

REPUBLIC OF ITALY

Public Administration Country Profile

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)
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Table of Contents	1
Country	2
1. General Information	4
1.1 People.....	4
1.2 Economy	4
1.3 Public Spending	5
1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages.....	5
2. Legal Structure	6
2.1 Legislative Branch.....	6
2.2 Executive Branch	7
2.3 Judiciary Branch	7
2.4 Local Government.....	8
3. The State and Civil Society	9
3.1 Ombudsperson	9
3.2 Civil Society	9
4. Civil Service	10
4.1 Legal basis.....	10
4.2 Recruitment	10
4.3 Promotion.....	11
4.4 Remuneration	11
4.5 Training.....	11
4.6 Gender.....	12
5. Ethics and Civil Service	13
5.1 Corruption	13
5.2 Ethics.....	14
6. e-Government	15
6.1 e-Government Readiness	15
6.2 e-Participation.....	16
7. Links	17
7.1 National sites	17
7.2 Miscellaneous sites.....	17



Italy

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook](#) – Italy

Government type
republic

Independence

17 March 1861 (Kingdom of Italy proclaimed; Italy was not finally unified until 1870)

Constitution

passed 11 December 1947, effective 1 January 1948; amended many times

Legal system

based on civil law system; appeals treated as new trials; judicial review under certain conditions in Constitutional Court; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

Administrative divisions

15 regions (regioni, singular - regione) and 5 autonomous regions (regioni autonome, singular - regione autonoma);

Source: [The World Factbook](#) – Italy

Italy's national territory covers a total of 301,333 square kilometres. Its only land border consists of the Alpine arc stretching from the Varo river (in Nice) and the Vrata Pass (at Fiume) and, along this arc Italy borders France to the west, Switzerland and Austria to the north, and Slovenia to the east. Italy is a peninsula extending into the Mediterranean Sea with a wide variety of geographical, climatic and cultural environments.

The Italian territory is characterised by a predominance of high altitude areas with 39.7% hilly terrain and 38.7% mountainous, while only 21.6% is plains land. The Italian part of the Alps can be divided into three sections: the large external crystalline massifs of the Western Alps; the Apennines and the Austro-Alpine area; and the Southern Alps that form a sort of broad arcade enclosing the Padana Plain. The rich and fertile Padana Plain lies between the Alpine spurs and the Apennines. It is well irrigated by a large network of rivers that include the Po, which, at 652 km, is Italy's longest river. Comacchio, the largest wetlands area in the country, lies at the mouths of the Adige and Po rivers.

The Italian peninsula has a great variety of climates. Proceeding from north to south, an Alpine climate, with a broad temperature range throughout the day and in the various seasons, and a high average rainfall), is followed by the Padana Plain with a sub-continental climate.

Italy became a nation-state in 1861 when the regional states of the peninsula, along with Sardinia and Sicily, were united under King Victor EMMANUEL II. An era of parliamentary government came to a close in the early 1920s when Benito MUSSOLINI established a Fascist dictatorship. His alliance with Nazi Germany led to Italy's defeat in World War II. A democratic republic replaced the monarchy in 1946 and economic revival followed. Italy was a charter member of NATO and the European Economic Community (EEC). It has been at the forefront of European economic and political unification, joining the Economic and Monetary Union in 1999. Persistent problems include illegal immigration, organized crime, corruption, high unemployment, sluggish economic growth, and the low incomes and technical standards of southern Italy compared with the prosperous north.

Source: Foreign Ministry of Italy (2005) & [The World Factbook](#) – Italy

Italy's diversified industrial economy is the 7th largest in the world, with a per capita GDP just behind that of France and the United Kingdom. There are important economic disparities between the highly-developed industrial north and the less-developed agricultural south. Similar to most other advanced OECD economies, Italy has a small and diminishing primary sector, and services that contribute close to two-thirds of gross value added. The strongest components of the economy are the clusters of small and medium-sized, family-owned companies in so-called industrial districts, mostly in the north-east and the centre of the country. Many of these companies produce for export high-quality consumer goods, including clothing, furniture, kitchen equipment and white goods.

In 2002, Italy was the world's 7th biggest importer and 8th biggest exporter. It trades mainly with countries in the European Union (EU), although trade with emerging economies such as China and Russia has risen significantly. Major imports include transport equipment, chemical and pharmaceutical products, and energy products. Major exports are mechanical machinery equipment, transport equipment, textiles and clothing, and chemical and pharmaceutical products.

