

The economic transformations of inner urban areas. The Barcelona's Trafalgar Garment District

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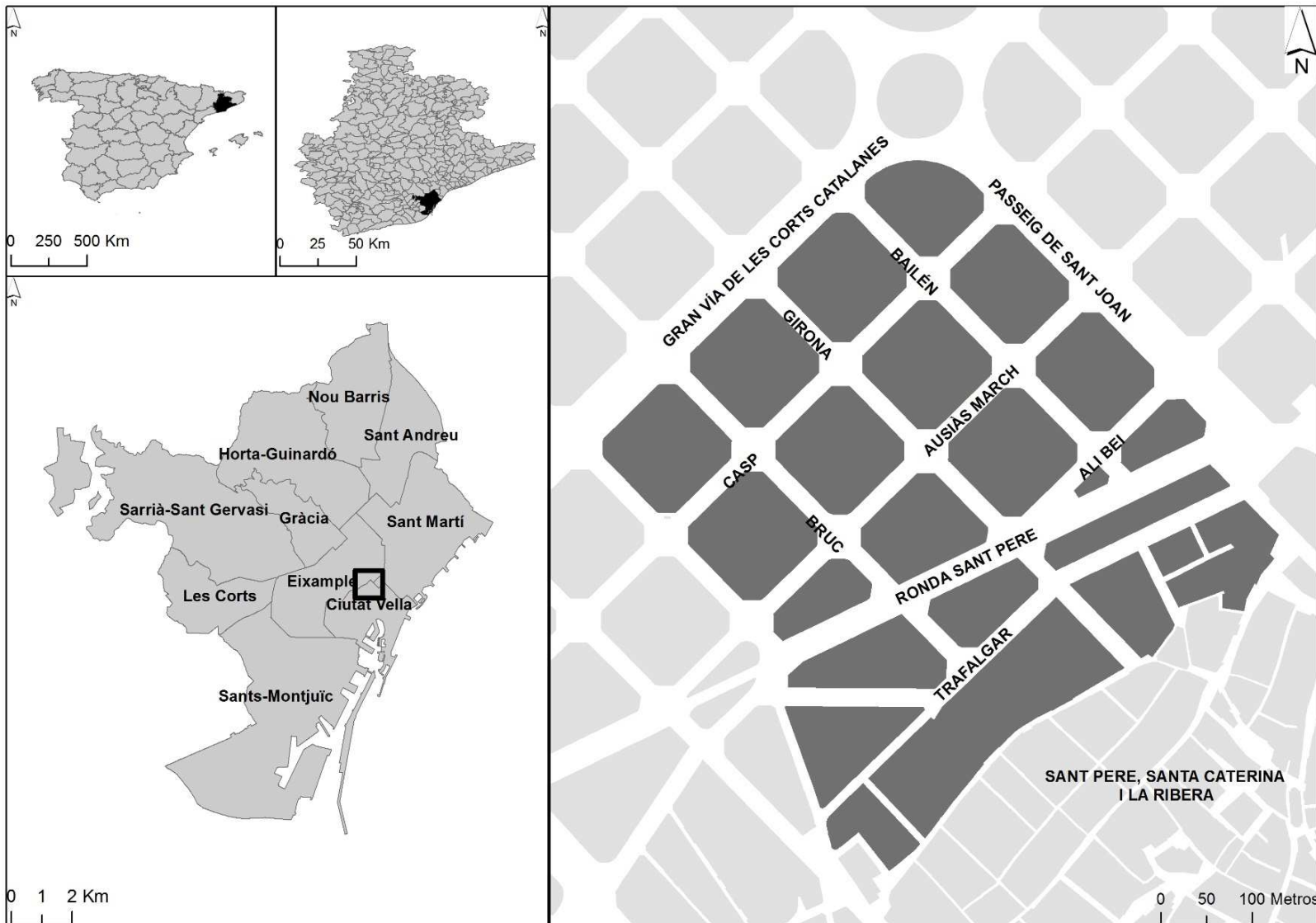
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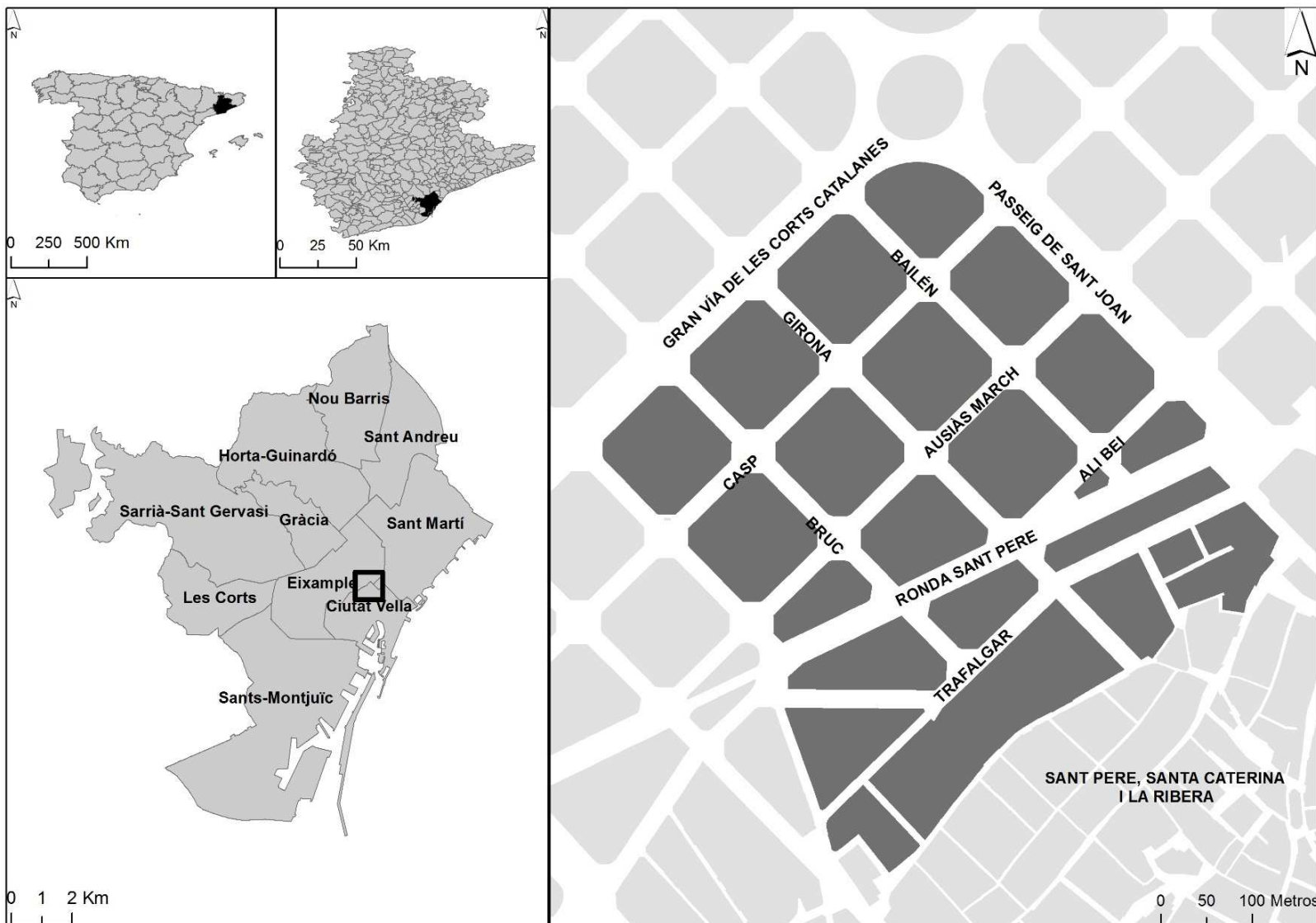
Trafalgar Garment District (TGD)

