



# STATISTICHE

figures and graphs to analyse the Veneto



Da sempre in Italia il matrimonio rappresenta il modo principale di fare famiglia. Tuttavia la crisi della nuzialità non sembra conoscere inversioni di tendenza, come invece si sta assistendo negli ultimi anni per la fecondità. Nel 2008 sono stati celebrati in Veneto 18.661 matrimoni, circa 4 ogni mille abitanti, il 16,6% in meno rispetto al 1998 (5 ogni mille abitanti).

Il progressivo e continuo calo del numero di matrimoni, assieme all'aumento della quota di matrimoni con rito civile, segnala che i modi di fare famiglia stanno cambiando, anche nella nostra regione. Il rito religioso oggi è ancora preferito nel 56,1% dei casi, ma nella provincia di Venezia il rito civile (53%) sorpassa quello religioso e a Verona si registra quasi una parità tra le nozze celebrate davanti a un sacerdote e quelle davanti a un sindaco.

La diminuzione dei matrimoni si riconduce a molteplici fattori. L'istituzione del matrimonio, anche come valore religioso, perde di importanza e sembra più diffusa

## MARRIAGE IN VENETO

oggiorno la resistenza a instaurare relazioni stabili. Più frequente, invece, è la scelta di formare una famiglia senza sposarsi, non solo come passo preliminare ma come forma alternativa al matrimonio: il fenomeno delle convivenze diviene sempre più comune, tanto da non essere più stigmatizzato dall'ambiente sociale come poteva esserlo qualche decennio fa.

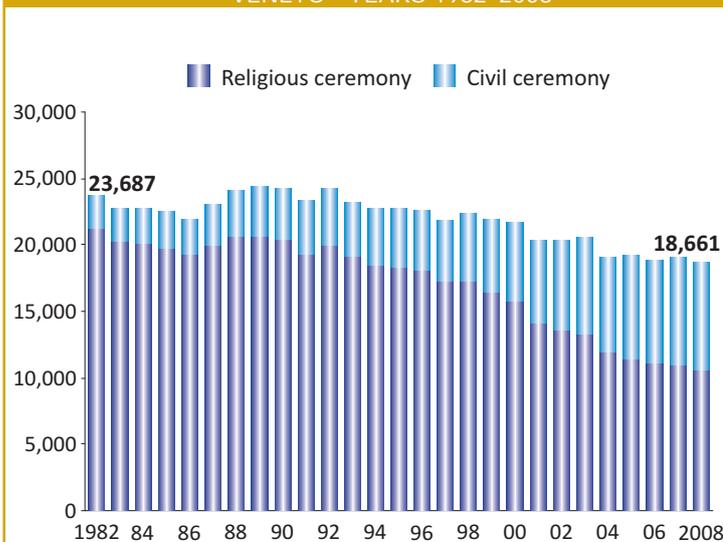
Che i modi di fare famiglia stiano mutando trova conferma anche dalle informazioni sulle nascite: nel 2008 in Veneto il 21% dei figli è nato fuori dal matrimonio, quota triplicata rispetto al 1995. L'unione libera viene preferita anche quando uno della coppia è divorziato o professa un'altra religione. In questi casi, se rimane il desiderio di un'unione formale, sempre più spesso si preferisce il matrimonio con rito civile.

A incidere sulla diminuzione dei matrimoni è soprattutto il calo delle prime nozze, che all'inizio degli anni Ottanta in Veneto costituivano il 96% dei matrimoni, oggi l'83%. La prima unione risulta sempre più posticipata: l'età media al primo matrimonio è 34 anni per gli uomini, 31 per le donne, vent'anni prima rispettivamente 28 e 25.

Se è vero che l'aumento della quota di matrimoni civili si deve in larga parte al crescente numero di sposi stranieri o di seconde nozze, è altrettanto vero che anche quando gli sposi, entrambi italiani, convolano a nozze per la prima volta scelgono sempre più spesso un matrimonio civile, specie nelle province del Nord e Centro Italia, dove la tradizione del matrimonio religioso appare oggi meno radicata che al Sud.

