

# Prevalence of 2023-24 Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences in Medically Underserved and High Social Vulnerability Areas

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## Background

- Accreditation Council for Pharmaceutical Education Standards<sup>1</sup> for Doctor of Pharmacy programs require schools to expose students to diverse patient populations.
- One strategy to provide diverse experiences and better prepare students to embrace health equity is to ensure exposure to patients from medically underserved areas (MUAs) during Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs).

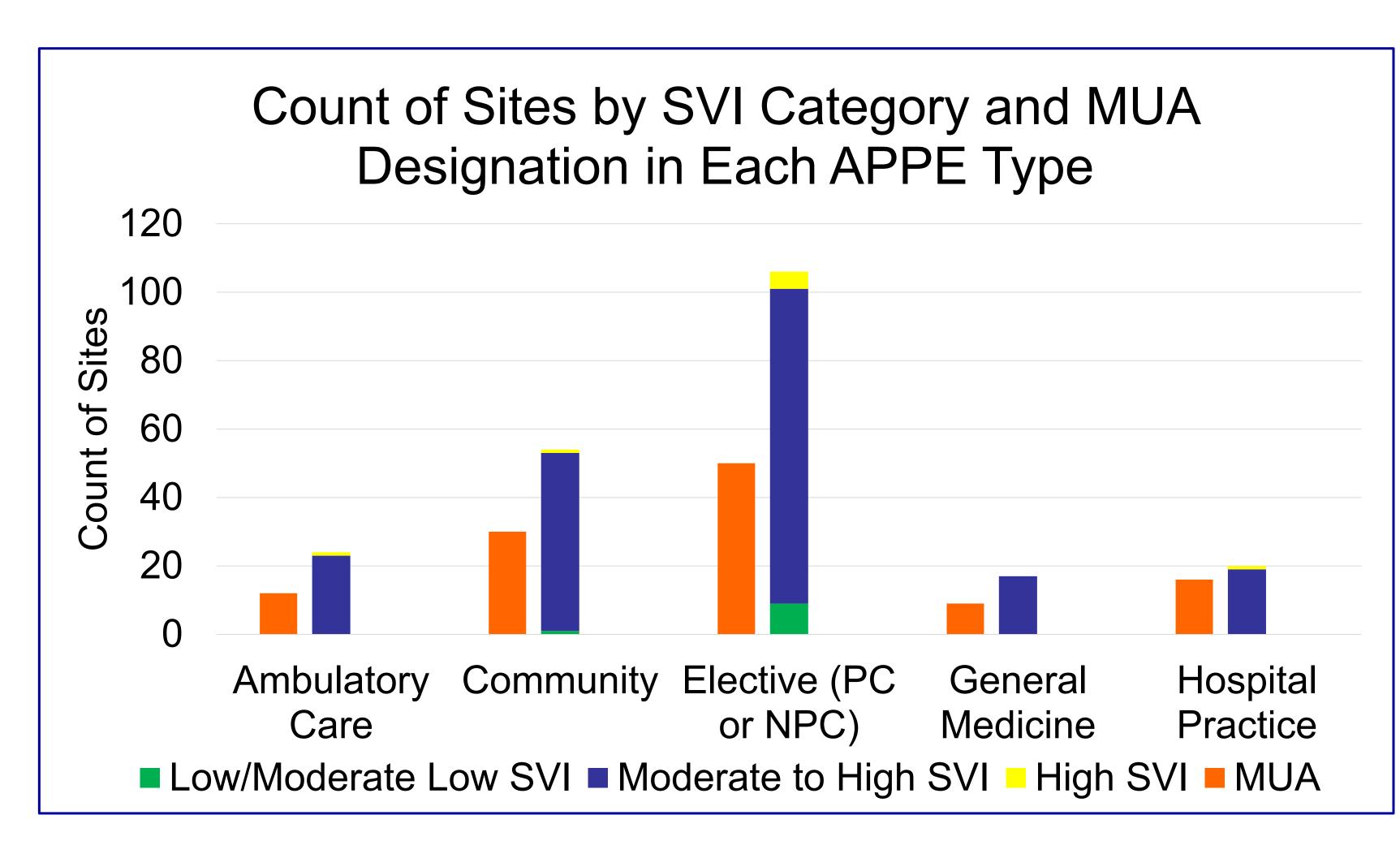
## Objective

 The purpose of this study was to determine student exposure to patients from medically underserved areas (MUAs) during their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs) to determine diversity of experiences and enhance student readiness for promoting health equity.

#### Methods

- Geospatial analysis was used to determine the following:
  - Proportion of sites that were in Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-designated MUAs<sup>2</sup>
  - Proportion sites in census tracts with moderate to high or high social vulnerability using the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)<sup>3</sup>
  - The Proportion of students having an experience at these sites were calculated.

