Italy¹

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For comparisons with other countries in this review on leave provision and early childhood education and care services, please see the <u>cross-country tables</u> at the front of the review (also available individually on the Leave Network website). To contact authors of country notes, see the <u>members page</u> on the Leave Network website.

1. Current Leave and other employment-related policies to support parents

 a. Maternity leave (Congedo di Maternità) (responsibility of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and, for public employees, Ministry of Economy and Finance)

Length of Leave (before and after birth)

• 20 weeks (five months): at least four weeks can be taken before the birth. However, the pregnant woman also has a choice to work up to the childbirth, as long as a specialist doctor certifies that this option does not damage the health of the pregnant woman and the child. Those who choose this option are able to benefit from the five months of mandatory Maternity leave after the birth of the child. It is obligatory to take this Leave. Absence from work can take place two months before the childbirth if pregnancy is

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http://www.leavenetwork.org/lp_and_r_reports/

certified as 'at risk,' or if the Territorial Department of Labour certifies that the job is incompatible with pregnancy.

Payment and funding

- 80 per cent of previous earnings with no upper limit for salaried workers. For home helps, self-employed workers, and agricultural temporary labourers, earnings are 80 per cent of conventional earnings determined each year by the law. For non-fixed term workers, Maternity leave depends on accredited contributions, though each professional sector has the potential to determine, with approval by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policies, a higher limit, taking into account income and contribution potential of the professional sector and compatibility with financial availability of the professional fund.
- Funded by the INPS (National Institute for Social Security), financed by contributions from employers and employees at a rate that is related to the sector and to the type of employment contract (for example, in manufacturing it is 0.46 per cent of earnings for employers and 0.28 per cent for employees). Workers on Maternity leave may be paid directly by INPS or by their employer, who is recompensed by the INPS. These contributions maintain pension rights.
- Pension contributions for women taking Leave are made by the INPS. Maternity leave periods outside an employment relationship are counted as social security contributions for retirement pensions, provided that the claimant has at least five years of employment and has paid social security contribution at the time of her application.

Flexibility

• For employees and workers enrolled in the Separate Social Security Fund 'Gestione separata',² the 20-week period is compulsory, but there are two options for taking this Leave: four weeks before the birth and 16 weeks after (upon presentation of a medical certificate); or eight weeks before the birth and 12 weeks after. The allowance is accorded to autonomous female workers from eight weeks before the birth to 12 weeks after. Maternity leave, however, is not compulsory for this category. The Jobs Act provides that, in the case of premature birth, which takes

² By Law 335/1995, workers must contribute to a separate Italian National Institute of Social Security (INPS) fund for co-workers in order to obtain the right to a pension. They work on the basis of 'contracts of continuous and co-ordinated collaboration' or under contract for a project 'co.pro.,' that lay between employed and self-employed individuals' contracts.

place before month seven of the pregnancy, the amount of Leave not used before birth is added to post-natal Leave.

Eligibility (e.g. related to employment or family circumstances)

• All employees and self-employed women with social security membership, including workers enrolled in *Gestione separata*.

Variation in Leave due to child or family reasons (e.g. multiple or premature births; poor health or disability of child or mother; lone parent) or delegation of Leave to person other than the mother

- In the case of multiple or premature births, the length of leave increases by 12 weeks.
- In the case of a premature birth, the mother may take unused prenatal Leave after the birth; and if the infant is hospitalised, the mother has the right to suspend her Maternity leave, taking up the Leave again once the child is discharged.
- The mother can transfer one day of Maternity leave to the father, or a longer period if certain conditions prevent the mother from using the Leave.

Additional note (e.g. if leave payments are often supplemented by collective agreements; employer exclusions or rights to postpone)

- Public sector employees receive 100 per cent of earnings.
- In general, national collective agreements guarantee 100 per cent of earnings, with employers paying the additional 20 per cent.

b.Paternity leave (congedo di paternità) (Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policies)

Length of Leave

 Seven days, which are obligatory. A further one day of optional Leave is available if the mother transfers part of her Maternity leave. Both types of Leave are not yet permanent and are still experimental, depending on budgetary approval (e.g. the optional part of the Leave was not funded in 2017).

Payment and funding

100 per cent of earnings with no upper limit.

Flexibility

Leave can be used until five months after childbirth.

Leave can be taken as separate days.

