



OECD Demographics Survey

Italy

Executive Summary by Levente Kardkovács



Factsheet

Fertility rate (births/woman)	Net migration rate (entering-leaving/1000)	Family policies	Attitude towards immigration
1.25 (36th in the OECD)	3.88 (28th in the OECD)	Generous	Hostile

Immigration Policies

Italy is one of the countries most acutely affected by increased migrant flows towards Europe, as many people attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea from northern Africa end up on Italian shores. Giorgia Meloni's government has taken a hardline stance on immigration, for example it extended the period for which immigrants can be held in detention centers until their asylum application is processed from 3 to 18 months. The government has also been battling the courts over its plans to deport immigrants to the non-EU country Albania, where they would have to remain until their applications are processed.

Potential allies: Hungary, United States

Family Policies

In 2019 Italy spent significantly less (as a percentage of GDP) on family and child benefits than the EU average. However in 2022 the situation has changed by the introduction of the *Single and Universal Allowance for Dependent Children*, a flat monthly payment per child under the age of 21, the exact amount depending on the needs of the family and the number of children. Other types of benefits such as tax breaks were scrapped when it was introduced, though the nursery bonus (supporting children's education) remains in place. Will these be enough to tackle one of the lowest fertility rates in the OECD?

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