

Remote Work and Employment Dynamics under Covid-19: Evidence from Canada^{*}

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Abstract

We find that 41 percent of jobs in Canada can be performed remotely, with significant variation across provinces, cities, territories and industries. We complement this with labor micro data and document facts on the relationship between remote work and income inequality, gender, age and other worker characteristics. We then show that workers in occupations (and sectors) less likely to be able to work remotely experienced larger employment losses between February and March but not between March and April. This suggests that the pandemic shock hit harder and sooner those workers that could not work from home. As the crisis spread to the rest of the economy, the speed of job destruction converged across occupations, in line with occupation/sector complementarity and input-output linkages.

Keywords: Covid-19, Canada, labor markets, remote work, job destruction.

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1 Introduction

“Social distancing” is costly since some jobs cannot be performed at home. A key estimate to assess the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is the percentage of jobs that can be done remotely. Motivated by this, in this paper we focus on Canada and estimate the feasibility of working from home, as well as the heterogeneity of this variable along several dimensions. We then measure the employment changes during March and April 2020 and compare these changes with the computed feasibility of working remotely.

In Section (2) we provide a literature review and describe our contribution. In Section (3) we compute the percentage of jobs that can be performed at home. We find that 41 percent of jobs in the Canada can be performed remotely, with significant variation across provinces, cities, territories, industries and worker characteristics. In Section (4) we use labor micro data and document that female workers and immigrants tend to work in occupations with more possibility of working remotely. On the other hand, poorer workers, younger workers, part-time workers, small firm workers, seasonal/contractual workers, single workers and workers without a college degree tend to be employed in jobs that are less likely to be performed at home. We then show that workers in occupations (and sectors) less likely to be able to work remotely experienced larger employment losses between February and March but not between March and April.

2 Literature Review

We follow the methodology in [Dingel and Neiman \[2020\]](#) to measure the percentage of jobs that can be done at home. This methodology has been since applied to other countries. For instance, [Saltiel \[2020\]](#) focuses on a sample of developing countries. We complement this methodology with worker characteristics. The worker characteristics and distributional aspect has been studied among others by [Mongey et al. \[2020\]](#) and [Yasenov \[2020\]](#) the USA, [Lekfuangfu et al. \[2020\]](#) in Thailand and [Bonavida Foschiatti and Gasparini \[2020\]](#) in Argentina.

We contribute to this literature by adding Canadian estimates. Our results are in line with all these findings. However, we go beyond this and study the link with the recent employment dynamics data.

In terms of employment dynamics, our paper is closest to the ones studying job vacancies. [Lange and Warman \[2020\]](#) reports that in Canada there were very rapid declines in vacancy postings as the COVID-19 crisis brought the economy to a halt in mid-March. Postings declined by up to 50% until mid-April. [Kahn et al. \[2020\]](#), study the changes in job vacancies and unemployment insurance claim for different occupations and industries during the pandemic in the USA.

Relative to these two papers, we focus on actual employment losses, not vacancy postings nor UI claim

and are also able to observe representative labor market data for the entire country.

We view our paper as complementary to the increasing macroeconomic literature (see [Baqaee and Farhi \[2020\]](#) and references there in) that incorporates complementarities between occupations and sectors, as well as input-output linkages. We think that models and empirical estimations that incorporate and measure these crucial network effects will be important to better understand the current unfolding crisis.

3 Remote Work Estimation

We apply the methodology of [Dingel and Neiman \[2020\]](#) (DN henceforth) to Canadian data. The main idea in DN is to classify the feasibility of working at home for all occupations and merge this classification with occupational employment counts. The feasibility measure is based on responses to two Occupational Information Network (O*NET) surveys.

We use the Stats Canada’s [Employment Income Statistics](#) (EIC henceforth), a tabulation from the 2016 Census that contains 4-digit occupation classification employment counts at the provincial, city and territorial level (51 geographic areas in total). The classification code corresponds to the National Occupational Classification (NOC). The EIS also contains average income, which we will use to compute percentage of wages (in addition to percentage of jobs).

We use the Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship (BII+E) [crosswalk](#) of O*NET with NOC. We then merge with O*NET’s binary index computed by DN. We call this “benchmark” remote-work index.¹

As robustness check, we then manually assign values for the NOC categories, using introspection (as in the robustness check in DN) and call this the “alternative” remote-work index.² For a small set of occupations, however, the two methodologies do reach opposite conclusions. Appendix Table ([A1](#)) reports the 4-digit occupation codes for which the two measures differ more than 0.75 or more. According to our benchmark classification based on O*NET (and DN), engineers and journalists cannot work from home, whereas our manual classification says that they can. Our benchmark classification codes photographers, painter, air traffic controllers, administrative assistants, land survey technologists and technicians and forestry professionals as able to work from home, whereas the manual classification says that they cannot.

Table 1: Share of jobs that can be done at home

Unweighted	Weighted by Wages
0.41	0.51

3.1 Results

According to our estimates, 41% of jobs can be done from home in Canada. When weighted by wages, this percentage increases to 51%. The robustness check estimates for our alternative specification are in line with these, but somewhat lower: 47% and 48%, respectively (all robustness checks are available in the [replication package](#)). The higher estimate when weighting by wages indicates that higher wage jobs tend to be associated with jobs that can be more easily performed remotely. We will go back to this point later with the micro data. DN document that the former numbers is 37% in the USA. Even though DN do not report Canadian estimates, our results are consistent with DN’s international evidence.³

Table 2: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by province

Province	Unweighted	Weighted by Wages
Ontario	0.44	0.55
Quebec	0.42	0.51
British Columbia	0.41	0.48
Alberta	0.39	0.47
Manitoba	0.38	0.45
Nova Scotia	0.38	0.45
New Brunswick	0.37	0.43
Saskatchewan	0.35	0.41
Prince Edward Island	0.35	0.43
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.32	0.38

As can be seen in Table (2), there is considerable heterogeneity among Canadian provinces. While Ontario has a high share of jobs that can be done at home (44%), Newfoundland and Labrador is the province in which the least amount of jobs can be done at home, with 32%.

