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## **STATISTICS OF CLUBS AND NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN THE 6 ITALIAN DISTRICTS IN THE PERIOD FROM 2000 TO 2021**

### **STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION OF CLUBS AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE 6 DISTRICTS OF ITALY**

The analysis was conducted from the Inner Wheel year 2000-01 to the year 2020-21, considering the data reported in the directories of the clubs of Italy published by the National Council. Only the numbers relating to active members were taken into consideration.

### **DISTRICT ANALYSIS**

#### **District 204**

In the time interval considered, the members went from a minimum of 1046 to a maximum of 1340, reached in the 2009-10 IW year. They are currently 1185.

#### **Fig. 1**

The clubs have grown from 30 to the current 44, recording a slow but steady increase. Five clubs closed in the period considered, but 14 new ones were founded, eventually reaching today the number of 44.

#### **Fig. 2**

The majority of the clubs are made up of 20-30 members (48%). The club class with 10-20 members (29%) follows.

#### **Fig. 3**

#### **District 206**

Since 2000, the members have gone from 1029 to a maximum of 1205 reached in the 2009-2010 IW year, followed by a steady decline to the current 1075 members.

#### **Fig. 4**

The number of clubs in the interval considered went from 29 to a maximum of 38, reached in 2018-19. There are currently 37 clubs, with three clubs closing and eight openings over the years.

#### **Fig. 5**

In 2020-2021, 36% of the clubs had 20-30 members, while 22% have 10-20 members. Clubs with 30 to 40 members exhibit the same percentage—the 15% of clubs number between 40 and 50 members.

#### **Fig. 6**

#### **District 208**

In 2000-01 the members were 677, a maximum of 703 members was reached in 2002-03, followed by a continuous decrease which brought the constant number to 441 members.

#### **Fig. 7**

The number of clubs, which initially rose from 24 to 27 in the 2007-2009 interval, has dropped again to 24. The balance over the years is, therefore, equal to 3 closed and three open clubs.

#### **Fig. 8**

This District is suffering both from the number of members (today only 441 with a downward trend) and the number of clubs (stable on 24 clubs in the last four years). It is mainly since the District includes two regions (Lazio and Sardinia) far from each other and that the clubs of Lazio are primarily centered in the Rome area.

#### **Fig. 9**

In 2020-21, 67% of clubs counted between 20 and 30 members, 21% between 30 and 40. There is one club with less than ten members.

#### **District 209**

In 2000-01 the members were 902. A fluctuating trend followed, bringing to a minimum of 854 in 2003-04, a maximum of 950 in 2008-2009, a new minimum from 2012 to 2015, a maximum of 970 in 2018-2019. Currently, the members are 965.

#### **Fig. 10**

The clubs followed the same trend with a minimum of 26 in 2003-04 and then growing in the years from 2008 to 2011, a new reduction to 31 clubs and a new grew up to the current 38. In the examined period, 6 Clubs closed and 14 opened.

#### **Fig. 11**

Currently, 50% of the Clubs count 20-30 members, followed by 34% with 10-20 members.

#### **Fig. 12**

#### **District 210**

The increase in members in the interval considered is positive, having gone from 1031, with a minimum of 995 reached in 2003-04, to the current 1186 members.

#### **Fig. 13**

The increased clubs from 32 to 47 were positive, with five closed clubs, but 20 opened.

#### **Fig. 14**

Currently, 41% of the clubs have 10-20 members and 40% 20-30 members. As in 208, there is a club with less than ten members, a number that makes club survival problematic.

### **Fig. 15**

### **District 211**

This District too shows a positive increase in members, passing from 713 in 2000-01 to the present figure of 966 units.

### **Fig. 16**

The clubs have gone from the initial 23 to the current 39, with five closed in the period considered and 21 open.

### **Fig. 17**

38% of the clubs have 10-20 members, while an almost equal percentage (36%) have 20 to 30 members. The 5% have more than 50 members, and a club has ten members.

### **Fig. 18**

### **IW ITALY**

In the period considered, the members went from 5398 to 5818, registering the maximum of 5931 in 2008-09.

### **Fig. 19**

The number of clubs increased from 166 to 229, largely thanks to districts 210 and 211. From 2000-01 to 2020-21, 27 clubs were closed in Italy, but 81 opened.

### **Fig. 20**

Currently, the majority (43%) of the Clubs consist of 20-30 members, 32% of 10-20 members, 13% of 30-40 members, and only 7% of 40-50 members.

### **Fig. 21**

The most manageable formula seems to be the club made up of 20-30 members. Historical clubs with members ranging from 40 to 50 or more still exist, mainly located in the larger cities, but they are clubs that gradually lose memberships mainly due to problems related to the age of the members. 1% has many members equal to or less than 10, with significant issues in the rotation of offices.

The analysis of the data shows a driving force of the Association concentrated mainly in the south. At the same time, the creation of new clubs in the north, especially the entry of new members, with a consequent generational turnover, proves more difficult. An increase in the number of clubs corresponds to a decrease or slight increase in members.

District 208 deserves a separate mention as it has lost many members since 2008-09 and has not increased the number of clubs in the period considered.

The Italian data are overall positive. However, let's consider the social year of maximum expansion in terms of members (5931, in 2008-2009), which corresponded to the number of 191 clubs, and compare it with the current 229 clubs. An increase of 38 clubs in the period considered

was not sufficient to obtain a similar rise in the number of members, which last year amounted to 5818.

#### IMPACT OF COVID 19 PANDEMIC ON THE MEMBERSHIP IN ITALY

Considering the three years 2019-2022, the members significantly reduced (minus 249 members), while the clubs increased by about 5% (224 to 235). It is most probably due to the effect of the lockdown. The impossibility of meeting in person and the need to use digital platforms for socialization meant that the older members less familiar with digital means felt excluded and resigned. On the contrary, digital media have attracted younger members who have taken advantage of the possibility to reconcile their private life with their commitment to the Association.

I know that this topic is outside the case study presented here, but I would advise considering the possibility of creating e-clubs in the Inner Wheel to increase membership.