

# EXPLORING THE LANDSCAPE OF CANADIAN CLIMATE POLICY

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University of Calgary

Canadian Public Policy Lecture  
Canadian Economics Association 57<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Meeting  
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# Today's Talk

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History and current state  
of Canadian climate policy

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Canadian climate policy  
research

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Key questions and gaps



# Evolution of Canadian Climate Policy

# A Brief History of Canadian Climate Policy



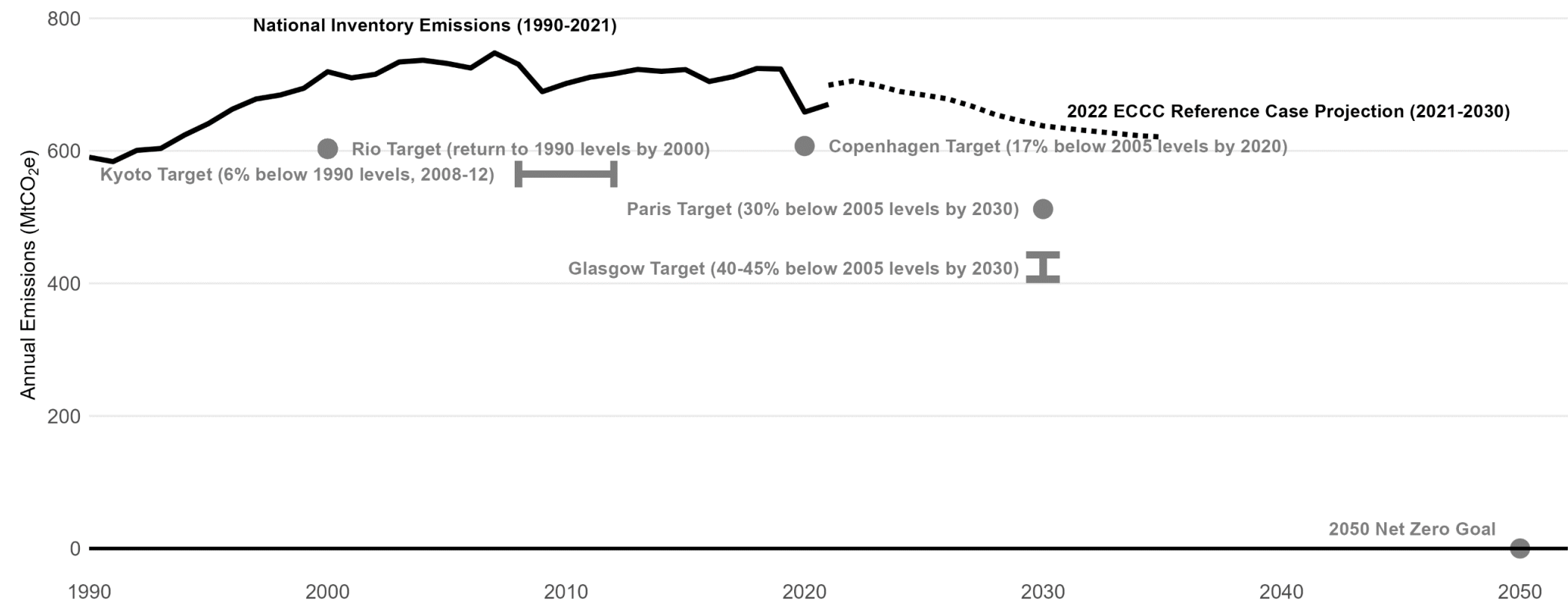
Source: Kusch, L. 2009. "Next-to-last trip as premier sees Doer meet Schwarzenegger, others," *Winnipeg Free Press*. Oct 1.  
<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/next-to-last-trip-as-premier-sees-doer-meet-schwarzenegger-others-63055657.html>

- 1997: Canada signs Kyoto Protocol
- 2002: National Climate Change Process ends
- 2006: Conservatives elected
- 2006 to 2015: Provincial leadership, some federal regulatory actions
- End of 2015: Liberals elected, Canada signs Paris Agreement
- 2017: Pan-Canadian Framework
- 2019: Canada-wide carbon pricing
- 2020: Oil and gas methane regulations
- 2021: Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy
- 2022: Updated emissions price benchmarking
- 2023: Additional regulatory actions

# Canada's Increasingly Ambitious Emissions Targets

## Canada's GHG Emissions, Projections and Future Targets

Source: Environment and Climate Change Canada Emissions Inventory (2023) and BR5 Projections (2023).

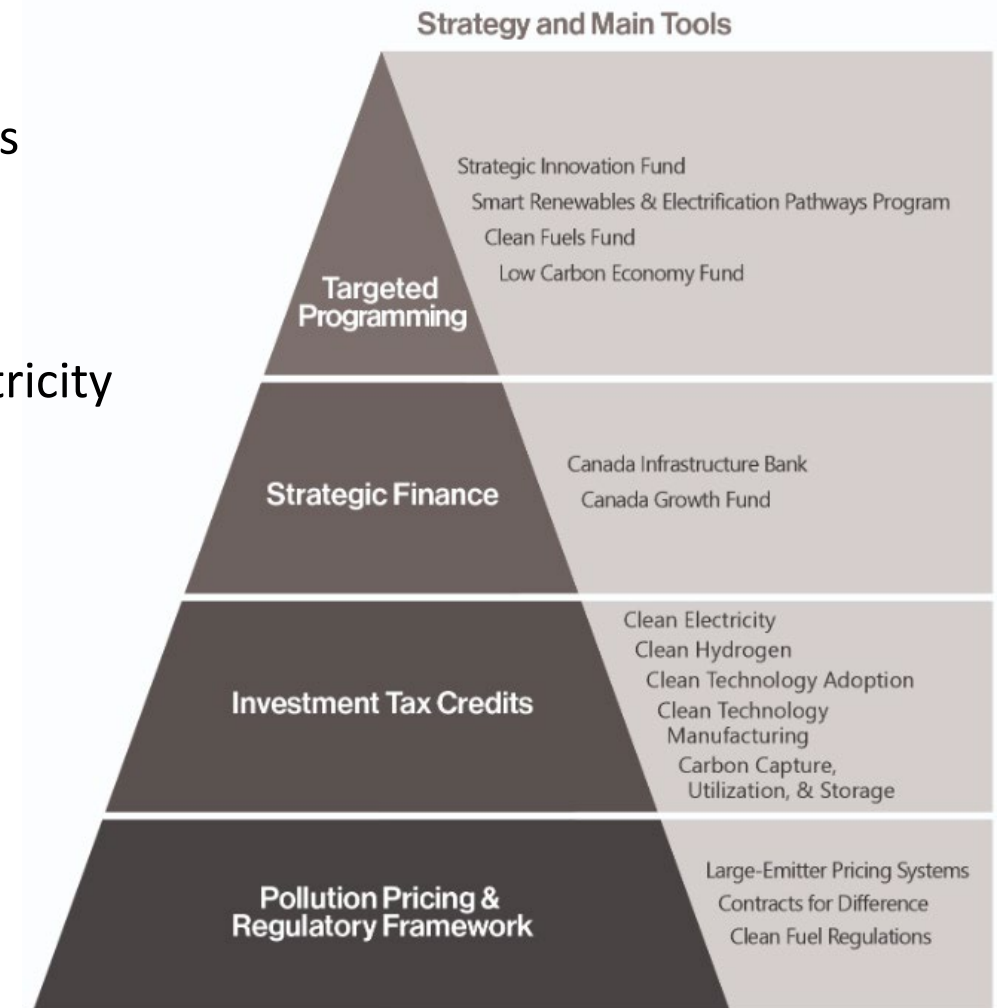


# Environmental and Climate Policy in Canada

- Regional differences
- Federal system of government
  - environment is a joint responsibility
  - provinces own natural resources
- Influence of the United States (and now Europe)
- Approximately 450+ distinct FTP policies and programs, with narrow to broad scope

# Pan-Canadian Framework

- Pricing emissions
  - Minimize carbon leakage and competitiveness impacts
  - Revenue recycling
- Complementary policies
  - Electricity (coal phase-out, no/low-GHG sources, electricity standards)
  - Energy efficiency improvements
  - Transportation (vehicle emissions standards, fuel standards, ZEVs, infrastructure)
  - Industry (CH<sub>4</sub> & HFC regulation, energy efficiency, technology)
  - Forestry, agriculture & waste
- Adaptation



# Federal Pricing Benchmark

- Explicit pricing system
  - Minimum: BC carbon tax system's coverage (combustion emissions)
  - Hybrid: AB (pre-2019) carbon tax plus output-based pricing
  - Price rises from \$10 (2018) to \$50 (2022)
  - 2021 price amendment: increase by \$15 per year to \$170 in 2030
- Or, cap & trade
  - Cover a broad base of emissions similar to BC carbon tax
  - Emissions reduction target as or more stringent than Canada's 30% by 2030 target
  - Declining annual caps
  - 2021 target amendment: at least as stringent as reductions under an explicit pricing scheme



# Updated Benchmark Principles (2022)

- Common scope and coverage
  - Exemptions and activities to negate price signal treated as uncovered
- Clear price signal
- Ensuring protections against carbon leakage are restricted to sectors at risk
- High quality offset credits
- Multi-year assessment period
- Public reporting

# Federal Backstop

- Levy applied to fossil fuels
  - 90% of revenue returned to HHs through lump-sum rebate
  - Exemptions: farm fuel, exports, used as a non-energy input, used at facilities covered by OBPS, biofuels, international aviation/shipping
- Output-based pricing system (OBPS)
  - All facilities emitting  $\geq 50$  kt CO<sub>2</sub>e per year; smaller facilities can opt in
  - Emissions from combustion and industrial processes and product use
  - Product or sector-specific performance standard
  - Payment at federal carbon price where emissions exceed performance standard

# Pricing Systems Constantly Evolving

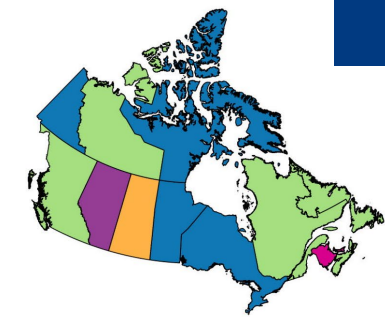
2023

- Eliminate exemptions
- Nova Scotia moving from C&T to OBPS
- Atlantic provinces standing down fuel charge

2019



2020



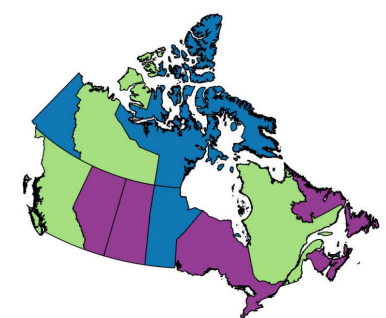
2021



2022



2023



- Federal large emitter system and provincial/territorial consumer price
- Federal large emitter system and federal consumer price
- Provincial/territorial large emitter system and provincial/territorial consumer price
- Provincial/territorial large emitter system and federal consumer price
- Provincial/territorial large emitter system with federal top-up and federal consumer price

# Current Federal Policy Actions

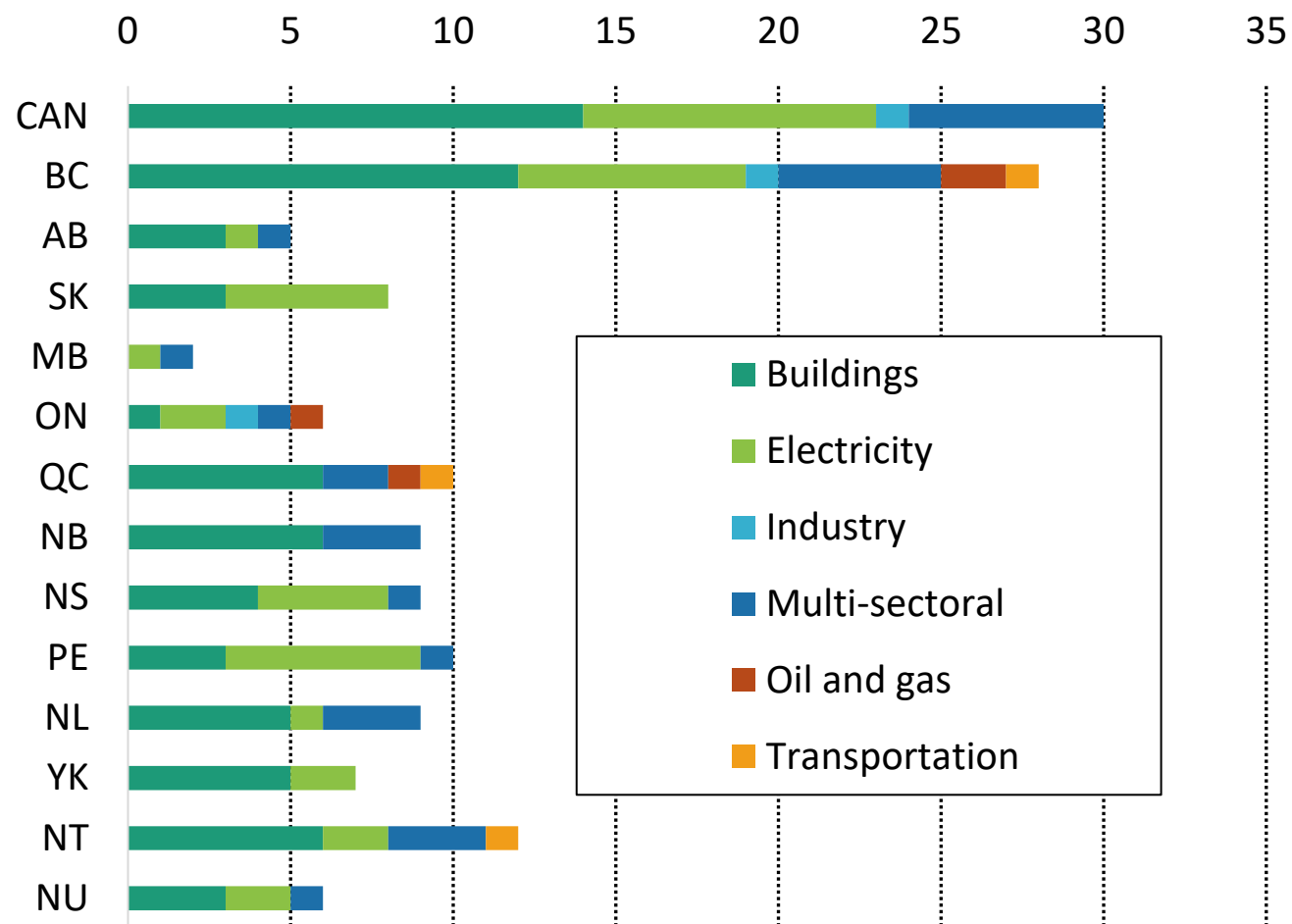
- Carbon price: \$65/tonne now, rising to \$170/t in 2030
- Output-based pricing for large emitters
- Minimum pricing and emissions coverage for provinces and territories
- Clean Fuel Regulation
- **Clean Electricity Regulations (forthcoming)**
- **Oil and gas emissions cap (forthcoming)**
- CCUS tax credit
- Methane reduction regulations (oil and gas, landfills, other sectors to come)
- Offset markets
- R&D funding
- Energy-switching incentives (e.g., zero-emissions vehicles, heat pumps)
- Energy-efficiency incentives (e.g., Canada Greener Homes Grant)
- Etc., etc., ...

