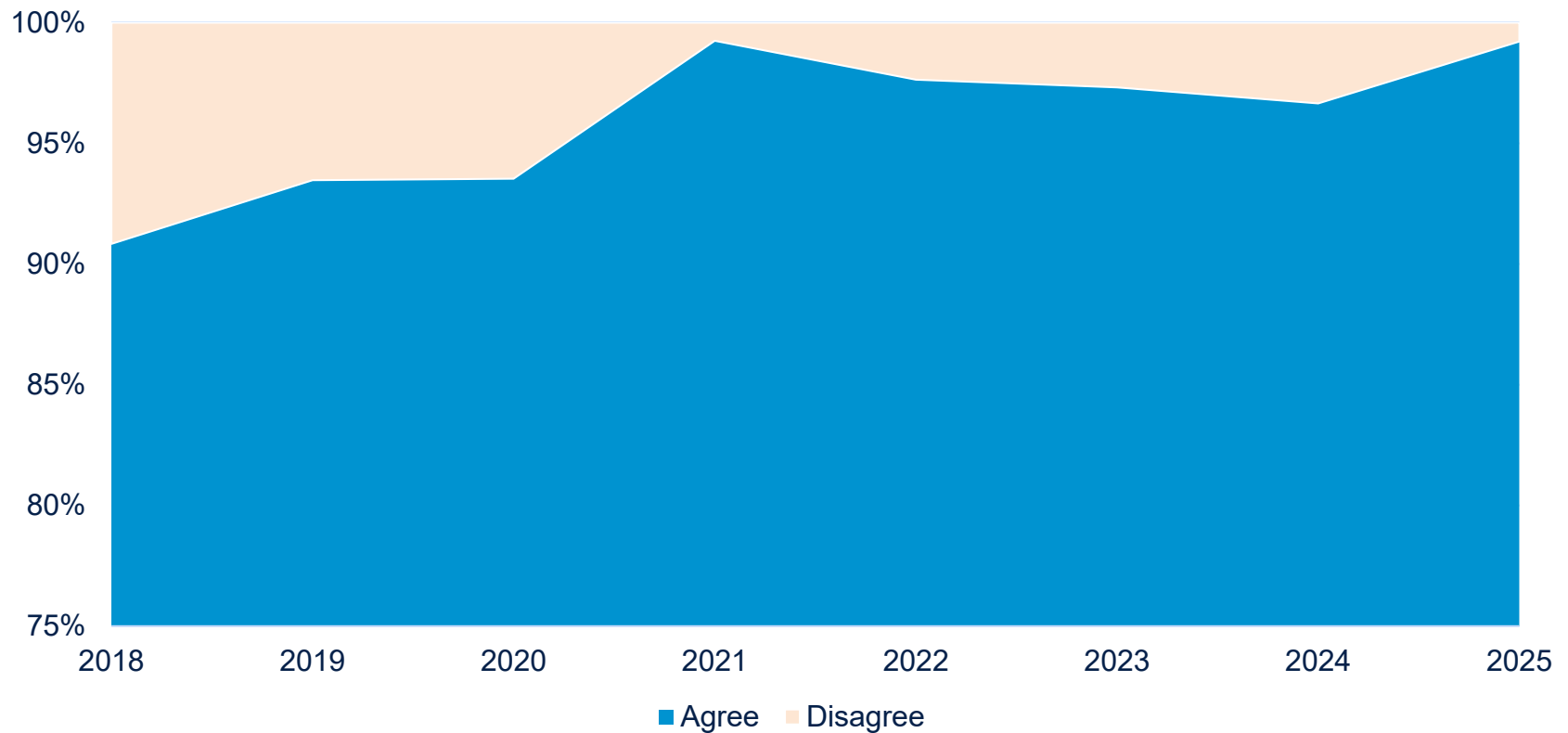
Student Food Market Feedback

I have found the program helpful.



