

Human Resources Project 2022

Global demographics of the occupational therapy profession

Listed in numerical order

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Number of WFOT Member Organisations surveyed = 98
Number of WFOT Member Organisations that responded = 96
Response rate = 98%

WFOT Member Organisations that responded: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bermuda, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kosovo, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macau, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe

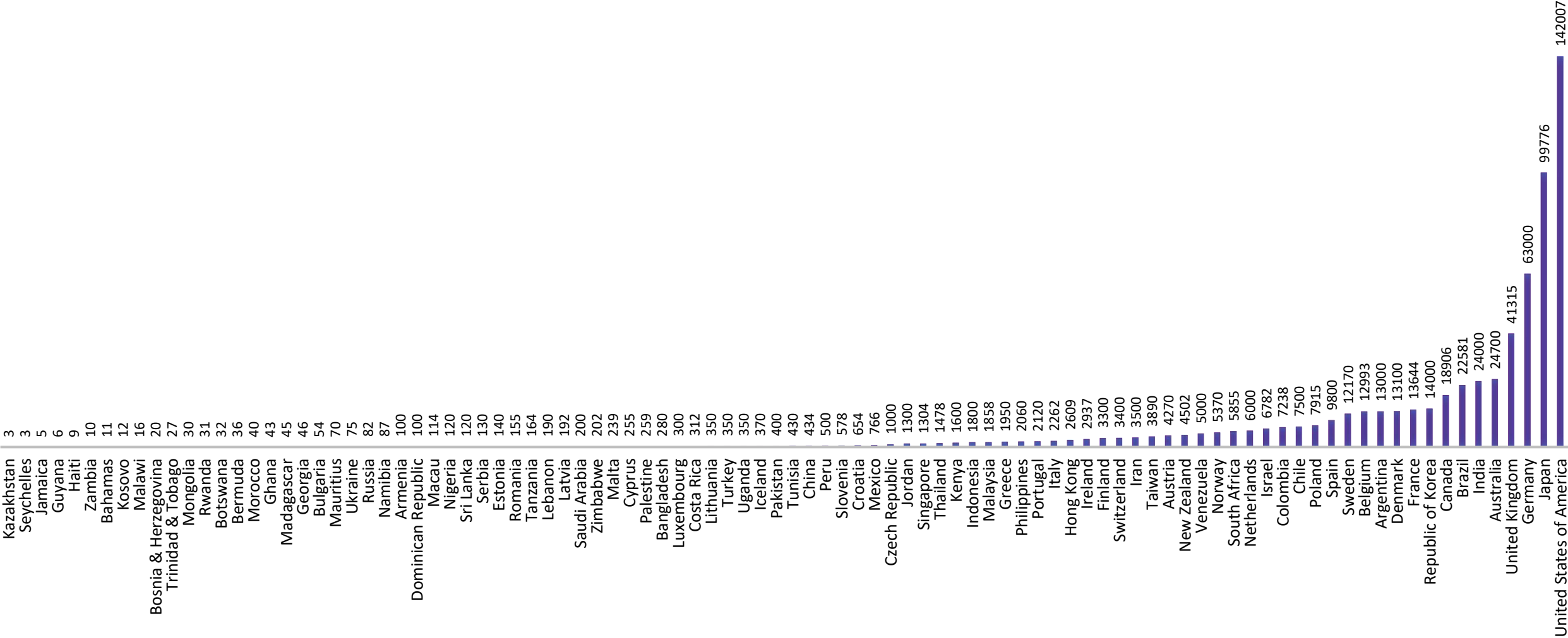
WFOT Member Organisations that did not respond: Faroe Islands, Panama

Date questionnaire first circulated: 6 May 2021

Data collection method: online, circulated by WFOT Secretariat by email

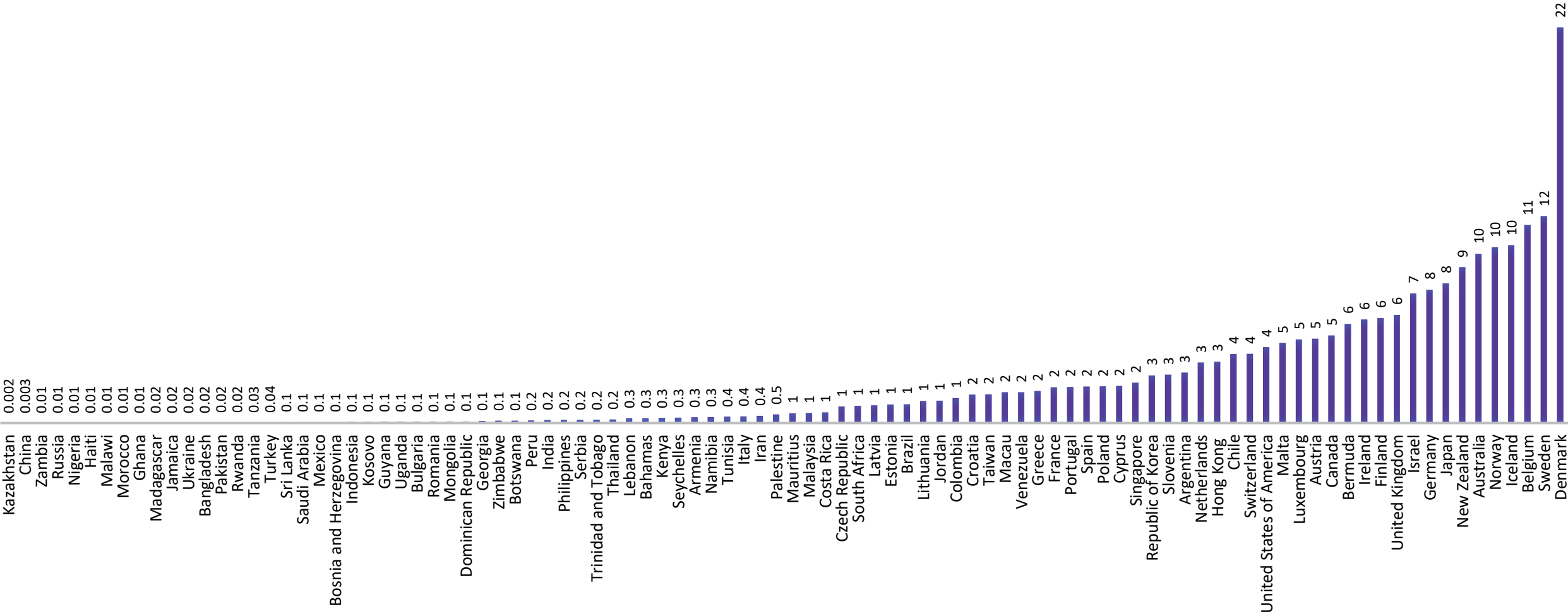
Practicing Occupational Therapists

Number of Practicing Occupational Therapists



n = 96 (100%)

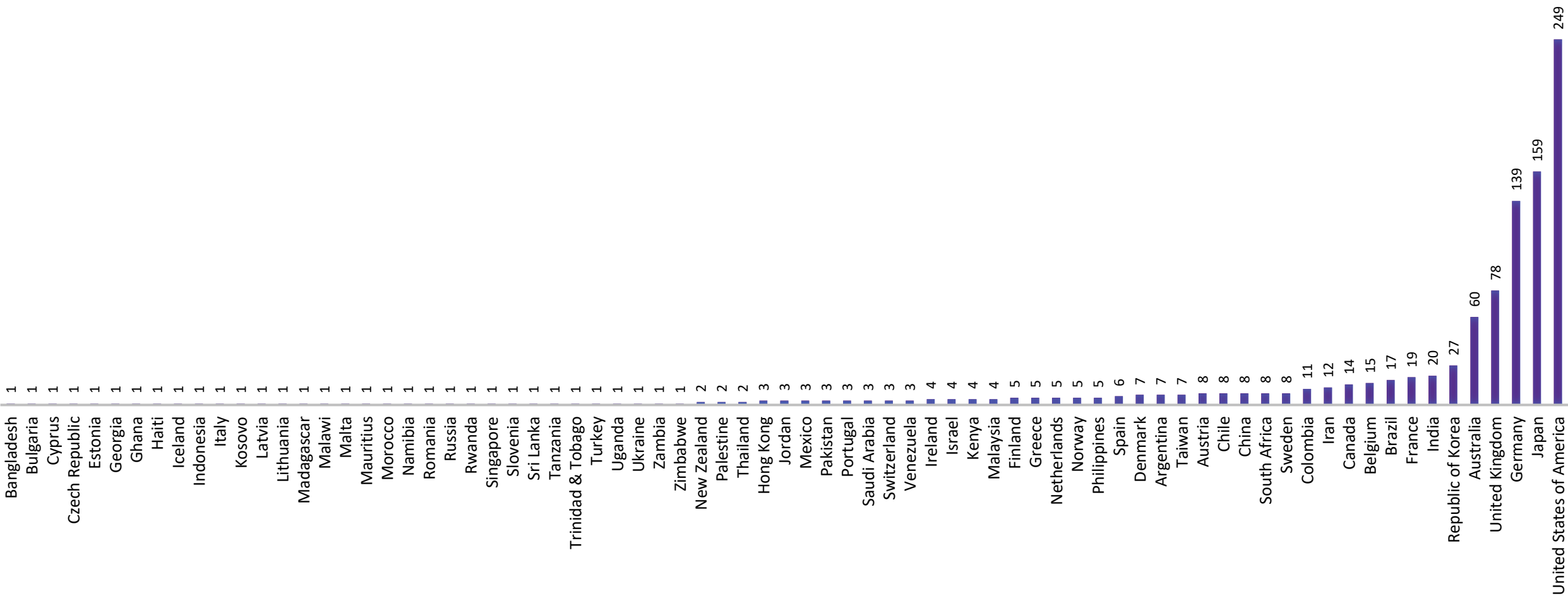
Number of occupational therapists per 10,000 head of population



n = 96 (100%)

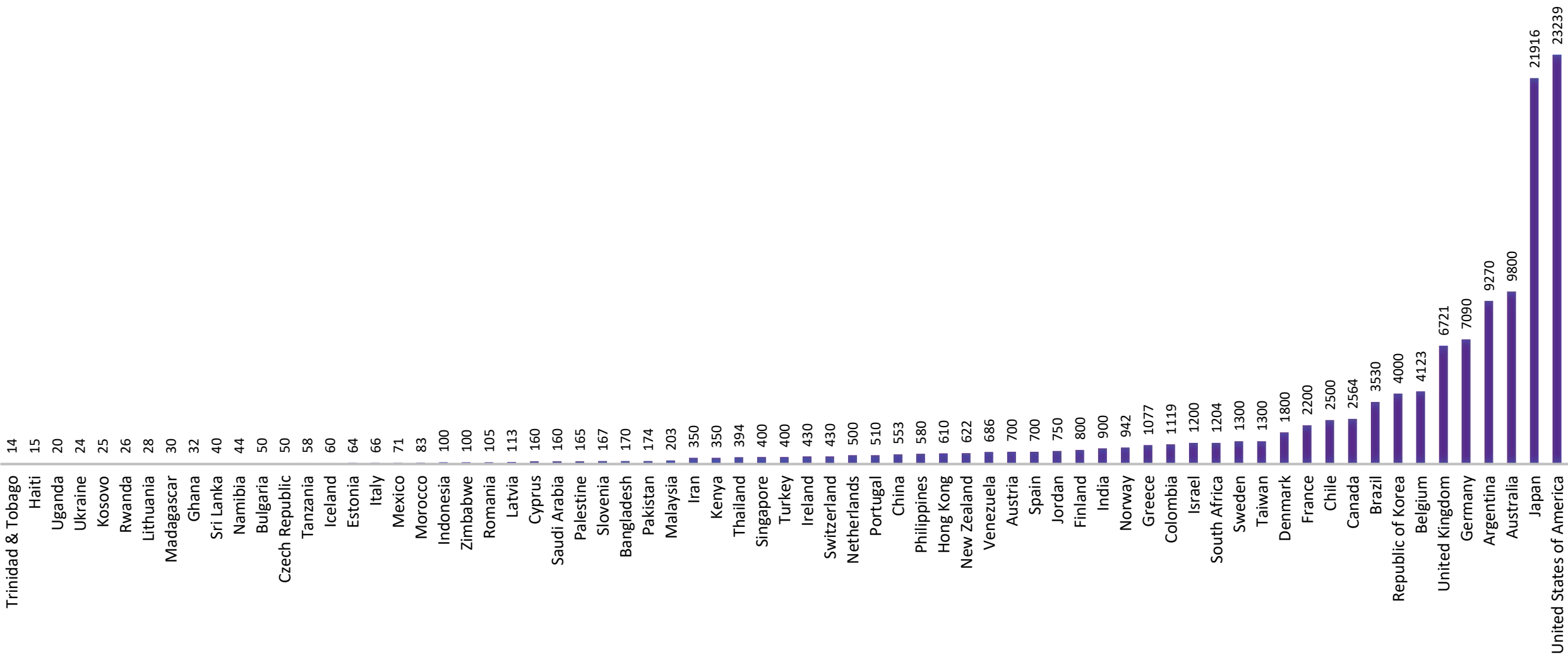
Occupational Therapy Education Programmes