# Policy Count by Jurisdiction and Targeted Sector

Policies that affect emissions in the building sector

## Channels

- Energy source decarbonization (i.e., incentivizing renewable electricity generation)
- End-use fuel switching (i.e., electrification of home heating)
- End-use energy efficiency (i.e., appliance energy efficiency standards)
- Reduce embodied emissions

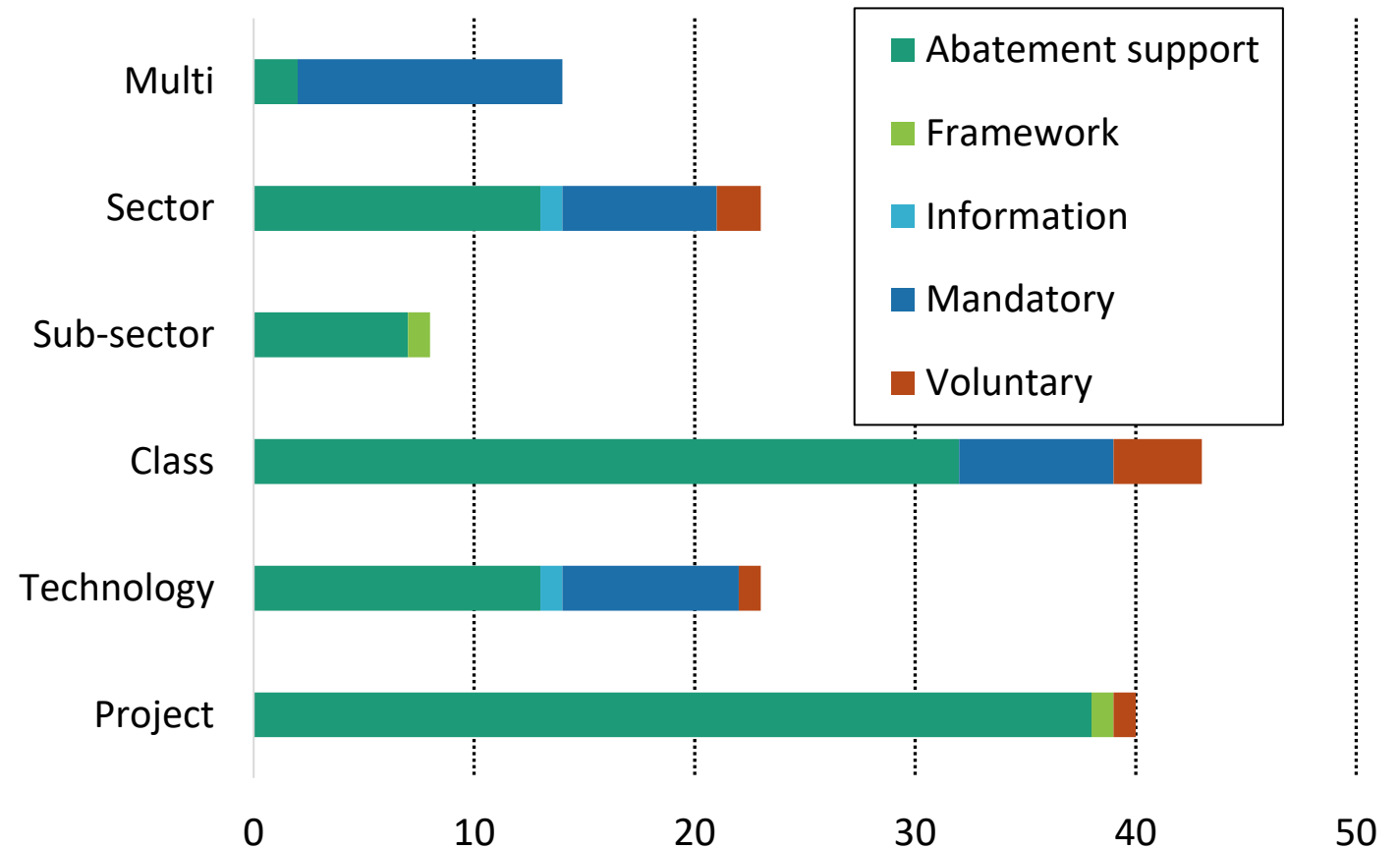


# Policy Count by Scope and Instrument Type

Policies that affect emissions in the building sector

## Examples:

- **Project:** NB Total Home Energy Savings Program
- **Technology:** Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards
- **Class:** ON Energy Efficiency and Demand Management Program
- **Sub-sector:** Federal Greening Government Buildings
- **Sector:** BC Home Energy Labelling Platform
- **Multi:** QC cap-and-trade program



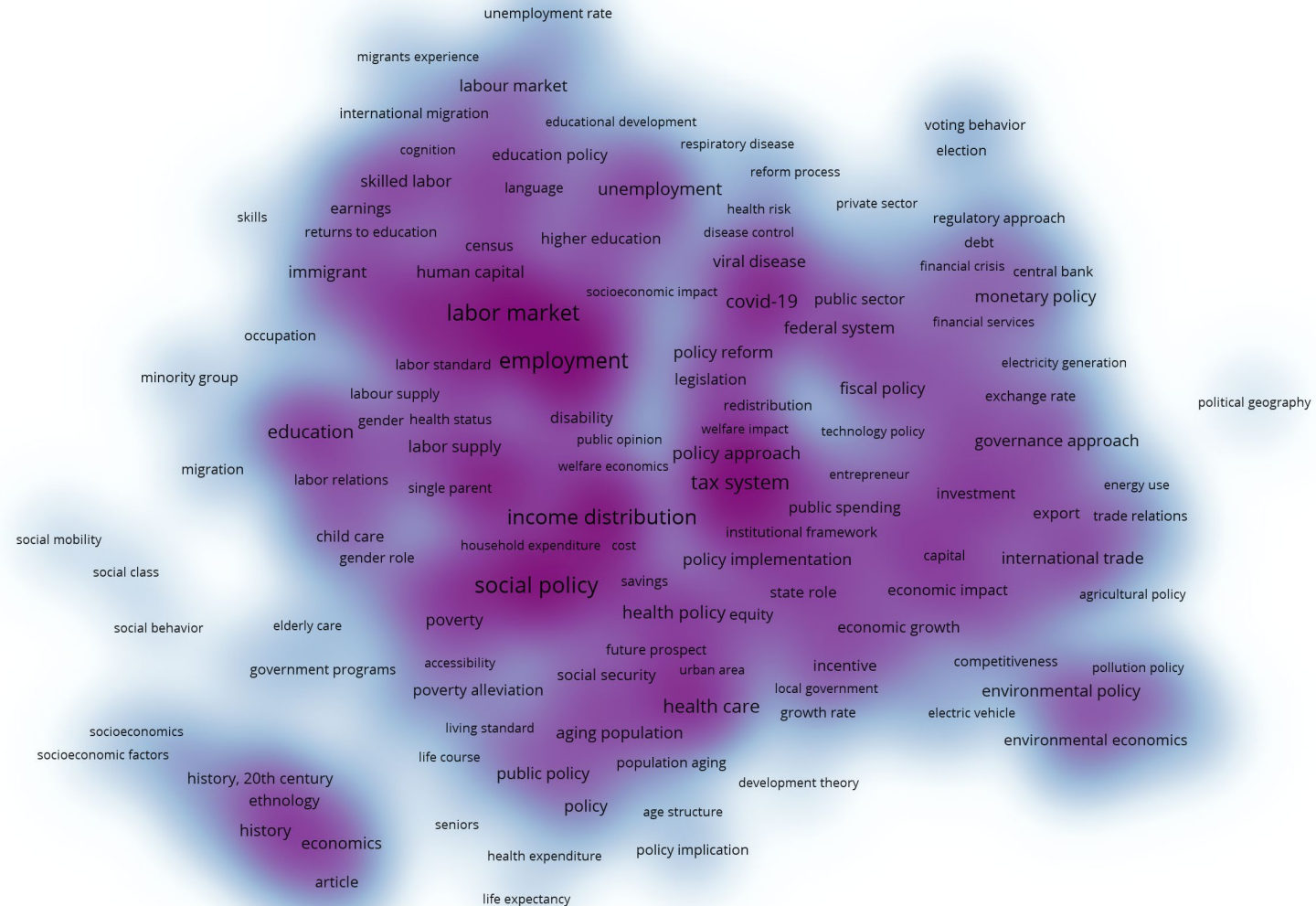


# Canadian Climate Policy Research

# Canadian Public Policy Research Themes

Colour density shows the number of times a keyword is present in the dataset of article keywords.

Geography keywords removed.



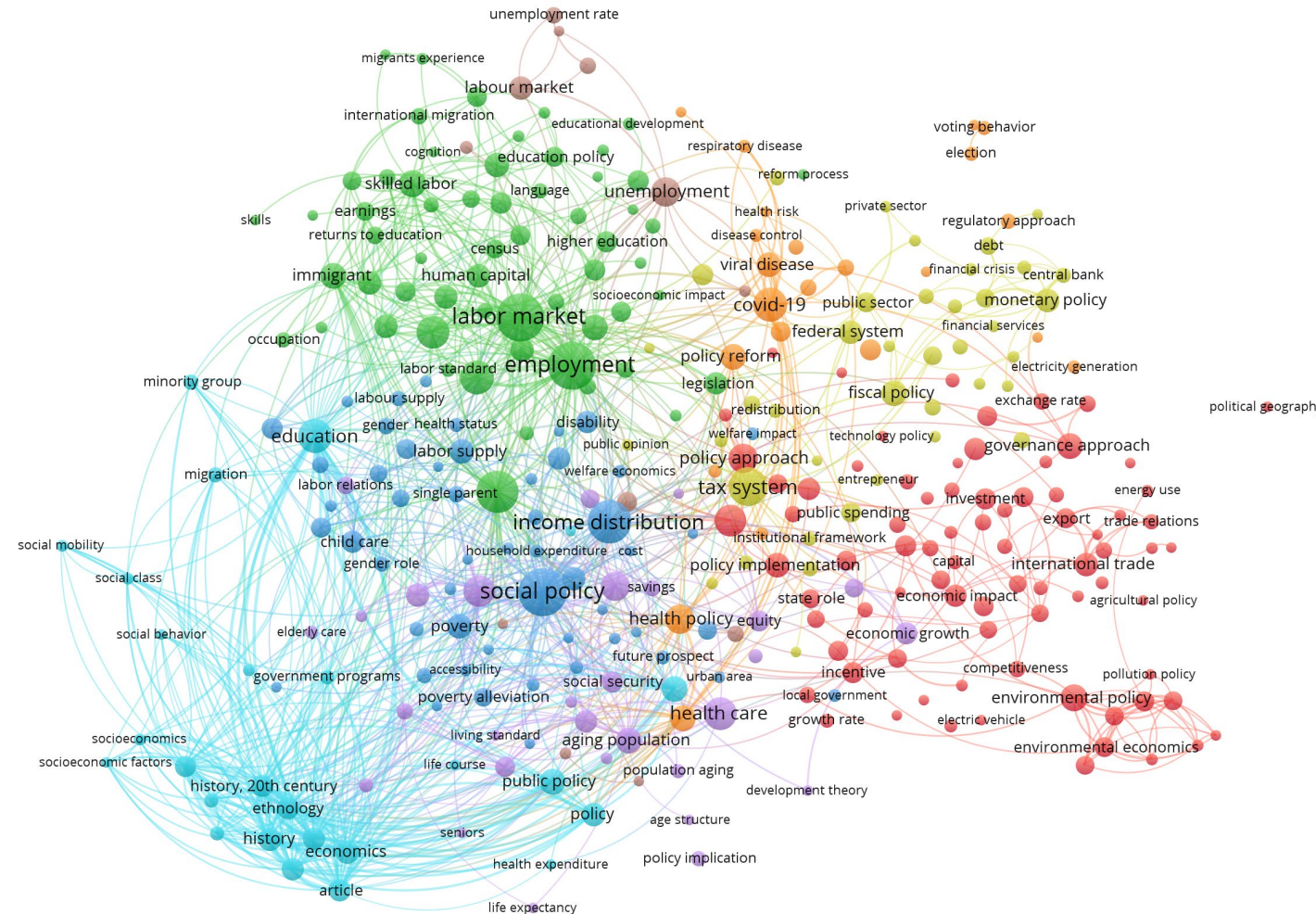


# Canadian Public Policy Research Themes

Bubble size shows the number of times a keyword is present in the dataset of article keywords.

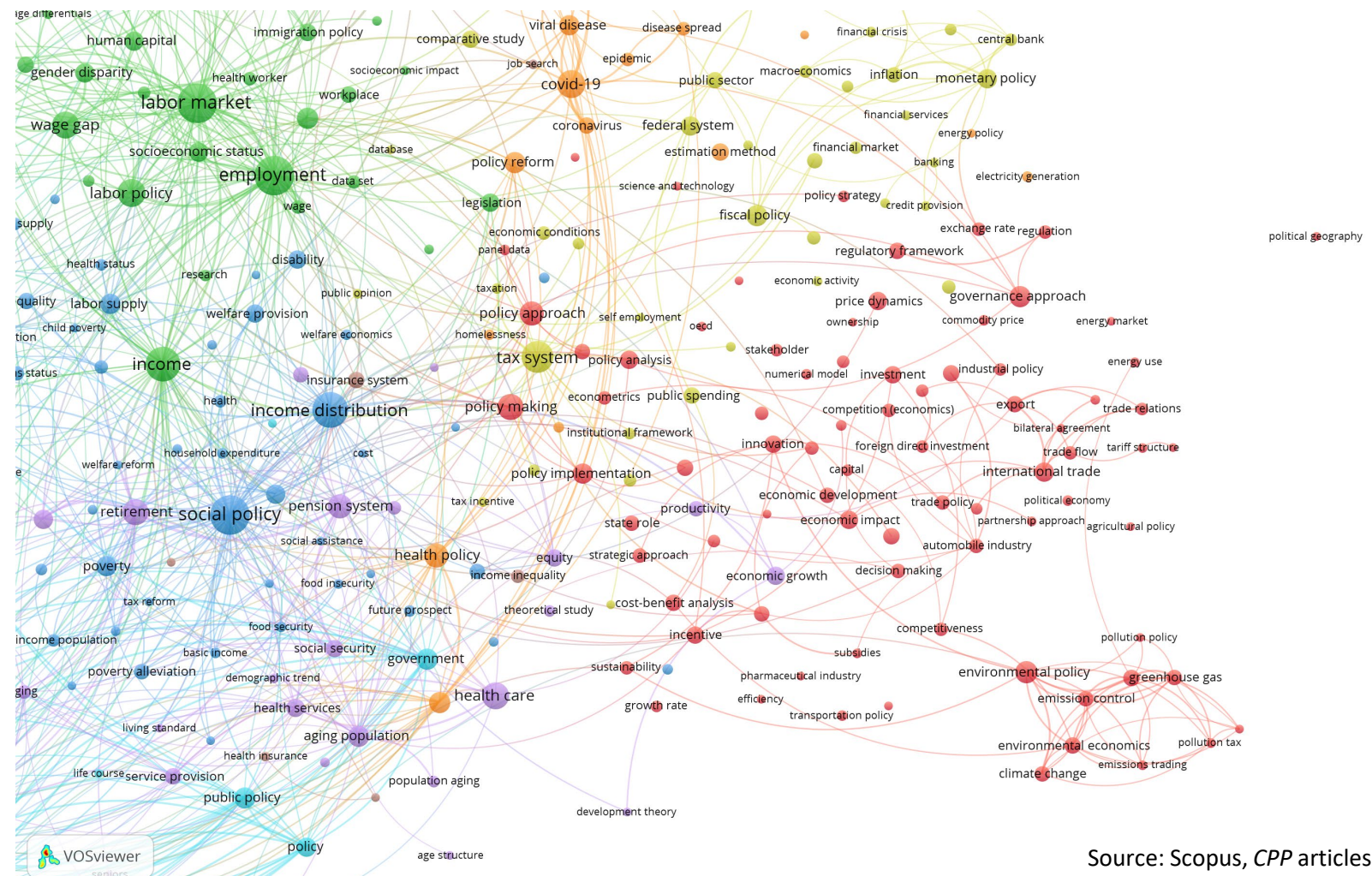
Lines show co-occurrence of keywords across articles.

Geography keywords removed.



