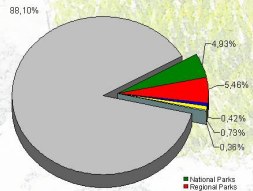
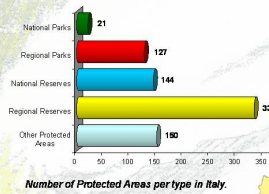


Italian Network of Protected Areas

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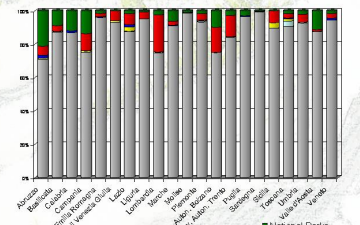
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775 Protected Areas were taken into consideration during the analysis. They form a complete and updated database which is unique for Italy.



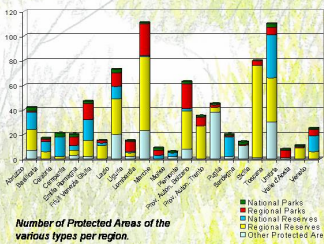
The Protected Areas in Italy cover over 3 million hectares, corresponding to 11% of the national territory.

Percentage of national territory covered by the various types of Protected Areas. The percentages are only indicative, because of overlapping between the various types of Protected Areas.

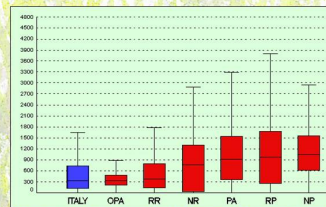


Percentage of regional territory covered by the various types of Protected Areas. The percentages are only indicative, because of overlapping between the various types of Protected Areas.

They are distributed extremely irregularly among the regions: 25% or more of the territory is protected in Abruzzi, Lombardy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano and Campania, whereas in Molise less than 1,5 % of the territory is protected, and in Sardinia less than 1,0 %.



Number of Protected Areas of the various types per region.



Elevation distribution of Protected Areas, SCI and ZPS. The black horizontal line in each box indicates median altitude. The lower and upper edges of the box respectively indicate 25% and 75% of elevation distribution. NP: National Parks; RP: Regional Parks; NR: National Reserves; RR: Regional Reserves; OPA: Other Protected Natural Areas.

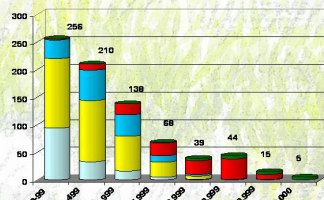
50% of Protected Areas has an elevation over 900 m above sea level, greater than the mean value for Italy as a whole (median: 337 m). This is particularly obvious in the case of the National Parks, half of them being localised 1,000 m above sea level, and of the Regional Parks.

The Protected Areas taken into consideration for the analysis cover 94,3% of the whole territory of all the Italian Protected Areas (which include also Marine Protected Areas, here not analysed).

	National Parks	Regional Parks	National Reserves	Regional Reserves	Other Protected Areas
National Parks	0	0	59380	188	0
Regional Parks	0	0	5647	3795	557
National Reserves	59380	5647	0	555	1155
Regional Reserves	188	3795	555	0	1009
Other Protected Areas	0	557	1155	1009	0

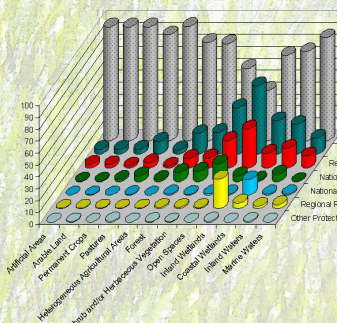
Overlapping between the various types of Protected Areas. The table shows hectares covered by two types at the same time.

There is a notable degree of overlapping between the overlapping kinds of Protected Areas. For example, 47% of the area of National Reserves (over 59,000 ha) falls within National Parks, while 4% (about 5,650 ha) falls within Regional Parks.



Number of Protected Areas present in Italy subdivided by classes of area (ha).

50% of the Protected Areas are smaller than 265 ha. The smallest Protected Area is the Sasso di Preguda Regional Nature Monument (Lombardy Region), which covers 0.05 ha, the largest is Pollino National Park (more than 183.000 ha).



Percentage of the various CORINE Land Cover categories in each type of Protected Areas, in all the Protected Areas and in Unprotected Territory.

An analysis of the internal composition of the Protected Areas shows a preference for the categories “Wetlands”, “Forest”, “Shrub and/or herbaceous vegetation” and “Open Spaces”, whereas the remaining categories are rarely to be found, particularly “Artificial Areas”, “Arable Land” and “Permanent Crops”.

	Italy	Protected Areas	National Parks	Regional Parks	National Reserves	Regional Reserves	Other Protected Areas
No Roads	92,72	96,12	96,85	95,78	98,40	98,43	95,57
Motorways	0,27	0,10	0,05	0,12	0,21	0,17	0,08
Main Roads	0,84	0,50	0,08	0,40	0,43	0,44	0,35
Secondary Roads	6,28	3,49	3,20	3,70	2,96	2,98	3,90

Percentages of roads in the country, in the Protected Areas, in each type of Protected Areas.

In order to determine human disturbance, a comparison was made between the presence of roads in the Protected Areas and the average for Italy as a whole. In Italy roads cover 7,3% of the area of the country (2,199,514 ha), while in the Protected Areas this percentage is 3,9%, indicating that Protected Areas are less disturbed.