



World Physiotherapy

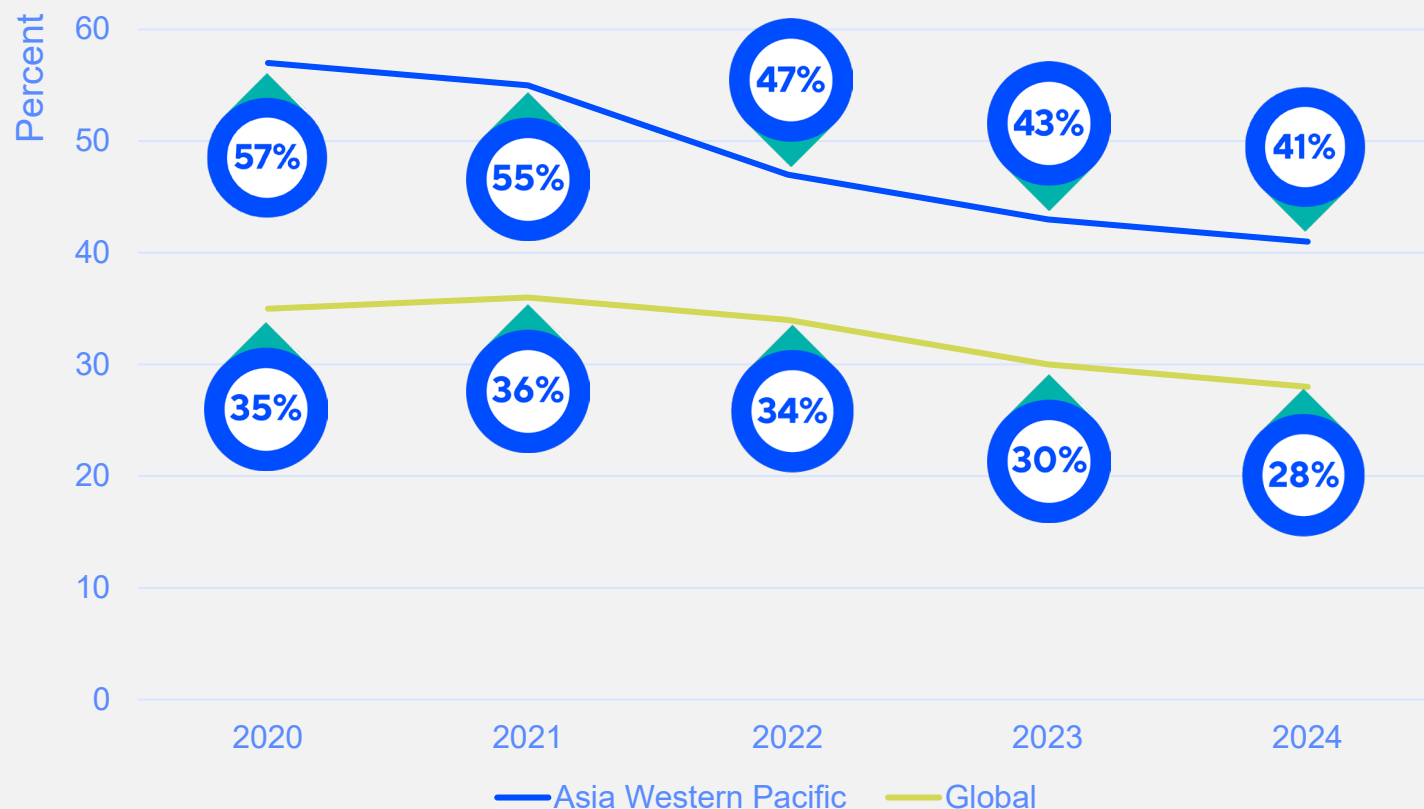
Asia Western
Pacific region

2024

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CENSUS

MEMBERSHIP AND PHYSIOTHERAPY WORKFORCE IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC

Percentage of physiotherapists who are members of a World Physiotherapy member organisation in the Asia Western Pacific region compared with total physiotherapy workforce



Since 2020, the percentage of physiotherapists who are members of a World Physiotherapy member organisation in the Asia Western Pacific region compared with the total workforce has decreased by

16%

This decrease is because the total number of physiotherapists in the region has increased at a faster rate than those represented by World Physiotherapy member organisations.