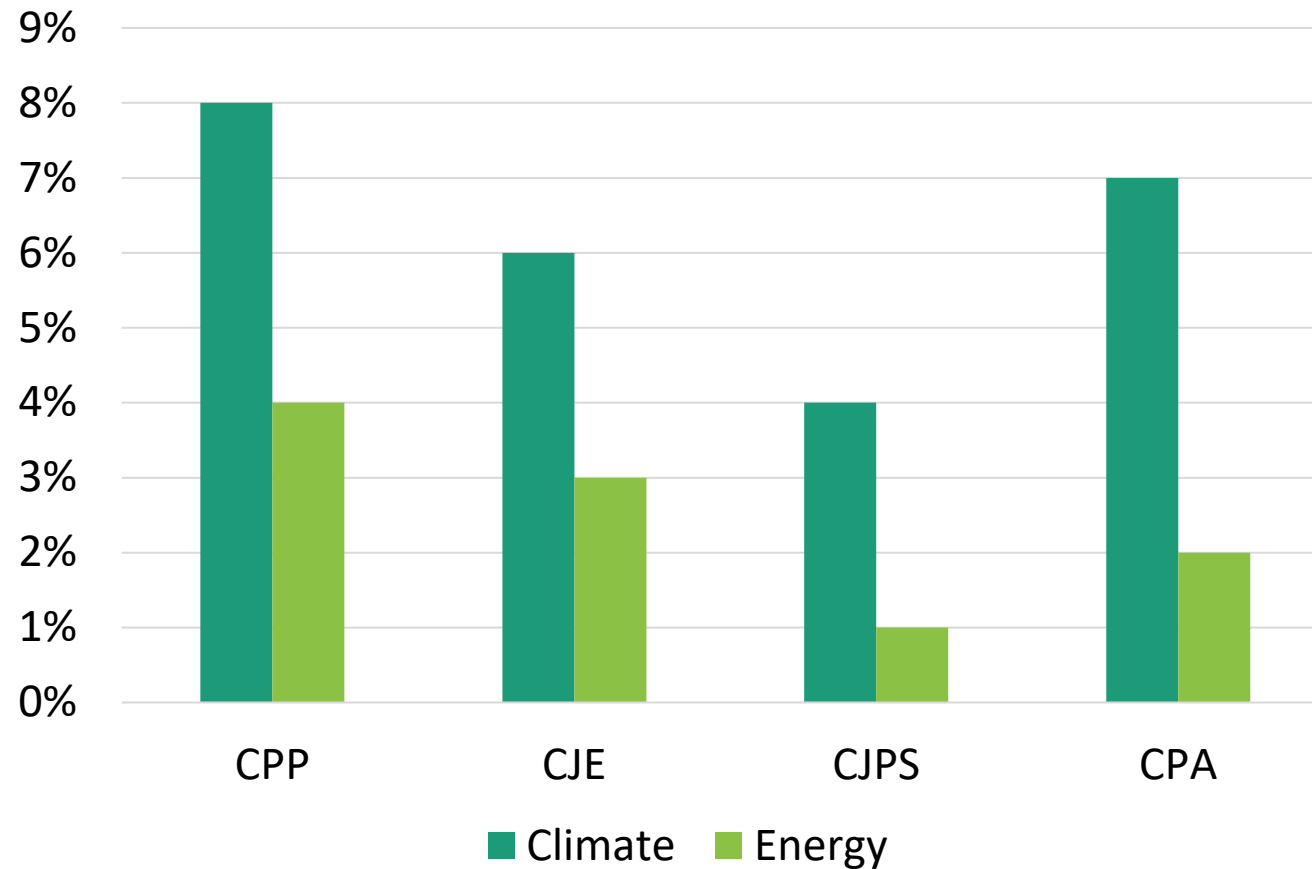
# Canadian Public Policy Research Themes

Environmental and energy economics or policy research has little linkage to other fields.



# Canadian Climate and Energy Policy is Understudied

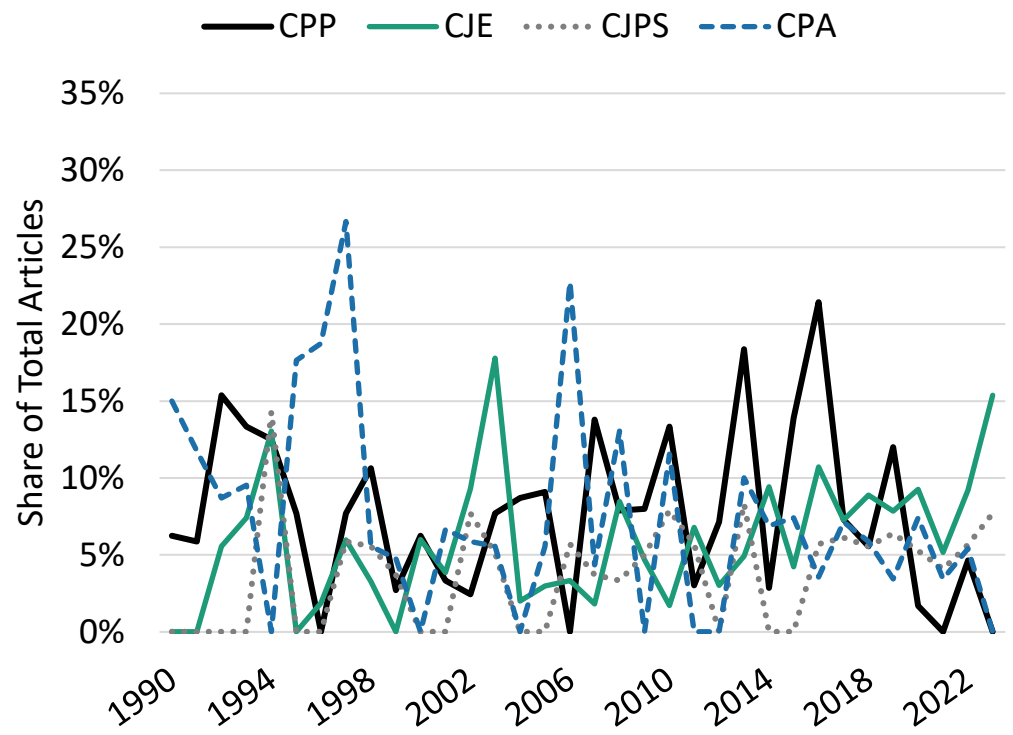
Share of total articles published that have a climate or energy keyword in the abstract.



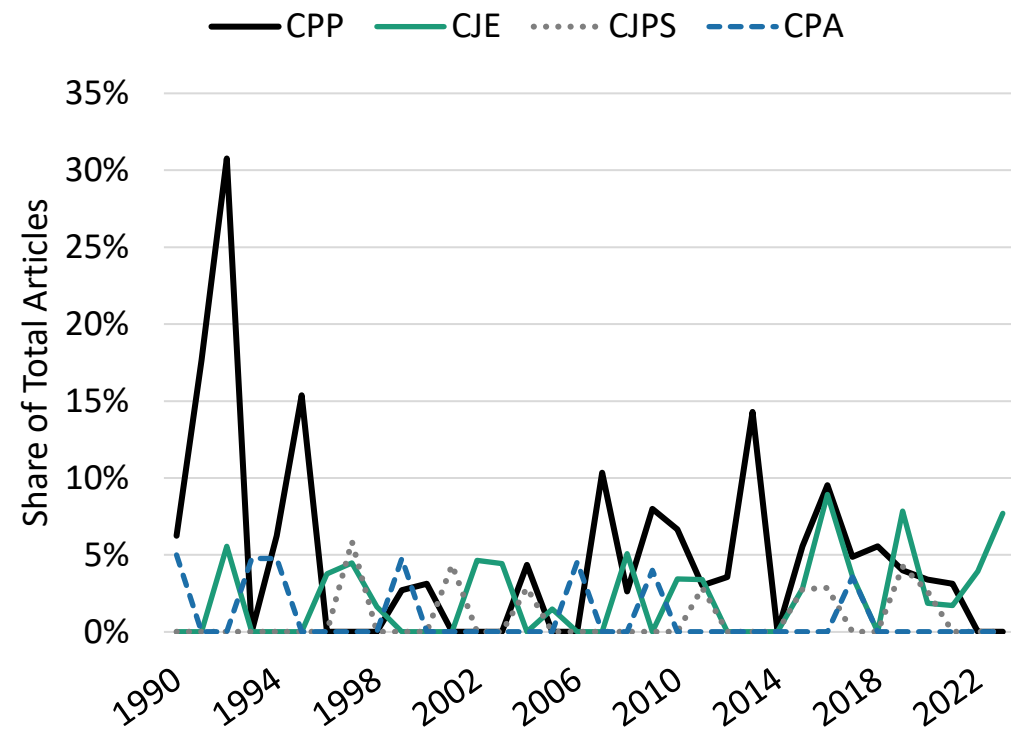


# No Concrete Time Patterns

## Climate Articles

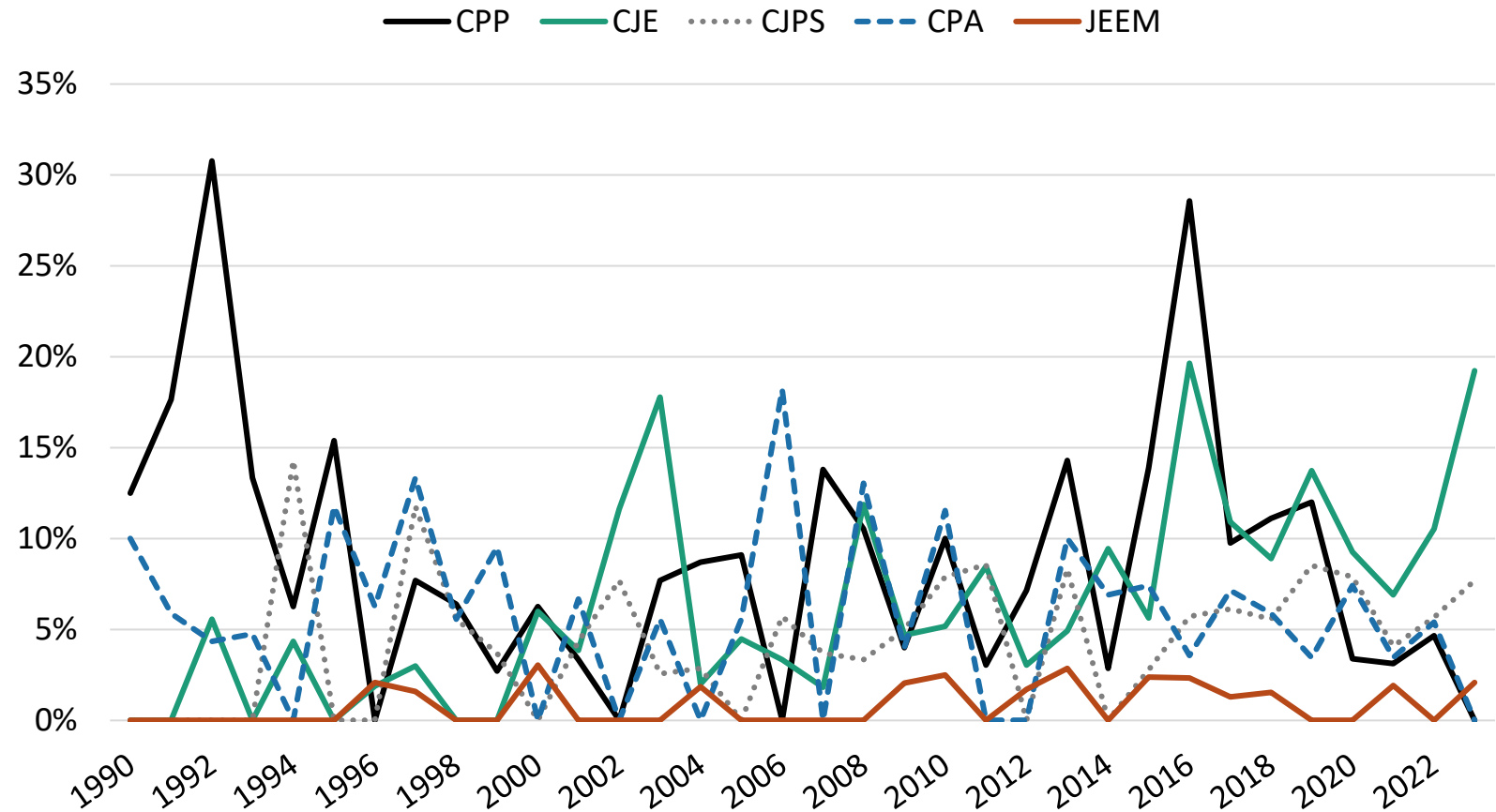


## Energy Articles



# We Aren't Publishing Elsewhere

Field journals don't appear to be a substitute for *CPP* or *CJE*.



Source: Scopus, downloaded May 5, 2023. Climate keywords: "climate", "pollution", "emissions", "carbon", "environment", "sustainability", "green". Energy keywords: "energy", "electricity", "oil", "gas". Canada keywords: "canada", "Canadian", « British Columbia", "Alberta", "Manitoba", "Saskatchewan", "Ontario", "Québec", "New Brunswick", "Prince Edward Island", "Nova Scotia", "Newfoundland and Labrador", "Yukon", "Nunavut", "Northwest Territories".



# Outstanding Research Questions and Gaps



# Three Avenues for Future Research

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Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of policy interventions

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Equity

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Policy interactions



# Effectiveness of Policy Interventions

Economists have a toolkit for ex post evaluation of policy interventions, including causal inference!



## EMISSION REDUCTIONS THROUGH GREENHOUSE GAS REGULATIONS

Federal government does not know the extent to which greenhouse gas regulations are reducing emissions

Report 5 | Reports of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development

### Findings and Recommendations 6

<b>Environment and Climate Change Canada did not know how much greenhouse gas regulations helped Canada to reduce emissions .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Significant difficulties tying emission reductions to specific regulations.....	7
Gaps in the models used to estimate impacts.....	8
Developing awareness of the regulations' impacts on diverse groups of people .....	10

Passenger Automobile and Light Truck Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations (2010, amended 2015)

Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations (2013, amended 2018)

Reduction of Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Coal-Fired Generation of Electricity Regulations (2015, amended 2018)

Regulations Limiting Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Natural Gas-Fired Generation of Electricity (2019)

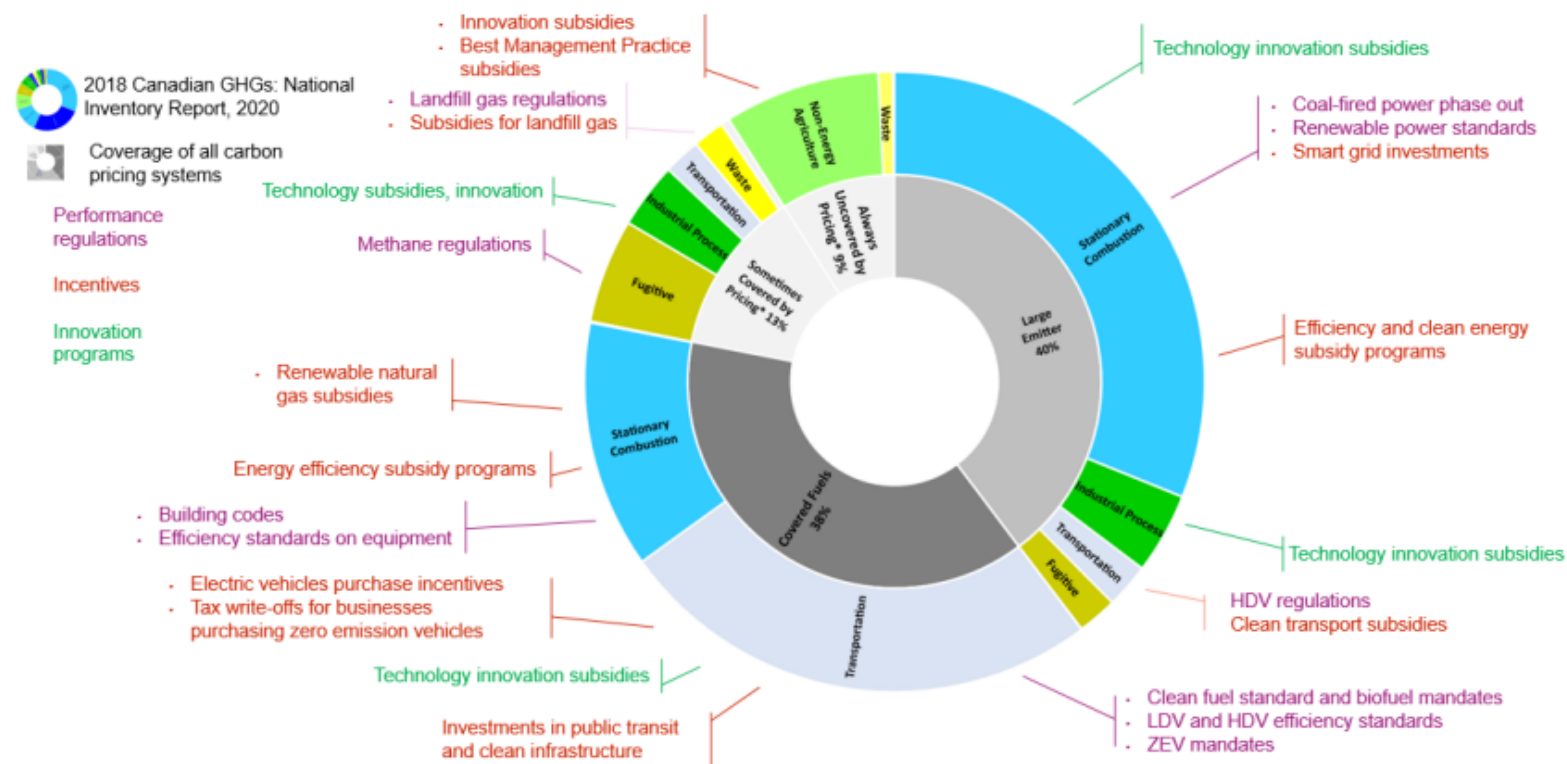
Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Methane and Certain Volatile Organic Compounds (Upstream Oil and Gas Sector) (2020)