We also observe heterogeneity at the city level. In Table (3) we report the top 3 and bottom 3 cases. Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal lead this telecommuting ranking (with roughly half of jobs being able to do from home), while for Abbotsford Mission (the lowest of these cities) this number is around a third. The full sample of cities can be seen in Table (A2).

Lastly, Table (A3) reports the territorial distribution. Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut don’t show much differences, with roughly 42%.

¹One issue that we faced was that the O*NET occupation classification in BII+E and DN have some discrepancies. After merging with the NOC data, there were 17 occupations dropped. Please refer to the [replication package](#) for details

²Two of our research team manually assigned values of 0, 0.5 and 1 to each 4-digit NOC code, which we then averaged.

³See Figure 2 in DN and recall that Canada’s GDP per capita is around 46,000 USD

Table 3: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by city (top 3 and bottom 3)

City	Unweighted	Weighted by Wages
Ottawa Gatineau	0.52	0.63
Toronto	0.49	0.63
Montreal	0.46	0.56
Belleville	0.35	0.40
Brantford	0.35	0.42
Abbotsford Mission	0.33	0.38

4 Worker Characteristics and Employment Dynamics

Next, we explore the [Labor Force Survey](#) (LFS), which contains Canadian labor micro data at the 2-digit occupation level. We assign remote index values by taking a weighted average across the 4-digit sub categories.

In Tables (A4) and (A5) we document that the provincial and city estimates using the LFS are consistent with those reported before. Additionally, in Table (A6) we report the estimation by industry: as can be observed, sectors such as Finance and Insurance report the largest percentage of ability to perform remote work, while Agriculture is the sector with the least amount of possibility of working from home.

4.1 Workers Characteristics

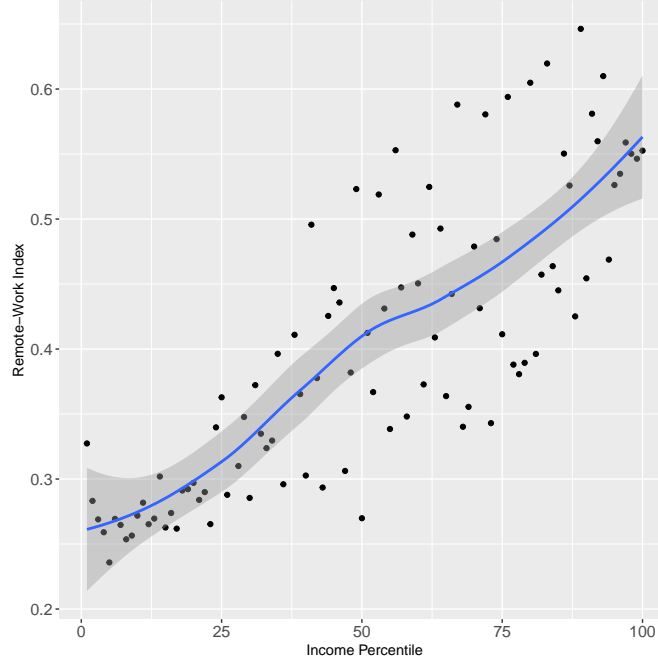
What type of workers are more vulnerable to this labor market shock? We use the 2019 LFS data to document correlations of worker characteristics and the possibility to work from home. We first explore the distributional dimension. In Figure (1) we report the remote-work index by percentile of the income distribution. Each dot represents the average of the corresponding percentile, and the line represents the conditional mean with corresponding standard errors.

This figure shows that higher income workers are on average more likely to be able to work from home. This would suggest that social-distancing is regressive, in the sense that poorer workers tend to work in jobs that are more difficult of being performed remotely. Note that this is consistent with the findings in the previous section on higher share of jobs that can be done at home when weighting by wages.⁴

We then explore other worker characteristics. Here we follow the methodology in analysis in [Mongey et al. \[2020\]](#) (MPW henceforth), which focused on the USA. We run a simple regression as in MPW. Let y_{ij} be a characteristic of a worker i that reports that they mostly worked in occupation j in 2019. We construct binary variables based on the worker characteristics of LFS 2019 (following MPW); for example we construct a variable y_{ij} if the continuous variable ‘wage’ is above the median. We then estimate the

⁴However, one can argue that if health outcomes are included, social-distancing might not be regressive, or at least not as much as this figure suggests. This is because poorer people are more vulnerable to Covid-19. We hope to explore this more in future work.

Figure 1: Remote-Work Index and the Distribution of Income



following regression for each of our observables, where S_j is the 2-digit occupation index remote-work score:

$$y_{ij} = \alpha_y + \beta_y S_j + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad (1)$$

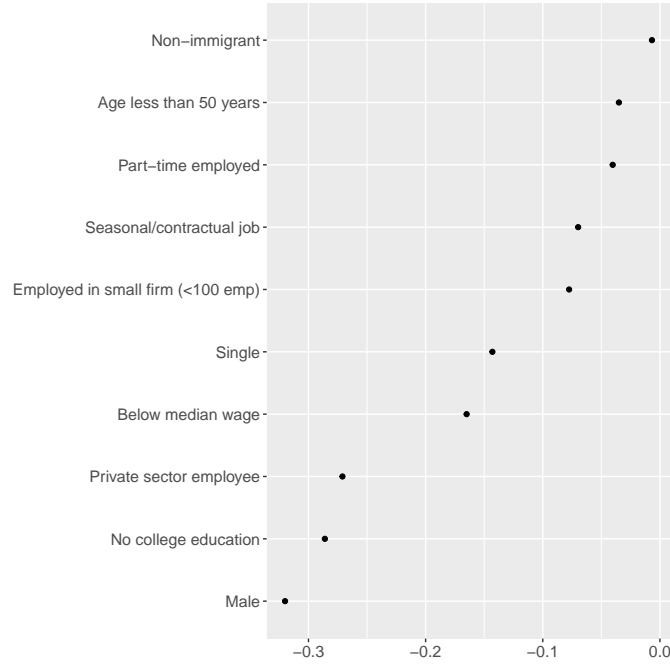
We then plot the values for $\hat{\beta}_y$ in Figure (2).⁵ As an example to understand the interpretation of $\hat{\beta}_y$, let's take the case of below than median income: since $\hat{\beta}_y < 1$, then workers with below median income tend to be in occupations that are less likely to be able to remote work. This is consistent with the findings reported in Section 3 as well as the discussion of Figure (1).