MEMBERSHIP AND PHYSIOTHERAPY WORKFORCE IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



70%

of AMC respondents in the Asia Western Pacific region **increased** their **membership** in 2024

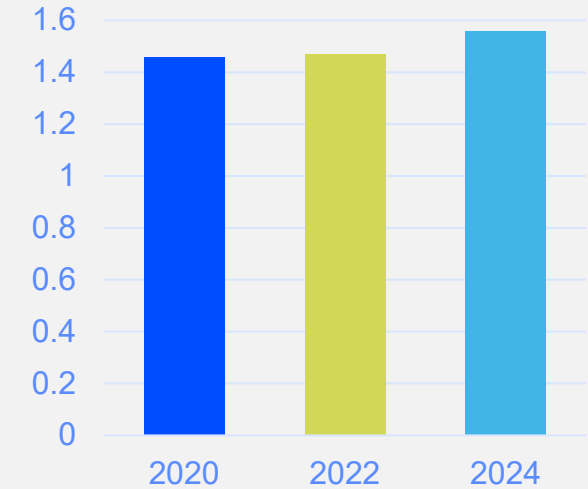


41%

of **physiotherapists** in the Asia Western Pacific region are **members** of their member organisation



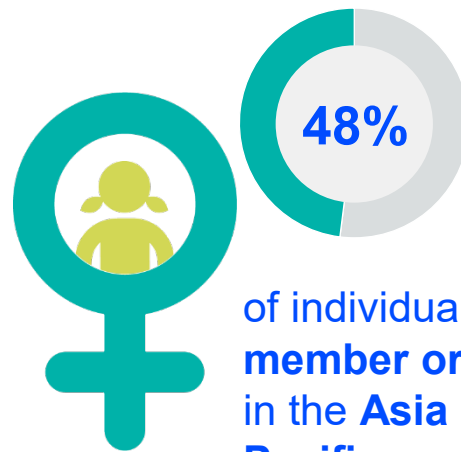
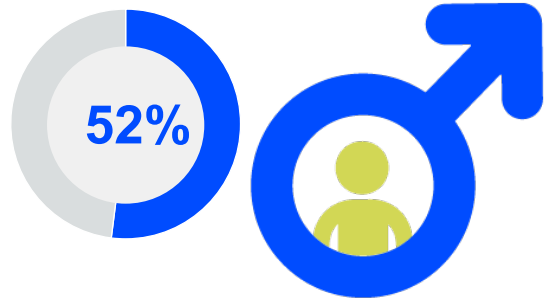
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS PER 10,000 POPULATION IN THE REGION



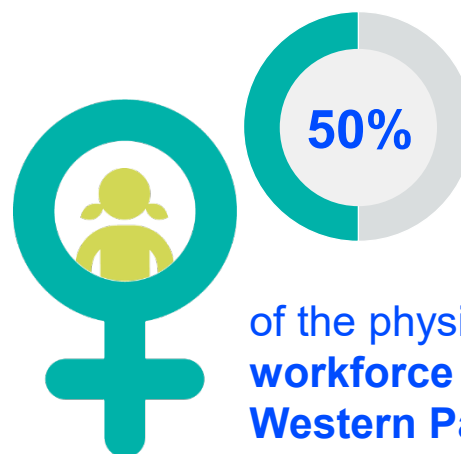
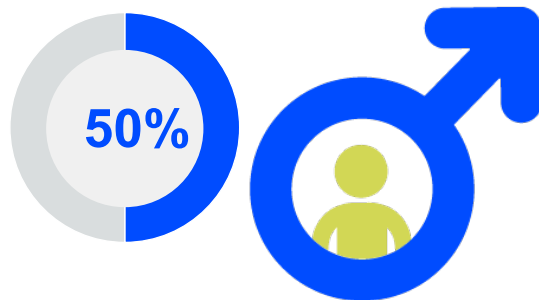
1.56

is the average number of **practising physiotherapists** per 10,000 population in the **Asia Western Pacific region** in 2024.

