ABSTRACT

2009 National Report on Older People Conditions and Opinions: a different society
INRCA Ageing Society Observatory and Federsanità Anci

This report draws a detailed picture of demographic ageing phenomena in Italy and worldwide, analysing also different issues on the relationships between older people, the state of caregiving inside and outside their family, ageing and work. As far as to the latter point current findings show that 30.6% of the population retires before 65.

In recent decades, average life expectancy had unusually prolonged: looking at last three or four generations, Italy witnessed a structural demographic change. In 2050 34.6% of the population is expected to be older than 65 years and estimated life to reach 86.6 and 88.8 years respectively for men and women.

These demographic changes occurred in a period of increasing distress of Italian welfare system, that alike other European systems requires an extensive review, both at its cultural and economic level.

Expense for pension, social security and assistance represents 15.8% of GDP (233 billions Euro) and the OECD average is 7%. This is a remarkable figure, considering that around 57% of the population aged 65 is in good health, despite declaring one (65.4%) or two (37.5%) chronic illnesses. Even if Local Authorities provide older disabled people with care services allowances or ...ageing and work. As far as to the latter point current findings show that 30.6% of the population retires before 65.

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SOME FIGURES

Ageing
- In 2050, 34.6% of the Italian population will be over 65
- In 2050 the 90+ population will increase from the actual 500,000 up to 1,800,000 people (of which about 1,200,000 women)
- 18.8% of over 65 people are disabled
- The number of elderly in Rome equals the inhabitants of Florence

Poverty
- 15 millions of Italians are at risk of poverty
- Poor families are 23,083.
- In 17,668 families there is at least one senior
- In 15,414 families the breadwinner is over 65
- In families with at least one elderly, the incidence of poverty (13.2%) is higher by two points than the national average, and increases to 15.2% in case of families with at least two over 65 members
- 11,485 households are single person ones
- Poor elderly increase yearly by 10%
- 15% of Italian households with an elderly claim not to have enough money for medical expenses. One family out of three can not bear unforeseen expenses.

Pensions
- 69.4% of retired people is over 65; among them over 80 are about 20%
- 22% of retired people receives less than 500 Euros per month; 28.8% 500-999 Euros per month; 36.7% 1,000 - 1,999 Euros per month. 12.7% of people receives a pension higher than 2,000 Euros per month

Home
- 76% of over 65 owns their house while 12% lives in rented houses
- Most elderly live in old houses
- House crumbling increases due to lack of maintenance
- 11% of elderly lives in houses with inadequate heating