Source: OECD – Report on the application of the convention on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transaction transactions phase 2 – Italy (2004)

1. General Information

1.1 People	Italy	Spain	France	1
Population				a
Total estimated population (,000), 2003	57,423	41,061	60,144	
Female estimated population (,000), 2003	29,578	20,928	30,845	
Male estimated population (,000), 2003	27,845	20,133	29,299	
Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003	94	96	95	
Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005	-0.1	0.21	0.47	
Youth and Elderly Population				b
Total population under age 15 (%), 2003	14	14	19	
Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003	28	24	23	
Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003	22	19	18	
Human Settlements				c
Urban population (%), 2001	67	78	76	
Rural population (%), 2001	33	22	24	
Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05	0.11	0.28	0.58	
Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05	-0.62	-1.08	-0.34	
Education				d
Total school life expectancy, 2000-2001	14.9	15.5	15.4	1
Female school life expectancy, 2000-2001	15.3	15.7	15.7	1
Male school life expectancy, 2000-2001	14.6	15.2	15.1	1
Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1991	1.1 ⁱ	3.2	..	2
Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1991	2.0 ⁱ	1.5	..	2
Employment				e
Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2001	9.5	10.5 ⁱⁱ	7.9 ⁱⁱⁱ	1
Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2001	36 ^a	40 ^{ii b}	48	2
Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2001	62 ^a	66 ^{ii b}	62	2

Notes: ⁱ 2000, ⁱⁱ Persons aged 16 years and over, ⁱⁱⁱ Month of April, ^a Including conscription and armed forces, ^b Excluding conscription.

1.2 Economy	Italy	Spain	France	2
GDP				a
GDP total (millions US\$), 2002	1,180,921	649,792	1,409,604 ⁱ	
GDP per capita (US\$), 2002	20,389	15,779	23,714	
PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002	1,481,015	852,320	1,554,483	
PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002	25,570	20,697	26,151	
Sectors				b
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2003	2.6	3.3	2.7	
Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2003	27.8	29.6	24.5	
Value added in services (% of GDP), 2003	69.5	67.1	72.8	
Miscellaneous				c
GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2004	2.3	4.2	1.2	
Private consumption (% of GDP), 2003	..	57.9	55.6	
Government consumption (% of GDP), 2003	..	17.9	24.3	

Notes: ⁱ Data include the French overseas departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion.

¹ [United Nations Statistics Division](#):

^a [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^b [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^c [Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^{d1} [UNESCO](#); ^{d2} [UNESCO](#); ^{e1} [ILO](#); ^{e2} [ILO/OECD](#)

² [World Bank - Data and Statistics](#):

^a [Quick Reference Tables](#); ^b [Data Profile Tables](#); ^c [Country at a Glance](#)

1.3 Public Spending	Italy	Spain	France	
Public expenditures				3
Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987	5	3.7	5.5	a
Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997	4.9 ⁱ	5.0 ⁱ	6.0 ⁱ	a
Health (% of GDP), 1990	6.3	5.2	6.7	
Health (% of GDP), 1998	5.6 ⁱⁱ	5.4	7.3 ⁱⁱ	
Military (% of GDP), 1990	2.1	1.8	3.5	b
Military (% of GDP), 2000	2.1	1.3	2.6	b
Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990	..	..	..
Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000	..	..	..

Notes: ⁱ Data may not be strictly comparable with those for earlier years as a result of methodological changes, ⁱⁱ Data refer to 1999.

1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages						
<i>Data from the latest year available</i>		Italy 1991-1995	Italy 1996-2000	European Union Average ⁴ 1996-2000	High income OECD average ⁴ 1996-2000	High income group average ⁴ 1996-2000
Employment						
Civilian Central Government ⁵	(,000)	..	1,971			
	(% pop.)	..	3.4	4.1	..	2.8
Sub-national Government ⁵	(,000)	..	1,431			
	(% pop.)	..	2.5	4.1	..	2.8
Education employees	(,000)	..	1,182			
	(% pop.)	..	2.1	1.2	..	1.3
Health employees	(,000)	..	673			
	(% pop.)	..	1.2	1.2	..	1.1
Police	(,000)	306	..			
	(% pop.)	0.5	..	..	..	..
Armed forces	(,000)	329	298			
	(% pop.)	0.6	0.5	0.5	..	0.5
SOE Employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	..
Total Public Employment	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	..
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of GDP)	5.7	4.2	3.6	..	4.2
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of exp)	11.2	12.5	12.8	..	16.4
Average gov't wage	(,000 LCU)	33,226	48,527			
Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price)	(,000 LCU)	..	47,595			
Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio		..	3.60	..	..	..

