

# Clinical Placements & Preceptorships:

**UNDERGRADUATE NURSING  
PROGRAMS IN MICHIGAN**

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# Purpose of This Study

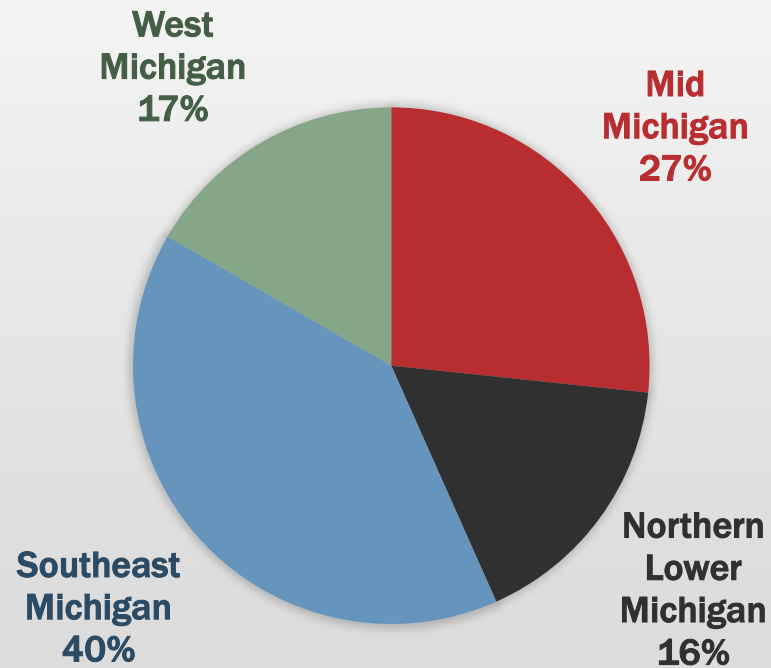
**Nursing educators need more information about undergraduate clinical and preceptorship placements in Michigan in order to formulate suggestions for improving these critical educational activities:**

# Data Collection

- Statewide survey of clinical placement and preceptor coordinators at undergraduate RN programs
- Data for calendar year 2015
- On-line survey conducted August – November 2016
- Design reviewed with members of the Education Advisory Team, Michigan Nursing Action Coalition
- Design help and administrative support provided by the Michigan Health Council
- Special thanks to clinical coordinators who took the time to participate in this survey

# Survey Response Rate = 44%

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF PARTICIPATING NURSING SCHOOLS



SURVEY RESPONSES BY LOCATION AND INSTITUTION TYPE

	Private College or University	Public University	Community College	Total
Mid Michigan	3	3	2	8
Northern Lower Michigan	2	0	3	5
Southeast Michigan	4	3	5	12
West Michigan	1	0	4	5
Upper Peninsula	0	0	0	0
	10	6	14	30

# Educational Settings and Placement Activities

- Findings here are generally applicable to undergraduate nursing programs throughout Michigan
- Survey participants represent close to half of all undergraduate nursing programs in Michigan
- As expected:
  - Public universities provide almost all of the BSN education in Michigan
  - Community colleges provide most of the ADN education in Michigan

# Graduates at Participating Undergraduate RN Programs in 2015

	Number of Schools	ADN Students	BSN Students	Total Students
Private 4-Year College or University	10	132	186	318
Public (state) University	6	0	939	939
Public Community College	14	1,380	0	1,380
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>2,637</b>

