

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** Does Working from Home Boost Productivity Growth?

**Article Link:** <https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/economic-letter/2024/january/does-working-from-home-boost-productivity-growth/>

Author(s)	John Fernald, Ethan Goode, Huiyu Li, and Brigid Meisenbacher
Publication	Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Publication Date	January 17, 2024

**Tweet:** John Fernald @sffed finds little evidence that the shift to remote/hybrid work associated with the pandemic has "either substantially held back or boosted the rate of productivity growth."

**Summary:** To better isolate the association with the shift to remote work during the pandemic, Figure 3 controls for pre-pandemic trends by removing each industry's average annualized productivity growth for 2006–2019 from its pandemic average. Hence, the vertical axis now captures the amount by which an industry's pandemic productivity growth exceeded or fell short of its pre-pandemic pace. In Figure 3, the nearly flat blue line reflects that there is essentially no relationship between teleworkability and excess pandemic productivity growth. Although the association is still slightly positive, the relationship is much weaker than in Figure 2 and is not statistically significant. Related: Remote Work, Three Years Later and Work From Home and the Office Real Estate Apocalypse and The Geography of Working From Home Begins to Shift Again

**Primary Topic:** Workforce Reorganization

**Topics:** Op-Ed/Blog Post, Productivity, Workforce Reorganization

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/john-fernald-sffed-finds-little-evidence-that-the-shift-to-remote-hybrid-work-associated-with-the-pandemic-has-either-substantially-held-back-or-boosted-the-rate-of-productivity-growth?view=detail>

**Featured Image Link:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Productivity-Growth-Accounting-For-Pre-Pandemic-Trends.png>