. Recor	d Nr.	UNINA9910780073803321
Autore	Э	Cohen Jon S.
Titolo		The growth of the Italian economy, 1820-1960 / / prepared for the Economic History Society by Jon Cohen and Giovanni Federico [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl	/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2001
ISBN		1-139-16444-9 0-511-04872-6 0-511-15396-1 0-511-01971-8
Descr	izione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 133 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collan	na	New studies in economic and social history ; ; 44
Discip	lina	338.945/009/034
Sogge	etti	Italy Economic conditions 19th century Italy Economic conditions 20th century
Lingua	a di pubblicazione	Inglese
Forma	ato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico		Monografia
Note g	generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota o	di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota c	di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Series-title; Title; Copyright; Contents; Figures; Tables; Acknoledgements; 1 Introduction; 2 Measuring change in the long run: the data; 3 The big picture: models of growth and structural change; 4 Modernization versus tradition: new views and old on agriculture; 5 Against all odds? The growth of industry and services; 6 Macroeconomic policy, institutions, and the balance of payments; 7 An economic miracle? Italy in the Golden Age, 1945-1960; 8 Conclusion; Bibliography; Index
Somm	nario/riassunto	This volume in the New Studies in Economic and Social History series examines Italy's transformation from a largely rural state in the nineteenth century to today's industrial powerhouse. At the time of unification in 1861, much of the country was backward, poor, and agrarian: few would have believed that a hundred years later Italy would become one of the seven largest industrial countries, its people among the wealthiest in the world. This process of development and structural change has generated an enormous and evolving literature, alive with controversies and compelling insights. New research and reinterpretation of existing data have led to a reevaluation of the nature

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of Italian Dualism, while revisions to national income accounts are modifying the traditional picture of economic growth. Jon Cohen and Giovanni Federico provide a concise, up-to-date account of this literature, highlighting new views on old issues, and signalling areas in need of further research.