# Very Complex Policy Environment

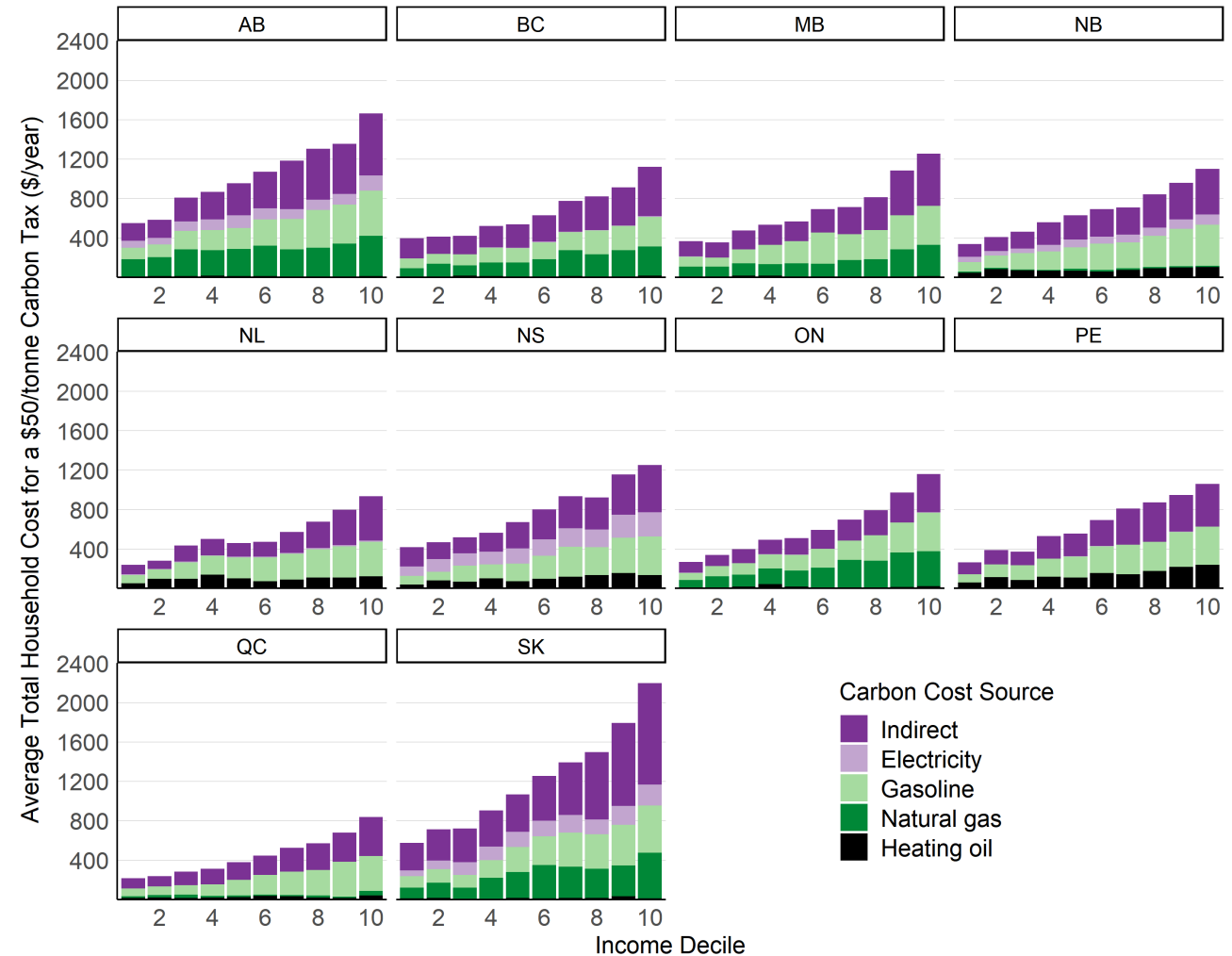
**Figure 1: Canada's Climate Carbon Policy Architecture**

Performance regulations, carbon pricing, incentives, and innovation programs targeting different emission sources.



# Carbon Tax Costs at \$50/Tonne

- Mechanical effect, assuming no behavioural change and 100% pass-through — very much an upper bound.
- Missing general equilibrium effects.
- Doesn't address nuance of specific PT pricing systems.



# Carbon Pricing Channels

- Consumption channel
  - Pass-through
  - Production response by firms
  - Leakage
  - Demand response by consumers
- Income channel
  - Destruction of brown jobs
  - Creation of green jobs
  - Structural changes (factor income, demand for skills)
- Health channel
- Revenue recycling channel

# Oil and Gas Emissions Cap



**Blake Shaffer** 🇺🇸 🇨🇦  
@bcshaffer

Why is @ppforumca modelling a \*production\* cap when no one other than political misinfo are suggesting that. The proposed policy is an \*emissions\* cap. 1/2



**ChrisVarcoe** @ChrisVarcoe · May 11

Varcoe: Big \$60B hit for Alberta — & \$100B for Canada — in a net-zero world if oil & gas production phased out by 2050, study finds  
"An accelerated phaseout introduces economic pain with no added environmental gain," says Public Policy Forum  
calgaryherald.com/opinion/column... #yyc #ableg

8:47 AM · May 11, 2023 · 25.9K Views



**Public Policy Forum** ✓  
@ppforumca

A gradual phase-out of Canadian oil and gas production as a means of achieving net-zero emissions versus investments to decarbonize oil and gas, such as carbon capture would introduce greater costs to the economy without a corresponding environmental benefit, according to economic modeling commissioned by the Public Policy Forum.

Entitled *The \$100 Billion Difference: Relative Costs of Two Net Zero Approaches*, the study compares two possible scenarios for achieving net zero emissions in this country.

In one scenario, Canada pursues broad-based, sector-agnostic emissions reductions, and in the second, oil and gas production is gradually phased out.

The study found that both scenarios lead to net zero emissions, but the phase-out of oil and gas imposed an additional \$100 billion in lost GDP, with some \$60 billion of the losses occurring in the province of Alberta.

Canada's trade balance is also affected as we eventually become a net importer of oil.

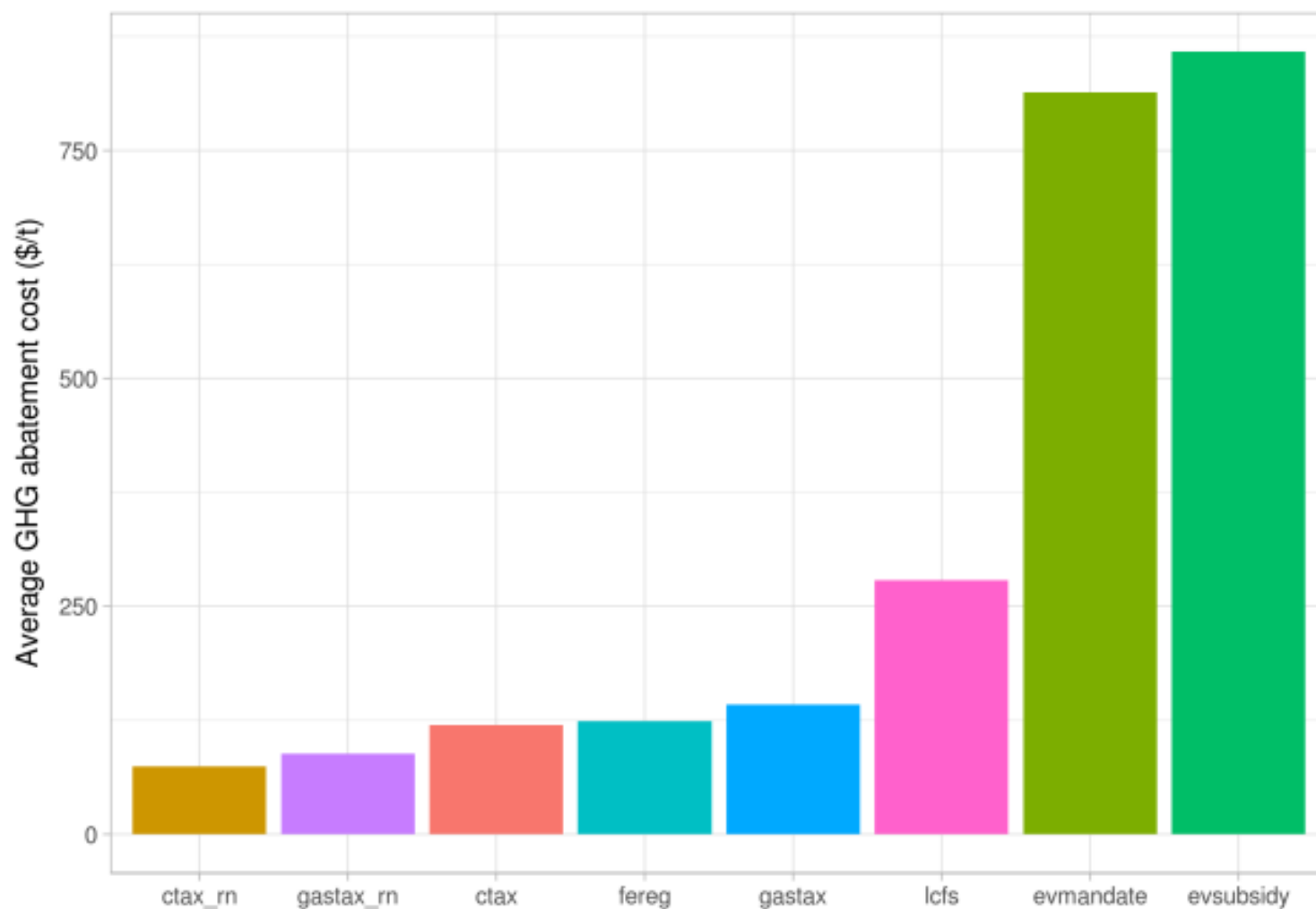
The study was carried out by Vancouver-based @NaviusResearch, an independent and impartial research firm that models the effect of climate and energy policy on the economy and environment.

[ppforum.ca/publications/n](https://ppforum.ca/publications/n)

[#netzero#cdnpoli#oilandgas](#)

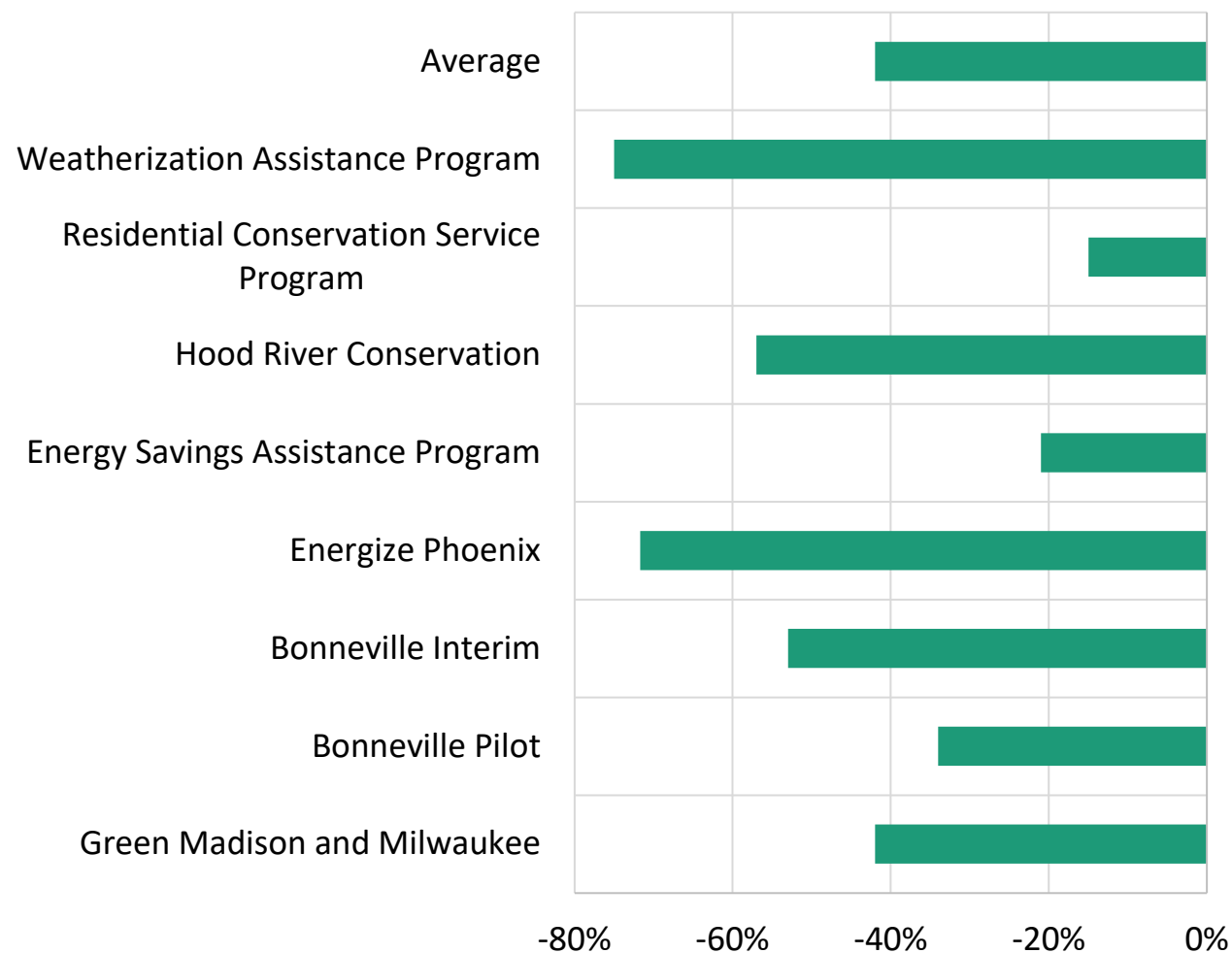
# Cost of Policy Options for GHG Mitigation in Transport

Ex ante analysis of reducing emissions from transport by 9.1%.



# Energy Efficiency Programs Under-Perform

- Engineering estimates of energy savings overestimate actual savings in all cases.
- Despite Canada's many energy-switching and energy-efficiency subsidy programs, most research is US-focused.



