

# HCPC Diversity Data Report 2021: physiotherapists

## Introduction

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) aims to be recognised as an organisation that actively upholds and promotes best practice in equality, diversity and inclusion. Improving the quantity and quality of our diversity data is an important step towards achieving this aim.

Between December 2020 and March 2021, we collected diversity data in a voluntary survey from 51,710 registrants across 15 health and care professions. This represents 18% of the HCPC Register and a three-fold increase in responses as compared with the 2019/20 survey.

This factsheet provides the key EDI information for the physiotherapists and how the demographics of this group compare to the demographics of HCPC registrants overall.



Profession:  
physiotherapists



Total registered  
physiotherapists:  
58,308<sup>1</sup>



Number of physiotherapists  
who responded to the survey:  
9,219

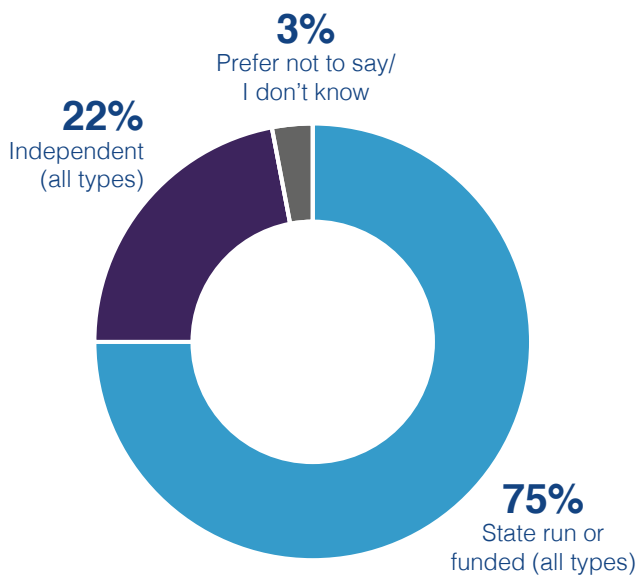
## Key findings

- Physiotherapists had the lowest proportion of registrants who were state-educated (75%), and the highest proportion of registrants educated at an independent school (22%).
- Physiotherapist had the highest proportion of heterosexual registrants (93%), joint with orthoptists.
- A relatively high proportion of physiotherapists work in the community (16%) or in a private healthcare provider (20%).

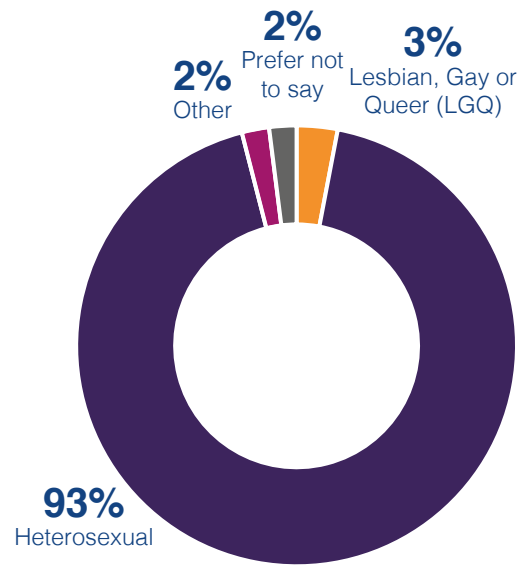
1. Total taken from age group data.