Objectives

To analyse the economic transformation of the TGD since beginnings of the 20th century to nowadays.

TGD is an central urban area that locates within the Eixample District and close to important touristic nodes as Arch of Triumph and Catalonia Square and also to the most luxurious commercial street of Barcelona (Paseo de Gràcia). It is also close to Sant Pere's neighborhood that it is part of the Barcelona's old town. The old town is extremely specialized in tourism.

Currently, the TGD is the only urban space in Barcelona where garment wholesaling concentrates.



Trafalgar Garment District (TGD)

Research questions

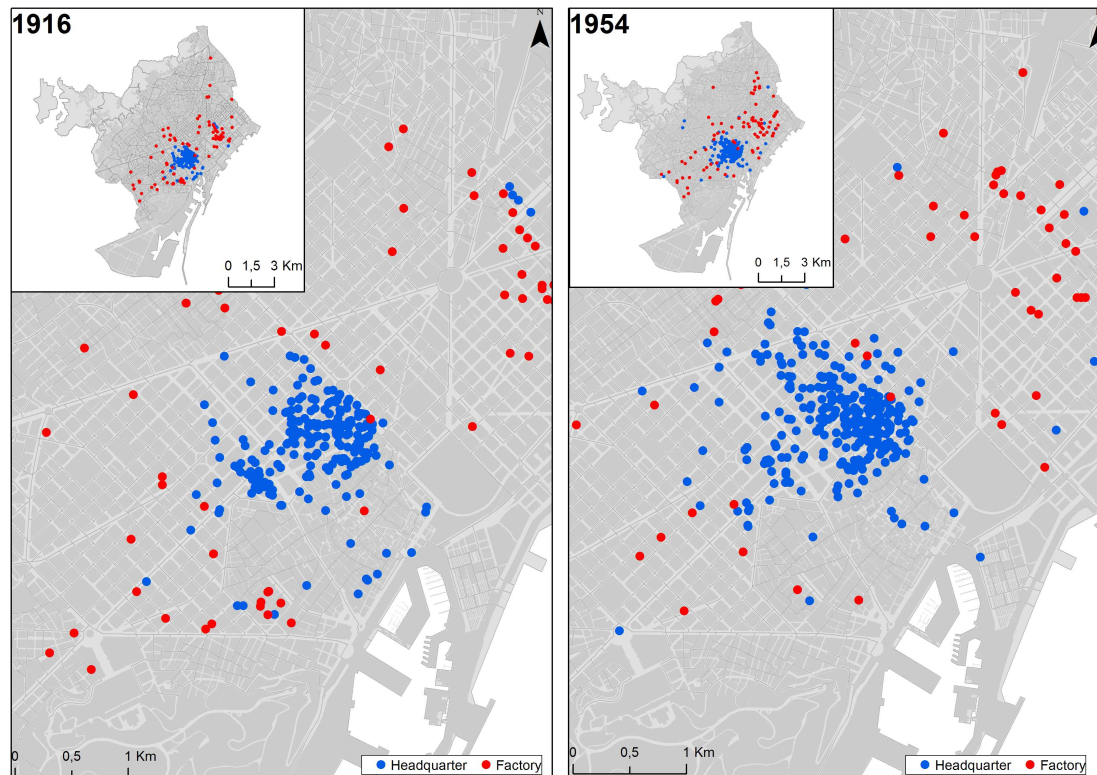
- ☐ What was the role of the TGD in the Barcelona's textile industry at the beginning of the 20th century?
- ☐ What is the importance of the garment wholesaling in the TGD in 2017?
- ☐ What kind of firms are located in TGD in 2017?

Sources, data and methodology

Objective	Source	Data	Methodology
To know what role the TGD played in the Barcelona's textile industry since beginnings 20th.	Catalonian and Spanish industrial and comercial yearbooks (1916 and 1954)	Location of headquarters and factories in Barcelona in 1916 and 1954	Geocodification
To know the current economic structure of the district	Fieldwork	Number and the activity of the firms located in the TGD	Three phases: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Compilation of number and type of firms <i>in situ</i>.- Search of firms in internet.- Check the second phase personally

Results

Location of headquarters of textile firms, 1916- 1954



Source: own elaboration

Traditional economic specialization related to the cotton textile industry since early 20th century.

