

# The 1951 Census of Industry and Trade in Italy: Some Preliminary Results

by

BENEDETTO BARBERI

1. — The census of industry and trade which was taken by the Central Institute of Statistics on 5th November, 1951, is in several respects more interesting than the two previous censuses of 1927 and 1937-1940. For the first time it simultaneously recorded in a systematic and uniform manner:

(a) the number of companies, corporations and individual enterprises engaged in trade and industry (the so called « *economic units* »);

(b) the number of the « *local units* » i.e. the number of establishments (factories, shops, etc.) through which the « *economic units* » conduct their business.

The last pre-war census of 1937-40 did not show the number of either the « *economic units* » or the « *local units* », one reason being that the methods of collecting the data varied as between the various trades and branches of economic activity. Still less did it give a true picture of the size and other characteristics of the « *economic units* », partly because the work of collecting the data was spread out over about four years.

The 1927 census had done no more than assemble a few facts about what were called industrial and trading « *operating units* » (*esercizi*). These were not precisely defined, but roughly corresponded, at least in some branches of activity, to what were afterwards called « *technical units* ».

The purpose of the 1951 census was, as we have said, to record both the *number of « economic units »* (i.e. the number of busi-

ness enterprises) engaged in the several branches of economic activity, and the *number of the corresponding « local units »*. Data were in fact collected separately but concurrently both with respect to the business enterprises, and to the « *local units* ». The collection of the two sets of data was closely coordinated. Each « *economic unit* » was required by the questionnaire to list the names of the « *local units* » belonging to it, stating the nature of the operation or business conducted and the total number of persons employed. These data had to agree with those produced by the questionnaires that were sent to each « *local unit* ».

In this way the variety of economic activities other than farming was reduced to a system in which the facts collected could be checked and counter-checked, so as to minimize the risk of duplication or omission. And in view of the further checks which were applied at a later stage, there is reason to suppose that the census did in fact give a quite reliable picture of Italy's commercial and industrial structure. The preliminary data of the census have already been made known (1); further publications which are to follow shortly, will give the final and complete results.

The attention of students of the subject is likely to be drawn first and foremost to the figures relating to the *number and characteristics* of the « *economic units* ». As

(1) ISTITUTO CENTRALE DI STATISTICA, *III Censimento generale dell'Industria e del Commercio, Dati preliminari sulle Ditte*, Rome, 1953.

was remarked above, these figures are being published for the first time in Italy, and have seldom been recorded in censuses of industry and trade in other countries either.

The purpose of this article is to give a brief survey of these figures. The first part will deal with the legal form and size of the business enterprises, classified by main branches of economic activity. The second part will deal with: (a) the « geographical spread » of the business enterprises in one or more communes, provinces or regions; and (b) the extent of their specialisation in one or more branches of activity.

### 1. - Legal Form and Size of Enterprises.

2. — From many points of view the most distinctive characteristic of an enterprise is its legal form.

The most elementary type is that of the « individual enterprise » operated by an individual physical person, normally the owner. Next come « informal partnerships » (*società di fatto*), that is business enterprises between individuals who both own and work in the firm; and finally there are the more formal types of legal organisation in the shape of companies established and regulated under the general law. At the summit of the last group — which includes also cooperative societies (*cooperative*) and limited partnerships (*società in accomandita*) — are the joint stock companies (*società per azioni*) which are the typical product of capitalist society.

From the legal point of view the 1951 census divides business enterprises into three groups: (a) companies (*imprese societarie*); (b) public and other corporations (*Enti*) (2); and (c) individual enterprises (*ditte indivi-*

(2) The distinction between « companies » and « corporations » is drawn exclusively on a juridical basis. Thus, for instance, the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro — which is not a joint-stock company — is classified under « public corporations », while the three Banks of « national interest » having been organised in the form of joint stock companies, are classified as « companies ». Nevertheless, the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro and the three Banks of national interest perform substantially the same type of work (as commercial banks), and their capital is, directly or indirectly, owned by the Government. Indeed, the capital of the three Banks of national interest is owned by a public corporation (*I.R.I. - Istituto per*

*duali*). In their turn, the companies are subdivided into: 1) joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships; and 2) others (mainly informal partnerships - *società di fatto*). Corporations have been classified as « public corporations » and « other corporations » (3).

As regards their *structure*, the business enterprises covered by the census have been classified in two main groups: (a) those of an industrial type and (b) those of artisan type (4).

Finally, as regards the kind of *economic activity* three groups of enterprises are distinguished: (a) those engaged in industry (which includes mining, manufacturing, construction and electricity gas and water); (b) those en-

*la ricostruzione industriale*) and the capital of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro is owned by the Treasury.

This article on the other hand draws no distinction between « enterprises belonging to the private sector » of the national economy and « enterprises belonging to the public sector » — a distinction depending on whether the capital of the undertakings belongs to private individuals or to public bodies (the Treasury, the I.R.I., the Provinces, Communes, etc.).

(3) The heading « public corporations » is inclusive of government corporations and public law corporations, as, for instance, that of the State Monopolies, the State Railways, the Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services, the Bank of Italy, Public Law Banks, and the Concerns operated by Regional, Provincial and Communal Administrations.

« Other Corporations » is a heading inclusive of the Savings Banks, corporate and religious, etc. bodies formed to operate the economic activities in which they are engaged (cinemas, theatres, public caterers, etc.), as well as associations formed by private persons for the upkeep of roads, land reclamation works, etc.

(4) The distinction between enterprises of industrial type and enterprises of artisan type was introduced for the first time in a systematic and uniform manner, in the 1951 census.

The distinctive features were defined during the preparatory stage of the Census, in conformity with the proposals made by a special study committee on which sat the associations and bodies concerned. The Committee drew up a list of the economic activities carried on by craftsmen, and noted some of the fundamental features which characterise them in the different branches of activity.

In conformity with the principles thus laid down, the enterprises of artisan-type were identified by taking into account the following features: (a) the business must be engaged in one of the economic activities included in the list drawn up; (b) the number of employees (*i.e.* of persons engaged in the work apart from members of the owner's family who assist him, and apprentices) must come within that fixed for each group; (c) the head of the business must be personally engaged in the work, working at it with his own hands in a continuous way; (d) the output must not be in the nature of mass production; (e) the business, with few exceptions, must not be organised as a Company; (f) apart from some rare exceptions, the business must be carried on in one « local unit » only.

gaged in transports and communication; and (c) those engaged in trade, banking and finance, insurance and the rendering of services.

A) *Industry*. — The data relating to the enterprises engaged in industry are shown in Table I. As will be seen, it shows that little more than 45 per cent of the enterprises of an industrial type (as opposed to those of artisan type) are in the form of companies, but they account for as much as

cent); the few artisan-type enterprises organized in corporate form (3.7 per cent) consist in great part of « informal partnerships » (*società di fatto*).