Our results suggest that female workers and immigrations tend to work in occupations with more possibility of working remotely. On the other hand, younger (less than 50 years) workers, part-time workers, small firm workers, seasonal/contractual workers, single workers and workers without a college degree tend to be employed in jobs that are less likely to be performed at home.

The rest of characteristics can be analyzed in a similar fashion: female workers and immigrations tend to work in occupations with more possibility of working remotely. On the other hand, younger (less than 50 years) workers, part-time workers, small firm workers, seasonal/contractual workers, single workers and

⁵As explained in MPW, this sample moment gives $\hat{\beta}_y = \mathbb{E}[y_{ij} | S_j = 1] - \mathbb{E}[y_{ij} | S_j = 0]$ where \mathbb{E} is the sample mean. Given that y_{ij} is binary, β_y simply gives the fraction of workers for which $y_{ij} = 1$ in low work-from-home occupations, relative to the fraction of workers for which y_{ij} in high work-from-home occupations. Note that $\hat{\beta}_y \in [0, 1]$ and takes the maximum value of 1 when $y_{ij} = 1$ for all individuals for which $S_j = 1$, and $y_{ij} = 0$ for all individuals for which $S_j = 0$.

Figure 2: Worker characteristics and likelihood of having a job that can be done at home



workers without a college degree tend to be employed in jobs that is less likely to be performed at home. These results are overall consistent with the findings of MPW for the USA.

4.2 Employment Dynamics

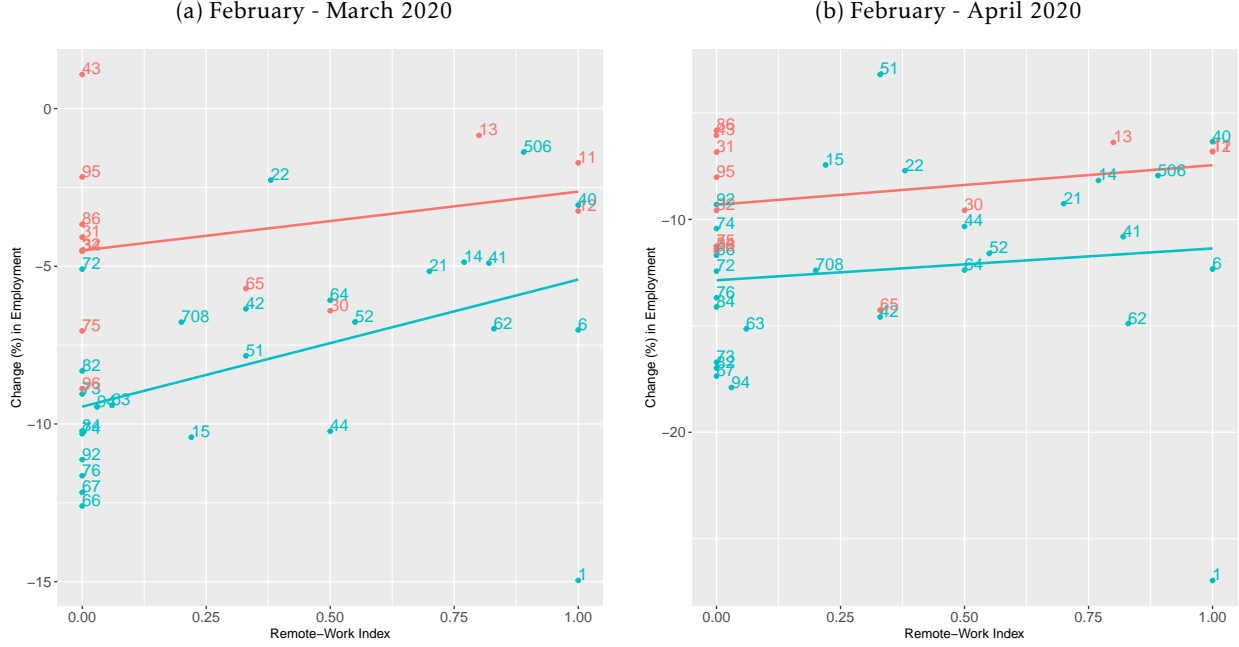
We then obtain the March and April 2020 LFS data, and compare with the February 2020 (before the social distancing measures in Canada). In Figure (3) we can see that 2-digit occupations that have higher telecommuting index values experiences smaller employment declines. This holds for the February-March 2020 period (Figure (3a)) as well as the February-April 2020 period (Figure (3b)).

As can be observed in the Figures, we control for jobs deemed essential by public policy. For example, front line medical workers have low jobs scores (0), but because they have been declared essential they can continue to work. For instance, “Occupations in front-line public protection services” has a 0 in the job score, but was the only occupation category to experience employment gains.

We construct an “Essential-Service” dummy variable to take this important caveat into account.⁶ As a robustness check, we then also use the 4-digit essential service binary classification done by Labour Market Information Council (LMIC), and aggregate into 2-digit by taking employment weighted averages, thus having now an index that is no longer binary.

