



Colombian Journal of Anesthesiology

Revista Colombiana de Anestesiología

www.revcolanest.com.co

OPEN

Wolters Kluwer

Density of Peruvian anesthesiologists in 2020

Densidad de médicos anesthesiólogos peruanos en 2020

Dear Editor

It was with significant interest that I reviewed the Chapter entitled "Anesthesia and Analgesia in the Global Context," published in the last edition of the book *Miller's Anesthesia*. The article makes a practical review of the practice of anesthesiology in Colombia and Paraguay, under the South American section.¹ However, the introduction claims that Perú has the lowest density of

anesthesia specialists in South America (1.7 per every 100,000 inhabitants). Such rate was estimated using a global survey conducted between 2015 and 2016. The survey was addressed to the National Societies of Anesthesiology in 150 countries (see third column, [Table 1](#)).²

[Table 1](#) shows that the lowest and highest density in Latin America and the Caribbean is found in Haiti and

Table 1. Density of anesthesiologists per every 100,000 inhabitants in the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Country	Source: The Lancet Global Health (2015)	Source: WFSA (2020)	Other reports
Antigua y Barbuda	2.2	2	-
Argentina*	11	10.96	7.2 (2015)
Bahamas	6.7	3.35	-
Belize	-	1.95	-
Bolivia*	12.1	6.71 [†]	-
Brazil*	12.6	11.55	9.2 (2017)
Chile*	13.3	6.57	8.03 (2016)
Colombia*	5.5	7.46	6.5 (2017)
Costa Rica	5.8	8.26	6.8 (2018)
Cuba	16	15.68	-

How to cite this article: Shiraishi-Zapata CJ. Density of Peruvian anesthesiologists in 2020. *Colombian Journal of Anesthesiology*. 2020;48:174–176.

Read the Spanish version of this article at: <http://links.lww.com/RCA/A944>.

Copyright © 2020 Sociedad Colombiana de Anestesiología y Reanimación (S.C.A.R.E.). Published by Wolters Kluwer. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Correspondence: Servicio de Centro Quirúrgico y Anestesiología, Hospital EsSalud Talara, Avenida Panamericana s/n Talara, 20811 Piura, Perú.
E-mail: Shiraishi52@hotmail.com

Colombian Journal of Anesthesiology (2020) 48:3

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/CJ9.0000000000000174>

Country	Source: The Lancet Global Health (2015)	Source: WFSA (2020)	Other reports
Dominica	2.8	2.74	–
Dominican Republic	–	7.6	–
Ecuador*	12.9	1.8	–
El Salvador	1.9	2.71	–
Granada	1.9	1.87	–
Guatemala	1	1.9	–
French Guiana*	–	9.31	–
Guyana*	1.1	3.26	–
Haiti	0.6	0.88	–
Honduras	1.9	2.23	–
Jamaica	1.4	1.43	–
Mexico	7.2	6.42	11.51 (2018)
Nicaragua	2.6	4.11	–
Panama	5.5	9.57	–
Paraguay*	2.3	4.93 [†]	–
Peru*	4.6	1.76	–
San Cristobal and Nieves	5.6	5.36	–
Saint Lucia	3.9	3.78	–
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1.8	1.82	–
Surinam*	–	3.5	–
Trinidad and Tobago	5.6	5.51	–
Uruguay*	9.7	13.69	–
Venezuela*	–	2.22	–

* Countries in South America.

[†] Information updated to 2020 collected from Ref.³ with regard to Ref.² published in 2017 (both surveys conducted by the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists—WFSA).

Source: Author based on WFSA,³ Holmer et al,⁴ MinSalud Argentina,⁵ Scheffer,⁶ MinSalud Chile,⁷ Government of Colombia,⁸ Heinze-Martin.⁹

Cuba, respectively. However, according to the source, it is obvious that there is a significant difference in terms of the densities in Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Mexico. Such discrepancy in the figures should be approached through further research to clarify the information.