# Clinical Training and Preceptorship Placements

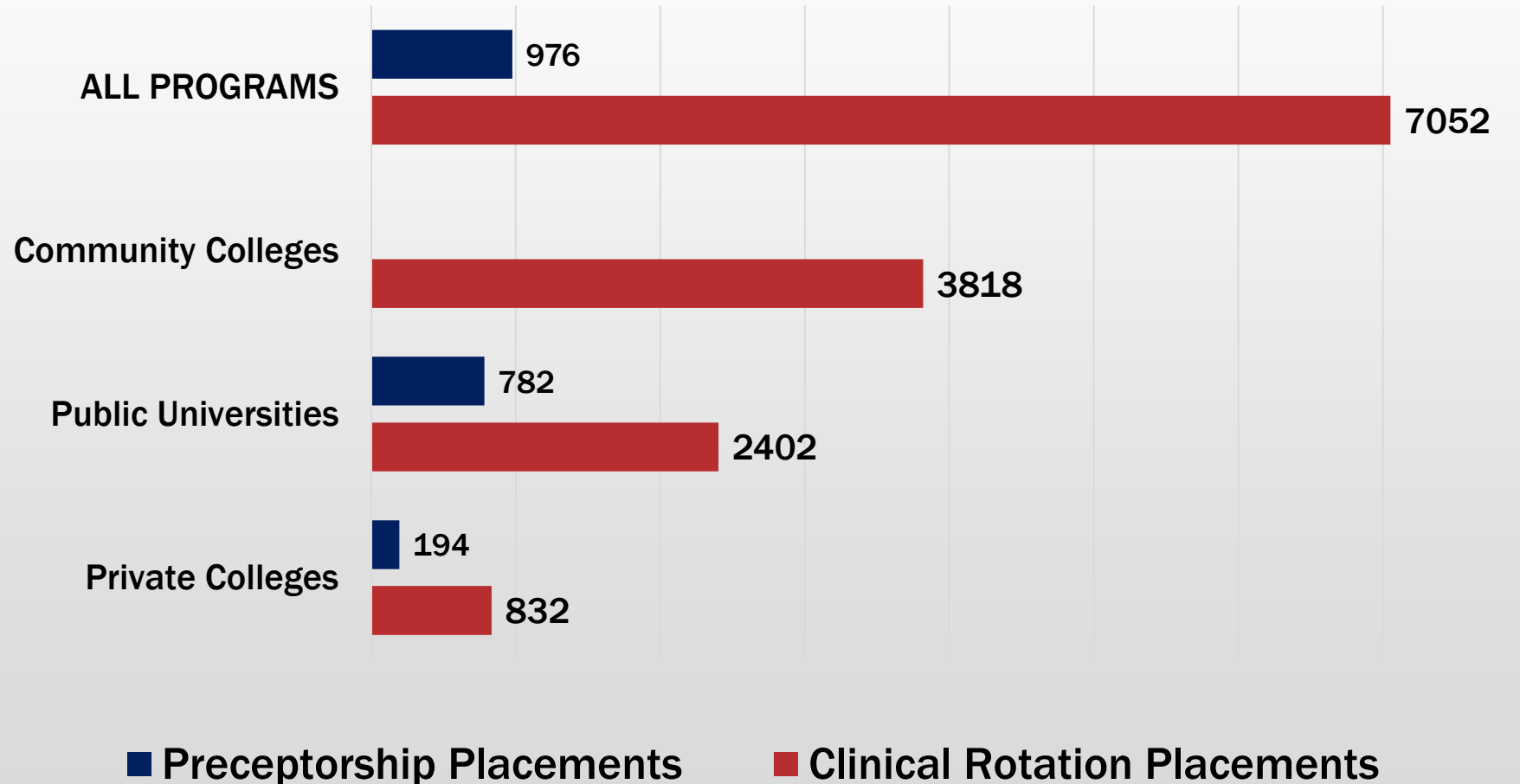
## CLINICAL TRAINING PLACEMENTS

- Coordinators at public universities and community colleges typically place hundreds of students in clinical settings each year