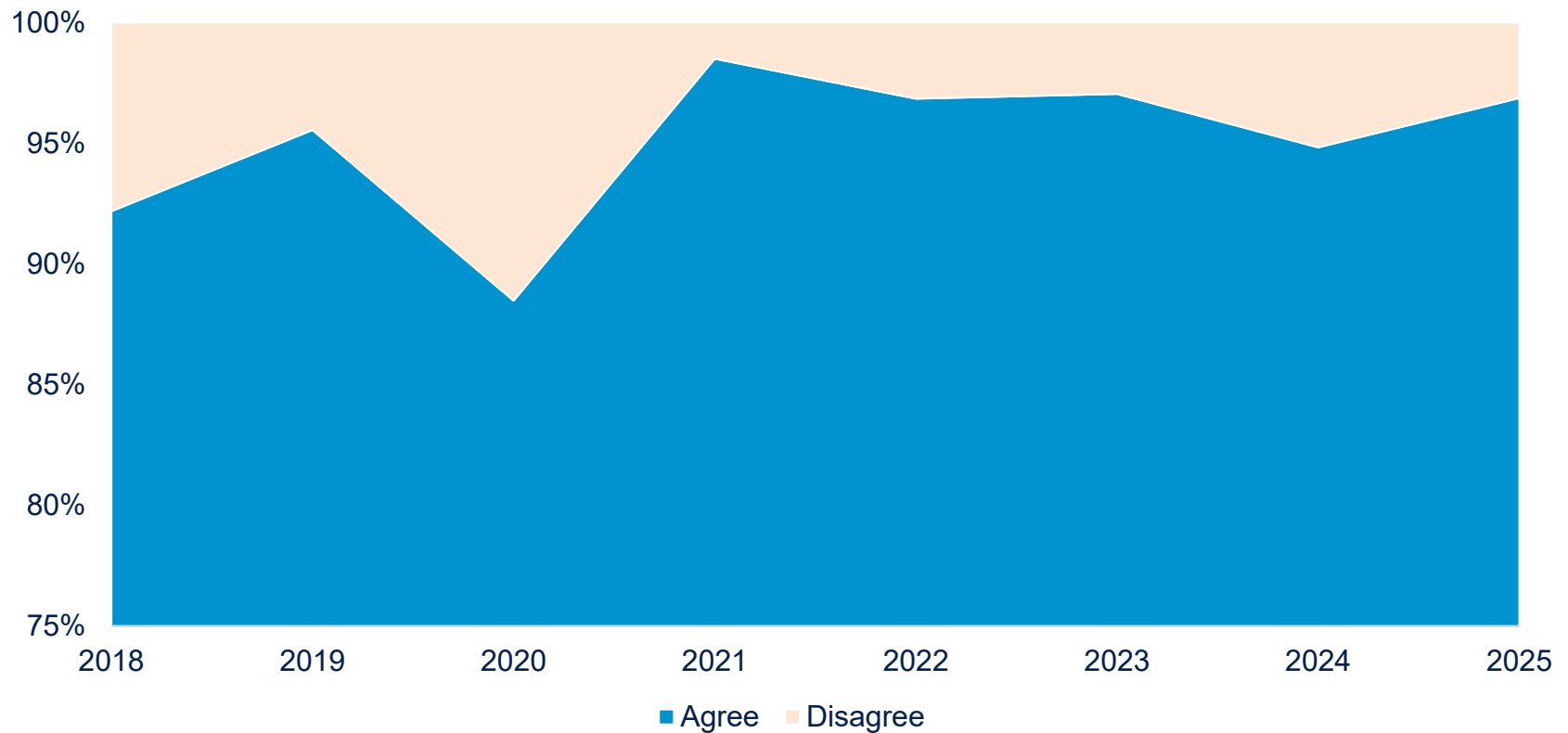
Student Food Market Feedback

Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



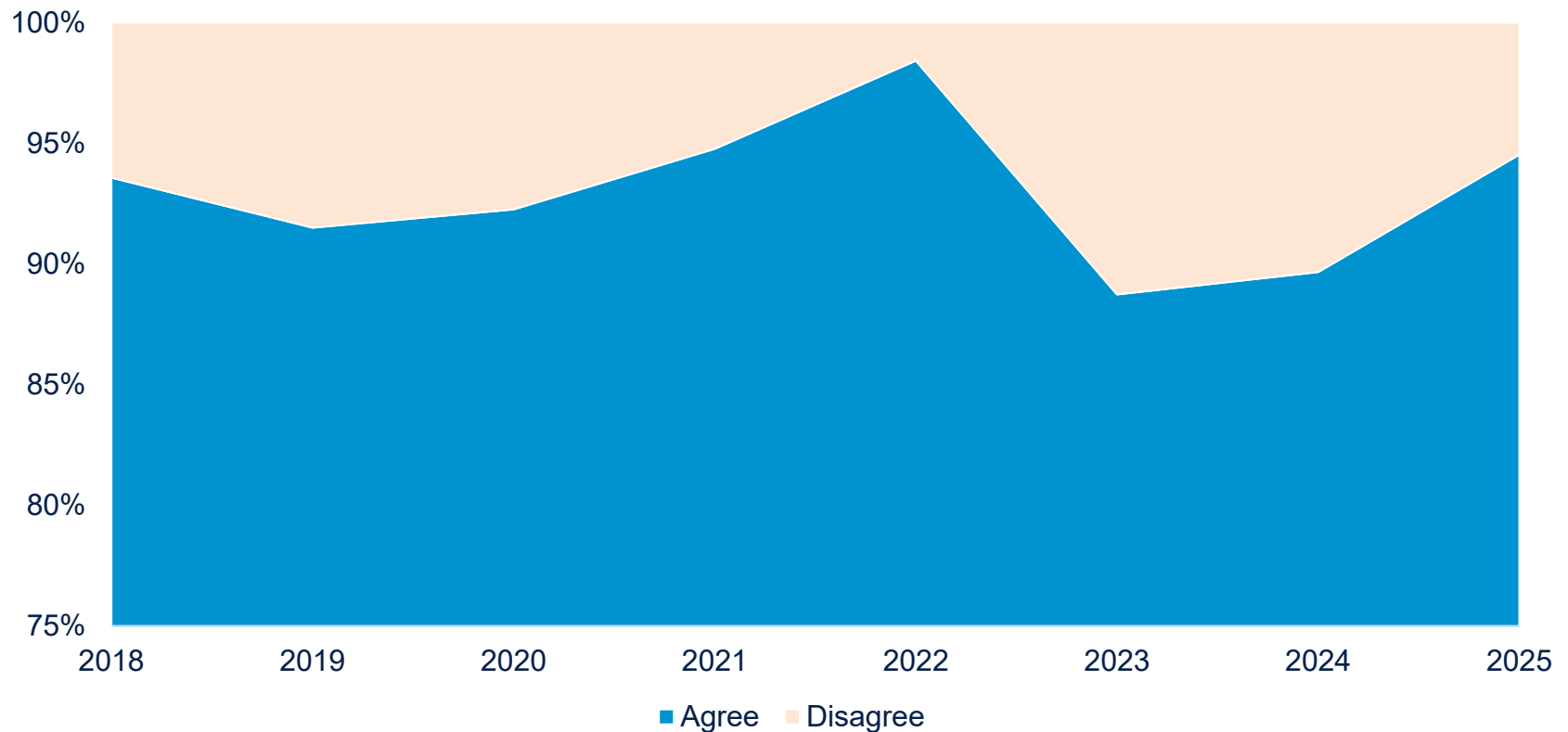
Student Food Market Feedback

Participating in the program has reduced my food security stress.



