

Advancing Occupational Therapy Education in Italy: Bridging Gaps and Strengthening Professional Identity

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IHME

October 2020 → The Lancet published the «**Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019)**»

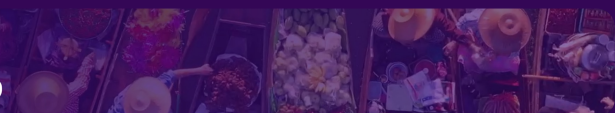
December 2020 → The Lancet published the «**Global estimates of the need for rehabilitation**»



World Health Organization

July 2023

Module	Topic	Background information
Module 1	Introduction	
Module 2	Musculoskeletal conditions	Low back pain Osteoarthritis Rheumatoid arthritis Sarcopenia Fractures Amputation
Module 3	Neurological conditions	Stroke Parkinson disease Traumatic brain injury Spinal cord injury Cerebral palsy Dementia
Module 4	Cardiopulmonary conditions	Ischaemic heart disease Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Module 5	Neurodevelopmental disorders	Autism spectrum disorders Disorders of intellectual development
Module 6	Sensory conditions	Vision impairment Hearing loss
Module 7	Malignant neoplasm	Cancer
Module 8	Mental health conditions	Schizophrenia





The National Benchmarks

Ministry of Health

January 17, 1997 → Ministerial Decree (DM) nr. 137 → determination of the **Professional Profile of Occupational Therapist**

Council of Ministers

November 29, 2001 → Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (DPCM) → **Essential Level of Care (LEA)** first version, current version of LEA was approved by **DPCM of January 12, 2017.**



The Regional Benchmarks

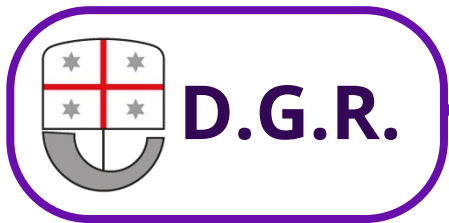
Ligurian Health Authority (A.Li.Sa.)

December 19, 2017 → Proposal for **quality requirements for the accreditation of healthcare facilities.**

Regional Council

December 28, 2017 → Deliberation of the Regional Council (DGR) → **Approvation of A.Li.Sa. document**

Workforce needs to satisfy both national and regional benchmarks



1.

Explicit indications for Occupational Therapy

2.

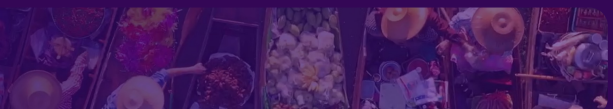
Implicit indications → matching LEA healthcare services description and OT's Professional Profile.

3.

How many patients for each health condition?
Prevalence and statistics of Ligurians.

4.

How many Occupational Therapists to cover treatments forecasted?



Workforce need to satisfy both national and regional benchmarks

$$OTs\ nr. = \frac{(TR.\ nr. \times TR.\ time \times PT.\ nr): 60}{36 \times 47}$$

