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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: The Short-Term Effects of Generative Artificial Intelligence on Employment: Evidence from an Online Labor Market

Article Link: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4527336

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Tweet: _@xianghui90 @oren_reshef and @Zhou_Yu_Al find that the release of ChatGPT led to a 2% drop in the number of jobs of freelancers' on the Upwork platform and a 5.2% drop in their monthly earnings.

Summary: Across the board, we find that freelancers who offer services in occupations most affected by AI experienced reductions in both employment and earnings. The release of ChatGPT led to a 2% drop in the number of jobs on the platform and a 5.2% drop in monthly earnings. The results are robust to several alternative tests, including a similar reduction in the employment outcomes of freelancers offering design and image-editing services following the introduction of image-focused generative AI. In addition, we find that offering high-quality service does not mitigate the negative effect of AI on freelancers, and in fact, present suggestive evidence that top employees are disproportionately hurt by AI.

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Primary Topic: Innovation/Research

Topics: Academic paper, Innovation/Research, Investment, Productivity, Unemployment/Participation, Wages/Income, Workforce

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