# Trade and the Environment

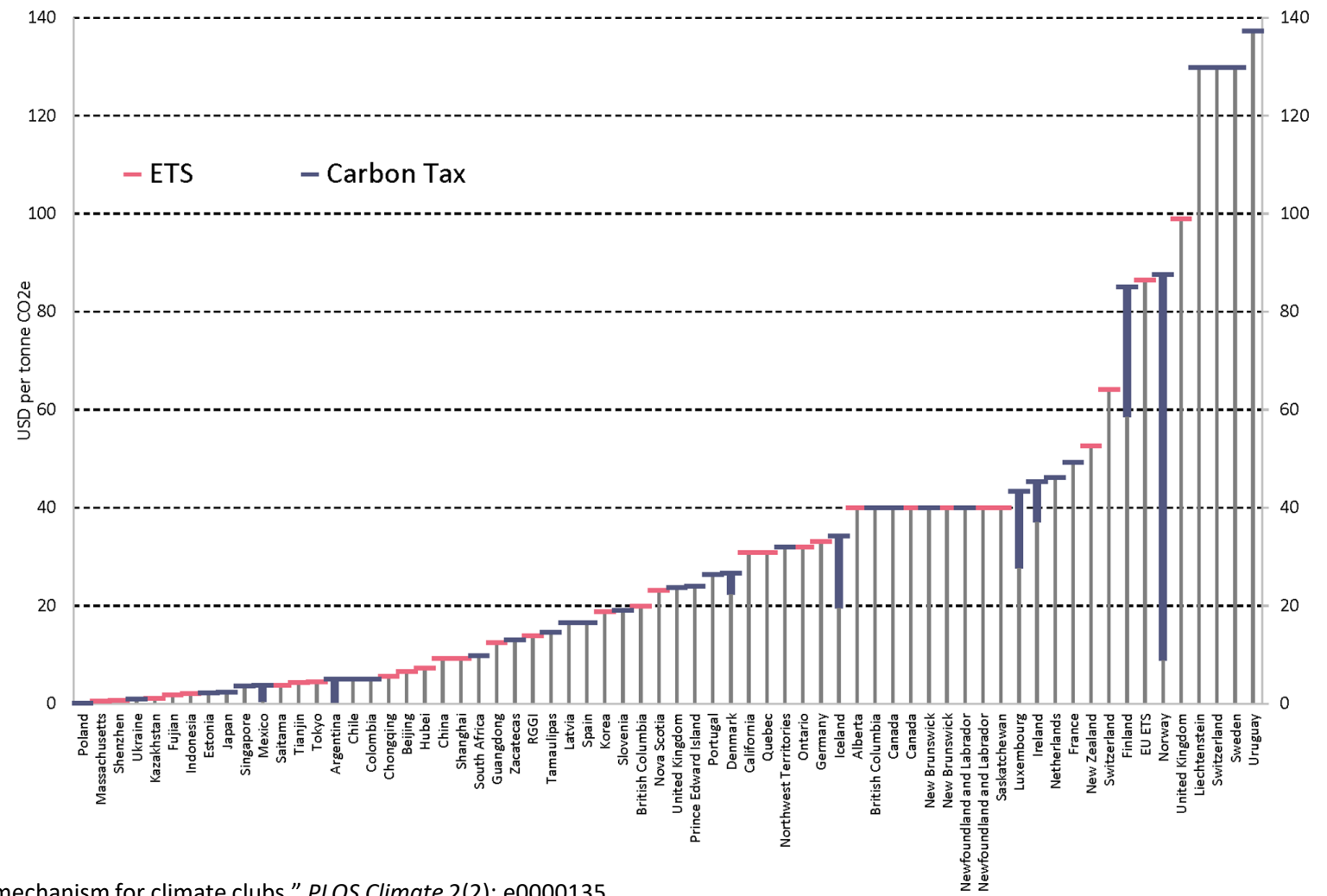
- How will trade change as a result of increasingly stringent emission-reduction policies in Canada?
- What will the EU carbon border adjustment mechanism mean for Canada?

### *III. Reducing Emissions Through Trade Policy*

We recognize that trade and trade policies are important tools to tackle climate change and can be drivers of sustainable growth. Based on this recognition, we will pursue trade policies that drive decarbonisation and emissions reduction, by spurring markets to account for embedded emissions in traded goods, and affirm that environmental standards should not be lowered to unfairly gain competitive advantage. We welcome the work of the WTO in this area. We recognize that, while sharing common goals, our climate policies may take different approaches including carbon pricing mechanisms, regulations, and incentives. We will also collaborate intensively on our efforts to develop the necessary data and tools, such as information on embedded emissions throughout supply chains, to implement such policies. We recognize that the risk of carbon leakage may increase with more divergent climate policy ambition and will continue to work collaboratively, including with relevant international organizations, to address this risk. We request that the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) report to us on the progress of the Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches (IFCMA) to explore methodological approaches for computing carbon intensity of goods or sectors.

# 2022 Global Emissions Pricing

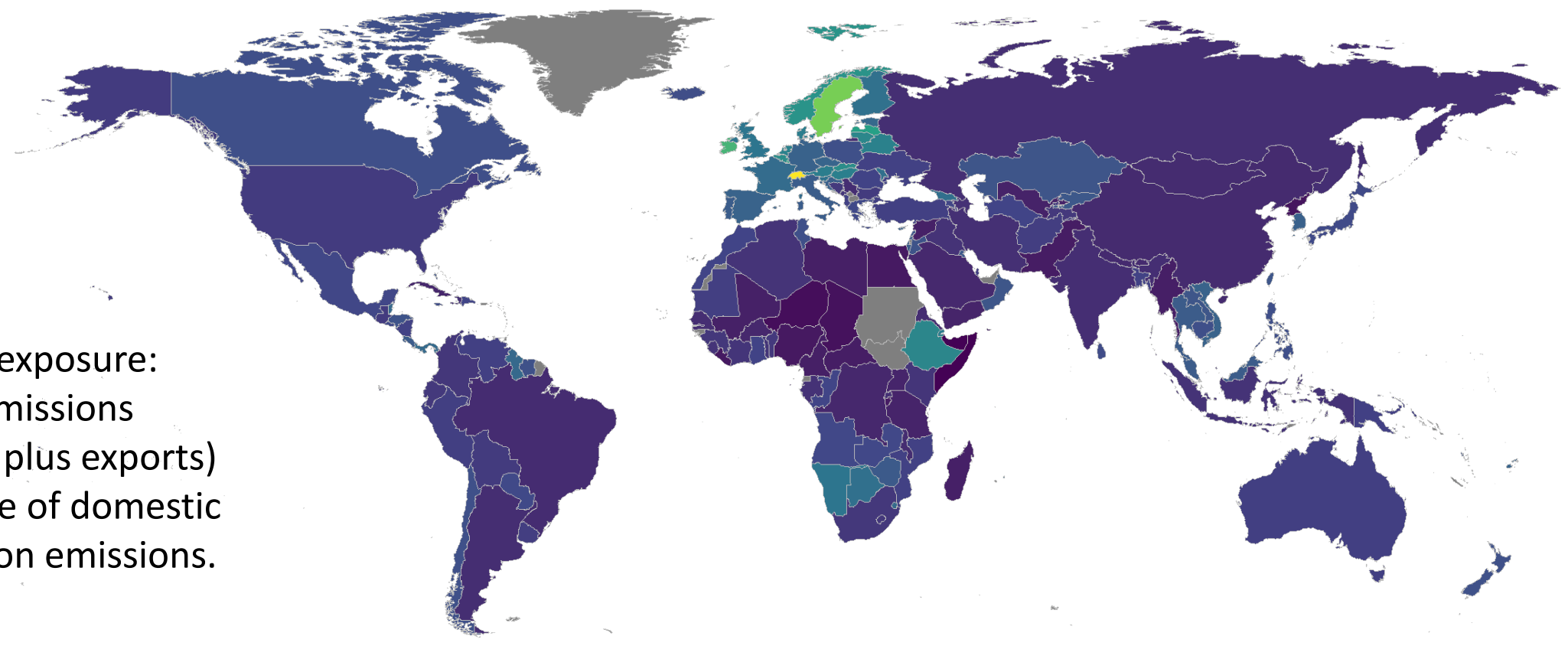
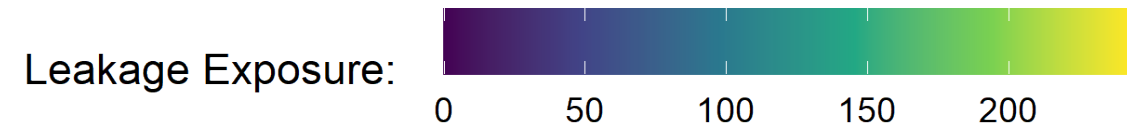
Differences in emissions pricing creates the potential for leakage, a major concern for many industrialized countries.



Source: Winter, J. 2023. "The challenge of border carbon adjustments as a mechanism for climate clubs," *PLOS Climate* 2(2): e0000135. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000135>. Data from World Bank Carbon Pricing Dashboard.



# 2016 Leakage Exposure

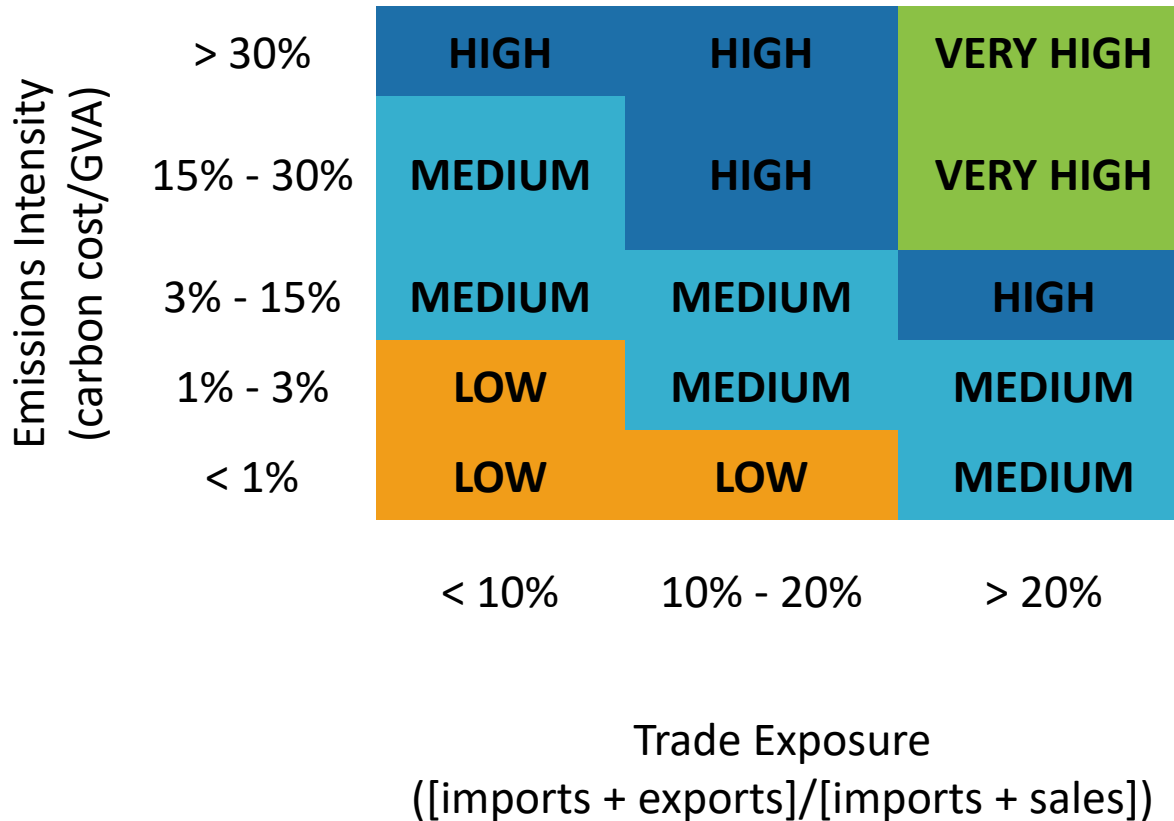


Leakage exposure:  
traded emissions  
(imports plus exports)  
as a share of domestic  
production emissions.

# Addressing Leakage

- Exempt certain sectors
- Domestic policy
  - Implicitly or explicitly subsidize certain sectors
  - Explicit: free permit allocations or output-based subsidies
- Border carbon adjustments

# Leakage — Federal EITE Criteria

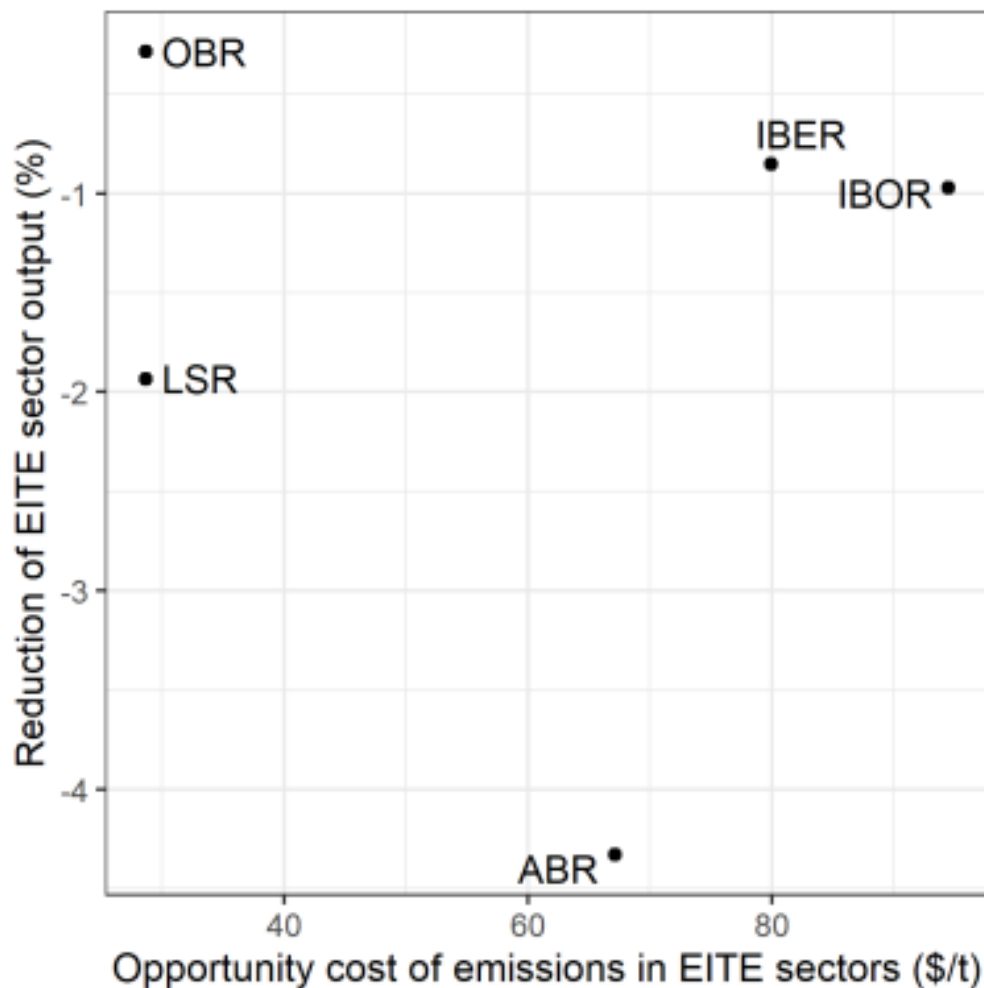


- Is there a better way to measure leakage exposure?
- Is there a better way to target competitiveness supports?

# EITE Policy in Canada (Select Examples)

- BC (right now): full rebate above \$30/t for facilities meeting an emissions-intensity performance standard
- Federal: different performance standards for coal and natural-gas electricity generation
- NS C&T: auctions were after production (and emissions) decisions (e.g., 2020 auctions were for 2019 emissions)
- Mix of sector-, product- and facility-specific performance standards
- Differences in covered sectors and covered emissions
- Substantial free allocations of emissions permits

# EITE Policy Design Matters



Comparison of rebating options on incentives to abate and output protection in EITE sectors

LSR: lump-sum rebating

ABR: abatement-based rebating

OBR: output-based rebating

IBOR: intensity-based output rebating;

IBER: intensity-based emissions rebating.

# Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Policy Interventions

- Scope for both ex ante and ex post work
- (Some) key questions
  - What are emissions reductions from a given policy? (*Does carbon pricing work?!?*)
  - What are the general equilibrium effects of carbon pricing on households and firms?
  - What are the trade-offs from different emissions-mitigation policies?
  - What are the costs and benefits of energy-efficiency and energy-use interventions?
  - What are the relative effects on output, emissions and productivity from different FPT EITE policies?
  - How will trade change as a result of increasingly stringent emission-reduction policies in Canada?
  - What will the EU carbon border adjustment mechanism mean for Canada?
  - Is there a better way to measure leakage exposure?
  - Is there a better way to target competitiveness supports?