It will thus be seen that the most important part of the Italian industrial system is represented by something over 10,000 enterprises of joint-stock type. At the time of the census, these enterprises employed just under 1,800,000 persons out of the 3 million work-

BUSINESS ENTERPRISES IN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR BY LEGAL FORM

TABLE I

	Business enterprises				Total	
	Industrial type		Artisan type		No.	Employees
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees		
A) Absolute figures						
Companies . . . . .	49,271	2,457,844	19,690	50,703	68,961	2,508,547
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	11,277	1,782,669	—	—	11,277	1,782,669
b) others (a) . . . . .	37,994	675,175	19,690	50,703	57,684	725,878
Public and other corporations . . . . .	1,895	81,334	—	—	1,895	81,334
Individual enterprises . . . . .	57,646	651,961	512,100	802,701	569,746	1,454,662
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	108,812	3,191,139	531,790	853,404	640,602	4,044,543
B) Percentages						
Companies . . . . .	45.3	77.0	3.7	5.9	10.8	62.0
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	10.4	55.9	—	—	1.8	44.1
b) others (a) . . . . .	34.9	21.1	3.7	5.9	9.0	17.9
Public and other corporations . . . . .	1.7	2.6	—	—	0.3	2.0
Individual enterprises . . . . .	53.0	20.4	96.3	94.1	88.9	36.0
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Mainly informal partnerships (*società di fatto*).

77 per cent of the persons employed. Within this group the joint-stock companies account for only just over 10 per cent of all the « industrial » enterprises, but for about 56 per cent of all the employed persons. The remaining companies largely consist of informal partnerships, the nature of which is really closer to that of « individual enterprises » than to that of joint-stock companies.

Among the enterprises of artisan type those owned by individuals are in the majority (96.3 per cent) and account also for the majority of the persons employed (94.1 per

ing for enterprises of an industrial type, or out of the 4 million or thereabouts employed in both industrial and artisan type enterprises.

It is further interesting to see that in industrial sector the establishments run by public corporations are a small minority, both as to number of « economic units » (0.3 per cent) and as to number of employees (2 per cent).

B) *Transport and Communications*. — As appears from the figures in Table II, the position in *transports and communications* is

very different. It is true that the ratio of enterprises of industrial type in each legal form to the total number of enterprises is about the same as in industry. If however we rank the various forms according to the number of persons employed, the first place belongs to the enterprises conducted by public corporations, with more than 62 per cent of all the employed persons, while the importance of joint stock companies is compara-

In wholesale trade the incorporated enterprises amount to about 21 per cent of the total; but those which operate over the entire country are a small minority both as to the number of units and of number of employees. The role of public and other corporations is also negligible. The prevalent types of business units in the wholesale trade are in fact individual firms (*imprese individuali*) (78.7 per cent of the total number, and 54 per cent as

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION ENTERPRISES BY LEGAL FORM

TABLE II

	Business Enterprises				Total	
	Industrial type		Artisan type			
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
A) Absolute figures						
Companies . . . . .	5,678	151,276	2,285	5,256	7,963	156,532
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	1,247	115,323	—	—	1,247	115,323
b) others (a) . . . . .	4,431	35,953	2,285	5,256	6,716	41,209
Public and other corporations . . . . .	110	308,939	—	—	110	308,939
Individual enterprises . . . . .	7,376	36,422	42,386	53,454	49,762	89,876
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>13,164</b>	<b>496,637</b>	<b>44,671</b>	<b>58,710</b>	<b>57,835</b>	<b>555,347</b>
B) Percentages						
Companies . . . . .	43.1	30.5	5.1	9.0	13.8	28.2
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	9.5	23.2	—	—	2.2	20.8
b) others (a) . . . . .	33.6	7.3	5.1	9.0	11.6	7.4
Public and other corporations . . . . .	0.9	62.2	—	—	0.2	55.6
Individual enterprises . . . . .	56.0	7.3	94.9	91.0	86.0	16.2
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) See note (a) Table I.

tively small (30.5 per cent). These figures reflect the fact that the field of transports and communications is dominated by the State Railways and the Government agencies conducting the postal, telegraphic and telephone services.

C) *Trade, Banking and Finance, and Insurance.* — Features different from those described above are found among enterprises operating in the fields of trade, banking and finance, and insurance, as may be seen from the figures in Table III.

to employees) or corporate enterprise of the more elementary kind, mostly informal partnerships (*società di fatto*).

Retail trade has all the features of artisan-type activity, some 94 per cent of the firms being owned by individuals, and accounting for a little over 84 per cent of all the persons employed.

In banking and finance, and insurance, the joint-stock companies represent 14 per cent of the total, with something over 42 per cent of all the persons employed. They

are followed at a short distance by the enterprises conducted by public and other corporations (7.9 per cent of the total number of economic units and 41 per cent as to number of employees). The number of individual firms is remarkably high (71 per cent of the total). They account, however, for 13 per cent only of the employees, and are largely agencies working on commission, especially in insurance.

cent), and relatively unimportant in the other branches of activity. Judged by the same criterion the «public and other corporations» are the dominant form (55.6 per cent), in the field of transports and communications, and the individual firms in wholesale and retail trade (54 per cent and 84.2 per cent respectively).

It is difficult to say whether, and to what extent, those differences result from

TABLE III

COMMERCIAL, BANKING AND FINANCE, INSURANCE AND SERVICES ENTERPRISES BY LEGAL FORM

	Trade				Banking, Finance and Insurance	
	Wholesale trade		Retail trade, auxiliary activities and sundry services			
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
A) Absolute figures						
Companies . . . . .	13,641	103,666	39,929	212,074	1,934	74,161
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	2,362	40,932	9,508	91,360	1,264	68,403
b) others (a) . . . . .	11,279	62,734	30,421	120,714	670	5,758
Public and other corporations . . . . .	26	488	5,131	23,084	722	66,412
Individual enterprises . . . . .	50,421	122,433	658,622	1,251,568	6,522	20,847
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>64,088</b>	<b>226,587</b>	<b>703,682</b>	<b>1,486,726</b>	<b>9,178</b>	<b>161,420</b>
B) Percentages						
Companies . . . . .	21.3	45.8	5.7	14.3	21.1	46.0
a) Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships . . . . .	3.7	18.1	1.4	6.2	13.8	42.4
b) others (a) . . . . .	17.6	27.7	4.3	8.1	7.3	3.6
Public and other corporations . . . . .	...	0.2	0.7	1.5	7.9	41.1
Individual enterprises . . . . .	78.7	54.0	93.6	84.2	71.0	12.9
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) See note (a) Table I.

3. — To sum up (*see Tables I, II and III*) the enterprises in joint stock form, which include cooperative societies and limited partnerships, account for about 2 per cent of the total number of enterprises engaged in industry, transports, communications and trade, and for 14 per cent of those in banking and finance, and insurance. Judged however by the number of persons employed, the joint stock form is most important in the field of industry (44.1 per cent) and in the field of banking and finance, and insurance (46 per

the inherent nature of the various activities, or whether they are due to retarded development in certain sectors. There is some evidence suggesting that this latter explanation may be the correct one, at least with respect to wholesale and retail trade.

