

Immigrant and Refugee Families in Pediatric Primary Care: A Descriptive Analysis of Needs in a New to the U.S. Clinic

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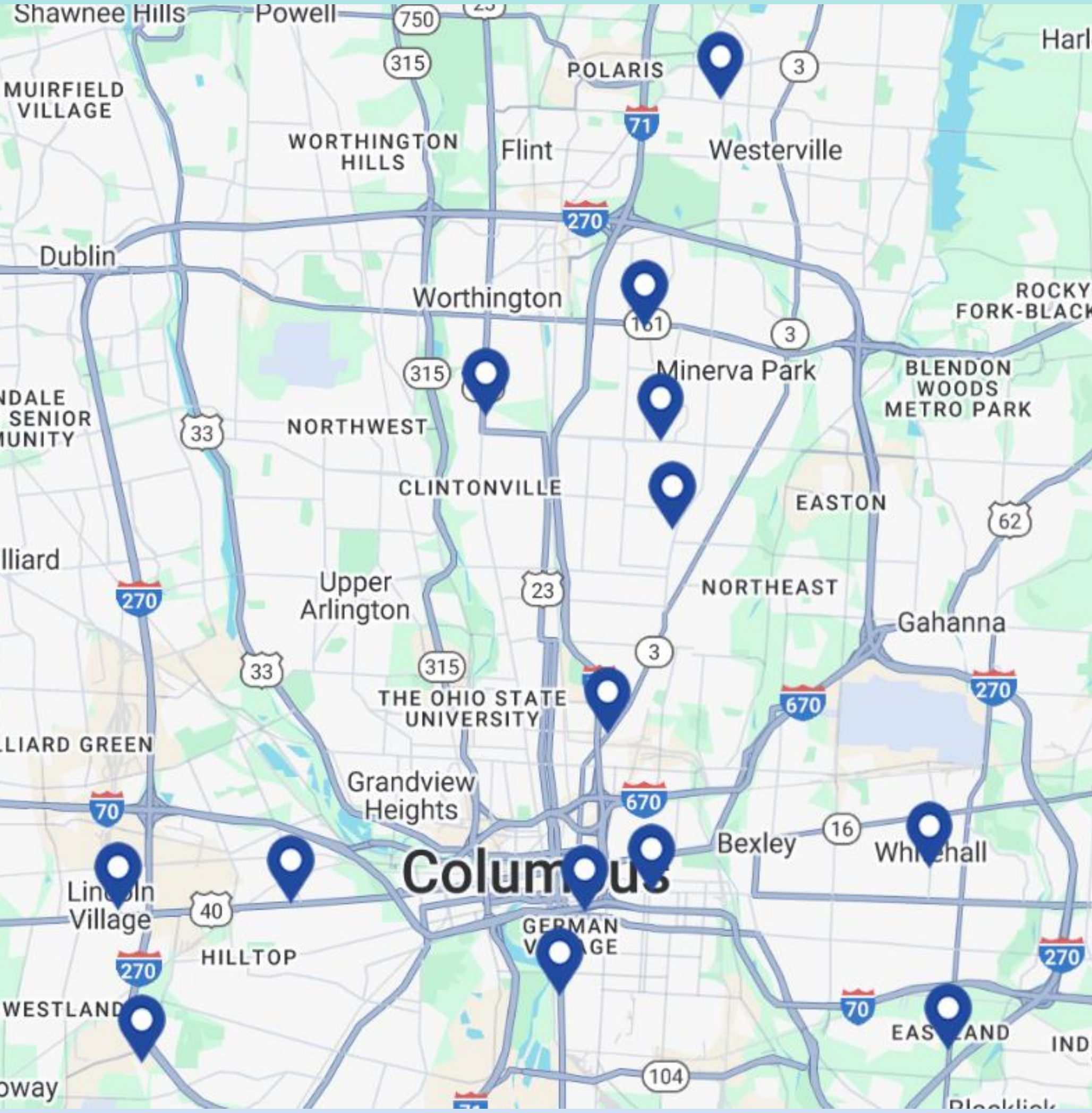
Introduction

- The New to U.S. Clinic at Nationwide Children's Hospital aims to welcome families and facilitate their connection to a new healthcare system.
- Primary care behavioral health clinicians play a role in understanding the needs of immigrants and refugees, enhancing access to services, and providing recommendations.
- The study aims to describe:
 - 1) demographics of immigrants and refugees establishing to pediatric primary care
 - 2) their needs and
 - 3) primary care response to these needs.