⁶We match the 2-digit occupations to the essential service sectors as listed by [Public Safety Canada](#): Energy and Utilities, Information and Communication Technologies, Finance, Health, Food, Water, Transportation, Safety, Government, Manufacturing.

Figure 3: Employment Dynamics and Remote Work Index (2-digit occupation)



Note: in red are the essential service occupations and in green are the non-essential service occupations.

We formally test this relationship. For an occupation j , let employment be q_j and denote $\Delta q_{j,t,\tau}$ as the percent change in employment between period t and τ . We then run the following OLS regression, where S_j is the remote-work score of occupation j and D is the “essential-service” dummy variable (or alternatively the “essential service” variable as described in the previous paragraph, which we will denote as ES_j):

$$\Delta q_{j,t,\tau} = \alpha_j + \beta S_j + D_j + \varepsilon_j \quad (2)$$

In Table (4) we can see the regression results. As can be observed, the remote-work index score variable is positive and statistically significant only for the February-March change.

The lack of statistical significance for the January-February change (the “before the social distancing” observation) is expected, but is surprising in the March-April case. One interpretation is that the shock hit first (during March) the workers that could not remote-work. This patterns holds across all regression specifications, as seen in robustness check in Tables (A7) (alternative remote work index), (A8) (alternative essential service variable) and (A9) (both alternative remote work index and alternative essential service variable).

This suggests that the pandemic shock hit harder and sooner (in terms of job destruction) those workers that could not work from home.⁷ As the crisis spread to the rest of the economy, the speed of job destruction

⁷In terms of income, instead of job loss, the shock is mitigated via policy measures. For example, the Canada Emergency Response

converged across occupations, in line with occupation/sector complementarity and input-output linkages.⁸

Table 4: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: 2-digit level

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$		$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	-0.468 (1.282)	-0.434 (1.307)	2.657* (1.463)	3.275** (1.215)	-1.472 (1.307)	-1.579 (1.325)	1.094 (1.853)	1.623 (1.739)
D_j		-0.234 (1.060)		-4.276*** (0.986)		0.743 (1.075)		-3.660** (1.411)
Constant	0.239 (0.656)	0.385 (0.939)	-7.567*** (0.749)	-4.894*** (0.873)	-3.745*** (0.669)	-4.209*** (0.952)	-11.535*** (0.949)	-9.246*** (1.249)
Observations	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
R ²	0.004	0.005	0.080	0.390	0.032	0.045	0.009	0.162
Adjusted R ²	-0.023	-0.049	0.056	0.357	0.007	-0.007	-0.017	0.116

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

This pattern also holds at the NOC 10 broad occupations level, as reported in Figure (A2). The broad occupations that have low remote-work index (for example, occupations in manufacturing and utilities) experienced larger employment declines between February and March 2020 except for health occupations (Figure (A2a)). A similar pattern continued in the March-April variation and in this period, some high remote-work index occupation like management occupations experienced higher employment loss compare to the February-March, as seen in Figure (A2b). This also supported with regression results presented in Table (A10), in both periods the variation employment was statistically significantly explained by remote-work index. However, between March to April the remote work index is not statistically significant, similar than described before in the 2-digit level case.

We also document that this relationship holds at the sectoral level in Figure (A3). For example, accommodation and food services is highly impacted by employment loss as it has low remote-work index value, and this declined continued until April. This is also supported by regression results presented in Table (A11), where the coefficient is statistically significant for the period of February-March 2020.

At the provincial level, the relationship is less clear, as seen in Figure (A4) and Table (A12). The lack of relationship also holds at the city level, as seen in Figure (A5) and Table (A13): this however makes sense when one takes into account that many other factor affect employment losses, such as the severity of Covid-19 infections and the subsequent magnitude of social distancing (for instance Toronto has a high

Benefit (CERB) gives financial support to employed and self-employed Canadians who are directly affected by COVID-19. This replacement income is a considerable part of low-wage workers income. Eligible people can receive \$2,000 for a 4-week period. We leave for future research the impact on income.

⁸The interpretation of this intuition is as follows: If one thinks of the production process being a function of different occupation/tasks and different intermediate inputs, then shocks to specific occupations propagate to the rest of the economy (and hence rest of occupations) via two channels: complementarity in production and input-output linkages. Furthermore, complementarity in consumption might reinforce these supply side channels.

work from home index, but also was one of the worst hit cities due to -probably- being an international travel hub).

5 Conclusion

The magnitude of the Covid-19 shock on labor markets is historic. Policy makers around the world are responding as fast as possible to mitigate this shock. Understanding and designing policy during the crisis and after it (ease of lockdown and relaxing of social distancing) is crucial. This paper might help policy makers design better options.

In this paper we have provided three main set of results:

1. We find that 41 percent of jobs in the Canada can be performed remotely, with significant variation across provinces, cities, territories and industries.
2. We complement this with labor micro data and documents facts on the relationship between remote work and worker characteristics: our results suggest that female workers and immigrations tend to work in occupations with more possibility of working remotely. On the other hand, poorer workers, younger workers, part-time workers, small firm workers, seasonal/contractual workers, single workers and workers without a college degree tend to be employed in jobs that are less likely to be performed at home.
3. We then show that workers in occupations (and sectors) less likely to be able to work remotely experienced larger employment losses between February and March but not between March and April.

We argued that the last finding suggests that the pandemic shock hit harder and sooner those workers that could not work from home. As the crisis spread to the rest of the economy, the speed of job destruction converged across occupations, in line with occupation/sector complementarity and input-output linkages. This seems like an important channel for future research.

Future work and future data could also extend and improve on the empirical findings. For instance, measuring the share of productivity or output instead of jobs seems. Also studying the impact of policy, such as the CERB financial support.