Another related matter on which we shall merely touch is the great importance of artisan-type enterprises in industry and retail trade: in the latter sector virtually all the individual firms can be said to be of this type. While it is undeniable that business

TABLE IV  
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES BY LEGAL FORM AND NUMBER OF LOCAL UNITS OPERATED  
(all branches of economic activity)

Number of local units	C o m p a n i e s				C o r p o r a t i o n s		I n d i v i d u a l E n t e r p r i s e s		T o t a l	
	Joint-stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships		O t h e r s (a)		No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
	A) Absolute figures									
1	18,764	446,280	96,161	654,686	6,465	34,676	1,297,782	2,589,394	1,419,172	3,725,036
2	3,698	280,741	7,959	152,524	648	11,825	31,856	217,080	44,161	662,170
from 3 to 5	2,004	339,753	2,295	104,666	536	18,806	5,031	100,676	9,866	593,901
from 6 to 10	660	282,054	280	27,275	128	26,481	340	19,626	1,408	355,436
from 11 to 20	315	244,473	50	9,758	43	20,114	47	8,399	455	288,744
Over 20	217	505,386	25	7,384	64	368,355	17	4,211	323	885,336
Total	25,658	2,098,687	106,770	956,293	7,884	480,257	1,335,073	2,939,386	1,475,385	6,474,623
	B) Percentages									
1	73.1	21.3	90.1	68.5	82.0	7.2	97.2	88.1	96.2	57.5
2	14.4	13.4	7.5	15.9	8.2	2.5	2.4	7.4	3.0	10.2
from 3 to 5	7.8	16.2	2.1	10.9	6.8	3.9	0.4	3.4	0.7	8.7
from 6 to 10	2.6	13.4	0.3	2.9	1.6	5.5	..	0.7	0.1	5.5
from 11 to 20	1.2	11.6	..	1.0	0.6	4.2	..	0.3	..	4.4
Over 20	0.9	24.1	..	0.8	0.8	76.7	..	0.1	..	13.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) See note (a) Table I.

enterprises of the artisan-type sometimes perform an essential function, it is also true that they rarely have the organisation, technique or business know-how which progress and the needs of society have made indispensable. These are, in general, the weak points of the Italian economic system and do much to account for the under-employment and low productivity which weigh so heavily on the country's economic life.

4. — In connection with the legal form of the enterprises it is worth glancing briefly also at their distribution in terms of the number of the «local units». The data on this point are contained in Table IV. This shows that the great majority of enterprises of all types (96.2 per cent, with 57.5 per cent of employees) have only one «local unit». Among joint stock enterprises, however, the number of persons employed tends to be greater in those with several «local units» — a fact which is noteworthy from the social as well as the economic point of view.

#### Companies.

5. — We may now consider the corporate enterprises (companies). It is well known that because of the advantages offered by this kind of business organisation, and especially by joint-stock form, companies have been subject to various kinds of abuse. There are for instance enterprises which are joint-stock companies only nominally, while in reality they are individual businesses, the shares being owned entirely by members of the same family or even by a single individual. This applies especially to the smaller enterprises. With a view to clearing up this point it may be useful to look at the enterprises in question in terms of the number of persons whom they employ.

A) *Companies in Industry.* — Some data regarding these will be found in Table V. The top section classifies the enterprises according to the number of employees. As can be seen, the number of enterprises changes inversely with the number of employees.

The enterprises with only two employees account for 27 per cent of the total, while those with over 1,000 employees account for 0.4 per cent. However, the former represent 1.3 per cent of total employment, and the latter 38.5 per cent.

As regards the distribution of employees, there is however a clear difference between the two types of companies: among those of joint-stock type, the mass of the employees is concentrated in the large enterprises, whereas this fact does not occur to the same extent among the informal partnerships. From this it may be inferred that at least some thousands of «informal companies» may be of the fictitious kind already mentioned; but it is not to be excluded that even some larger joint-stock companies may belong to this category.

The lower part of the Table classifies the enterprises by branches of activity. These figures need no special explanation. They are sufficient by themselves to give an idea of how the enterprises are distributed between industrial sectors: the manufacturing industries account for 85 per cent of the total and engineering industries (23.1 of the number and 29 per cent of the employees), followed by the textile industries (11.4 per cent of the number and 23.3 per cent of the employees); and, at great distance, by chemical and foodstuff industries.

B) *Companies in Trade, Banking and Finance, and Insurance.* — As shown by Table VI, the distribution of enterprises according to the number of persons employed is similar to that found in the industrial field. The only significant difference is that the concentration of employees in the larger enterprises is smaller — a fact which would seem to be due to the inherent character of these forms of activity.

The lower part of the Table again shows the enterprises classified by branches of economic activity.

6. — In view of the important economic and social aspects of the matter, it is significant to consider the distribution of com-



panies according to the regions in which they have their head office. The numbers of employees shown in Table VII refer not to those actually working in the different regions, but to those who are employed by enterprises having their head office in the region indicated, so that some of them may be working in other regions (in cases where the «local units» of the enterprise are distributed over more than one region).

The Table brings out the preponderant importance of certain regions in Northern Italy, especially Lombardy and Piedmont, followed by Liguria. The importance of Latium is due to the location of some large enterprises in Rome. The fact that Calabria, Abruzzi and Basilicata come at the bottom of the table shows how the presence or absence of corporate enterprises affords an unmistakable pointer to the economic progress or backwardness of a given region.

#### Individual Enterprises.

7. — Classification of individual enterprises in the several economic branches according to the number of employees brings out some particularly interesting facts.

A) *Industry.* — Table VIII shows that the distribution of individual enterprises «of industrial type» in the industrial sector is similar to that of «industrial» companies not in joint stock form, among which, as has been pointed out, there are a large number of informal partnerships closely similar to individual firms. Among both individual firms and informal partnerships the centre of gravity tends to be in those of medium size, while few of them employ a large number of persons. As can be seen from the lower part of the Table, the majority both of the enterprises and of the persons employed are engaged in manufacture, especially in textiles, metalworking, foodstuffs, woodworking, and also in the building trends. The individual enterprises of artisan-type too are mainly engaged in manufacturing, particularly in textiles, clothing, metalworking and woodworking.

Anybody who has some acquaintance with Italian conditions, knows the nature of these hundreds of thousands of small artisan-type and individual firms engaged in more or less industrial activity. Most of them live, or vegetate in rural districts; and the sole owner, usually with no help other than that of members of his family, keeps the business going, mainly because there is no better employment available in the area. Perhaps it is just as well that it is too difficult to ascertain the real working results of these small people and artisans, living as they do from hand to mouth; for otherwise it would be too evident how uneconomic is much of this activity, which may be said to provide fictitious employment for nearly one-and-a-half million persons. If indeed the criterion were real economic productivity, then much of the employed labour in these enterprises would have to leave and a large number of the enterprises themselves would have close down.