# Three Avenues for Future Research

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Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of policy interventions

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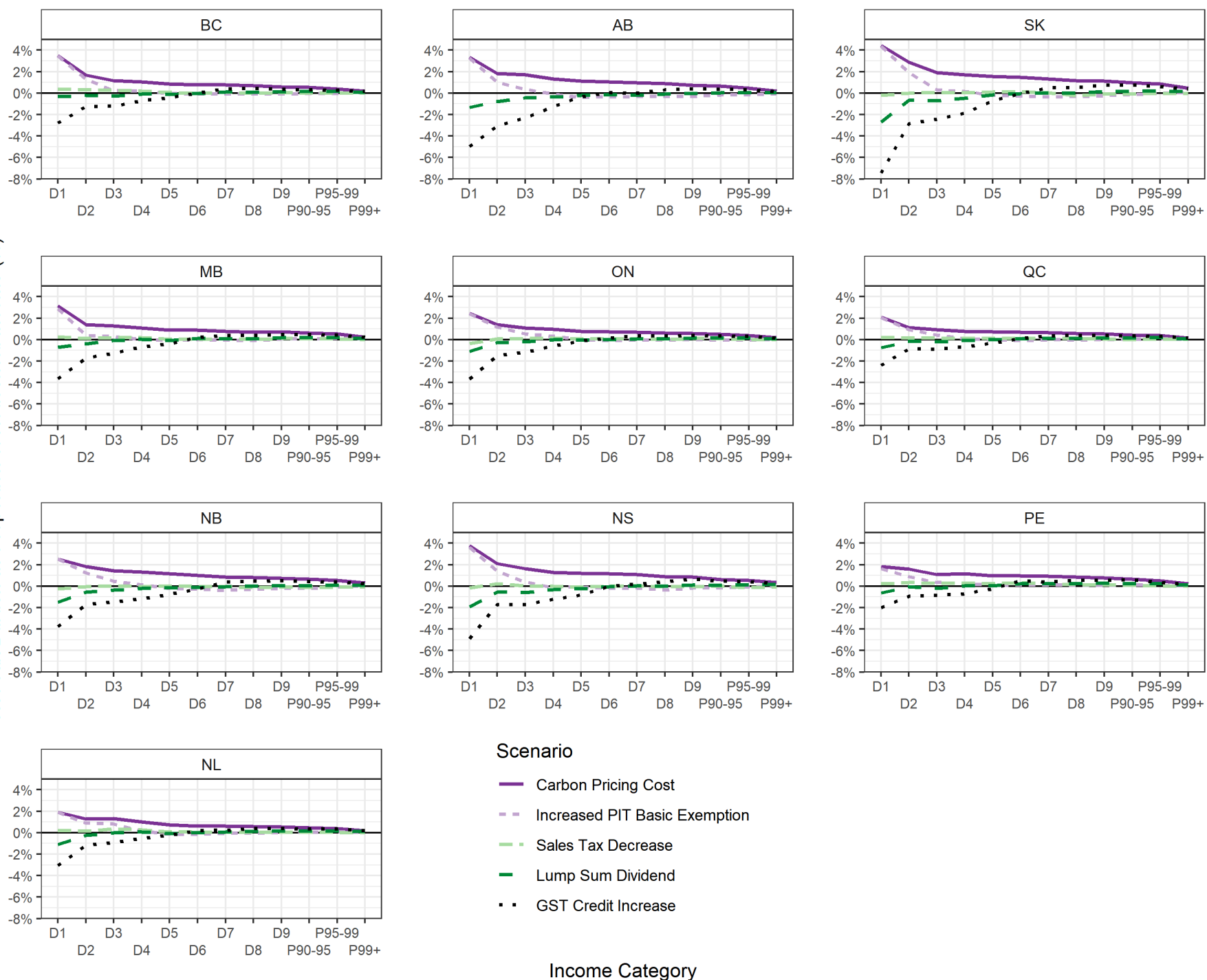
**Equity**

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Policy interactions



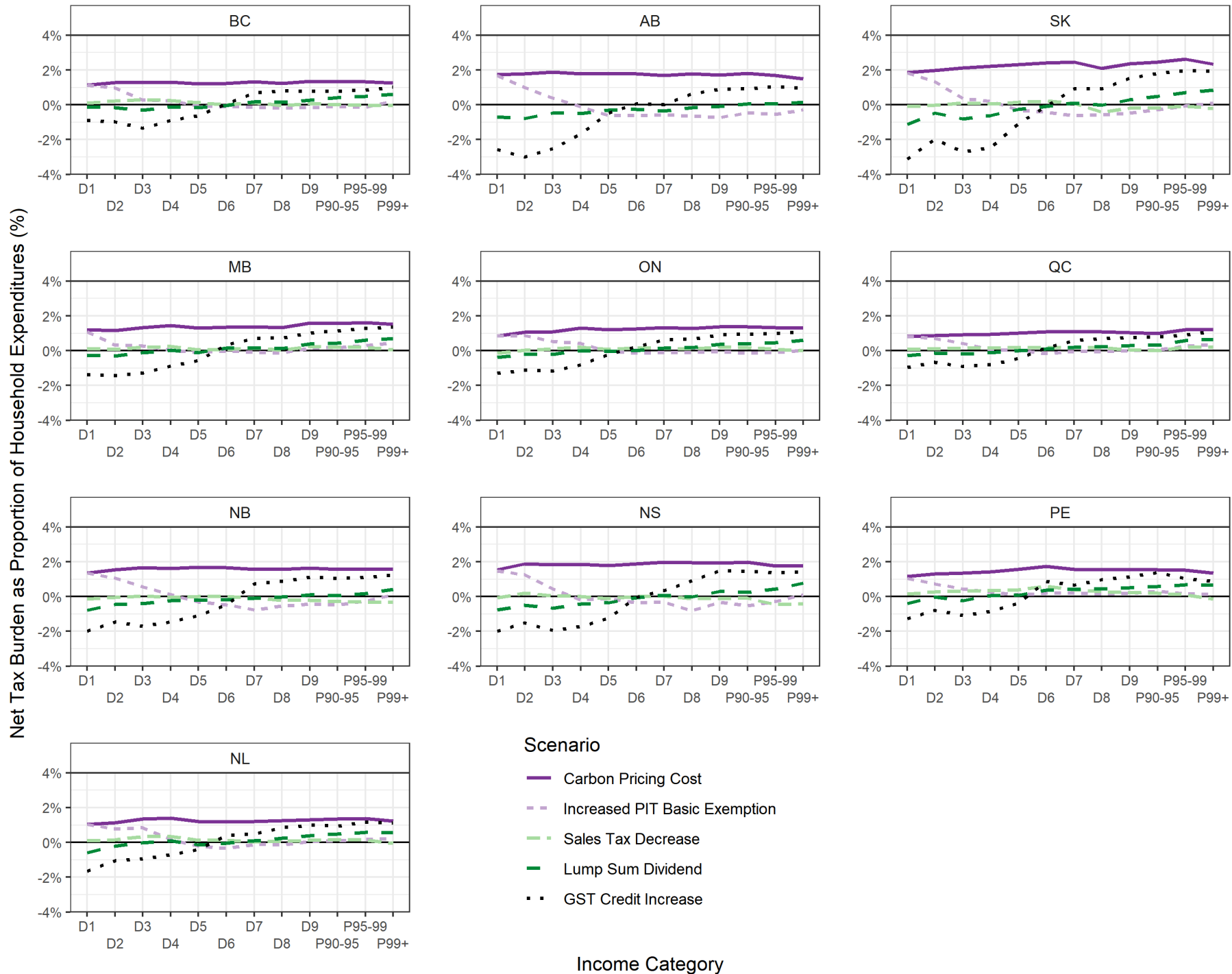
Net Tax Burden as Proportion of Household Income (%)



Net tax burden as a share of income at \$50 per tonne, by province and income percentile

Source: Winter, J., B. Dolter, & G.K. Fellows. 2023. "Carbon Pricing Costs for Households and the Progressivity of Revenue Recycling Options in Canada." *Canadian Public Policy* 49(1) 13-45. <https://www.utpjournals.press/doi/full/10.3138/cpp.2022-036>.

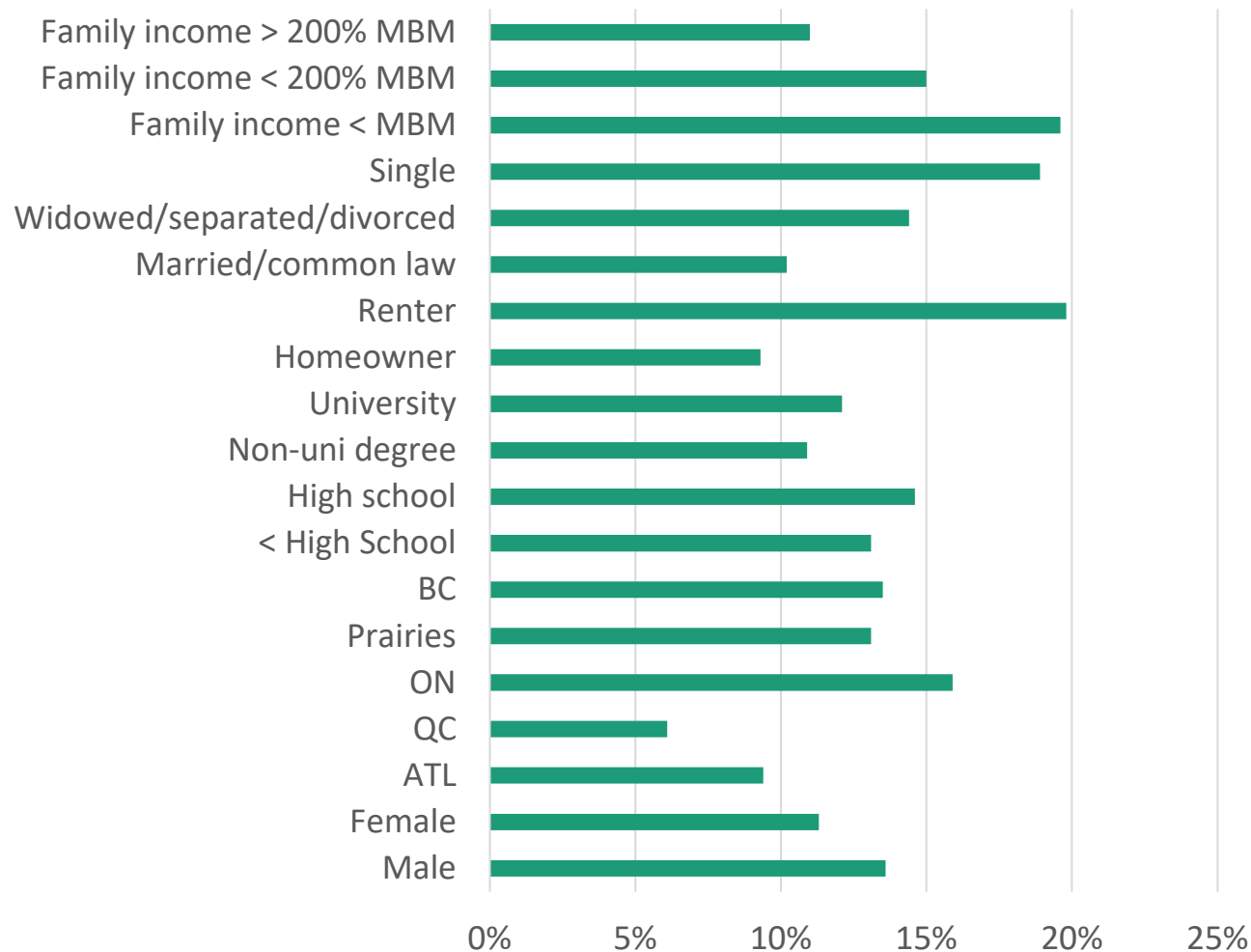




Net tax burden as a share of expenditure at \$50 per tonne, by province and income percentile

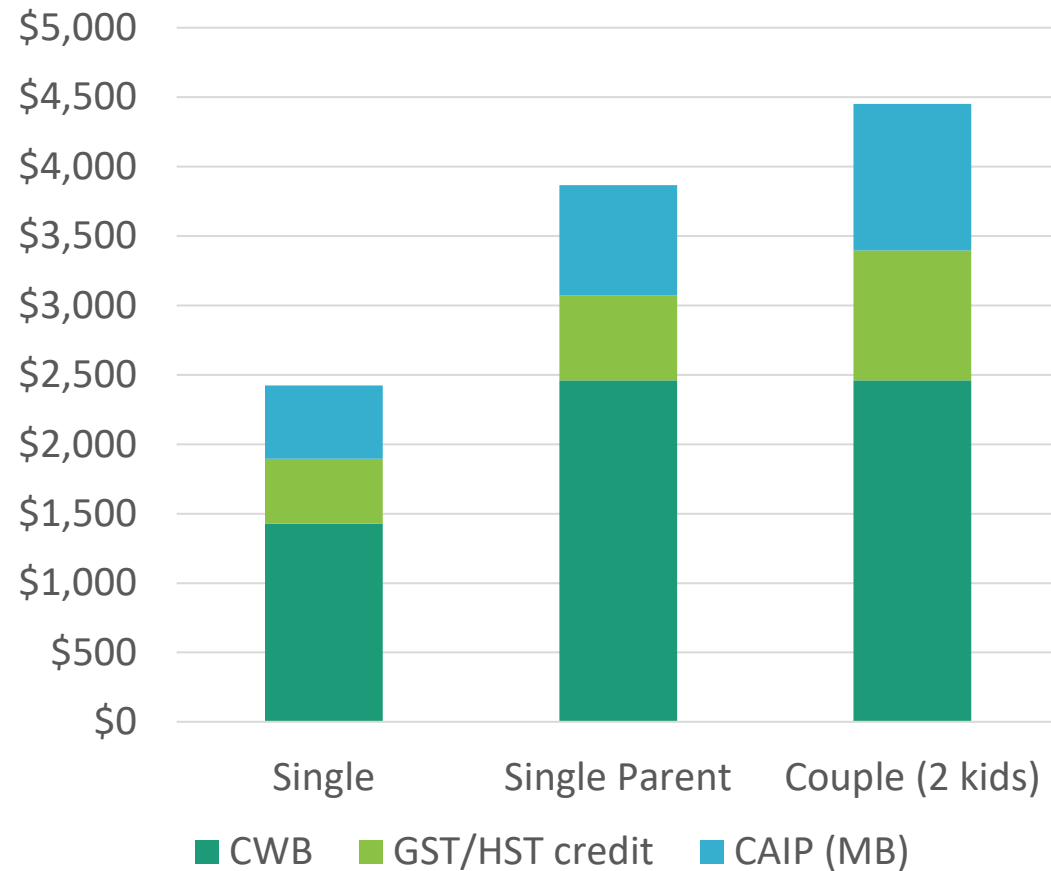
Source: Winter, J., B. Dolter, & G.K. Fellows. 2023. "Carbon Pricing Costs for Households and the Progressivity of Revenue Recycling Options in Canada." *Canadian Public Policy* 49(1) 13-45. <https://www.utpjournals.press/doi/full/10.3138/cpp.2022-036>.

# Share of Non-Tax-Filers by Socio-Economic Characteristics



- Approximately 10-12 percent of Canadians do not file a tax return and receive benefits.
- This is almost 20% of some socio-economic groups.

# Example Lost Benefits, 2022 Tax Year



- Approximately 10-12 percent of Canadians do not file a tax return and receive benefits.
- Figure assumes maximum benefits where income-tested.