Eligibility

- All employees.
- Same-sex couples are not eligible.

Additional note (e.g. if leave payments are often supplemented by collective agreements; employer exclusions or rights to postpone)

- Employed fathers, including those who are self-employed and enrolled in *Gestione separata*, may take three months' paid Leave after the birth in the following circumstances: the mother's death or severe illness; the child being left by the mother; or the child being in the sole care of the father. An important verdict by the Tribunal of Florence extends the possibility of obtaining Paternity leave, paid at 80 per cent of earnings, to two months before childbirth. This means that the father can take the whole period of Maternity leave in certain circumstances, i.e. if the mother is a housewife, ill or, alternatively, if she is a self-employed worker who cannot take the Leave. The Tribunal is a civil court and its decision acts as an important precedent for other Tribunals, but is not automatically binding. Conditions are the same as for Maternity leave.
- c. Parental leave (Congedo Parentale) (responsibility of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policies and, for public employees, the Ministry of Economy and Finance)

Length of Leave (before and after child's birth)

- Six months per parent. Leave is an individual entitlement and is non-transferable.
- The maximum total length of Leave per family is ten months, unless the father takes at least three months of Leave; in which case, the total length of Leave can be extended to 11 months, and the father can extend his Leave to seven months. During this period, parents receive pension credits, so that they do not suffer a reduced pension because of taking Leave.

Payment and funding

- 30 per cent of earnings when leave is taken for a child under six years of age; the Leave is unpaid if taken when a child is six to twelve years of age.
- Funded in the same way as Maternity leave.

 Pension contributions for parents taking Leave are made by the INPS.

Flexibility in use

- Leave can be taken at any time until a child is 12 years old.
- Leave can be taken as a single leave period up to a maximum of six months; or as shorter periods amounting to a maximum of six months.
- Leave can be taken on an hourly basis, up to half of the daily hours worked during the month immediately preceding the start of Parental Leave; but this 'hourly-based leave' cannot be combined with another kind of permitted absence from work on the same day.
- Parents can take Leave at the same time.

Eligibility (e.g. related to employment or family circumstances)

- All employed parents, except domestic workers and home helps.
 Self-employed workers are generally entitled to three months, which can be taken only during the first year after child's birth.
- The father is entitled to leave even if the mother is not, for example, if she is a housewife. Circular letter B/12-5-2009 from the Department of Labour, Health, and Social Policies extends the right to fathers to make use of the Leave indicated in the act if the mother is a housewife³; previously this right was limited to fathers where the mother was self-employed. This change gives equal financial value to domestic work as labour outside of the home.
- Parental Leave of three months, to be taken within the first year
 of the child's life, is available to workers enrolled with Gestione
 separata by the INPS.
- Same-sex couples are eligible.
- Unemployed women are eligible to the maternity allowance granted by the National Social Security Institution for five months in place of the unemployment benefit.

Variation in Leave due to child or family reasons (e.g. multiple or premature births; poor health or disability of child or mother; lone parent); or delegation of Leave to person other than the parents

- As the Leave is per child, each parent is entitled to additional Leave in the case of a multiple birth (e.g. the length is doubled for twins, and tripled for triplets).
- A single parent may take ten months of Leave.

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³ Art. 40c, Act of Law n. 151/2001: right to work reduced hours with full earnings compensation for the first 12 months after childbirth.

Additional note (e.g. if leave payments are often supplemented by collective agreements; employer exclusions or rights to postpone)

 Public sector employees receive 100 per cent of earnings during the first 30 days of Leave.

d. Childcare leave or career breaks

No statutory entitlement.

e. Other employment-related measures

Adoption leave and pay

• For adoptive and foster parents, the same regulations for Maternity, Paternity and Parental Leave apply as for other parents. The period of Maternity leave does not depend on the age of the child adopted and must start within five months of them entering the family; in the case of international adoption, the Leave can also be taken for overseas visits in connection with adoption. Paternity leave can be taken within five months of a child's entry into the family or into Italy, in the case of national or international adoption. The Parental Leave for adoptive and foster parents can be taken within eight years of the child entering the family but not after their eighteenth birthday; payment, generally, is 100 per cent of earnings for the first 30 days and 30 per cent of earning for the subsequent five months, if taken within three years of the entry of the child into the family.