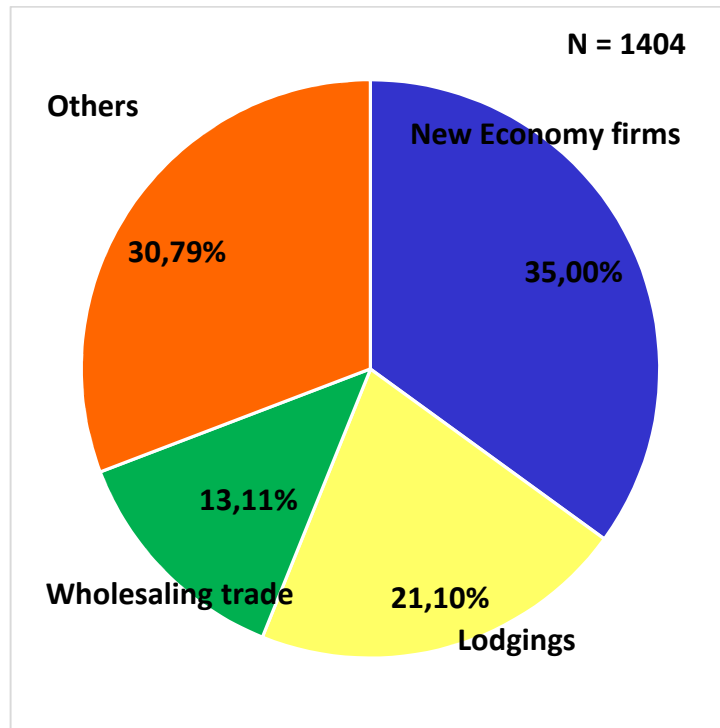
The Trafalgar Garment District played an important role in the textile industry because located the headquarters' firms.

The headquarters' factories located throughout Barcelona but especially all over Catalanian.

Besides the textile production headquarters, in the 1940s appeared textile wholesale firms and in the 1960s garment wholesales in the TGD.

Results

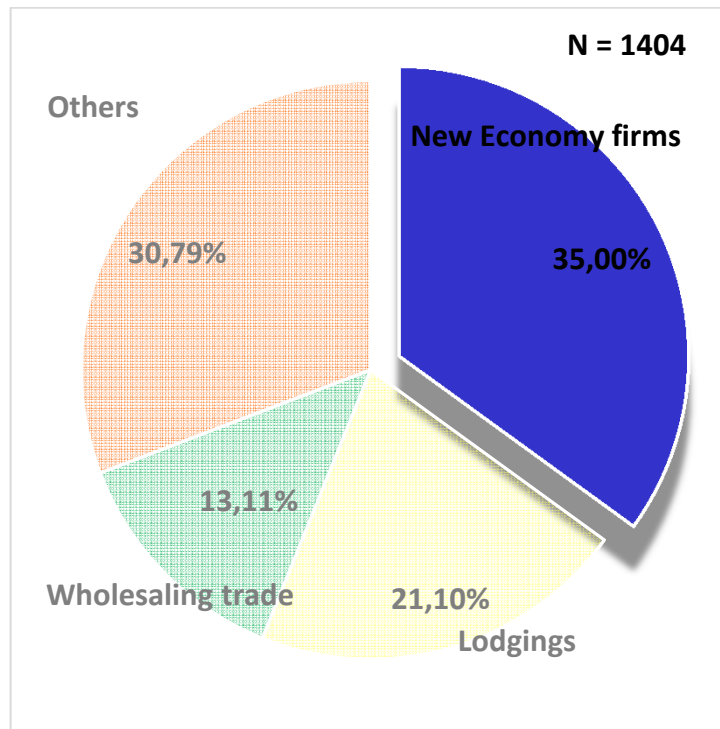
Percentage of number of firms in TGD (2015)



Source: own elaboration

Results

Percentage of number of firms in TGD (2015)



