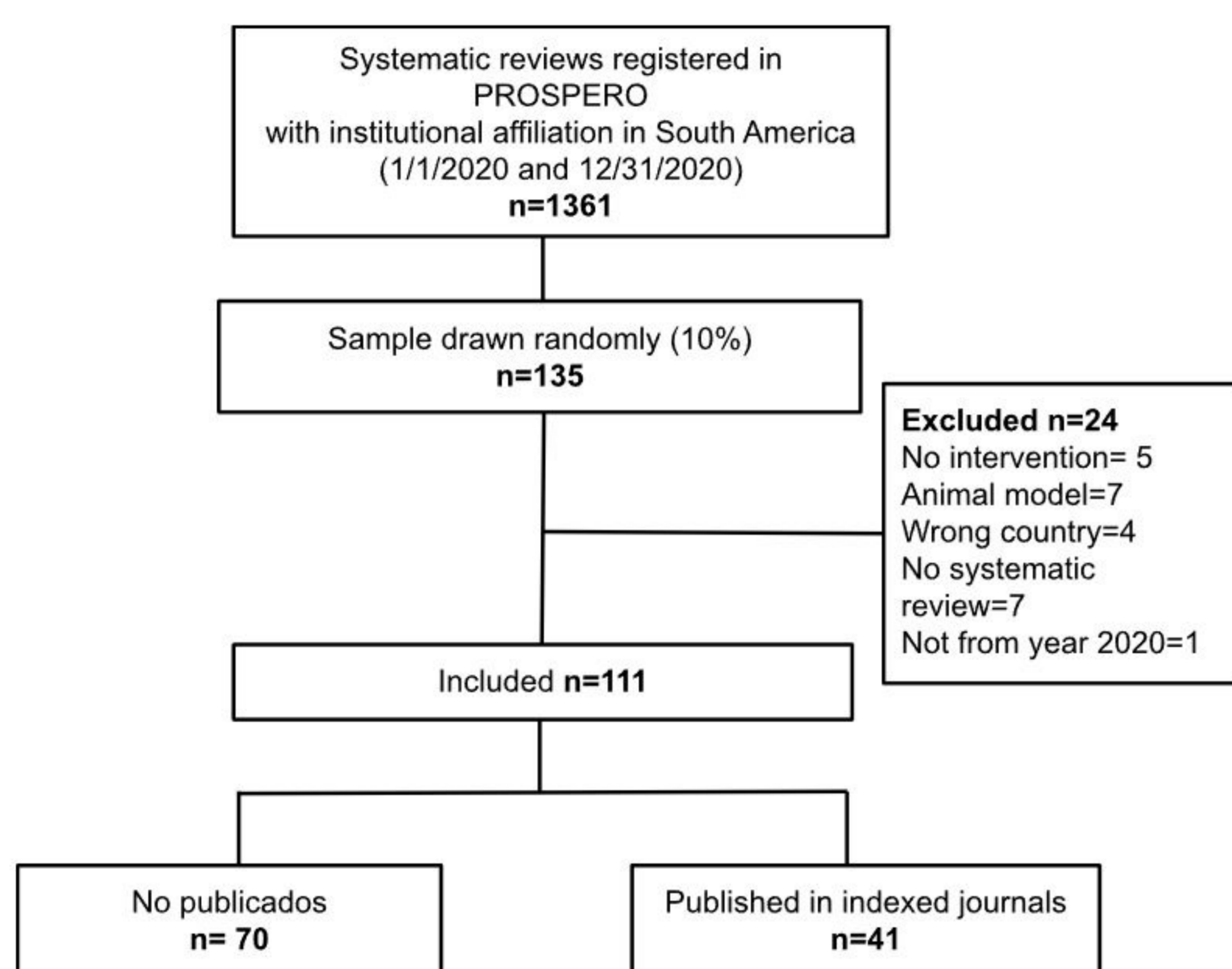


## Publication rate of systematic intervention reviews from South American institutions registered in PROSPERO.

**Background:** The number of published systematic reviews (SR) is constantly increasing. However, it is recognized that there is a substantial disparity in the production of scientific knowledge, a low rate of publications in indexed journals, and research citations from low- and middle-income countries, leading to an underrepresentation of developing countries in biomedical publications and reflecting the need for equity in health research<sup>(1-3)</sup>.

**Objective:** To estimate the publication rate and time to publication of systematic reviews indexed in PROSPERO originating from South America.