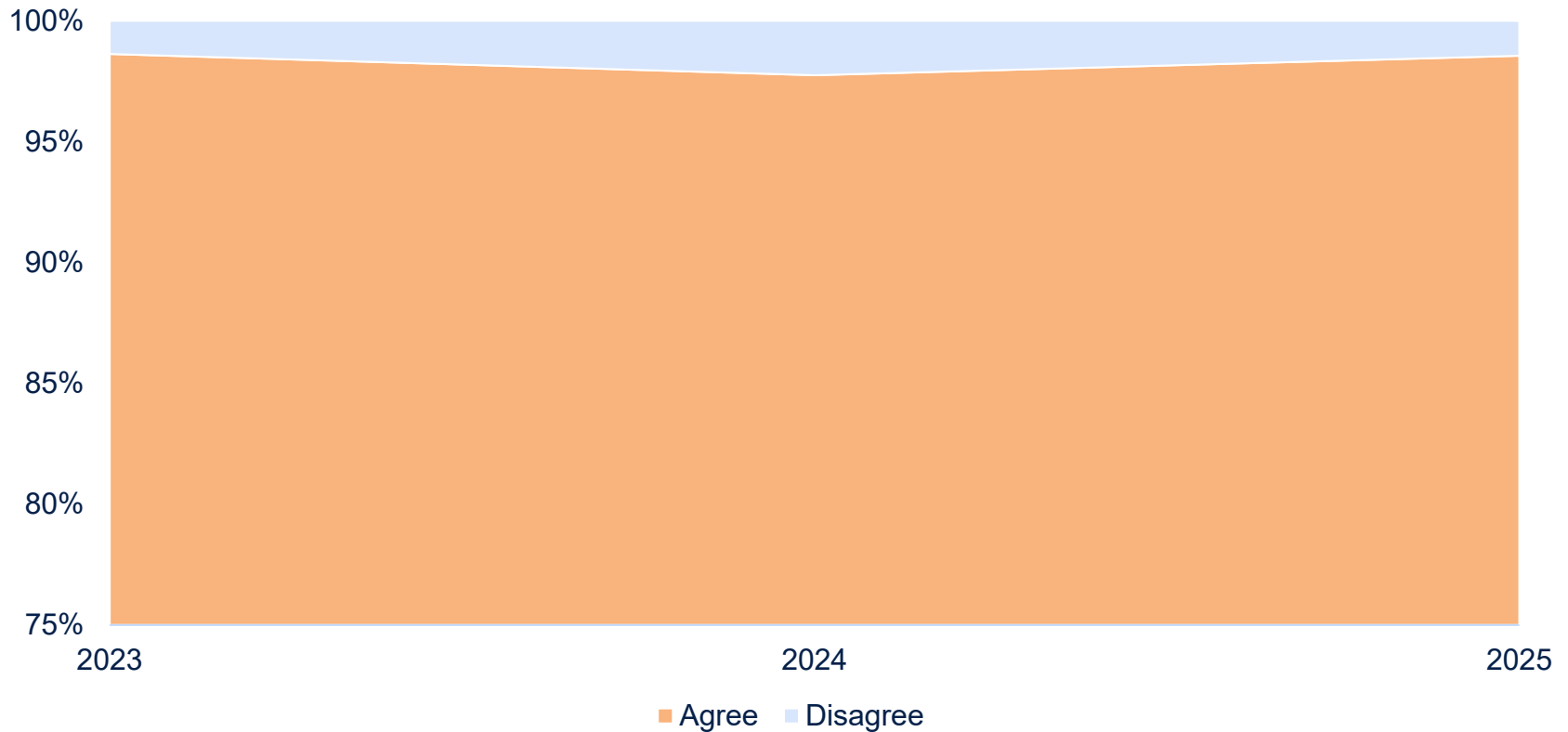
Student Food Market Feedback

I have eaten healthier food as a result of the program.



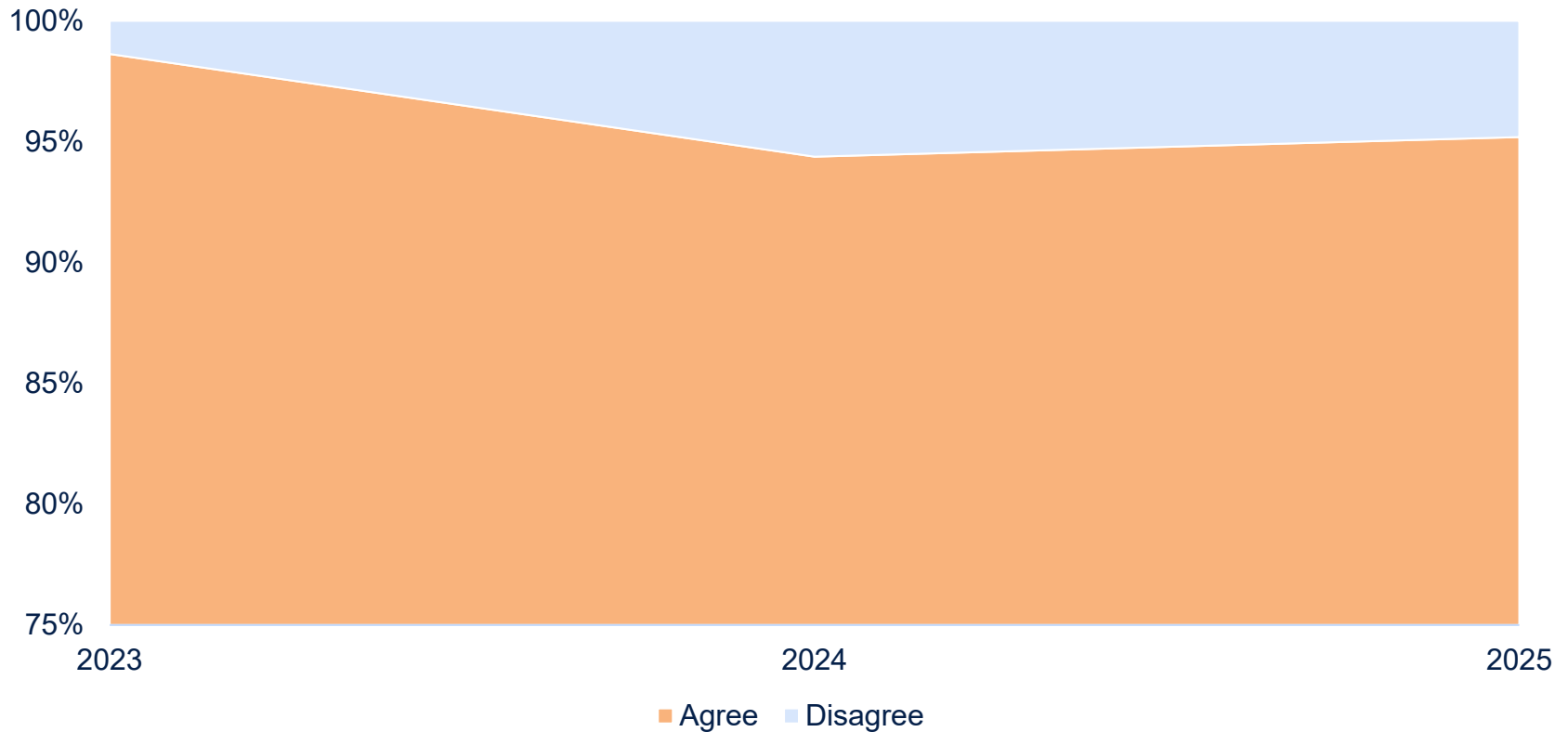
Food Pantry

I have found the program helpful.



