

Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe



European Union
Union Européenne

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth

FACTSHEET

ON LIVING CONDITIONS AND LIFESTYLES

IN ITALY



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1. Social Networks

1.1 Family

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|--|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of respondents who are married or are in a civil partnership | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who have never been married and never in a civil partnership | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who have ever given birth or fathered a child | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who still live with their parents | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who are living with parents because they can't afford to move out | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 72 | 2007 | 15-30 | 49,00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents, who are living with parents because there aren't enough affordable housing available | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 72 | 2007 | 15-30 | 6.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who are living with parents because they want to have home comforts without responsibilities | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 72 | 2007 | 15-30 | 26.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who are living with parents because they get married later than used to | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 72 | 2007 | 15-30 | 13.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who are living with parents because they financially support their parents | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 72 | 2007 | 15-30 | 4.00 |
| Percentage (%) of male respondents who are living with parents | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 67.00 |
| Percentage (%) of female respondents who are living with parents | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 60.00 |
| Percentage (%) of male respondents who are living alone | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 11.00 |
| Percentage (%) of female respondents who are living alone | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 6.00 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|------|--------------|-------|
| Percentage (%) of male respondents who are living as childless couple | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 8.00 |
| Percentage (%) of female respondents who are living as childless couple | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 12.00 |
| Percentage (%) of male respondents who are living as couple with children | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 11.00 |
| Percentage (%) of female respondents who are living as couple with children | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 20.00 |
| Percentage (%) of male respondents who are lone parent | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 0.00 |
| Percentage (%) of female respondents who are lone parent | First European Quality of Life Survey: Families, work and social networks (2006) | 2003 | 18-34 | 2.00 |
| Maternity and paternity leave | | | Annex | |

1.2 Friends

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of respondents who weekly spend time with their friends | World Values Survey | 1999-2000 | 15-29 | 87.61 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents to whom friends are very and rather important in life | World Values Survey | 1999-2000 | 15-29 | 95.03 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who agree with the statement that they have someone to discuss intimate and personal matters with | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | |

2 Housing

2.1 Quality of Housing

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|--|------|-----------|--------|
| Average number of rooms at home for young people between ages 18–24 | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 23 | 2006 | 18-24 | 1.00 |
| Average number of rooms at home for young people between ages 25–34 | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 23 | 2006 | 25-34 | 1.40 |
| Percentage (%) of young people living independently | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 29 | 2006 | 18-24 | 3.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 18–24 years old people claiming the lack of space in housing | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 33 | 2006 | 18-24 | 24.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 25–34 years old people claiming the lack of space in housing | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 33 | 2006 | 25-34 | 20.00 |
| Percentage (%) of households lacking flushing toilet indoor (age range 18–24) | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 44 | 2006 | 18-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of households lacking flushing toilet indoor (age range 25–34) | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 44 | 2006 | 25-34 | 1.00 |
| Percentage of owners (with or without mortgage) of 18–24 years olds | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 56 | 2006 | 18-24 | 80.00 |
| Percentage of owners (with or without mortgage) of 25–34 years olds | First European Quality of Life Survey: Social dimensions of housing (2006) p. 56 | 2006 | 25-34 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who personally have a mobile phone | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |

2.2 Homelessness

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|-----------|--------|
| Amount of young homeless persons | - | - | - | - |

3. Health

3.1 State of Health

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|------|-----------|--------|
| Numbers of registered deaths between ages 15 and 24 years (males) | WHO Mortality Database | 2002 | 15-24 | 2348 |
| Numbers of registered deaths between ages 15 and 24 years (females) | WHO Mortality Database | 2002 | 15-24 | 729 |
| Rate (per 100 000 population) of registered male deaths between ages 15 and 24 years | WHO Mortality Database | 2002 | 15-24 | 73.40 |
| Rate (per 100 000 population) of registered female deaths between ages 15 and 24 years | WHO Mortality Database | 2002 | 15-24 | 23.80 |
| Percentage of people who self assessed their state of health as bad or very bad | EurLIFE Database | 2004 | 16-29 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who subjectively state their general health to be good or very good | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |

3.2 Physical Health

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Percentage (%) of boys who reported they are over-weight according to the body mass index | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey p. 77 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 23.00 |
| Percentage (%) of girls who reported they are over-weight according to the body mass index | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey p. 77 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 10.00 |
| Percentage (%) of boys who think they are too fat | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 81 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 19.00 |
| Percentage (%) of girls who think they are too fat | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 81 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 38.00 |
| Percentage (%) of boys report at least one medically attended injury in the last 12 months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 73 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 55.00 |
| Percentage (%) of girls who report at least one medically attended injury in the last 12 months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 73 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 39.00 |
| Work Related Injuries | Istituto nazionale per l'assicurazione contro gli infortuni sul lavoro | 2007 | up to 17 18-34 | M 6232 F 1821 M 257097 F 84 421 |

3.3 Mental Health

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Suicides crude death rate per 100 000 persons | Eurostat | 2006 | 15-19 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who felt themselves depressed most or all of the time during past week | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who felt themselves lonely most or all of the time during past week | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who felt themselves anxious most or all of the time during past week | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who felt themselves tired most or all of the time during past week | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage of 15 year-old boys who have been bullied at school at least twice in the past couple of months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 161 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 5.00 |
| Percentage of 15 year-old girls who have been bullied at school at least twice in the past couple of months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 161 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 5.00 |
| Percentage of 15 year-old boys who have bullied others at school at least twice in the past couple of months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 165 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 14.00 |
| Percentage of 15 year-old girls who have bullied others at school at least twice in the past couple of months | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 165 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 5.00 |

3.4 Use of Intoxicants

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of respondents who has drunken any alcohol during last 12 months | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 82.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who has been drunk during last 12 months | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 37.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-34 years old respondents who have ever used cocaine | The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Country Data Sheets | 2004 | 15-34 | 7.40 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-16 years old respondents who have ever used cocaine | The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Country Data Sheets | 2004 | 15-16 | 4.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-34 years old respondents who have ever used cannabis | The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Country Data Sheets | 2004 | 15-34 | 34.60 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|------|-------|-------|
| Percentage (%) of 15-16 years old respondents who have ever used cannabis | The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Country Data Sheets | 2004 | 15-16 | 27.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who have ever used or tried cannabis | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 27.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who have used any other drug than cannabis | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 8.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 16 year olds who has ever smoked a cigarette | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 64.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 16 year olds who have smoked in last 30 days | European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD) | 2003 | 16 | 38.00 |

3.5 Nutrition

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who eat breakfast every school day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 87 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 66.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who eat breakfast every school day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 87 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 55.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who eat fruit every day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 91 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 47.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who eat fruit every day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 91 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 37.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who drink soft drinks daily | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 95 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 31.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who drink soft drinks daily | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 95 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 19.00 |

3.6 Health Behaviour

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who brush their teeth more than once a day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 99 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 27.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who brush their teeth more than once a day | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 99 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 22.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who engage in weight reduction behaviour | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 103 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 11.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who engage in weight reduction behaviour | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 103 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 34.00 |