GENDER AND LEADERSHIP IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



of individual members in **member organisations** in the **Asia Western Pacific region** are **female**



of the physiotherapy **workforce** in the **Asia Western Pacific region** is **female**

BOARD MEMBERS



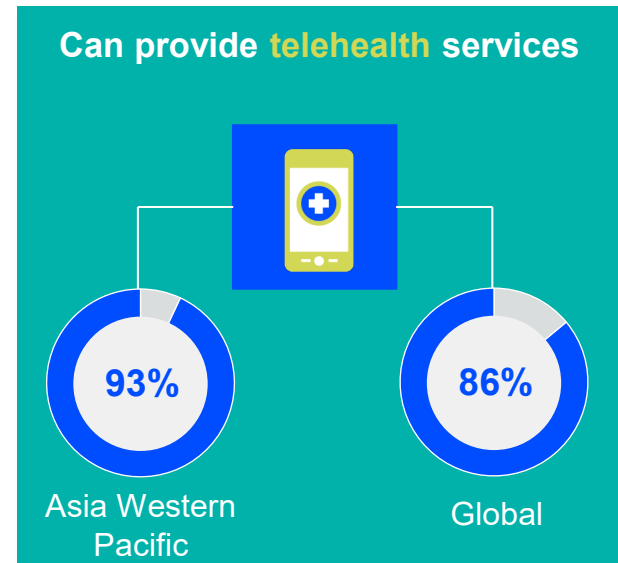
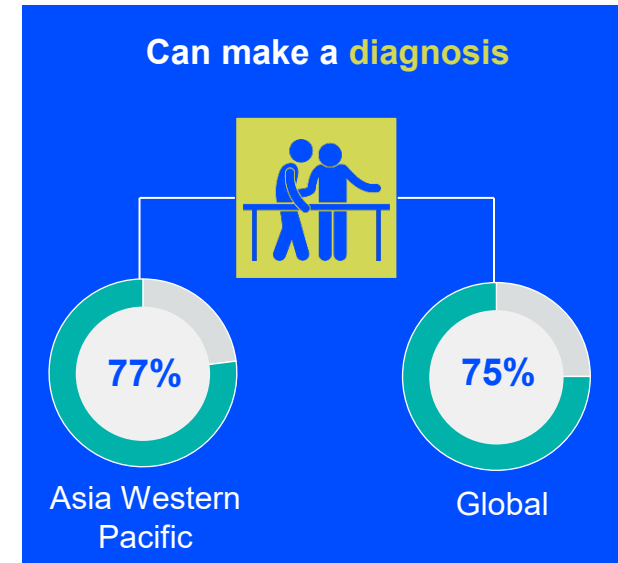
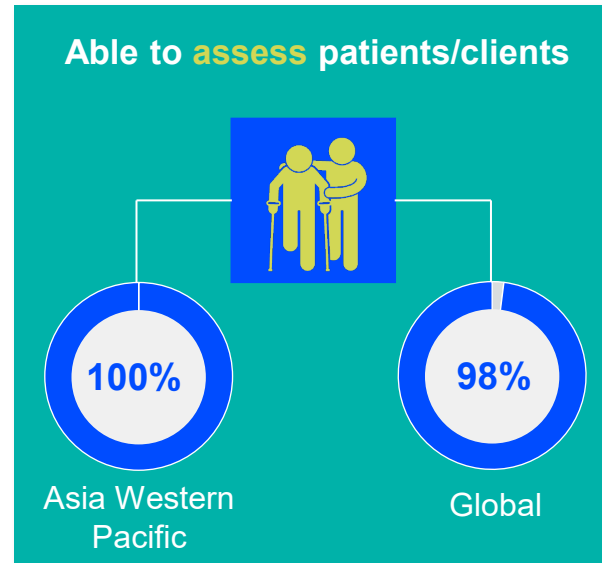
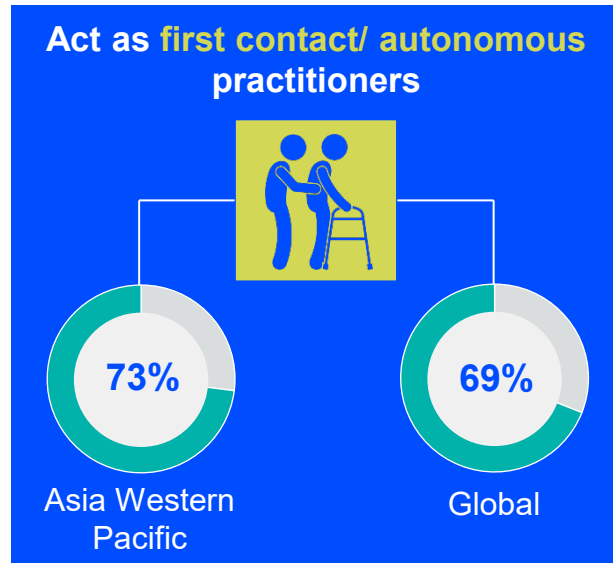
35% of member organisations' **board members** in the region are **female**