Number of WFOT Approved Education Programmes



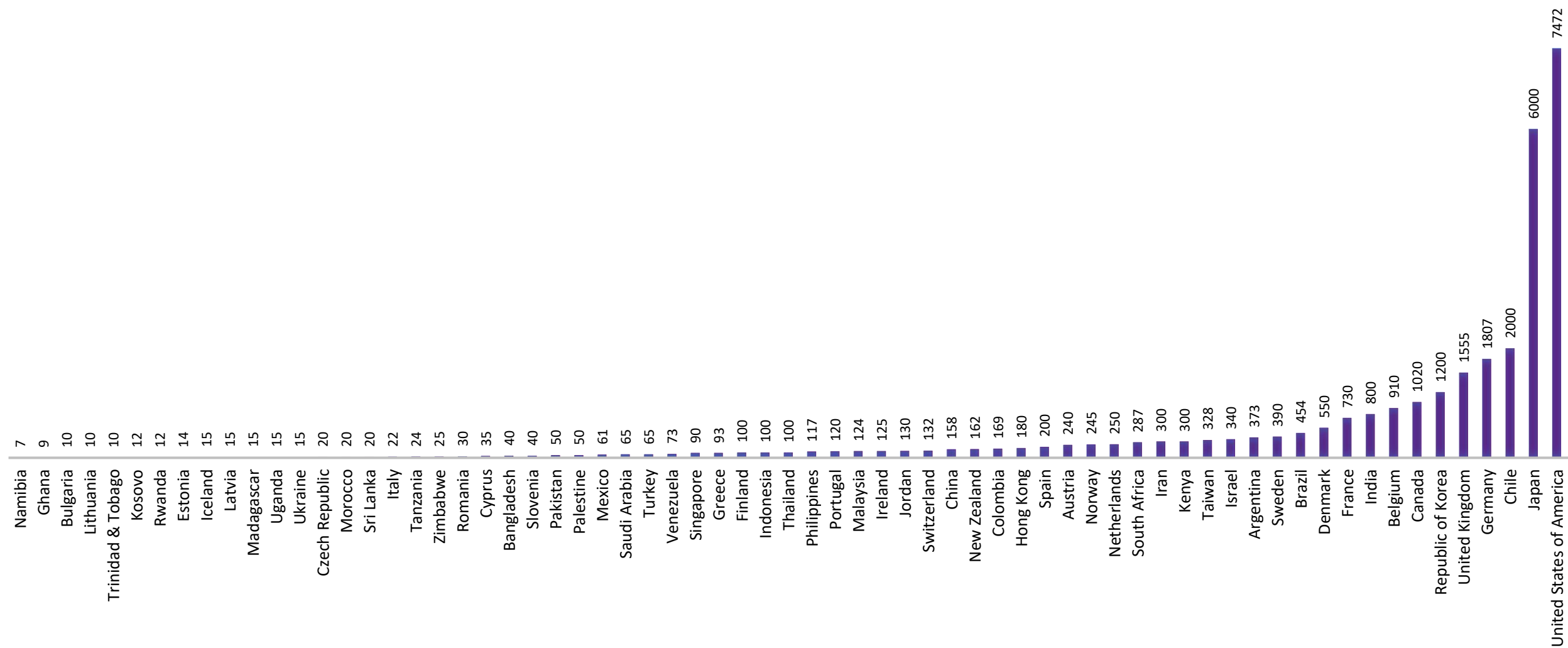
n = 75 (76%)

Number of students studying in WFOT approved education programmes



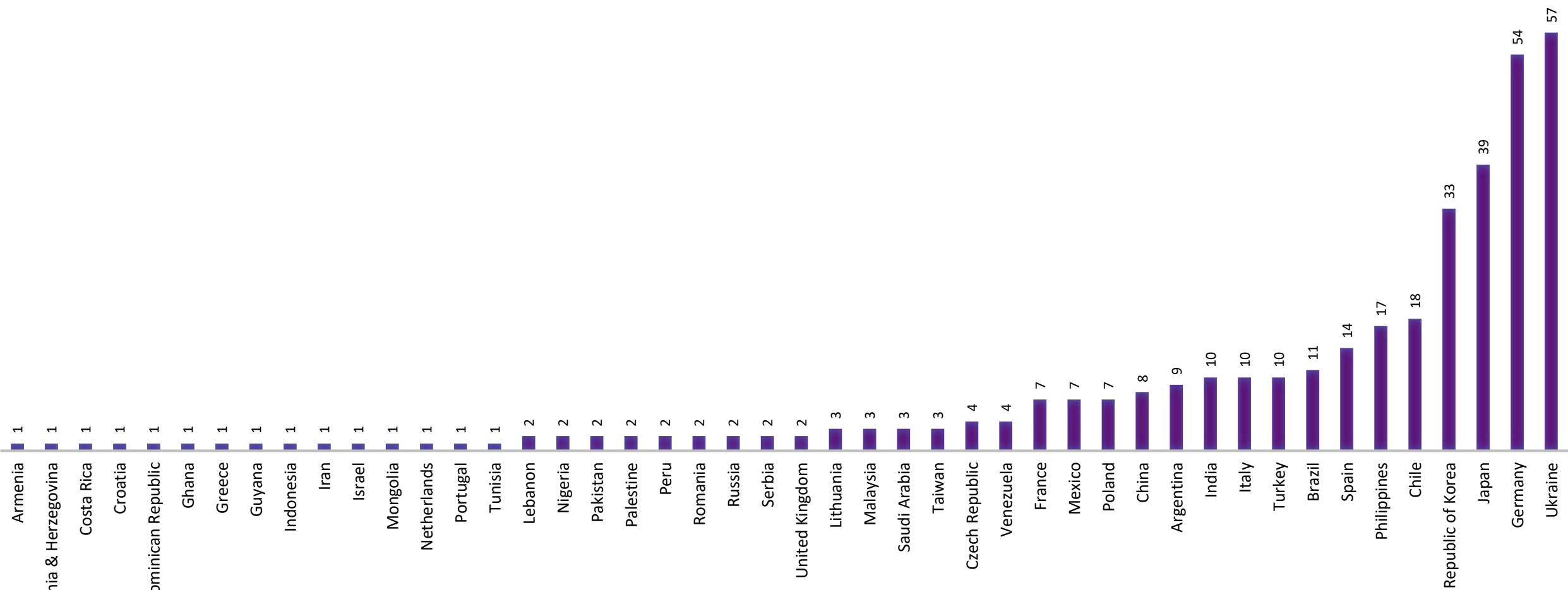
n = 69 (72%)

Number of graduates from WFOT approved education programmes each year



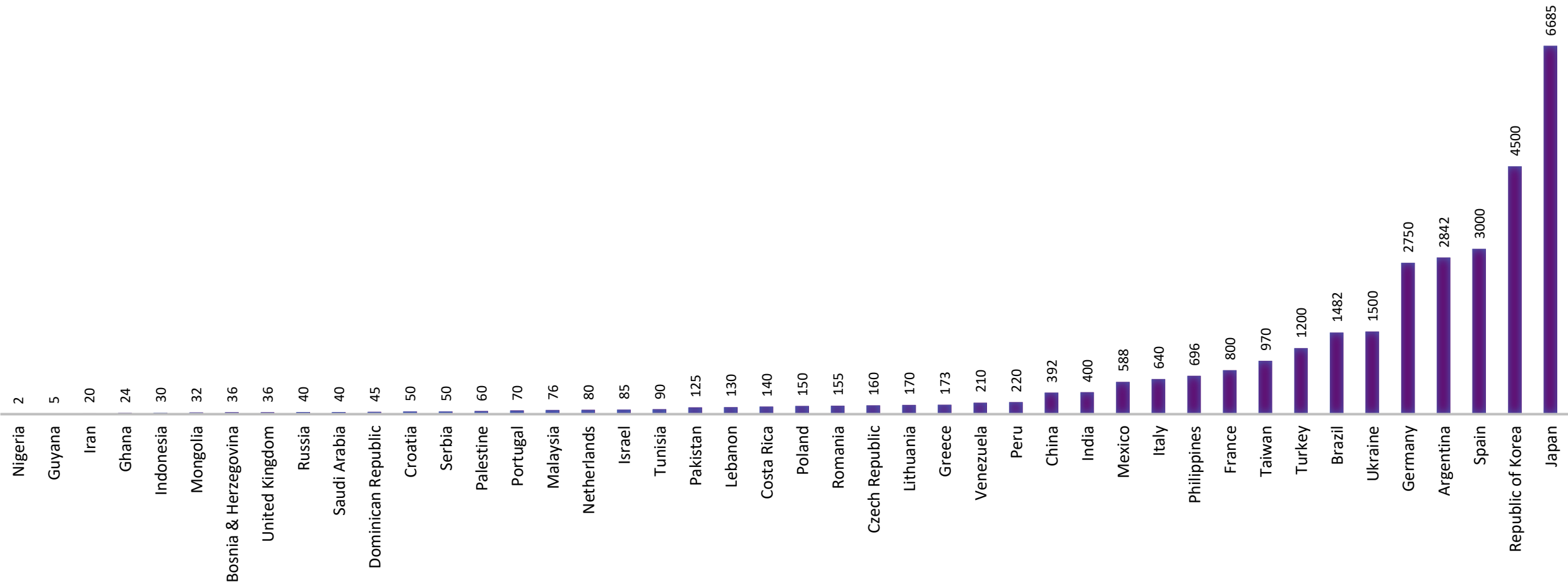
n = 67 (70%)

