

Multi-site Evaluation of Sentinel City® Virtual Simulation

What we know

Positive learning outcomes have been documented for nursing students who participate in virtual simulation including its use for community clinical experience (Chircop & Cobbett, 2020).

Aim

Evaluate student learning outcomes after implementation of Sentinel City®, a virtual simulation program across the different sites in three provinces in Canada.

What we did not know

Are the learning outcomes of students using the same virtual simulation program comparable across jurisdictions.

What is Sentinel City®?



Sentinel City® is a virtual simulation program for population health nursing. As an online learning platform, it enables students to actively engage in the application of population health theory into practice including how to conduct a windshield survey and home assessments (www.sentinelu.com).

The Jurisdictions

- Nova Scotia
- Ontario
- British Columbia

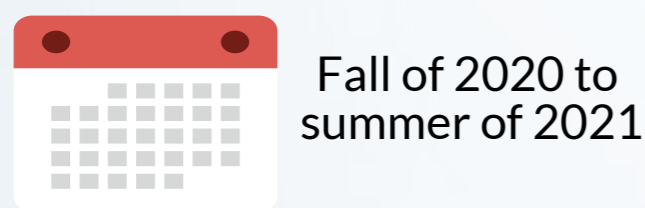
Research Questions

1. What is the relationship between the use of Sentinel City® virtual simulation program for student community/public/population health nursing clinical learning and their ability to meet their learning outcomes among different Canadian schools of nursing?
2. How do students' experiences differ and/or align across the different jurisdictional sites?

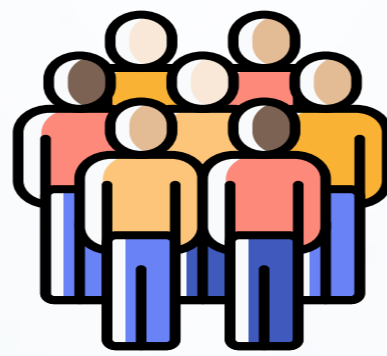
Research Methodology



When ?



Study population



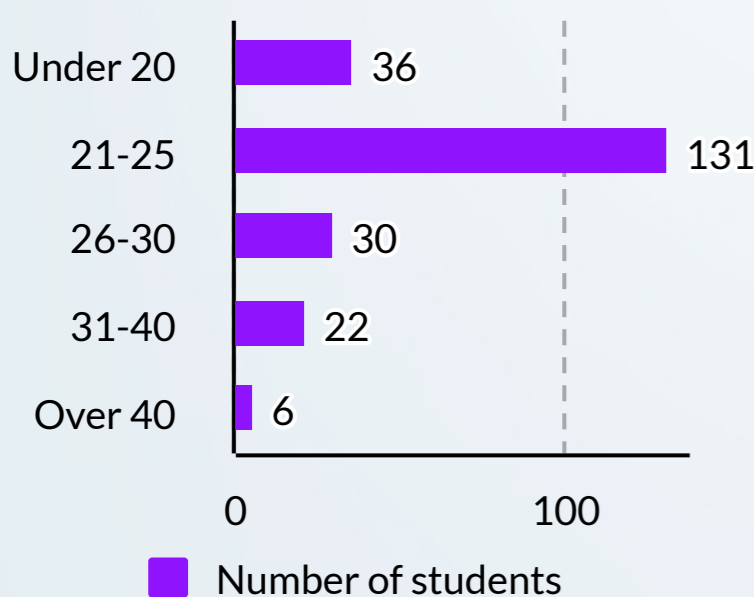
All registered (2020/2021 academic year) nursing students (n=1,340) in community health nursing courses

