

## BACKGROUND

- The declining PharmD applicant pool necessitates schools to employ various strategies to attract students to their programs.

## OBJECTIVE

- To examine whether concurrent/dual-degree-program (CDDP) offerings play a role in students' selection of a PharmD program.

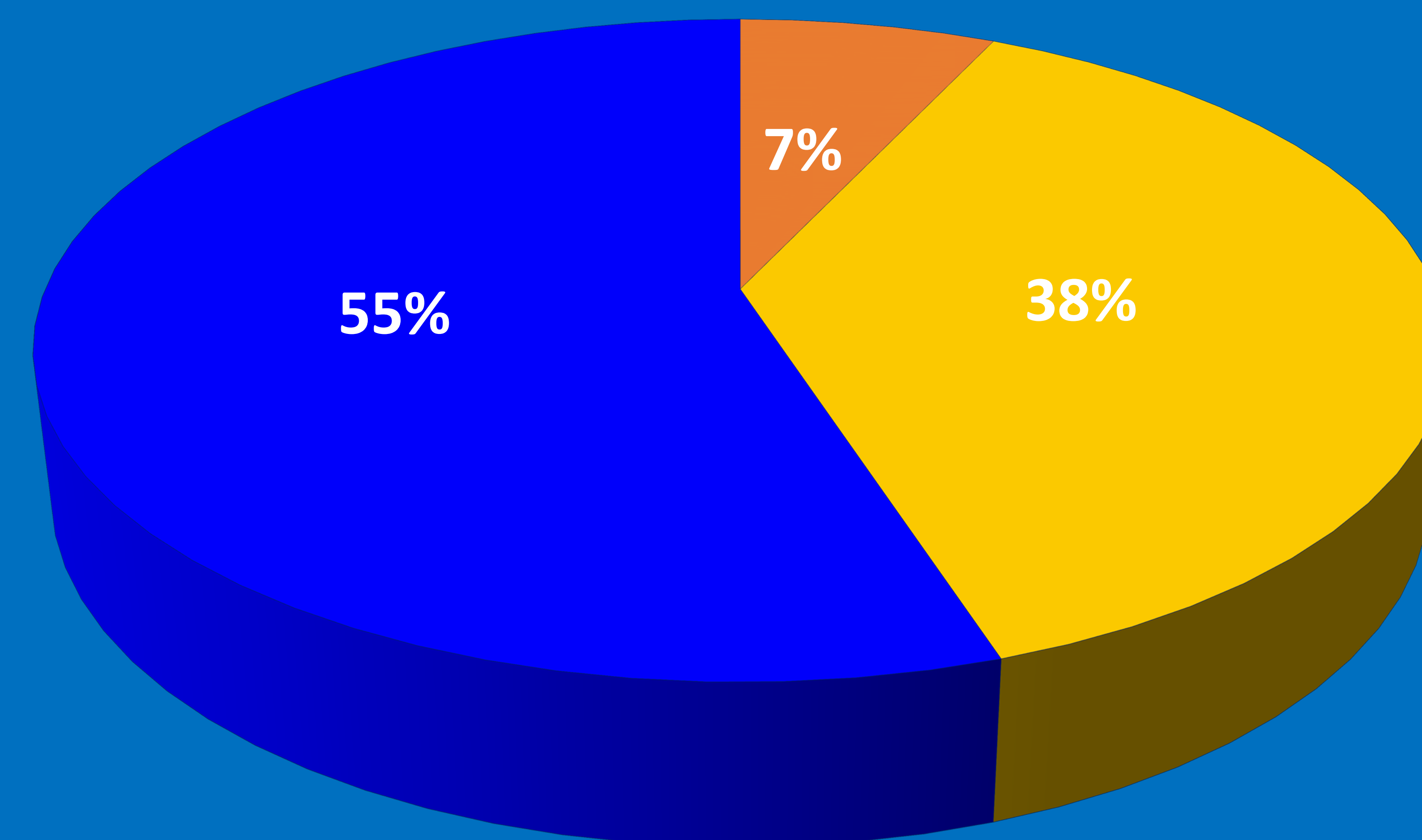
## METHODS

- In spring 2022, an electronic survey was distributed via Qualtrics to students in the first professional year of the PharmD program at 5 schools:
  - Belmont University
  - Concordia University
  - Long Island University
  - Manchester University
  - Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- The survey included questions concerning student demographics, the extent to which CDDP offerings influenced PharmD program selection, interest in specific CDDPs, and ultimate enrollment in CDDPs.
- Participating schools offered the following CDDPs:

Belmont University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PharmD/MBA</li> </ul>
Concordia University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PharmD/MBA</li> <li>PharmD/MPH</li> <li>PharmD/MS (Natural Product Science)</li> </ul>
Long Island University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PharmD/MBA</li> <li>PharmD/MPH</li> <li>PharmD/MS (Artificial Intelligence, Drug Regulatory Affairs, Pharmaceutics, Pharmacology/Toxicology)</li> </ul>
Manchester University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PharmD/MBA</li> <li>PharmD/MS (Pharmacogenomics)</li> </ul>
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PharmD/MBA</li> <li>PharmD/MPH</li> <li>PharmD/MS (Healthcare Informatics, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Public Administration)</li> </ul>

# Nearly half of students considered the presence of concurrent/dual-degree programs (CDDPs) to be a factor in their decision to attend their school.

