JQ10 – Physiotherapists

Physiotherapists' data is compiled by the Department of Health as part of the Non-Monetary Health Care Statistics, administered jointly by Eurostat, OECD and WHO in fulfilment of the European regulation (EU) 2022/2294. These statistics are compiled and published on an annual basis and refer to the number of practising physiotherapists in the Republic of Ireland, as at end of the referenced ending calendar year.

Source:

Data is compiled from CORU registration records (https://www.coru.ie/), where CORU is Ireland's multi-profession health regulator.

Definitions:

Physiotherapists refer to healthcare professionals that; assess, plan and implement rehabilitative programs that improve or restore human motor functions, maximize movement ability, relieve pain syndromes, and treat or prevent physical challenges associated with injuries, diseases and other impairments. They apply a broad range of physical therapies and techniques such as movement, ultrasound, heating, laser and other techniques. This category of professionals include the following:

i. Geriatric physical therapist;
ii. Paediatric physical therapist;
iii. Orthopaedic physical therapist; and
iv. Physiotherapist.

While excluding the following:

i. Podiatrist;
ii. Occupational therapist;
iii. Acupressure therapist;
iv. Hydrotherapist;
v. Massage therapist;
vi. Physiotherapy technician;
vii. Shiatsu therapist;
viii. Chiropractor; and
ix. Osteopath.

Year (also referred to as data reference year) is taken as at the end of the calendar year of reference. (31st December).

Measure refers to the headcount of practising physiotherapists.

Unit refers to the unit of measure applied, which in this case refers to a numerical headcount of practising physiotherapists.

Value refers to the count of practising physiotherapists for the respective data reference year.

Flag indicates any particular caution or issues with the data worth of note for further data use. The following flags may be applied, along with their definition:

- **Flag M** indicates that the value is missing as it was not collected for that particular instance. This may be due to legal requirements, unavailability of data or data quality issues, among many reasons.

- **Flag B** indicates that the values from that data reference point onwards are not directly comparable with previous data points due to methodological issues which are explained in the coverage section below.
- **Flag E** indicates that the particular data point is based on an estimate and should be compares with other non-estimate data points with caution. Estimation methods applies are explained in the coverage section below.
- **Flag S** indicates that the particular data point has been supressed for confidentiality and/or quality purposes, such as; very small counts or very high variation. This should not be treated as a true zero. Whenever a value is a true zero, this has been indicated and not supressed.

Coverage:

Figures refer to professionals on the Physiotherapists Registration Board (PRB) register administered by CORU. The PRB register includes those applying as Physiotherapists (Irish and internationally qualified) and also Irish qualified Physical Therapists.

Estimation:

Not applicable.

Breaks in series:

Figures from data reference years prior to 2008 refer to the number member of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists. Figures from data reference year 2008 onwards refer to the number of practising physiotherapists. Therefore, it excludes the number of non-practising physiotherapists, those that live overseas or those that are now retired.

A break in series in data reference year 2018 occurred due to a change in source.

Suppression:

Not applicable.

Contact Person	Statistics and Analytics Unit
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Period of time	As at end of June from 1986-2017. As at end of calendar year from 2018-2022.