

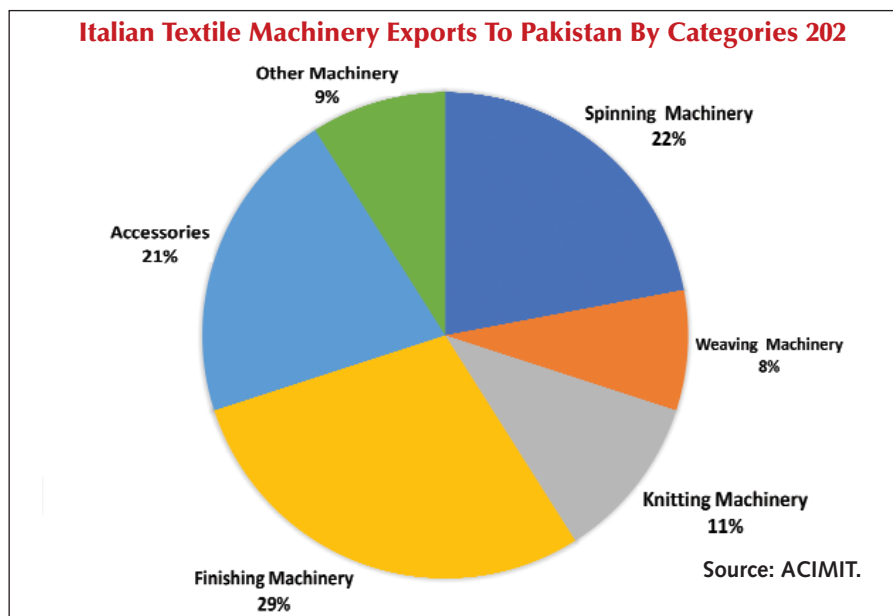
# Production of Italian textile machinery grew by 13% in FY22

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The economy of Italy is the 3<sup>rd</sup>-largest national economy in the Eurozone, the 8<sup>th</sup>-largest by nominal GDP in the world, and the 12<sup>th</sup>-largest by GDP (PPP). Italy is the eighth largest exporter in the world with US\$ 2.97 billion exported in 2022. That dollar amount reflects a 10% increase compared to \$2.67 billion during 2021.

Based on the average exchange rate for 2022, Italy uses the euro which depreciated by roughly 20% against the US dollar. The weaker EU currency in 2022 made Italy's exports paid for in stronger US dollars relatively less expensive for international buyers compared to the previous year.

In the year of 2022 the main destination of Italian exports of textile machines was Asia (44%), followed by Europe extra EU (18%) and European Union (17%). The biggest contribution to the Italian exports of textile machinery came from Turkiye, In the year 2022 Italian sales towards Turkiye market



amounted to a value of 309 million euro. Other main markets are China, India and United States of America.

The textile machine market consists of players that manufacture basic machines for labour intensive textile manufacturing

countries and machines for advanced and developed countries producing textile products, where labour is expensive. Automation just like in any other industry helps in bringing down the operation cost and provides better products.

Now Italy is one of the main producers and exporters of textile machinery in the world. The Italian textile industry still plays an important role in the fashion sector and in the entire national manufacturing, although deeply resized compared to the first half of the last decade. On the European scale, Italy stands on the podium of the main producers with a high level of specialization in the different stages of the value chain. There are approximately 300 companies who produce textile machines and related accessories, for a total of about 12,900 employees.

A majority of Italian manufacturers are actually small to medium-sized enterprises that provide custom-made spinning, weaving, knitting, finishing, laundry and dry cleaning machines to the market. These machines are designed to process natural as well as manmade fibres, in order to provide the right solution for its global customers.

According to the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers (ACIMIT), creativity, sustainable technology, reliability and quality are the

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022/21 Change
Production	2,266	1,775	2,394	2,709	+13%
Export	1,865	1,481	2,036	2,335	-15%
Domestic Sales	401	294	385	374	-5%
Import	478	412	525	616	-17%
Domestic Consumption	879	706	883	991	-12%

Source: ACIMIT

Countries	2019	2020	2021	2022
China	304	150	244	296
Turkey	161	119	242	309
India	106	46	153	200
United States	92	62	132	164
Bangladesh	88	38	89	113
Pakistan	80	52	78	92
Germany	61	37	59	76
All others	973	977	1,039	1,085
Total	1,853	1481	2,036	2,335