Participants

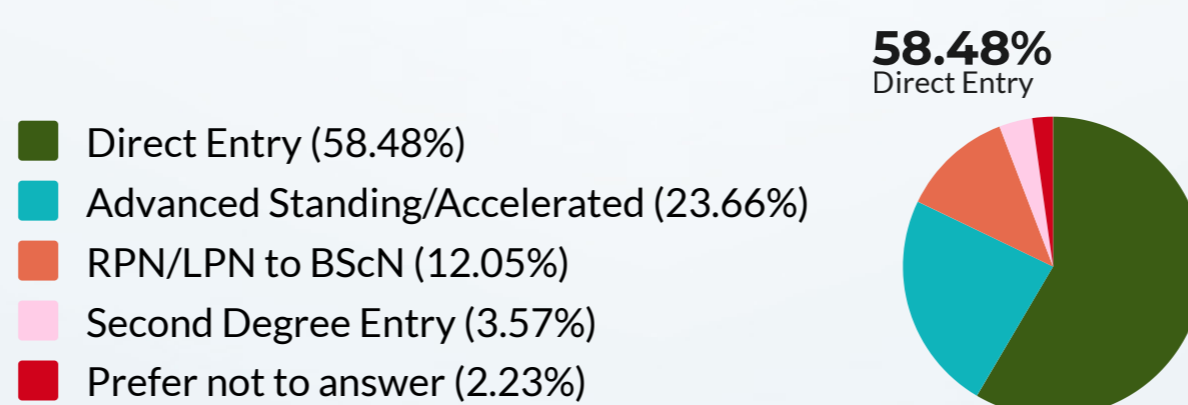
N=272 consenting students
Response rate of 20.2%