B) *Trade, Banking and Finance and Insurance.* — In these fields the classification of individual enterprises by size (see Table IX) gives rise to much the same considerations as those set forth above. This is particularly true of retail trade, the features of which are in general of artisan type.

8. — In modern productive systems, as we have said, individual firms and especially those of artisan type can be regarded as «feeders» to those in joint-stock form. In Italy they constitute a great army of workers who in general demand little or nothing from the community, partly because they are not strong enough to make their voice effectively heard.

A thorough inquiry into the living conditions of such people in the different parts of Italy would be a task of great economic and social importance. In the Italian productive system these small units often play a part like that of the stones of various sizes which fill the gaps in a wall. The stones may make the wall solid and strong; but they may also make it decay and collapse

BUSINESS COMPANIES BY GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION  
(all branches of economic activity)

TABLE VII

Regions	Joint stock companies, cooperative societies, limited partnerships		Others (a)		Total	
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
A) Absolute figures						
Piedmont and Valley of Aosta . . . . .	2,777	347,119	12,275	119,392	15,052	466,511
Lombardy . . . . .	8,668	970,466	26,653	277,804	35,321	1,248,270
Trentino - Upper Adige . . . . .	723	11,696	1,682	13,964	2,405	25,660
Venetia . . . . .	1,883	102,368	7,416	73,540	9,299	175,908
Friuli - Julian Venetia . . . . .	400	14,408	1,760	16,062	2,160	30,470
Liguria . . . . .	1,510	176,865	5,880	50,730	7,390	227,595
Emilia . . . . .	2,348	76,249	9,925	78,188	12,273	154,437
Tuscany . . . . .	2,049	90,251	10,046	83,431	12,095	173,682
Umbria . . . . .	279	8,173	1,404	11,207	1,683	19,380
Marche . . . . .	490	10,357	3,135	24,018	3,625	34,375
Latium . . . . .	1,827	172,348	6,826	63,499	8,653	235,847
Abruzzi-Molise . . . . .	249	2,663	2,195	13,375	2,444	16,038
Campania . . . . .	790	58,551	3,822	36,448	4,612	94,999
Apulia . . . . .	464	11,834	3,334	25,861	3,798	37,695
Basilicata . . . . .	85	1,555	712	2,936	797	4,491
Calabria . . . . .	231	2,934	1,875	12,225	2,106	15,159
Sicily . . . . .	673	23,588	6,083	43,749	6,756	67,337
Sardinia . . . . .	212	17,262	1,747	9,864	1,959	37,126
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	25,658	2,098,687	106,770	956,293	132,428	3,054,980
B) Percentages						
Piedmont and Valley of Aosta . . . . .	10.8	16.5	11.5	12.5	11.4	15.3
Lombardy . . . . .	33.8	46.4	25.0	29.0	26.7	40.9
Trentino - Upper Adige . . . . .	2.8	0.5	1.6	1.5	1.8	0.8
Venetia . . . . .	7.3	4.9	6.9	7.7	7.0	5.8
Friuli - Julian Venetia . . . . .	1.6	0.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.0
Liguria . . . . .	5.9	8.4	5.5	5.3	5.6	7.5
Emilia . . . . .	9.2	3.6	9.3	8.2	9.3	5.1
Tuscany . . . . .	8.0	4.3	9.4	8.7	9.1	5.7
Umbria . . . . .	1.1	0.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	0.6
Marche . . . . .	1.9	0.5	2.9	2.5	2.7	1.1
Latium . . . . .	7.1	8.2	6.4	6.6	6.5	7.7
Abruzzi-Molise . . . . .	1.0	0.1	2.1	1.4	1.8	0.5
Campania . . . . .	3.1	2.8	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.1
Apulia . . . . .	1.8	0.6	3.1	2.7	2.9	1.2
Basilicata . . . . .	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.1
Calabria . . . . .	0.9	0.1	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.5
Sicily . . . . .	2.6	1.1	5.7	4.6	5.1	2.2
Sardinia . . . . .	0.8	0.8	1.6	1.0	1.5	0.9
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) See note (a) Table I.

## INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

TABLE VIII

	Business Enterprises				Total	
	Industrial type		Artisan type			
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
<b>1) By number of employees</b>						
<b>A) Absolute figures</b>						
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	16,303	24,252	448,497	553,734	464,800	577,986
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	14,394	55,514	56,962	199,204	71,356	254,718
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	12,146	92,801	6,150	41,628	18,296	134,429
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	12,834	265,100	483	7,511	13,317	272,611
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	1,358	93,101	7	490	1,365	93,591
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	593	101,553	1	134	594	101,687
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	13	7,918	—	—	13	7,918
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	5	11,722	—	—	5	11,722
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>57,646</b>	<b>651,961</b>	<b>512,100</b>	<b>802,701</b>	<b>569,746</b>	<b>1,454,662</b>
<b>2) By branches of economic activity</b>						
<i>Mining industries . . . . .</i>	4,245	18,206	—	—	4,245	18,206
<i>Manufacturing industries . . . . .</i>	41,140	426,057	499,359	776,032	540,499	1,202,089
Foodstuffs and tobacco . . . . .	18,656	97,815	36,360	70,291	55,016	168,106
Hides and skins . . . . .	473	6,777	4,932	8,742	5,405	15,519
Textiles and clothing . . . . .	5,433	103,673	237,241	334,804	242,674	438,477
Lumber . . . . .	4,275	43,444	96,055	153,099	100,330	196,543
Paper goods . . . . .	537	9,310	567	1,624	1,104	10,934
Printing, phono and photo reproduction . . . . .	1,406	13,578	8,304	15,203	9,710	28,781
Iron, steel and engineering . . . . .	6,656	98,897	101,329	162,027	107,985	260,924
Processing of non-metallic ores . . . . .	2,556	32,831	9,011	18,427	11,567	51,258
Chemical, rubber . . . . .	722	10,438	3,514	7,047	4,236	17,485
Others . . . . .	426	9,294	2,046	4,768	2,472	14,062
<i>Building industries . . . . .</i>	11,472	205,842	12,741	26,669	24,213	232,511
<i>Electricity, gas and water industries . . . . .</i>	789	1,856	—	—	789	1,856
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>57,646</b>	<b>651,961</b>	<b>512,100</b>	<b>802,701</b>	<b>569,746</b>	<b>1,454,662</b>
<b>1) By number of employees</b>						
<b>B) Percentages</b>						
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	28.3	3.7	87.6	69.0	81.6	39.7
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	25.0	8.5	11.1	24.8	12.5	17.5
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	21.1	14.2	1.2	5.2	3.2	9.2
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	22.3	40.7	0.1	0.9	2.3	18.7
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	2.3	14.3	..	0.1	0.3	6.4
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	1.0	15.6	..	..	0.1	7.0
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	..	1.2	..	..	..	0.6
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	..	1.8	..	..	..	0.9
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>2) By branches of economic activity</b>						
<i>Mining industries . . . . .</i>	7.4	2.8	—	—	0.7	1.3
<i>Manufacturing industries . . . . .</i>	71.3	65.3	97.5	96.7	94.9	82.6
Foodstuffs and tobacco . . . . .	32.4	15.0	7.1	8.7	9.7	11.6
Hides and skins . . . . .	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
Textiles and clothing . . . . .	9.4	15.9	46.3	41.7	42.6	30.1
Lumber . . . . .	7.4	6.7	18.7	19.1	17.6	13.5
Paper goods . . . . .	0.9	1.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.8
Printing, phono and photo reproduction . . . . .	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.0
Iron, steel and engineering . . . . .	11.6	15.2	19.8	20.2	19.0	17.9
Processing of non-metallic ores . . . . .	4.4	5.0	1.8	2.3	2.0	3.5
Chemical, rubber . . . . .	1.3	1.6	0.7	0.9	0.7	1.2
Others . . . . .	0.7	1.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.9
<i>Building industries . . . . .</i>	19.9	31.6	2.5	3.3	4.3	16.0
<i>Electricity, gas and water industries . . . . .</i>	1.4	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.1
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