Number of non WFOT approved education programmes



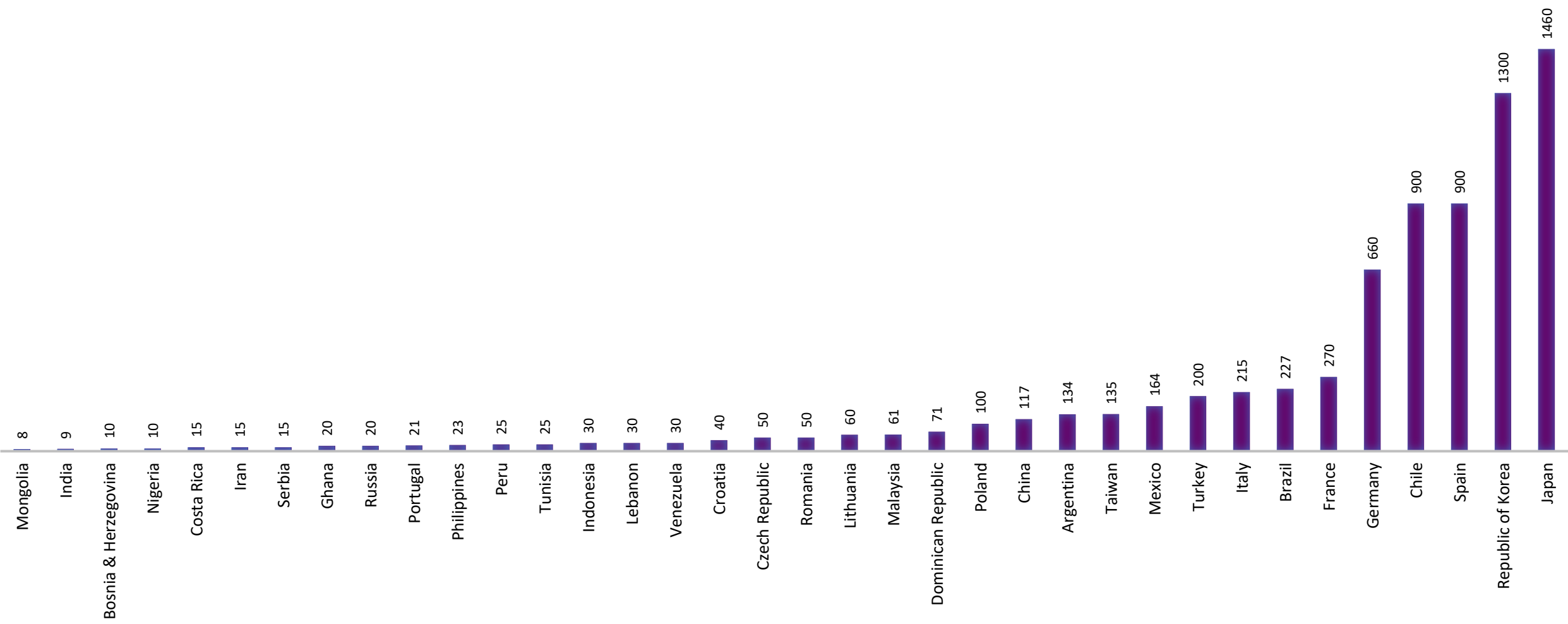
n = 46 (48%)

Number of students studying in non WFOT approved education programmes



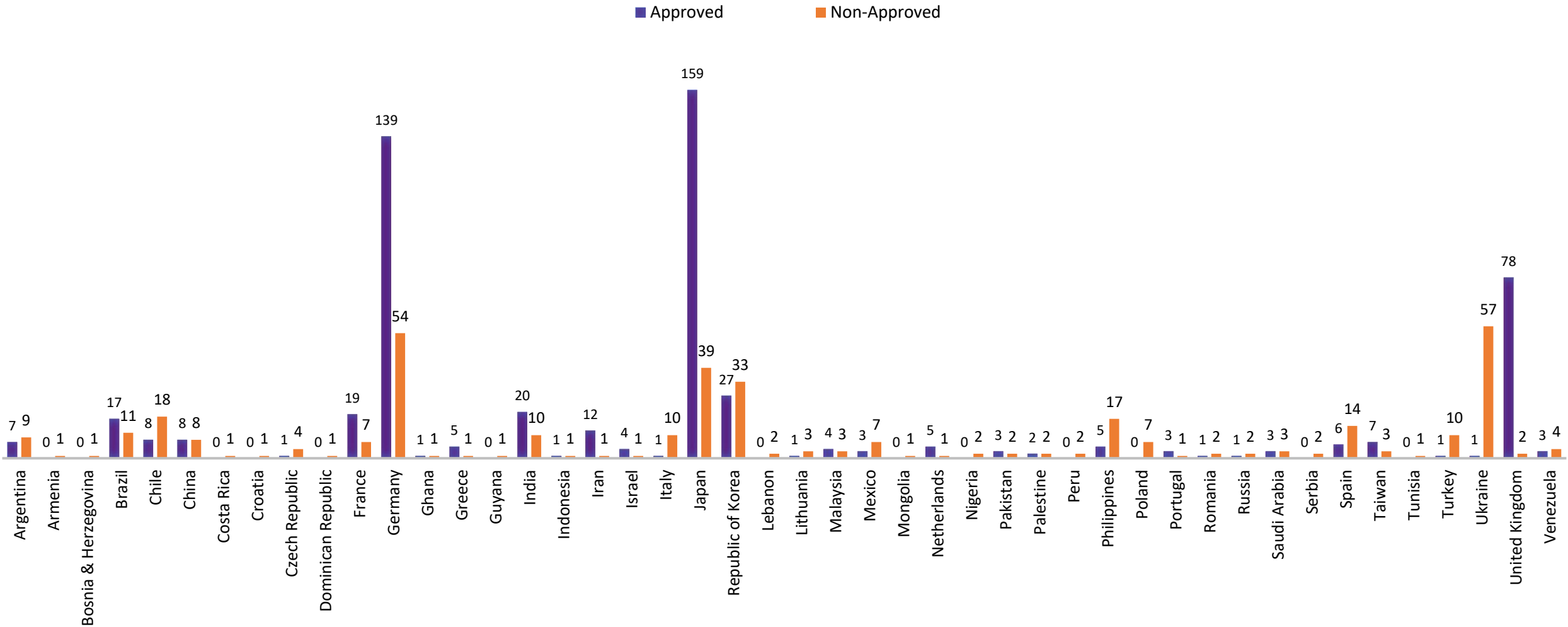
n = 45 (47%)

Number of graduates from non WFOT approved education programmes each year



n = 37 (38%)

Comparison between the number of WFOT approved and non WFOT approved education programmes per country/territory



n = 46 (48%)

Registration/Regulation

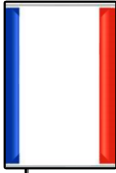
Countries/territories where occupational therapists need to be registered/licensed by a central/national body to practice throughout the country/territory

 Argentina*	 Australia	 Austria	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Belgium*	 Bermuda	 Botswana	 Brazil
 Chile	 China*	 Colombia	 Costa Rica	 Croatia	 Cyprus	 Denmark	 Finland	 Germany
 Ghana	 Greece	 Guyana	 Iceland	 Indonesia	 Israel	 Italy	 Jamaica	 Japan
 Jordan	 Kenya	 Republic of Korea	 Kosovo	 Latvia	 Lebanon	 Lithuania	 Luxembourg	 Macau*
 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Mexico	 Mongolia	 Morocco	 Namibia	 Netherlands	 New Zealand	 Nigeria
 Norway	 Peru	 Philippines	 Portugal	 Romania	 Rwanda*	 Saudi Arabia	 Serbia	 Seychelles
 Singapore	 Slovenia	 South Africa	 Sri Lanka	 Sweden	 Switzerland	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Thailand
	 Trinidad & Tobago	 Uganda	 United Kingdom	 United States of America*	 Venezuela	 Zambia	 Zimbabwe	

* countries that also require occupational therapists to be registered/licensed by a regional/state body in order to practice in certain regions of that country

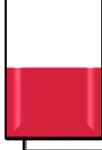
n = 70 (73%)

Countries/territories where occupational therapists need to be registered/licensed by a regional/state body in order to practice in certain regions of that country/territory

	Argentina*		Belgium*		Bosnia & Herzegovina
	Canada		China*		France
	Hong Kong		Iran		Macau*
	Palestine		Spain		United States of America*

** countries that also require occupational therapists to be registered/licensed by a national/central body in order to practice in certain regions of that country*

Countries/territories where occupational therapists do not need to register to practice

 Armenia	 Bangladesh	 Bulgaria	 Czech Republic
 Estonia	 Georgia	 Haiti	 India
 Ireland	 Kazakhstan	 Malaysia	 Mauritius
 Pakistan	 Poland	 Russia	 Tunisia
	 Turkey	 Ukraine	

n = 18 (19%)

Countries/territories that require occupational therapists to have graduated from a WFOT approved education programme to apply for registration



n = 35 (36%)

Countries/territories where the registering/licensing organisations require occupational therapists to provide evidence of continuing competency (e.g. continuing professional development activity) for renewal of their registration

 Australia	 Bermuda	 Canada	 China	 Croatia	 Denmark
 Ghana	 Guyana	 Indonesia	 Iran	 Italy	 Jamaica
 Jordan	 Kenya	 Republic of Korea	 Kosovo	 Latvia	 Lithuania
 Luxembourg	 Macau	 Malawi	 Mongolia	 Namibia	 New Zealand
 Nigeria	 Philippines	 Rwanda	 Saudi Arabia	 Serbia	 Seychelles
 South Africa	 Switzerland	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Thailand	 Trinidad & Tobago
 Uganda	 United Kingdom	 United States of America	 Zambia	 Zimbabwe	

n = 41 (43%)

Countries with regulatory organisations that are known to require occupational therapists from another country to register to provide occupational therapy services remotely to people in their country, for example, through telehealth.

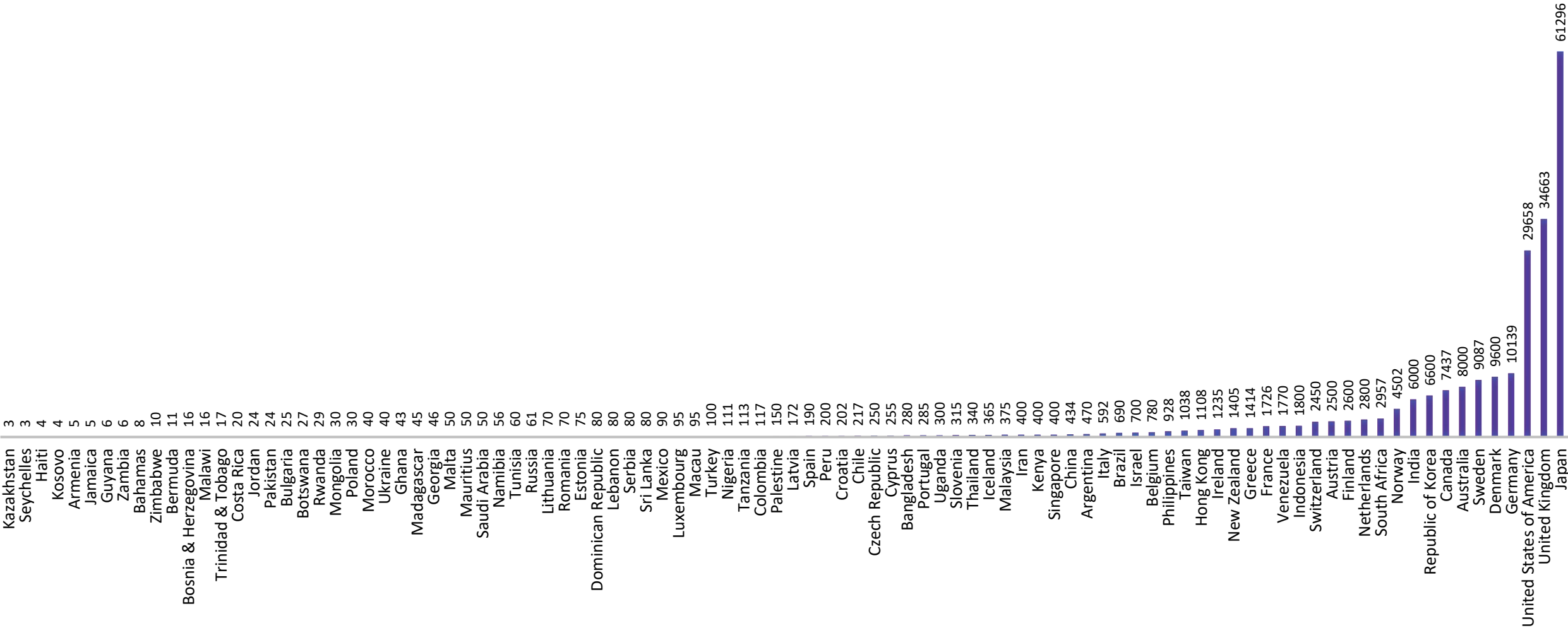
(As this may not be a complete listing, users are advised to check with individual regulatory organisations).

