MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

- 78% Increase
- 22% Same

Individual membership of the small member organisations (<100) in the region increased, on average, by 38%

78% of member organisations in the region have increased their membership during the last year.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS PER 10,000 POPULATION IN SOUTH AMERICA REGION

- 2019: 7.2
- 2020: 7.2
- 2021: 7.2

7.2 is the average number of practising physiotherapists per 10,000 population in the World Physiotherapy South America region in 2021.
The region is the most balanced in terms of female board member representation: of the nine member organisations that took part in the census, four reported a higher percentage of female board members than the percentage of female physiotherapists in the workforce in their country/territory.
NUMBER OF COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES IN THE REGION WHERE PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE ALLOWED TO PROVIDE TELEHEALTH SERVICES

100% of countries/territories allow physiotherapists to provide telehealth services

11% increase since 2020 in number of countries/territories where physiotherapists can provide telehealth services
COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES WITH DIRECT ACCESS TO PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES IN THE SOUTH AMERICA REGION

- **22%** of countries/territories in the South America region have **full direct access** to physiotherapy services.
- **44%** reported that direct access is only allowed for **private physiotherapy** services.
- **33%** reported that direct access is **not allowed**.

![Map of South America showing countries with direct access to physiotherapy services.](image)
The Ecuadorian Society of Physiotherapy has increased their membership by 42% during the last year. A new board was elected in February 2020 and developed a number of strategies to increase engagement, including:

- developing as a dynamic board and keeping a fluent communication with their membership, attending to their complaints and suggestions. The board is aware that whenever a change is generated there is an increase in trust from individual members
- developing a plan that included marketing actions and the organisation of training and other activities for individual members
- during the COVID-19 pandemic, the society supported vaccination programmes and advocated for the vaccination of physiotherapists
South America region

Argentina
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
Mexico
Peru
Uruguay

90% of member organisations (9 out of 10) in the region submitted data for the 2021 census

DISCLAIMER

• The data in this report is based on responses to the annual membership census sent to World Physiotherapy’s member organisations.

• In 2021 the annual membership census was sent to 125 member organisations, of which 117 responded, representing a 94% response rate. The census date was 30 June 2021.

• Some data in this report has been collated from other sources available to World Physiotherapy.

• If you have any questions or concerns, or want to make changes to your country’s data, please contact membershipcensus@world.physio.

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