29% of the 31 member organisations in the region have **female presidents**

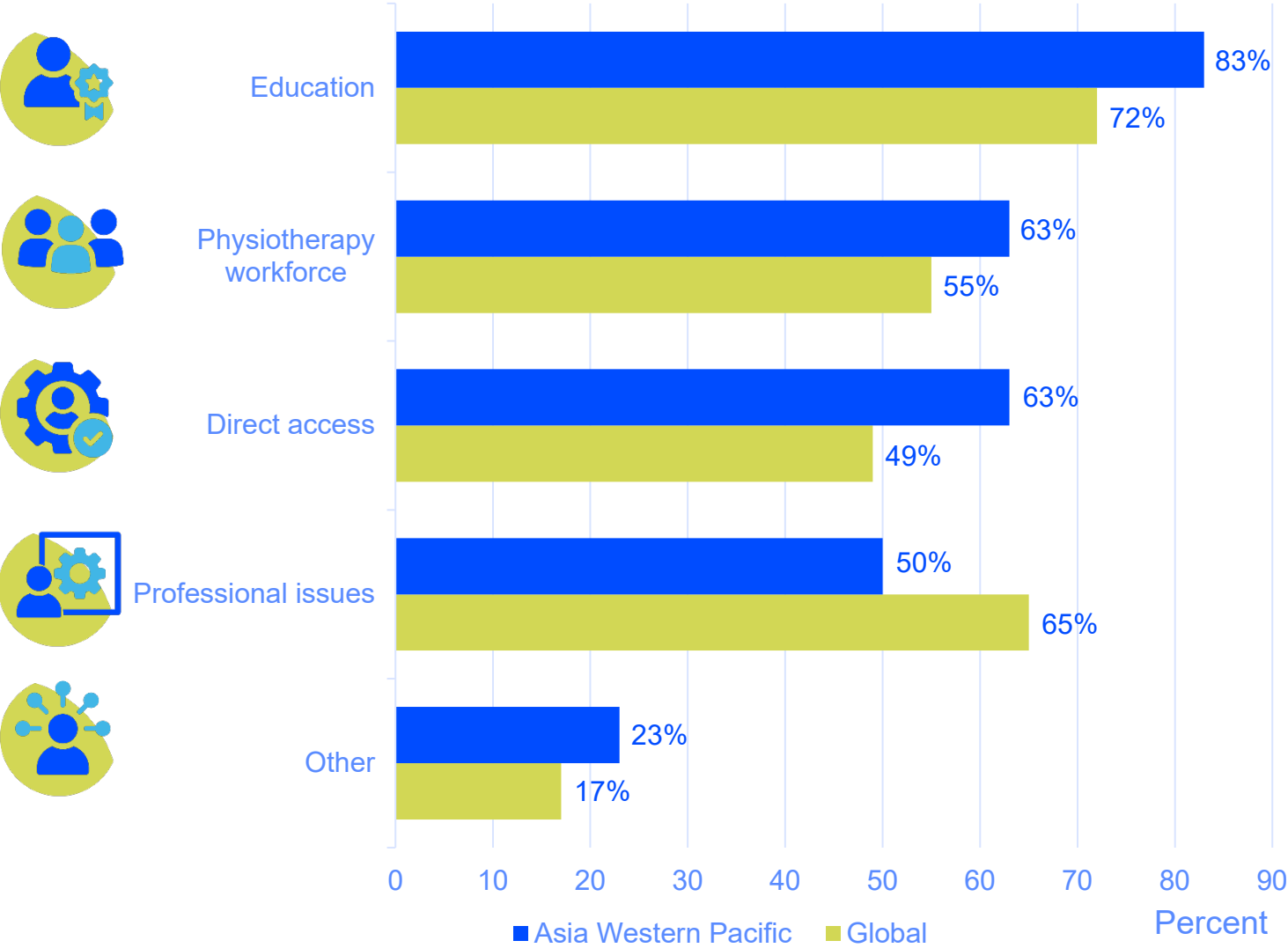
Of the 30 AMC respondents in the region, **27%** reported a **similar percentage of female board members** to the percentage of female physiotherapists in the workforce in their country/territory