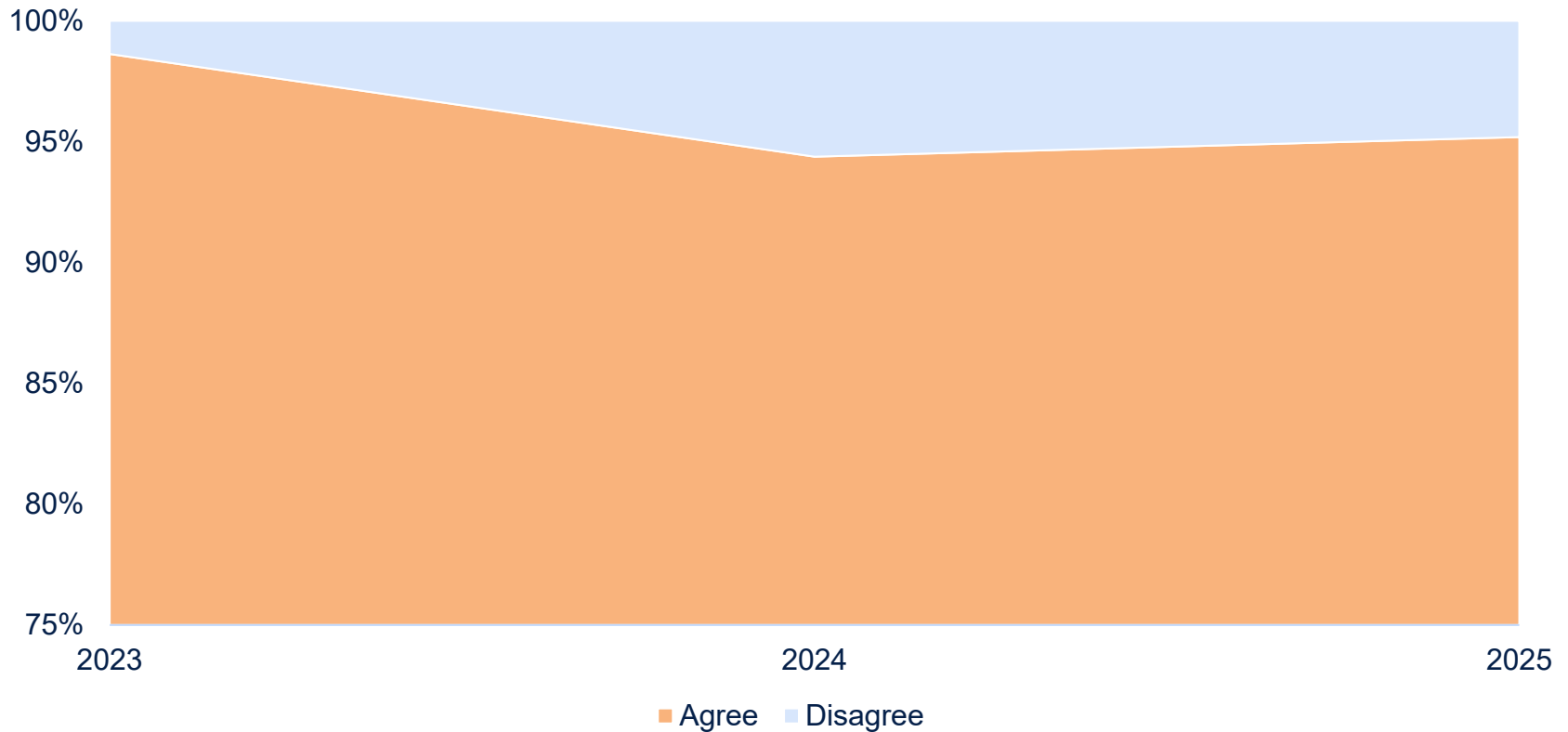
Food Pantry

Participating in the program has made me more food secure.



