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Abstract

This quantitative research focuses on the analysis of ICT Irish invention production, invention value and inventive performance in response to the tax environment for R&D laid out by the Irish Government, as one of the strategies for developing a better research and innovation ecosystem. It contributes to the body of knowledge by investigating ICT innovation through different perspectives through the examination of 2207 patent applications from the Irish ICT industry filed to the USPTO from 2004 to 2015. The main findings suggest that inventive performance, invention quantity and quality in Ireland responded positively to more generous R&D tax credit rates, but trends did not show that Irish experienced inventors had a higher engagement with patents over time. The results found in this investigation provide an insight on patents from the ICT sector as an outcome of the actions taken to establish Ireland as “The Innovation Island”.