if they are not properly inserted. So it is with most of the individual firms and artisans, not all of whom add strength to the country's economic and social structure. Like the small peasant farmers, this multitude of small entrepreneurs working for their own account, not only receive a raw deal from the tax authorities, but also lack of proper social welfare services of the kind that are

available to workers employed in the big joint-stock companies. In general they lead a harder life than the classes which are usually called proletarian.

Table X shows how the individual firms are distributed over the various regions of Italy for the whole of industry and trade, including banking and insurance business. It would be interesting to compare this distribution with that previously indicated for corporate enterprises (Table VII). This com-

parison, which we leave to the reader, points to certain contrasts between the conditions of the many individual firms in Northern Italy, Central and Southern Italy and the Islands. In fact many individual firms in the North work more or less as auxiliaries of the large enterprises, while those in other parts of the country cannot in general do this, and so have a more difficult existence.

## INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES IN TRADE, BANKING AND FINANCE AND INSURANCE

TABLE IX

Number of Employees	Trade				Banking and Finance and Insurance	
	Wholesale		Retail			
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
<b>A) Absolute figures</b>						
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	36,995	50,941	551,349	817,979	4,595	6,205
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	10,192	36,580	95,376	326,996	1,377	4,960
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	2,363	17,238	9,898	69,914	383	2,833
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	830	14,452	1,944	31,869	152	2,757
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	34	2,315	44	2,962	10	622
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	7	907	11	1,848	4	945
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1	2,525
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>50,421</b>	<b>122,433</b>	<b>658,622</b>	<b>1,251,568</b>	<b>6,522</b>	<b>20,847</b>
<b>B) Percentages</b>						
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	73.4	41.6	83.7	65.4	70.5	29.8
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	20.2	29.9	14.5	26.1	21.1	23.8
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	4.7	14.1	1.5	5.6	5.9	13.6
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	1.6	11.8	0.3	2.5	2.3	13.2
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	0.1	1.9	..	0.2	0.2	3.0
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	..	0.7	..	0.2	..	4.5
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	12.1
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

available to workers employed in the big joint-stock companies. In general they lead a harder life than the classes which are usually called proletarian.

Table X shows how the individual firms are distributed over the various regions of Italy for the whole of industry and trade, including banking and insurance business. It would be interesting to compare this distribution with that previously indicated for corporate enterprises (Table VII). This com-

*Public Corporations.*

9. — Some special remarks are required for the enterprises conducted by public corporations. Table XI shows these classified according to the numbers of persons employed and the various branches of activity. As will be seen, the distribution of public corporations in the industrial sector does not differ from that found in joint-stock enterprises. As with these latter, the bulk of the

employees of the public corporations tend to be concentrated in those of great size, the number of which forms only a small percentage of the total.

The distribution is more irregular in the case of transports and communications. There the field is held by ten large governments undertakings, which, as already mentioned, include the state railways and the postal, telegraph and telephone services; the persons

and finance, and insurance business shows features quite similar to those found in industry, especially as regards concentration of personnel in the enterprises of larger size. The corporations with more than 1000 employees account for 2.6 per cent of the total with a number of employees which accounts for 82.5 per cent of all the employees.

It should however be pointed out that, if banking, transports and communications are

INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES BY GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION  
(all branches of economic activity)

TABLE X

Regions	Individual enterprises		Per cent ratio of individual enterprises to the:			
			Total of Business Companies		Total of joint stock companies, cooperative societies, and limited partnerships	
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
Piedmont & Valley of Aosta . . . . .	134,537	304,817	8.9	0.7	48.4	0.9
Lombardy . . . . .	215,511	560,496	6.1	0.5	24.9	0.6
Trentino - Upper Adige . . . . .	23,729	58,497	9.9	2.3	32.8	5.0
Venetia . . . . .	100,279	253,968	10.8	1.4	53.3	2.5
Friuli - Julian Venetia . . . . .	23,605	56,244	10.9	1.8	59.0	3.9
Liguria . . . . .	53,524	120,257	7.2	0.5	35.4	0.7
Emilia . . . . .	111,700	235,211	9.1	1.5	47.6	3.1
Tuscany . . . . .	94,352	205,515	7.8	1.2	46.0	2.3
Umbria . . . . .	19,548	40,065	11.6	2.1	70.1	4.9
Marche . . . . .	38,199	74,659	10.5	2.2	78.0	7.2
Latium . . . . .	76,766	184,700	8.9	0.8	42.0	1.1
Abruzzi-Molise . . . . .	43,598	80,196	17.8	5.0	175.1	30.1
Campania . . . . .	106,838	219,715	23.2	2.3	135.2	3.8
Apulia . . . . .	77,754	152,486	20.5	4.0	167.6	12.9
Basilicata . . . . .	15,933	27,896	20.0	6.2	187.4	17.9
Calabria . . . . .	48,955	87,390	23.2	5.8	211.9	29.8
Sicily . . . . .	118,205	215,284	17.5	3.2	175.6	9.1
Sardinia . . . . .	32,040	61,990	16.4	2.3	151.1	3.6
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>1,335,073</i>	<i>2,939,386</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>52.0</i>	<i>1.4</i>

employed in the corporations with more than 1000 employees account for 98.7% of the total. These corporations on the other hand account for only 15.7 per cent of the total number.

As regards the field of «trade and other services», here also the number of enterprises declines rapidly as the number of employees increases; the mass of the persons employed is again concentrated in the medium and large undertakings.

The distribution in the case of banking

excepted, the number of persons employed in public corporations is very small as compared with those in joint-stock companies, informal partnerships and individual firms, especially in industry.

## II. - Geographical Spread of Enterprises, and the Degree of Specialisation.

10. — The recent census has thrown light on some further interesting aspects of the

structure of the Italian productive system as regards the geographical spread of enterprises and the degree of their specialisation.