- Respondents facilitated more than 7,000 undergraduate clinical placements in 2015

## PRECEPTOR PLACEMENTS

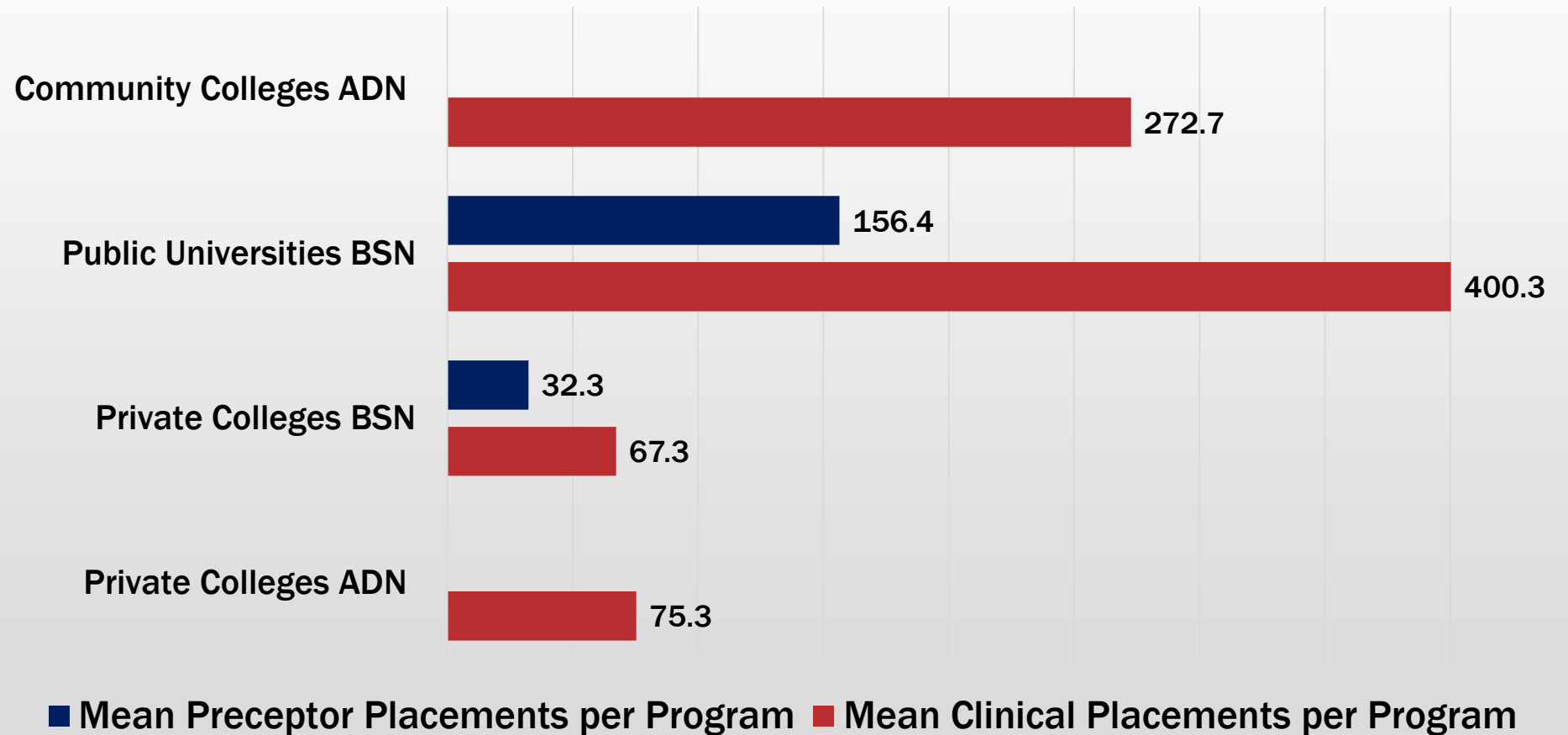
- Respondents facilitated almost 1,000 undergraduate preceptorships in 2015