3.7 Sexual Behaviour and Teenage Pregnancies

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of 15 year- old boys who have had sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 144 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 27.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15 year- old girls who have had sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 144 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 22.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15 year-old boys who used contraceptive pill at last sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 148 | 2005-2006 | 15 | - |
| Percentage (%) of 15 year-old girls who used contraceptive pill at last sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 148 | 2005-2006 | 15 | - |
| Percentage (%) of 15 year-old boys who used a condom at last sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 152 | 2005-2006 | 15 | - |
| Percentage (%) of 15 year-old girls who used a condom at last sexual intercourse | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey , p. 152 | 2005-2006 | 15 | - |
| Live births by mothers between ages 15 and 19, total numbers all births | European Commission – Health and Consumer Protection Directorate | 2005 | 15-19 | 9598 |
| Live births by mothers between ages 15 and 19, percentage of all births | European Commission – Health and Consumer Protection Directorate | 2005 | 15-19 | 1.73 |
| Abortion | Istituto nazionale di statistica | 2005 | 15-19 | 10 268 |
| | | | 20-24 | 24 122 |
| | | | 25-29 | 28 840 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------|--|--------------------|
| HIV / Aids ¹ | Istituto Superiore di Sanità | 2005 | 15-19 | M 0,4% F 1,9% |
| | | | 20-24 | M 1,3% F 2,9% |
| | | | 25-29 | M 4,7% F 8,5% |
| | | | 30-34 | M 11,6% F 18,1% |
| Chlamydia ² | Istituto Superiore di Sanità | 2005 | When Chlamydia was diagnosed the medium age of women was 27 and of men 30. | M 199 F 83 |

¹ In Italy there isn't a national register for the HIV cases. Anyway some Regions (Lazio, Veneto, Friuli Venezia-Giulia, Piemonte, Liguria) and some Provinces (Modena, Trento, Bolzano, Sassari and Rimini) collect data and information on the diffusion of HIV cases. The Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) maintains a register of AIDS cases as reported through the health authorities (ASL, hospitals).

² In Italy there isn't a national register for the Chlamydia cases. Anyway a network of public health centres, dislocated in all the country, collect data and information on the diffusion of this disease. Data are transmitted to the Survey System of the National Health Institute (Istituto Superiore di Sanità)

4. Leisure Time

4.1 General Leisure Time Issues

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|--|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of respondents who regularly go for walk, bike ride, sport during their leisure time | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 85-87 | 2007 | 15-30 | 43.80 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who regularly read during their leisure time | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 85-87 | 2007 | 15-30 | 33.60 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who regularly meet friends, go dancing, go out to eat/drink during their leisure time | Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. p. 85-87 | 2007 | 15-30 | 46.70 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who agree or strongly agree with to following statement: "I seldom have time to do things I really enjoy" | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |

4.2 Sports

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage of people aged between 16 and 25 who regularly play sports during their leisure time | EurLIFE Database (EU15) | 2001 | 16-25 | 51.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who agree or strongly agree with to following statement: "My life involves a lot of physical activity" | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old boys who report at least one hour moderate-to-vigorous activity daily | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 107 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 16.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-year-old girls who report at least one hour moderate-to-vigorous activity daily | Inequalities in young people's health. HBSC international report from the 2005/2006 survey, p. 107 | 2005-2006 | 15 | 7.00 |

4.3 Media Usage

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of boys aged between 16 and 25 who regularly watch TV, listen to music, use a computer or play video games during their leisure time | EurLIFE Database (EU15) | 2001 | 16-25 | 78.00 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|------|-------|-------|
| Percentage (%) of girls aged between 16 and 25 who regularly watch TV, listen to music, use a computer or play video games during their leisure time | EurLIFE Database (EU15) | 2001 | 16-25 | 78.00 |
| Percentage (%) of respondents whose total TV watching time on average weekday is more than 2 hours | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents whose total radio listening time on average weekday is more than 2 hours | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who read newspaper on average weekday | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |
| Percentage (%) of respondents who use internet/email/www every day | European Social Survey Data | 2007 | 15-24 | - |

4.4 Cultural Activities

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|--|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who never visited library (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 57.90 |
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who visited library at least once (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 42.10 |
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who never visited museum in their own country (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 61.40 |
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who visited museum at least once (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 38.50 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|------|-------|-------|
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who never visited ballet/dance (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 87.90 |
| Percentage (%) of the respondents who visited ballet/dance at least once (in the past 12 months) | Christensen, Thomas. Eurobarometer 56.0: Information and Communication Technologies, Financial Services, and Cultural Activities, August-September 2001 [electronic data]. | 2001 | 15-25 | 12.10 |