Results

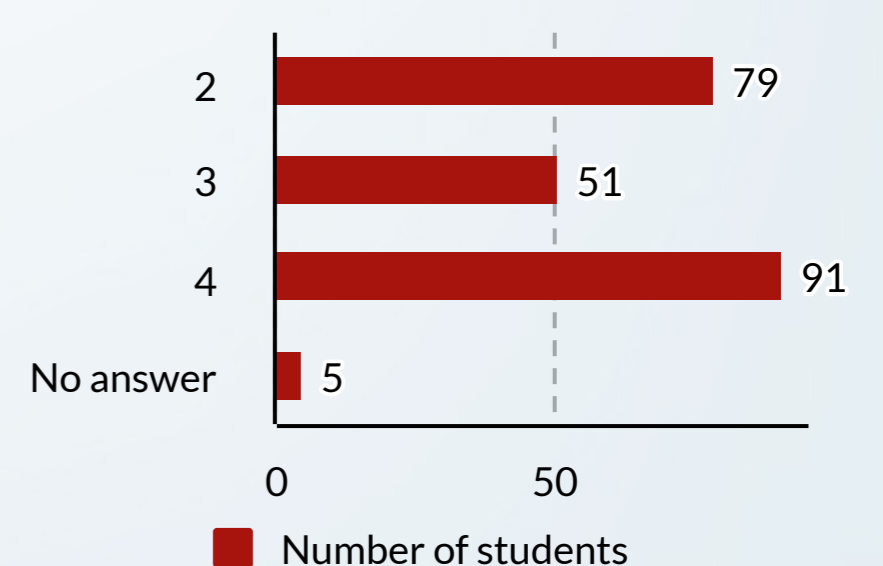
Age



Stream in the Program

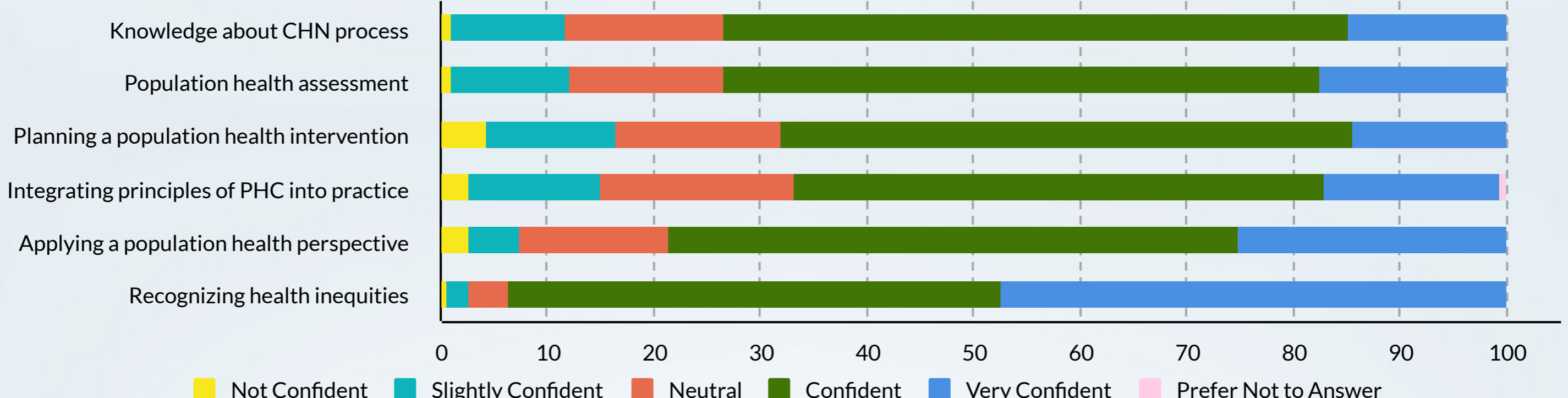


Year of Program

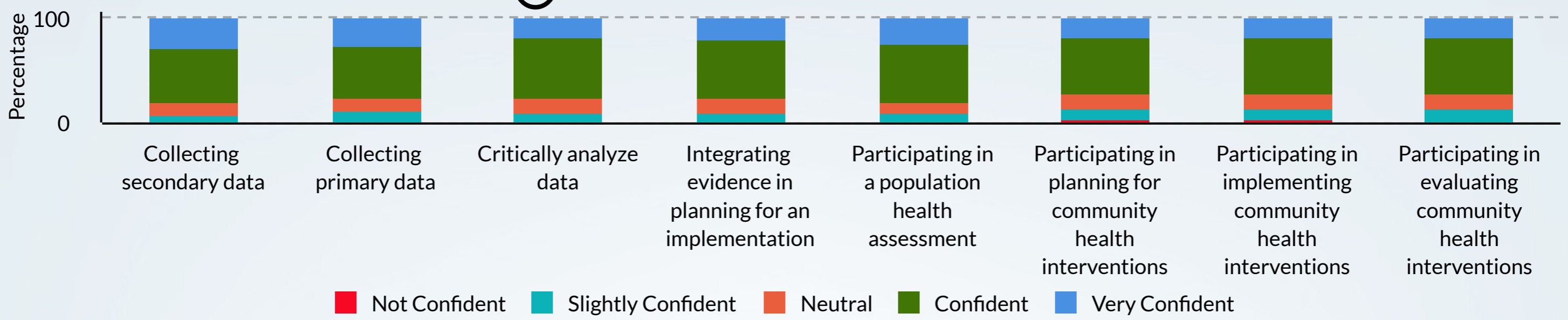


Learning Outcomes

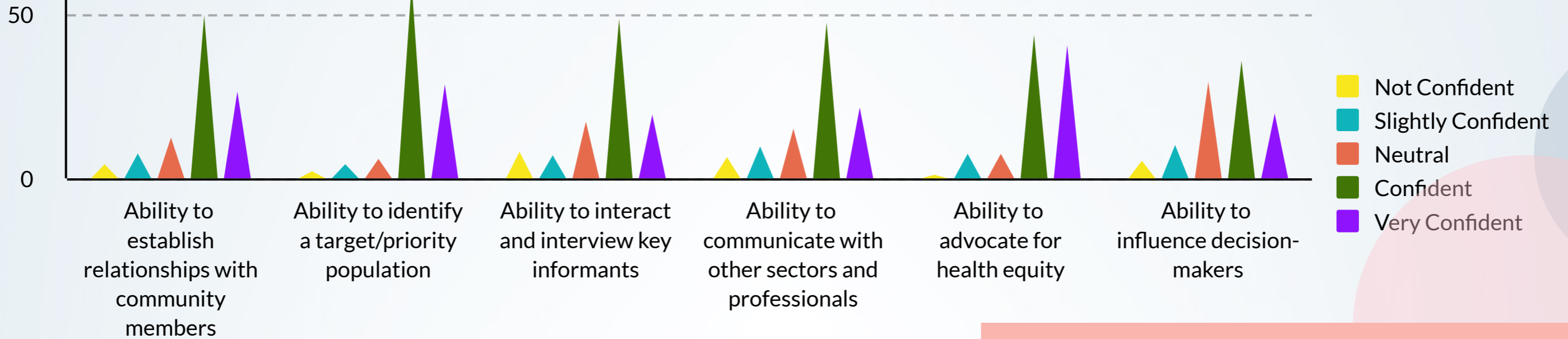
Knowledge/Critical thinking