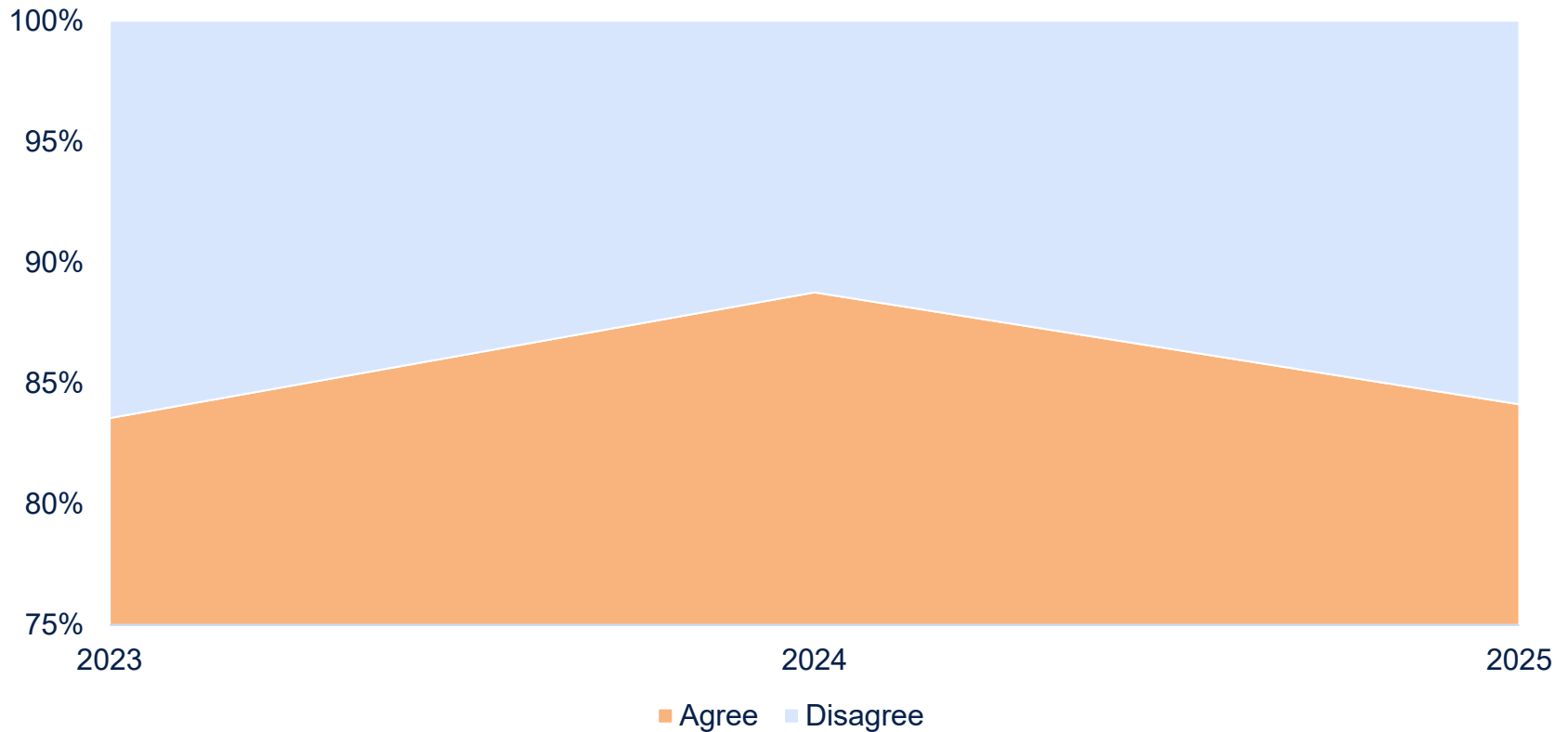
Food Pantry

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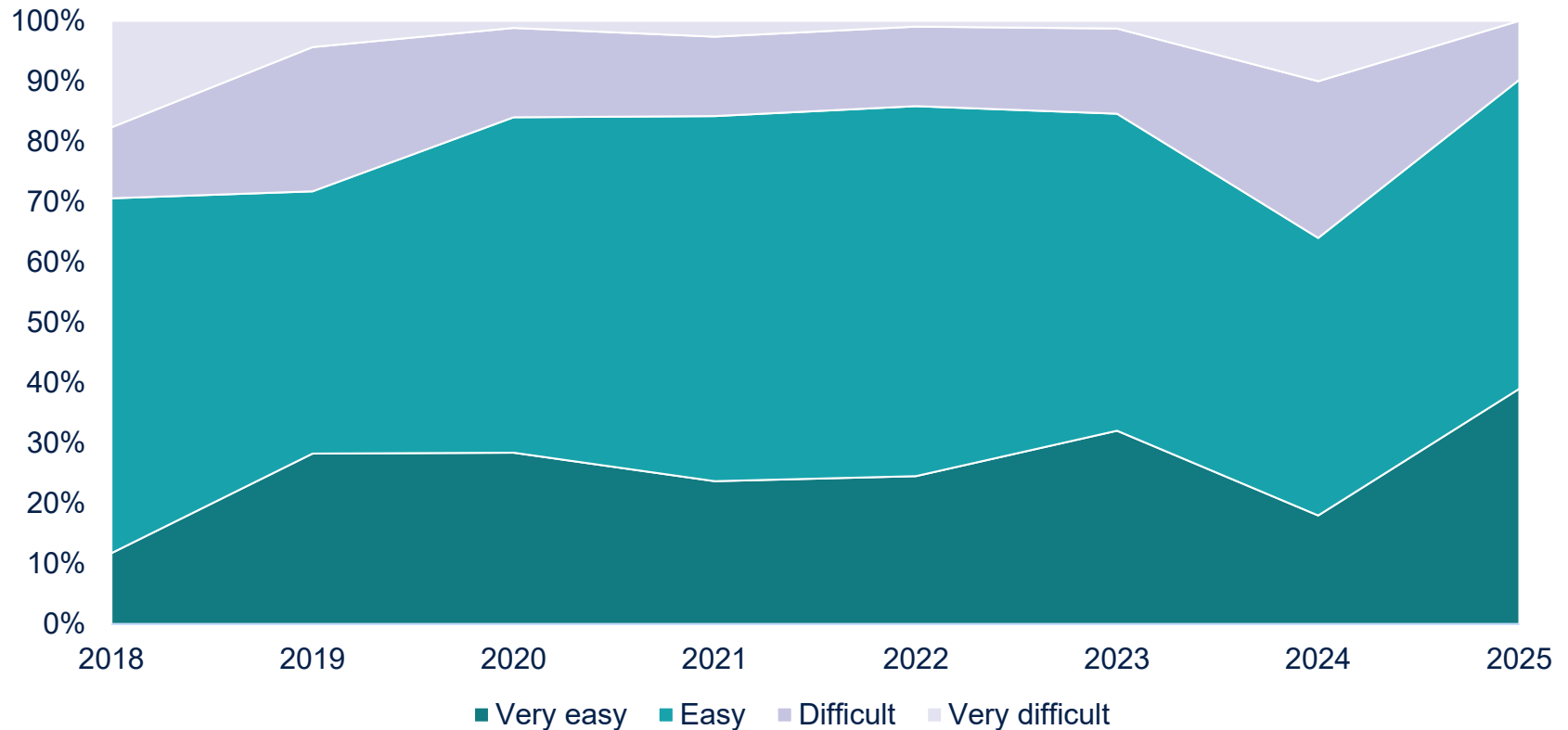
Food Pantry