Time off for the care of dependents

- No limit for a child under three years of age; five days per year per parent for a child aged three to eight years. This Leave is unpaid.
- Employees are entitled to two years' Leave over the course of their entire working life in the case of a serious need in their family: for example, the disability of a child or other relative, even if not coresident. The order of priority for taking Leave is: spouse, parents, children, then siblings of the person who needs care. During the period of Leave, the applicant is entitled to receive an allowance of 100 per cent of their previous earnings, up to a ceiling of €47,351 per year.

Flexible working

 Until a child is 12 months old, female employees are entitled to work reduced hours for breastfeeding, with full earnings compensation (one hour less per day if working six hours per day or less; two hours less per day if working longer than six hours). Fathers are entitled to use this benefit in certain conditions, for example: if the mother is self-employed or a freelancer; if the mother opts not to use it; if the mother is not employed; or if the father has sole custody of the child. Home helps, domestic workers, and autonomous workers are not entitled to reduced hours, but in this case too the father can work reduced hours.

 Employees of any gender who have parental responsibility for a child under six years of age or a disabled child under 18 years of age have a legal right to apply to their employers to work flexibly (e.g. to reduce their working hours). Employers have a legal duty to consider these requests and may refuse them only 'where there is a clear business ground for doing so [... and must give] a written explanation explaining why.'

Leave for female victims of gender based violence

 Victims of gender based violence (as certified by municipal social services or anti-violence centres) employed in the public or private sectors, and who have care responsibilities, may request Leave from work for three months, with a right to full pay. For the same period, they are also entitled to switch from full-time to part-time employment.

2. Relationship between leave policy and early childhood education and care policy

The maximum period of post-natal Leave available in Italy is 14 to 15 months (depending on bonus months if the father takes Parental Leave); however, there is only around four months of well-paid leave entitlement. There is no entitlement to ECEC, though nearly all children attend ECEC from three years of age. However, despite being recognised as a social right for children and working mothers by Law 1044/1971, provision of ECEC for children under three years of age is much lower and very variable between different regions. Levels of attendance at formal services for children under three years of age are below the average both for the countries included in this review and for OECD countries, but above average for children over the age of three years. For actual attendance levels, see 'relationship between leave and ECEC entitlements' on cross-country comparisons page.

3. Changes in policy since April 2019 (including proposals currently under discussion)

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies has set up the 'Universal allowance and family services fund' for all families with children which

will provide bonuses and benefits starting from 2021. The fund has €1,044 million for the year 2021 and €1,244 million for 2022. The goal is to provide a reorganisation and systematisation of all the policies that support families with children.

Paternity leave

Following the Budget Law 2020, (article 1, comma 342, Law 160/27 December 2019) employed fathers are entitled to seven days of compulsory Paternity leave (increased from five days granted before), which is an individual right and independent of the mother's right to Maternity leave. Also, the possibility to transfer one day of the Maternity leave to the father has been confirmed by the Law 160/2019. As the Italian government included in its programme the objective to adopt the EU directive on work-life balance that asks for ten working days of paid Paternity leave, further increases in the duration of the Paternity leave are expected.

Kindergarten bonus

Bonus to cover the costs of kindergarten or home care (in the case of serious disease) for children up to the age of three. Law 160/27 December 2019 (Budget Law 2020) article 1, paragraph 343 increased the amount from \in 1,500 to a maximum of \in 3,000 per year if the ISEE (*Indicatore della Situazione Economica Equivalente* - Indicator of the Equivalent Economic Situation) minor (referring to the minor for whom the service is requested) is lower than \in 25,000. The yearly bonus is \in 2,500 for ISEE minors from \in 25,001 to \in 40,000; and \in 1,500 for ISEE minor over \in 40,000. The parent does not need to give up on using Parental Leave to receive the Bonus.

Universal birth allowance

A monthly birth allowance (known as 'Baby Bonus') for families for each child born, adopted, or in pre-adoptive foster care between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020 has been confirmed by Law 160/27 December 2019 (Article 1, paragraphs 340 and 341). Differently from 2019, the access to the allowance became universal, i.e. the allowance can be obtained, though with a reduced amount, without a means-test or with a threshold over \in 40,000 of the ISEE indicator. Also, the allowance amount and the ISEE thresholds to determine the amount of the allowance have changed since 2019. With the ISEE under \in 7,000 per year, the yearly allowance is \in 1,920 (\in 160 each month). With the ISEE between \in 7,000 and \in 40,000 per year, the yearly allowance is \in 1,440 (\in 120 per month). With ISEE over \in 40,000, the yearly allowance is \in 960 (\in 80 per month). The amount is increased by 20 per cent for the second child.