**Figure 1:** Flowchart of included studies.



**Table 1 :** Characteristics of records included in PROSPERO and published in indexed journals

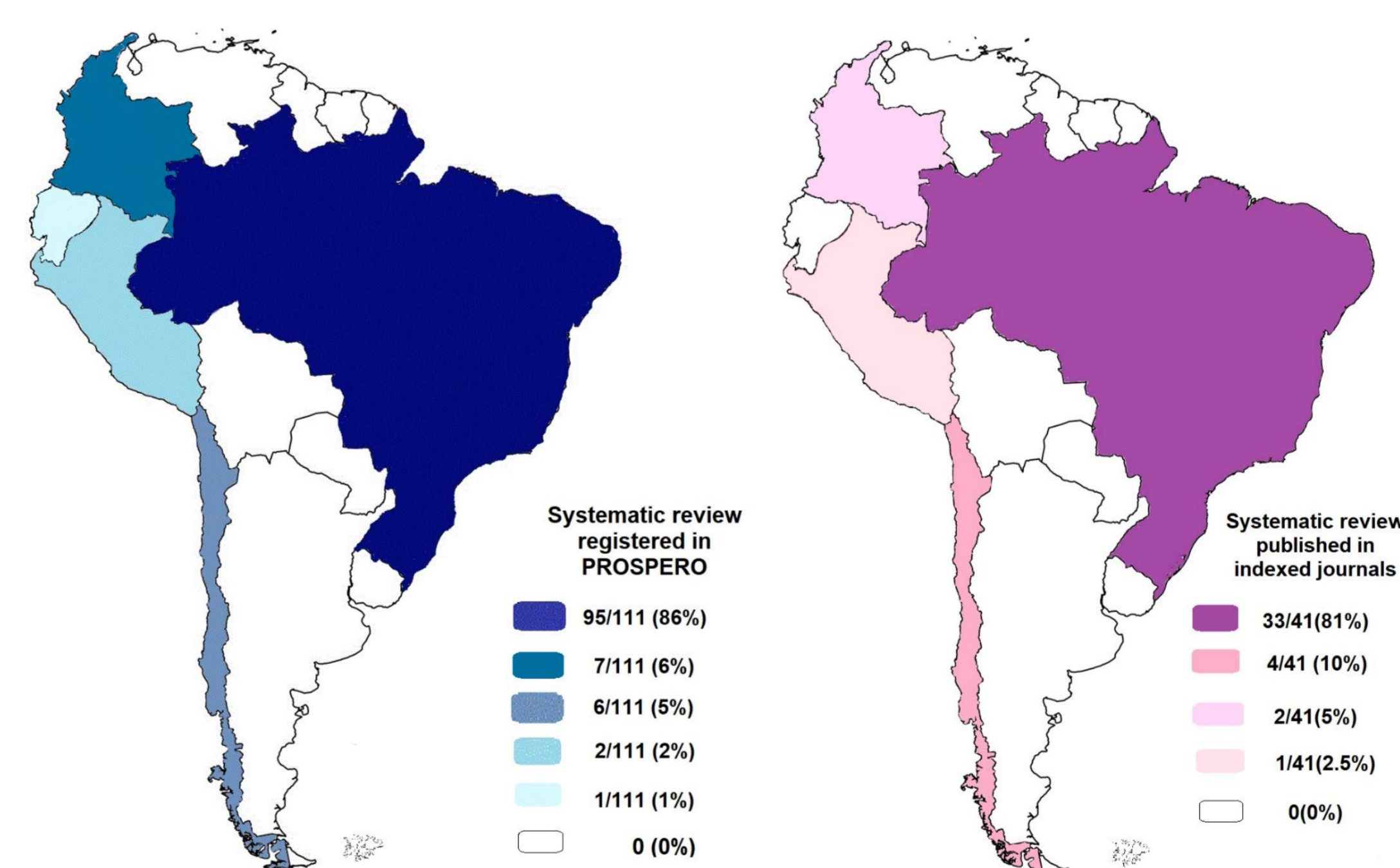
Characteristics	Registered in PROSPERO Number n (%)	Published in indexed journals Number n (%)
<b>Organizational affiliation</b>		
University	87/111(78.3%)	37/41(90%)
Other organization	15/111(13.5%)	0 (%)
Institutions related to health	5/111(4.5%)	1/41 (2.5%)
Hospitals	4/111(3.6%)	3/41(7.3%)
<b>Topic</b>		
Physical Rehabilitation	33/111(29.7%)	5/41(12.1%)
Oral health	30/111(27%)	17/41(41.4%)
Chronic diseases	10/111(9%)	6/41(14.6%)
Infectious Diseases	7/111(6.3%)	0(0%)
Oncology	7/111(6.3%)	4/41(9%)
Mental Health	6/111(5.4%)	4/41(9%)
Pediatric Care	3/111(2.7%)	2/41(5%)
Women's Health	2/111(1.8%)	0(0%)
Other	13/111(11.7%)	3/41(7.3%)
<b>Main language</b>		
English	108/111(97.3%)	41/41(100%)
Portuguese(Brazil)	1/111(0.9%)	0%
Spanish	1/111(0.9%)	0%
Not reported	1/111(0.9%)	0%
<b>Age of population</b>		
Pediatrics (<=18 years)	8/111(7.2%)	3/41(7.3%)
Adults(>18 years)	40/111(36%)	13/41(32%)
Mixed (no age limit)	25/111(22.5%)	4/41(9.8%)
Not reported or not apply	38/111(34.2%)	21/41(51%)
<b>Type of intervention</b>		
Non-pharmacological	79/111(71.2%)	28/41(68%)
Pharmacological	30/111(27%)	11/41(29%)
Both	2/111(1.8%)	5/41(12%)

### Methods

#### Cross-sectional study

- We conducted a search on PROSPERO for systematic reviews (SRs) published between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020.
- We included all SRs focused on interventions for various health conditions, involving human subjects.
- We linked the South American origin through institutional affiliation and extracted 10% randomly.
- We manually verify the publication status of indexed journals in MEDLINE, EMBASE, WOS and LILACS.
- We assessed the date of publication of published SRs, type of institutional organization, subject, language, age of the population, and type of intervention.

**Figure 2:** South American countries with protocols published in PROSPERO



Studies published in indexed journals: **36.9%(n=41)**.  
Median publication time: **1.61 years**.

**Results:** We identified 1361 intervention systematic reviews with South American affiliation registered in PROSPERO. We assessed a random sample of 10% (n=135). **The percentage of studies published in indexed journals was 36.9% (n=41). The median publication time was 1.61 years.**

**Conclusion:** The percentage of publications with South American affiliation is low in relation to the number of protocols registered in PROSPERO. These findings emphasize the need for further efforts to improve publication rates and increase the visibility of South American research in the global scientific community.

**References:** 1) 10.1186/1472-6939-5-5; 2) 10.5867/medwave.2011.07.5065; 3) 10.1007%2Fs12192-017-0815-8.