With regard to the density of Peruvian anesthesiologists, it must be highlighted that although the number of members of the Peruvian Society of Anesthesia, Analgesia and Resuscitation was 1150 in 2019,¹⁰ in accordance with

the current records of the Peruvian Medical College, there are 2305 practicing anesthesiologists (general and sub-specialized).¹¹ Considering that the Peruvian population is 32,824,358 inhabitants,¹² the resulting rate is of 7 specialists per every 100,000 inhabitants in 2020. The difference in the number of specialists could be the result of the fact that the membership of the national society is not mandatory, but registration with the college and registration before the Peruvian Medical College is mandatory to

be able to practice medicine throughout the country (primary care and all specialties).¹³

Financing

The author did not receive any sponsorship to prepare this manuscript.

Conflicts of interest

The author has no conflict of interests to disclose.

References

- Lipnick MS, Miller RD, Gelb AW, Gropper MA, Cohen NH, Eriksson LI, et al. Chapter 2, Anesthesia and analgesia in the global context. Miller's anesthesia 9th ed. Canada: Elsevier; 2020;10–56.
- Kempthorne P, Morriss WW, Mellin-Olsen J, et al. The WFSA global anesthesia workforce survey. *Anesth Analg* 2017;125:981–990.
- WFSA. World anaesthesiology workforce [internet]. 2020. Available at: <https://www.wfsahq.org/workforce-map>. [Cited 1 abr, 2020].
- Holmer H, Lantz A, Kunjumen T, et al. Global distribution of surgeons, anaesthesiologists, and obstetricians. *Lancet Glob Health* 2015;3:S9–S11.
- Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Análisis de la distribución geográfica de médicos especialistas en la República Argentina [internet]. 2015. Available at: <https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/portal/resource/pt/biblio-884869?lang=es>. [Cited: 1 abr, 2020].
- Scheffer MC, Guilloux AGA, Matijasevich A, et al. The state of the surgical workforce in Brazil. *Surgery* 2017;161:556–561.
- Ministerio de Salud de Chile. Subsecretaría de Redes Asistenciales. División de Gestión y Desarrollo de las Personas. Departamento de Planificación y Control de Gestión de RHS. Informe sobre brechas de personal de salud por servicio de salud. 2017; Available at: https://www.minsal.cl/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Informe-Brechas-RHS-en-Sector-P%C3%BAblico_Abril2017.pdf. [Cited: 1 abr, 2020].
- Gobierno de Colombia. Ministerio de Salud y Protección Social. Indicadores de Talento Humano Sector Salud. 2018; Available at: <https://www.datos.gov.co/Salud-y-Protecci-n-Social/INDICADORES-TALENTO-HUMANO-SECTORSALUD/7rp7-atms>. [Cited: 1 abr, 2020].
- Heinze-Martin G, Olmedo-Canchola VH, Bazán-Miranda G, et al. Medical specialists in Mexico. *Gac Med Mex* 2018;154:342–351.
- Sociedad Peruana de Anestesia, Analgesia y Reanimación. Actualidad y noticias: “Se realizó Asamblea General de Asociados durante el XXVIII Congreso Peruano de Anestesiología”. 2019; Available at: <https://www.spaar.org.pe/se-realizo-asambleagen-eral-de-asociados-durante-el-xxviii-congreso-peruano-deaneste-siologia/>. [Cited: March 21, 2020].
- Colegio Médico del Perú. Servicios: Aplicativo “Conoce a tu médico”. 2018; Disponible en: <https://www.cmp.org.pe/conoce-a-tu-medico/>. [Cited: 21 mar, 2020].
- Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática del Perú. Sistemas de consulta. Series nacionales [internet]. 2020. Available at: <http://webapp.inei.gob.pe:8080/sirtod-series/>. [Cited: 21 mar, 2020].
- Colegio Médico del Perú. Reglamento del Colegio Médico del Perú [internet]. 2018. Available at: <https://www.cmp.org.pe/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/REGLAMENTO-DEL-COLEGIO-M%C3%89DICO-DEL-CO%C3%89DIGO-DE-PROFESIONES-DE-COLOCAR-ART-149-NOV-2018.pdf>. [Cited: 21 mar, 2020].

Carlos Javier Shirraishi-Zapata

Servicio de Centro Quirúrgico y Anestesiología,
Hospital EsSalud Talara, Piura, Perú.