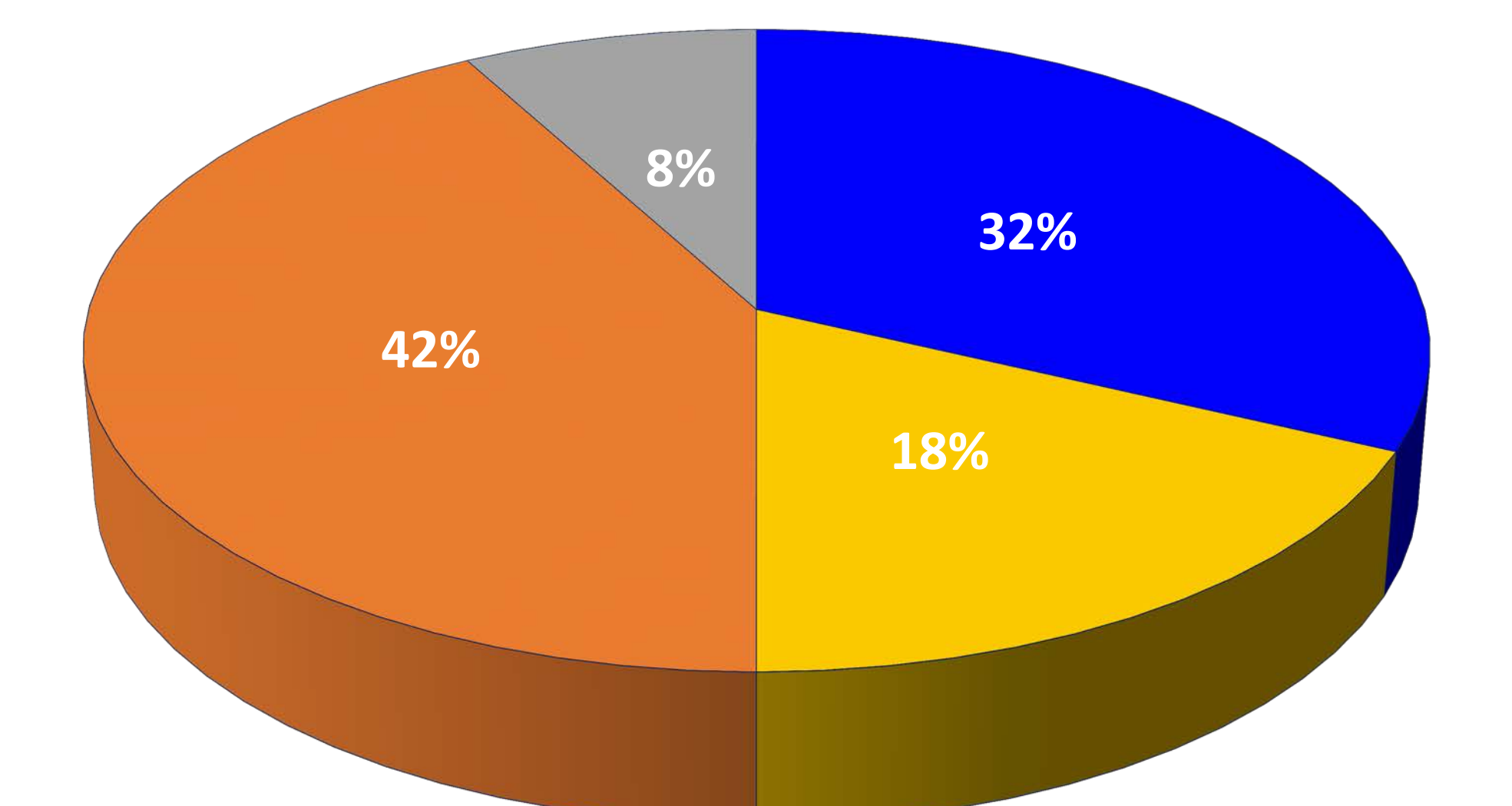
Was the presence of a CDDP at your school/college of pharmacy a factor in your decision to attend that school (n=176)?



- Yes, it was the most important factor
- Yes, it was a factor, but not the most important factor
- No, it was not a factor at all

## RESULTS

- The survey was distributed to 395 students; 176 (45%) completed the survey.
  - Belmont University (n=43)
  - Concordia University (n=8)
  - Long Island University (n=70)
  - Manchester University (n=34)
  - Southern Illinois University (n=21)
- Degrees held by students included Associate (17; 10%), Bachelor's (66; 38%), and Master's (9; 5%); 84 (48%) did not have a prior degree.
- The main findings are depicted in the poster's center panel.
- Of the 79 students who reported that the presence of a CDDP played a role in their PharmD program selection, 77 (97%) indicated whether they had a specific program in mind when selecting a school. Responses are depicted in the figure below:



- I had a program in mind
- I wanted to pursue a CDDP but did not have a program in mind
- I was unsure whether I would pursue a CDDP but wanted to keep my options open
- I wasn't interested in pursuing a CDDP although CDDP offerings were a factor in my PharmD program selection

- 173 (98%) students indicated the status of their enrollment in a CDDP
  - 34 (20%) were enrolled in a CDDP
  - 49 (28%) were still undecided
  - 90 (52%) were not pursuing a CDDP

## CONCLUSIONS/IMPLICATIONS

- For many students, the presence of CDDPs plays a role in the selection of a PharmD program.
- Offering such programs may be important for maintaining or increasing a school's applicant pool.