Luxembourg's Labour Productivity Slowdown in a Comparative Perspective

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A comparative analysis of labour productivity

- Trends of labour productivity in Luxembourg compared to selected countries.
- Possible explanations for the observed trends of labour productivity.



Labour productivity in Luxembourg: high level



Labour productivity is GDP per hour worked.

Source: OECD Productivity Database, country-level data.

Labour productivity in Luxembourg: slow growth

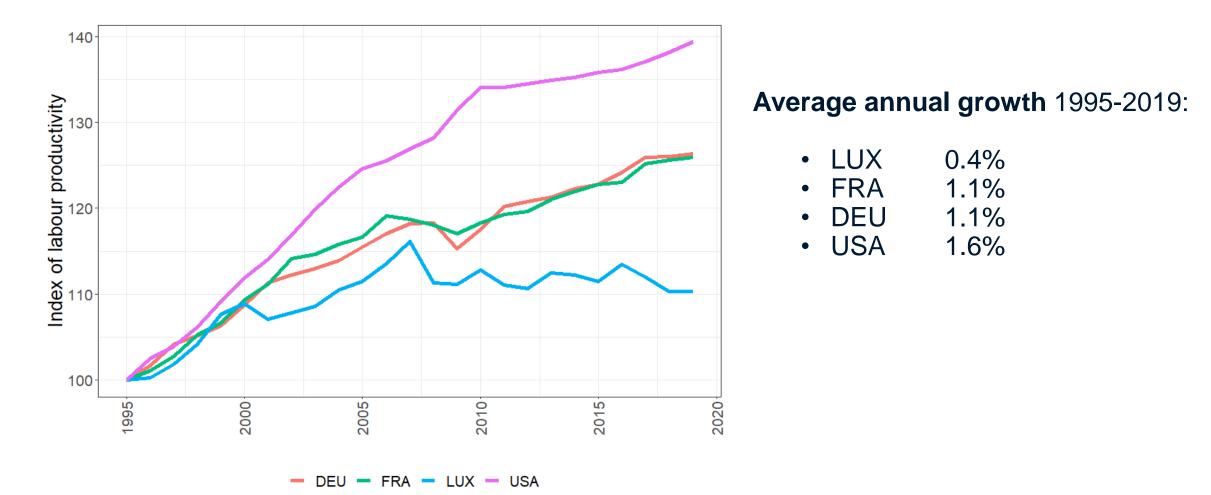


Figure 2: Trends of labour productivity in Luxembourg, EA19, France, Germany and USA: 1995 – 2019 (1995=100).

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Productivity slowdown: possible explanations

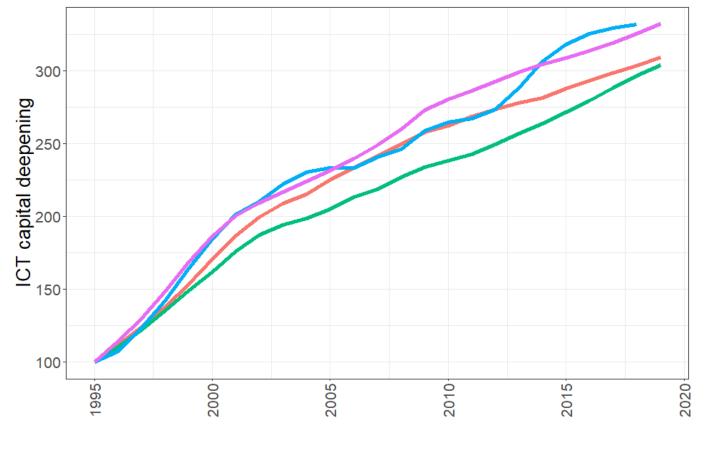
• Convergence hypothesis:

Economies with high productivity levels feature weaker growth rates.

