

Innovative startups in Italy at a glance

Since 2012 when the decree "n. 179, October 18" was introduced, the number of companies in the special register of innovative startups is constantly increasing. By the end of December 2014 the number of innovative startups was 3.138 while at 31.12.2015 it was 5.154, with an increase of about 64%, or 160 new companies per month.

In 2014 the School of Entrepreneurship of the DII-Unipd started monitoring the innovative startups in Italy.

In the last two years 3.034 businesses were launched, of which 1.512 in 2014 and 1.522 in 2015. More than 75% of these enterprises are in the service sector and 59% have no employees, while 35% have employees in the range of 1-4.

The three sectors (ATECO) more populated are the Development of software and ICT consulting with 1.538 enterprises, the Research and Development sector with 765 enterprises and the information services sector with 418 enterprises.

The first two categories have also the highest total output value, 119.2 and 40.7 million euro respectively.

Conversely, the sectors with the highest average value of production are in the packaging of clothing, programming and transmission, and the manufacture of metal products with, 340.000, 299.000 and 283.000 euro respectively. However, these categories are much more traditional with less relevance on innovation.

Regarding equity, in the first position we find the repair, maintenance and installation of machines with 422.000 euro per enterprise; the second position is occupied by the production of pharmaceutical products with 290.000 euro. The advertising and market research sector is in third place with 146.000 euro.

In this case also, the most capitalized sectors are in quite traditional sectors.

It is evident from the Survey administered by SCENT that relatively few entrepreneurs know about the benefits provided by laws for innovative startups. However, about a third of the sample have in mind to take advantage of incentives provided by the laws in the near future.

ATECO	Number of companies	Total output value (Euro)	Average output value (Euro)
Software production and IT consulting	1.538	119.255.510	77.539
Research and development	795	40.723.821	51.224
Manufacture of electronic and optical products	204	27.374.641	134.189
Manufacture of machinery	175	23.815.553	136.088
Architecture and engineering services	186	17.895.761	96.213
Advertising and market research	85	14.766.545	173.724
Manufacture of electrical equipment	111	13.352.356	120.291
Retail	121	12.018.276	99.324
Wholesale	90	11.304.780	125.608
Scientific/technical professional activities	196	10.490.574	53.523
IT services	418	9.564.861	22.882
Manufacture of metal products	32	9.082.360	283.823
Management consulting	151	6.535.115	43.278
Office support	98	4.557.381	46.503

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DII research group
Management and
Entrepreneurship



Moreno Muffatto
moreno.muffatto@unipd.it
phone: +39 049 827 6725

Assisted by
Dr. Michael Sheriff, post-doc

<http://www.dii.unipd.it/en/management-and-entrepreneurship>

<http://scent.dii.unipd.it>

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Main research topics

- Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM)
- Entrepreneurship for Growth
- Innovative startups
- Performance Measurement and Management
- Technology Transfer
- Novel Business model generator for Energy Efficiency in construction and retrofitting