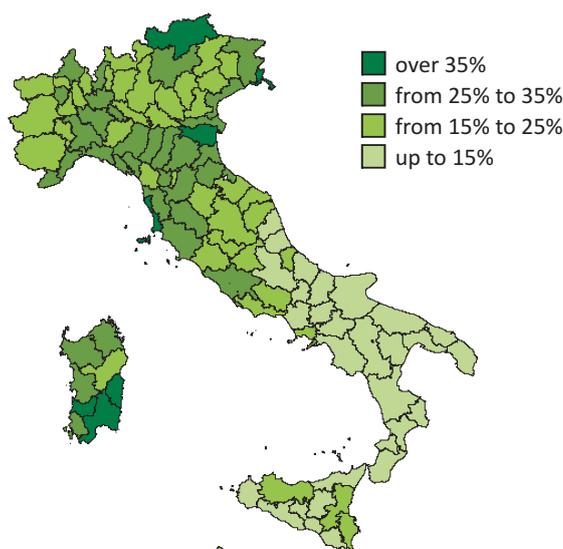
Per ulteriori approfondimenti è disponibile nel sito della Regione Veneto alla sezione Statistica la banca dati sui matrimoni celebrati in Veneto.

MARRIAGES BY TYPE OF CEREMONY  
VENETO - YEARS 1982-2008



Source: processing by Regione Veneto - Direzione Sistema Statistico Regionale on Istat data

% FIRST CIVIL MARRIAGES BY PROVINCE OF RESIDENCE  
OF THE BRIDE - YEAR 2008 (\*)



(\*) First civil marriage where both bride and groom are Italian out of the total of first marriages x 100

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- Databases: marriages in Veneto
- Bollettino Indicatori di Congiuntura Economica n.16 - November 2010
- Veneto in numbers 2009-2010



<http://www.regione.veneto.it/statistica>

For foreign nationals marriage represents an important stage in the journey that brought them to live in Italy and in Veneto. It can be hypothesised that mixed couples are generally a sign of immigrants' growing level of social integration, while marriages between foreigners mark the transition towards a more mature stage of their presence. In 2008, there was at least one foreign bride or groom in

## MARRIAGES BETWEEN FOREIGN NATIONALS

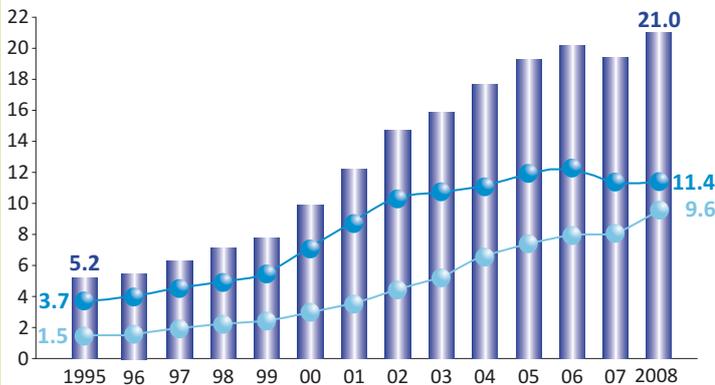
one fifth of marriages in Veneto, as opposed to 15% in Italy. This is trend has been increasing rapidly and continuously since the mid-1990s, to the extent that the percentage has quadrupled since 1995. Most common are mixed marriages, between Italian and foreign nationals, the remainder being between foreign couples. When the couples are mixed (2,120 marriages in 2008), in 77.4% of cases it is the bride who is a foreign national.

The occurrence of mixed marriages is proportional to the presence of foreigners in Italy: they are more common in Northern and Central Italy, that is in areas where communities of immigrants are more stable and deeply rooted, while the phenomenon is less frequent in the South and on the Islands. In Veneto, marriages with at least one foreign spouse are most common in Verona and Venezia, even though an analysis of the residence of the couples highlights that most of them do not live in Veneto. In Veneto, Venezia and Verona stand out for the number of marriages with at least one non-Italian spouse and also for the higher number of marriages where both bride and groom are foreign, mostly not residing in Veneto. This could be due to the phenomenon of "tourist wedding appeal": couples come to Veneto, for example to Lago di Garda or the Venetian Lagoon, to get married, but not necessarily to live there. This also emerges from an analysis of the most common nationalities of foreign couples. The United Kingdom, followed by Germany, is at the top of the list, especially in the aforementioned areas. On the other hand, foreigners in mixed marriages mostly come from countries with high migratory flows. Male Veneto residents who marry a foreign national choose women from Eastern Europe or Central and South America, while female Veneto residents most frequently marry men of African origin. Concerning European countries, foreign women who marry a Veneto resident come mainly from Romania, Moldavia, Ukraine, Poland and Albania. Foreign men, on the other hand, come from Albania, the UK, France, Germany and Romania.