# Undergraduate Clinical Placements and Preceptorships Facilitated in 2015

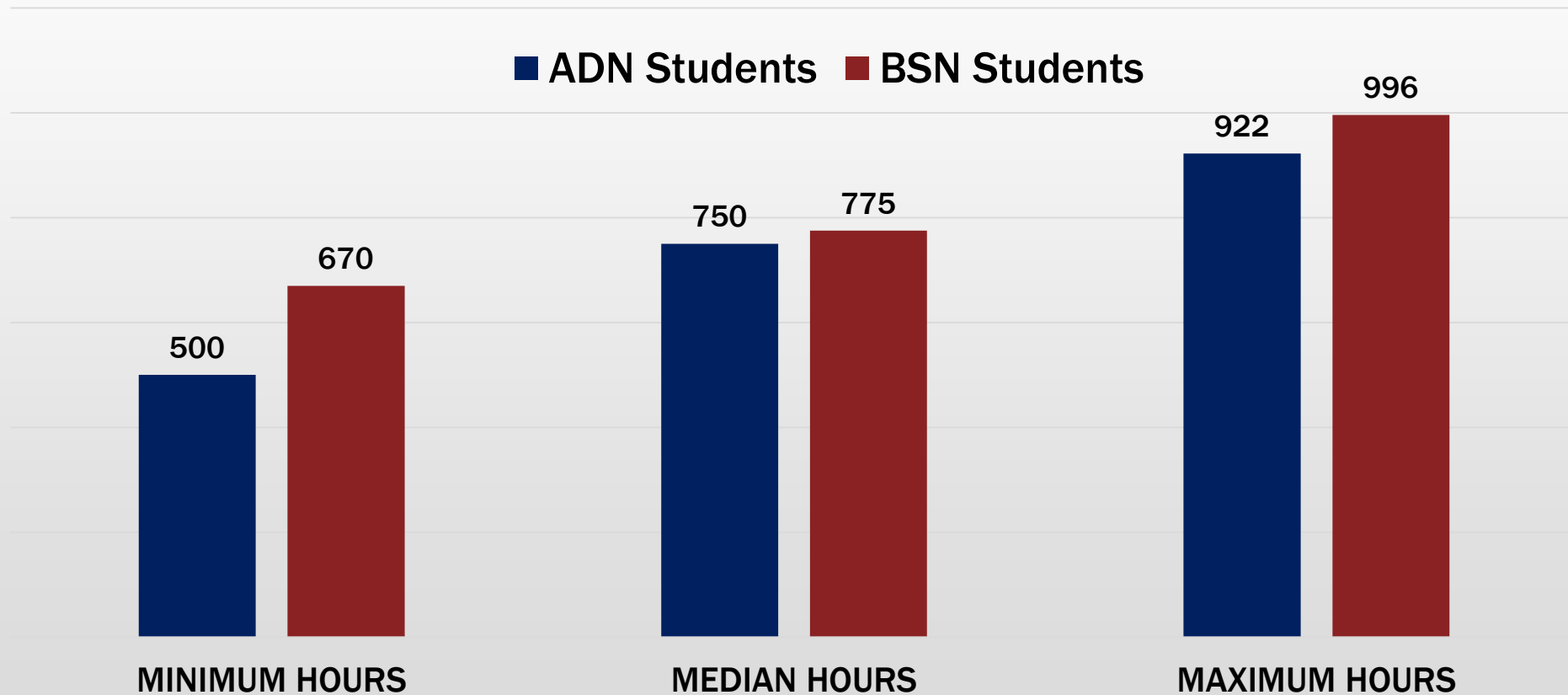




# Average Placements per Program in 2015

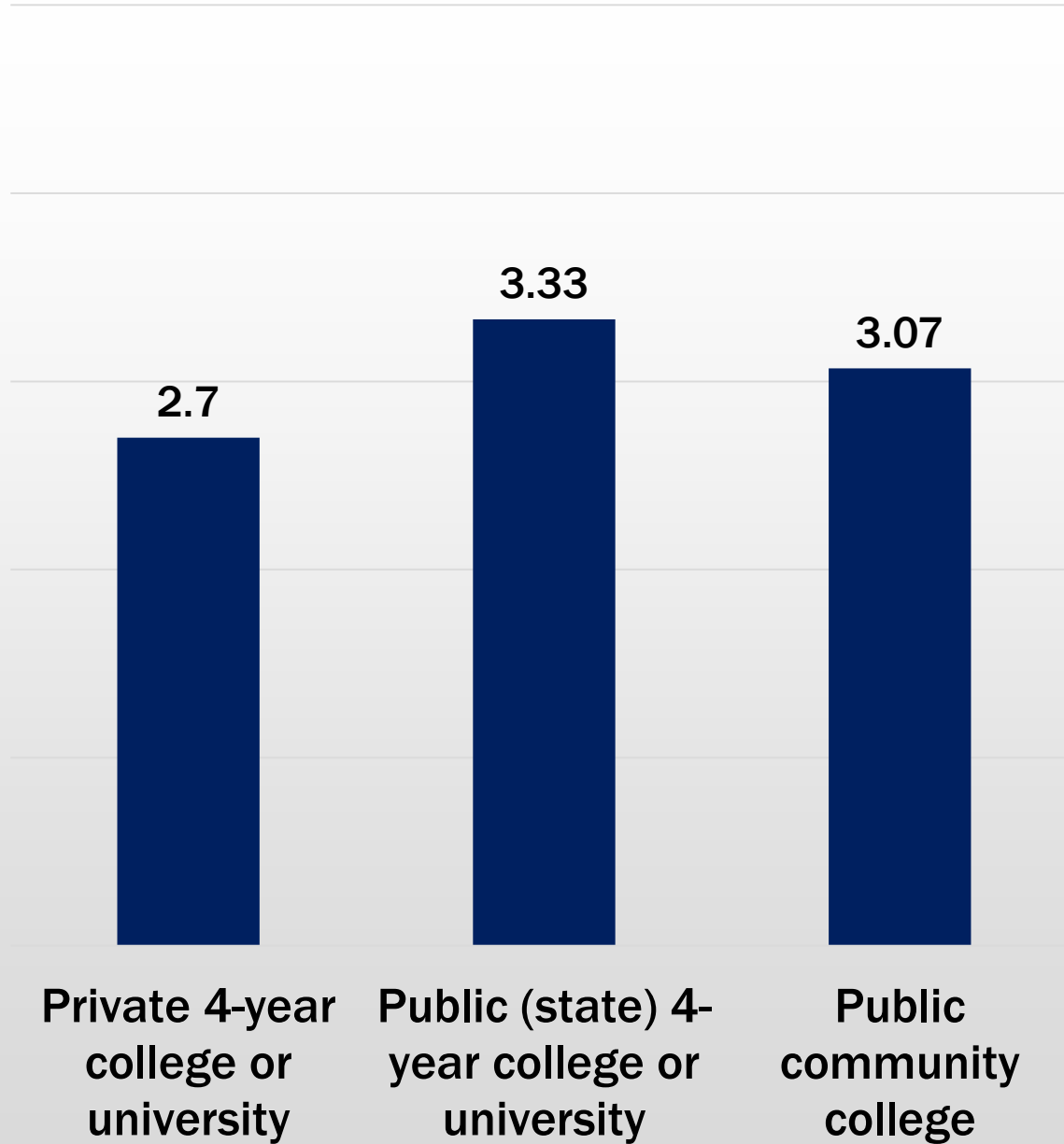


# Clinical Hours Required for Undergraduate RN Students



# Reported Difficulties in Placing Students

- Most respondents indicated some difficulty in placing undergraduate students for clinical rotations and preceptorships
- Most respondents reported at least some denials for clinical placements in 2015
- Clinical rotation denials:
  - Too many requests
  - Scheduling difficulties
- Preceptorship denials:
  - Too-few supervisors