PERMITTED PRACTICE IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



ADVOCACY PRIORITIES IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC

Advocacy priorities* for the Asia Western Pacific region compared with global priorities



83%

of member organisations in the Asia Western Pacific region stated that **education** was an **advocacy priority** in 2024



* Member organisations were able to select more than one advocacy priority

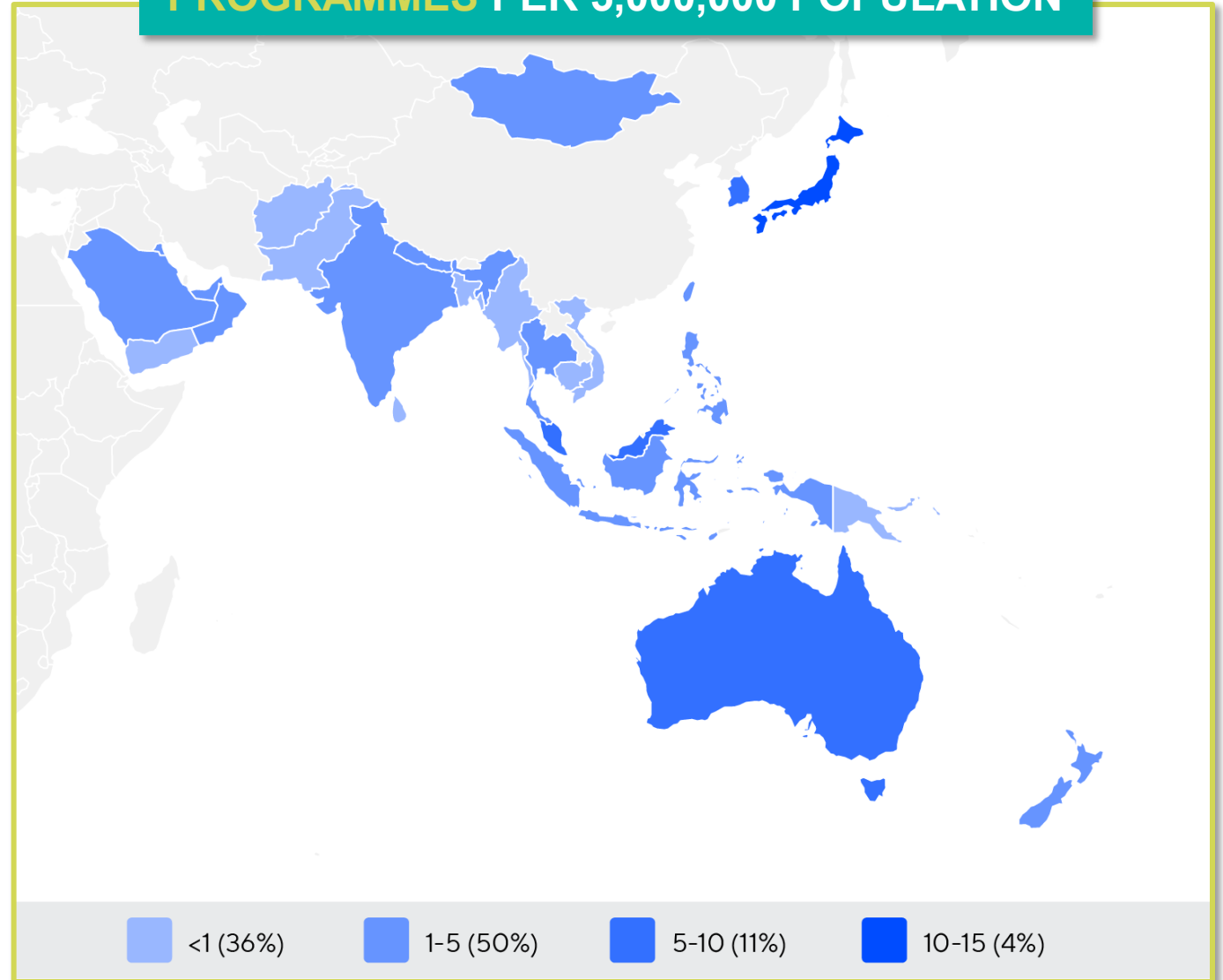
ENTRY LEVEL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC

