

ICT Contribution to Productivity Growth in Canada

Jeff Mollins

(Bank of Canada)

Pierre St-Amant

(Bank of Canada)

In this paper, the authors ask whether developments in information and communication technologies (ICT) can account for the productivity slowdown observed in Canada since the early 2000s. To answer this question, several approaches are used, including the ones proposed by Cette et al. (2015) and Byrne and Corrado (2017). Various channels (e.g. ICT capital deepening and ICT production share) through which ICT can affect aggregate productivity developments are examined. The authors perform sensitivity analyses to assess the robustness of their findings and discuss the implications of the results for the analysis of Canadian productivity developments. Preliminary results suggest that the contribution of ICT to labour productivity growth may not have declined post-2004.