# Electricity Expenditure as a Share of 2021 Income

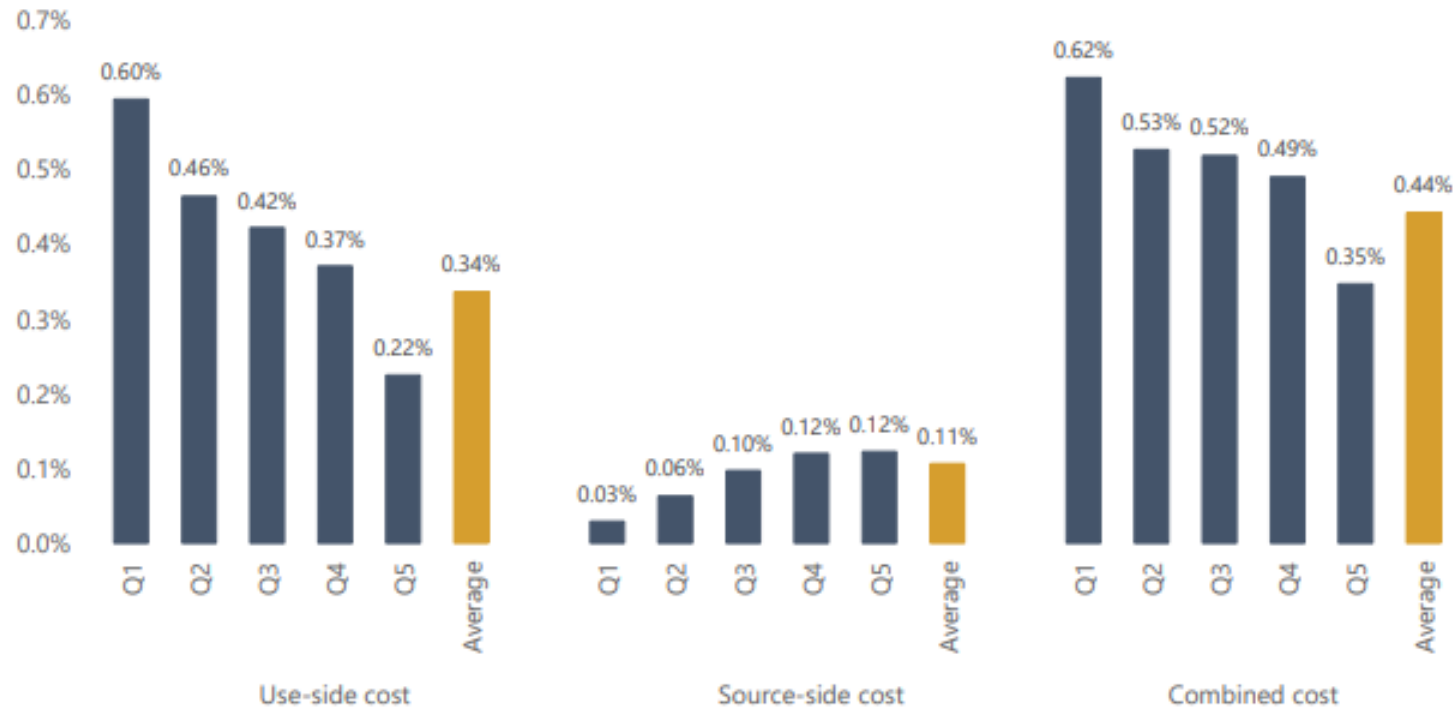
- Analysing how net zero electricity investment affects electricity bills
  - Electricity rates and use change
- Presents mean change in electricity expenditure as a proportion of income
- Holding income constant exaggerates the affordability effects
- As rates and electricity use change, electricity expenditure becomes a larger share of **current** incomes



Dolter and Winter 2022  
Expenditure data from SPSPDM v.29.0  
Modelling data provided by CCI

# Clean Fuel Regulations are Regressive (?)

Household cost of the CFR in 2030 by income quintile, percentage of disposable income (national level)



Cost burden without behavioural change is regressive

Use side: changes in product prices

Source side: changes in factor prices

 **CBC Gasoline has never been more expensive – and high prices are likely to stick around for a while**

Calgary

**Calgarians experience 'sticker shock' at increasing energy bills**

New Brunswick · Analysis

**Gas price spikes create carbon-tax turmoil for politicians**

British Columbia

**B.C. government announces gas relief rebate of \$110 for ICBC customers**

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**Energy affordability programs**

Current and upcoming ways we're helping to save you money.



Fuel tax relief

Alberta drivers will automatically save 13 cents per litre when filling up at the pump from April 1 until at least June 30.



Electricity rebates

1 million+ homes, farms and businesses will receive \$150 rebates over 3 months to cover the high costs this winter. Details to come.



Natural gas rebates

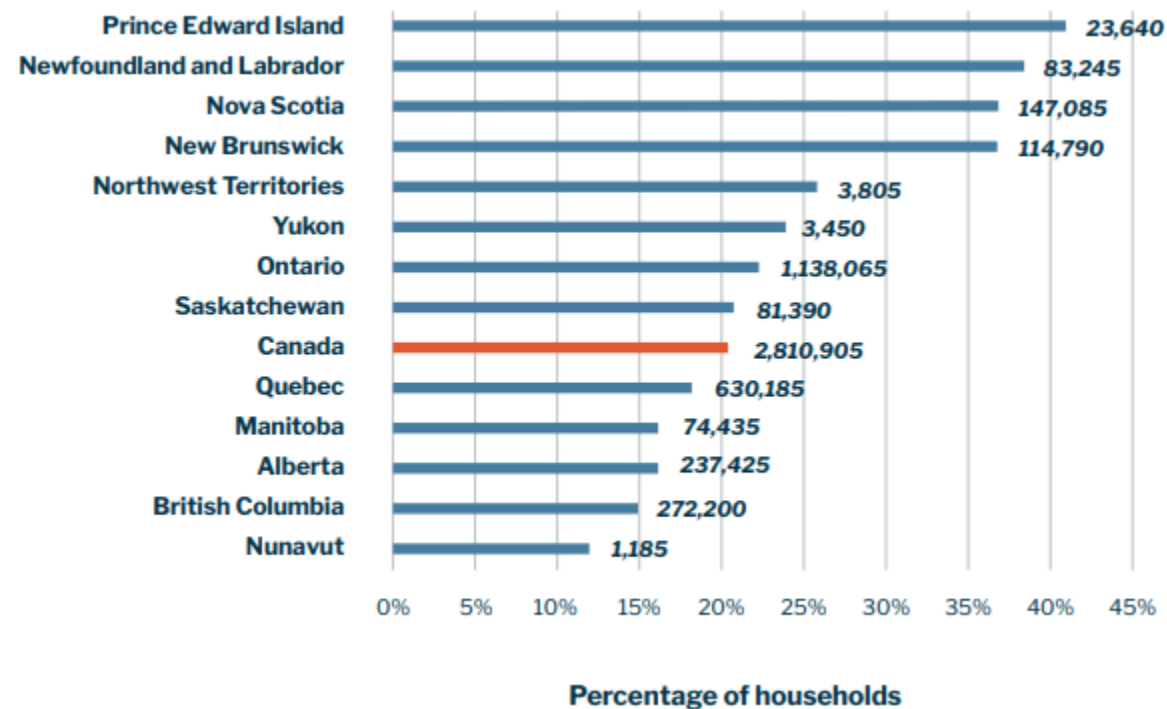
Rebates coming to address high winter heating costs from October 2022 to March 2023. More information will be announced soon.

# Energy Poverty (?)

**NRCan/CER: 10% threshold of energy-expenditure-to-income ratio**

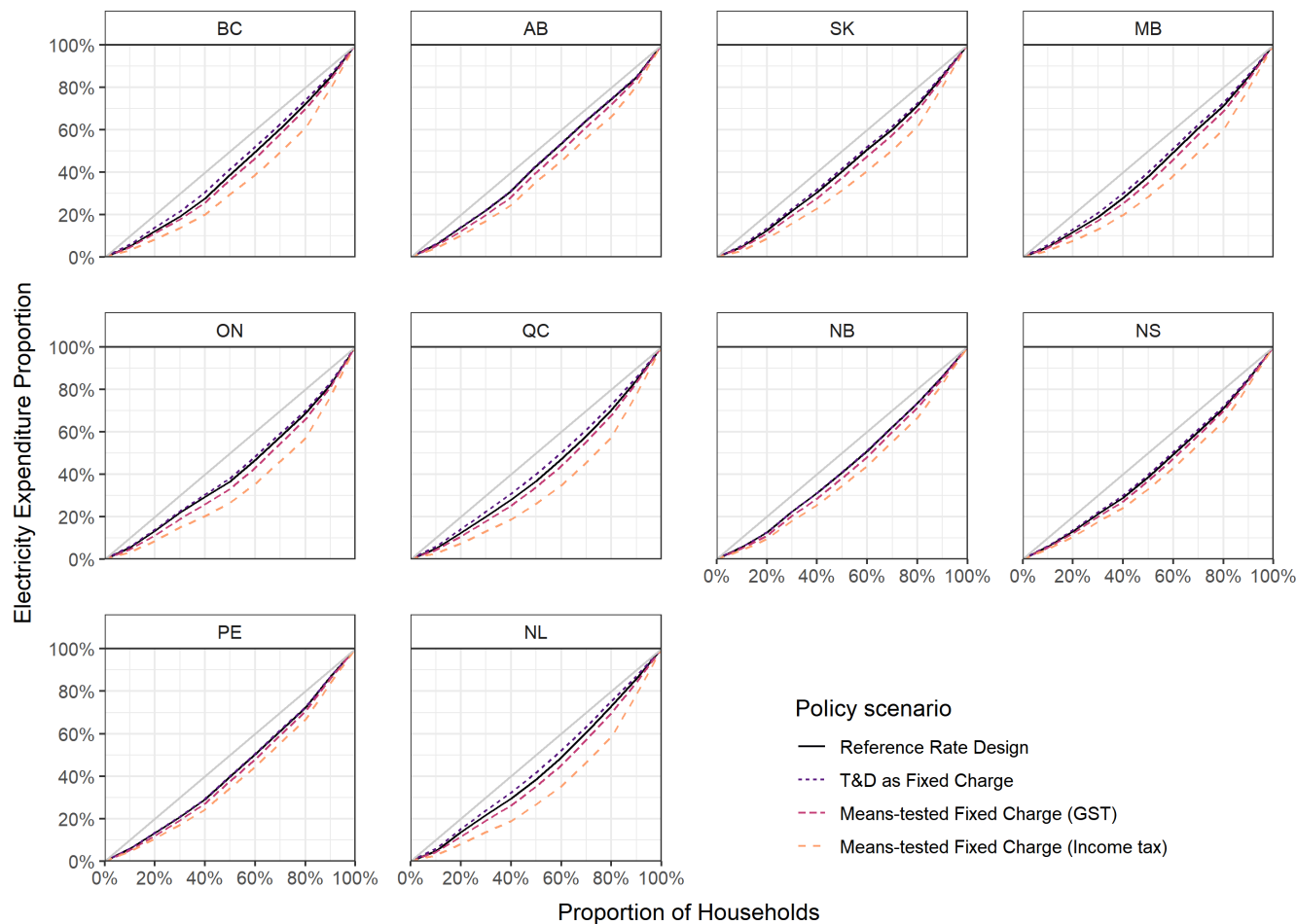
Energy poverty rates, by income quintile and geography						
	Q1 (Lowest)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5 (Highest)	Average
Canada	21%	6%	2%	0%	0%	6%
Atlantic Provinces	49%	19%	4%	0%	0%	15%
Que.	17%	4%	1%	0%	0%	4%
Ont.	20%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Man.	21%	7%	1%	0%	0%	6%
Sask.	34%	8%	2%	0%	0%	9%
Alta.	23%	3%	1%	0%	0%	5%
B.C.	25%	4%	1%	0%	0%	6%

**CUSP: 6% threshold of energy-expenditure-to-after-tax-income ratio**





# Lorenz Curve (Electric Gini)



Plots proportion of expenditure by household (y-axis) against cumulative share of households arranged from lowest to highest incomes (x-axis).

Dolter and Winter 2022  
Expenditure data from SPSDM v.29.0  
Modelling data provided by CCI

# Equity

- Equity and affordability issues in climate policy is an area of key concern, but not well-understood (yet)
- (Some) key questions
  - What are the general equilibrium effects of carbon pricing on households, and how does that change the distributional effects?
  - What are the distributional effects of other key emissions-mitigation policies like the *Clean Fuel Regulations* or the (expected) *Clean Electricity Regulations*?
  - What is the burden of emissions-reduction policies on vulnerable populations (e.g., non-tax-filers)?
  - What are the distributional consequences of targeted energy-shifting or energy efficiency subsidy programs?
  - Are current government energy affordability programs effective or meeting their stated goals? What are the distributional consequences?
  - Can we better assess energy affordability and equity issues with techniques rooted in the economics of inequality?

# Three Avenues for Future Research

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Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of policy interventions

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Equity

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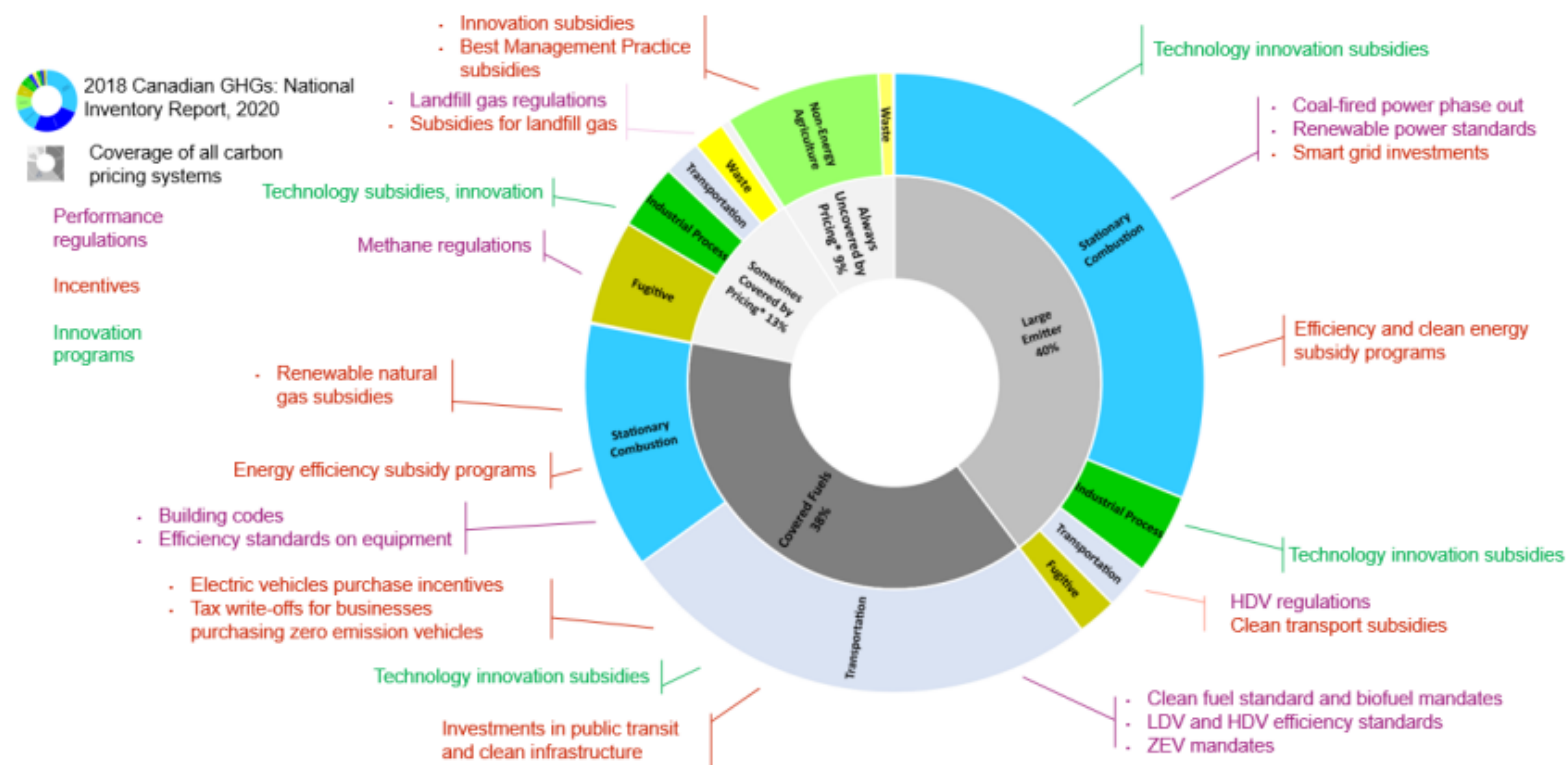
**Understanding policy interactions**