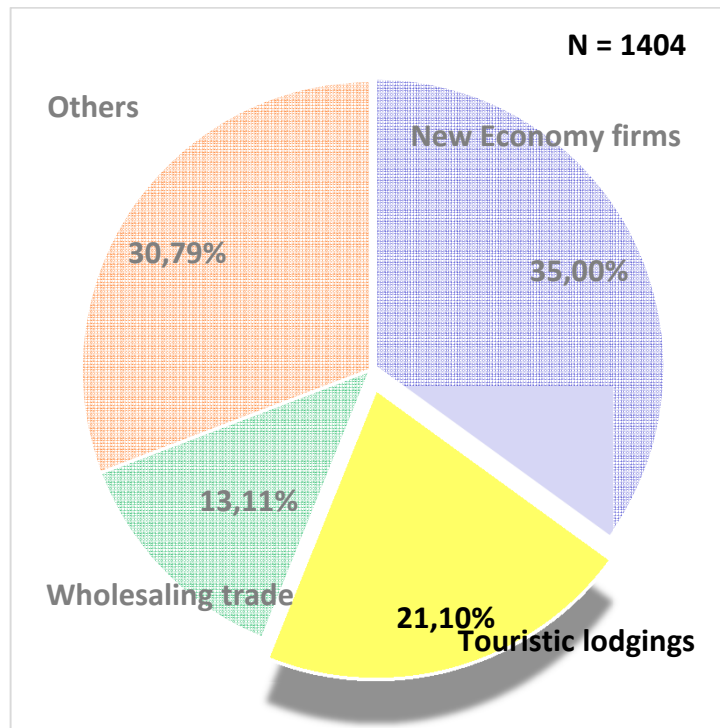
- Higher added-value firms are locating in the TGD (architecture, design, legal activities, game development, programming,...)
- New economic spaces: coworking spaces.



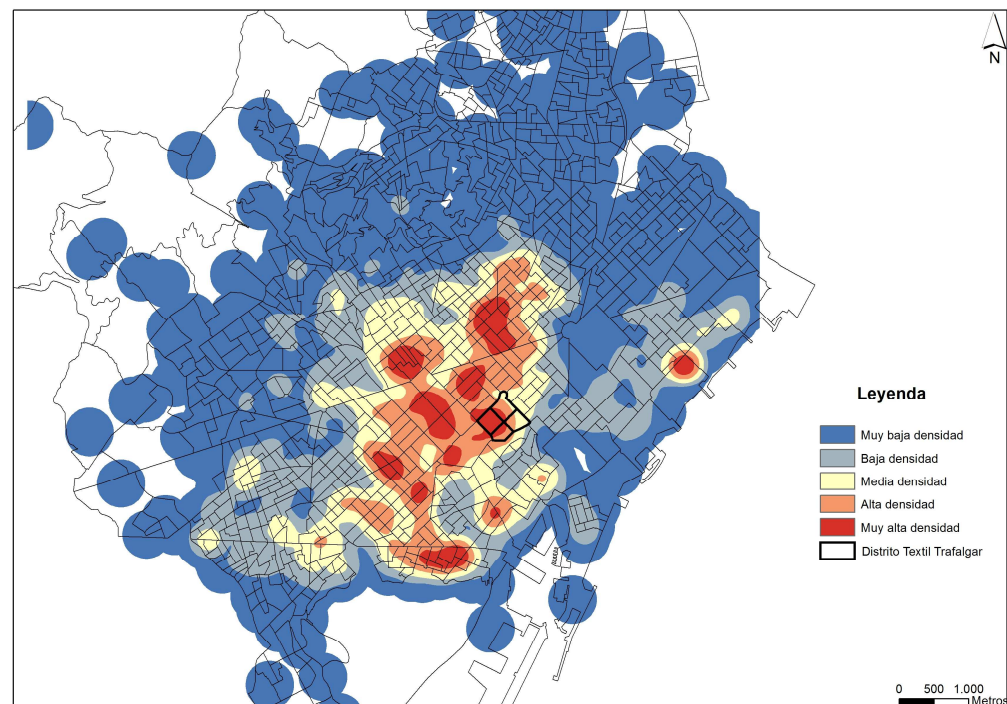
Source: own elaboration

Results

Percentage of number of firms in TGD (2015)