There is a certain attraction to citizens coming from more developed countries who choose places that are particularly renowned for their natural beauty and culture.

### % MARRIAGES BETWEEN FOREIGNERS VENETO - YEARS 1995-2008

- % Marriages where either the bride or groom or both are foreign
- % Mixed marriages
- % Marriages where both bride and groom are foreign

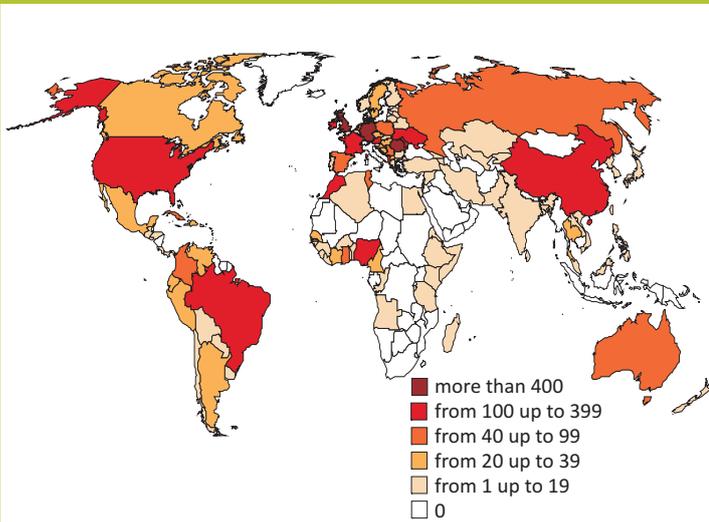


### MARRIAGES BETWEEN FOREIGNERS BY PROVINCE VENETO - YEAR 2008 (\*)

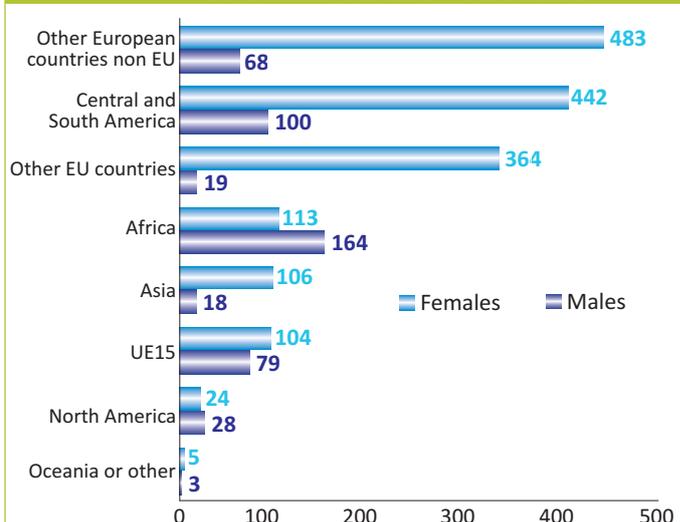
Province	Number	N° of marriages where either bride or groom or both are foreign	% Marriages where either the bride or groom or both are foreign	% Mixed marriages	% Marriages where both bride and groom are foreign	Marriage tourism-density index (*)
Verona	4,122	1,244	30.2	12.4	17.8	69.5
Vicenza	3,038	466	15.3	11.3	4.0	17.9
Belluno	664	89	13.4	11.1	2.3	26.7
Treviso	3,002	420	14.0	10.4	3.6	19.3
Venezia	3,514	967	27.5	11.6	15.9	78.7
Padova	3,506	587	16.7	10.4	6.4	6.3
Rovigo	815	146	17.9	13.4	4.5	0
<b>Veneto</b>	<b>18,661</b>	<b>3,919</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>56.1</b>

(\*) Percentages are calculated on the total number of marriages. Marriage tourism-density index = marriages where both bride and groom are foreign and non-resident in Italy out of the total number of marriages where both bride and groom are both foreign nationals x 100. It estimates the share of foreign couples who choose Veneto to celebrate their wedding even though they are not Veneto residents.