• Effect of Information and Communication Technology (ICT):

- Adoption of new technologies is a source of productivity growth;
- ICT capital deepening captures workers' access to newer and better tools;
- Luxembourg has

Strong ICT capital accumulation in Luxembourg



- DEU - FRA - LUX - USA

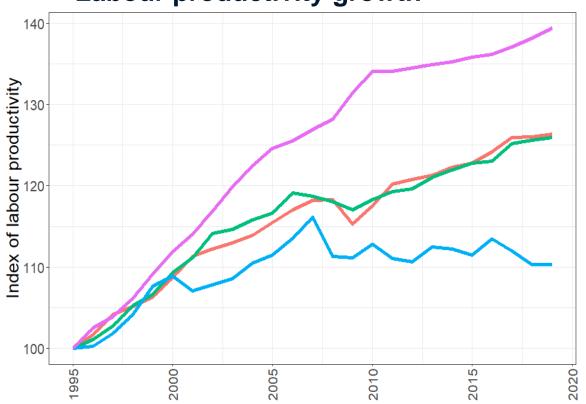
Figure 3: Trends of ICT capital asset per unit of labour in Luxembourg, France, Germany and USA: 1995 – 2019. Index of ICT capital deepening (1995=100).

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Limited evidence for convergence and ICT hypotheses

- Weak evidence for the convergence hypothesis.
- The accumulation of ICT capital assets...
 - contributes positively to labour productivity growth <u>before</u> the Great Recession;
 - does not correlate with productivity growth <u>after</u> the Great Recession.

Weak TFP growth can explain the slowdown



Labour productivity growth

Total Factor Productivity (TFP) growth



DEU - FRA - LUX - USA

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Conclusions from country-level analysis

Luxembourg has comparatively high level of labour productivity, but low growth: **why?**

- Absence of evidence for the convergence hypothesis.
- Accumulation of ICT capital is not statistically associated with productivity growth after the Great Recession.
- Weak TFP growth can explain labour productivity slowdown.



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Thank you! / Merci !



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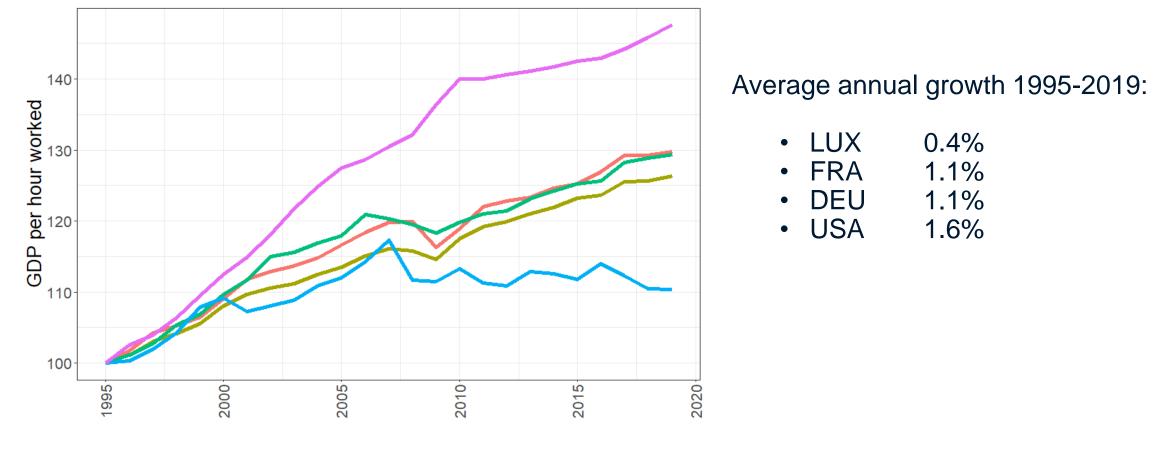








Labour productivity in Luxembourg: slow growth (OLD multiplicative....)



- DEU - EA19 - FRA - LUX - USA

Figure 2: Trends of labour productivity in Luxembourg, EA19, France, Germany and USA: 1995 – 2019. Index of labour productivity (1995=100).

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