'Mum tomorrow' bonus

The Financial Law 2020 confirmed the €800 'mum tomorrow' bonus for women in the seventh month of their pregnancy. The bonus is paid by

the INPS for the birth or adoption of a minor (from 1 January 2017) at the request of the mother to-be, at the beginning of the eighth month of pregnancy, or pre-adoptive birth, adoption, or foster care.

An important debate in Italy is the location and funding of work-life balance policies, and the link between them and industrial relations. Second-tier, corporate, or territorial bargaining is seen as the place where, with the use of special tax incentives, it is possible to apply work-life reconciliation measures.

2020 milk bonus

This is an absolute novelty introduced by the 2020 Budget law. This amendment tries to include a milk bonus of €400 per year among the benefits for families to financially support mothers who cannot ascertain breastfeeding due to proven diseases. In particular, it is aimed at mothers who are unemployed or who do not have sufficient income to be able to afford to buy infant formula. However, it will be a decree of the Ministry of Health to establish the economic requirements and to identify more precisely the pathological conditions that will give access to this type of bonus and should be certified. As for the operation, there are two hypotheses: either total deductibility or free purchase. A maximum sum of €400 would be provided as a contribution for the purchase of breast milk to be used up to the age of six months of the newborn with the possibility of access linked to the ISEE income (for now the requirements are not known).

Child seat bonus 2020

The child seat bonus for children under four years of age was introduced with the law no. 157 of 19 December 2019, which also set the deadline for compliance of child seats with the standards for cars on 6 March 2020. From this date, in the case of violation, a fine ranging from €81-326 is foreseen, and in the event of recidivism within a defined time period, the car license is suspended for two years.

With the Budget Law, the State has made available a bonus for families who must purchase systems or child seats in compliance with the standards for cars, and from February 2020 it is possible to submit the application for this purpose. The maximum contribution amount is €30, and the payment takes place in the form of an electronic shopping voucher associated with the identification data of the child. If the chosen device has a lower price, the bonus amount will be reduced, and if it costs more, the exceeding expense is paid by the family. Those interested in obtaining the bonus must submit a specific application and the money received must be spent within 30 days from the date of the request.

It is important to mention that the State has made only €2 million available for this purpose, and it is likely that all potential beneficiaries

will not be able to obtain the bonus. So, when the resources allocated are exhausted, the expense will become entirely on the family. Technically, the application must be submitted by one of the parents (or by those who exercise parental responsibility for the child) and can also be presented directly on the IT platform of the Ministry of Transport, upon registration. Those who have already purchased the device may request a refund of the expenditure by attaching the proof, while the deadline for the request is 60 days from 20 February 2020.

The family card

The family card was introduced in 2016 to be applied in a set of municipalities in 2018. As from February 2020, in line with the 2019 Budget law, it has been extended at the national level and is provided to families with at least three children under 26 years. During the pandemic, the card has been made accessible to all families with at least one dependent child (Decree-law of 2 March 2020 no.9, converted into law by Law no. 27 of 24 April 2020). This new tool is ready to start after months of waiting following the implementation decree published in the Official Journal of 30 August 2019 and should be developed on an IT platform. The Ministry will shortly have a website with all the subjects that have joined the convention. It may be requested by one of the parents but will be usable by all family members. These, in short, are the characteristics of the family card:

- to have it you must be an Italian citizen or citizen of the EU country residing in Italy;
- you must have at least three dependent children who are under the age of 26 (during COVID-19 and for the whole year 2020 it has been extended to families with one dependent child)
- it is valid for two years from the date of issue;
- the application is made online;
- the card is used to obtain a series of discounts for travel passes and purchase of goods (both from public and private members of the initiative), discounts for sport and tourism culture, shopping vouchers and purchase groups;
- eligible expenses are: food goods, food products, soft drinks, nonfood items (for cleaning and personal and environmental hygiene, stationery, books and teaching aids, medicine and health, clothing and footwear:
- allowed services are: water, electricity, gas and alternative fuels for heating, waste disposal, transport, recreational, museums, shows and sporting events, gyms and sports centres, tourist services, hotels, catering, socio-educational, vocational education and training
- to be eligible for discounts, families must present the family card to the shops and to the various structures participating in the initiative, be it public or private.