### ORIGIN OF FOREIGN BRIDES AND GROOMS VENETO - YEAR 2008



### BRIDES AND GROOMS IN MIXED MARRIAGES BY AREA OF ORIGIN. VENETO - YEAR 2008



Marriage breakdown is not a new phenomenon, even though in Italy legislation on the matter was introduced later than in most European countries. Once society disapproved of separation and divorce, but today people are much more open about these issues. In the meantime, various historical and social changes have taken place, including women's entry in the workplace and their consequent

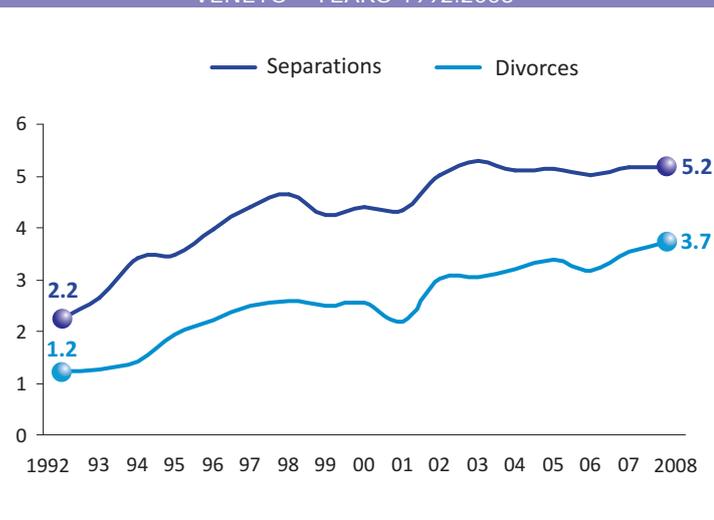
## UNSTABLE LOVE: SEPARATION AND DIVORCE

access to their own financial resources. Even though the decision to end a marriage is difficult, separation and divorce are on the increase and between 1992 and 2008 figures more than doubled. The tendency to separate and divorce is not, however, uniform all over Italy. The phenomenon is more widespread in the North and less so in the South, even though figures are still lower than the European average. In 2008 in Veneto almost 4 out of every 1000 couples decided to end their

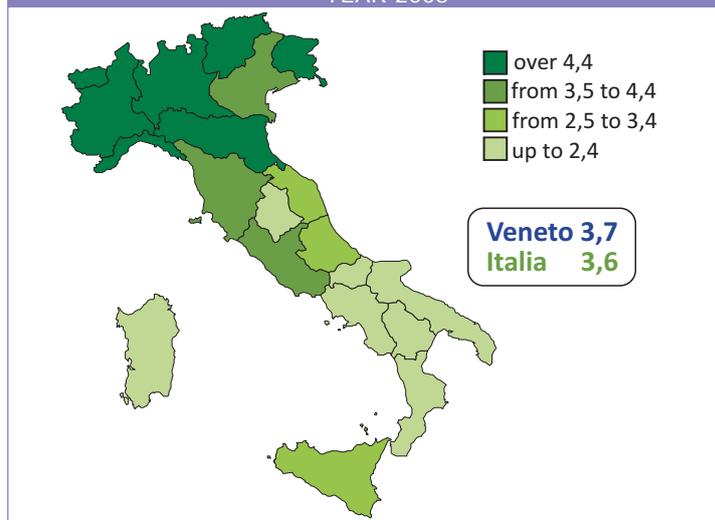
marriage. On average, divorce occurs after 17 years of marriage, or 13 in the case of mixed marriages. This highlights the increased instability of the relationship in the first years of marriage, in particular when the wife is foreign.

The average age of those divorcing is 45 for husbands and 42 for wives, an age that has risen in time both because couples are marrying later, and because of the increase in separations when at least one member of the couple is older. The breakdown of a marriage can lead to emotional imbalance, which affects not only the husband and wife, but the rest of the family, especially when children are fought over. In 2008, also as a result of Law 54/2006 which introduced joint custody to protect the interests of children, 72% of children were in joint custody following parental divorce, compared to just 12% five years earlier. Up until 2005, custody was mainly given to the mother. The already low number of children in sole custody of the father is on the decrease, while the number of children in custody of a third party remains stable.