5. Mobility

5.1 Migration

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|--|------|-----------|---------|
| Immigration (Foreign population registered) | Istituto nazionale di statistica | 2007 | 15-19 | 155 612 |
| | | | 20-24 | 201 978 |
| | | | 25-29 | 358 615 |
| Emigration ³ | Anagrafe Italiani Residenti all'Estero | 2006 | 18-34 | 809 000 |

5.2 Tourism

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|--------------------------|------|-----------|--------|
| Number of tourists (persons participating in tourism) | Eurostat | | 15-24 | - |

³ Only official statistics of Italian young people living abroad comes from the Register AIRE (Anagrafe Italiani Residenti all'Estero) on which Italian people may register on a voluntary base.

6. Youth delinquency

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| Number of minors among suspected offenders | 3rd Edition (2006) of the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics 2000-2003 | 2003 | 18 or less | 18344 |
| Number of minors convicted of criminal offences | 3rd Edition (2006) of the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics 2000-2003 | 2003 | 18 or less | 3127 |

7. Source of Income

| | Source | Year | Age Range | Result |
|---|---|------|-----------|--------|
| Percentage (%) of 15-30 years old whose main source of income was: My regular job | 1) Eurobarometer 2003.1 Youth in New Europe , 2) Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. | 2007 | 15-30 | 37.00 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-30 years old whose main source of income was Training allowance or educational grant | 1) Eurobarometer 2003.1 Youth in New Europe , 2) Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. | 2007 | 15-30 | 1.50 |
| Percentage (%) of 15-30 years old whose main source of income was: Relatives, partner | 1) Eurobarometer 2003.1 Youth in New Europe , 2) Flash Eurobarometer 202. Young Europeans. 2007. | 2007 | 15-30 | 49.80 |

ANNEX 1

Maternity leave and paternity leave

MATERNITY LEAVE

Scope: The Unified Text of 2001 on Maternity Protection covers all workers employed on the basis of a contract of employment, also with a contract of apprenticeship, in the public administration, in private sector and members of cooperatives, without distinction on the nature of their contract. There is also no distinction on the protection granted to natural or legitimate children. Domestic workers have the right to maternity and paternity leave.

Qualifying conditions: The worker must inform the employer of the reason of her absence, and submit a medical certificate with the expected date of birth.

Normal duration: A woman is entitled to a period of leave of 5 months: 2 months before and 3 months after the expected date of birth, or if allowed by a medical certificate, the leave can be 1 month before and 4 months after the expected date of birth. This 5 month period of leave is compulsory. Part time workers have the same rights of full time workers with regard to the duration of all periods of leave listed in the Unified Text. Cash benefits are proportional to their salary level. Compulsory leave 5 months (2 months before and 3 after)

Extension: Maternity leave may be extended on medical grounds arising out of pregnancy, in this case the Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labour will have to issue the extension upon submission of a medical certificate. The leave can also be extended to 3 months before the expected date of birth when the woman is employed in an occupation that can be hazardous and when she cannot be accommodated to another kind of occupation.

Leave in case of illness or complications: Maternity leave may be extended on medical grounds arising out of pregnancy or in case of preexisting morbidity that may worsen because of the pregnancy by a maximum of 7 months, so up to the beginning of the compulsory leave. The workers need to submit the medical certificate to the Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labour in order to benefit of this extended leave.

PATERNITY LEAVE

Coverage: All fathers employed on the basis of a contract of employment, also with a contract of apprenticeship, in the public administration, in private sector and members of cooperatives, without distinction on the nature of their contract. Domestic workers have the right to maternity and paternity leave.

Qualifying conditions: The father has to inform the employer and certify the conditions that entitle him to paternity leave, namely death or grave sickness, or abandonment by the mother.

Length: The father can ask for paternity leave for a period of maximum the duration of the maternity leave in case of death or grave sickness, or abandonment by the mother.

Source: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/condtrav/database/index.htm>