

Broadband and the Economy: Ministerial Background Report, OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy, Seoul

This report examines the way in which broadband networks interact with the economy, the role they play in creating the conditions for sustainable economic growth and prosperity, and the structural changes they enable. Emphasis is put on the economic impacts, in particular on growth, globalisation and employment. Broadband has become an important part of almost every aspect of the knowledge economy and is especially so in activities that rely on the provision of data and information, particularly in service sectors. Many aspects of producing, delivering, consuming, co-ordination and organisation are now taking place over broadband communications networks. Broadband generates increased efficiency, productivity and welfare gains, and potentially contributes to job creation and occupational change. But it also gives rise to security and privacy concerns, and protecting users' security is increasingly important as the broadband-enabled Internet becomes part of the economic infrastructure.

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Knowledge Type: [Thematic report](#) [1]

Other Tag: [general purpose technologies](#) [2]

[productivity](#) [3]

[diffusion](#) [4]

[worker productivity](#) [5]

[internet access](#) [6]

[pricing](#) [7]

[total factor productivity](#) [8]

[structural change](#) [9]

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[4] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/diffusion>

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