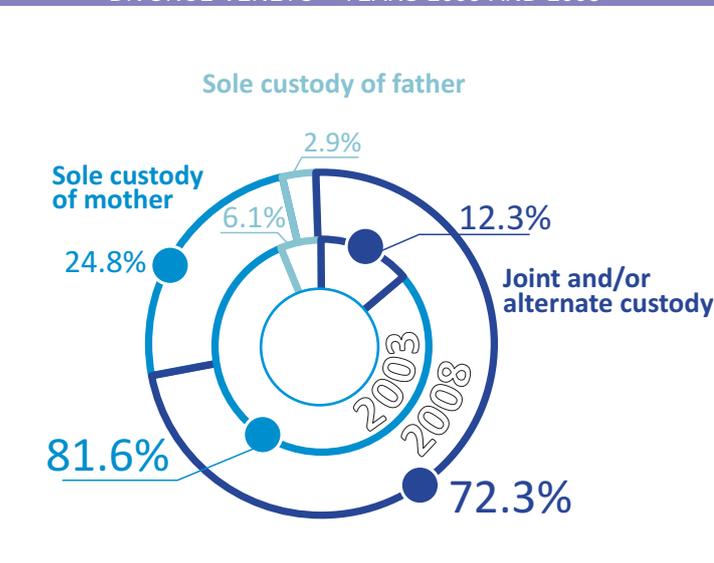
SEPARATION AND DIVORCE PER 1000 MARRIED COUPLES VENETO - YEARS 1992:2008



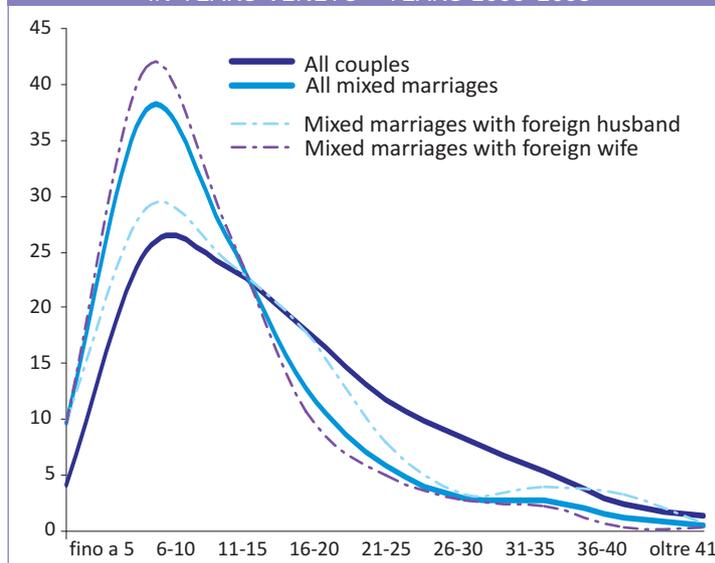
NUMBER OF DIVORCES PER 1000 MARRIED COUPLES YEAR 2008



% DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN IN CUSTODY FOLLOWING DIVORCE VENETO - YEARS 2003 AND 2008



% OF DIVORCED COUPLES PER LENGTH OF MARRIAGE IN YEARS VENETO - YEARS 2006-2008



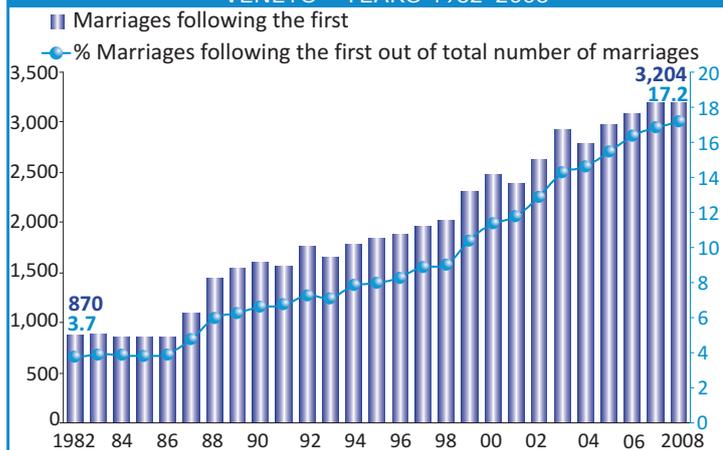
Remarriage is on the increase in Veneto, accounting for 17.2% of the total number of marriages. This is due to the number of divorcees who, along with widows and widowers, may potentially remarry. The phenomenon of second marriages also has an effect on types of families. The traditional image of the family has given way to new ones, such as the extended family, which becomes highly complex