Culture bonus or 18-year bonus

Among the bonuses renewed for 2020, albeit with a cut in the resources dedicated for it, there is also the culture bonus or 18-year bonus. Introduced by the Renzi government with the 2016 Stability Law, it is an economic contribution for new 18-year-olds, who can spend this money on activities related to culture: visits to exhibitions, museums, archaeological areas, but also tickets for cinema and theatre and books (not just school-books). Until now, the amount of the culture bonus was €500, but boys and girls who turn 18 in 2020 will receive an incentive of €300.

Birth Support Fund

The Birth Support Fund established by the Department of Family Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers has been active since May 2019. It is aimed at guaranteeing access to credit for families with one or more children, born or adopted from 1st January 2017, through the issuing of direct guarantees, including surety bonds, to banks and financial intermediaries. Parents of children, born or adopted from 1 January 2017 and up to the child turning three years of age or within three years of adoption, can apply for a loan of up to €10,000, without income restrictions. The loan can be used for any type of expense and must be repaid over a maximum period of seven years. No additional guarantee may be requested, in addition to the guarantee from the Fund, for the entire amount of the loan requested and/or granted. However, the banks remain empowered to provide the loan.

The introduction of the COVID-19 Leave (see below) has initiated a debate about the reform of Parental Leave in terms of its duration and benefit level. On 11th June 2020 the Family Act containing 'Delegations to the government for the adoption of the universal allowance and the introduction of measures to support the family' delegated to the government the adoption of one or more decrees within a two year period that will aim to strengthen, rearrange and harmonise the legislation on Parental Leave. The Family Act provides at least two months of Parental Leave for each child not transferable to the other parent. It also includes: 1) a mandatory leave period of at least ten working days for employed father in the first months of the child's birth, which is granted regardless of the marital or family status; 2) a paid leave of at least five hours during the school year for meetings with the teachers. It also foresees an introduction of flexible leave options.

Policy response to the Covid-19 pandemic up to end June 2020

Childcare and schools

- In the last ten days of February 2020, schools were closed only in five regions of northern Italy (Lombardia, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Liguria and Piemonte). ECEC and schools at all levels were suspended by the decree of the President of the Council of Ministers on 3 March 2020.
- Schools will re-open in September 2020. Summer camps are open since 1 June 2020 for children above 36 months, but with re-openings being diversified by regions. For example, since the end of May 2020, in some regions (e.g. Veneto or Emilia Romagna) there have been re-openings of summer camps or ECEC services also for children below 36 months.
- The Law Decree no. 34 ("Relaunch decree"), article 72, 19 May 2020, brought changes to the bonus for the purchase of services. It introduced a bonus payment for children registered at summer centres and supplementary childcare services for the period starting from the closure of educational services and up to 31 July 2020. The bonus can reach an amount of €1,200 per family and can be used for children up to 12 years of age. The age limit does not apply to children with disabilities enrolled in schools or daycare centres.

Parental Leave

• No changes were made to paid Parental leave

Other measures for parents and other carers

- The Law Decree 18, 17/03/2020 #CuraItalia, article 23 introduced Leave for the care of minors ('COVID-19 Leave') during the period of suspension of educational services for children and educational activities in schools (effective from 4 March 2020). Leave can be used by parents of children with disabilities that are enrolled in schools or attend daycare centres as well as by parents of children under 12 years of age.
- The Leave is available to parents employed in the private sector, to workers enrolled in the separate management referred to in article 2, paragraph 26 of the law of 8 August 1995, n. 335, to self-employed workers registered with INPS and employees in the public sector. Only one parent can use the Leave or both of them, but not on the same days and always within the overall limit of 15 days per family (per individual or couple). The use of this Leave is also a subject to the condition that there is no other parent in

the household benefiting from the income support tools in the event of the suspension or cessation of work due to COVID-19 pandemic or other unemployed or non-working parent.