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A Plots and Tables

Table A1: Remote Work Index: Benchmark vs. Alternative Example Comparison

Occupation	Benchmark	Alternative
0621 Retail and wholesale trade managers	1	0
1222 Executive assistants	1	0
2254 Land survey technologists and technicians	1	0
1211 Supervisors, general office and administrative support workers	1	0
1214 Supervisors, mail and message distribution occupations	1	0
4422 Correctional service officers	1	0
5232 Other performers, n.e.c.	1	0
5221 Photographers	1	0
1215 Supervisors, supply chain, tracking and scheduling co-ordination occupations	1	0
0632 Accommodation service managers	1	0
6232 Real estate agents and salespersons	1	0
5252 Coaches	1	0
5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	1	0
5231 Announcers and other broadcasters	1	0
5136 Painters, sculptors and other visual artists	1	0
1241 Administrative assistants	1	0
4423 By-law enforcement and other regulatory officers, n.e.c.	1	0
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	1	0
1435 Collectors	1	0
2272 Air traffic controllers and related occupations	1	0
2115 Other professional occupations in physical sciences	1	0
9472 Camera, platemaking and other prepress occupations	1	0
5132 Conductors, composers and arrangers	1	0
2122 Forestry professionals	1	0
1314 Assessors, valuers and appraisers	0	1
2132 Mechanical engineers	0	1
6222 Retail and wholesale buyers	0	1
2241 Electrical and electronics engineering technologists and technicians	0	1
2141 Industrial and manufacturing engineers	0	1
2232 Mechanical engineering technologists and technicians	0	1
5243 Theatre, fashion, exhibit and other creative designers	0	1
5123 Journalists	0	1

Figure A1: Index Comparison

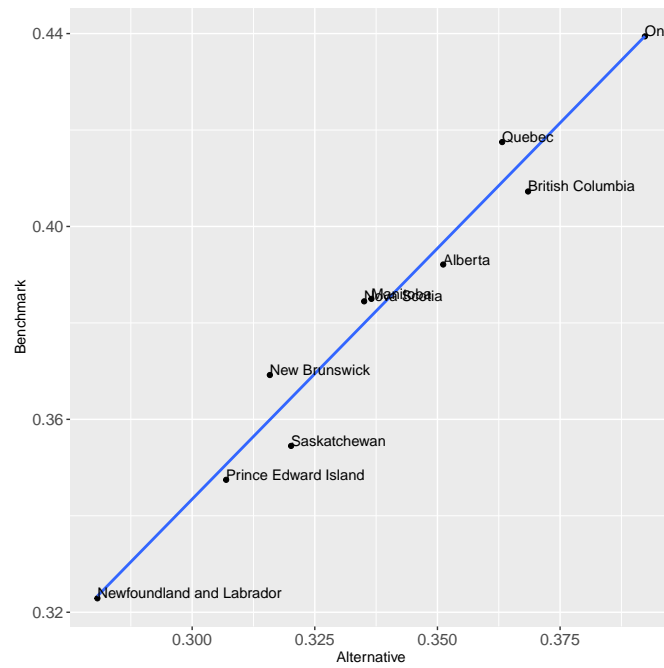
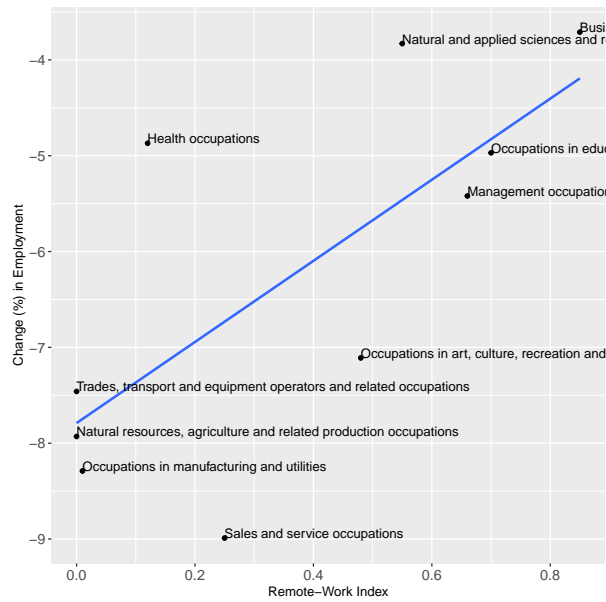


Figure A2: Employment Dynamics and Remote Work Index (10 NOC broad occupation groups)

