

# Uno studio sull'innovazione nell'industria chimica

*[Italian chemical firms' innovative behaviour]*

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**Abstract:** In our analysis, we have remembered the general result reached by studies on innovation of late, according to which innovation in manufacturing industry is a complex phenomenon and does not lend itself to be described and explained through simplistic analytical models. We have then taken clue from a variegated description of the firms' innovative behaviour, based on several indicators of their innovativeness.

Our results confirm the idea that remarkable differences exist between the two sub-sectors into which chemical industry is broken down: pharmaceutical and basic chemicals.

As for policy implications, the close correlation between patents and basic-research expenditure suggests that the Italian Fund for basic research (FIRB) might be useful in order to promote innovation in chemical industry.

**Keywords:** Industria chimica; Innovazione; Ricerca

**JEL:** O32

**Attribuzioni:** Anna Ceci ha effettuato le elaborazioni statistiche e scritto i paragrafi "Evidenze empiriche" e "Analisi descrittiva". Il resto è opera di Mario de Marchi e Maurizio Rocchi.