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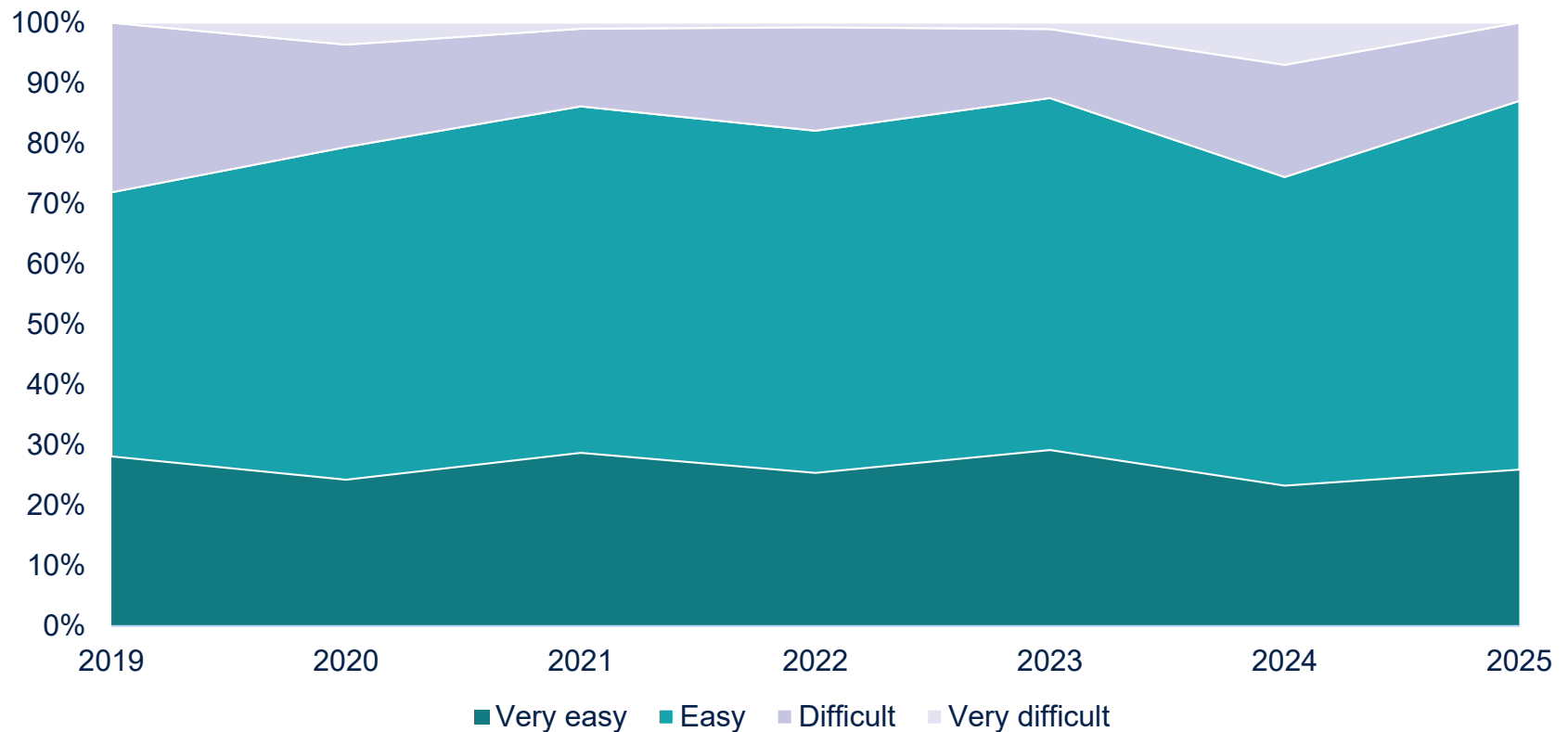
CalFresh Feedback

How would you rate your experience applying for CalFresh?



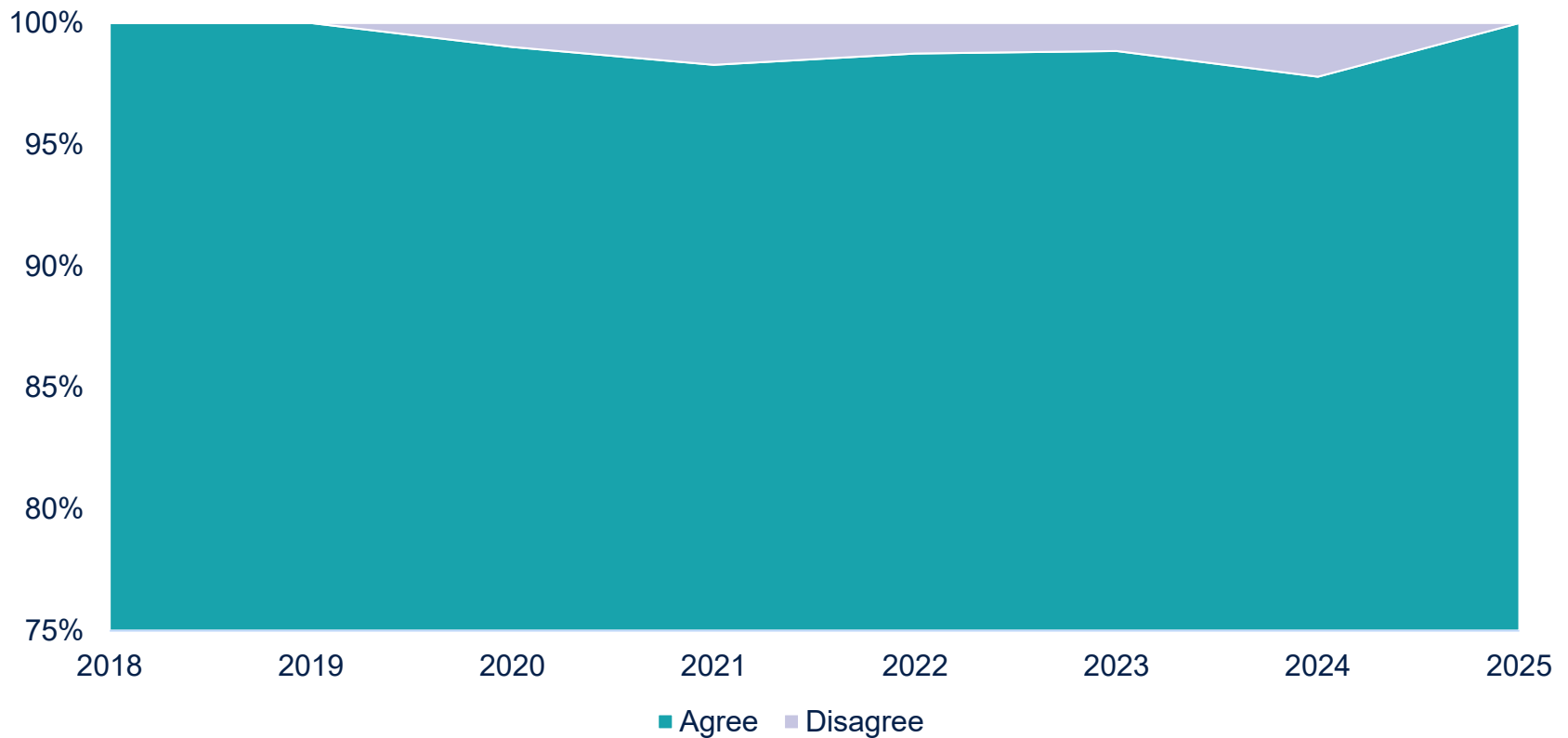
CalFresh Feedback

How would you rate your experience renewing CalFresh?



