Measuring R&D tax support: Findings from the new OECD R&D Tax Incentives Database
Silvia Appelt, Fernando Galindo-Rueda, Ana Cinta González Cabral

Abstract

Investment in research and development (R&D) is a key factor driving innovation and economic growth. Over the past two decades, tax incentives have become a major tool for promoting business R&D. This raises a number of policy questions: How has the role of R&D tax incentives in the R&D support policy mix evolved over time? How generous are different tax relief provisions for different types of firms and how effective are they in stimulating additional business R&D investment?

The OECD R&D Tax Incentives Database (http://oe.cd/rdtax) aims to contribute to the data infrastructure available to policy makers and researchers to examine the use and impact of R&D tax incentives across OECD countries and partner economies over time. This paper represents an accompanying guide to this database, describing the newly released R&D tax incentive time series data and highlighting their potential for descriptive and econometric analysis at cross-country level.