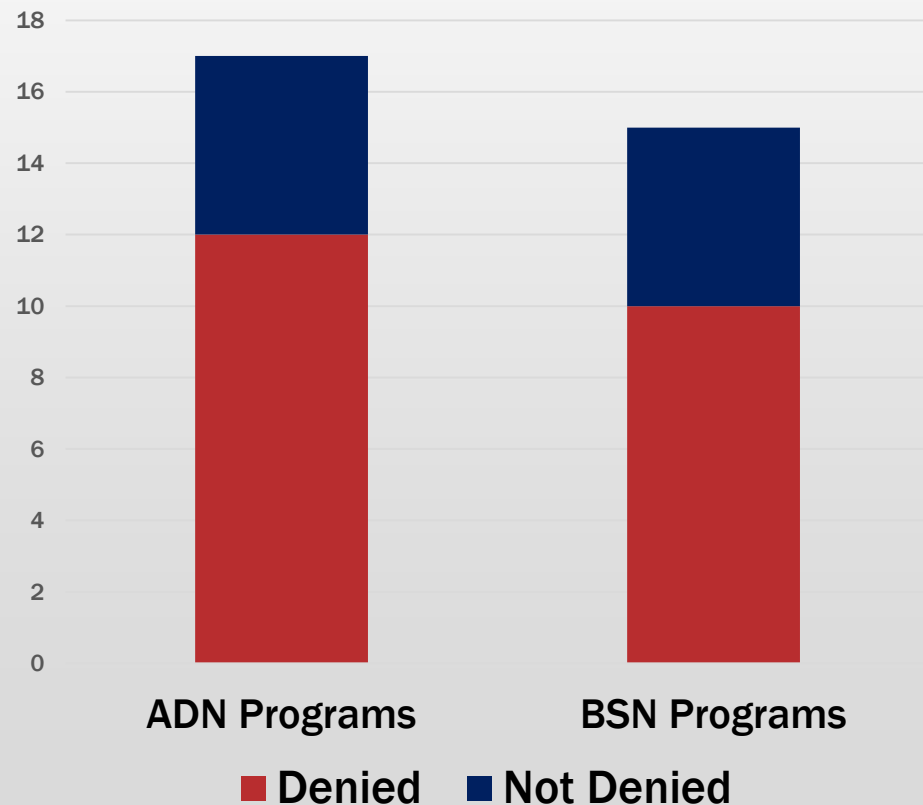


## Overall Ease of Placing Students in Clinical Rotations

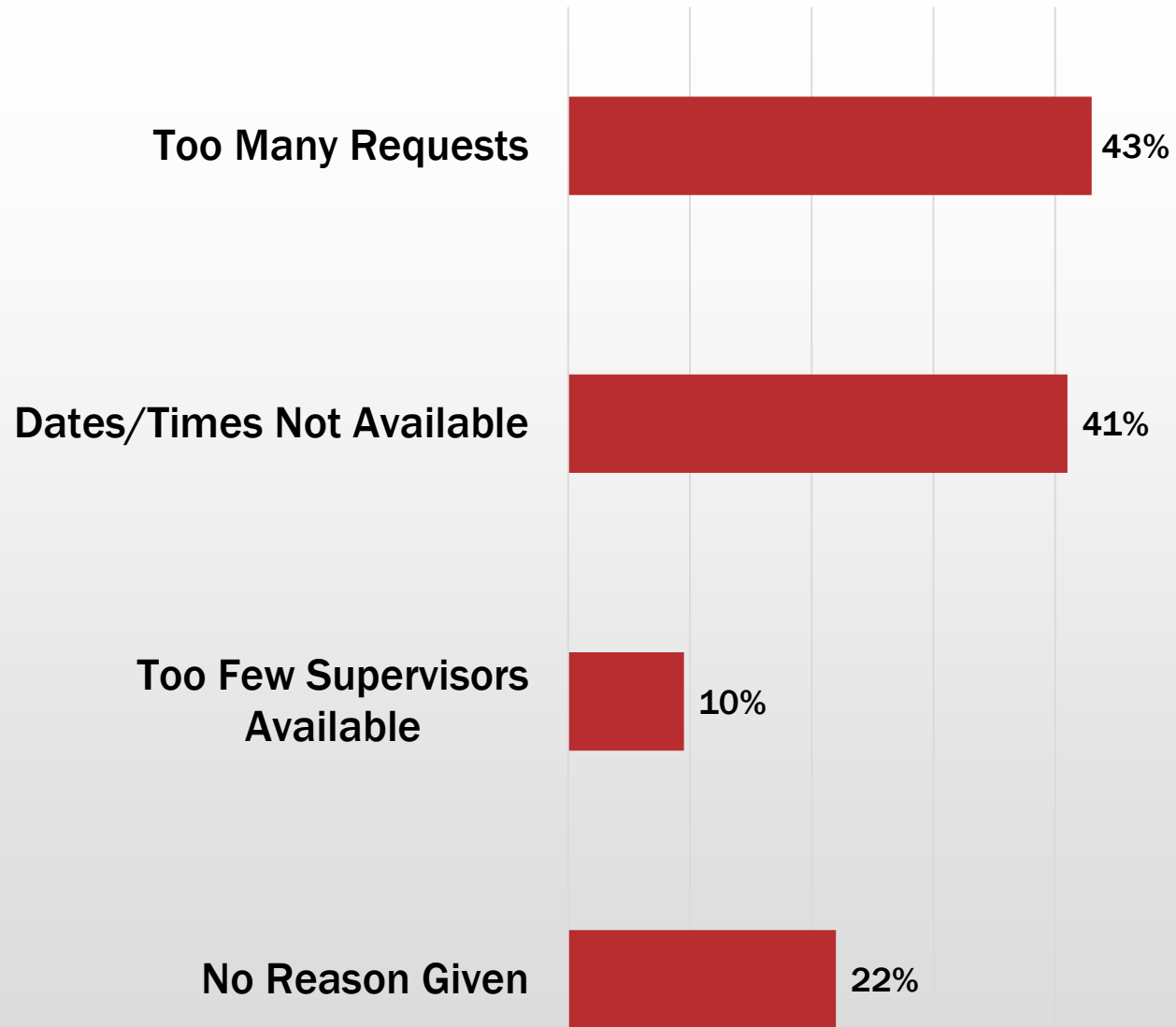
5 = Very Easy

0 = Very Difficult

- 71% of ADN Programs reported some clinical placement requests were denied
  - 113 requests denied.
- 67% of BSN Programs reported some clinical placement requests were denied
  - 50 requests denied.