Source: World Bank - Public Sector Employment and Wages

³ UNDP - Human Development Report 2002

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

Italy is a democratic republic. Sovereignty is in the hands of the people and is exercised in the manner and within the limits laid down by the Constitution. The Republic recognises and is guarantor of inviolable human rights, and equal social dignity is accorded to all citizens irrespective of gender, race, language, religion, political opinion, and personal and social conditions. The Republic is a single and indivisible entity that recognises and fosters local powers of autonomy.

Source: Foreign Ministry of Italy (2005)

2.1 Legislative Branch

bicameral Parliament or Parlamento consists of the Senate or Senato della Repubblica (315 seats; elected by proportional vote with the winning coalition in each region receiving 55% of seats from that region; members serve five-year terms) and the Chamber of Deputies or Camera dei Deputati (630 seats; elected by popular vote with the winning national coalition receiving 54% of chamber seats; members serve five-year terms); note - electoral vote reform passed in December 2005)⁶

Women in parliament: not noted in source⁷

The Italian Parliament consists of two houses: the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Republic. According to the principle of full bicameralism the two houses perform identical functions. Their main function is to make the laws of the country. By virtue of the vote of confidence, which brings a new Government to life, they establish the political guidelines that the Executive has to follow.

The Government is accountable before Parliament, which takes the Government to account through interrogations and questions. The election, inauguration and - as the case may be - impeachment of the President of the Republic, in addition to the election of a portion of the justices of the Constitutional Court and the Higher Judicial Council, is conducted by both Houses in a joint sitting.

Both Houses are elected every five years. The only differences between them lie in the membership and the rules for the election of their members. The 630 deputies, who must be at least 25 years of age, are elected by all Italian citizens over 18 years of age. The 315 elected senators must be at least 40 years of age and their electors must be over 25. In addition to elected members, the Senate also includes life senators - who are appointed by the President of the Republic "for outstanding merits in the social, scientific, artistic or literary field" - and the former Presidents of the Republic, who are ex officio life senators.

elections: Senate - last held 13 May 2001 (next to be held in 2006); Chamber of Deputies - last held 13 May 2001 (next to be held May 2006)

election results: Senate - percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - Center-Right House of Freedom Coalition 172 (Forza Italia 77, National Alliance 47, UDC 31, Northern League 17), Olive Tree 108 (Democrats of the Left 63, Daisy Alliance 35, Greens 10), Per le Autonomie 10, other 25.⁸

Source: Senate of Italy (2006)

⁶ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook](#) - Italy

⁷ [Inter-Parliamentary Union - Women in National Parliaments](#)

⁸ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook](#) - Italy

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Council of Ministers nominated by the prime minister and approved by the president
elections: president elected by an electoral college consisting of both houses of parliament and 58 regional representatives for a seven-year term; election last held 13 May 1999 (next to be held May 2006); prime minister appointed by the president and confirmed by parliament

The Head of State is elected by Parliament in joint session and remains in office for 7 years. Participating in his election are 3 delegates per regional council, with the exception of Valle d'Aosta (one delegate). Although a majority of two-thirds is required, in the absence of such a majority, after the third count, a simple majority is enough. Any citizen aged fifty or over can be elected president.

The President of the Republic, as Head of State, calls parliamentary elections, enacts laws, is commander of the armed forces, presides over the supreme defence council, has the power to declare war subject to the deliberations of the Chambers, presides over the supreme council of magistrates, has the power to commute sentences or grant pardons, and names both the Prime Minister and, in accordance with the recommendations of the Prime Minister, also Ministers. No act by the President of the Republic is valid without the countersignature of promoting Ministers who assume responsibility for those acts.

