

Experiencing autonomy.

Facts and data

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50th Anniversary AUTONOMIA

1972_2022



South Tyrol's Autonomy
autonomie.provinz.bz.it



Traffic in South Tyrol
verkehr.provinz.bz.it



Holidays in South Tyrol
suedtirol.info



Weather in South Tyrol
weather.provinz.bz.it



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Contents

South Tyrol
in figures **page 4**

One land,
three
languages **page 14**

Recent
history **page 18**

Autonomy **page 26**

Budget **page 30**

Meet the locals

High life expectancy, high birth rate:
some facts about South Tyrol and South Tyroleans.

2020 – **533,715** inhabitants, comparable to Hannover or Nuremberg
2011 – **505,067** inhabitants
1992 – **441,000** inhabitants
1972 – **414,000** inhabitants
1962 – **374,000** inhabitants
1880 – **205,306** inhabitants

South Tyrol

22,853 inhabitants
Brixen
Bressanone

107,760 inhabitants
Bozen
Bolzano
provincial capital

41,174 inhabitants
Meran
Merano

9.6‰
Birth rate

10.2‰
Death rate

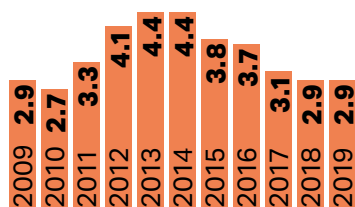
♀ **85.0**
♂ **80.5**
Life expectancy
Italy: 84.4 / 79.7 years
EU: 84.0 / 78.5 years

Employment and volunteering

Low unemployment, high Gross Domestic Product, and many volunteers: the South Tyrolean economy in figures.

2.9%
Unemployment rate

Italy: 10 %
EU: 6.8 %



Official unemployment rate in %

6.8%

Youth unemployment rate (15–29)

Italy: 22.1 %

21%
Manufacturing companies

14%
Tourism companies

29%
Farming companies

36%
Service companies

48,076 €

GDP per capita

Italy: 30,051 €

EU: 31,310 €

306
Volunteer fire brigades

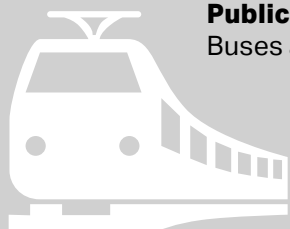
1/3
South Tyroleans are engaged in some form of voluntary work

2,212
Voluntary organisations

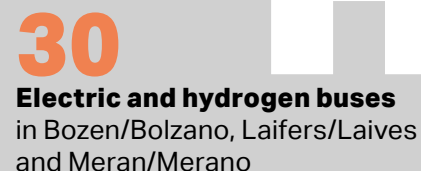
176
Social promotion organisations

Always on the move

One of the most extensive structured public transport and cableway networks in the Alps.



H₂



SÜDTIROLPASS
268,700
People use South Tyrol's
public transport pass



Provincial
road network



Home green home

South Tyrol is around the same size as the Black Forest, but has much more than just forest to offer. Its mountains, for example: there are over 350 summits higher than 3,000 metres, with the Ortler at 3,905 metres – the highest peaks in the eastern Alps.

7,400 km²

Surface area

The largest Italian province in terms of surface area, comparable to the Black Forest

40 %

Surface area over 2,000 metres above sea level

42.8 %

Surface area designated as a protected nature area

7

Nature parks in addition to Stelvio National Park

2009

The Dolomites are designated a Unesco World Heritage Site

6 %

Inhabitable surface area

2.85 %

**already inhabited
69 inhabitants/km²**

18,400 ha

of surface planted with apples.

South Tyrol produces 898 tonnes of apples per year, making it Europe's largest apple producer.

60 %

of South Tyrol's energy needs

– excluding transport – come from renewable sources (water, biomass, biogas, solar, wind and geothermal)

13,304

new buildings have received the CasaClima certificate to date,

based on energy efficiency, quality and sustainability standards.

On a trip, a visit or a holiday

More than seven million holidaymakers, half a million inhabitants:
tourism is the horse that pulls the South Tyrolean cart.

300

Days of sunshine
per year

16,000 km
Natural marked mountain trails

1,200 km
Length of ski slopes

156

Museums

800

fortresses, castles,
and stately residences
house museums, hotels,
and even a botanical garden.

5,031
Monuments

7.7 mil

Tourists a year

33.7 mil

Overnight stays a year

10.2 mil Italian citizens and
23.5 mil foreigners
of which
21.1 mil are in summer

One land, three languages

Eins, due, trèi ...

South Tyrol's original inhabitants are the Ladin people, and today it is the place where Romance and Germanic cultures meet.