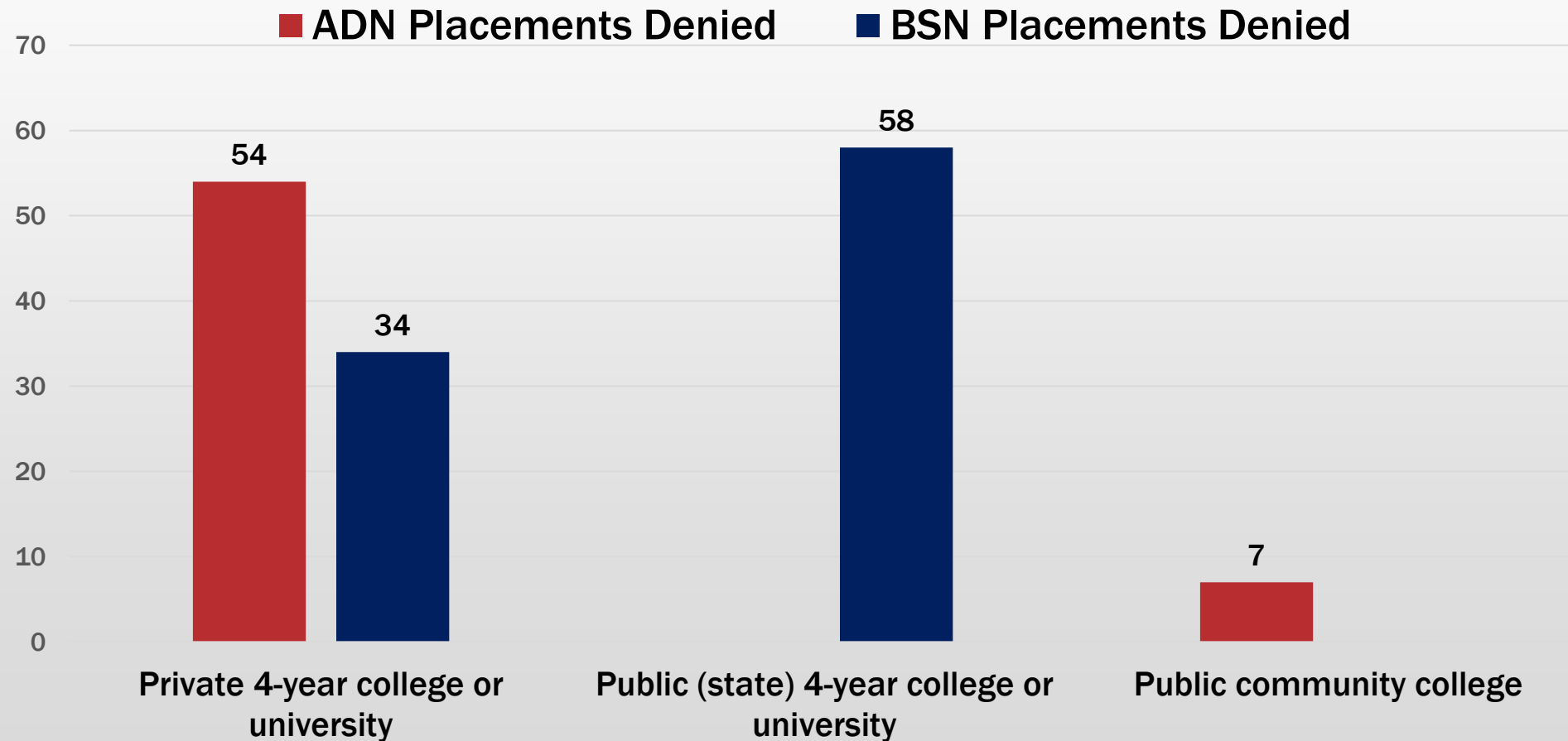


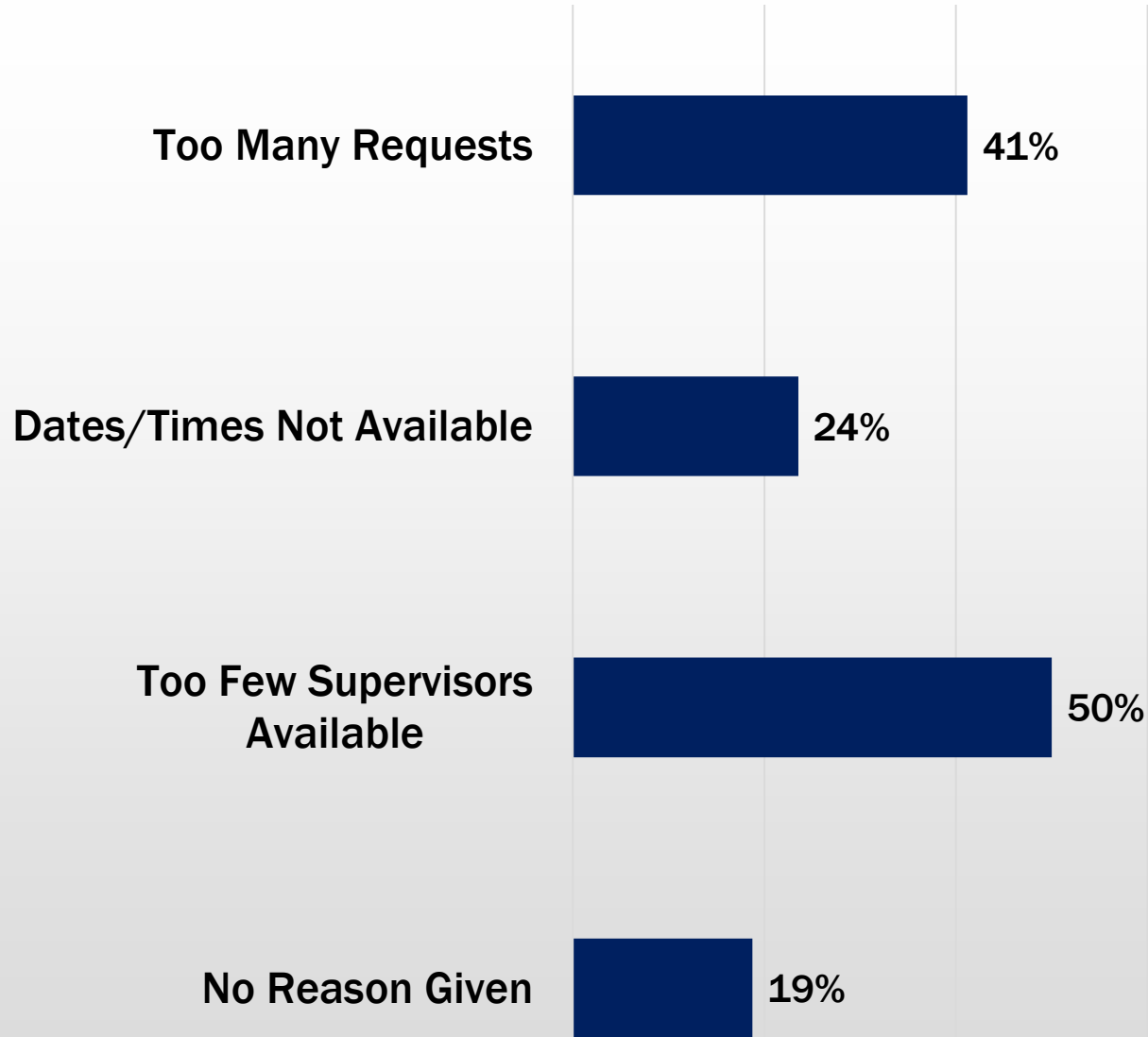
**Clinical  
Placement  
Denials in 2015**



