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## Padel is growing in Italy: +20 percent in the number of courts, Sardinia leads the way with a 23 percent increase in clubs.

The **growth of padel** in **Italy**, the second country in Europe in terms of the number of courts and participants, shows an increase in facilities in the first nine months of 2023 (sports clubs, padel clubs, accommodation facilities) by **16%**, compared to the 2022 figures: from 2,792 to **3,250 facilities**. The trend, according to data from the "Padel Observatory - Mr Padel Paddle," which was recently awarded at the Italian Padel Awards for its work, indicates a **20% increase** in playing courts, with 8,520 courts (+1,392) compared to 7,128 at the end of last year. The regions with the highest number of courts and facilities are still **Lazio** (1,855 courts and 559 facilities), followed by **Lombardy** (1,149 courts; 373) and **Sicily** (802 courts; 309).

However, in **Sardinia**, the growth rate in terms of padel facilities and courts is above the national average, a clear sign of the sport's popularity on the "Island of Sports." This is also thanks to major sporting events like the **FIP PLATINUM Sardegna**, which not only offers the spectacle of the world's best players but also triggers a "propagation" effect that increases the number of participants and, consequently, facilities. In the island, which has strongly embraced padel since 2020 in line with the FIP, there are **336 courts** (including 55 indoor) spread across 144 facilities. The increase in padel clubs in Sardinia is **23%** higher than the national average compared to 2022. The leading province in the region is **Sassari** (65 clubs and 154 courts), followed by **Cagliari** (47 clubs and 125 courts). **Nuoro** has 17 courts in 10 clubs, **Oristano** has 12 courts in 7 facilities, and the southern part of Sardinia has 28 courts in 15 clubs.

As new facilities are installed, the ratio of the population to each court decreases. In the first 9 months, Italy has gone from one court per 8,468 inhabitants to 7,084. In Lazio, the ratio is 3,169 (getting closer to the Spanish benchmark, which is around 3,000), Umbria is at 3,432, Abruzzo at 4,476, and Sardinia is fourth with 4,480. This result further emphasizes how the "Island of Sports" is becoming increasingly the "Island of Padel."

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**About the International Padel Federation (FIP)**

About the International Padel Federation (FIP) The International Padel Federation (FIP) is the world governing body of padel, whose goal is to promote all forms of padel worldwide with: 90 Countries, 64 National Federations, + 25 million active players and 500,000 Federated Players. The sport was created in Acapulco, Mexico, by Enrique Corcuera in 1969. It was 32 years later that the FIP was established in Madrid by the legal representatives of the Argentine Padel Association, the Spanish Padel Association and the Uruguayan Padel Association, by means of Public deeds signed before the Notary Mr. Javier Gaspar Alfaro, with the protocol number 2486. We want to bring the worldwide Padel family together into one community, and make Padel a sport that is recognised and played in all the countries of the World. [www.padelfip.com](http://www.padelfip.com)

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