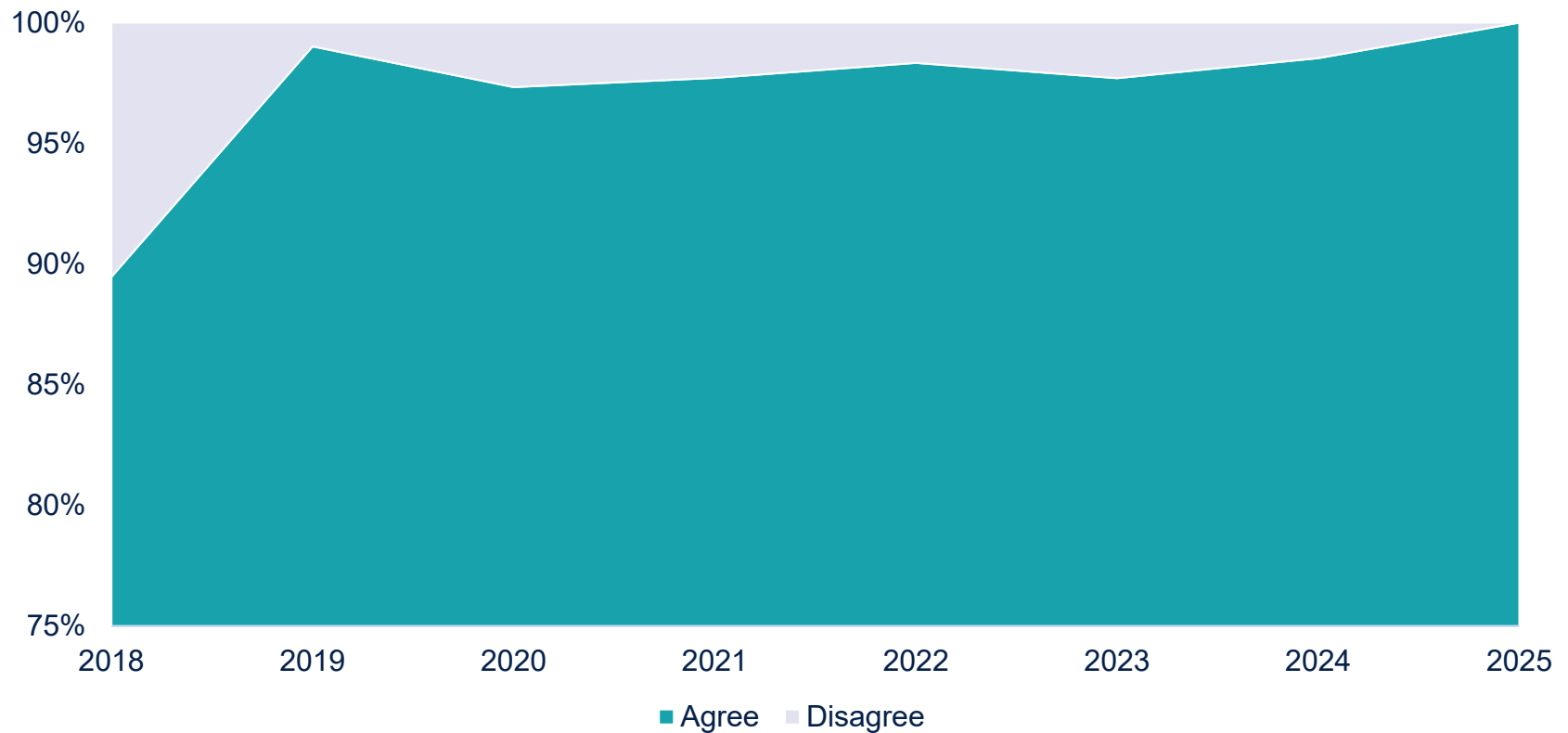
CalFresh Feedback

I have found CalFresh helpful.