(a) February - March 2020, % change



(b) February - April 2020, % change

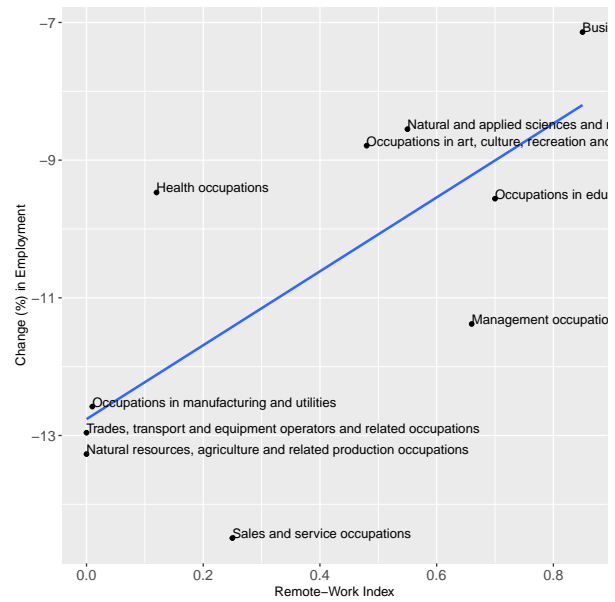


Table A2: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by city

City	Unweighted	Weighted by Wages
Ottawa Gatineau (Ontario part)	0.53	0.65
Ottawa Gatineau	0.52	0.63
Toronto	0.49	0.63
Ottawa Gatineau (Quebec part) City	0.49	0.58
Montreal	0.46	0.56
Calgary	0.46	0.59
Halifax	0.46	0.54
Quebec City	0.45	0.54
Vancouver	0.45	0.55
Moncton	0.44	0.52
Victoria	0.44	0.52
Regina	0.43	0.50
Oshawa	0.43	0.50
Hamilton	0.42	0.52
Winnipeg	0.42	0.50
Kitchener Cambridge Waterloo	0.42	0.52
St. John's	0.41	0.49
Kingston	0.41	0.49
Guelph	0.41	0.51
London	0.41	0.49
Saint John	0.41	0.46
Edmonton	0.40	0.45
Sherbrooke	0.39	0.46
Barrie	0.39	0.45
Saskatoon	0.39	0.45
Peterborough	0.38	0.45
Kelowna	0.38	0.43
Trois Rivières	0.38	0.44
Thunder Bay	0.37	0.41
Greater Sudbury	0.37	0.40
Saguenay	0.36	0.40
St. Catharines Niagara	0.36	0.43
Windsor	0.36	0.43
Lethbridge	0.35	0.40
Belleville	0.35	0.40
Brantford	0.35	0.42
Abbotsford Mission	0.33	0.38

Table A3: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by territory

Territory	Unweighted	Weighted by Wages
Northwest Territories	0.43	0.50
Yukon	0.42	0.48
Nunavut	0.42	0.53

Table A4: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by province (LFS estimates)

Provinces	Benchmark	Alternative
Ontario	0.41	0.39
Alberta	0.39	0.38
British Columbia	0.39	0.37
Nova Scotia	0.39	0.37
Quebec	0.39	0.37
Canada	0.39	0.37
Manitoba	0.38	0.36
New Brunswick	0.38	0.36
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.38	0.36
Saskatchewan	0.38	0.36
Prince Edward Island	0.37	0.35

Table A5: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by city (LFS estimates)

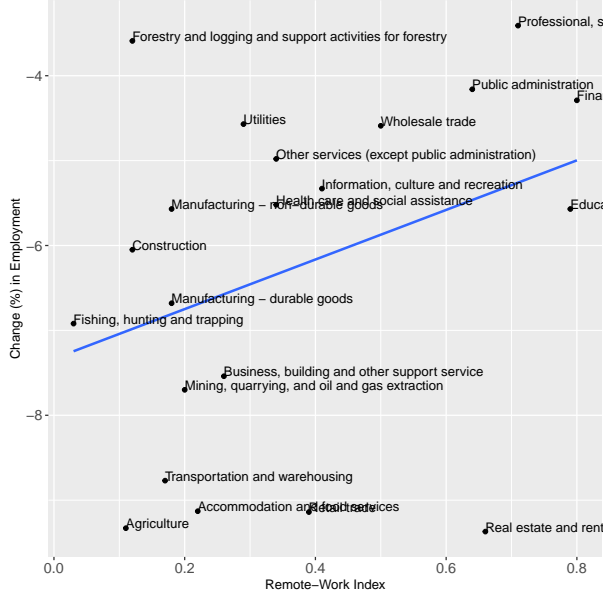
City	Benchmark	Alternative
Ottawa	0.45	0.42
Hamilton	0.42	0.40
Montreal	0.42	0.40
Toronto	0.42	0.40
Calgary	0.41	0.39
Vancouver	0.41	0.38
Edmonton	0.39	0.37
Quebec	0.39	0.37
Winnipeg	0.39	0.37
CMA or non	0.38	0.36

Table A6: Share of jobs that can be done at home, by industry (LFS estimates)

Sector	Benchmark	Alternative
Finance and insurance	0.62	0.57
Real estate and rental and leasing	0.46	0.42
Wholesale trade	0.44	0.41
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.43	0.41
Educational services	0.42	0.40
Health care and social assistance	0.41	0.38
Information, culture and recreation	0.41	0.39
Utilities	0.39	0.38
Construction	0.39	0.38
Retail trade	0.39	0.36
Transportation and warehousing	0.39	0.38
Accommodation and food services	0.39	0.35
Total	0.39	0.37
Other services (except public administration)	0.38	0.36
Manufacturing - durable goods	0.37	0.36
Public administration	0.37	0.35
Manufacturing - non-durable goods	0.35	0.33
Business, building and other support service	0.34	0.32
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	0.32	0.32
Forestry and logging and support activities for forestry	0.25	0.27
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.18	0.19
Agriculture	0.17	0.22

Figure A3: Employment Dynamics and Remote Work Index (by industry)

(a) February - March 2020, % change



(b) February - April 2020, % change

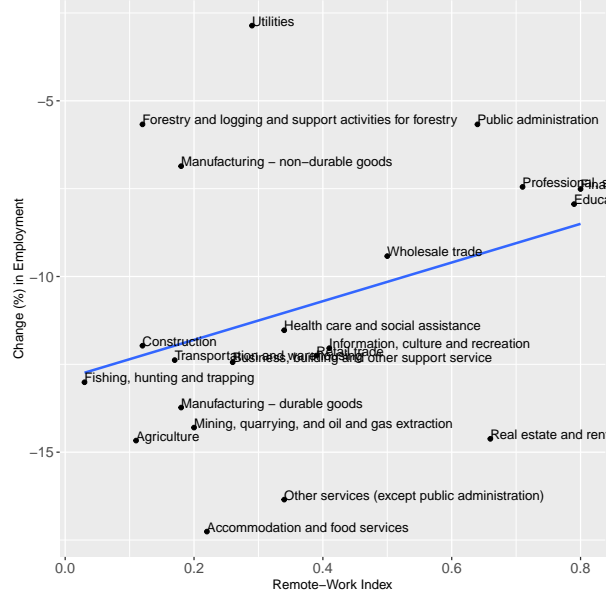
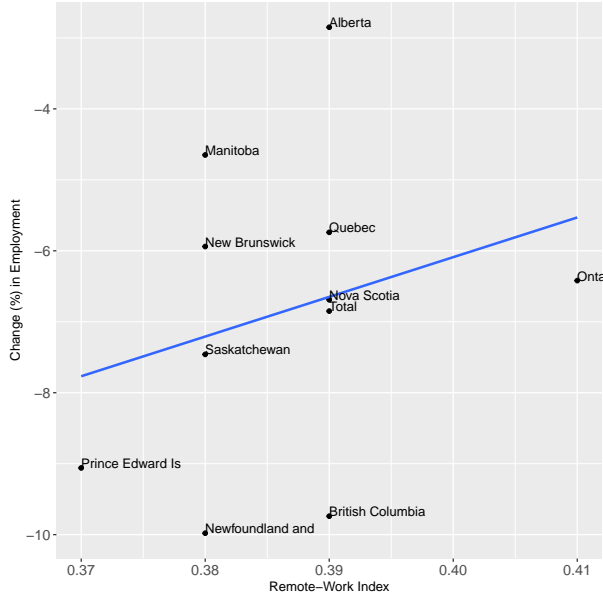