Fact box:

chief of state: President Carlo Azeglio CIAMPI (since 13 May 1999)
head of government: Prime Minister (referred to in Italy as the president of the Council of Ministers) Silvio BERLUSCONI (since 10 June 2001)

The government is an expression of parliamentary majority, i.e. of a coalition of parties that obtains the majority of seats in parliament. The President of the Republic names the Prime Minister and, in accordance with the recommendations of the Prime Minister, also Ministers. The "Council of Ministers", or Cabinet, is a distinct collegial body. Each Minister is personally responsible for the actions of his or her office, and assumes collective responsibility as member of the Cabinet for the actions deliberated by that organ. The Prime Minister and the Ministers are sworn in by the President of the Republic before taking up their respective offices. The government must have the confidence of both Chambers, and each Chamber accords or denies confidence by means of a motion in which it lays before Parliament the grounds for such action. The motion is put to the vote by means of a roll call. The government has the faculty of presenting bills in Parliament. The Prime Minister may issue either directives regarding specific questions or prime ministerial decrees. Likewise, Ministers, acting within the bounds of their respective offices, may issue ministerial decrees.

Source: Foreign Ministry of Italy (2005)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Constitutional Court or Corte Costituzionale (composed of 15 judges: one-third appointed by the president, one-third elected by parliament, one-third elected by the ordinary and administrative Supreme Courts)

The Constitutional Court is made up of fifteen judges, five of whom are named by the President of the Republic, five by Parliament in joint session, and five by the supreme council of magistrates. The constitutional court passes judgement on controversies regarding the constitutional legitimacy of laws or of decisions with legal force made by the state or regional councils, on the assignment of state and regional council powers, and on accusations directed toward the Head of State.

The ordinary courts are competent with regard to the protection of subjective rights (diritti soggettivi), according to a principle which is now challenged by the influence of European Community law on the internal legal system. The administrative courts, organized in two levels (Tribunals amministrativi regionali and Consiglio di Stato), have jurisdiction in relation to the protection of legitimate interests (interessi legittimi). A number of special administrative courts have also been established by legislation (Court of Auditors, etc.).

2.4 Local Government

The constitution of 1948 Italy recognizes federalism and localism. Decentralization was strengthened with direct elections in 1970. The local level consists of regions, provinces, towns and other less relevant local bodies. All of them enjoy political and administrative autonomy. The former, in particular, is based on the principle that all administrative functions.

Provinces and towns are also developing partial fiscal autonomy, in the framework of a process that should enhance their independence from the state resources. This is the case of provinces and towns, while the regions still depend on the state resources. Provinces and towns have an analogous structure and the relevant legislation provides the direct election of their President, introducing an element of presidentialism at this level of the Italian legal order. The local administration has to be distinguished by the peripheral articulation of the central administration, meaning all bodies depending on the ministries but peripherally located (see articles 5, 118 and 124 of the Constitution).

The decentralization have seen new regions established and powers devolved since today there are 20 regions (or regioni) with a further 8,101 communes (or comuni) are below this tier. In addition, there are regions like South Tyrol, with special arrangements to reflect non-Italian speaking populations. The five recognised special regions (either bordering other countries or islands) are endowed with specific legislative powers while the others are not, though all regions are governed by an elected council (giunta regionale) and president. The regions are then further divided into provincial areas which since 1993 each elect their own council and president under proportional representation. They are also supervised by a prefect appointed by the national government in Rome.

The Italian commune (or comuni) plays a central role. Over 8,000 in number, the communes are each headed by a mayor (sindaco) and elected council (consiglio comunale) of between 15 and 80 members. From the capital Rome to the smallest village, the communes coexist on an equal basis. In addition to civil registration and local public services, including roads, communes are able to run their own local police forces and provide local healthcare services. The Italian capital Rome is served by 19 municipal entities.

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

In Italy there is no national Ombudsman office. At present, Italy has well established regional and municipal Ombudsmen. Regional statutes discipline the independence of regional ombudsmen (there are 14 regional, two provincial and a number of local ombudsmen). Regional statutes set the rules for ombudsmen. In general, regional councils nominate ombudsmen, so there are no formal guarantees of independence, removal, or term of office of the nominee, but there have been no complaints on these issues, and ombudsmen play their role helping citizens in their relations with the public administration. Ombudsmen put out regular reports and are accessible via the Internet.

Source: European Ombudsman (2005) & Global Integrity Report – Italy (2004)

3.2 Civil Society

The Italian Constitution guarantees the right of free meeting, without previous authorization, for any purpose not forbidden by criminal law. This right is fully enforced, as there are no barriers for the creation of new Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), there is no need for licenses and there are no costs for creating a CSO. These organization are also active in a large variety of fields, ranging from civil protection to social assistance and culture. They operate under the legal framework of the Civil Code.