 Argentina	 Armenia*	 Australia	 Bermuda	 Canada	 China
 Denmark	 Dominican Republic	 Estonia*	 Ghana*	 India*	 Indonesia
 Jamaica	 Japan*	 Kenya*	 Republic of Korea*	 Kosovo	 Latvia
 Lithuania	 Macau	 Madagascar*	 Namibia	 Netherlands	 New Zealand
 Palestine*	 Philippines	 Poland	 Portugal	 Romania	 Sri Lanka*
	 Trinidad & Tobago	 Turkey*	 United States of America		

* Varies (e.g. by practice area, geographic area)

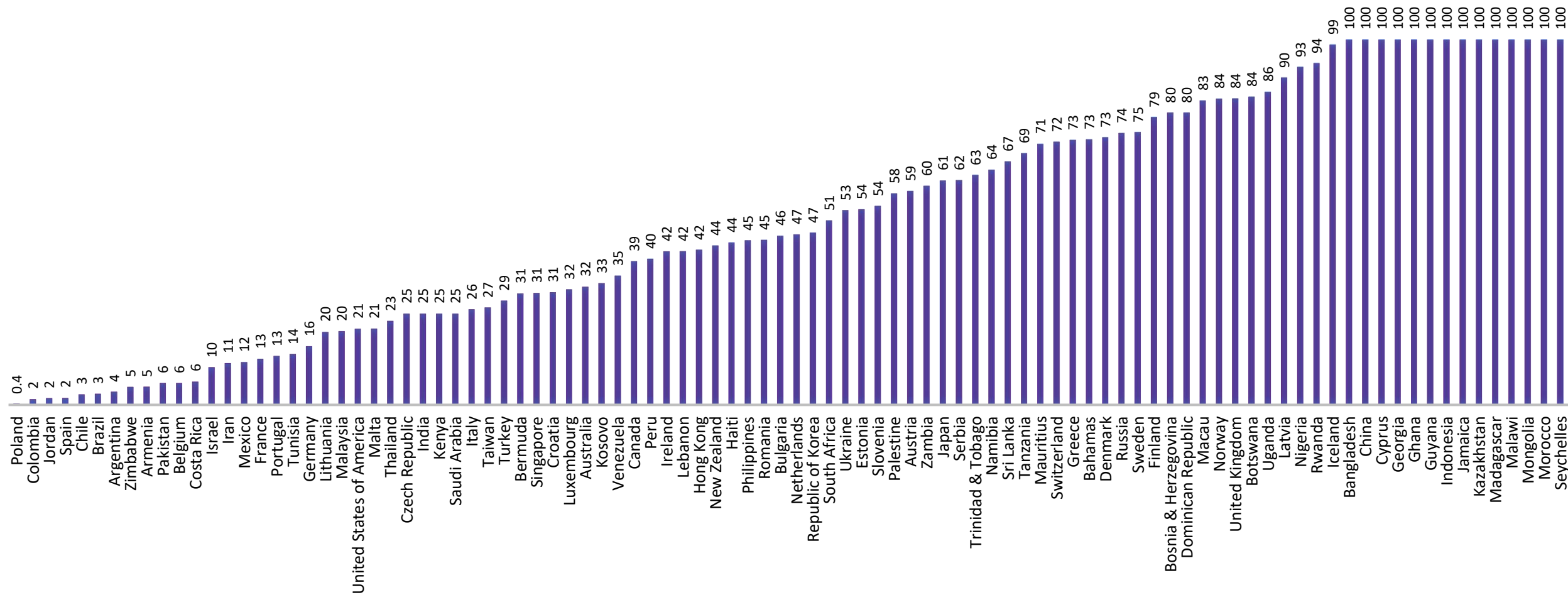
Membership – Occupational Therapists

Number of occupational therapists who are members of their national association



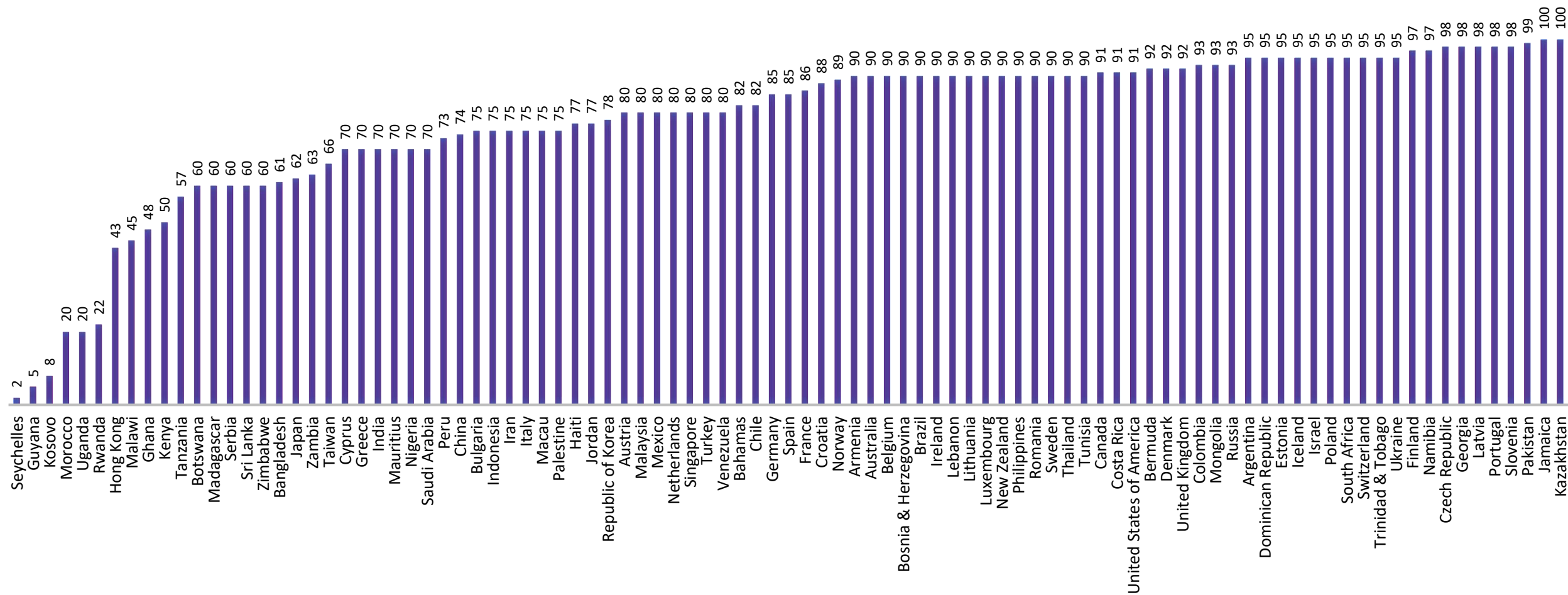
n = 96 (100%)

Percentage of occupational therapists who are members of their national association



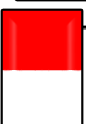
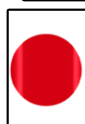
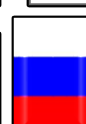
n = 96 (100%)

Percentage of occupational therapists in WFOT member organisations who are female



n = 95 (95%)

WFOT member organisations who collect information about the age groups/ranges of practicing occupational therapists

 Armenia	 Australia	 China	 Costa Rica	 Cyprus	 Denmark
 Finland	 France	 Georgia	 Ghana	 Greece	 Guyana
 Indonesia	 Israel	 Jamaica	 Japan	 Kenya	 South Korea
 Kosovo	 Latvia	 Macau	 Malaysia	 Mongolia	 Morocco
 Netherlands	 Norway	 Palestine	 Philippines	 Portugal	 Russia
 South Africa	 Switzerland	 Taiwan	 Tunisia	 Turkey	 United States of America

n = 36 (38%)

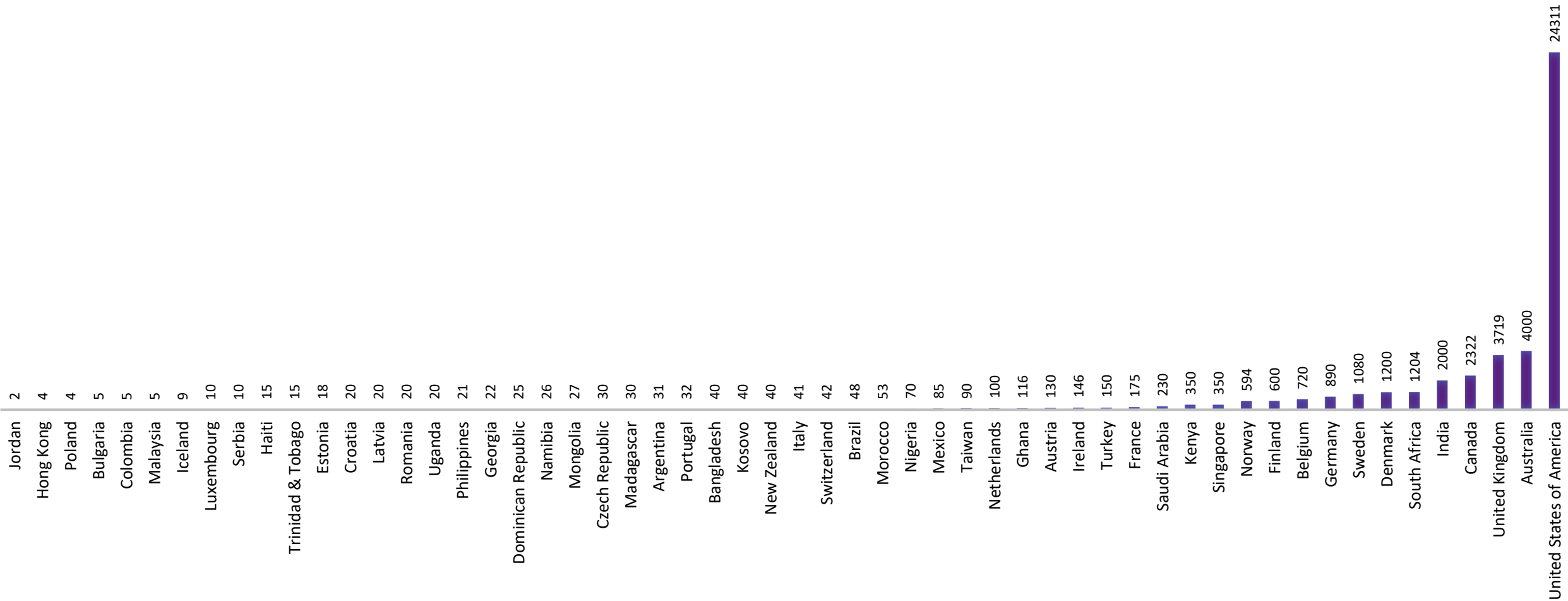
Membership - Students

Member organisations who have a membership category for students

 Argentina	 Australia	 Austria	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Belgium	 Bosnia & Herzegovina	 Botswana
 Brazil	 Bulgaria	 Canada	 China	 Colombia	 Croatia	 Czech Republic	 Denmark
 Dominican Republic	 Estonia	 Finland	 France	 Georgia	 Germany	 Ghana	 Guyana
 Haiti	 Hong Kong	 Iceland	 India	 Indonesia	 Ireland	 Italy	 Jamaica
 Jordan	 Kenya	 Kosovo	 Latvia	 Luxembourg	 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Malaysia
 Mauritius	 Mexico	 Mongolia	 Morocco	 Namibia	 Netherlands	 New Zealand	 Nigeria
 Norway	 Philippines	 Poland	 Portugal	 Romania	 Saudi Arabia	 Serbia	 Singapore
 Slovenia	 South Africa	 Spain	 Sweden	 Switzerland	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Thailand
 Trinidad & Tobago	 Turkey	 Uganda	 Ukraine	 United Kingdom	 United States of America	 Zimbabwe	

n = 71 (80%)

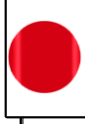
Number of students who are members of their national association



n = 56 (58%)