In the 2011 census
the inhabitants of South Tyrol
declared their membership in
one of its three language groups
as follows:

4.5%

20,500 said they were
Ladin speakers

26.1%

118,100 said they were
Italian speakers

69.4%

314,600 said they were
German speakers

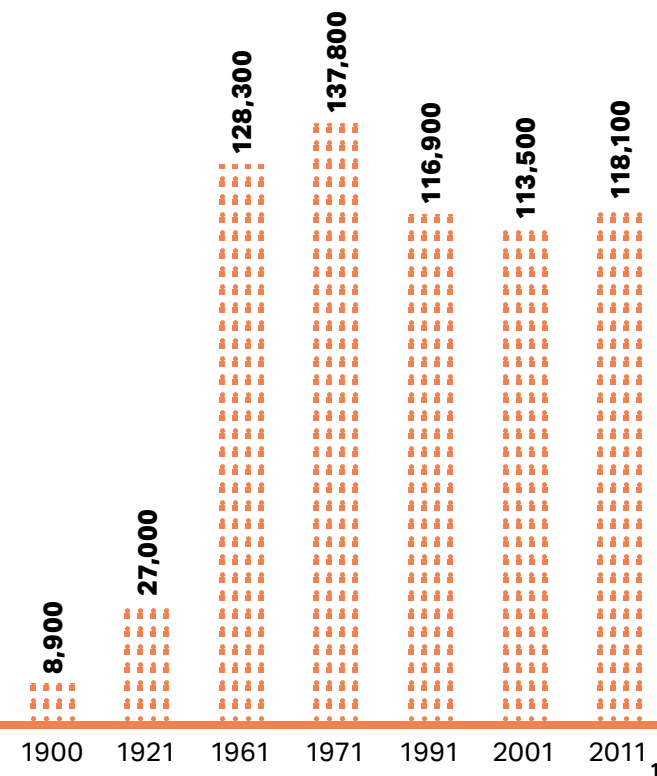
140

Countries of origin

1. Albania
2. Germany
3. Pakistan

Among them there are about **52,000**
foreigners, more than 1/3 of whom
come from other EU countries.

Italian
speakers in
South Tyrol



German

speakers make up the majority of the population.

Historically this language group dates back to the Germanic, Alemannic, and Bavarian tribes that crossed the Alps to what is now South Tyrol during the Migration Period and to some extent settled there.

The South Tyrolean dialect, rather than High German, is used in everyday life.



72%

of German-speaking South Tyroleans

live in the countryside

One land, three languages

German, Italian, Ladin



98%

of Italian-speakers
live in towns

The second-largest language group is

Italian-speaking.

It is, in cultural and historical terms, the most recent arrival.

In terms of figures, the Italian language experienced its most significant growth in South Tyrol during the Fascist era in the 1920s and 1930s, when Mussolini tried to strengthen the 'Italian character' of South Tyrol by promoting massive immigration from the south and forced 'Italianisation' of German- and Ladin-speakers.



87%

of Ladins

live in the Gröden/
Gardena or the
Gadertal/Val Badia
valleys

The Ladin language group is the longest-residing group in South Tyrol.

Ladin is a neo-Latin or Romance language in the Rhaeto-Romance family. After the conquest of the Alpine regions by the Romans in 15 B.C., the native population incorporated the vulgar Latin of Roman officials and soldiers into their own language.

Detachment from Austria

1918

The First World War ends and, with the **peace treaty of St. Germain**, the southern part of the Austrian crown land of Tyrol becomes part of Italy. The new frontier is the Brenner Pass.

1922

With the March on Rome, the Fascists take power in Italy and South Tyrol sees the beginning of a phase of **forced Italianisation**. Encouraged by Benito Mussolini's regime, tens of thousands of Italians migrate to South Tyrol, use of the German language is forbidden, German-language schools are closed, and German-speaking officials and teachers are dismissed or transferred.

1939

Hitler and Mussolini agree on a 'solution' to the problem of South Tyrol. South Tyroleans will have the choice of leaving their homeland and being resettled in the German Reich, or becoming Italian citizens and abandoning their own identity. A massive **resettlement campaign** (supported by the Nazis) begins, with around 86% of all South Tyroleans agreeing to move. Due to the war, however, 'only' around 75,000 South Tyroleans actually leave their homeland in the end.

The struggle for autonomy

1946

After the end of the Second World War the winning powers refuse South Tyroleans the right of self-determination, but force Italy and Austria to conduct negotiations over the Province.

On 5 September 1946 the Italian Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi and the Austrian Foreign Minister Karl Gruber sign the **Paris Treaty**, which secures special provisions for South Tyrol regarding language, economy and culture. The Gruber-De Gasperi agreement forms an integral part of the peace treaty signed by the Allies with Italy, and the status of South Tyrol officially becomes an international matter.