1.93

is the **average** number of entry level education programmes per 5 million population in the **Asia Western Pacific region** in 2024

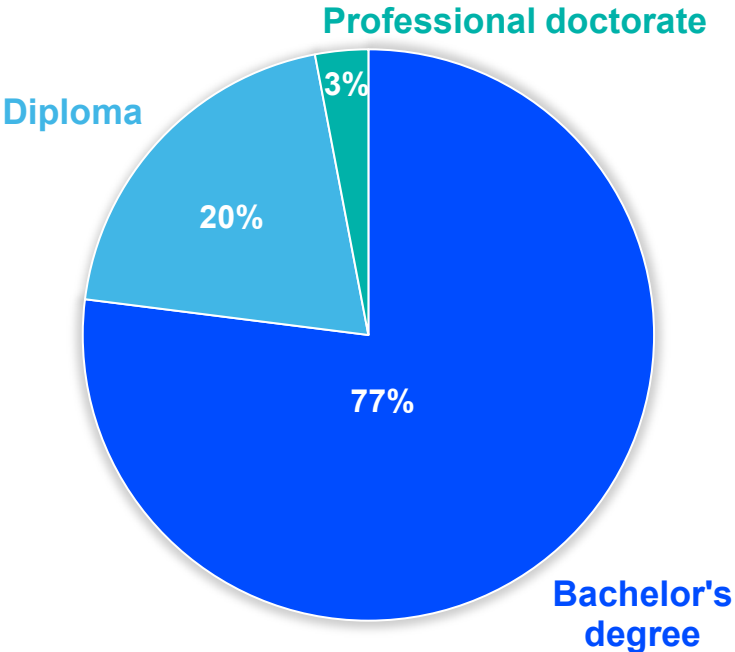


NUMBER OF ENTRY LEVEL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES PER 5,000,000 POPULATION