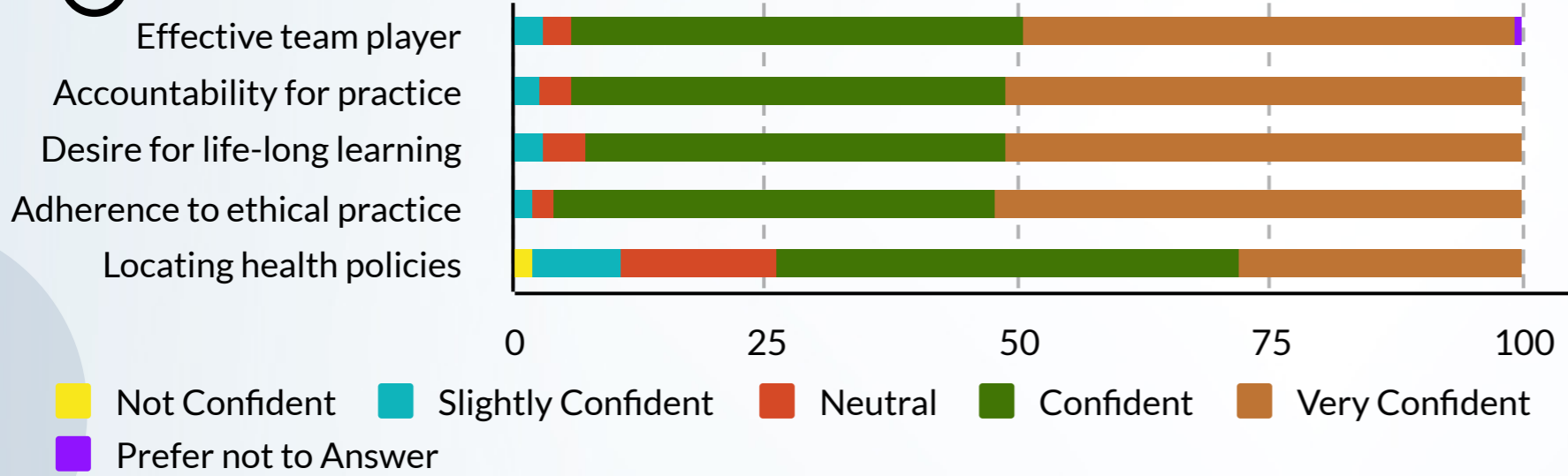
Confidence in Practice



Communication, Collaboration and Leadership



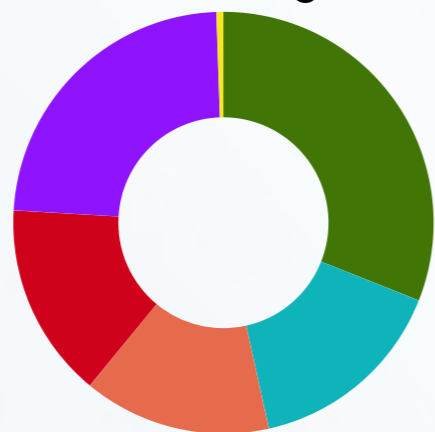
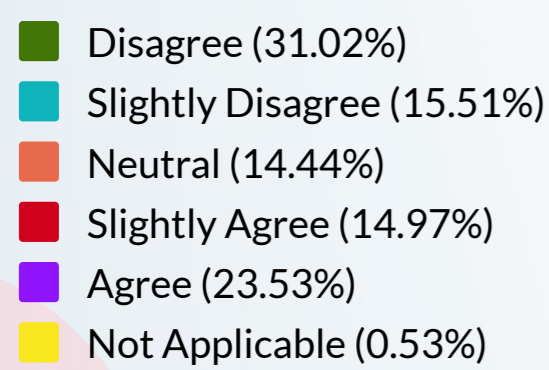
Legal, Ethical and Professional Accountability