Many Italian CSOs are often active in public advocacy campaigns. With regards to CSOs dedicated to anti-corruption activities, nothing has happened to those who have dealt with this topic. Citizens have the right of access to any relevant information and basic government records and have the guaranteed right to appeal if access is denied. Many government documents related to the status of a person may be immediately obtained for free from public offices; in addition, self-declarations, which have the same validity as governmental documents, may be substituted in their place. Regulating the media sector, especially television broadcasting, is problematic; the whole discipline is under reform at this time. But the regulating agency is effective, in part because its members are selected on criteria of professionalism and reputation. The law guarantees the right to start media entities with no problems of authorization.

Source: Global Integrity – Italy (2005) & Country Profile Italy (2000) - edited

An accepted definition of nonprofit organizations does not exist as such in the Italian legal system. The most common popular terms used to refer to components or subsectors of the nonprofit sector include: (i) Terzo settore: third sector, or terzo sistema: third system; (ii) Associazionismo: the world of private associations, including foundation; and (iii) Volontariato: the world of voluntarism.

Source: John Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies – Center for civil Society studies – The comparative non-profit sector – Italy (2000)

4. Civil Service

The Italian administrative organization has a multi-organizational nature in that it does not express a unitary structure and is based on a variety of organizational models. The main components of the administration at the national level are: (i) the President of the Council of Ministers; (ii) twelve ministries; (iii) eighteen agencies (legislative decree 300/99); and (iv) a number of independent authorities (a heterogeneous model of state, nongovernmental administration). In addition to these bodies, there are various national and local public bodies, which vary considerably from case to case and range from the Central Institute for Statistics to the National Agency for Environmental Protection.

The total number of civil service at the central level (ministries, aziende autonome, independent authorities) is about, 342,406 while the total aggregated numbers of civil service at the central, regional and local level is about 3,499,221.

Country Profile Italy - (2000) - edited

4.1 Legal basis

In the last decade of the twentieth century, the Italian civil service has been widely reformed. The new discipline, laid down by a variety of legislation (legislation 421/92, legislative decrees 29/93, 247/93, 470/93 and 546/93, legislation 59/97, 127/97, legislative decrees 396/197 and 80/98, legislation 50/99), is characterized by two main elements. The first is the application of civil law to civil servants, though with the provision of some relevant exceptions (article 2/2 legislative decree 29/93). The other is the process of delegification, which leaves room for bargained regulation of individual work relations.

Country Profile Italy - (2000) - edited

4.2 Recruitment

Article 97 of the Constitution lays down the basic principles of access to the public service, which is subject to competition. However, the tenure of civil servants varies according to the position and is provided by the relevant legislation. There is also a provision for allowing for appointment of outside directors-general on a two year temporary or permanent contract.

One 1995 estimate shows 73% of state civil servants (1.2 million employees) come from the Centre & South; the share of population for the Centre & South is around 45%. This geographical bias becomes more extreme with increasing rank: in 1995 the Centre & South produced 93% of directors-general.

Source: Country Profile Italy - (2000) & Italy's Senior Civil Service: An Ossified World (1999)- edited

Senior civil servants will enter the Public Administration through a single competitive examination for all central administrations. A post-graduate degree is required. All management assignments now have a fixed term of 2-7 years.

Source: OECD – Issues and Developments in Public Sector Management: Italy (2001)

4.3 Promotion

The state civil service is classified into nine functional qualifications, each of which corresponds to a specific salary (legislation 312/80). The promotion system is based on a combination of length of service and merit. Senior civil servants have autonomous powers of supervision and co-ordination, decision-making and control, within guidelines set by the minister and task-lists prepared by bureaucrats.

Source: Country Profile Italy - (2000) & Italy's Senior Civil Service: An Ossified World (1999)- edited

In special areas, such as the judiciary, the Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura (CSM) – which is an independent, self-governing judicial body – has exclusive competence to appoint, assign, move, promote and discipline public prosecutors.

Source: OECD – Report on the application of the convention on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transaction transactions phase 2 – Italy (2004)

4.4 Remuneration

Civil servants have an elaborate social security system (e.g., the Statute of the workers is fully applicable to civil service) and its possible reformulation is under discussion. Retirement and pensions are currently one of the most controversial issues, due to a particularly favourable regime which in the past has allowed early retirement and an excess of pensions.