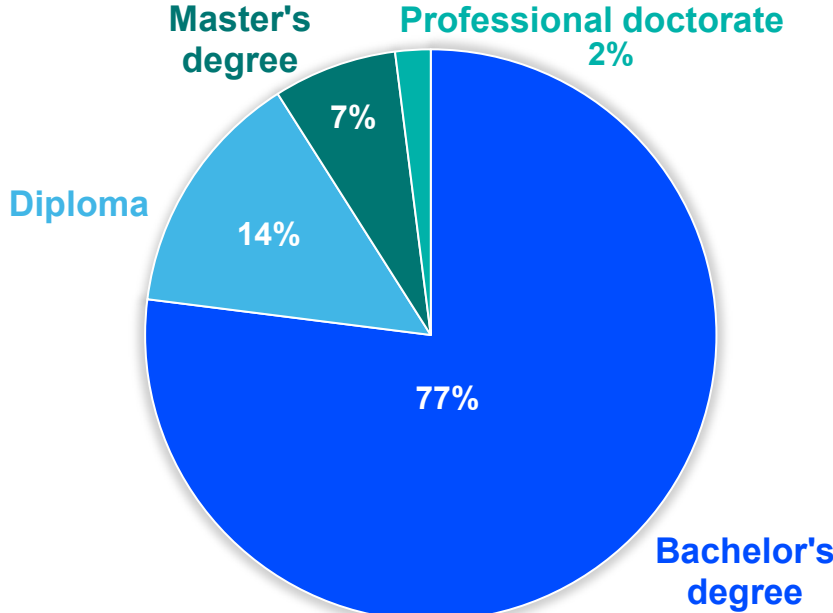


MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO PRACTICE IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO PRACTICE IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO PRACTICE GLOBALLY



Bachelor's degree

is the minimum qualification most commonly required to practice in countries/territories in the Asia Western Pacific region

MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED LIMITATIONS TO DIRECT ACCESS IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



40%

Setting (eg outpatient, private practice, school setting, prevention and wellness, etc)



17%

Population/health condition (eg musculoskeletal, non-complex, etc)



7%

Time (eg medical referral required if treatment is needed beyond 30 or 60 days)



17%

Training (eg certification, academic training, or CPD to demonstrate skill necessary to treat patients without referral from a medical doctor)