Figure A4: Employment Dynamics and Remote Work Index (by province)

(a) February - March 2020, % change



(b) February - April 2020, % change

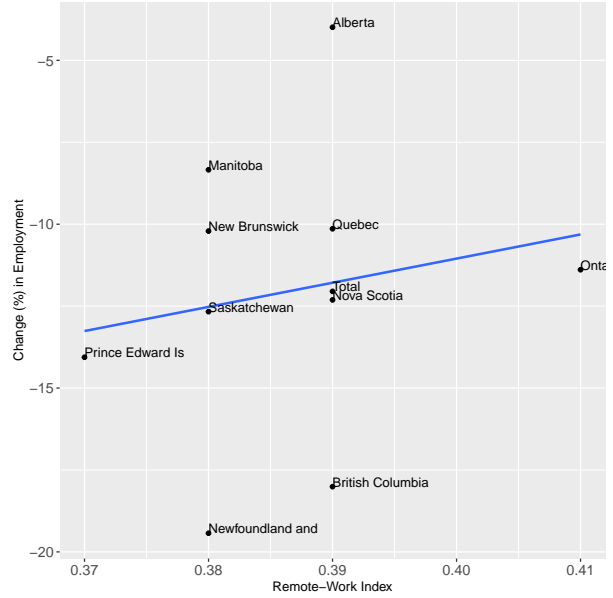


Figure A5: Employment Dynamics and Remote Work Index (by city)

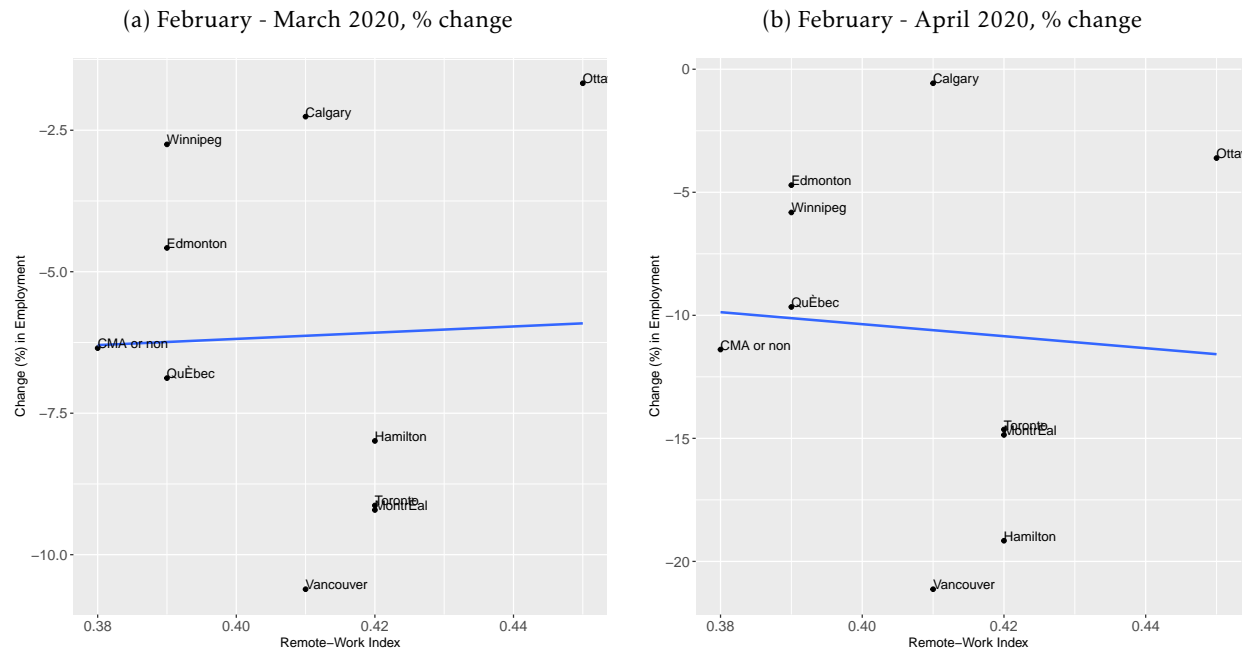


Table A7: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: 2-digit level (Robustness Check: Alternative Remote Work Index)

	Dependent variable:							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$		$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$S_j(Alternative)$	-0.840 (1.436)	-0.806 (1.465)	3.117* (1.636)	3.834*** (1.354)	-2.411 (1.440)	-2.547* (1.458)	0.559 (2.088)	1.160 (1.968)
D_j		-0.205 (1.058)		-4.297*** (0.978)		0.814 (1.053)		-3.606** (1.421)
Constant	0.322 (0.640)	0.450 (0.927)	-7.560*** (0.729)	-4.867*** (0.857)	-3.551*** (0.642)	-4.060*** (0.923)	-11.321*** (0.931)	-9.062*** (1.245)
Observations	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
R ²	0.009	0.010	0.087	0.400	0.069	0.084	0.002	0.150
Adjusted R ²	-0.017	-0.044	0.063	0.368	0.044	0.034	-0.024	0.104