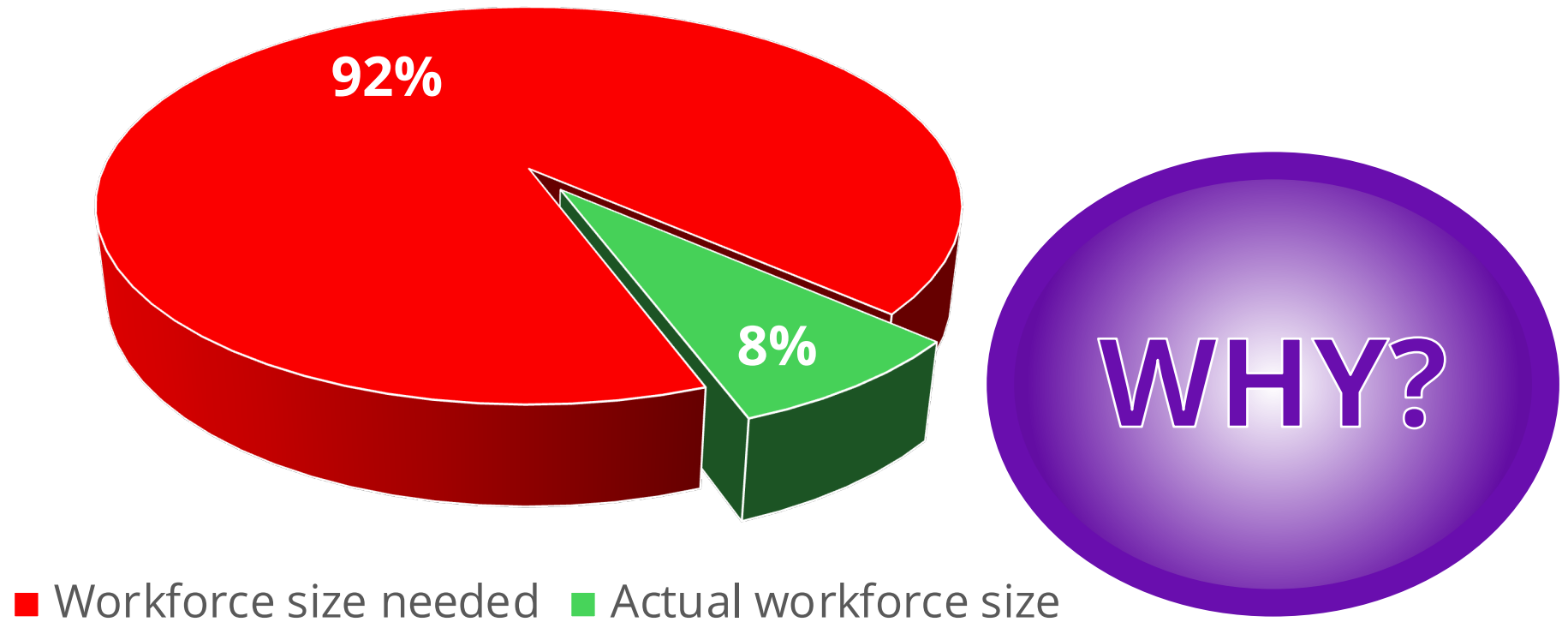
TR. nr.	=	Number of forecasted treatments
TR. time	=	Forecasted minutes for each treatment
PT. nr.	=	Number of patients estimated for each health condition or health facility
60	=	Minutes in a hour
36	=	Working hours per week of full-time health professionals, according to National Collective Contracts
47	=	Working weeks per year of full-time health professionals, according to National Collective Contracts

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Articles of Law	L.E.A. - DPCM 12 Gennaio 2017		DGR Liguria nr. 1185 del 2017	Health Districts	Accredited Facilities Beds	Required interventions	Workforce needed	
	Attachement nr. 8	Attachment nr. 8BIS*						
Assistive Technology Provision						NS	19	
Integrated Care Pathways						NS	19	
Integrated Home Care						NS	19	
	Non-Alzheimer's			19			108	
	Alzheimer's Disease						83	
	Parkinson's Disease						12	
	Psychosis						38	
		Rheumatoid Arthritis				10 annual thirty-minute treatments	33	
		Ankylosing Spondylitis					16	
		Systemic Lupus					1	
			ORC		15	NS	15	
			Residential Alzheimer's Facility		8	70	14 minutes per patient per	4
			IRFs		15	NS	in line with IRP	8
			IRFs for Severe ABI		2	NS		1
			RU for CNS Degenerative Disease	Inpatient	1	NS	steady presence of one OT	1
				Day-hospital	0	N/A	each facility	0
TOTALE								376

ORC	Outpatient Rehabilitation Centres
IRFs	Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities
ABI	Acquired Brain Injury
RU	Rehabilitation Unit
CNS	Central Nervous System
IRP	Individual Rehabilitation Plan
N/A	Not Applicable
NS	Not Specified

Estimated size of OT workforce vs. actual availability



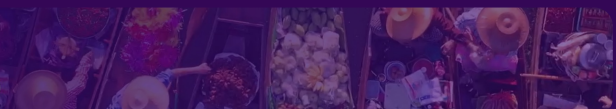
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Survey about Ligurian OT Workforce in years 2018-2024