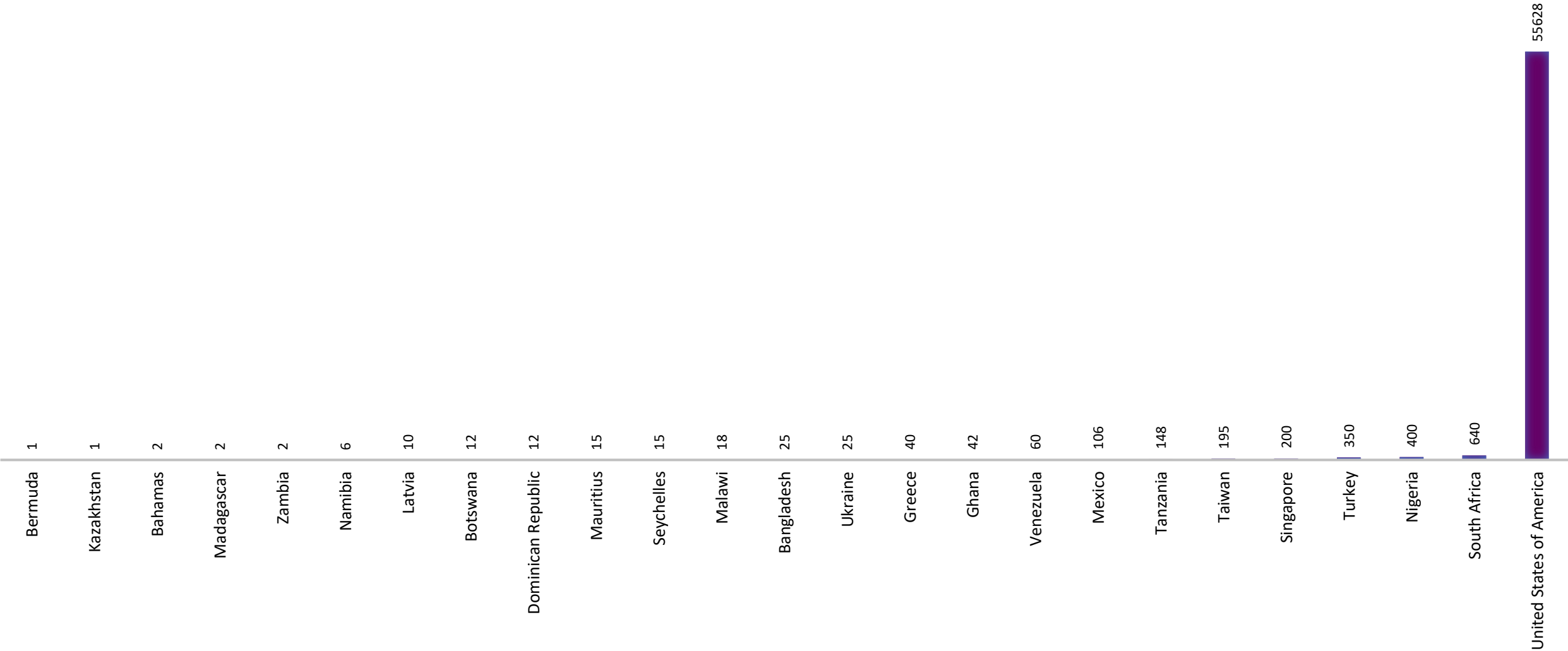
Membership – Occupational Therapy Assistants

Countries/territories that include occupational therapy assistants

 Australia	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Botswana	 Canada
 Dominican Republic	 Ghana	 Greece	 Guyana	 Iceland
 Ireland	 Japan	 Kazakhstan	 Latvia	 Madagascar
 Malawi	 Mauritius	 Mexico	 Namibia	 New Zealand
 Nigeria	 Philippines	 Poland	 Seychelles	 Singapore
 South Africa	 Sweden	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Turkey
 Ukraine	 United Kingdom	 United States of America	 Venezuela	 Zambia

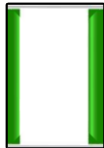
n = 35 (36%)

Number of occupational therapy assistants in a member organisation’s country/territory



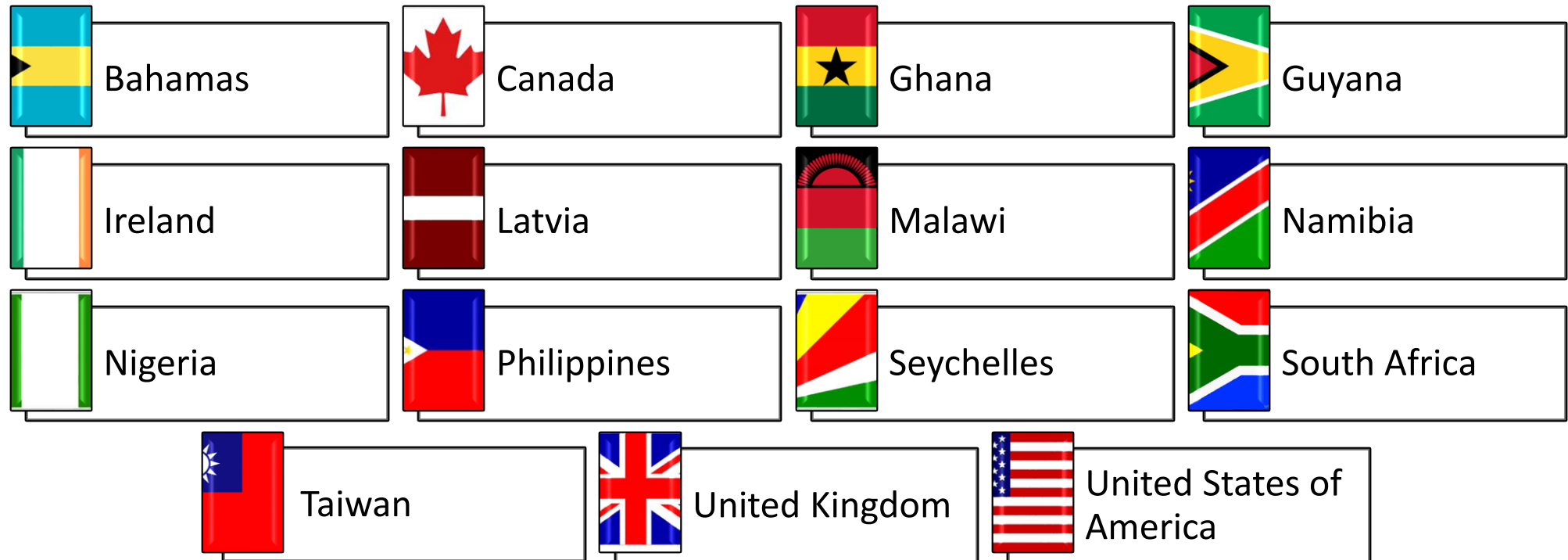
n = 25 (26%)

Countries/territories where it is a requirement for occupational therapy assistants to attain a qualification to practice

 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Dominican Republic	 Ghana
 Latvia	 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Mexico
 Namibia	 Nigeria	 Philippines	 Seychelles
 South Africa	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Ukraine
	 United States of America	 Zambia	

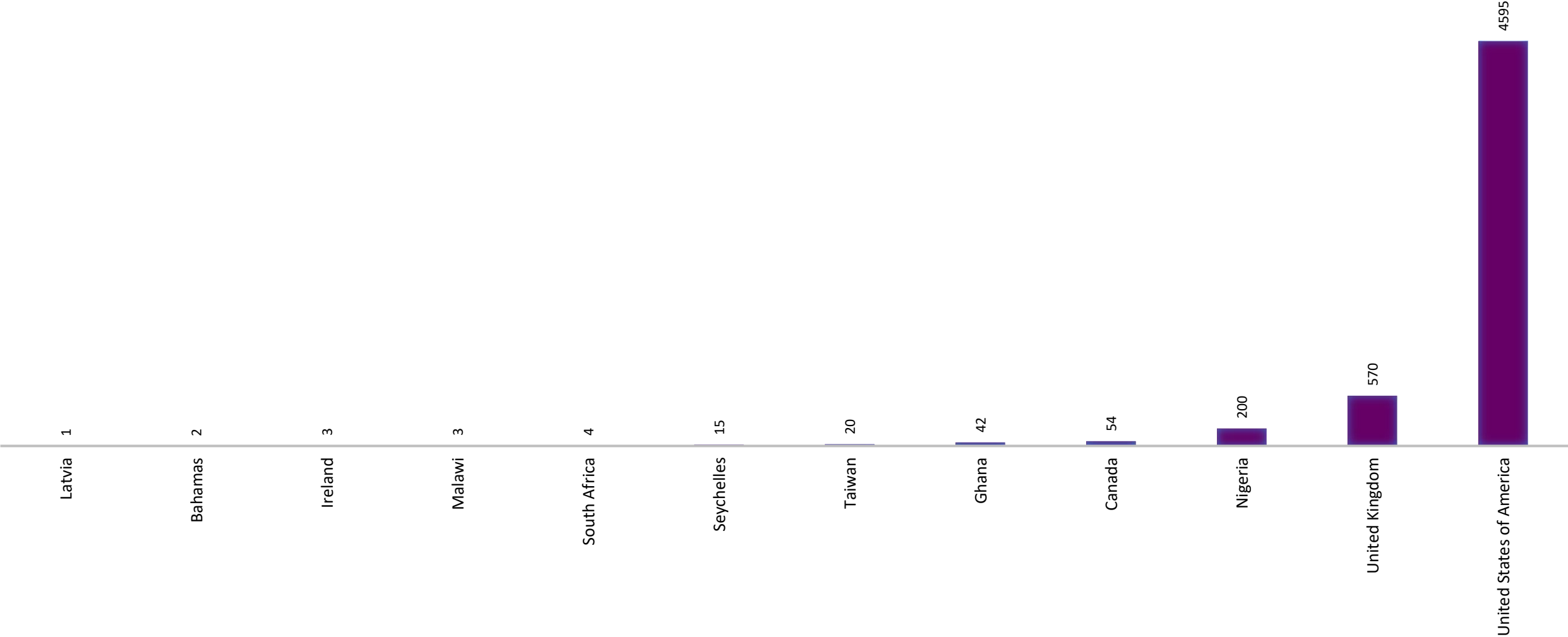
n = 18 (19%)

WFOT member organisations that have a membership category for occupational therapy assistants



n = 14 (15%)

Number of occupational therapy assistants who are members of their national association



n = 12 (12%)

Occupational Therapy Service Provision

Occupational therapy services provision within WFOT member organisations countries/territories (1)

	Argentina	Armenia	Australia	Austria	Bahamas	Bangladesh	Belgium	Bermuda	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Botswana	Brazil	Bulgaria	Canada	Chile	China	Colombia	Costa Rica	Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Dominican Republic	Estonia	Finland	France	Georgia	Germany	Ghana	Greece	Guyana	Haiti	Hong Kong	Iceland
Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Physical Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Social Care	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Government Ministries	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individuals Homes & Home care services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Work places	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Insurance Companies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nursing and residential care homes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupational Health Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prisons/Correctional Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Private practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rehabilitation Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Schools and education providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport and Recreation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Universities, Education, Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheelchair Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

n = 95 (99%)



Services provided

Occupational therapy services provision within WFOT member organisations countries/territories (2)

	India	Indonesia	Iran	Ireland	Israel	Italy	Jamaica	Japan	Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya	Republic of Korea	Kosovo	Latvia	Lebanon	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macao	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mauritius	Mexico	Mongolia	Morocco	Namibia	Netherlands	New Zealand	Nigeria	Norway	Pakistan	Palestine	Peru	
Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Community Services – Physical Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Community Services – Social Care	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓	✓						✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Government Ministries	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individuals Homes & Home care services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Work places	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓					✓		✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Insurance Companies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓					✓				✓		✓					✓				✓		
Nursing and residential care homes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupational Health Services	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prisons/Correctional Facilities	✓				✓			✓				✓					✓				✓					✓		✓		✓				
Private practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rehabilitation Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Schools and education providers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport and Recreation	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓						✓								✓	✓	✓				✓			✓		✓	
Universities, Education, Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheelchair Services	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

n = 95 (99%)



Services provided

Occupational therapy services provision within WFOT member organisations countries/territories (3)

