

Enhancing Student Wellness – Digital Representation of Wellness Initiatives within the Colleges of Pharmacy

Aspiring Academics

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BACKGROUND

- Recently AACP adopted policy statements to demonstrate its commitment to well-being in pharmacy education¹
- AACP affirms that fostering leader, faculty, staff, and student wellbeing is a vital responsibility of the academy and individual schools and colleges (2019).
- AACP believes that all administrators, faculty, staff, preceptors, student pharmacists and alumni should contribute to a culture of well-being in pharmacy education (2018, revised 2022)
- AACP encourages schools and colleges of pharmacy to proactively promote overall wellbeing for students, faculty, and staff (2017, revised 2022)
- In a national survey on prevalence of wellness initiatives at schools of pharmacy, 73.9% had a school wellness program²
- In an environmental scan assessing mental health resources available to pharmacy students, 77% of schools did not have mental resources on their website³

OBJECTIVE

Compare and contrast the wellness initiatives available to pharmacy students using the school of pharmacy websites as the primary sources for environmental scans.

METHODS

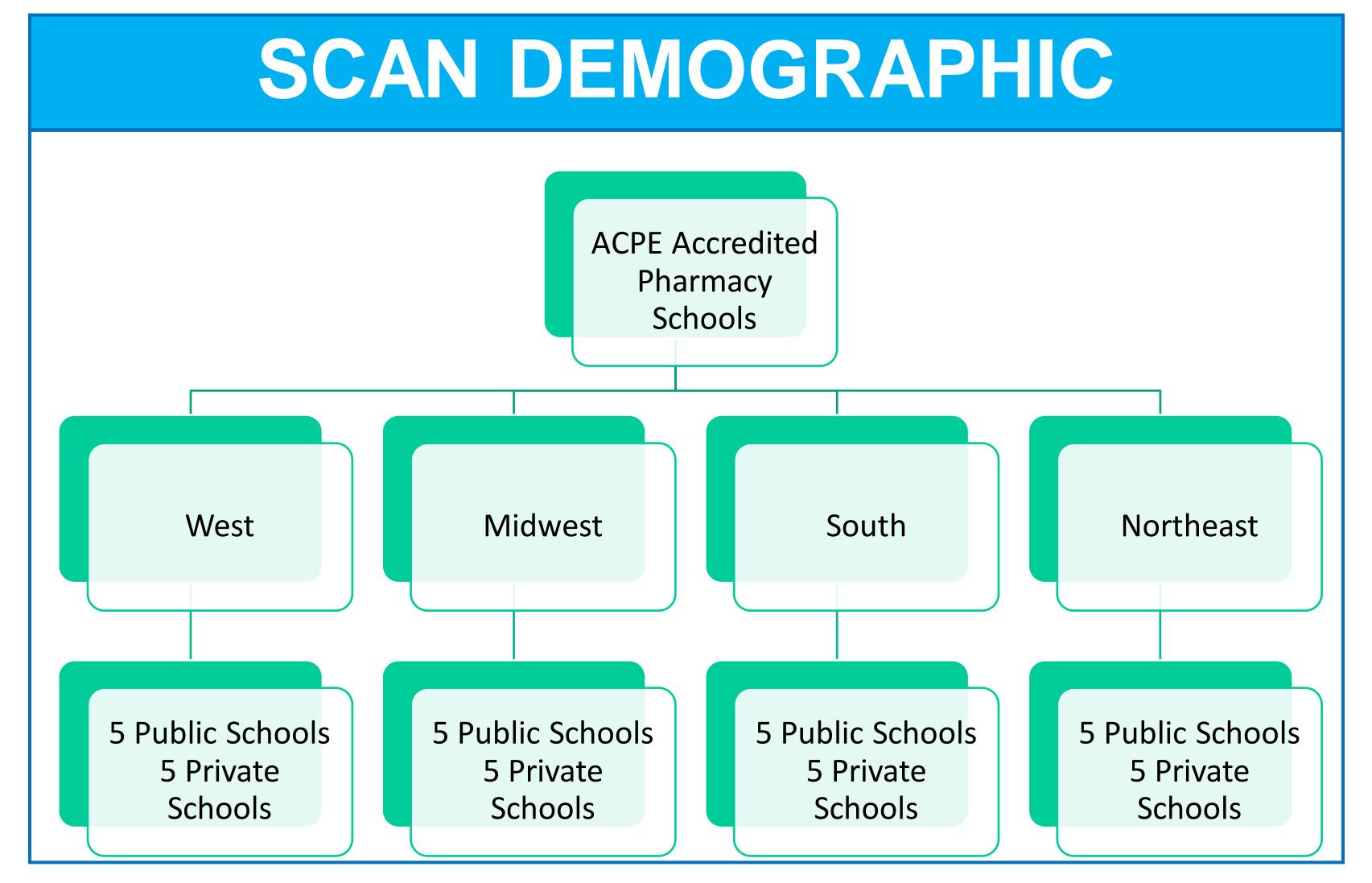
An environmental scan of 40 ACPE-accredited pharmacy schools was conducted to analyze wellness resources and initiatives offered to current and prospective students.

 Schools and colleges of pharmacy were selected by geographic regions and equally representing private and public institutions.

