

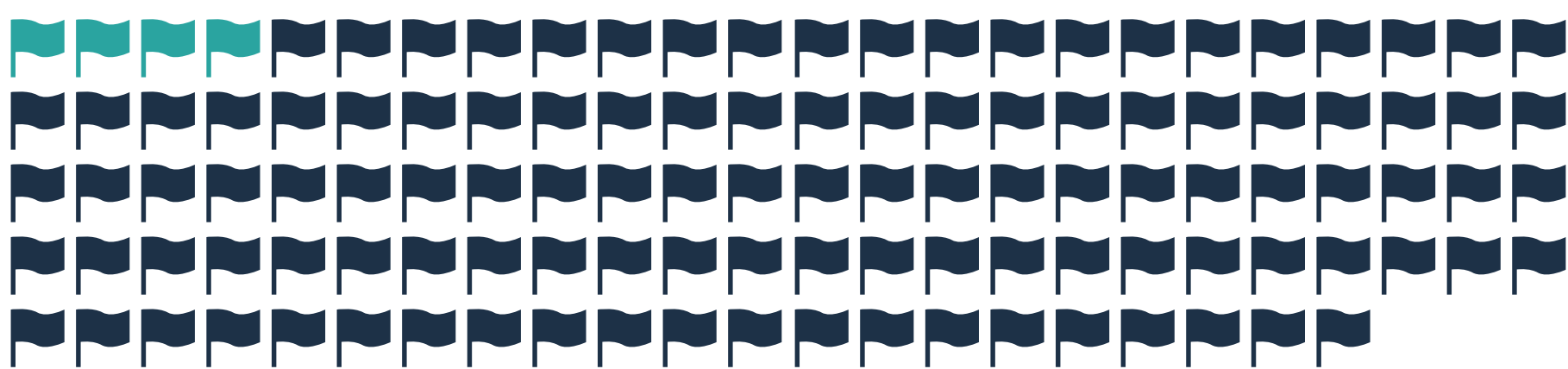


Seventy-third World Health Assembly Statement Analysis: Older People

From 18-19 May 2020, WHO held its annual World Health Assembly, where Member States and Non-State Actors were invited to submit statements under agenda item 3 Address by WHO Director-General devoted to the COVID-19 pandemic response.

3% of Member States

included a reference to “older people”, “elderly”, “ageing”, or “seniors” in their statement



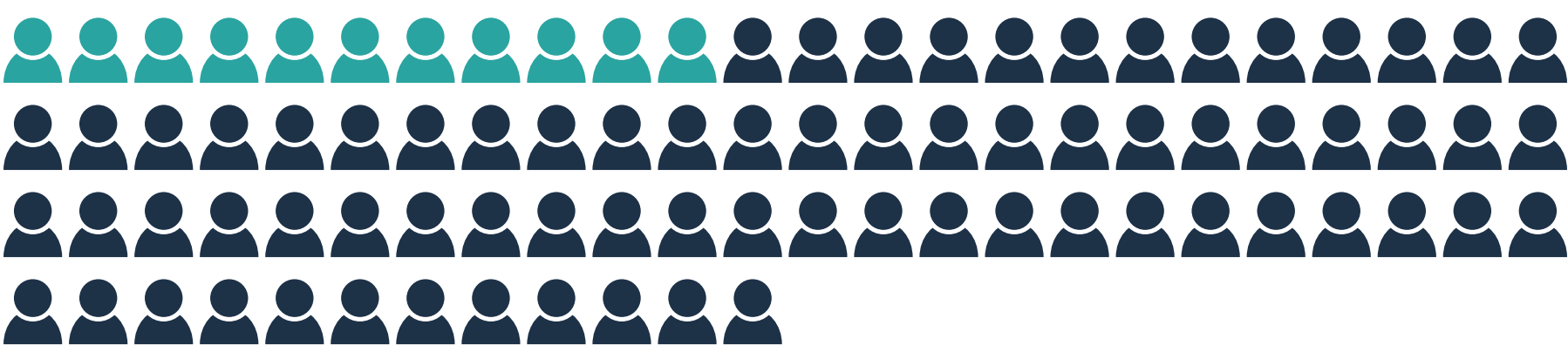
“In the context of COVID-19 addressing equity means protecting older people and those with underlying conditions.”
– New Zealand Member Statement



“We, as a country, like Colombia, a country of 50 million inhabitants, have taken up different actions that include the isolation of the older population...”
– Colombia Member Statement

13% of Non-State Actors

included a reference to “older people”, “elderly”, “ageing”, or “seniors” in their statement



“HelpAge welcomes the inclusion of older people, and commitments to age responsive measures, in the EU resolution.”
– HelpAge Statement



“Occupational therapy offers a broad variety of rehabilitation services to people of all ages, groups and communities affected by COVID-19 to enable their full inclusion in occupations in the home, education, work and leisure environment.”
– World Federation of Occupational Therapists Statement



“We must ensure palliative care access to people of all ages in all settings whether due to COVID-19 or pre-existing palliative care needs (e.g. due to HIV, NCDs or dementia), recognising the higher risks to older people.”
– The Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance Statement



Older people and adults with chronic disease are at high risk of COVID-19. The International Federation on Ageing encourages Member States and Non-state Actors to promote and respect the rights of older people.