

# Conceptualizing and measuring “industry resilience”: composite indicators for post-shock industrial policy decision- making

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Resilience defines the ability of a socio-economic system to recover from unexpected shocks. The concept has acquired prominence among economic geographers seeking to understand the different patterns behind regional recovery after a disruption. In this paper, we complement place-specific approaches with industry-level analysis and define “industry resilience” concept and measurements. Theoretically, we contribute to define industry resilience as a useful conceptual framework for policymaking aiming at reinforcing the sustainability of structural change, in particular after unexpected shocks. Methodologically, building on post-2008 US data, we develop two composite indicators (CIs) to analyse, separately, quantitative and qualitative post-shock variations in sectoral employment. Such CIs support policy-makers in visualizing sectoral performances dynamically: not only in terms of growth rate of quality and quantity, but also in terms of the a sector recovery capacity and its velocity, compared both to other sectors and to its counterfactual. In addition, the analysis of the two dimensions represented by the two CIs enables policymakers to weight, accordingly, relevant policy choices. Our results highlight that sectors react heterogeneously to shocks. This points to the relevance of tailoring vertical industrial policies according to the features of sectors and to the aim that industrial policy initiatives wish to achieve.