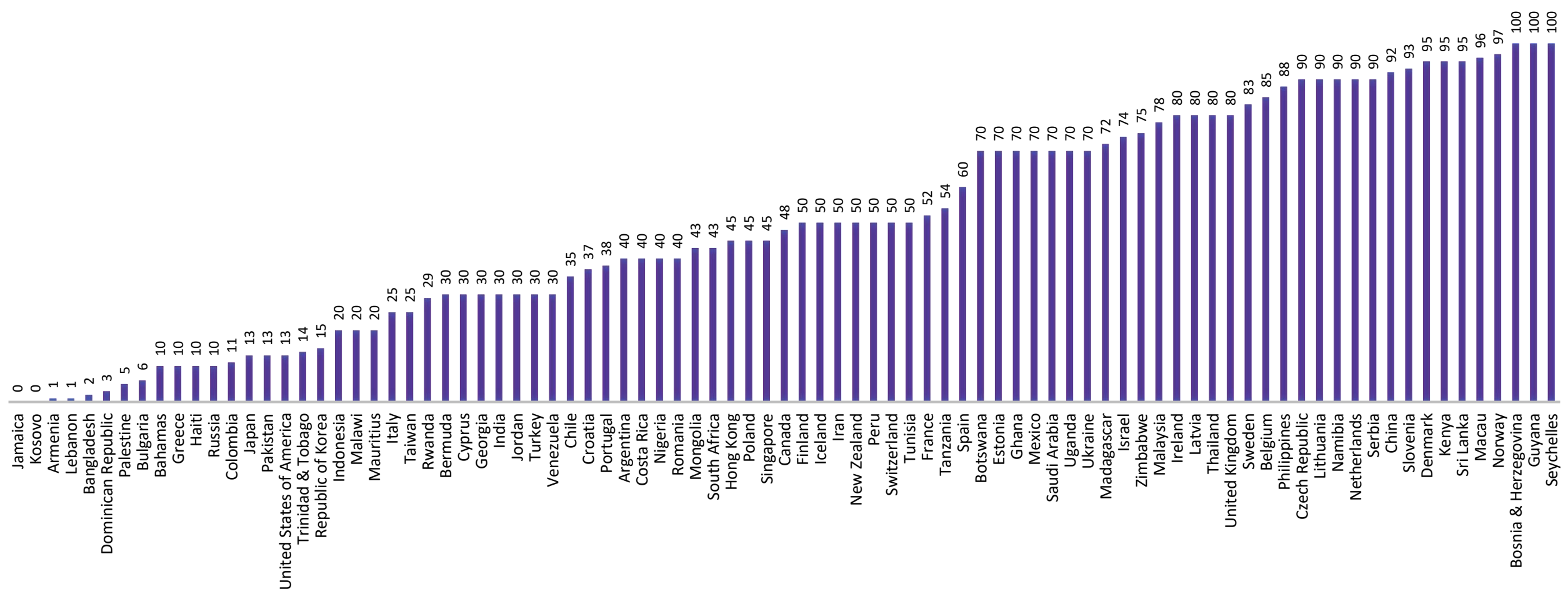
	Philippines	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Russia	Rwanda	Saudi Arabia	Serbia	Seychelles	Singapore	Slovenia	South Africa	Spain	Sri Lanka	Sweden	Switzerland	Taiwan	Tanzania	Thailand	Trinidad & Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey	Uganda	Ukraine	United Kingdom	United States of America	Venezuela	Zambia	Zimbabwe
Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Physical Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Social Care	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓	✓	✓		
Government Ministries	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individuals Homes & Home care services	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Work places	✓		✓						✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Insurance Companies												✓	✓			✓									✓	✓			
Nursing and residential care homes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupational Health Services	✓		✓								✓	✓			✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prisons/Correctional Facilities	✓		✓					✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓			✓
Private practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Health	✓	✓	✓									✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓						✓	✓	✓		✓
Rehabilitation Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Schools and education providers	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
Sport and Recreation																									✓	✓			✓
Universities, Education, Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheelchair Services	✓		✓		✓					✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

n = 95 (99%)



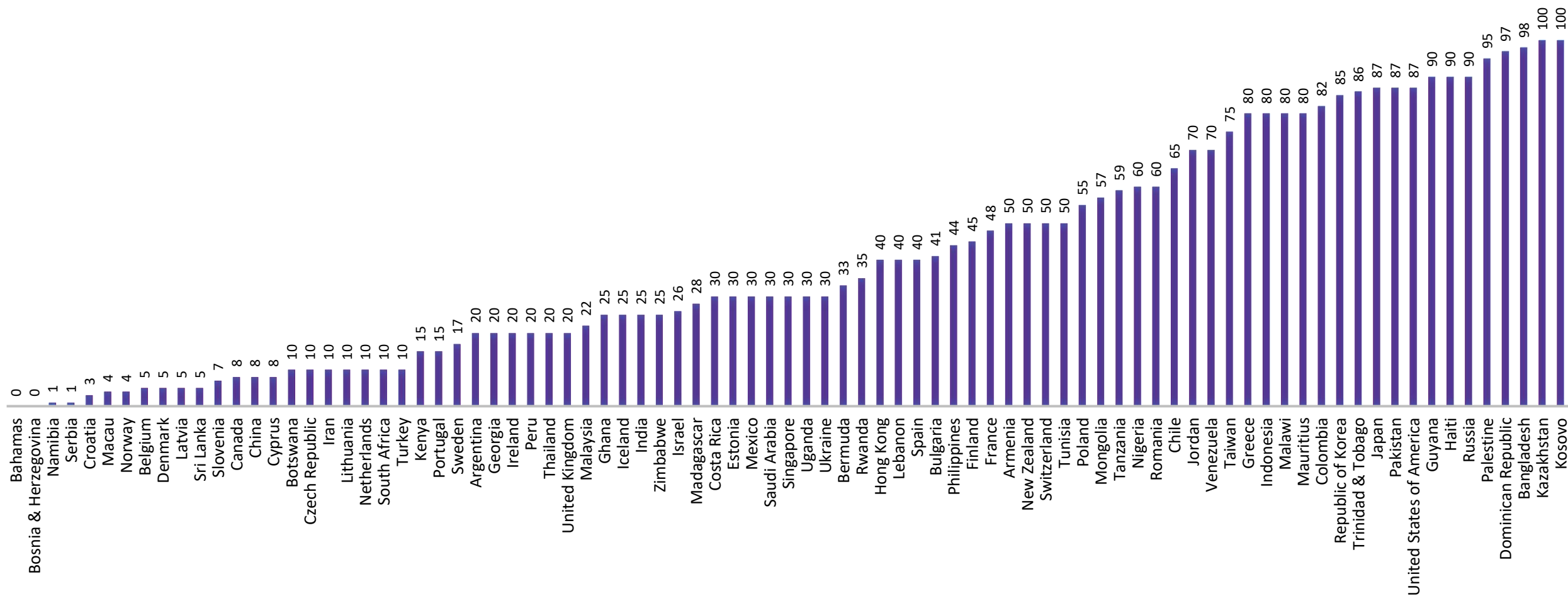
Services provided

Percentage of occupational therapists working in government/public funded positions



n = 87 (91%)

Percentage of occupational therapists working in non government/public funded positions



n = 85 (88%)

Occupational Therapy Recruitment and Retention

Countries/territories with a shortage of occupational therapists for funded positions

 Argentina	 Armenia	 Australia	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Botswana	 Brazil
 Bulgaria	 Canada	 China	 Colombia	 Costa Rica	 Czech Republic	 Dominican Republic
 Estonia	 Finland	 France	 Georgia	 Germany	 Greece	 Haiti
 Hong Kong	 Iceland	 India	 Iran	 Israel	 Jamaica	 Japan
 Latvia	 Macau	 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Malaysia	 Mauritius	 Mexico
 Mongolia	 Morocco	 Netherlands	 New Zealand	 Nigeria	 Norway	 Pakistan
 Philippines	 Poland	 Portugal	 Rwanda	 Saudi Arabia	 Seychelles	 Singapore
 South Africa	 Sri Lanka	 Sweden	 Switzerland	 Taiwan	 Tanzania	 Thailand
 Turkey	 Ukraine	 United Kingdom	 United States of America	 Venezuela	 Zambia	

n = 62 (65%)

Services where shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions primarily exist (1)

	Argentina	Armenia	Australia	Bahamas	Bangladesh	Botswana	Brazil	Bulgaria	Canada	China	Colombia	Costa Rica	Czech Republic	Dominican Republic	Estonia	Finland	France	Georgia	Greece	Germany	Haiti	Hong Kong	Iceland	India	Iran	Israel	Jamaica	Japan	Kenya	Latvia
Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities			✓				✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Community Services – Physical Health			✓					✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓					✓	✓		✓
Community Services – Social Care			✓				✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓		✓	✓			✓
Government Ministries			✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓				✓									✓		✓	✓
Individuals Homes & Home care services	✓		✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓							✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Work places			✓							✓			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓						✓			✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical			✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Insurance Companies	✓								✓	✓			✓	✓		✓											✓		✓	✓
Nursing and residential care homes	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Occupational Health Services										✓			✓	✓	✓	✓											✓			✓
Prisons/Correctional Facilities			✓				✓			✓			✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Private practice	✓		✓						✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓			✓
Public Health		✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓									✓				✓		✓	✓
Rehabilitation Centres	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Schools and education providers		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓
Sport and Recreation										✓	✓		✓	✓	✓												✓			✓
Universities, Education, Research			✓							✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					✓	✓	✓	✓
Wheelchair Services										✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓									✓			✓

n = 60 (62%)



Shortage Areas

Services where shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions primarily exist (2)

	Macau	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mauritius	Mexico	Mongolia	Morocco	Netherlands	Norway	New Zealand	Nigeria	Pakistan	Philippines	Poland	Portugal	Rwanda	Saudi Arabia	Seychelles	Singapore	South Africa	Sri Lanka	Sweden	Taiwan	Tanzania	Thailand	Turkey	Ukraine	United Kingdom	Venezuela	
Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts	✓	✓					✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		
Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse		✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Community Services – Physical Health		✓		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		
Community Services – Social Care	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		
Government Ministries		✓			✓	✓								✓					✓		✓										
Individuals Homes & Home care services		✓		✓					✓	✓							✓		✓		✓			✓		✓			✓		
Work places		✓	✓					✓		✓						✓			✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical		✓		✓					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓		✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	
Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse		✓							✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Insurance Companies		✓	✓									✓						✓		✓											
Nursing and residential care homes	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓							✓			✓			✓					✓	
Occupational Health Services		✓	✓							✓	✓					✓								✓					✓	✓	
Prisons/Correctional Facilities		✓	✓			✓					✓			✓							✓								✓		
Private practice		✓					✓	✓			✓						✓		✓			✓		✓							
Public Health		✓	✓							✓						✓		✓		✓	✓								✓		
Rehabilitation Centres		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓			✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Schools and education providers		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓						✓			✓			✓				✓		✓		✓	
Sport and Recreation		✓	✓									✓	✓					✓													
Universities, Education, Research		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					✓								✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Wheelchair Services		✓	✓					✓				✓	✓					✓												✓	

n = 60 (62%)



Shortage Areas

Specific practice areas with shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions (1)



Argentina

Rehabilitation, some geographical areas



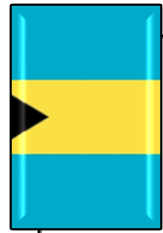
Armenia

Stroke rehabilitation, mental health



Australia

Aged care, mental health



Bahamas

Paediatrics, acute care, outpatients



Bangladesh

Mental health, dementia care



Botswana

Paediatric and adult neuro rehabilitation



Canada

Mental health, primary care, long-term care, paediatric and school setting services, indigenous health, rural and remote generalist practice



China

Mental health, nursing and care homes, schools and education, vocational rehabilitation, public health, education, Government policy



Colombia

Mental health, acute care, research, primary health care



Czech Republic

All specialities



Dominican Republic

Research, education, mental health, RBC, Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Acute/Physical, Public Health