**“Common” or  
“Very Common”  
Reasons for  
Denying Clinical  
Placements**

# Preceptorship Placement Denials in 2015





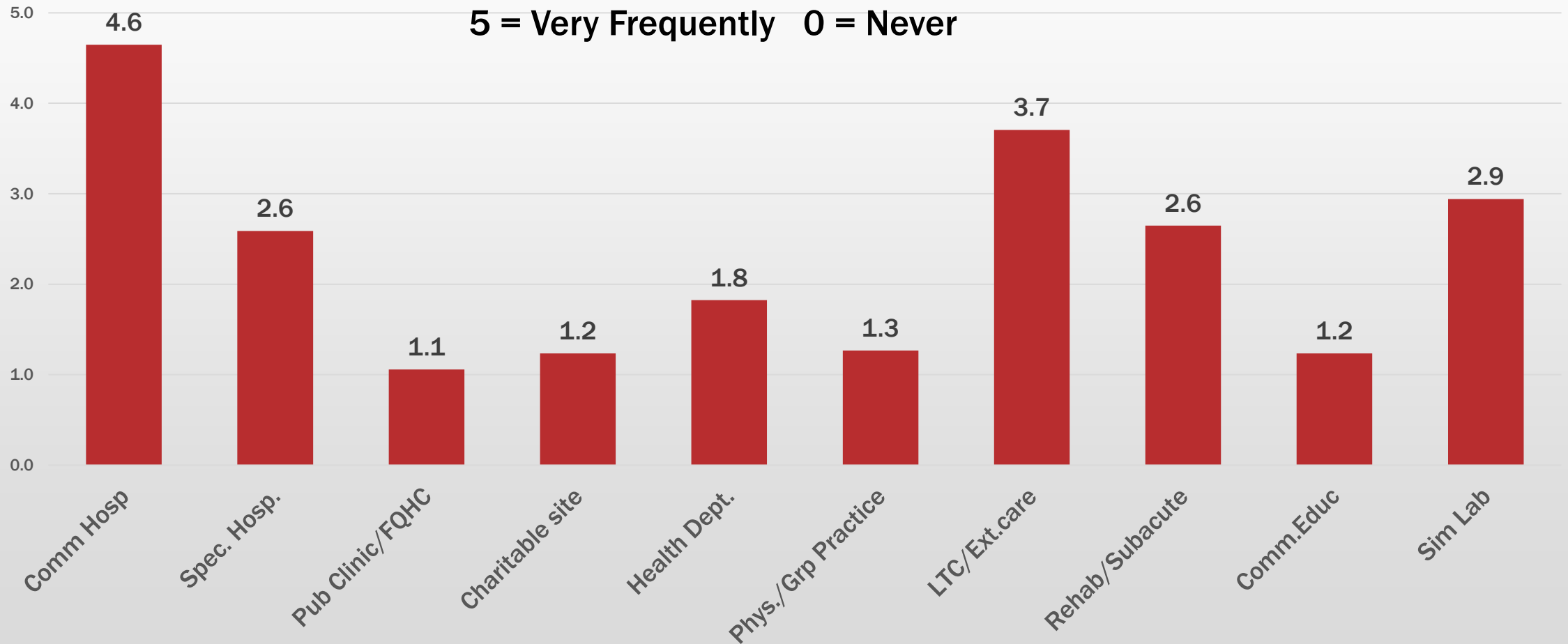
**“Common” or  
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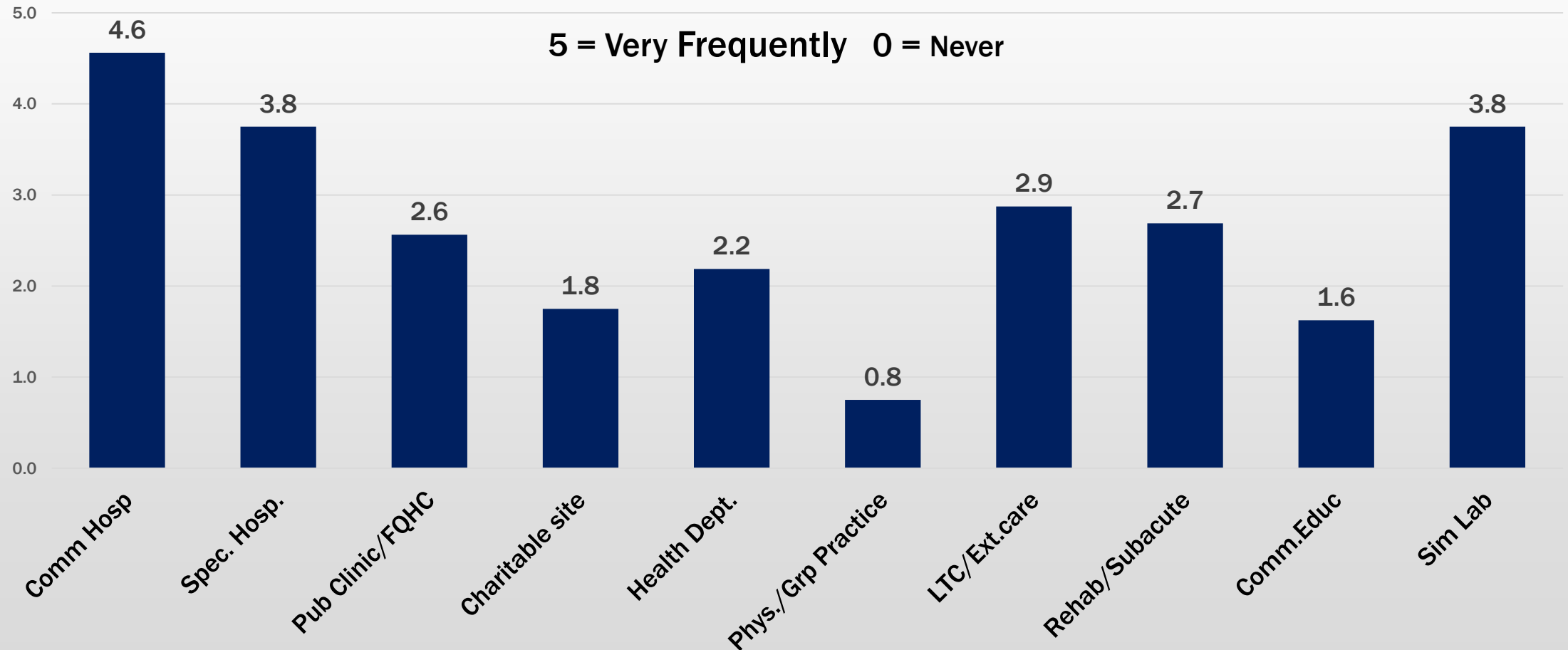
# Clinical Placement Locations

