

Demographic indicators

Year 2010

Istat releases nowcasts of the main demographic indicators for the year 2010 with national, regional and provincial details. It is worth noting that the indicators published here are provisional in nature due to the errors of estimation associated with them, and that the margin of error is even greater for territory-based analyses.

During the course of 2010, continued population growth was mostly due to the migration balance, which once again was extremely positive while the natural population balance was negative. There were fewer deaths and births compared to 2009.

For the fourth consecutive year, the natural dynamic (difference between births and deaths) registered a negative balance of -30,200 units. The estimated number of births was 557,000 units, resulting in a birth rate of 9.2 per thousand residents. There were about 12,200 fewer births than in 2009. In 2010, the average number of children per woman (TFR - total fertility rate) was 1.40, which is just under the 1.41 of 2009.

The number of deaths touches on 587,000 units for a death rate of 9.7 per thousand. The population revealed additional progress in terms of average life span. More specifically, the 2010 life expectancy at birth was 79.1 years for men and 84.3 years for women. Relative to the 2009 values an increase of 0.3 and 0.2, respectively for men and women, was found. In 1979 the gender discrepancy was 6.9 years, representing the highest female advantage ever recorded, but this difference has now decreased to 5.2 years.

The migration dynamic accounted for the greatest contribution to demographic growth in our country. In 2010, the migration balance was around 365,000 units. This gives a total migration rate of 6 per thousand, the same observed in 2009.

The total population balance was positive for the year 2010 as well, thanks in large part to the migration dynamic. The population showed a further increase of 261,000 units for a rate of 4.3 per thousand inhabitants, summing to a total of 60,601,000 residents as of the end of 2010.

Foreign residents in Italy accounted for approximately 4,563,000 units as of 1 January 2011, registering an increase of 328,000 units compared to 1 January 2010. The foreign resident population, therefore, makes up 7.5% of the total population (7% in 2009).

The population of Italian citizens showed a decrease for the fourth consecutive year. As a whole, resident Italians added up to 56,038,000 units as of 1 January 2011, showing a contraction of 1.2 per thousand, or about 67,000 units less than the previous year.

Italy has an increasingly elderly population. On 1 January 2011, individuals aged 65 years and over represented 20.3% of the population (as compared to 18.4% in 2001), while youths aged 14 and under represented 14% (14.3% in 2001) and the population in the 15-64 year age range accounted for 65.7% (67.3% in 2001).

The immigrant presence restored some equilibrium to the age-based structure of the population, in the sense that it bridged some of the generation gaps left by native Italians. The mean age of foreign residents in Italy, in fact, is only 31.1 years. Out of the approximately 4.5 million residents as of 1 January 2011, 22% are aged 17 or younger and 68.5% are aged 39 or younger. The incidence of the foreign presence varies with age and concentrates primarily on minors and the

working-age population. Foreign minors account for 9.8% of the total with an average incidence rate of 7.5%, while those between the ages of 18 and 39 account for 12.7%.

Main demographic indicators - Year 2010 - Italy

Birth rate (per 1,000)	9.2
Death rate (per 1,000)	9.7
Natural balance (per 1,000)	-0.5
Rate for internal migration and other reasons (per 1,000)	-1.2
Net migration rate from abroad (per 1,000)	6.0
Total migration rate (per 1,000)	4.8
Population growth rate (per 1,000)	4.3
Total fertility rate	1.40
Life expectancy at birth - men (years and tenths of years)	79.1
Life expectancy at birth - women (years and tenths of years)	84.3
Life expectancy at age 65 - men (years and tenths of years)	18.3
Life expectancy at age 65 - women (years and tenths of years)	21.9
Population, age 0-14 years (%) as of January 1, 2011	14.0
Population, age 15-64 years (%) as of January 1, 2011	65.7
Population age 65+ (%) as of January 1, 2011	20.3
Mean age of the population (years and tenths of years) as of January 1, 2011	43.5
Ageing index (%) as of January 1, 2011	144
Dependency ratio (%) as of January 1, 2011	52
Old-age dependency ratio (%) as of January 1, 2011	31

For more detailed information please refer to the Italian version

Time series are available at http://demo.istat.it/index_e.html

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