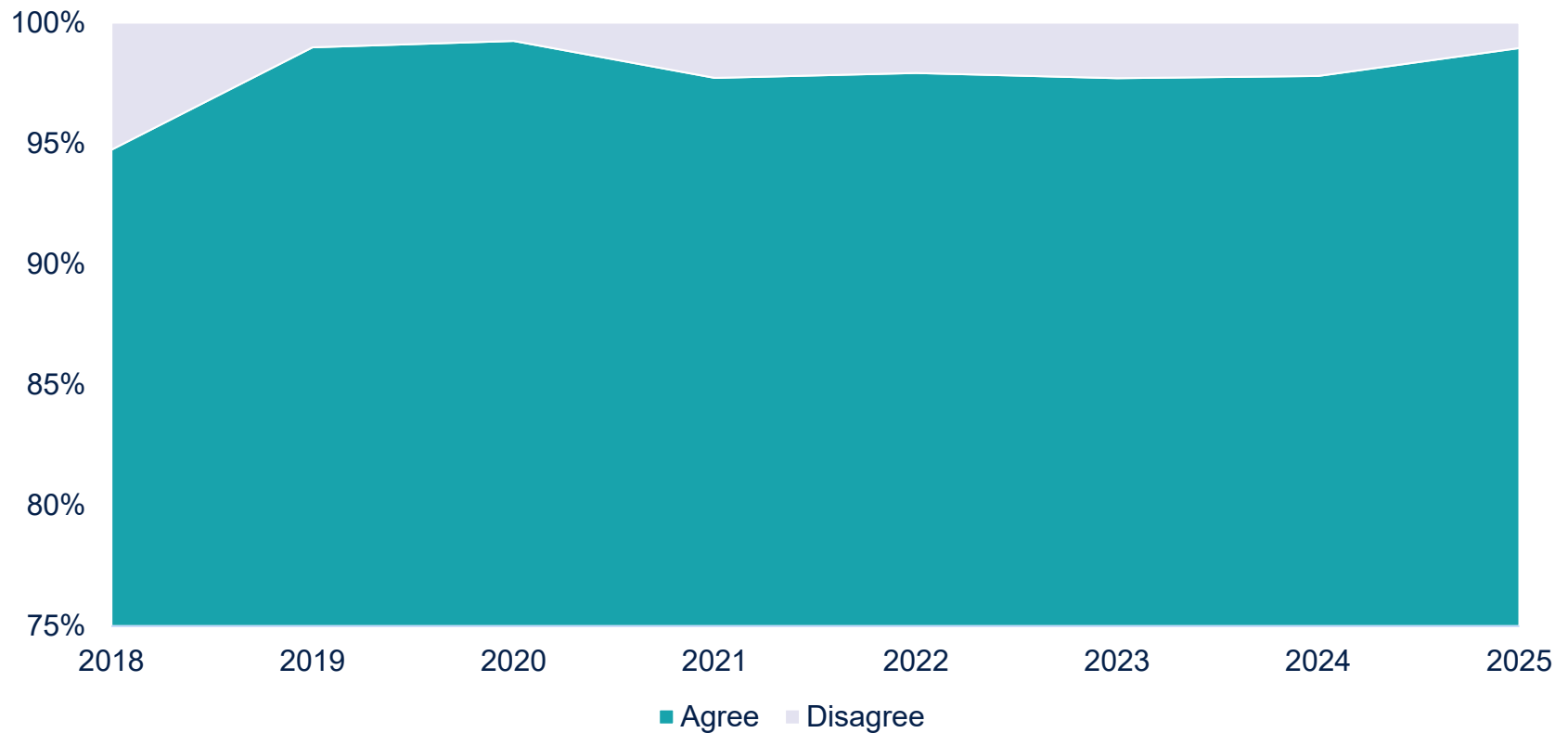
CalFresh Feedback

Using CalFresh has made me more food secure.



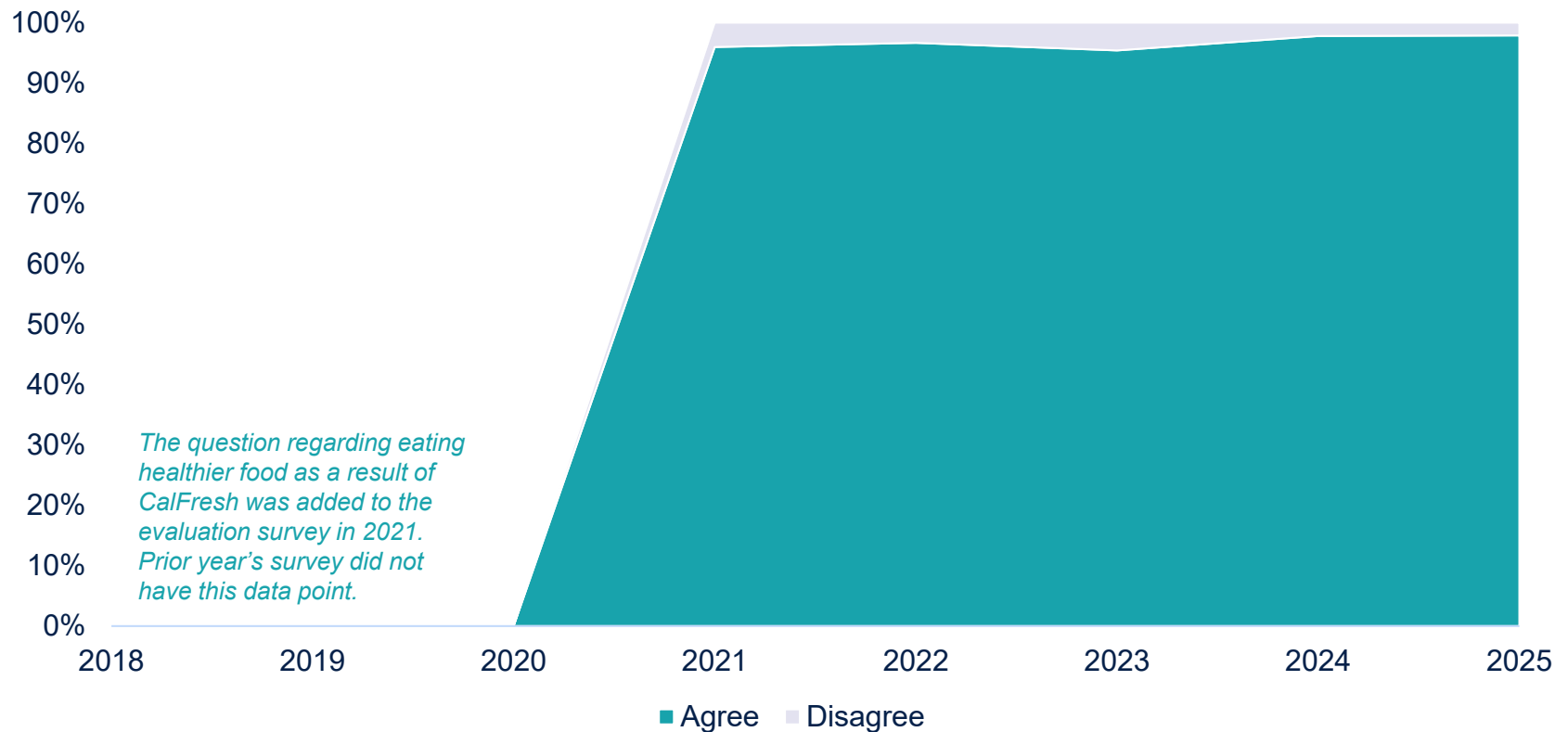
CalFresh Feedback

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CalFresh Feedback

I have eaten healthier food as a result of CalFresh.



Contact

Contact Information

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