



Italy



Introduction to ITALY

THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, once the seat of one of history's greatest civilizations – the Roman Empire – and the birthplace of the Renaissance, is a southern European peninsula that juts into the Mediterranean Sea. After its defeat in World War II, Italy was reinvented as a modern democracy that has thrived in the wake of its epic history.

The ITALIAN people

Total population:	58,126,212
Children under 15:	7,870,226
Average Life Expectancy:	80.2 years
Per capita annual income:	\$31,400
% children in primary school:	98.4%
Average years of education:	16 years
Literacy rate:	98%
Internet users:	24.992 million
Cell phones in use:	88.58 million
Major/official language(s):	
	Italian
	German
	French and Slovenian minorities in northern areas

Risk issues impacting children:

UNICEF does not currently offer children at risk statistics for this country.

More about ITALY

Capital city:	Rome
Type of government:	Republic; member of EU
Square kilometers:	301,340
General terrain:	Mostly mountainous and rugged, some plains and coastal lowlands
Major industries/jobs:	Tourism, machinery, motor vehicles, chemicals, construction, agriculture
National motto:	N/A*
Major airport(s):	
	Fiumicino Rome International
	Milan Linate International
	Milan Malpensa International

Reaching ITALY

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Roman Catholic - 90%
Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim - 10%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 98.8%
Protestant - 0.7%
Independent - 0.3%
Orthodox - 0.1%

Unreached People Groups:	11 (1.2% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.0035
Average annual baptisms:	600,764
Foreign missionaries:	12,700
Per million:	216.55
National Christian workers/pastors:	270,000
Per million:	4,603.87
Number of churches/congregations:	32,366

Children's ministry in ITALY

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Italy. The following information regards general children's ministry in Western Europe, and may not all be applicable to this nation.

- Overview:** • There is a strong history and emphasis on children's ministry within the churches of Western Europe. A lot of curriculum and program development is in place and widely accessible in most languages.
- Non-Christian parents can be wary of letting their children participate in evangelical activities. Many adults are Christian only nominally.
 - There is a strong missionary presence in most Western European nations.
 - Not all ministries make a point to work together.
 - As the continent continues to diversify, many marginalized groups of children remain unreached, such as the growing population of Muslims and various refugee groups.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
32,366 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
7,870,226 children for Christ