Source: Italy's Senior Civil Service: An Ossified World (1999)

At the national level a specific Government Agency (ARAN) has been created to represent the State in labour negotiations. It operates on the basis of input received from contract committees from each administrative sector (ministries; local authorities; schools; health care agencies; universities and research institutes, etc.).

Source: OECD – Issues and Developments in Public Sector Management: Italy (2001)

4.5 Training

The National School for Public Administration (Scuola Superiore della Pubblica Amministrazione - SSPA) and is a top-level training school for senior civil servants. It is part of the Ministry of Public Administration, Office of the Prime Minister, with its own accounting and organizational autonomy.

The initial training phase for new Italian executives is a highly important mission for the SSPA as it represents an invaluable tool for the vast administrative reform process presently being carried out in Italy. The initial training phase is carried out in formative cycles of no less than 1 year, and is offered to all new senior government officers and executives from public non-profit organizations who have passed the competitive examination published by the Prime Minister's Office. The training cycles include - other than the educational and research activities at the SSPA - internships at other Italian administrations, international organizations and agencies, public and private companies and institutes.

The School also plays a strategic supporting role in the modernization process of the Italian public administration due to the on-going training initiatives for senior civil

servants and officers. For this purpose, the School issues a yearly statement of its program, listing the principal educational objectives and most important training projects it plans to develop, for the benefit of all public administrations. In addition, it has instituted the year-round training laboratory, with the participation of delegates from the different public offices. The Lab is a place where training problems and needs can be identified and analyzed, and new training initiatives programmed.

Source: National School for Public Administration in Italy (2006)

4.6 Gender

Directors-general are 95% male.

Source: Italy's Senior Civil Service: An Ossified World (1999)

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

Corruption Perceptions Index							
		2003 CPI Score	Surveys Used	Standard Deviation	High-Low Range	Number Inst.	90 percent confidence range
Rank	Country						
1	Highly clean	9.7	8	0.3	9.2 - 10.0	4	9.5 - 9.9
35	Italy	5.3	11	1.1	3.3 - 7.3	7	4.7 - 5.8
133	Highly corrupt	1.3	8	0.7	0.3 - 2.2	6	0.9 - 1.7

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

The Italian law criminalizes corruption. Using public resources for private gain, as well as using confidential state information for private gain, money laundering, and organized crime are also considered crimes under the Criminal Code. Anti-corruption laws are enforced. Although there are no agencies with a specific legal mandate on corruption, the "prevention, search and denunciation" of economic criminality (in general) is one of the main tasks of the tax police (Guardia di Finanza). This agency is effective and employs more than 60,000 full-time officials. It is protected from political influence. Appointments are based on professional and physical criteria, and the head of the police cannot be removed without cause. The Guardia di Finanza receives regular funding and reports the results of its activity annually. Tax policemen are public officials, with sufficient powers to carry out their mandate, in particular investigating economic and tax frauds.

The criminal justice process is regulated by the Constitution in its main principles and is regulated with extremely detailed rules (a Proceedings Code). The Italian system of justice always provides for the right of appeal (there are three levels of jurisdiction).

Source: Global Integrity – Italy (2005)

Where the law enforcement authorities are concerned, the State police, Carabinieri, and Guardia di Finanza are informed and trained with regard to foreign bribery essentially during their training at the police and Guardia academies, but insufficiently in the context of continuing education in the course of their career.

Source: OECD – Report on the application of the convention on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transaction transactions phase 2 – Italy (2004)

5.2 Ethics

In Italy a Code of Conduct for Government Employees came into force in mid-April 2001. The new code reinforces the principles of impartiality, efficiency, responsibility and confidentiality of administrative information already contained in the Constitution and subsequent laws.

Source: OECD – Report on the application of the convention on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions phase 2 – Italy (2004)

One major gap in national legislation and practice in the fight against corruption is the lack of whistle-blowing laws. At the time of writing, Italy has no law to protect whistle blowers of corruption, both for public or private employees, and no specific internal mechanism exists for reporting corruption.