It was known from general experience, and it was to be expected that the census would confirm the fact, that most enterprises have a highly *local character*: that is to say, that their «local units» are usually to be found in the same Commune where the

If a single enterprise has establishments and employs labour at several points in Italy, it acquires a more important social function because its resources serve wider sections of the community, and tend to develop the national economy on more uniform lines. In the past, the fact that our productive enterprises were too local in character played no small part in slowing down economic development, and

PUBLIC CORPORATIONS

TABLE XI

Number of Employees	Industries		Transports and Communications		Trade and other services		Banking and Finance Insurance	
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees
<i>A) Absolute figures</i>								
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	762	1,244	13	16	598	851	238	323
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	382	1,409	8	30	228	858	65	237
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	159	1,213	6	41	166	1,279	23	190
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	167	3,647	14	365	162	3,540	27	639
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	33	2,355	7	511	27	1,894	10	677
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	44	9,117	10	2,135	10	1,886	13	3,161
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	6	4,308	1	819	2	1,504	5	3,729
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	9	53,186	11	304,253	1	1,467	10	42,088
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>1,562</i>	<i>76,479</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>308,170</i>	<i>1,194</i>	<i>13,279</i>	<i>391</i>	<i>51,044</i>
<i>B) Percentages</i>								
Up to 2 employees . . . . .	48.8	1.6	18.6	..	50.1	6.4	60.8	0.6
from 3 to 5 employees . . . . .	24.4	1.8	11.4	..	19.1	6.5	16.6	0.5
» 6 » 10 » . . . . .	10.2	1.6	8.6	..	13.9	9.6	5.9	0.4
» 11 » 50 » . . . . .	10.7	4.8	20.0	0.1	13.6	26.7	6.9	1.2
» 51 » 100 » . . . . .	2.1	3.1	10.0	0.2	2.3	14.3	2.6	1.3
» 101 » 500 » . . . . .	2.8	11.9	14.3	0.7	0.8	14.2	3.3	6.2
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	0.4	5.6	1.4	0.3	0.2	11.3	1.3	7.3
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	0.6	69.6	15.7	98.7	—	11.0	2.6	82.5
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

enterprise has his head office or at least in the same province. This highly local character results mainly from the fact that most of the enterprises have only one «local unit» which is its centre or seat.

An enterprise which is spread over one region of Italy, and still more over various regions of the whole country, represents a much more important factor of economic and social power than those which are confined within a single commune or province.

in causing immobility and stagnation in both the productive and the distributive systems.

No less importance attaches to the extent to which enterprises specialise, that is to the number of branches of economic activity in which they engage. The tendency to division of labour, as a rule, brings business enterprises to concentrate their activity in one economic sector. Indeed, other things being equal, an enterprise engaged only in one branch of production is generally in a po-



sition to organise its productive processes better than one which engages, for instance, in farming, mining, manufacturing, electric first one form of activity and then another are given up with a clear loss to the country's economy. This applies not only to activities which

GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD OF BUSINESS ENTERPRISES  
(all classes of economic activity)

TABLE XII

Branches of economic activity	Spreading						Total	
	Provincial		Regional		National		No.	Employees
	No.	Employees	No.	Em- ployees	No.	Employees		
<i>Mining industries</i> . . . . .	5,709	54,441	65	8,965	100	28,745	5,874	92,151
per cent . . . . .	97.1	59.0	1.1	9.8	1.8	31.2	100.0	100.0
<i>Manufacturing industries</i> . . . . .	597,615	2,242,125	959	169,127	1,526	969,552	600,100	3,380,804
per cent . . . . .	99.5	66.4	0.2	5.0	0.3	28.6	100.0	100.0
Foodstuff and tobacco . . . . .	68,851	293,971	144	7,793	312	97,558	69,307	399,322
Hides and skins . . . . .	6,287	33,050	14	1,393	23	2,960	6,324	37,493
Textiles and clothing . . . . .	250,126	723,416	285	97,909	235	203,370	250,646	1,024,695
Lumber . . . . .	109,832	270,720	84	2,554	114	10,975	110,030	284,249
Paper goods . . . . .	1,690	27,997	33	3,384	49	26,357	1,772	57,738
Printing, phono and photo . . . . .	12,099	67,222	19	1,168	51	16,776	12,169	85,166
Iron, steel and engineering . . . . .	123,396	589,975	187	34,029	322	365,018	123,905	989,022
Processing non metallic ores . . . . .	15,244	134,897	99	10,839	119	47,044	15,462	192,780
Chemical and rubber . . . . .	6,527	61,722	79	6,918	266	189,467	6,872	258,107
Other . . . . .	3,563	39,155	15	3,140	35	10,027	3,613	52,322
<i>Building industry</i> . . . . .	30,052	329,123	668	36,364	706	109,075	31,426	474,562
per cent . . . . .	95.6	69.4	2.2	7.7	2.2	22.9	100.0	100.0
<i>Production and distribution of electricity</i> . . . . .	3,087	32,642	44	10,225	71	54,159	3,202	97,026
per cent . . . . .	96.4	33.6	1.3	10.5	2.3	55.9	100.0	100.0
<i>Transports and communications</i> . . . . .	57,354	192,447	149	22,672	332	340,228	57,835	555,347
per cent . . . . .	99.1	34.6	0.2	4.1	0.7	61.3	100.0	100.0
<i>Trade</i> . . . . .	682,527	1,467,492	645	11,382	899	46,861	684,071	1,525,735
per cent . . . . .	99.7	96.2	0.1	0.7	0.2	13.1	100.0	100.0
Wholesale trade . . . . .	63,259	196,354	295	5,696	534	24,537	64,088	226,587
Retail trade . . . . .	462,770	915,131	281	4,758	243	15,788	463,294	935,677
Tourist and hotel activities . . . . .	125,926	307,977	27	479	46	3,417	125,999	311,873
Auxiliary activities . . . . .	30,572	48,030	42	449	76	3,119	30,690	51,598
<i>Credit and insurance</i> . . . . .	8,925	42,663	84	15,621	169	103,136	9,178	161,420
per cent . . . . .	97.2	26.5	0.9	9.6	1.9	63.9	100.0	100.0
Credit . . . . .	2,331	18,274	46	14,985	44	74,901	2,421	108,160
Insurance . . . . .	2,953	11,163	—	—	29	9,334	2,982	20,497
Financial administrations . . . . .	3,641	13,226	38	636	96	18,901	3,775	32,763
<i>Services</i> . . . . .	83,592	174,800	38	1,290	69	11,488	83,699	187,578
per cent . . . . .	99.8	93.2	0.1	0.6	0.1	6.2	100.0	100.0
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	1,468,861	4,535,733	2,652	275,646	3,872	1,663,244	1,475,385	6,474,623
per cent . . . . .	99.5	70.1	0.2	4.3	0.3	25.6	100.0	100.0

power and trade at the same time. The desire to operate in many different fields at once, often leads to bad work and, sometimes,

are quite different and distinct but also to those which are in some degree complementary, as for instance mining coupled with metalwork-

ing and engineering. This occurs particularly when the integration does not make the enterprise fully self-sufficient in raw materials, as it rarely does.