Specific practice areas with shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions (2)



Estonia

Rehabilitation in centres and hospitals, stroke rehabilitation, dementia care, mental health



Finland

All specialities



France

Dementia care, older people, community services, children neuro developmental disorders



Georgia

Mental Health



Iceland

Hospitals, aged care, rehabilitation centres



India

Aged care, paediatrics, stroke rehabilitation, mental health in rural areas



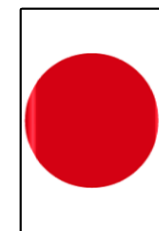
Iran

Mental Health



Jamaica

Paediatrics, rehabilitation, mental health, aged care, schools, all specialities



Japan

Hospitals, nursing homes, community services

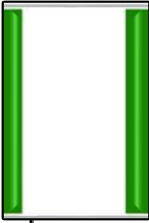


Kenya

Mental Health

n = 42 (44%)

Specific practice areas with shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions (3)

	Latvia All specialities		Macau Schools and education, day centres		Madagascar All specialities
	Malawi Insurance sector, spinal cord & stroke rehabilitation, mental health and schools		Mexico Substance abuse, prisons		Mongolia All specialities
	Norway Community services. All specialities		Nigeria Stroke rehabilitation, spinal cord injury rehabilitation, dementia care		Pakistan Stroke rehabilitation, autism, mental health, sensory deprivation, community rehabilitation
	Philippines Mental health		Poland Stroke rehabilitation, mental health		

n = 42 (44%)

Specific practice areas with shortages of occupational therapists for funded positions (4)



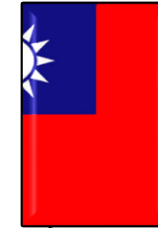
Portugal

Mental health



Seychelles

Dementia care, Mental health, schools and education , rehabilitation



Taiwan

Mental health



Tanzania

Educators in stroke rehabilitation, mental health



Thailand

Dementia care, mental health, rehabilitation, schools and education, universities, research, community services in all areas



Turkey

Mental health



Ukraine

All specialities



United Kingdom

Mental health, Community Services, Social Care



United States of America

Mental health, substance abuse

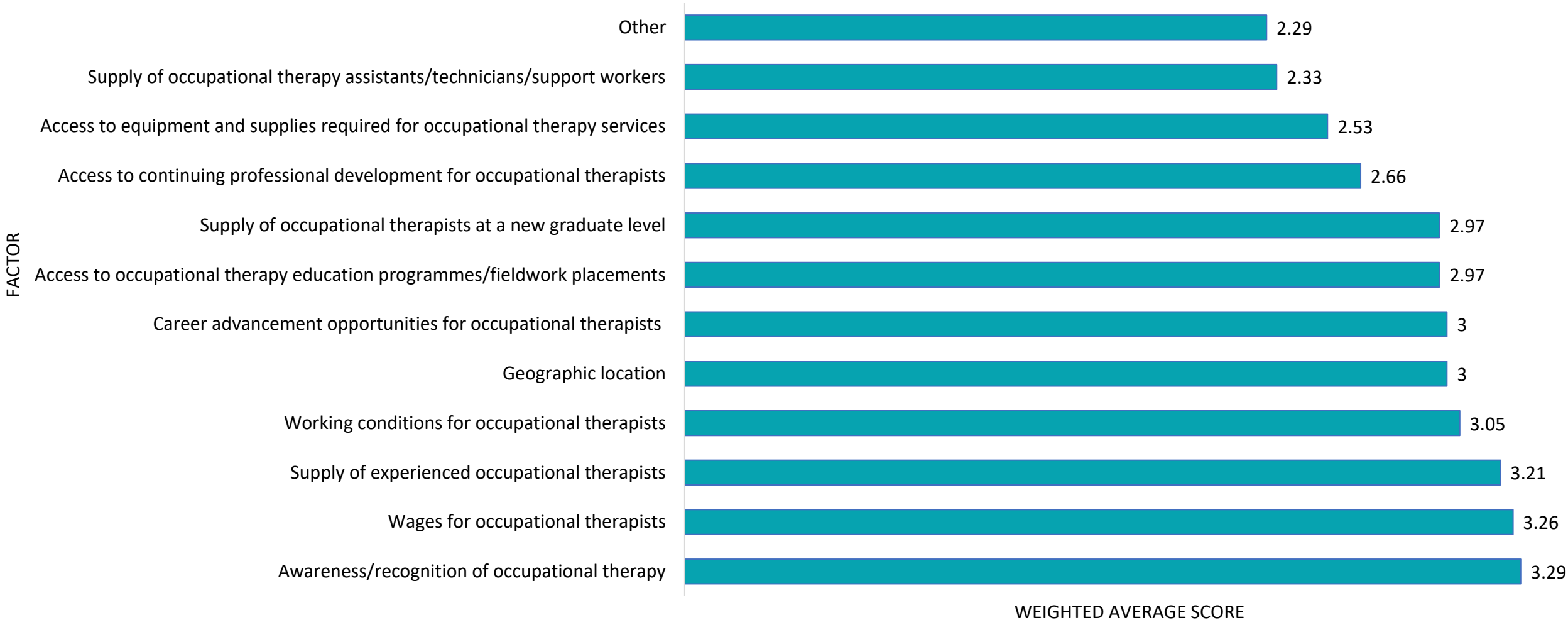


Venezuela

Physical Rehabilitation, Child Development, Mental health

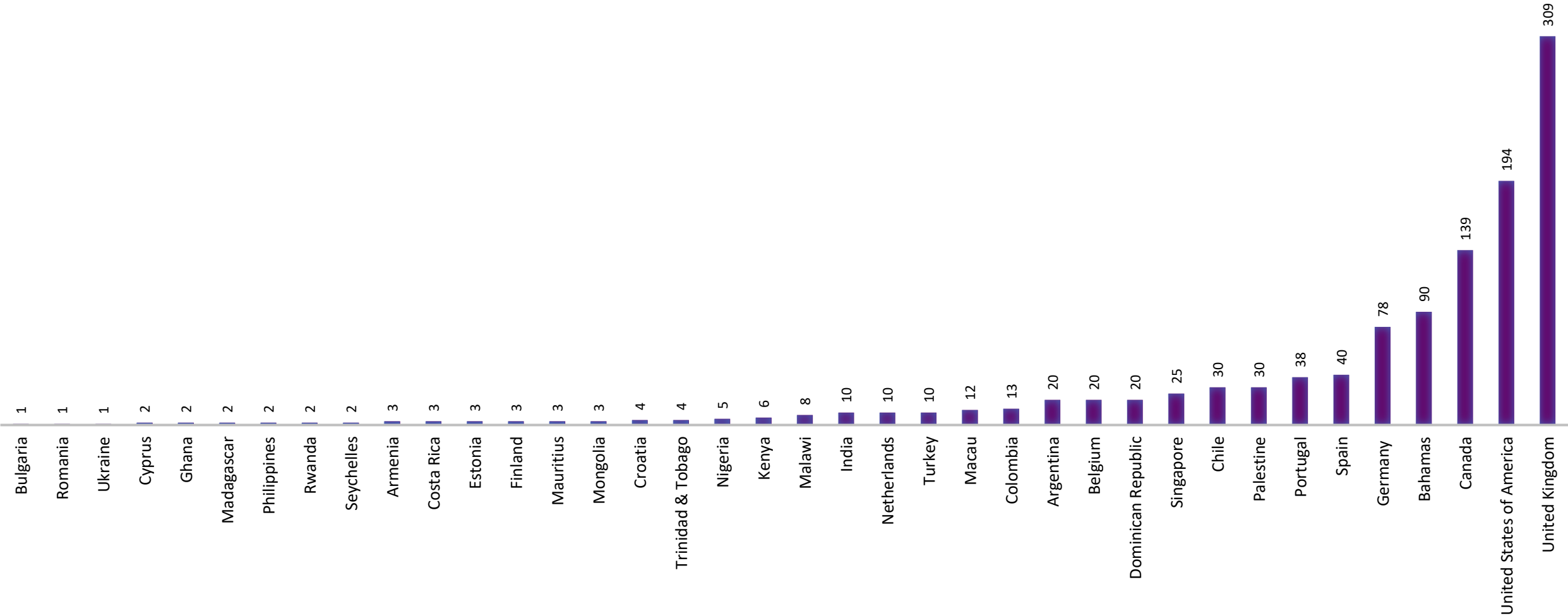
Factors impacting the shortage of occupational therapists for funded positions

Weighted average scores (Four point rating scale: No impact 1, Extreme impact 4)



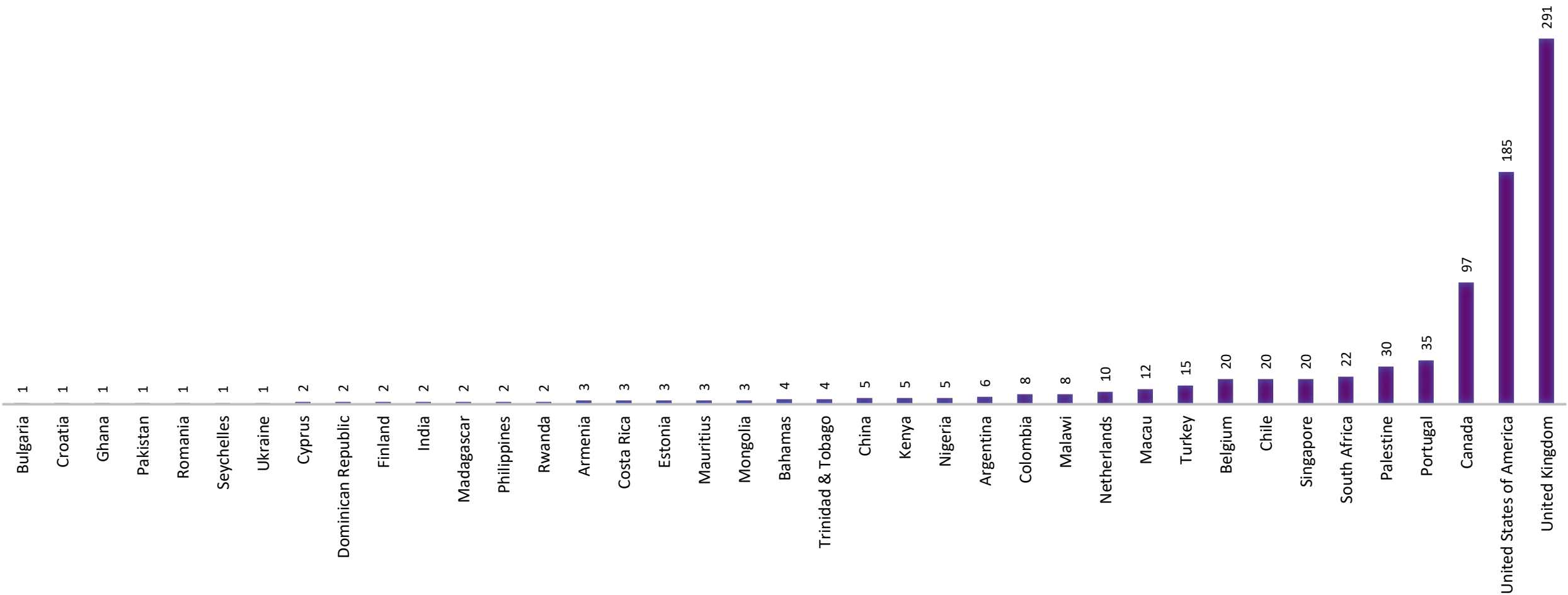
n = 64 (68%)

Number of international occupational therapists who applied to practice in the countries/territories listed



n = 38 (40%)

Number of international occupational therapists who successfully gained the right to practice in the countries/territories listed