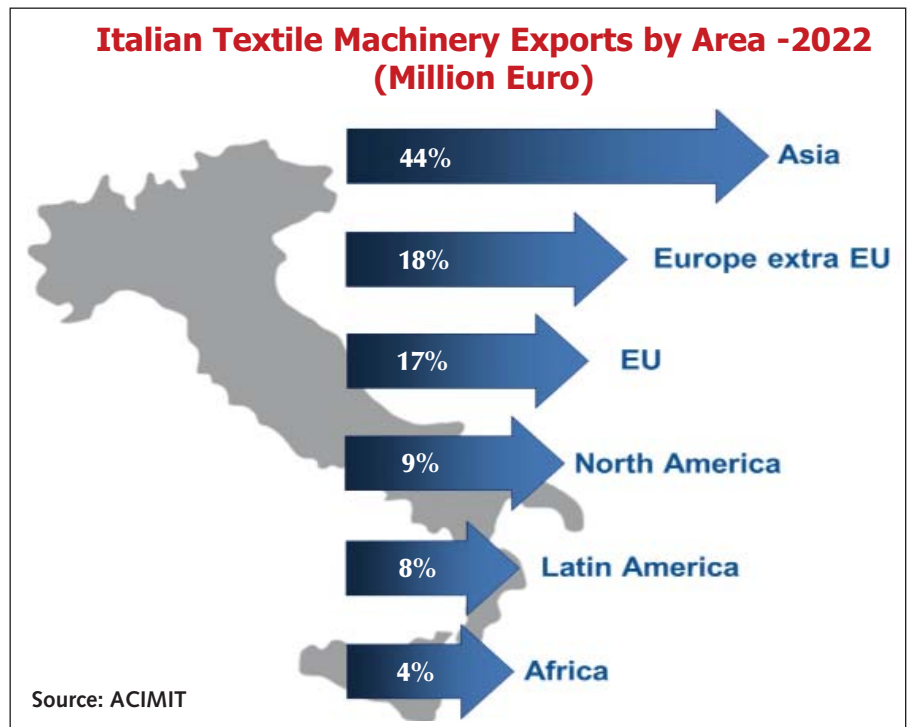
Source: ACIMIT

characteristics that have made Italy a leader in the manufacturing of textile machinery. Currently, Italy holds a strong position as one of the main suppliers of textile machinery in the world.

Among the top producers of textile machinery manufacturers in Europe Italy holds second place after Germany and the technological level of its production is considered of the highest standard even by their competitors themselves.

Production of Italian textile machinery increased from Euro 2,394 million in 2021 to Euro 2,709 million in 2022, thus showing an increase of 13%. As per ACIMIT, the orders index for textile machinery drawn for the period from 2022 showed a 15% increase compared to the same period for 2021.

On the other hand, export of Italian textile machinery increased from Euro 2 billion in 2021 to Euro 2.3 billion in 2022, thus showing increase of 15%. The wide supply of Italian textile machinery manufacturers let them face the needs of all the potential customers. Exports represent 87% of total sales, realized in about 130 destination countries. This process of internationalization, together with the vocation for innovation in the sector, allowed Italian companies to consolidate and further improve the leading position held by the Italian textile machinery industry all over the world. Production and exports of Italian textile machinery for the past four years are given in Table 1.



The supply of Italian manufacturers covers all the classic sectors into which we can divide textile machines. Italian sales abroad are divided among these main sectors: 29% finishing machines, 21% accessories, 22% spinning machines, 11% knitting machines, 8% weaving machines and 9% other machines.

In 2022 Italian exports of textile machines was divided as follows: Asia (44%), followed by Europe (35%), Italian Textile Machinery Foreign Orders declined in 2nd quarter of 2023 North America (9%), Latin America (8%) and Africa (4%).

The biggest contribution to the Italian exports of textile machinery came from Turkiye. In 2022 period Italian exports toward Turkiye market amounted to a value of Euro 309 million. Other markets are Turkey, India and the United States of America.

### Future prospects

Italian textile machinery manufacturers have long been committed to providing sustainable technological solutions both from an environmental has been committed since 2010 with the "Sustainable Technologies" project and an economic standpoint, capable of effectively reducing consumption and production costs.

The digitalization of production processes in the textile sector is an indispensable response to new trends requiring faster time-to-market and just-in-time production.

Italian product ranges are increasingly compliant with 4.0 technologies. There are numerous examples of these types of technologies in Italian machinery offerings on display at ITMA Milan. Among these the use of intelligent management platforms, on-board machine sensors for data acquisition allowing the monitoring of both the machine and products, predictive maintenance, for a reduction in costs obtained through less downtime, and augmented reality applications supporting the operator in the various production phases. ♦