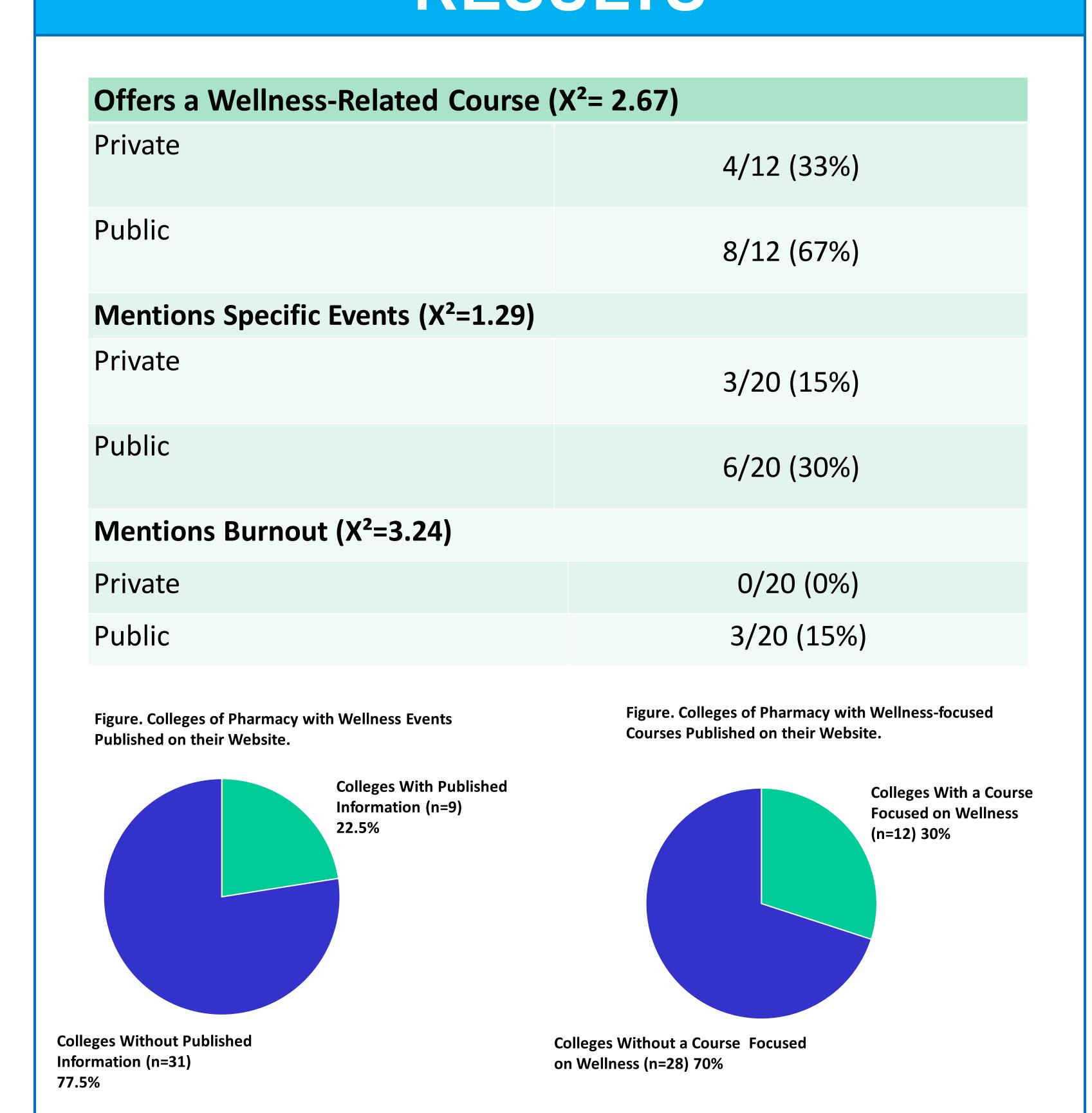
Information obtained was solely from published online sources on individual colleges of pharmacy websites.

- The following was collected if available online
- Wellness Courses and Course Descriptions
- School Events and Speakers Focused on Wellness
- Mention of Wellness in the School's Strategic Plan,
 Mission, or Vision Statement
- Wellness Resources (Online and In-Person)

The prevalence and types of initiatives were discussed to evaluate alignment with the AACP policy statements regarding well-being and/or future needs.



RESULTS



MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- Burnout was sparingly mentioned on COP websites
- Only 22.5% of colleges of pharmacy had published information regarding wellness events
- Almost a third of schools offered courses on topics of wellness
- There were no statistically significant differences between public and private schools in the observed results

CONCLUSION

The full scope of wellness initiatives in colleges of pharmacies may not be adequately represented digitally. By bringing awareness to the resources available to both prospective and current pharmacy students via their websites, schools of pharmacy demonstrate their prioritization of student well-being. This could be valuable for recruitment and admissions purposes in schools of pharmacy.

FUTURE RESEARCH

Conducting surveys at both private and public institutions to:

- 1. Collect information from students about the perceived emphasis on wellness at their respective schools and colleges of pharmacy;
- 2. Evaluate administrative initiatives and resources identified for prospective students.

Assessing the impact of these findings on the visibility of wellness resources on the websites of schools and colleges of pharmacy and the potential, subsequent impact on admission rates.

REFERENCES

- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Creating a Culture of Well-Being: A Resource Guide for Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy. 2022.
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