

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
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Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)
Honors theses

Architect and Market: Analysis of Statistic Data

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The thesis is born from the necessity to delineate the contours of the building market, through considerations of general character whether about the enterprises or the planners.

The search has beginning with the analysis of the statistic data of the market of the constructions according to the Census of the industry and the Services 2001 of the Istat. The second part investigates the characteristics of the market of the architectural planning instead in Italy, the type of bid and ask, with a look to the future developments. It has been possible to introduce you also hints of reflection on the real operativeness of the architects (territorial diffusion, income, turnaround times of the studies and working insertion, etc.).

The sector of the constructions represents, to 2001, the fourth economic strength of our country (for number of enterprises and employees). From the consulted data as few less than half emerge the Italian artisan enterprises belongs to the sector of the constructions, with some differences of incidence percentage in the different regions.

But which characteristic does it have the manpower? The small artisan enterprises are essentially to family character, and they operate without interacting in continuous way among them (relationships type informal and tied up to the productive necessities of the moment). Although this is an aspect of the flexibility typical of the artisan compartment, with such reduction of operativeness it doesn't even have a necessary critical mass for the adjudication of more binding orders. That's why in Italy the subcontract and the fragmentation of the workmanships are so usual.

Also observing the data related to the technical professions we find as the small dimensions of the studies is preponderant. The fragmentation of the professional offer is not however a prerogative all Italian, also other countries seem to follow the same trend (Greece, Portugal, Spain, Czech Republic, Belgium, Hungary, Sweden and Poland). Altogether in Europe over the 50% of the enterprises they are constituted by an only person however.

The architects have the tendency to have a preference for temporary relationships of aggregation in base to the real demands of job. You can reasonably suppose the presence of a strong organizational flexibility and a consistent net of informal territorial relationships (both between enterprises and architects, and between architects and other professionals).

According to a search of the InarCassa it turns in 2005, only a low number of architects (12%) it has a superior income to the 50 thousand euro and only the 4% of the total one have a superior income to the 75 thousand. Even if in practice it is alone a small portion of that 4% of professionals to catalyze the jobs of greater entity and the interest of the specialized magazines. Using a simile we can take as example an iceberg: its summit is visible out of the water, but it is the submerged part, what is not seen with immediateness to constitute big part of its mass.

According to what I have had the opportunity of ascertaining during the layout of the thesis, it seems that the market has need more than of an increase of the inside dimensions of the enterprises or the professional studies, of a change of mentality of the entrepreneurs and the professionals on their own role and on the nature of their operated. All the studies point out in fact that the future transformation of the sector will have to clearly have different characteristics in comparison to the past, despite what it is perceivable of the profession, it represents only a very low percentage of the real professional activity.

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