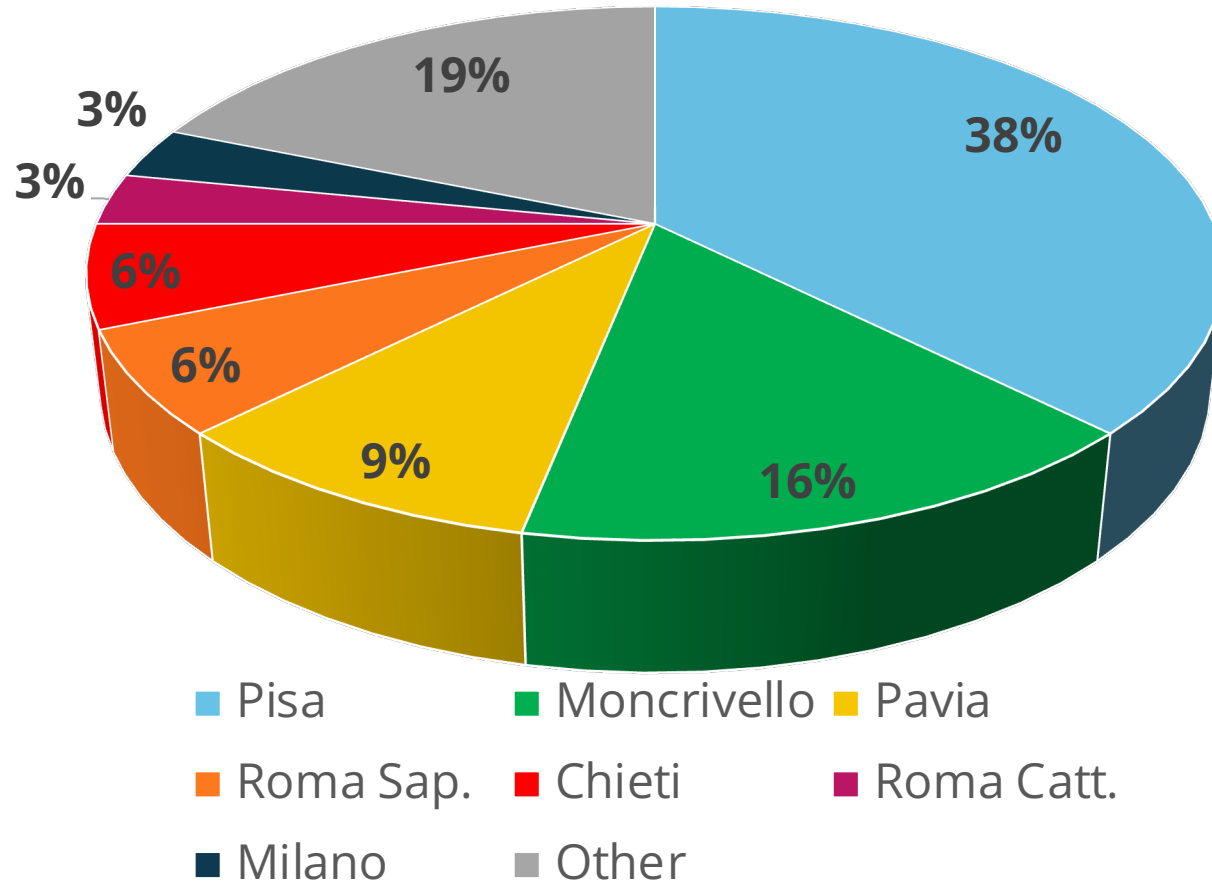
Ordin. Reg. nr.	Birth year	Region of origin	University where OTs has trained	City	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
GEIM	1	1988	Toscana	PI Pisa	Pisa	RG	TR				
GEIM	2	1987	Sardegna	CA Pisa	Pisa	RG	RN	RN	RN	RN	TR
GEIM	3	1980	Liguria	SP Pisa	Pisa	RG	RN	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	4	1986	Piemonte	TO Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Moncrivello	RG	RN	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	5	1987	Lazio	VT La Sapienza	Roma		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	6	1982	Puglia	FG L'Aquila	L'Aquila		RG	RN	RN	RN	DR
GEIM	7	1962	Liguria	GE *	Genova		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	8	1984	Lombardia	MI Milano	Milano		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	9	1984	Toscana	GR Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	10	1989	Piemonte	AL Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Roma		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	11	1987	Piemonte	TO Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Moncrivello		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	12	1994	Liguria	GE SUPSI	Lugano			RG	RN	RN	TR
GEIM	13	1987	Abruzzo	CH Chieti e Pescara	Chieti		RG	TR			
GEIM	14	1971	Liguria	GE *	Genova			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	15	1998	Liguria	SV Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Moncrivello			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	16	1973	Liguria	GE Pavia	Pavia			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	17	1996	Piemonte	VC Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Moncrivello			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	18	1988	CILE	N/A Universidad Mayor	Santiago del Cile			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	19	1997	Piemonte	TO Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Moncrivello			RG	RN	RN	RN
GEIM	20	1995	Piemonte	AL Pavia	Pavia				RG	RN	RN
GEIM	21	2000	Liguria	IM La Sapienza	Roma					RG	RN
GEIM	22	1997	GERMANIA	N/A Chieti-Pescara	Chieti					RG	RN
GEIM	23	1991	Liguria	IM NS	NS						RG
GEIM	24	1978	Liguria	GE Pavia	Pavia						RG
GEIM	25	1983	Piemonte	VC Milano	Milano						RG
SP	1	1989	Liguria	SP Pisa	Pisa	RG	RN	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	2	1986	Liguria	SP Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	3	1984	Toscana	MS Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	4	1989	Toscana	LU Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	5	1984	Toscana	MS Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	6	1986	Liguria	SP Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	7	1990	Toscana	MS Pisa	Pisa		RG	RN	RN	RN	RN
SP	9	1987	Toscana	MS Pisa	Pisa					RG	RN