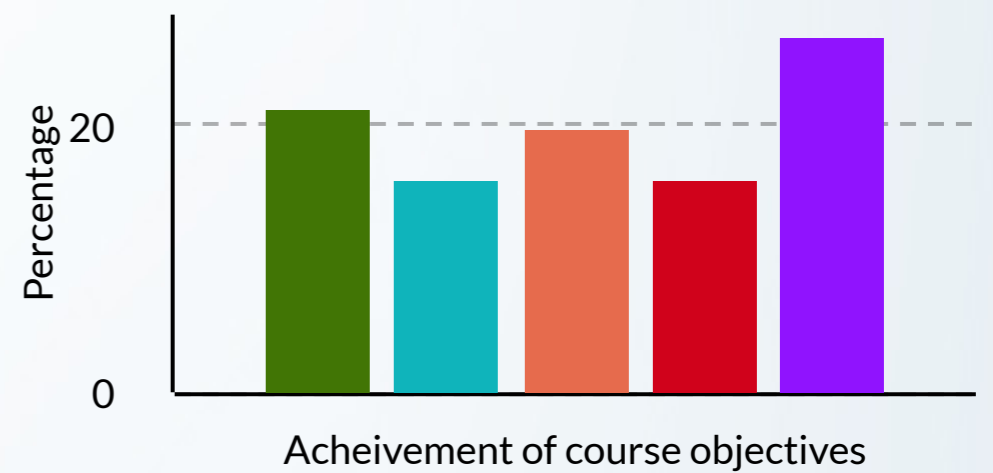
Results Highlight

- The students demonstrated high confidence in:
- Knowledge/ critical thinking
 - Practice
 - Communication, collaboration and leadership
 - Legal, ethical and professional accountability