Method

Data were collected via retrospective chart review from June 2023 through March 2025.

Results



Primary Care Clinic	n
Downtown	113
Eastland	213
Hilltop	179
Lincoln Village	792
Linden	79
Near East	43
Northern Lights	157
Northland	229
Olentangy	590
Sharon Woods	346
South High	3
Westerville	133
Westside	192
Whitehall	178

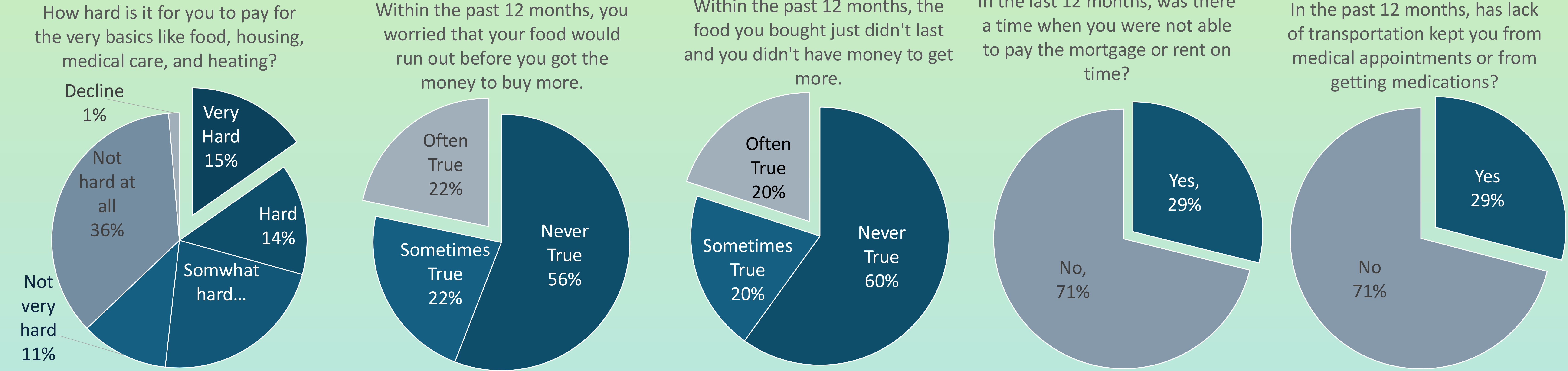
Demographics

- 3,257 children and adolescents ($M_{age}=7.14$, $SD=4.72$; 48.2% female) who resettled in Columbus Ohio within the past 2 years.
- 25% Black/African American, 30% Hispanic
- Over 50 different languages represented
- Over 60 countries represented

Results

Social Determinants of Health

- 52% ($n = 1,707$) completed the social determinants of health (SDOH) survey
- To address needs, 20% of families met with a social worker same day

