GOVERNMENT

Chief of State
President Sergio MATTARELLA

Head of Government
Prime Minister Giuseppe CONTE

Government Type
parliamentary republic

Capital
Rome

Legislature
bicameral Parliament or Parlamento consists of the Senate or Senato della Repubblica (322 seats) and the Chamber of Deputies or Camera dei Deputati (630 seats)

Judiciary
Supreme Court of Cassation or Corte Suprema di Cassazione consists of the first president (chief justice), deputy president, 54 justices presiding over 6 civil and 7 criminal divisions, and 288 judges

Ambassador to US
Ambassador Armando VARRICCHIO

US Ambassador
Ambassador Lewis EISENBERG

GEOGRAPHY

Area
total: 301,340 sq km
land: 294,140 sq km
water: 7,200 sq km

Climate
predominantly Mediterranean; alpine in far north; hot, dry in south

Natural Resources
coal, mercury, zinc, potash, marble, barite, asbestos, pumice, fluorspar, feldspar, pyrite (sulfur), natural gas and crude oil reserves, fish, arable land

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population
62.1 million (July 2017 est.)

Population Growth Rate
0.19% (2017 est.)

Ethnic Groups
Italian (includes small clusters of German-, French-, and Slovene-Italians in the north and Albanian-Italians and Greek-Italians in the south)

Language
Italian (official), German (parts of Trentino-Alto Adige region are predominantly German speaking), French (small French-speaking minority in Valle d’Aosta region), Slovene (Slovene-speaking minority in the Trieste-Gorizia area)

Religion
Christian 80% (overwhelmingly Roman Catholic), Muslim (about 800,000 to 1 million), atheist and agnostic 20%

Urbanization
urban population: 70.4% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: 0.29% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

ECONOMY

Economic Overview
developed industrial north that manufactures high-quality consumer goods and a less-developed agricultural south with high unemployment and underdevelopment; challenged by world’s third-highest public debt, dissent on eurozone membership, a sluggish judicial system, and a weak banking sector

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$2.307 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$38,000 (2017 est.)

Exports
$499.1 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Germany 12.5%, France 10.3%, US 9%, Spain 5.2%, UK 5.2%, Switzerland 4.6% (2017)

Imports
$426.7 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Germany 16.3%, France 8.8%, China 7.1%, Netherlands 5.6%, Spain 5.3%, Belgium 4.5% (2017)