

Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region

The Friuli-Venezia Giulia is one of the four Italian autonomous Regions on the base of a special statute. As a consequence, the Regional Administration is able to adopt local laws targeted to match the local socio-economic needs.

Friuli-Venezia Giulia lays between the Alps and the Adriatic Sea, and among Austria, Slovenia and the Veneto Region. The Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region consists of four Provinces, whose chief towns are Trieste, the regional capital, (218,000 inhabitants), Udine (95,000), Pordenone (49,000) Gorizia (37,000).

The industrial system in Friuli-Venezia Giulia is characterised by a core of large national and international enterprises, operating with full capacity and competitiveness on the European and world markets in the production of capital goods (steel, industrial plants, machine tools) and consumer durables (household appliances, furniture).

The system is also characterised by a diffused tissue of about 100,000 small and medium-sized firms and a wide network of craft firms, some of which are concentrated in integrated export-oriented areas specialized in the production of consumer goods. The composition of the industrial workforce is mainly based on the mechanical industry (38.7%) and wood furniture (24.6%). Furthermore additional relevant sectors are transport and agro-food.

Thanks to the current geo-political situation (pre accession and transition phases of many neighbouring/near countries), the region has become an important connecting point between North and South and East and West and, at the same time, a logistical trade platform with Central and Eastern European countries. It is no coincidence that this Region is the meeting point of significant production flows between Central and Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean Basin and the Middle and Far East, and between the Danube-Balkan countries and the European Union, which is now broadening its horizons to the East.

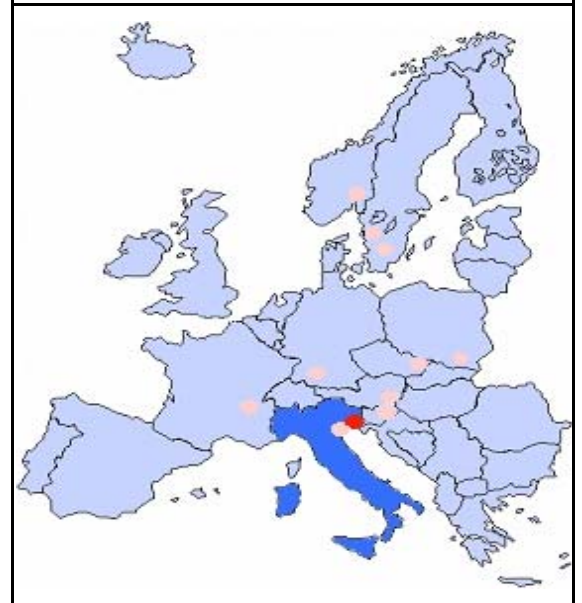
Main Companies:

Zanussi - Electrolux Spa (household appliances), Fincantieri Spa (shipbuilding), Wartsila Nsd Italia Spa (marine engines), Adriaplast (plastic products), Burgo Spa (paper products), Snaidero Spa (furniture), Fantoni Spa (furniture), Servola Spa (iron/steel making), Danieli Spa (iron/steel making), Telit mobile terminals Spa (mobile phones), Illycaffè Spa (coffee)

The port of Trieste and its economic service and industrial induced activity represents a driving force of the city economy. The port of Trieste, which is also the only free port in the Mediterranean Sea (globally covering 2,304,000 square metres, of which 1,765,000 is Free Zones, almost a million square meters of warehouses and storage areas), can load, unload, store, sell and re-export goods without any customs limitation.

The Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region is characterised by an excellent scientific structure, represented by national and international scientific research, technology development and hi-level training institutions. Most of the scientific institutions are based in the Trieste Province (about 80% of the total regional scientific presence). The ratio between people working in R&D fields and the total regional workforce is quite outstanding and high.

	Friuli-Venezia Giulia	Italy
area	7,840.13 km ²	294,020 km ²
population	1.2 millions	57.6 millions
Unemployment rate	~ 4.6 %	~ 10 %



her than the world-wide average, especially if we consider the Province of Trieste only.

Education (universities and colleges)

The Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region has two state multidisciplinary universities:

- the University of Trieste and
- the University of Udine, which have opened detached branches in Pordenone and Gorizia.

National and international institutions:

- Consorzio per l'AREA di Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica di Trieste (AREA Science Park) – www.area.trieste.it AREA Science Park, the Italian leading multi-sector science and technology park, promotes and performs R&D and technology transfer activities, provides added value services to diffuse innovation to industry and performs training programmes to bridge industry and the research. AREA Science Park hosts more than 70 national and international research centres, institutes and high-tech companies which globally employ about 1600 technicians, researchers and service staff.
- International Maritime Academy (IMO) - www.imoima.org
- International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) - www.icgeb.trieste.it
- International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP-UNESCO) - <http://www.ictp.trieste.it>
- International School for Advanced Studies (ISAS) - www.sissa.it
- MIB School of Management – www.mib.edu
- National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) - www.ts.infn.it/indexEN.shtml
- National Institute for the Physics of Matter (INFM) - www.tasc.infm.it

Friuli-Venezia Giulia region cluster profile

The cluster system (the so called “industrial district system”) is considered by the Regional Administration as the source and ambit of economic and employment development and site of co-ordination and promotion of industrial policy initiatives, coming from the joint action of local institutions. All joint actions addressed to the industrial clusters intend to strengthen the productive system competitiveness, highlight the most adequate policy measures, search for new support interventions, implement trans-regional projects. The regional cluster policy is based on the ‘Development Plan for Industrial Districts’ (ref.: Regional Law no. 27/1999), the legislative tool which determines:

- the operative strategic lines of the districts
- the priority choices in terms of private investments and district development
- the policy and priorities of structure and infrastructure investments
- the private funding opportunities for specific projects.

There are four regional industrial districts, recognised by a regional law, which have an high export level capacity, namely

- Maniago (cutlery production)
- San Daniele (ham production)
- Manzano (chair production)
- Alto Livenza (furniture production)
- In addition, there are many industrial zones, located all over the Region, which host both big and small enterprises.