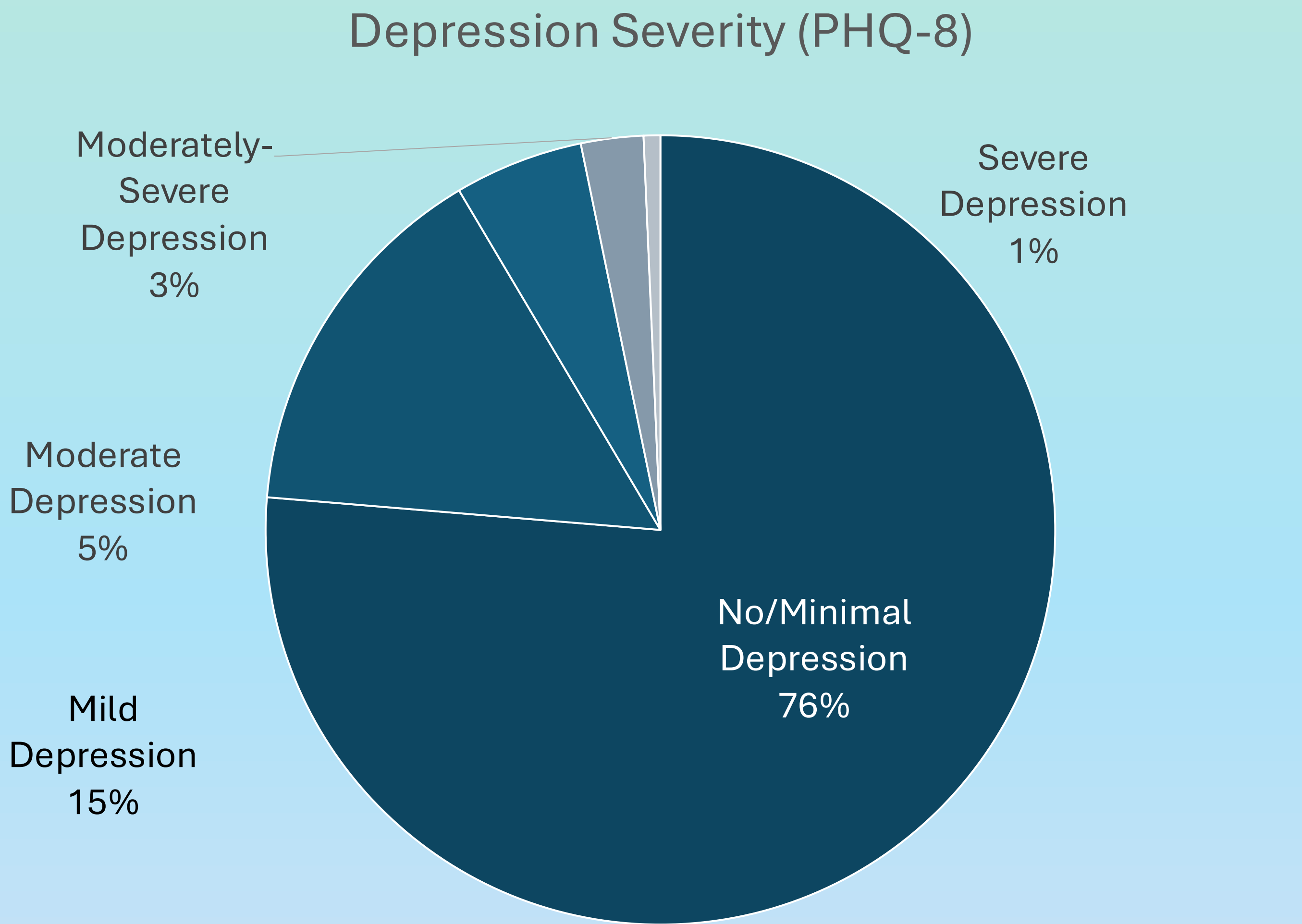


Developmental Screening

- The completion rate for the MCHAT among 2-year-olds establishing care was 52%, with 4% in the *elevated* range.

Depression and Suicidal Ideation Screening

- Depression screening had an 84% completion rate
 - Primary Care Network average = 92%
- Depression scores:
 - 15% *Mild*
 - 8% *Moderate-to-Moderately Severe*
 - <1% *Severe*
- Of adolescents scoring ≥ 10 on the PHQ-8, 72% were consulted by social workers or psychologists during their appointment.
- 2% reported a historical suicide attempt, 2% reported wishing they were dead, and 3% reported believing their family would be better off if they were dead.
- 20% of patients with an elevated PHQ-8 score completed a mood follow-up visit; Primary Care Network average = 52% - 68%



Conclusions

- Results highlight lower initial depression screening than institutional goal and high utilization of social workers and psychologists.
- Results highlight areas for improvement including improved autism screening for 2-year-olds establishing care, SDOH screening, and mood follow-up appointments.
- Future Directions:
 - Increase consistent follow-up for elevated mood concerns
 - Education on importance of developmental screeners for 2-year-old patients establishing care from other countries.