



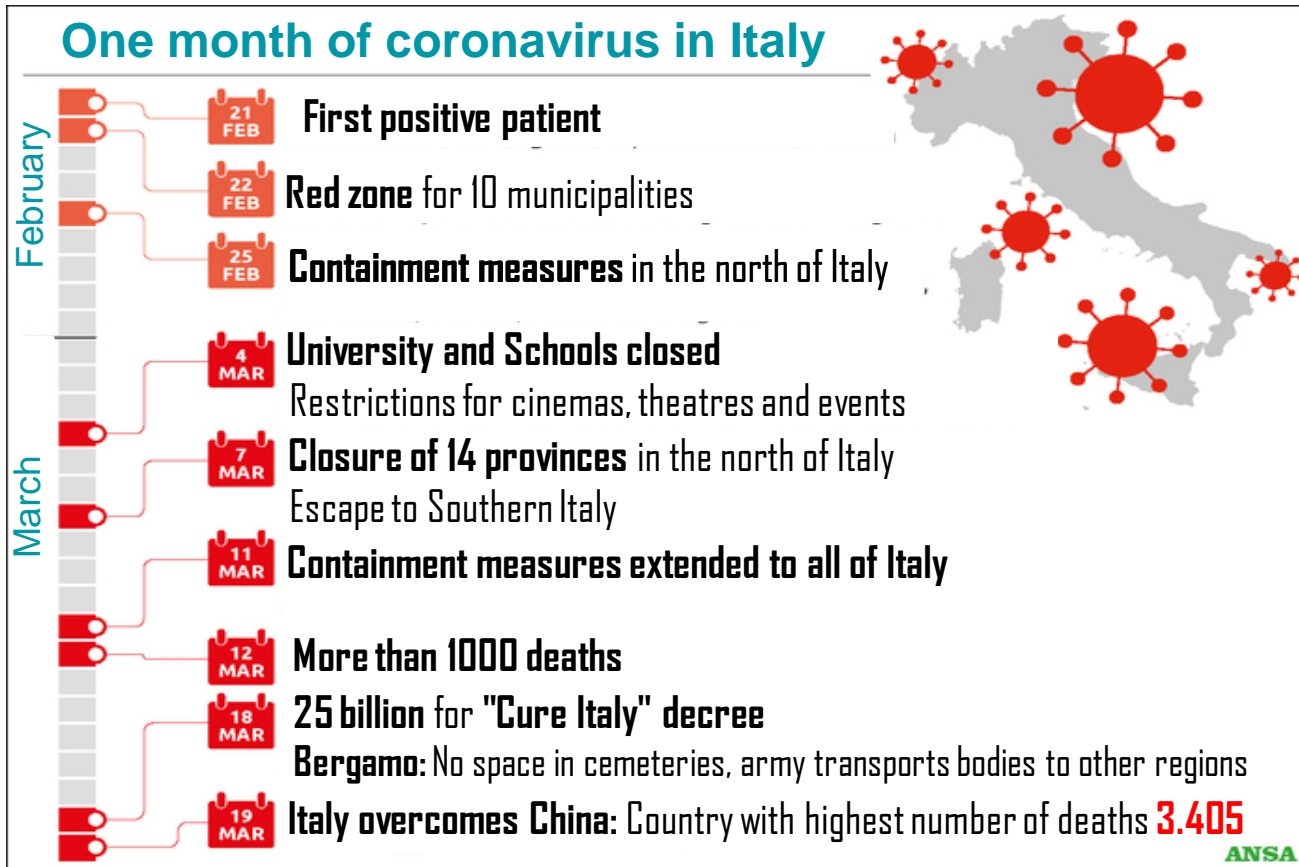
IMPACT OF THE COVID CRISIS IN ITALY



CERV
Act
Stronger
Project

101081349

KEY FINDINGS



Source: ANSA

- ❖ Implementation of mandatory social distancing substantially reduced the availability of **care** from grandparents, further increasing the burden on parents already caused by **school and childcare facility closures**.
- ❖ During 2020, **school closures** amounted to **103 days** in Italy against an average of 50 to 55 in other European countries.
- ❖ In the **labour market**, anti-Covid measures forced both women and men to adapt to new work arrangements, including working from home, working longer hours, or not working at all.
- ❖ In the **education system** the social distancing measures entailed school closures for several months, impacting parents' home life and responsibilities, as well as **children's cognitive and non-cognitive outcomes**.