30%

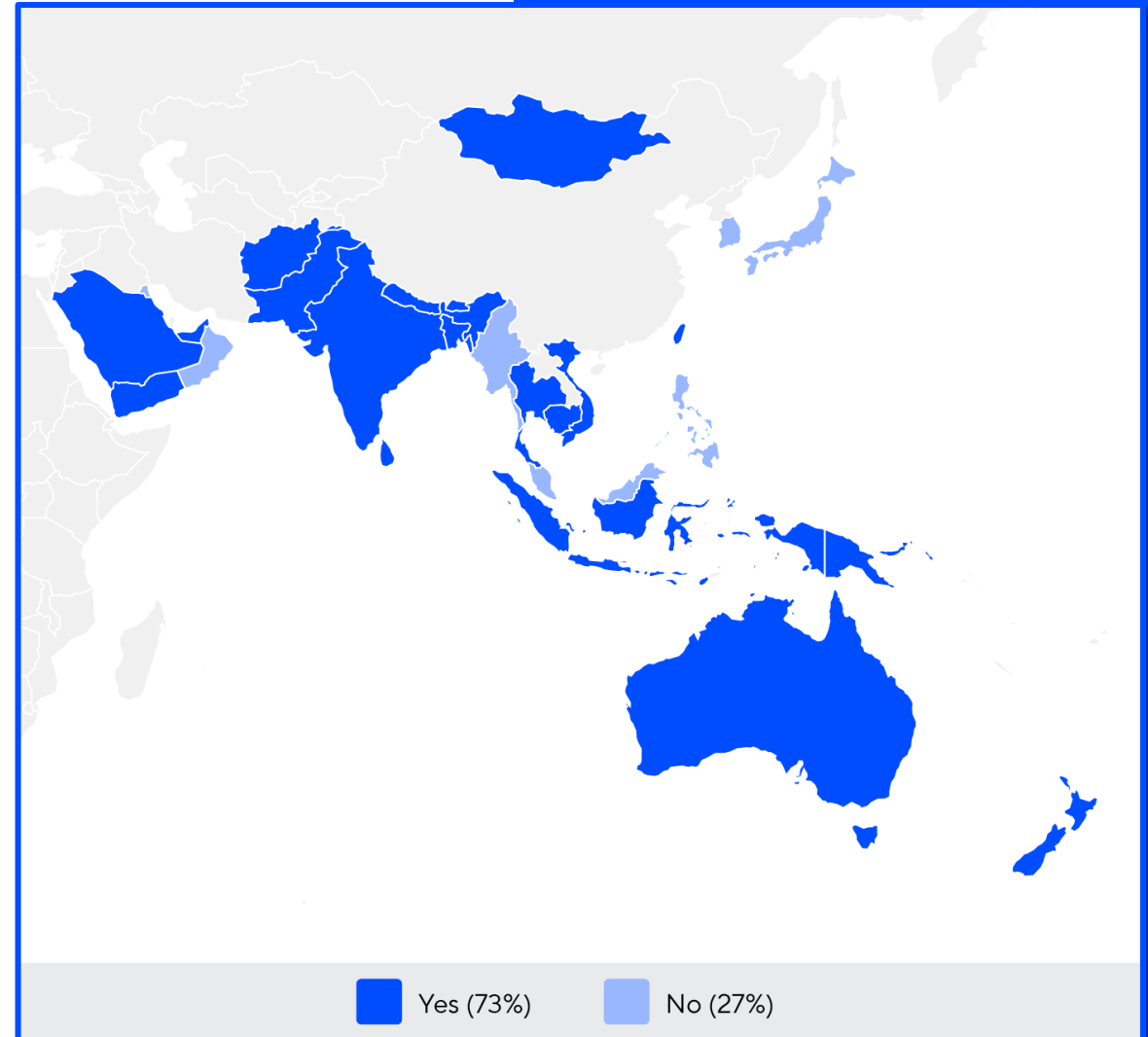
Payment (eg certain payers will not pay for services delivered via direct access)



53%

Other

DIRECT ACCESS IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC



CASE STUDY KOREA: RAISING EDUCATION STANDARDS

The Korean Physiotherapy Association (KPTA) undertook advocacy activities that led to the development of a bill to improve the quality of the physiotherapy entry level education programmes in Korea. KPTA has been actively advocating for academic unification since 2020.

The project involved collaboration between a range of stakeholders, including:

- **Legislators:** A cross-party group of 33 National Assembly members supported the legislative proposal, including representatives from the government and opposition parties.
- **Government committees:** Key members of the education committee and the legislative and judiciary committee played pivotal roles in reviewing and passing the bill.
- **KPTA leadership and members:** KPTA president and executive board members, the presidents and members of the 16 regional associations under KPTA, and the faculty representatives and KPTA's academic unification task force.

In 2024 the following took place:



The higher education act was officially amended, establishing a four-year unified academic system for physiotherapy programmes, effective from 2026.

This milestone sets a critical precedent for long term legislative advancements, such as pursuing the establishment of independent physiotherapy legislation and related initiatives supporting autonomous professional practice.



ENGAGEMENT IN ASIA WESTERN PACIFIC

Asia Western Pacific region respondents

Afghanistan	Myanmar
Australia	Nepal
Bahrain	New Zealand
Bangladesh	Oman
Bhutan	Pakistan
Cambodia	Papua New Guinea
Hong Kong	Philippines
India	Saudi Arabia
Indonesia	Singapore
Japan	Sri Lanka
Korea (Republic of)	Taiwan
Kuwait	Thailand
Macau	United Arab Emirates
Malaysia	Vietnam
Mongolia	Yemen

97%

of member organisations (30 out of 31) in the Asia Western Pacific region submitted data for the annual membership census in 2024

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 120 responded, representing a 96% 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 2024.
- 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 the data for your country/territory, please contact membershipcensus@world.physio.