



Abstract

From 1977 (year of the first partial publication of an ornithological atlas in Italy) to September 2023, 203 ornithological atlases have been published or partially published in Italy, with an average of 4.5 atlases per year, considering only those with distribution maps composed by grid with regular cells. In addition there are some Swiss and San Marino atlases in Italian language. With these numbers, Italy could be the world leader in the production of published ornithological atlases. Veneto is the region with the largest number of atlases - 29 - while no publications are known for Molise and Calabria. Almost all of the works are qualitative, however there are some quantitative research. The choice of grid cells is diversified, but the UTM ones are prevalent. Critical issues are recorded for the atlases concerning the wintering period and for the absence, in some cases, of guidelines to standardize the methodological approach.