KEY FINDINGS: North & South

Italian provinces towards **LOWER LEVELS** in:

✓ **life expectancy at birth**



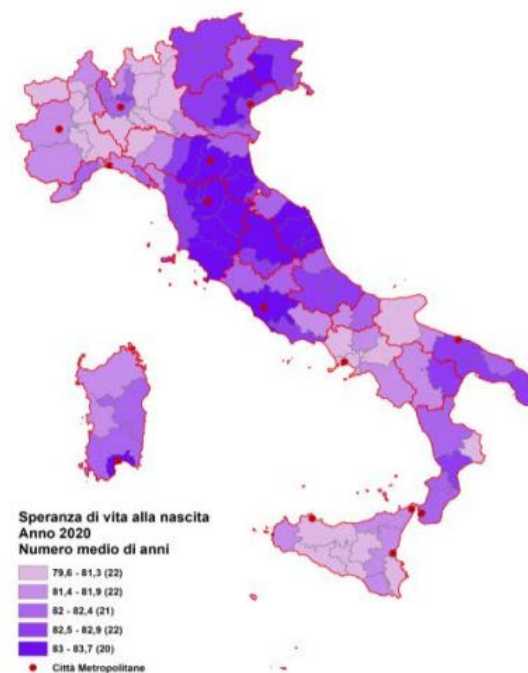
✓ **employment rates**



✓ **levels of participation in continuing education higher incidence of NEET, 15-29 year olds who are neither employed nor in education.**

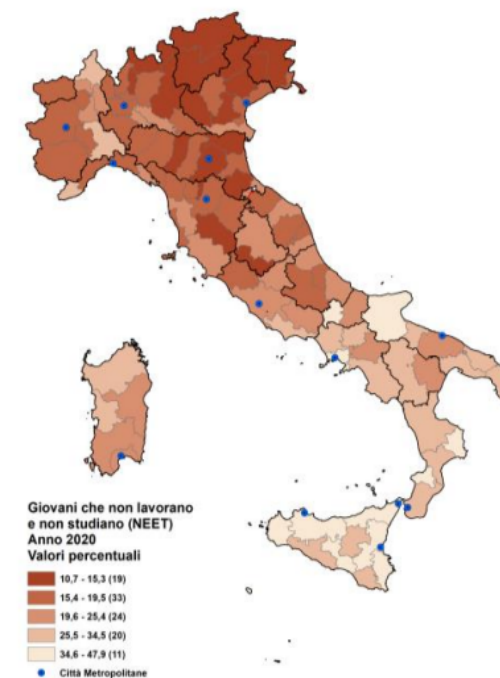


Figura 1 - Speranza di vita alla nascita. Anno 2020 (numero medio di anni)



Fonte: Istat, Tavole di mortalità della popolazione italiana

Figura 3 - Giovani che non lavorano e non studiano (Neet). Anno 2020 (valori percentuali)*



