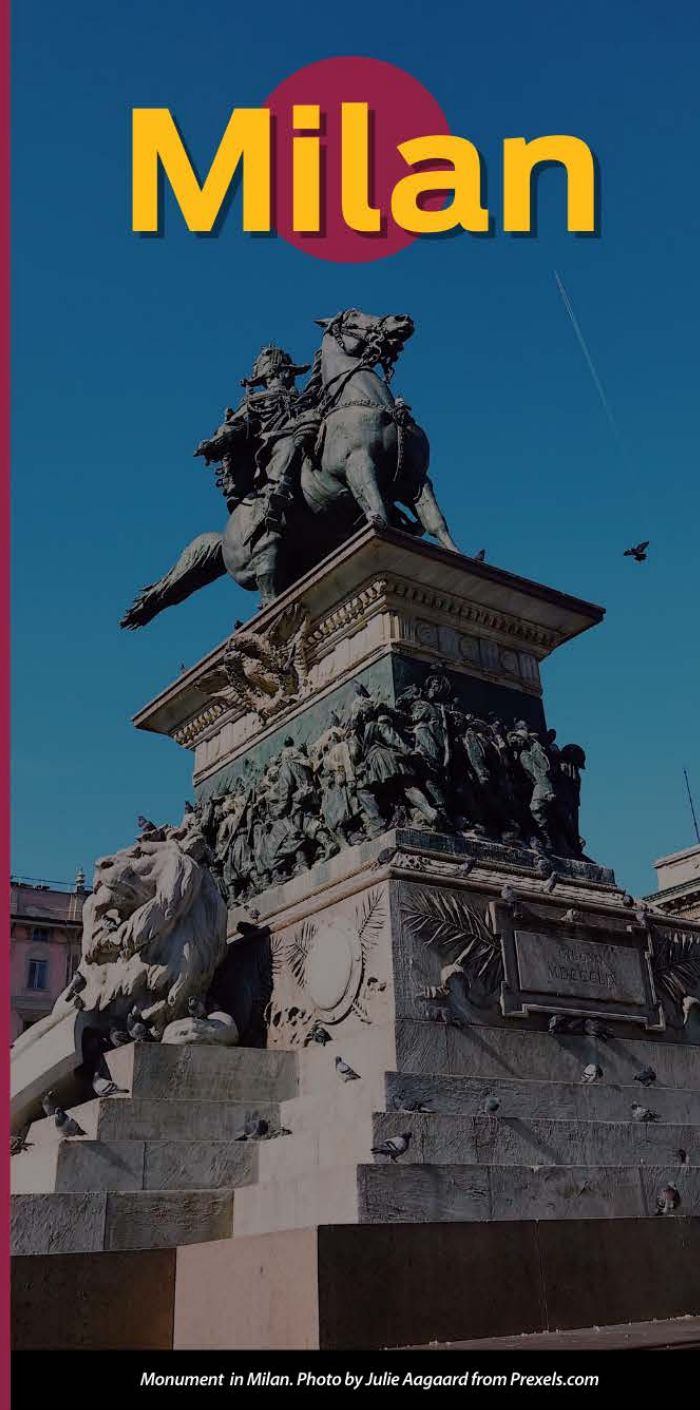


Milan

Historic and Contemporary Segregation

Milan is the second-most populous city in Italy and the city with the second-largest foreign-born population (Artero & Chiodelli, 2019, p. 868). Milan has experienced an influx of immigrants in the recent decades which has led to xenophobic, Islamophobic, and racist discrimination against them (Hooper, 2009). This discrimination and the natural desire of immigrants to stick together in foreign countries has led to the spatial segregation of these immigrants (Artero & Chiodelli, 2019, p. 867). Racial, ethnic, class, and religious segregation are all present. Often these intersectional layers overlap since many immigrants that end up being segregated are neither White, Italian, or Christian.



Monument in Milan. Photo by Julie Aagaard from Prexels.com

Ethnic segregation is the most common factor for segregation in Milan. Milan has seen moderate-high levels of ethnic segregation with a concentration of migrants in the outskirts of the urban area. It was also found that Italy has a mild level of school segregation based on ethnicity and socio-economic class. Second to Naples, Milan is the Italian city with the most ethnically segregated schools (Piolatto, 2019, p. 17). While migrants are scattered in Milan and this results in comparatively low levels of segregation compared to other Italian cities, the level of segregation is still substantial (Piolatto, 2019, p. 80). The Roma people have been particularly segregated for a long period of time in Italy. Discrimination and segregation against them have been prevalent in Italy for centuries, since the Roman empire, and continues to this day (Graham-Harrison, 2018). Many live in designated settlements segregated from ethnically Italian neighborhoods (Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights, 2016).



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Segregation Policies and Programs

Since the influx of immigrants in Milan, there have been some racist attempts at purposefully segregating them. For example, in 2009, a representative of the anti-immigrant Northern League in Milan suggested that public transportation should be racially segregated with specific seats and carriages being reserved for White Italians. They cited the fact that in some areas Italians are becoming the minority as a reason for the explicit racial segregation (Hooper, 2009). Segregation and discrimination against Roma people continue in Italy with segregated camps for them still being continually built in Italy, while at the same time Italian police go about evicting many Roma camps and displacing the residents (Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights, 2016). The government has recently threatened thousands of Roman people in Italy with deportation (Graham-Harrison, 2018).



Photo of a tram in Milan by Nikola Čedíková from pexels.com

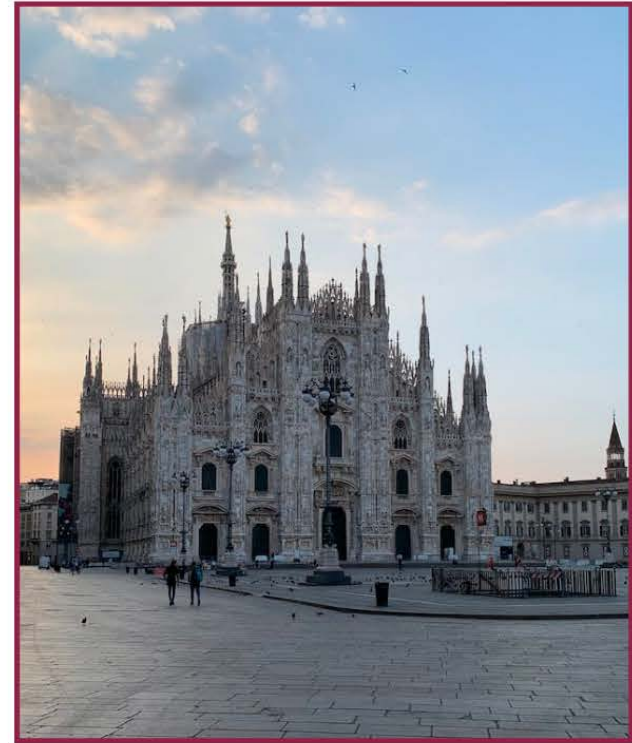


Photo of the Milan Cathedral by Marco Carlotti from pexels.com.

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