



World Physiotherapy

**SOUTH
AMERICA**

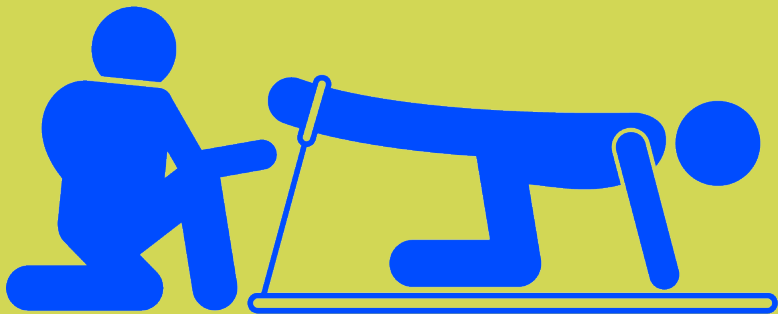
**ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
CENSUS**

2022

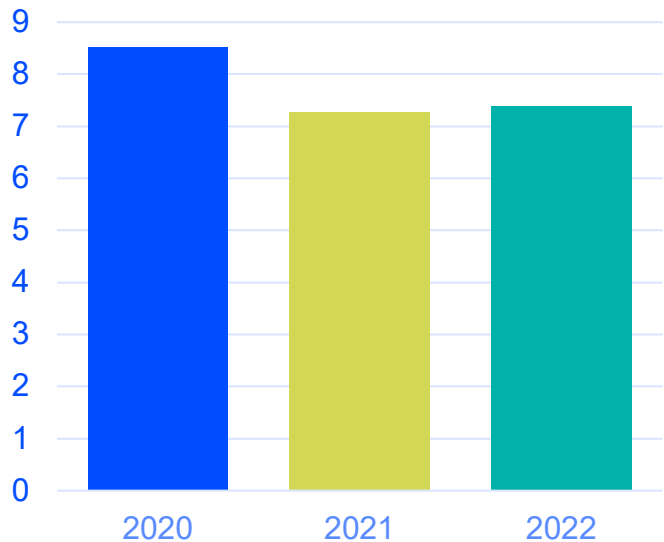


70%

of member organisations in the region **increased** their membership during 2022.



PHYSIOTHERAPISTS PER 10,000
POPULATION IN THE REGION



7.4

is the average number of **practising physiotherapists** per 10,000 population in the **South America region** in 2022.

