

PRESS RELEASE

The Osservatorio AIRP on Sustainable Mobility

The number of cars on Italy's roads has increased (+4,92%) over the past five years

The number of cars in Italy has increased by 4,92% over the past five years, jumping from 34,636.594 units in 2005 to 36,339.405 units in 2009. According to the Osservatorio AIRP (the Italian Tyre Retreaders Association) on Sustainable Mobility, that conducted the survey revealing these results, the reason behind this increase is to be found in the persisting

Italy's car fleet figures by region (2005-2009)						
Regions	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Difference % 2005-2009
Calabria	1.087.761	1.119.271	1.137.452	1.156.668	1.173.771	7,91
Basilicata	319.926	330.261	335.624	340.484	344.479	7,67
Latium	3.569.907	3.665.295	3.720.607	3.795.191	3.824.823	7,14
Molise	183.076	188.213	191.420	193.903	195.830	6,97
Sardinia	917.516	943.735	959.946	971.317	981.153	6,94
Sicily	2.876.589	2.955.804	3.006.924	3.043.645	3.072.362	6,81
Apulia	2.105.974	2.155.887	2.186.602	2.213.948	2.235.430	6,15
Campania	3.188.953	3.252.529	3.298.817	3.337.039	3.373.383	5,78
Abruzzo	781.830	798.308	807.542	818.677	826.843	5,76
Valle D'Aosta	131.950	132.342	138.755	138.870	139.253	5,53
Trentino Alto Adige	530.459	537.768	543.304	550.143	557.797	5,15
Umbria	571.543	581.356	587.409	595.290	599.751	4,94
Veneto	2.782.367	2.829.512	2.858.966	2.891.046	2.910.427	4,60
Marche	950.126	965.427	975.044	985.100	991.012	4,30
Tuscany	2.259.734	2.289.412	2.308.704	2.324.359	2.345.843	3,81
Emilia Romagna	2.565.582	2.599.368	2.620.027	2.647.668	2.660.629	3,70
Friuli V.G.	734.169	742.033	747.901	754.117	757.988	3,24
Lombardy	5.552.848	5.621.965	5.650.414	5.709.004	5.732.211	3,23
Piedmont	2.702.941	2.724.689	2.744.315	2.773.001	2.778.791	2,81
Liguria	823.343	831.525	832.286	835.059	837.629	1,74
Total Italy	34.636.594	35.264.700	35.652.059	36.074.529	36.339.405	4,92

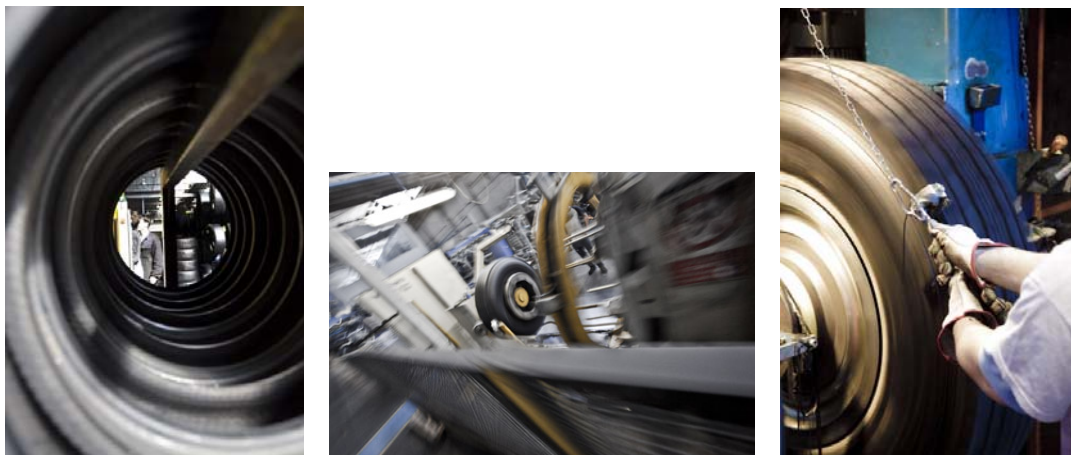
Source: figures by Osservatorio AIRP on sustainable mobility. Data courtesy of ACI

Basilicata (+7,67%), Latium (+7,14%), Molise (+6,97%), Sardinia (+6,94%), Sicily (+6,81%)

shortage of public means of transportation (bus and train) that in many cases makes using one's private car almost mandatory. AIRP points out that specific structural features can also be found behind the constant increase in the number of cars, such as the shape of the Italian territory which, especially in its suburban areas, actually spurs requests for private mobility. The rising number of cars in the country's urban areas is often caused by the spreading outwards of big cities to their outskirts, which, for want of public transportation infrastructure, increases mobility needs and leads to car dependency. The survey by the Osservatorio AIRP on Sustainable Mobility also highlights the growth of car fleets in each of the twenty Italian regions. The most relevant increases were recorded between 2005 and 2009 in the central-southern regions. Calabria is at the top of the list (+7,91%), followed respectively by

and Apulia (+6,15%). At the bottom of this list are Lombardy (+3,23%), Piedmont (+2,81%) and Liguria (+1,74%). The increase in the number of cars in Italy's central-southern regions is basically due to concurrent effects in the progressive adjustment of the motorization rate to national average levels. During 2009, however, significant restraints in the growth of car fleet were recorded, due both to the economic crisis and to scrappage incentives, which on the one hand kept demand steady, but on the other did not affect fleet volumes, since each car sold replaced one that was scrapped.

As for the environmental impact, it is important to implement virtuous behaviors such as using retreads, a choice that is good for the environment. Retread tyres are actually safe products and they are perfectly consistent with the choice of technologically advanced solutions and, last but not least, they perform just as well as new premium tyres. For all of these reasons, AIRP thinks that Italy's retreading rate should increase to allow maximum environmental benefits, since tyre retreading helps saving precious energy sources and reduces disposal of used tyres into the environment, thus giving new premium tyres a second life.



High resolution pictures can be requested by phone at +39 051 271710 or by e-mail at info@econometrica.it

Bologna, May 11, 2010