# Physiotherapists - Key findings

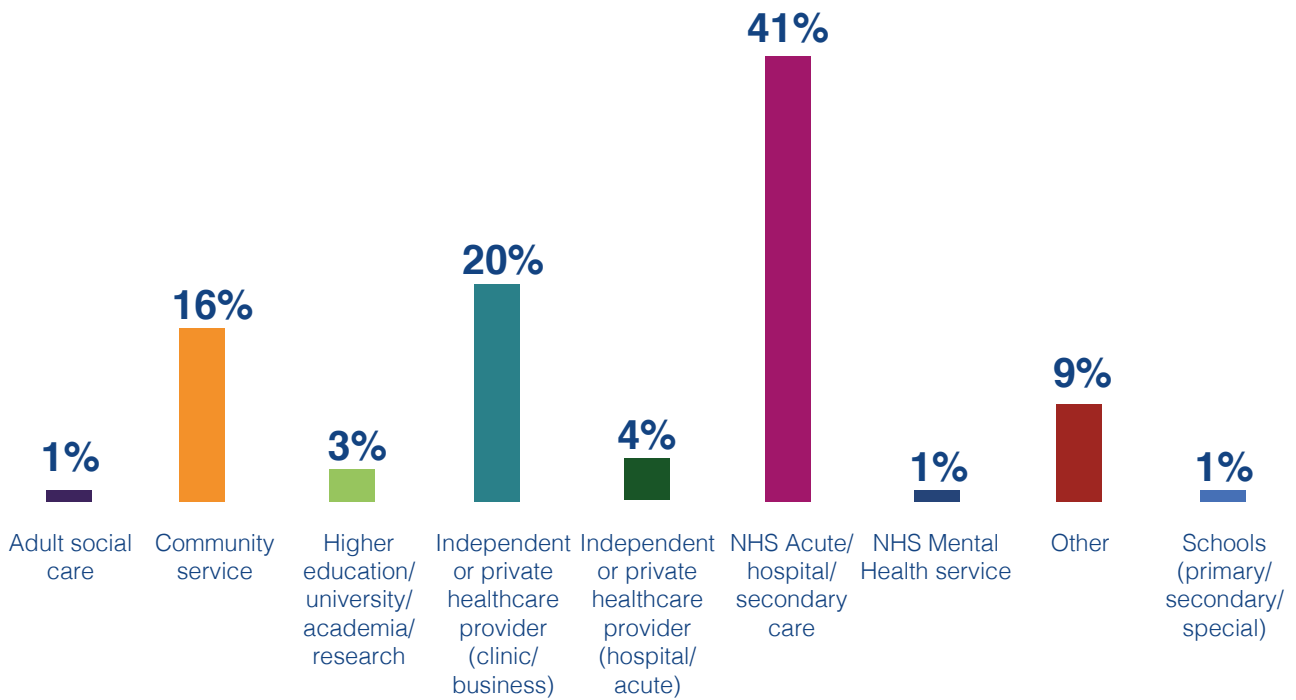
## Education



## Sexual orientation



## Work setting



## Age

Count and proportion of respondents by age group:

	Under 25		25-34 years		35-44 years		45-54 years		55-64 years		65 and over		Average age
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	3,082	5	18,367	31	18,894	32	10,801	19	6,165	11	999	2	40
<b>All professions</b>	11,853	4	78,796	27	84,390	29	65,492	23	40,694	14	7,956	3	42

## Disability

Count and proportion of respondents by disability:

	Disabled		Not disabled		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	562	6	8,569	93	47	1
<b>All professions</b>	4,188	8	47,005	91	517	1

## Ethnicity

Count and proportion of respondents by ethnic origin:

	Asian		Black		Mixed		White		Other		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	843	9	307	3	226	2	7,590	83	130	1	81	1
<b>All professions</b>	3,993	8	2,368	5	1,245	2	42,755	83	890	2	458	1

## Gender

Count and proportion of respondents by gender:

	Woman		Man		Other		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	7,175	78	1,962	21	10	0	31	0
<b>All professions</b>	39,146	76	12,175	24	174	0	226	0

Count and proportion of responses to “Do you consider yourself to fall under the protected characteristic of ‘pregnancy & maternity’, as per the Equality Act 2010?”

	Yes		No		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	612	7	8,488	92	78	1
<b>All professions</b>	3,098	6	48,088	93	529	1

## Religion

Count and proportion of respondents by religion or belief:

	Buddhist	Christian	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	No religion	Other	Sikh	Spiritual	Prefer not to say
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	1%	50%	4%	1%	2%	35%	2%	0%	3%	2%
<b>All professions</b>	1%	44%	2%	1%	3%	39%	3%	1%	4%	3%

## Sexual orientation

Count and proportion of respondents by sexual orientation:

	Lesbian, Gay or Queer (LGQ) <sup>2</sup>		Heterosexual		Other		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	315	3	8,506	93	197	2	160	2
<b>All professions</b>	2,254	4	46,558	90	1,804	3	1,094	2

## Caring responsibilities

Count and proportion of respondents by caring responsibility:

	Yes		No		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	3,363	37	5,724	62	91	1
<b>All professions</b>	18,351	35	32,746	63	617	1

## Country of work

Count and proportion of respondents by country of work:

	England		Northern Ireland		Scotland		Wales		Other	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	7,420	81	253	3	669	7	359	4	477	5
<b>All professions</b>	42,169	82	1,348	3	3,798	7	2,302	4	2,093	4

2. The term "LGQ" is used throughout the report to represent the categories: Gay Man, Gay woman/lesbian, Queer, and Prefer to self describe (where gay or queer or lesbian was indicated). This was used to ensure data remain unidentifiable, particularly where small cell counts were noted.

## Work setting

Proportion of respondents by primary work setting:

Work Setting	Physiotherapists	All professions
Adult social care	1%	2%
Community service	16%	9%
Higher education/university/academia/research	3%	3%
Independent or private healthcare provider (clinic/business)	20%	11%
Independent or private healthcare provider (hospital/acute)	4%	3%
NHS Acute/ hospital/ secondary care	41%	35%
NHS Mental Health service	1%	6%
Other	9%	10%
Schools (primary/secondary/special)	1%	4%

Count and proportion of respondents by work pattern:

	Full-time		Part-time		Flexible hours/ Zero Hour		Not currently working		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	5,224	57	3,208	35	404	4	289	3	53	1
<b>All professions</b>	32,236	62	15,825	31	2,126	4	1,200	2	332	1

## Education

Count and proportion of respondents by type of schooling:

	State run or funded (all types)		Independent (all types)		Prefer not to say		I don't know	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	6,922	75	2,030	22	143	2	83	1
<b>All professions</b>	42,523	82	7,931	15	761	1	504	1

### *Parental or guardian education attainment*

Count and proportion of responses to the question “when you were 18, had any of your parents or guardians completed a university degree course of equivalent (e.g., BA, BSC, or higher)?”

	Yes		No		I don't know		Prefer not to say	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Physiotherapists</b>	3,885	42	5,117	56	107	1	69	1
<b>All professions</b>	17,949	35	32,719	63	639	1	409	1