N/A	Not applicable
NS	Not stated
RG	Registration to the local Professional Organization
RN	Membership Renewal
TR	Transfer to the Professional Organization of another area
DR	Deregistration from any Professional Organization

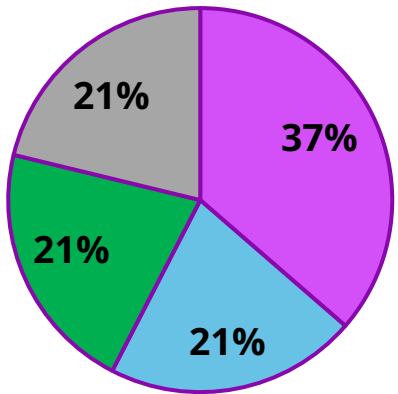
* Conversion of the title from Rehabilitation Therapist to Occupation Therapist pursuant to article number two of Ministerial Decree 27 July 2000.



Universities where Ligurian OTs trained

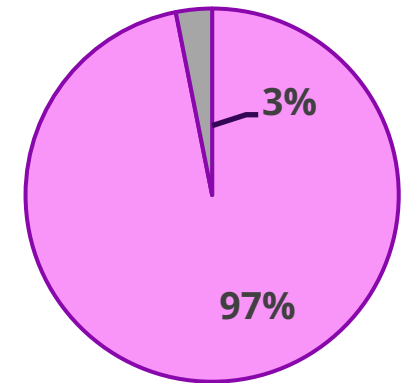


Regions where Ligurian OTs came from

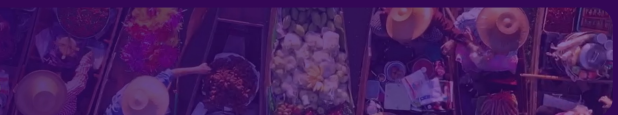


- Liguria
- Toscana
- Piemonte
- Altro

Availability of data



- Available data
- Not available data



Data collected from official documents

The Permanent Conference between
the State and the Regions

Training demand for
occupational therapists

- ⇒ Act n. 83 CSR – June 18, 2020
- ⇒ Act n. 148 CSR – August 4, 2021
- ⇒ Act n. 131 CSR – July 6, 2022
- ⇒ Act n. 149 CSR – June 21, 2023
- ⇒ Act n. 130 CSR – July 11, 2024