1961

The flawed implementation of the Paris Treaty leaves German-speakers permanently outvoted in a Region that is 71.5% Italian-speakers, and Austria decides to take 'the South Tyrolean question' to the UN. At the same time tensions in South Tyrol are escalating. On the night of 11 June 1961 dozens of electricity pylons throughout South Tyrol are blown up. The **'night of fire'** draws the attention of the Italian and European public to South Tyrol.

1972

Following the debates at the UN and the bomb attacks at the beginning of the 1960s, lengthy and complex negotiations between Rome, Bozen/Bolzano and Vienna finally produce a whole 'package' of measures, introduced as the **second Autonomy Statute**. Most powers are devolved from the Region to its two provinces, granting South Tyrol more legislative and administrative autonomy than any other administrative unit in Italy, and proportional consociational power-sharing is instituted between the province's three language groups. The new arrangement comes into force on 20 January 1972.

A new era

1998

Following the accession of Austria to the European Union and the introduction of the **Schengen Agreement** on free movement within Europe, the border posts at the Brenner Pass are removed.

1992

All measures of the South Tyrol package have been implemented: Italy and Austria see that the aim of effective minority protection has been achieved and officially settle the dispute that was first taken to the **UN** in 1959. The Paris Agreement remains in force.

2011

Autonomy has been gradually developed and strengthened. Transnational co-operation has also been increased in the form of the European Grouping of Territorial Co-Operation (**EGTC**), for example, which includes the Euroregion of Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino. The EGTC provides an institutional framework for co-operation between the three areas.

A constantly evolving present

2014

The **Guarantee Pact** of October 2014, the new financial regulation negotiated with the Italian State, calls for South Tyrol to pay a fixed contribution to the interest on public debt. Moreover, it is now the Province that pays the contribution to the State and no longer the Ministry that keeps it upstream. With an exchange of notes between Italian and Austrian governments, the agreement acquires a foundation in international law.

2015

Between 2015 and 2017 the Provincial Council facilitated a **participatory process** to review and propose changes to the Autonomy Statute. The process consisted of a series of discussions and debates throughout the province, most influentially in two citizens' assemblies (the "Forum of 100" and the "Convention of 33"), and a proposal for amending the Autonomy Statute was produced by the Convention of 33.

2017

Constitutional law no. 1/2017, the so-called **Ladin law**, strengthens the rights of the Ladin-speaking population. The law introduces some forms of protection for the Ladin minority that the 1972 Statute didn't provide for, and puts an end to some discriminations.

2021

The Euroregion gets closer to the citizens. The municipalities are involved in the decision-making processes through their own Euroregion councils; thanks to the citizens' councils. Thanks to citizens' councils, civil society has a greater say on issues related to the Euroregion.

Who does what?

With the 1972 second Autonomy Statute the Province of Bozen-Bolzano maintains a series of competencies, divided into primary, secondary and tertiary. While the State's competencies are limited to certain sectors, the Province can legislate on all other matters in accordance with the Italian Constitution, EU laws, and international agreements.

State competencies

- Immigration
- Defence
- Police
- Law
- Currency

Primary competencies

- Culture
- Vocational training
- Kindergartens
- Social affairs
- Roads
- Housing
- Local public transport
- Tourism
- Handicrafts
- Agriculture
- Civil defence
- Nature parks

Within these main areas South Tyrol can issue laws so long as they are consistent with Italian and European Union law.

Secondary competencies

- Sport
- Schools
- Health
- Trade
- Public waters

Within these main areas the Province must follow principles set by the State. South Tyrol has some discretion on how this is done, but much less autonomy than it does regarding primary competencies.

Tertiary competencies

- Employment
- Job placement

Within these areas, the legislative power of the Province is limited to supplementing the legislative provisions of the State.

Rules for living together

The three language groups in South Tyrol co-exist on the basis of a complex system that combines territorial autonomy power-sharing, including reserved positions, government and public service group proportionality, public service multilingualism, and cultural autonomy.

1.
Language-group proportionality
in the public services,
in the system of
government, and in the
resource allocation.

2.
Bilingualism/trilingualism
in public offices and services,
two or even three place names.

3.
Teaching
in pupils' native
language.

Autonomous management

The South Tyrolean budget currently runs to some six billion euros a year. This is funded by the tax revenues collected in South Tyrol. Of this income, 9/10 remain within the province, with the remaining tenth paid to Rome.

Unlike other regions in Italy, the funds from the provincial budget finance a wide range of policy areas, including the entire education system, from kindergarten to university, health and social affairs as well as the administration of all major and minor roads.