The data obtained by the last census, if suitably elaborated and completed when necessary by further inquiry, can provide material of great interest concerning both the geographical spread and the specialisation of enterprises. For the present it may be enough to give the following brief indications, which may not justify final conclusions but should provide a starting point for useful thought on the matter.

#### *Geographical Spread of Enterprises.*

II. — A picture of the geographical spread of enterprises can be obtained by looking at Table XII. It will be seen that, out of about 1.5 million enterprises with just under 6.5 million employees, nation-wide enterprises number about 3,900 (0.3 per cent of the total) and employ something less than 1.7 million persons (25.6 per cent). Apart from those enterprises with a single regional covering, which employ only 275,000 persons, the whole remaining mass consists of enterprises whose « local units » do not extend beyond the limits of one province; and in most cases they do not go beyond the town or village where the enterprise has its seat.

Of the roughly 3,900 nation-wide enterprises, rather more than 1,500 with nearly one million employees are engaged in the manufacturing industries; and among them the largest numbers of employed persons are found in metalworking and engineering, textiles and the chemical trades.

Enterprises engaged in transport and communications show a high degree of dispersion among their employees, this being due to the inherent nature of their activity.

What is more significant is that in the building trades there are about 700 firms (2.2 per cent) operating on a national scale, and employing more than 100,000 persons (22.9 per cent).

In the field of banking and finance, and

insurance attention may be drawn to the banks, among which the few that cover all Italy account for a large proportion of the employees (63.9 per cent).

Table XIII illustrates another interesting aspect of this matter, showing the distribution of enterprises in the main branches of economic activity having their head office respectively in Northern, Central, Southern Italy and the Islands.

As will be seen, out of the 3,900 enterprises with a national coverage, just under 2,800 (71.7 per cent) with upwards of a million employees (64.2 per cent) have their head office in Northern Italy; those with their head-office in Central Italy number just over 800 (21.1 per cent), with about a million employed persons (32.6 per cent); and those with their head-office in Southern Italy and the Islands are some 280 (7.2 per cent) in number, and employ about 50,000 people (3.2 per cent).

In the case of Central Italy it should be pointed out that, especially as regards the employed, great importance attaches to the government enterprises which engage in transports and communications and have the seat of their activities in Rome.

Thus most of the firms operating on a national scale have their seat in the North; and the Table shows that the bulk of these are engaged in mining and manufacturing. While this brings out what the North has done for the economic development of Italy, it also clearly indicates the structural weakness of the Centre, and still more of the South. These areas do not attract large-scale enterprise with great resources and a high concentration of labour, such as is provided by the jointstock companies.

#### *Degree of Specialisation.*

12. — Finally, we may mention the degree of specialisation of enterprises, although it is difficult to obtain full figures on the point. A few data are contained in Table XIV. They relate only to some of the chief enterprises in industry employing the largest number of persons.

As will be seen, the figures in the Table relate to slightly more than 3,000 enterprises employing over 1.6 million persons. More

them in the left hand column of the Table; and hence, by and large, they satisfy what may be regarded as a definition of speciali-

GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD OF BUSINESS ENTERPRISES BY HEAD OFFICE LOCATION AND BRANCHES OF ACTIVITY TABLE XIII

	Spread						Total	
	Provincial		Regional		National		No.	Employees
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees		
<i>A. - Enterprises with head office in Northern Italy</i>								
Mining and manufacturing industries . . . . .	296,299	1,471,795	807	145,062	1,286	841,177	298,392	2,458,034
Building industries . . . . .	19,145	204,385	326	19,421	425	64,511	19,896	288,317
Production and distribution of electricity . . . . .	1,743	15,885	23	8,525	47	35,254	1,813	59,664
Transports and communications . . . . .	29,078	102,589	87	15,052	229	41,495	29,394	159,136
Commerce . . . . .	356,175	814,248	418	7,897	676	33,207	357,269	855,352
Credit and insurance . . . . .	4,350	23,089	46	8,002	78	46,361	4,474	77,452
Services . . . . .	40,073	83,487	20	588	30	5,132	40,123	89,207
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	746,863	2,715,478	1,727	204,547	2,771	1,067,137	751,361	3,987,162
per cent . . . . .	99.5	68.1	0.2	5.1	0.3	26.8	100.0	100.0
<i>B. - Enterprises with head office in Central Italy</i>								
Mining and manufacturing industries . . . . .	126,520	389,216	130	14,567	260	142,045	126,910	545,828
Building industries . . . . .	6,325	71,699	198	8,308	196	38,730	6,719	118,737
Production and distribution of electricity . . . . .	614	4,574	7	332	12	7,312	633	12,218
Transports and communications . . . . .	11,483	42,086	38	4,449	87	293,059	11,608	339,594
Commerce . . . . .	137,696	302,971	130	1,811	162	12,205	137,988	316,987
Credit and insurance . . . . .	2,027	10,329	23	4,951	65	44,127	2,115	59,407
Services . . . . .	16,997	38,721	12	164	38	6,346	17,047	45,231
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	301,662	859,596	538	34,182	820	543,824	303,020	1,438,002
per cent . . . . .	99.5	59.7	0.2	2.5	0.3	37.8	100.0	100.0
<i>C. - Enterprises with head office in Southern Italy</i>								
Mining and manufacturing industries . . . . .	180,505	435,555	87	18,463	80	15,075	180,672	469,093
Building industries . . . . .	4,582	53,039	144	8,635	85	5,834	4,811	67,508
Production and distribution of electricity . . . . .	730	12,183	14	1,368	12	11,593	756	25,144
Transports and communications . . . . .	16,793	47,772	24	3,171	16	5,674	16,833	56,617
Commerce . . . . .	188,656	350,273	97	1,674	61	1,449	188,814	353,396
Credit and insurance . . . . .	2,548	9,245	15	2,668	26	12,648	2,589	24,561
Services . . . . .	26,522	52,592	6	538	1	10	26,529	53,140
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	420,336	960,659	387	36,517	281	52,283	421,004	1,049,459
per cent . . . . .	99.8	91.5	0.1	3.4	0.1	5.1	100.0	100.0
<i>Grand Total</i> . . . . .	1,468,861	4,535,733	2,652	275,646	3,872	1,663,244	1,475,385	6,474,623
per cent . . . . .	99.5	70.0	0.2	4.2	0.3	25.8	100.0	100.0

than 2,400 (76.3 per cent) of these enterprises, with slightly over 700,000 employees (43.9 per cent), are engaged solely in activities belonging to the category indicated against

sation. Only 50 (1.6 per cent) enterprises are engaged in activities belonging to more than one industry in the same branch of manufacturing. Among these the largest

numbers of employed persons occur in chemicals, textiles, metalworking and engineering. Their different activities are however not entirely unrelated as can be judged from the nature of the categories to which they belong.