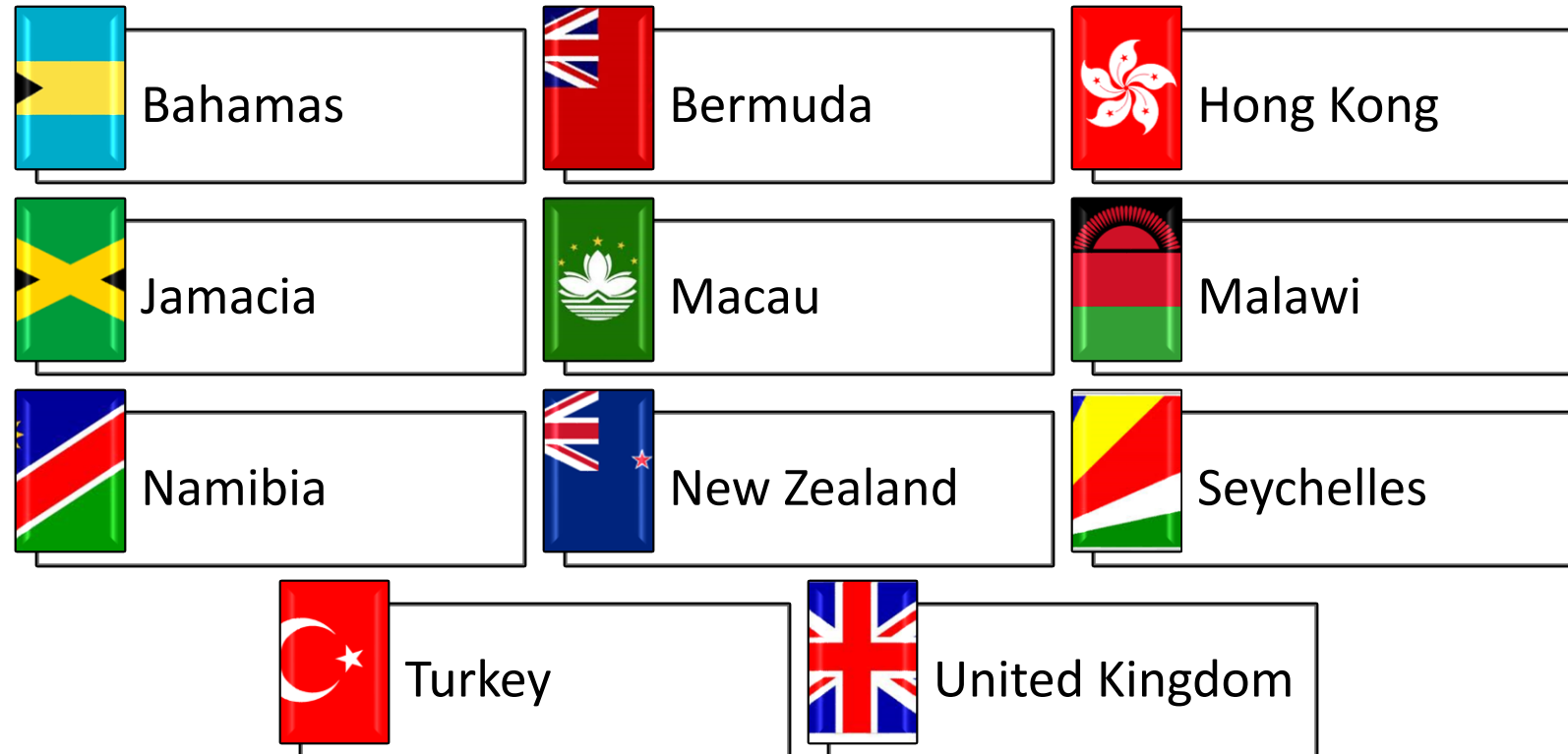
n = 39 (41%)

Countries/territories where occupational therapy is known to be recognised as a shortage profession by the government

 Australia	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Bermuda	 Botswana	 Brazil
 China	 Colombia	 Denmark	 Dominican Republic	 Georgia	 Hong Kong
 Iceland	 India	 Indonesia	 Iran	 Jamaica	 Kenya
 Latvia	 Macau	 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Morocco	 Nigeria
 Norway	 Pakistan	 Philippines	 Rwanda	 Saudi Arabia	 Seychelles
 Singapore	 Sri Lanka	 Sweden	 Taiwan	 Thailand	 Trinidad & Tobago
	 Turkey	 Ukraine	 United Kingdom	 Venezuela	

n = 42 (44%)

Countries/territories that actively recruit international occupational therapists



n = 11 (11%)

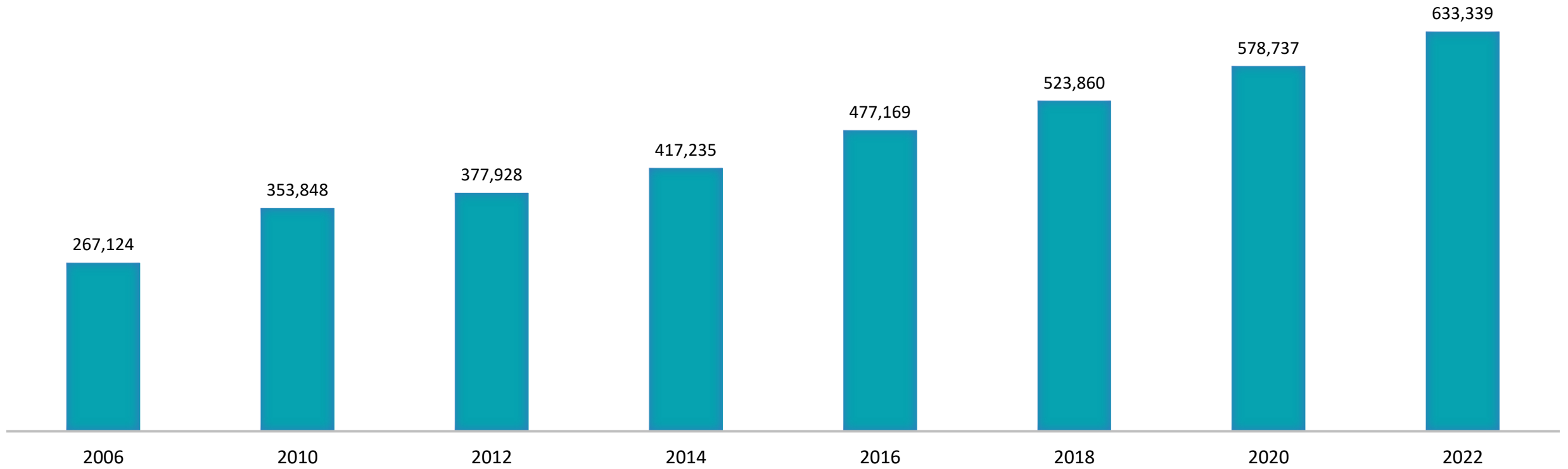
WFOT member organisations able to track the number of occupational therapists who were educated in their country/territory and choose to practice in another country/territory

 Armenia	 Bahamas	 Bangladesh	 Bermuda	 Bosnia & Herzegovina	 Bulgaria
 Dominican Republic	 Georgia	 Ghana	 Greece	 Guyana	 Haiti
 India	 Israel	 Kazakhstan	 Kenya	 Kosovo	 Latvia
 Lebanon	 Macau	 Madagascar	 Malawi	 Malaysia	 Mongolia
 Morocco	 Namibia	 Nigeria	 Pakistan	 Palestine	 Philippines
 Portugal	 Romania	 Rwanda	 Tanzania	 Trinidad & Tobago	 Turkey
	 Uganda	 Ukraine	 Venezuela	 Zimbabwe	

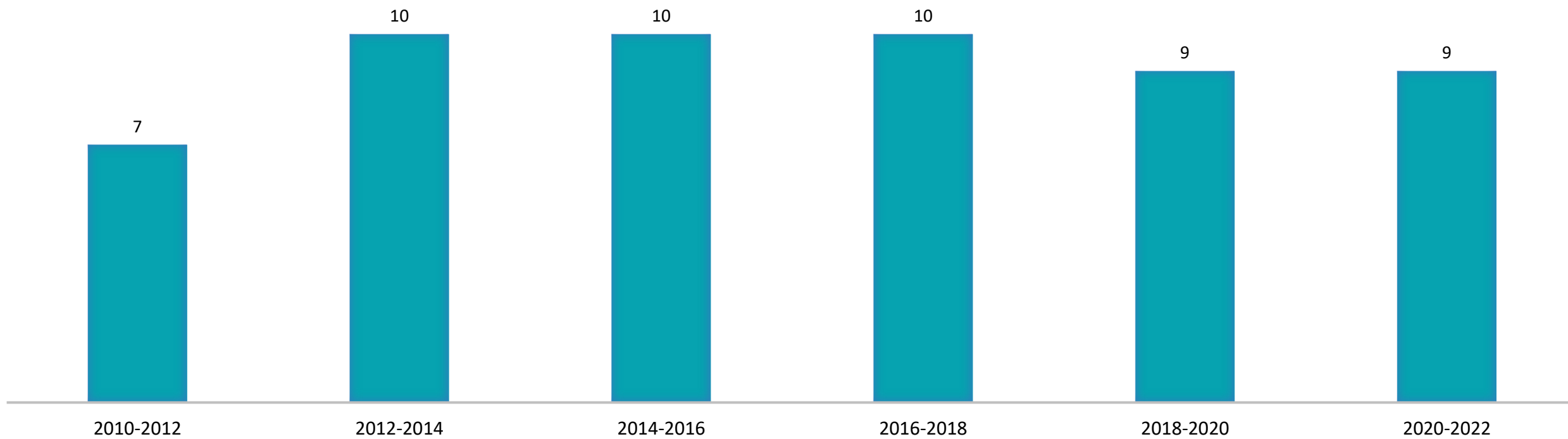
n = 40 (42%)

Summary

Number of practicing occupational therapists 2006 - 2022



Biennial percentage increases in the number of practicing occupational therapists in the years shown



Summary

Information was collated from 96 WFOT Member Organisations (98% of those surveyed)

The numbers below reflect the responses provided to WFOT from Member Organisations that responded to this project and collate this data.

Total number of practicing occupational therapists = 633,339

Total number of WFOT approved education programmes = 991

Total number of non WFOT approved education programmes = 364

Number of occupational therapists per 10,000 head of population = mean 2

Number of occupational therapy students studying in WFOT approved education programmes = 119,977

Number of occupational therapy assistants = 57,955

Median number of occupational therapists that are female = 94%

Median number of occupational therapists working in government/public funded posts = 50%

Median number of occupational therapists working in non government/public funded posts = 40%

Summary

Areas of practice with high vacancy rates for occupational therapists (top 3):

1. Community Services – Mental Health/Substance Abuse (n=39)
2. Community Services – Education/Learning Disabilities (n=36)
3. Charitable organisations/ Non Governmental Organisations and Trusts (n=35)
3. Inpatient/Outpatient Services/Hospitals – Mental Health/Substance Abuse (n=35)
3. Rehabilitation Centres (n=35)

Specific practice areas with a shortage of occupational therapists (top 3)

1. Mental Health (n=26)
2. Stroke rehabilitation (n=7)
3. Dementia (n=6)

Factors impacting on the shortage of occupational therapists for funded positions (top 3 – weighted average)

1. Awareness/recognition of occupational therapy (3.29)
2. Wages for occupational therapists (3.26)
3. Supply of experienced occupational therapists (3.21)

Notes and Cautions

Not all organisations collate data that is requested for this project.

Missing data should not be interpreted as being not applicable; in some instances the information is not known or unable to be provided.

All responses were requested in English and therefore reliant on accurate translations by Member Organisations.

Each slide shows the responses that were received from each WFOT Member Organisation or the WFOT Delegate.

Figures shown may be approximate versus an exact number.

Slides 40 and 41 (check on final version) required Member Organisations to provide responses expressed as a percentage. Not all combined responses equal 100%

2021 population data sourced from World Bank Population Data 2020; Taiwan and Palestine data sourced from <https://worldpopulationreview.com/>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CONTRIBUTORS

Delegates, Alternates and Member Organisations for providing the data and information for this project

Designed and compiled by Ritchard Ledgerd, WFOT Executive Director