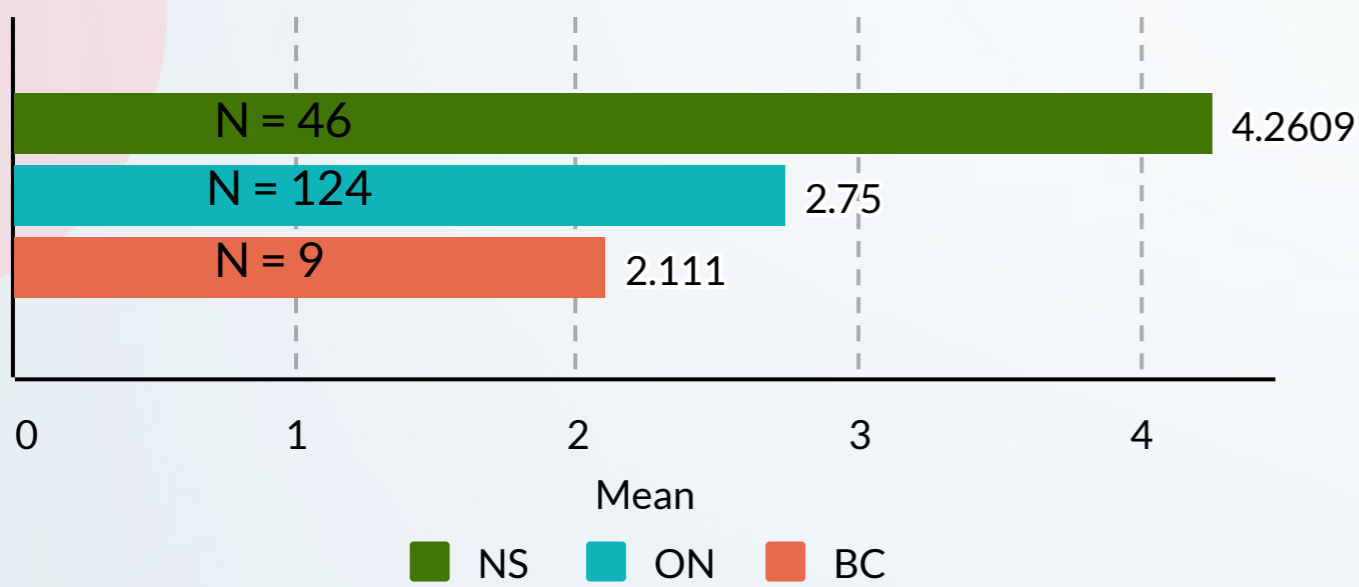
Satisfaction with Sentinel City®



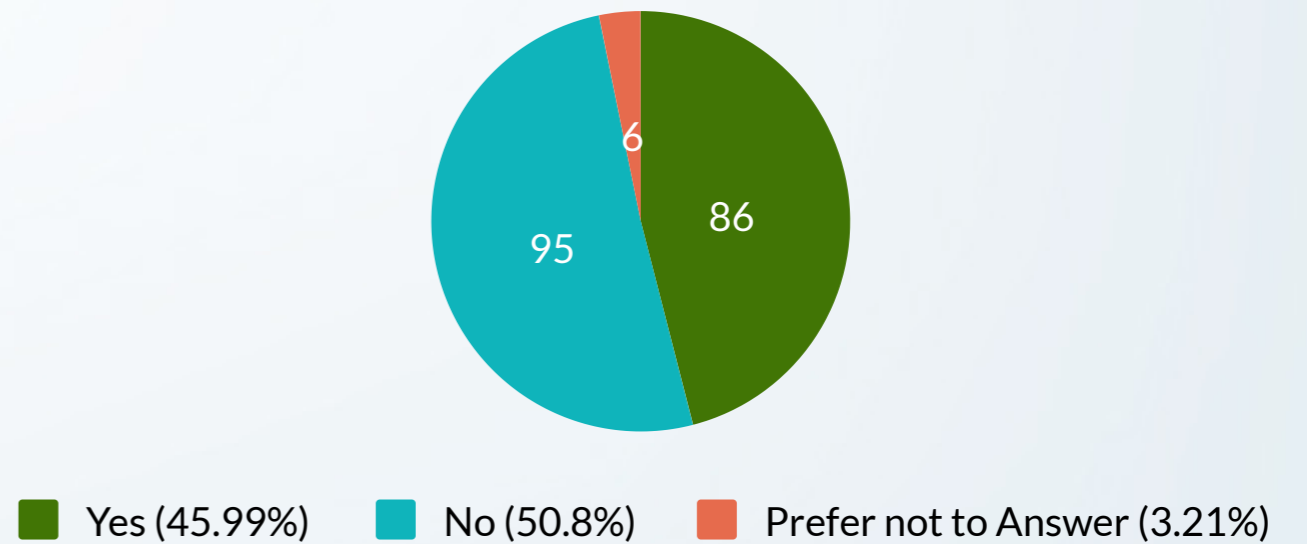
Sentinel City® and Achievement of Course Objectives



Learning Outcomes by Jurisdiction



Future Recommendations



How did Sentinel City® support learning in a community practicum?

"I am disappointed in this experience and believe I would have had the ability to learn so much more if this was an in-person practicum, it baffles me that a virtual experience was selected over a real placement as it will never compare."

Enhanced Understanding of Community Health Nursing

Not Meeting Clinical Expectations

"It allowed me to be able to survey various communities within one city. This was helpful because it showed that people have different needs and issues, despite being in the same larger overall area. Sentinel was able to highlight issues within certain population groups: poverty, single parenthood, homelessness, etc. which really bring light to social justice and ensuring health equity to underserved populations."

Recommendations

- Virtual simulation should be used as a complementary teaching tool to support students' learning.
- Addition of built-in opportunities for student self-evaluation.
- Integration of a variety of clinical activities geared toward students at different levels of education.
- A robust orientation and professional development program for clinical instructors.

Research Team Members

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Disclaimer : The research team has no affiliation, monetary or otherwise, with Sentinel City®