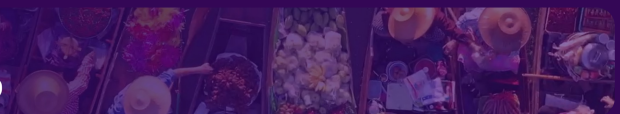
<https://www.statoregioni.it/it/>

Ministry of University and
Research

National activation of
Bachelor's Degree courses

- ⇒ M.D. n. 241 – June 26, 2020
- ⇒ M.D. n. 794 – July 13, 2021
- ⇒ M.D. n. 1074 – September 12, 2022
- ⇒ M.D. n. 1225 – September 11, 2023
- ⇒ M.D. n. 1119 – August first, 2024

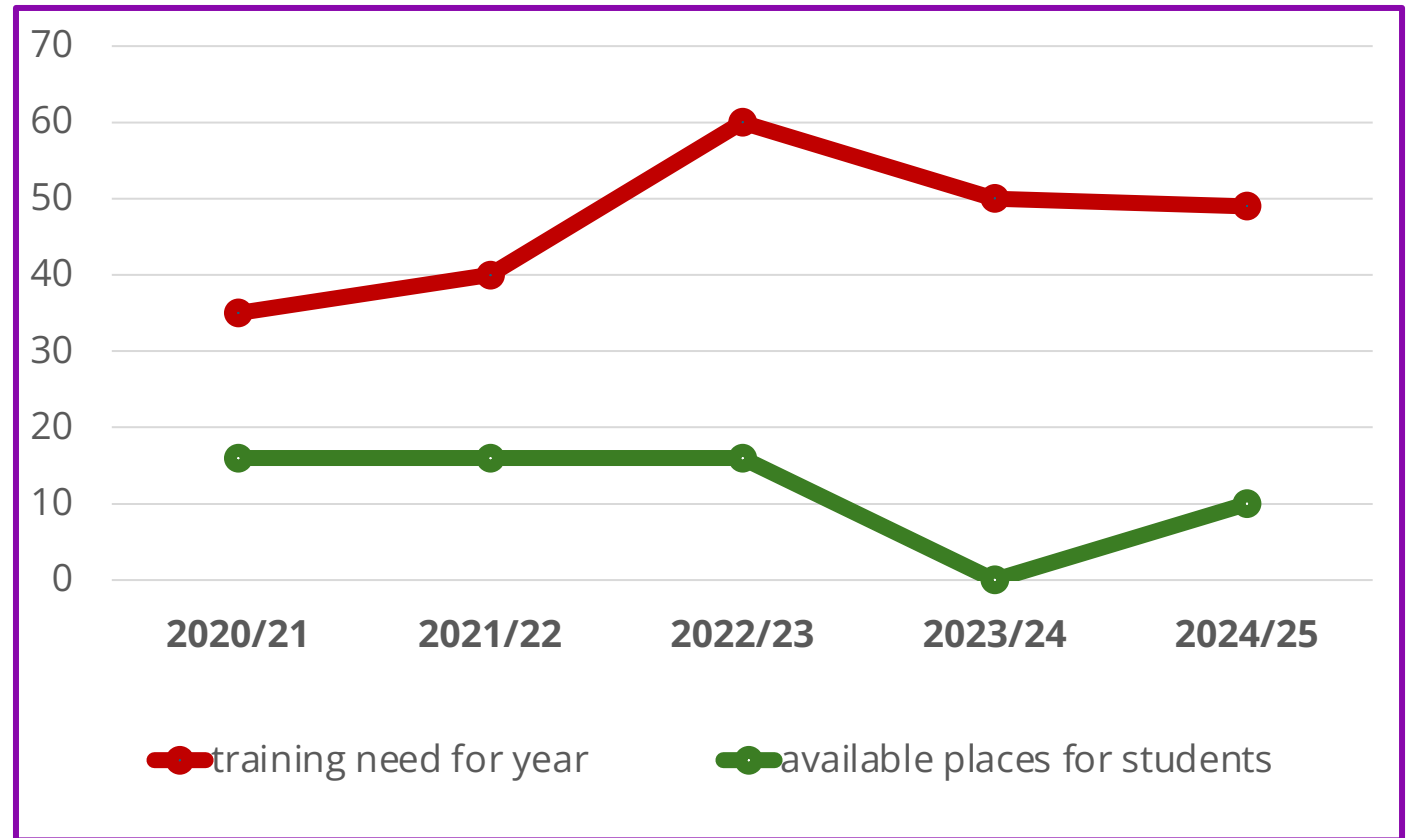
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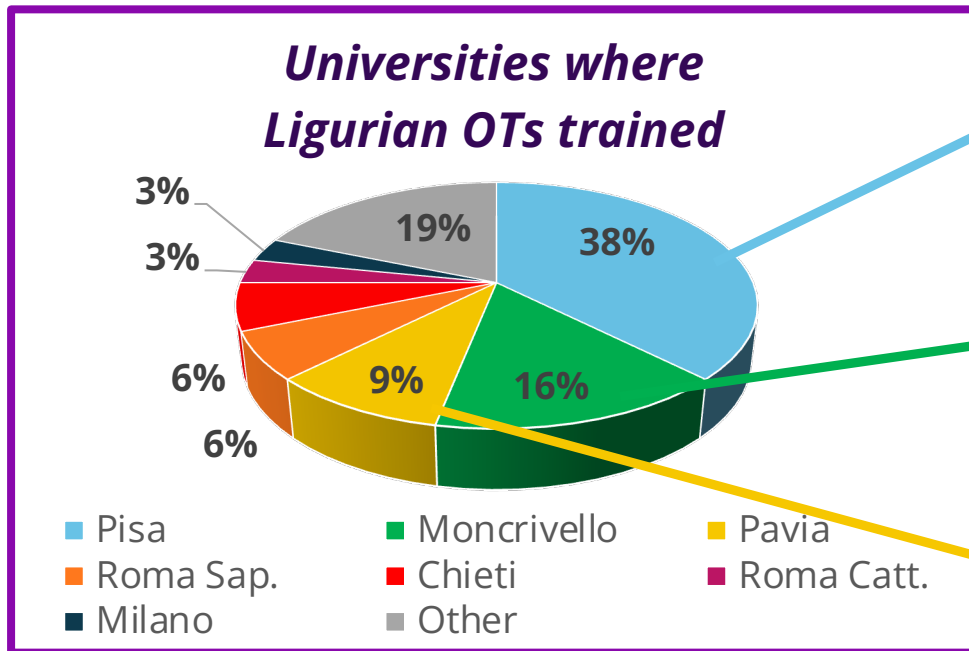
TRAINING NEED				
Academic year	Concerned Regions			
	Piemonte	Liguria	Toscana	
2020/21	15	20	0	
2021/22	15	20	5	
2022/23	20	20	20	
2023/24	20	20	10	
2024/25	19	20	10	