Source: Global Integrity – Italy (2005)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

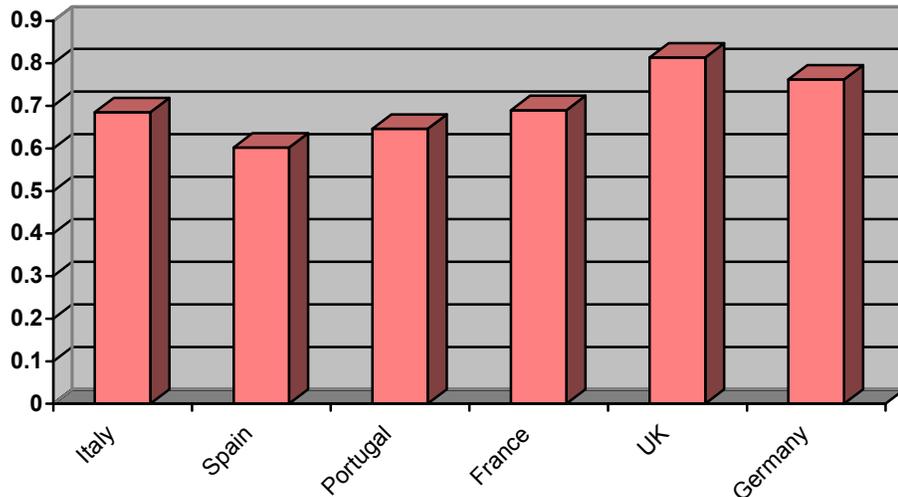
Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones.

Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

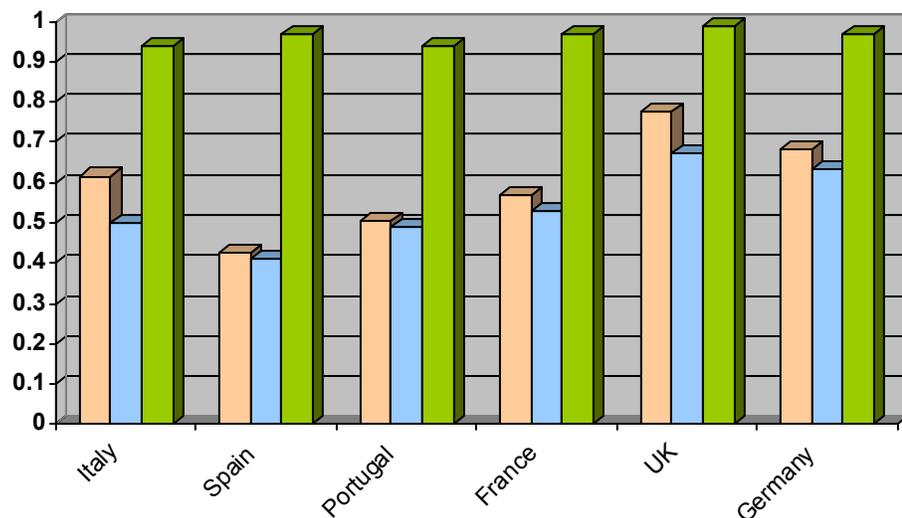
A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

e-Government Readiness Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

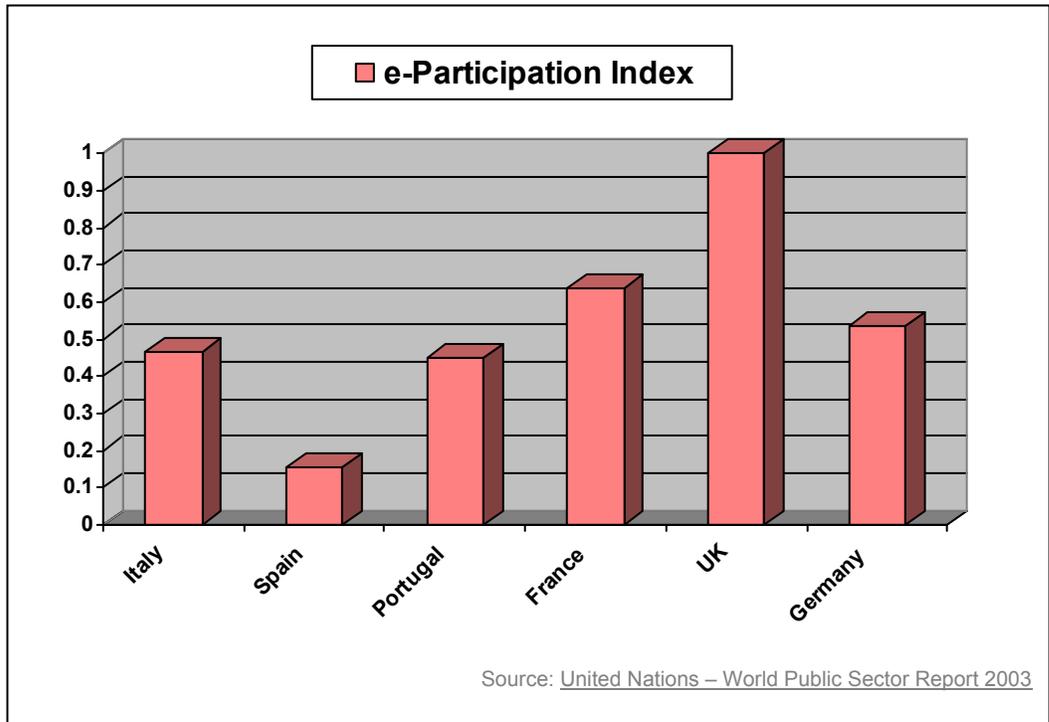
Web Measure Index Telecom. Infrastructure Index Human Capital Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