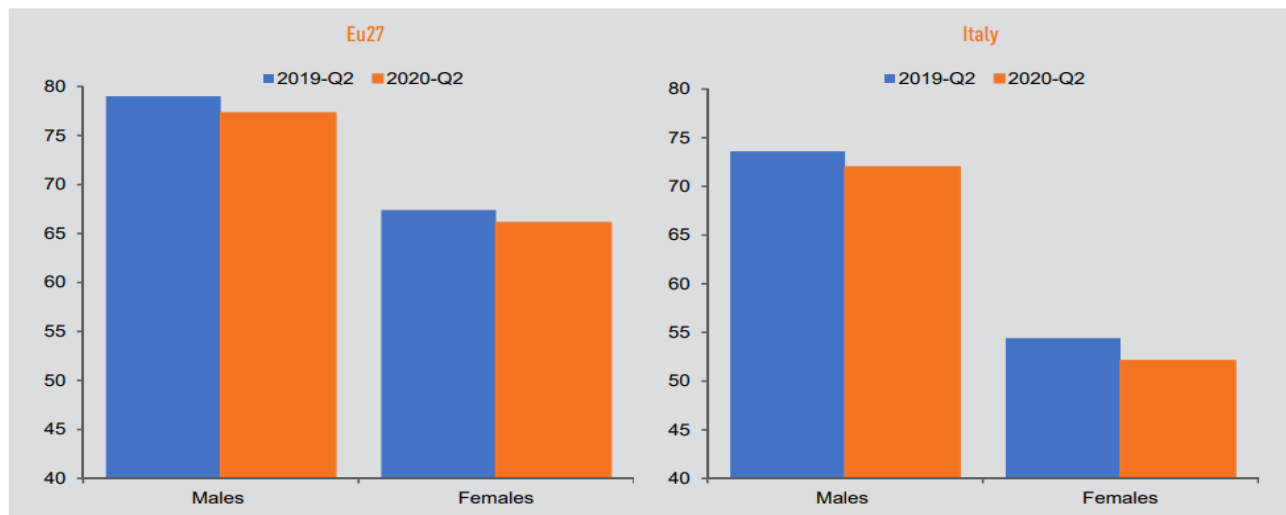
Fonte: Istat, Rilevazione sulle Forze di lavoro
(* Intervalli naturali)

KEY FINDINGS: North & South

Employment rate in Italy among 20-64 year olds

In the **South and Islands**, the employed aged 20-64 are less than half of the population (**47%** in the second quarter of 2020), 20 percentage points below the **Centre** (**67.1%**) and 24 points below the **North** (**71.2%**). However, the decline in the employment rate has been across the whole Country.

Figure 1. Employment rate of the population aged 20-64 in Italy and Eu27 countries by gender. Years 2019-2020 II quarter. Percentage values



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force survey

L'ITALIA DEI TRE COLORI

Zone rosse, gialle e arancioni dal 15 novembre



Source: Ego - Hub



KEY FINDINGS: Policy implications

- ❖ The **health service and care home system** had undergone a decade of cuts since the recession of 2008, which had left seven regions (all in the south of the country) on a national watch list in terms of their capacities to deliver health care: **the subsequent overwhelming of the health service in Lombardy (one of the rich, northern regions) confirmed this.**
- ❖ The Covid-19 pandemic put the **Conte government** to the severest test of crisis-management that any Italian government had experienced since the war. The government visibly reeled under the impact of the first wave, with the virus close to becoming out of control and the health systems of the north overwhelmed. Economic, regional and social issues cracked open, resulting in conflict and division.
- ❖ At one point, the **North of Italy** was portrayed as **discriminating** towards Italians living in so-called 'infected areas' who were no longer welcome in other parts of the country.



KEY FINDINGS: Gender gap

- ❖ One of the most important policies discussed in the public debate aimed at reducing the **gender gap** in Italy concerning the **supply of childcare for children aged 0–3**, which is substantially lower than in the rest of Europe (25 per cent in Italy compared with 59 per cent in France, 42 per cent in Spain and 35 per cent in Germany).
- ❖ Results show that the **division of labour within the household** is difficult to change, because women perform more work in the family than men, even when both women and men have the same working arrangements (both work from home or both work in the labour market). It seems that only other policies pushing for cultural change in parents' roles could reverse the current situation.
- ❖ **Longer paternity:** Implementation of longer mandatory paternity leave (now 10 days in Italy) could potentially help to re-balance women's workload (at home and in the labour market) and could shift **Italian gender** norms from the traditional family structure to more egalitarian role models.



THANK



YOU