# Very Complex Policy Environment

**Figure 1: Canada's Climate Carbon Policy Architecture**

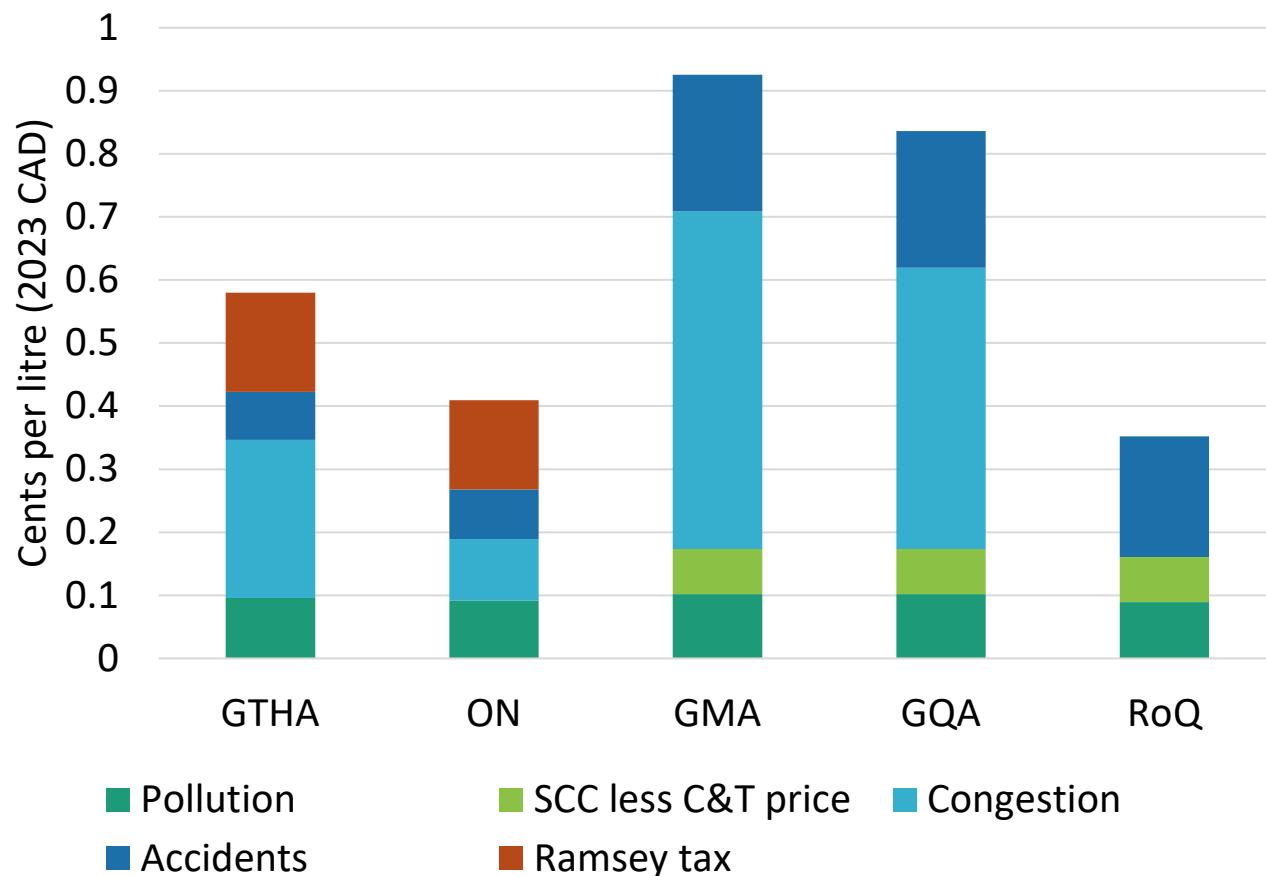
Performance regulations, carbon pricing, incentives, and innovation programs targeting different emission sources.



# Policy Interactions Have Vast Scope

Legend				Canada							BC					
Score	Type of Interaction	Definition		Clean Fuel Standard*	CO2 Standards for Aviation	EE Reqs for Domestic Marine Vessels	EE Reqs for Marine Vessels	Renewable Fuels Regulations	Heavy Duty Vehicle GHG Regulations	Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Regulations	BC Carbon Tax	Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Reqs	Fund ZEV Charging Infrastructure	Tailpipe Emissions Standards	Zero Emissions Vehicle Mandate	
2	Reinforcing	Enhances the effect of existing policy														
1	Consistent	Adds additional impact without negating existing policy														
0	Redundant	No additional impact expected														
-1	Constraining	Mitigates impact of existing policy														
-2	Counteracting	Counteracts achievement of existing policy														
?	Unknown	Further analysis required to determine interaction effect														
NA	No interaction	No direct interaction effect expected (regulates different sector/emissions source/pathway)														
Jurisdiction	Sector	Policy	Type													
Canada	Transport (6)	Clean Fuel Standard*	Perf. Std.		?	?	NA	-1	1	1	1	0	?	1	?	
		CO2 Standards for Aviation	Regulatory		?	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	
		EE Reqs for Domestic Marine Vessels	Regulatory		?	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	
		EE Reqs for Marine Vessels	Regulatory		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	
		Renewable Fuels Regulations	Regulatory		0	NA	1	NA	NA	1	1	1	0	1	1	?
		Heavy Duty Vehicle GHG Regulations	Perf. Std.		1	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	1	1	1	?	1
		Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Regulations	Perf. Std.		1	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	1	1	1	?	1	
BC	Transport (4)	BC Carbon Tax	Carbon Price		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Reqs	Perf. Std.		-1	NA	NA	NA	-1	1	1	1	NA	1	1	?
		Supporting ZEV Charging Infrastructure	Regulatory		1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1	?	NA	1	1
		Tailpipe Emissions Standards	Perf. Std.		1	NA	NA	NA	1	0	0	1	1	?	NA	?
		Zero Emissions Vehicle Mandate	Perf. Std.		?	NA	NA	NA	NA	-2	-2	1	1	1	?	

# Optimal Gasoline Taxes

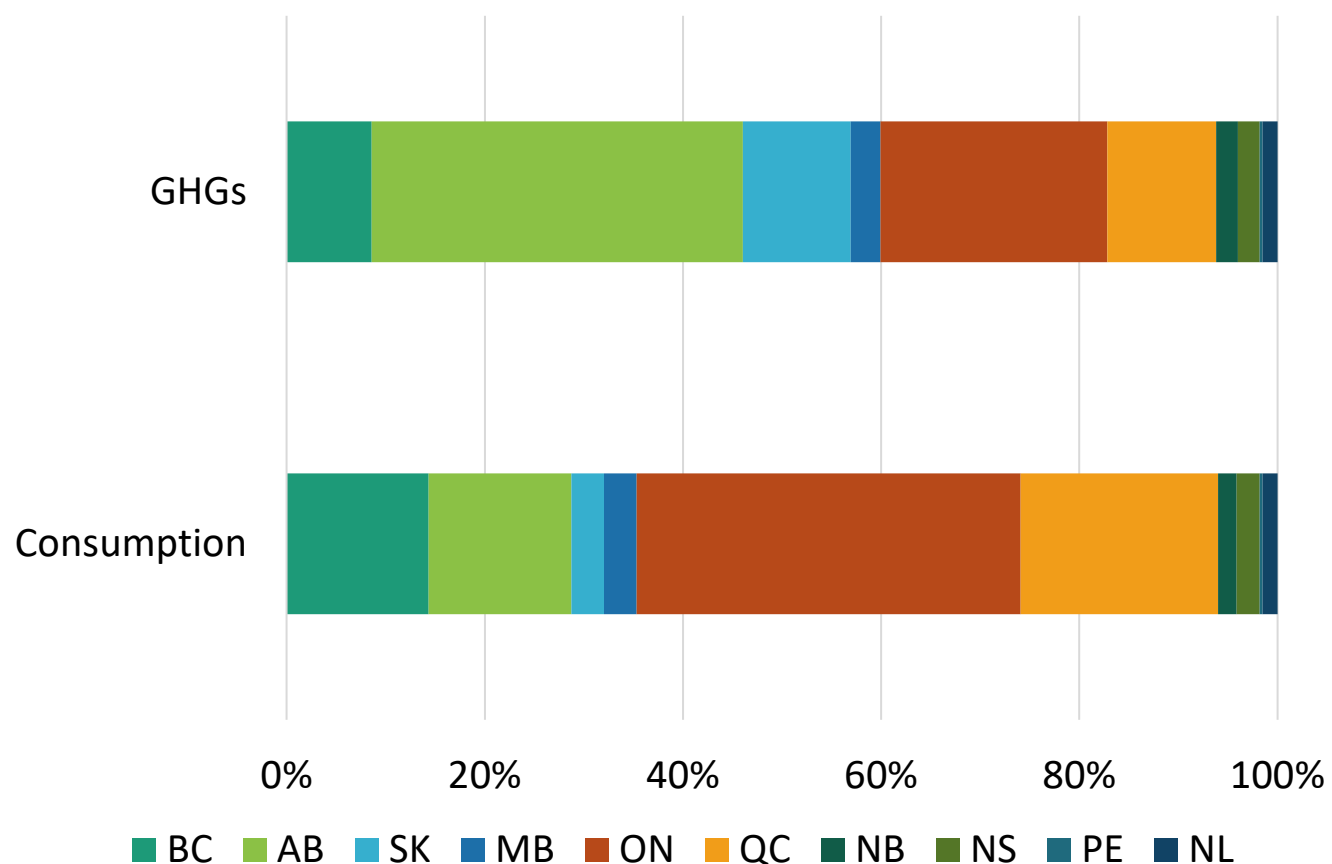


- What are optimal taxes with broad-based carbon pricing?
- Does an OBPS or free permit allocations effect optimal taxes?

Wood: converted from 2006 CAD

Dorval & Barla: converted from 2013 CAD

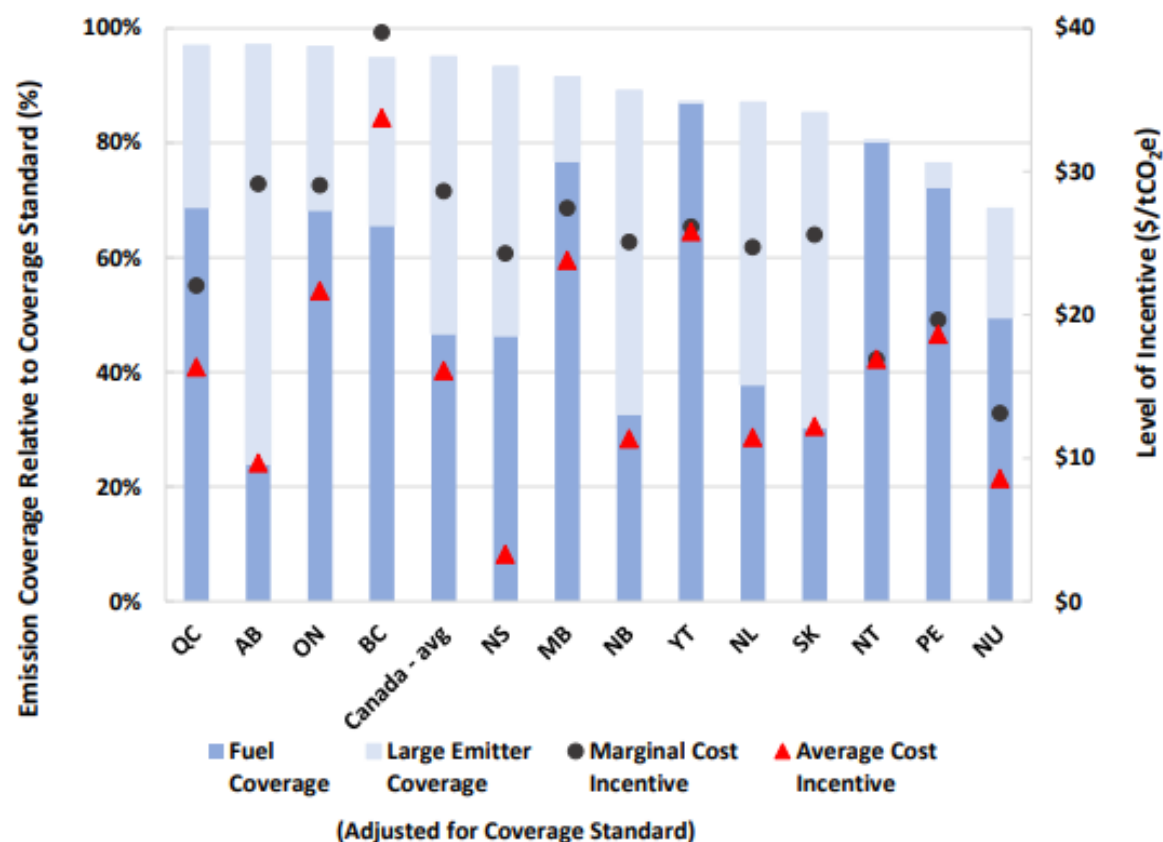
# Equalization and Carbon Pricing (2016/17)



- Emissions as a tax base is very different from consumption.
- Carbon taxes are treated like any other consumption tax in equalization.

# Gains from Harmonization?

**Figure 22: Price Incentives Adjusted for the Coverage Standard**  
 Covered fuels and large emitter programs.



System design, covered emissions, and pricing stringency differs significantly across provinces.

Coverage standard: emissions that could be priced.



# A Tool for Identifying Potential Interactions



## **POLICY TRACKER**

To track progress on policy implementation, we've compiled a database of emissions reduction policies currently implemented, developing, and announced in Canada at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels.

Access at <https://440megatonnes.ca/policy-tracker/>

# Policy Interactions

- We know far too little about how different policies interact, and whether they compliment or counteract each other
- (Some) key questions
  - How do specific policies interact, and what are the consequences for GDP, emissions, productivity and welfare?
  - What are optimal taxes with broad-based carbon pricing?
  - Does an OBPS or free permit allocations effect optimal taxes?
  - What are the consequences of emissions pricing as a (growing) tax base?
  - What are the gains from harmonizing pricing policies, and specifically large-emitter systems?



# Final Thoughts





## How much Justin Trudeau's Carbon Tax could cost YOUR HOUSEHOLD:

**\$1,414** in Ontario  
**\$2,223** in Alberta  
**\$1,206** in British Columbia  
**\$1,324** in Quebec  
**\$2,065** in Saskatchewan  
**\$2,240** in Nova Scotia  
**\$1,929** in New Brunswick  
**\$1,718** in Newfoundland and Labrador  
**\$1,577** in Prince Edward Island  
**\$1,367** in Manitoba

The real cost **could be more.**  
Justin Trudeau needs to end his  
**#CarbonTaxCoverUp**

Source: Jennifer Winter, Director of Energy and Environmental Policy at School of Public Policy and Assistant Economics Professor, University of Calgary



Justin Trudeau is forcing small businesses and families to pay the **FULL PRICE** of his Carbon Tax,



but wants to go **EASIER ON** big companies.

Source: The Globe and Mail, July 31, 2018



Politics

## Canada's budget watchdog troubled by spin around latest report on carbon pricing



Catherine McKenna  
@cathmckenna

Climate change is real and it requires real solutions. It's a fact that pricing pollution is the most cost-effective way to cut pollution. Our plan will also leave 8 out of 10 families better off, with an Ontario family of four receiving a [#ClimateActionIncentive](#) rebate of \$307.



Receive your federal **Climate Action Incentive** when you file your taxes.

In Ontario, an average family of four will receive a rebate of **\$307.**



## LIBERALS HIKE COSTLY CARBON TAX



**↑ GROCERIES**

**↑ HOME HEATING**

**↑ GAS**

# Conclusions

- Canadian climate policy is in constant flux, and ***very politicized***
- Differences in policy create natural experiments
- The effects of different policy interventions are under-studied and poorly understood
- Scope for both ex ante and ex post work to understand:
  - Effectiveness and cost effectiveness of policy interventions
  - Equity implications of climate policy and the role of complementary interventions
  - How different policy levers interact — are they complementary or counteractive?

# Thank You!

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