TRAINING NEED vs. TRAINING OFFER			MISSING PLACES		
ac. year	training need for year	available places for students	nr.	%	
2020/2	35	16	-19	-54%	
2021/2	40	16	-24	-60%	
2022/2	60	16	-44	-73%	
2023/2	50	0	-50	-100%	
2024/2	49	10	-39	-80%	
			media	-73%	

Training Need vs. Training Offer



Details



Bachelor Degree Course in University of Pisa had closed several years ago.

Bachelor Degree Course in University of Moncrivello is private University and it has been decreasing its capacity training since academic year 2023/2024.

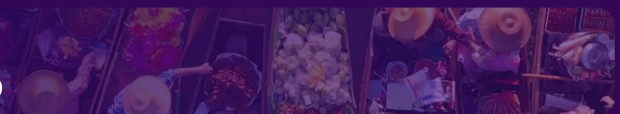
Bachelor Degree Course in University of Pavia always had issues concerning the didactic quality.



Synthesis and Conclusions

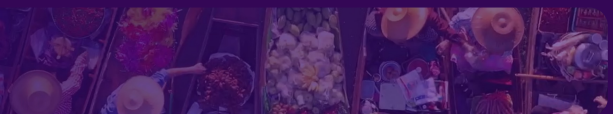
- ❑ The considered inter-Regional area (L-P-T) has **no one public OT Bachelor Degree Course**.
- ❑ The nearest Bachelor Degree Course (PV) has always had **troubles with didactic quality**.
- ❑ The Universities, where Ligurian OTs had historically trained, are **no longer able to form OTs**.
- ❑ Ligurian Regional Health Service are **not able to deal with rehabilitation need** of Ligurian citizens.

Liguria needs a public Bachelor Degree Course in its geographical area in order to train properly OT professionals and aligns with national and regional benchmarks.



Thanks for your
attention

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Main References

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