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A8: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: 2-digit level (Robustness Check: Essential Service Index)

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$		$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	-0.434 (1.307)	-0.441 (1.297)	3.275** (1.215)	2.643* (1.483)	-1.579 (1.325)	-1.382 (1.289)	1.623 (1.739)	1.182 (1.855)
D_j	-0.234 (1.060)		-4.276*** (0.986)		0.743 (1.075)		-3.660** (1.411)	
ES_j		0.737 (1.675)		-0.359 (1.915)		2.421 (1.665)		2.374 (2.396)
Constant	0.385 (0.939)	0.042 (0.801)	-4.894*** (0.873)	-7.471*** (0.916)	-4.209*** (0.952)	-4.394*** (0.797)	-9.246*** (1.249)	-12.171*** (1.146)
Observations	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
R ²	0.005	0.009	0.390	0.081	0.045	0.085	0.162	0.035
Adjusted R ²	-0.049	-0.045	0.357	0.031	-0.007	0.035	0.116	-0.017

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A9: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: 2-digit level (Robustness Check: Alternative Remote Work Index and Essential Service Index)

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$		$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$		$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$S_j(Alternative)$	-0.806 (1.465)	-0.775 (1.461)	3.834*** (1.354)	3.106* (1.669)	-2.547* (1.458)	-2.193 (1.433)	1.160 (1.968)	0.795 (2.102)
D_j	-0.205 (1.058)		-4.297*** (0.978)		0.814 (1.053)		-3.606** (1.421)	
ES_j		0.663 (1.680)		-0.120 (1.919)		2.222 (1.648)		2.403 (2.417)
Constant	0.450 (0.927)	0.134 (0.804)	-4.867*** (0.857)	-7.526*** (0.918)	-4.060*** (0.923)	-4.182*** (0.789)	-9.062*** (1.245)	-12.004*** (1.157)
Observations	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
R ²	0.010	0.013	0.400	0.087	0.084	0.112	0.150	0.028
Adjusted R ²	-0.044	-0.040	0.368	0.038	0.034	0.064	0.104	-0.025

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A10: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: 10 Occupation Group

	Dependent variable:							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (1)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (2)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (3)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (4)	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (5)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (6)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (7)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	1.104 (1.566)	4.232** (1.465)	0.893 (1.223)	5.368** (1.866)				
$S_j(Alternative)$					1.269 (1.890)	5.008** (1.793)	0.731 (1.498)	6.009** (2.397)
Constant	-0.145 (0.744)	-7.790*** (0.696)	-4.615*** (0.581)	-12.762*** (0.886)	-0.121 (0.739)	-7.740*** (0.702)	-4.508*** (0.586)	-12.598*** (0.938)
Observations	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
R ²	0.059	0.511	0.062	0.509	0.053	0.494	0.029	0.440
Adjusted R ²	-0.059	0.449	-0.055	0.447	-0.065	0.430	-0.092	0.370

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A11: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: Industry

	Dependent variable:							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (1)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (2)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (3)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (4)	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (5)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (6)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (7)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	1.656 (2.584)	2.920 (1.794)	2.306 (2.477)	5.504 (3.510)				
$S_j(Alternative)$					1.995 (2.914)	3.573* (2.002)	2.795 (2.787)	6.702 (3.922)
Constant	-0.700 (1.098)	-7.333*** (0.762)	-5.184*** (1.052)	-12.904*** (1.491)	-0.694 (1.042)	-7.339*** (0.715)	-5.181*** (0.996)	-12.905*** (1.402)
Observations	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
R ²	0.021	0.122	0.044	0.115	0.024	0.144	0.050	0.133
Adjusted R ²	-0.030	0.076	-0.007	0.068	-0.027	0.099	0.0003	0.088

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A12: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: Province

	Dependent variable:							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (1)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (2)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (3)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (4)	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (5)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (6)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (7)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	-15.966 (35.744)	55.940 (67.479)	14.155 (63.494)	73.698 (135.769)				
$S_j(Alternative)$					0.470 (33.623)	81.284 (59.234)	42.806 (57.495)	130.000 (120.837)
Constant	6.648 (13.814)	-28.466 (26.080)	-10.301 (24.540)	-40.529 (52.473)	0.306 (12.354)	-36.706 (21.764)	-20.553 (21.125)	-59.800 (44.399)
Observations	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
R ²	0.022	0.071	0.005	0.032	0.00002	0.173	0.058	0.114
Adjusted R ²	-0.087	-0.032	-0.105	-0.076	-0.111	0.081	-0.047	0.015

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A13: Employment Change and Remote Work Index: City

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>							
	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (1)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (2)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (3)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (4)	$\Delta q_{j,Jan,Feb}$ (5)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Mar}$ (6)	$\Delta q_{j,Mar,Apr}$ (7)	$\Delta q_{j,Feb,Apr}$ (8)
$S_j(Benchmark)$	-64.798** (27.065)	5.490 (53.655)	-26.980 (62.792)	-24.394 (115.792)				
$S_j(Alternative)$					-65.432* (31.648)	6.691 (59.309)	-22.926 (69.746)	-18.611 (128.198)
Constant	27.613** (11.056)	-8.383 (21.917)	6.931 (25.649)	-0.602 (47.299)	26.432* (12.229)	-8.726 (22.918)	4.772 (26.951)	-3.371 (49.538)
Observations	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
R ²	0.417	0.001	0.023	0.006	0.348	0.002	0.013	0.003
Adjusted R ²	0.345	-0.124	-0.100	-0.119	0.267	-0.123	-0.110	-0.122

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01