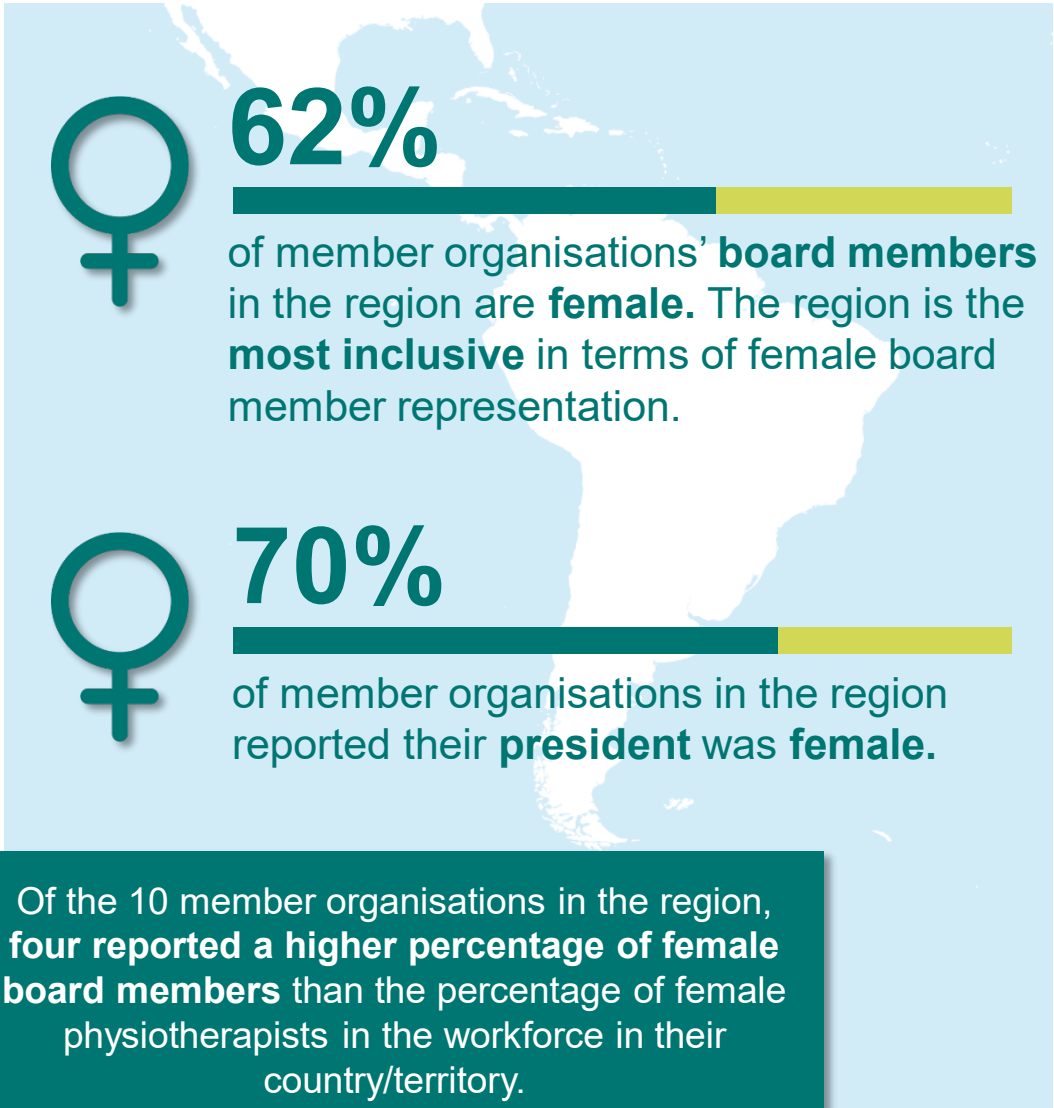


of individual members in **member organisations** in the **South America region** are female



of the physiotherapy workforce in the **South America region** are female

BOARD MEMBERS



COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES IN THE REGION WHERE PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE ALLOWED TO PROVIDE TELEHEALTH SERVICES



100%
of AMC respondents in the region
report **physiotherapists are
allowed to provide telehealth
services**

Permission to offer telehealth
services in the region has
remained consistent at 100%
since 2021



30%

of member organisations report that **physiotherapy** is **included** in health **emergency preparedness** measures in their country/territory.



IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



90%

of AMC respondents reported the capacity to provide **physiotherapy services** in their country/territory had **returned to a pre-pandemic level** or increased, regarding the number of physiotherapists working full-time and with access to necessary materials and resources.

THE THREE KEY
CHANNELS OF
COMMUNICATION
USED BY AMC
RESPONDENTS
TO COMMUNICATE
WITH THEIR
MEMBERS



SOUTH AMERICA | DIRECT ACCESS

COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES WITH DIRECT ACCESS TO PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES IN THE REGION



20%

of countries/territories have **full direct access** to physiotherapy services in the region.



40%

of the AMC respondents reported direct access only for **private physiotherapy** services.



40%

reported direct access is **not allowed**.

The most frequently reported **limitation to direct access** was **practice setting** (50%).



COSTA RICA - PERCEPTION OF THE PROFESSION

One of the strategic objectives of the Physical Therapy Commission of the Therapist Guild of Costa Rica is to educate the public on the physiotherapy profession. This has been achieved by identifying topics of interest each month for visual and written media.

The topics of interest are aimed at people seeking physiotherapist services and aim to foster connections within the physiotherapy community in Costa Rica.

The topics and common questions people have raised, on a range of physiotherapy issues, are shared with news or lifestyle programmes that focus on health issues.

The guild also produces supporting information about the management of different health conditions. The information uses plain language to improve understanding.

These approaches have enabled the guild to raise awareness and profile with radio, television, and digital media.



South America region
Argentina
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
Mexico
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela

100%
of member
organisations, all 10, in
the region submitted
data for the annual
membership census
(AMC) in 2022.

DISCLAIMER

- The data in this report is based on responses to the annual membership census (AMC) sent to World Physiotherapy’s member organisations.
- The AMC was sent to 125 member organisations, of which 116 responded, representing a 92.8% response rate. This is consistent with previous years’ response rates and demonstrates strong engagement between World Physiotherapy and its member organisations. The census date was 30 June 2022.
- 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.