## REMARRIAGE

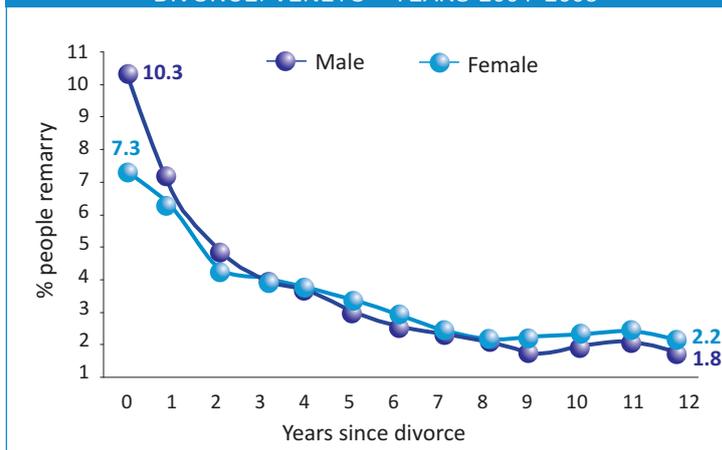
when both husband and wife, both with children from previous marriages, have more children from their new relationship. In the past, second marriages mostly occurred after the death of one of the spouses and did not lead to any particular complications as the new spouse took the place of the one who had died, thereby leaving the structure of the nuclear family unchanged. Today, on the other hand, more commonly the

new marriage follows the breakdown of a previous one, thereby generating new parental ties which differ from those of the traditional nuclear family. It should be made clear that many extended families are formed by cohabitation, where no new marriage has taken place. For those whose marriage breaks down, the probability of remarrying shortly after the divorce comes through is higher for men than for women and decreases as time goes by for both sexes. Men who remarry, whether divorced or widowed, are on average 49 years old. Women, on the other hand, at 43 are younger. The most common situation is when the man is divorced and the woman was previously unmarried, even though over the years there has been a progressive increase in the number of men who were previously unmarried or where both were married previously. Finally, with second marriages, it is becoming increasingly common for one member of the couple to come from abroad, usually the woman.

MARRIAGES FOLLOWING THE FIRST  
VENETO - YEARS 1982-2008



% PEOPLE WHO REMARRY BY LENGTH OF TIME SINCE  
DIVORCE. VENETO - YEARS 2004-2008



MARRIAGES FOLLOWING THE FIRST: INDICATORS VENETO - YEARS 1982-2008

Year	Number	% civil out of total civil	Average age		Marriages by marital status of man and woman			Marriages by nationality of man and woman		
			Male	Female	% both man and woman divorced or widowed	% man divorced or widowed and woman previously unmarried	% woman divorced or widowed and man previously unmarried	% marriages where either the man or woman or both are foreign	% Italian woman marrying foreigner (*)	% Italian man marrying foreigner (*)
1982	870	22.9	49.4	42.4	18.9	54.0	27.1	-	-	-
1985	855	22.4	48.9	42.9	18.5	53.7	27.8	-	-	-
1990	1,606	37.7	45.2	39.4	19.3	51.2	29.5	-	-	-
1995	1,840	37.4	45.3	39.5	22.4	46.1	31.5	18.0	2.8	10.1
2000	2,485	37.6	46.9	40.8	24.3	43.6	32.1	26.3	4.5	16.5
2005	2,976	35.3	48.2	41.7	26.7	39.3	34.0	39.5	5.4	23.9
2006	3,080	36.6	48.3	41.8	27.0	38.0	34.9	37.2	5.0	22.8
2007	3,192	36.7	48.9	42.6	27.0	40.0	33.0	36.8	5.1	23.1
2008	3,204	36.2	49.1	43.2	28.2	39.4	32.4	35.5	5.1	20.7

(\*) A previously married Italian man or woman marrying a foreign national who may or may not have been previously married.

Source: processing by Regione Veneto - Direzione Sistema Statistico Regionale on Istat data



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