- Benefit during the COVID-19 Leave is paid to parents with children under 12 years of age:
 - For private-sector employees the benefit is equal to 50 per cent of earnings;
 - o For workers enrolled in the separate management of INPS the benefit is equal to 50 per cent of 1/365 of their income;
 - For self-employed workers registered with INPS, the benefit is equal to 50 per cent of the conventional daily wages established annually by law, depending on the type of selfemployed work performed.
- COVID-19 Leave introduces new features compared to the 'regular' Parental Leave:
 - o Higher allowance is paid to the beneficiaries;
 - Parents who have already reached the individual and couple limits set by the specific legislation on Parental Leave can also apply (art. 32 of the aforementioned Legislative Decree no. 151/2001);
 - Parents with children between 12 and 16 years of age can also request COVID-19 Leave, but without compensation.
- €600 per month could be used until the end of 2018 instead of mothers' Parental Leave to cover babysitting or kindergarten costs. This was introduced again during the COVID-19 pandemics. Babysitting bonus can be requested (Law Decree 18, 17/03/2020 #CuraItalia) as an alternative to COVID-19 Leave and the following categories of workers are eligible: employees of private companies, self-employed workers and workers enrolled in the INPS Separate Management (within the maximum limit of €600); employees in the healthcare sector (public or accredited private), as well as personnel from the security, defence and public rescue sector employed for needs arising from the COVID-19 emergency (within the maximum limit of €1,000).
- Regular Parental Leave is incompatible with the simultaneous use
 of the COVID-19 Leave for the same child by the other parent
 belonging to the family unit (i.e. used on the same days). Regular
 Parental Leave can be taken on days that are not covered by the
 COVID-19 Leave. Parents who have already reached the individual
 and couple limits set by the specific legislation on Parental Leave
 can apply for COVID-19 Leave.
- The Law Decree 18/2020 #CuraItalia, Relaunch decree 34/2020 and the Agreement between the government and the social partners, introduced 'smart work'. It was advised to work from home whenever possible, as it is a crucial prevention tool, but also to limit office or company entry and apply the temperature control:

- o 'Smart work' is allowed for the whole period of the emergency until the 31st December 2020. For the public sector, 'smart working' is considered as 'the ordinary way of carrying out the work'; for the private sector, it can be used without the agreement between the parties;
- Public and private sector employees with children under 14 years of age have the right to 'agile work', in cases when the other parent has no other income or is not in employment;
- o Some workers have a priority in using 'smart work' (when the option is foreseen for a part of the employees): a) employees that concluded their Maternity Leave within the period of the last three years and employees who have children with severe disabilities; b) employees with serious disabilities or who have a family member with a serious disability.
- The number of absence days that can be used by employees with disabilities and for assistance to disabled family members increased, to 18 days up to June 2020 (12 more than before).

4. Take-up of Leave

a. Maternity leave

Maternity leave is obligatory for employees. The most recent data (INPS, 2020) for the private sector shows that in 2018 there were 198,279 beneficiaries, of whom 24,755 were fixed-term employees; 172,325 permanent workers; and 1,199 seasonal workers.

b. Paternity leave

In 2018 in the private sector, 123,142 fathers took compulsory Paternity leave (INPS); a 14 per cent increase since 2017. Optional leave beneficiaries increased from 868 in 2017 to 4,524 in 2018. However, as the figures show, the majority of fathers do not take advantage of this Leave. Monitoring, as well as more information about the right to take Paternity leave, is needed in order to increase the number of fathers taking the compulsory Leave.

c. Parental Leave

The most recent data (INPS, 2020) for the private sector, including agriculture, show that there were 324,988 Parental leave beneficiaries, out of whom 22,778 were fixed-term employees; 302,044 were permanent workers; and 166 were seasonal workers.⁴ Regarding self-employed workers, there were 1,379 Parental leave beneficiaries in 2018. Though fathers are still a minority amongst parents beneficiaries

⁴ https://www.inps.it/webidentity/banchedatistatistiche/congdipe/index01.jsp

of the leaves (22 per cent in 2018), one can notice that their share is increasing. 5

As of April 28 2020, 93,729 applications for Bonus "babysitting" included by the "Cura Italia" Decree were received by INPS, out of whom 74,065 came from the private sector while 19,664 from the public sector (INPS, 2020). Regarding the COVID-19 leaves, as of April 28 2020, a total of 242,206 leaves were paid.⁶

⁵ https://www.inps.it/banchedatistatistiche/menu/famiglia/Stat_breve.pdf

⁶ https://www.inps.it/NuovoportaleINPS/default.aspx?itemdir=53650&lang=IT