

ITALY

Capital: Rome

GEODATA

Area

301,000 km²

Population

57.6 million (1995)

Population growth

0.2% (1995)

Major language

Italian

Major religion

Roman Catholic (99%)

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Leader

Prime Minister Romano Prodi

Foreign Affairs Minister

Lamberto Dini

Minister of the Treasury and Budget

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi

Democratic institutions

Bicameral parliament

UN Human Development Index

Italy ranks 20th among 174 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Jeremy Kinsman

The Canadian Embassy

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ECONOMIC DATA

Nominal GDP

\$1.2 trillion US (1996)

Real GDP growth rate

0.9% (1996)

GDP per capita on a PPP basis

\$20,872 US (1996)

Inflation rate

3.9% (1996)

Unemployment rate

12.1% (1996)

Major exports

Textiles, woven apparel, metals, production machinery, transportation equipment and chemicals

Major imports

Grain, wood, petroleum, coal, chemicals, raw oils, meat, paper, rolled iron and steel, copper, mechanical and electrical equipment, and cotton

Major exports to Canada

\$2.7 billion Cdn (1996), including machinery, boilers and engines, electrical machinery and equipment, rolling stock and vehicles, raw hides and skins, and optical and precision equipment

Major imports from Canada

\$1.4 billion Cdn (1996), including wood pulp and fibre, wood and wooden articles, copper sheets and articles, cereals and wheat