- Clinical placements sites for ADN and BSN student nurses are very similar
- Hospitals remain are the most common clinical training sites for all nursing students
- Non-traditional sites are much less common for all nursing students
- SIM Labs are also an important setting for both ADN and BSN student nurses to gain clinical experience

# ADN Clinical Placement Locations



# BSN Clinical Placement Locations



# Summary of Findings (1)

- Michigan nursing schools are facilitating as many as 19,000 undergraduate clinical placements each year
- Up to 2,000 preceptorships per year
- The great majority of these placements are made by public universities and community colleges
- ADN students are required to complete an average of 550 hours of clinical training
- BSN students are required to complete an average of 575 hours
- Most coordinators report some difficulty in placing their students in clinical or preceptor placements

# Summary of Findings (2)

- Too many requests and scheduling difficulties are the most common reasons for denying clinical placement requests
- Too few preceptors is the most common reason for denying preceptorship requests
- The most common ADN clinical settings are community hospitals, long-term care facilities, and SIM Labs
- The most common BSN clinical settings are community hospitals, specialty hospitals, and SIM Labs
- Non-traditional clinical sites are less often used to provide students with clinical training

# Moving Forward to Improve Clinical and Preceptorship Placements (1)

1. This survey confirms several issues about clinical training that have been reported anecdotally;
2. Use this survey as a basis for learning more about clinical training and preceptorships through:
  - a. Conduct a basic survey with nursing educators at Michigan hospitals and other clinical/preceptorship settings
  - b. Conduct interviews with clinical placement coordinators and nurse educators to gain detailed insights into:
    - Clinical placement and preceptorship hurdles or barriers
    - Best practices they have identified
    - Their suggestions for changes and improvements

# Moving Forward to Improve Clinical and Preceptorship Placements (2)

1. Use these findings to compare the processes of placing Michigan undergraduate RN students in clinical and preceptorship placements with those processes conducted elsewhere around the country
2. Use all these findings to craft meaningful policy and programmatic suggestions for improving these critical training activities

**For further information or suggestions for moving this research forward, please contact us:**

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