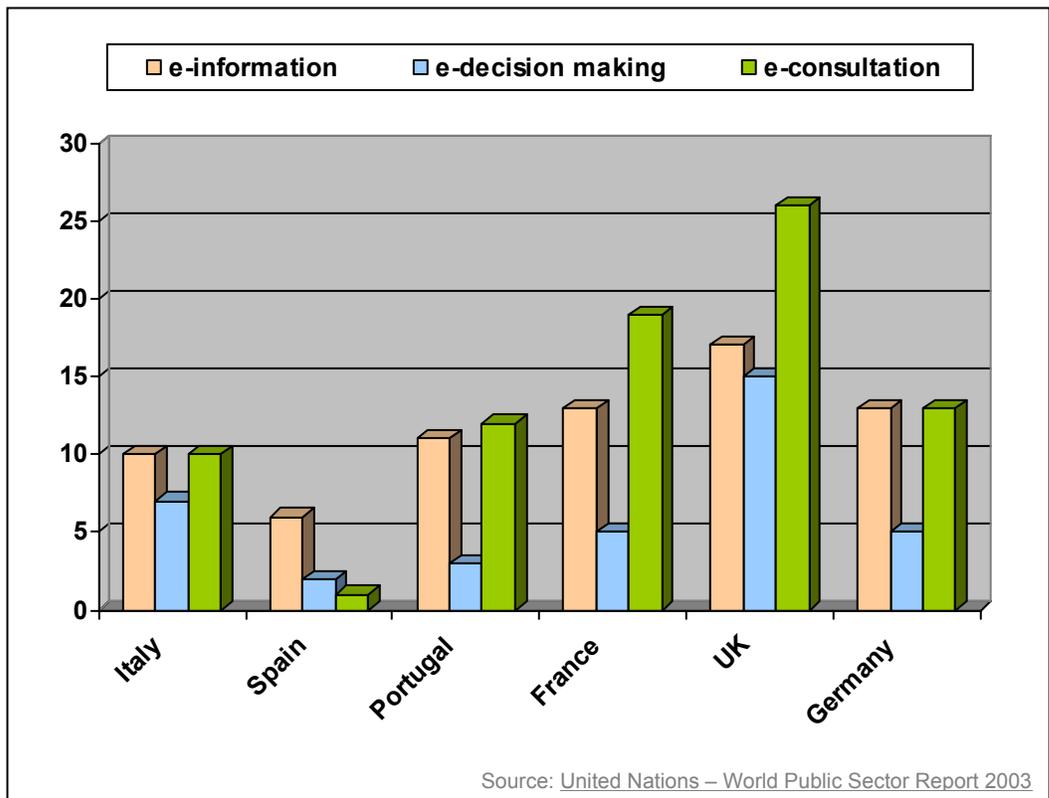
e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.



e-information:

The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.



e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.

7. Links

7.1 National sites	
Authority	Topic
Italian Foreign Ministry	http://www.esteri.it/eng/
Italian Senate	http://www.senato.it/
Italian parliament	http://www.parlamento.it/
Italian constitutional Court	http://www.cortecostituzionale.it/
Government of Italy	http://www.governo.it/
National School for Public Administration in Italy	http://www.sspa.it

7.2 Miscellaneous sites	
Institution	Topic
OECD	http://www.oecd.org
World Bank	http://www.worldbank.org
European Union	http://www.europa.eu.int