It would be interesting to investigate

tial in relation to the total number employed, and shows that most of these enterprises are of medium or large size.

Some further information about these enterprises, which may conveniently be described as « general undertakings », are given

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES BY BRANCHES OF ACTIVITY TABLE XIV

Branches and sub-branches of economic activity	Business enterprises operating						Total	
	only in one sub-branch		also in other sub-branches of the same branch		also in other branches		No.	Employees
	No.	Employees	No.	Employees	No.	Employees		
<i>Manufacturing industries</i> . . . . .	1,821	550,242	50	47,957	577	783,121	2,448	1,381,320
per cent . . . . .	74.4	39.8	2.0	3.5	23.6	56.7	100.0	100.0
Foodstuffs . . . . .	519	63,522	11	4,487	179	50,594	709	181,693
Tobacco . . . . .	45	10,554	—	—	5	37,575	50	48,129
Hides and Skins . . . . .	94	11,658	3	2,030	9	2,018	106	15,706
Textiles . . . . .	124	137,893	4	8,215	63	183,224	191	329,332
Clothing . . . . .	139	27,428	4	1,661	25	9,576	168	38,675
Lumber . . . . .	253	30,205	4	737	49	7,163	306	38,105
Paper goods . . . . .	49	12,934	—	—	28	21,599	77	34,533
Printing . . . . .	173	21,757	1	86	34	14,882	208	36,725
Phono and photo reproduction . . . . .	10	895	—	—	3	557	13	1,472
Iron and steel . . . . .	18	21,173	3	6,346	16	89,010	37	116,529
Engineering . . . . .	97	120,392	3	6,202	49	183,683	149	310,277
Processing of non-metallic ores . . . . .	214	53,156	4	625	64	38,010	282	90,791
Chemical . . . . .	16	23,252	3	12,303	37	110,215	56	145,770
Rubber . . . . .	1	796	—	—	6	31,794	7	32,590
Non specified industries . . . . .	69	14,617	10	5,625	10	4,210	89	24,083
<i>Building industries</i> . . . . .	577	135,345	—	—	102	39,496	679	174,841
per cent . . . . .	84.9	77.4	—	—	15.1	22.6	100.0	100.0
<i>Electricity, gas and water industries</i> . . . . .	29	28,731	—	—	25	43,232	54	71,963
per cent . . . . .	53.7	39.9	—	—	46.3	60.1	100.0	100.0
Production and distribution of electricity and gas . . . . .	21	27,178	—	—	11	33,497	32	60,675
Distribution of water . . . . .	8	1,553	—	—	14	9,735	22	11,228
<i>Total</i> . . . . .	2,427	714,313	50	47,957	704	865,849	3,181	1,628,124
per cent . . . . .	76.3	43.9	1.6	2.9	22.1	53.2	100.0	100.0

more fully the enterprises which conduct activities belonging to different branches of activity, as for instance manufacturing combined with mining or trade, building combined with mining, and so forth. The are about 700 such enterprises (22.1 per cent), employing something over 865,000 persons (53.2 per cent). This figure is quite substan-

in Table XV. This shows that a large proportion of the enterprises in question are of the joint-stock type. Among them chief importance attaches to 157 enterprises, which alone account for more than 66,000 employees out of the 865,000 employed by the whole 700 enterprises.

The second section of the Table indicates

the main branches of activity in which the enterprises are engaged. It will be seen that the tendency to spread into several branches

buting their products through local trading units directly managed by the manufacturing enterprise.

BUSINESS ENTERPRISES OPERATING IN DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY TABLE XV

	Legal form								Total	
	Individual enterprises		Companies				Public and other corporations			
			No.	Employees	No.	Employees			No.	Employees
<b>A) Absolute figures</b>										
<i>By number of employees</i>										
Up to 100 employees . . . . .	36	2,597	41	2,884	38	2,700	2	120	117	8,301
from 101 to 500 employees . . .	52	8,568	168	38,857	73	14,716	23	4,096	316	66,237
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	5	3,174	82	58,250	8	5,229	4	2,868	99	69,521
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	3	4,088	157	660,429	6	8,125	6	49,148	172	721,790
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>18,427</i>	<i>448</i>	<i>760,420</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>30,770</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>56,232</i>	<i>704</i>	<i>865,849</i>
<i>By branches of economic activity.</i>										
Manufacturing industries . . . . .	70	11,212	403	709,976	90	20,793	14	41,140	577	783,121
Building industries . . . . .	26	7,215	37	20,921	35	9,977	4	1,383	102	39,496
Electricity, gas and water industries .	—	—	8	29,523	—	—	17	13,709	25	43,232
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>18,427</i>	<i>448</i>	<i>760,420</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>30,770</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>56,232</i>	<i>704</i>	<i>865,849</i>
<b>B) Percentages</b>										
<i>By number of employees</i>										
Up to 100 employees . . . . .	37.5	14.1	9.2	0.4	30.4	8.8	5.7	0.2	16.6	1.0
from 101 to 500 employees . . .	54.2	46.5	37.5	5.1	58.4	47.8	65.7	7.3	44.9	7.6
» 501 » 1,000 » . . . . .	5.2	17.2	18.3	7.7	6.4	17.0	11.4	5.1	14.1	8.0
over 1,000 employees . . . . .	3.1	22.2	35.0	86.8	4.8	26.4	17.2	87.4	24.4	83.4
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
<i>By branches of economic activity.</i>										
Manufacturing industries . . . . .	72.9	60.8	89.9	93.4	72.0	67.6	40.0	73.2	82.0	90.4
Building industries . . . . .	27.1	39.2	8.3	2.7	28.0	32.4	11.4	2.4	14.5	4.6
Electricity, gas and water industries .	—	—	1.8	3.9	—	—	48.6	24.4	3.5	5.0
<i>Total . . . . .</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) See note (a) Table I.

of activity, or the need for this, occurs mainly in the manufacturing industries. Sometimes the spread is into the field of production of the raw materials used; but in many cases enterprises expand in the direction of distri-

13. — This brief review of some of the main features of industrial and commercial business units in Italy shows how wide a field of research the censuses have opened to the student of economic and social pheno-

mena. This field would of course be widened still further if the inquiry covered more features, and more complex ones, than those mentioned in this article. Such would for instance be the case if the inquiry were extended to the « local units » which actually produce the goods and render the services. The Italian census of 1951 should make possible further research into this matter because, as we mentioned earlier, suitable questionnaires were used to collect the main facts about all the « local units ».

By its very nature a general census is of course calculated to do no more than provide starting points for further analysis and investigation. Even so, the data which we have presented make it possible to discern some highly significant features of the Italian economic structure, and may serve as a basis for more thorough and more detailed inquiry. Anyhow, a fuller study should become possible when the volumes now being prepared by the Central Institute of Statistics are published.