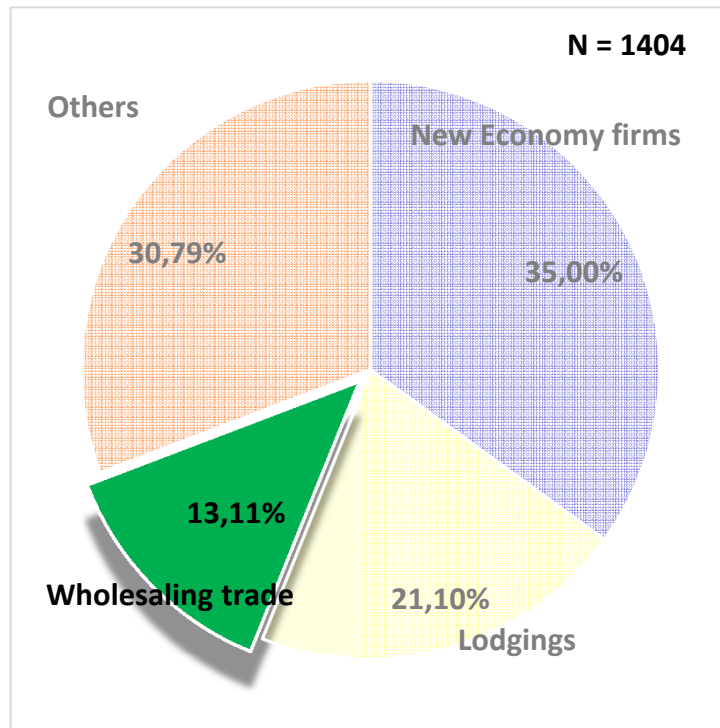
Touristic Lodging' density in Barcelona, 2015



Source: own elaboration through the touristic lodging census by the Business and Knowledge Department of Barcelona

Results

Percentage of number of firms in TGD (2015)



- ❑ The garment and textile wholesaling account for almost 80% of all wholesale trade in the TGD.

There are two types:

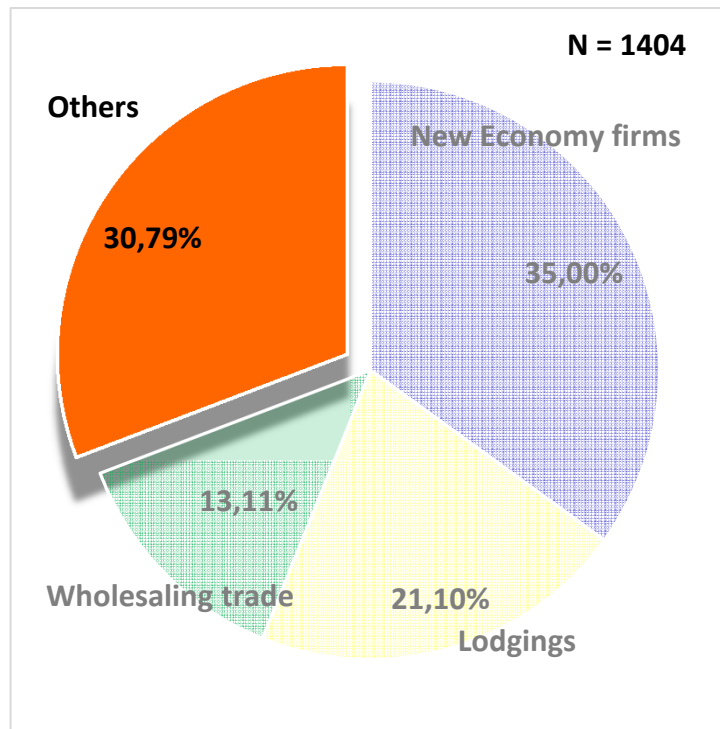
- ❑ Traditional firms: Warehouse + sales section + office section
- ❑ Showrooms: sales section



Source: own elaboration

Results

Percentage of number of firms in TGD (2015)



- The most important activities are those related to retail firms of all kinds (33,26%), restaurants and bars (19,63%), real estate firms (11, 32%) and travel agencies (3,23%). The sum of them arises 67,44% of the “Other Firms” category.

Source: own elaboration

Conclusions

- ❑ The TGD had an essential role in the textile industry.
- ❑ New ways of innovation in the garment wholesaling located in the TGD: Physical size
- ❑ Coworking spaces:
 - ❑ Community feeling (social networks and activities).
 - ❑ Incubators.
 - ❑ Share technological tools (3D printers).

Conclusions

Concluding remarks

- ☐ The historical economic relation between textile headquarters and textile and garment wholesaling in the TGD during the 20th century.
- ☐ Other ways of innovation in the garment wholesaling.
- ☐ The reason of New Economy firms to locate in the TGD.
- ☐ The actors of the economic change in the district.

Thank you very much for your attention!

I will appreciate your comments!

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