#### Results



# Students with a rotation at a site with MUA, Moderate to High, or High SVI – 100%

Medically Underserved Areas (MUA)– 53% of Sites

Moderate to High or High Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) – 95% of sites

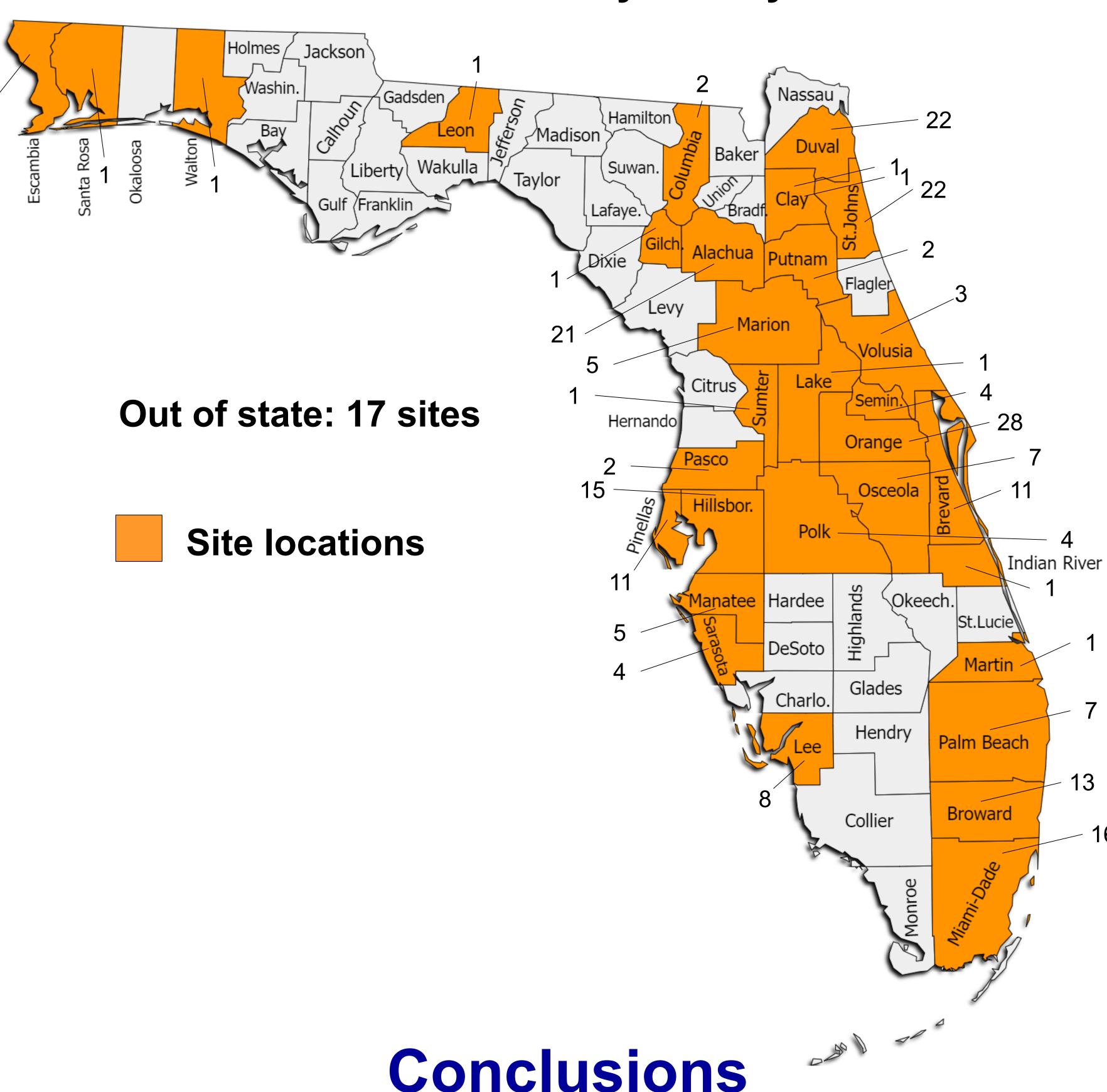
Minimum number of student hours in these communities - 262,080

Sites Evaluated = 221 Rotations Evaluated = 1092

#### References

- 1. Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. *Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree.*; 2015. Accessed January 22, 2024. <a href="https://www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/Standards2016FINAL2022.pdf">https://www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/Standards2016FINAL2022.pdf</a>
- 2. Health Resources & Services Administration. MUA Find. Hrsa.gov. Published 2019. Accessed January 22, 2024. <a href="https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/mua-find">https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/mua-find</a>
- 3. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) | Place and Health | ATSDR. atsdrdev.cdc.gov. Published November 3, 2022. Accessed January 2, 2024. https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/interactive\_map.html

#### Number of Sites By County



- Across the state of Florida 31 of 67 counties had at least one APPE student during the 2023-2024 year.
- Nearly all APPE sites were in a MUA and/or area with moderate to high or high social vulnerability with every student completing at least one APPE within one of these areas.
- An important area of future study is investigation of longitudinal experience patterns and evaluation of comprehensive student experiences at these sites.