



# Newsletter

September 2025



New article in the **PERSPECTIVES** journal

## Be like your sister and stay in school!

As part of the back-to-school season, CIRANO wishes to highlight one of the most recent articles published in its journal **PERSPECTIVES**: *Fais comme ta sœur : reste à l'école !* based on the CIRANO project report *Les avantages socioéconomiques d'un rattrapage de la diplomation des garçons au Québec* authored by **Fabian Lange (McGill University, CIRANO)** and **Marie Connolly (UQAM, CIRANO)**.

This study addresses a major societal issue: boys' school dropout rates. The authors demonstrate that if the dropout rate among boys were reduced to the same level as that of girls, the benefits would be substantial—not only for the young men directly concerned but also for Québec society as a whole. If boys' dropout rates reached parity with those of girls:

- Their earnings would increase by **11%**
- They would pay **16% more in taxes** and receive **11% less** in social benefits
- Within 20 years, the number of men without a diploma in the labor market would be reduced by **half**

These findings are particularly salient in the current context, as the Government of Québec has recently announced a reinvestment of **\$540 million** to support student services. The study's conclusions suggest that such an effort, combined with targeted measures to prevent school dropout, could generate highly significant long-term economic and social benefits.

Report Presentation

On June 5, **Marie Connolly** and **Fabian Lange** presented the results of their CIRANO report to representatives from various Québec government ministries, as part of the ***Midi-conférences*** series of the **Government-Focused Research Program (PRPG)**.

More information

SUMMARY

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CIRANO NEWS



**Launch of the First Video of CIRANO's 2025-2026 Annual Theme: Education and Workforce**

CIRANO is releasing the first video of its 2025-2026 annual theme, *Education and Workforce: Towards a More Productive and Equitable Society*. Coordinated by Geneviève Dufour, this annual theme will highlight the work of CIRANO researchers on education, the labor market, digital innovation, and inequality.

→ **Read more**

**Roundtable on Labour Shortages and Training: Dialogue Around CIRANO's Labour Market Report**

In the context of CIRANO's annual theme, a roundtable was held on July 14, 2025, to discuss labour shortages and training issues raised in CIRANO's labour market report. Government representatives exchanged views with Benoit Dostie and Fabian Lange on public policy, school dropout, and the impacts of technological change.



→ [Read more](#)



### **France–Canada exchanges for strategic reflection on AI and sustainable employment**

CIRANO and its partners hosted a day of strategic roundtables on artificial intelligence, bringing together key players from the health, culture, finance, and manufacturing sectors. Discussions focused on AI governance, workforce transition, and human capital indicators. The event helped prepare the France–Canada dialogue held the following day at CORIM.

→ [Read more](#)



### **Launch of the 2025-2035 Biofood Policy: CIRANO's key role in preparatory work**

Nathalie de Marcellis-Warin, President and CEO of CIRANO, and Ingrid Peignier, Senior Director, represented CIRANO at the launch of the 2025-2035 Biofood Policy by Minister Lamontagne (MAPAQ) in the presence of Premier François Legault. Their participation highlights CIRANO's involvement in the policy's preparatory work, through the organization of a ministerial workshop and the mobilization of its researchers.

→ [Read more](#)



### **Student Colloquium at CIRANO: A Platform for Dialogue on Economic and Social Issues**

On June 12, CIRANO hosted a student colloquium in collaboration with the CREEI, the Human Capital Research Group (GRCH), and ECOSVieQ. This event provided students with the opportunity to present their research on major economic and social issues, in line with CIRANO's mission of fostering collaboration, knowledge transfer, and research training.

→ [Read more](#)



## -OUTREACH



**Martin Boyer receives the President's Award of the American Risk and Insurance Association**



**Benoit Aubert appointed Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Strategic Information Systems**



**Patricia Crifo Appointed as Senior Councillor at the Cour des comptes**



**David Ardia receives the Cascad Award for excellence in reproducible finance research**



**Mélanie Bourassa Forcier Appointed to the Board of the Philippe-Pinel National Institute of Forensic Psychiatry**



**Roxane Borgès Da Silva at the 2025 ALASS Congress in Tunisia**

## -EVENTS CALENDAR



### Launch cocktail for the 2025-2026 thematic year

In a world undergoing profound changes, education and workforce development are more essential than ever as key levers to improve productivity and reduce inequalities. In this context, CIRANO has chosen “**Éducation et main-d’œuvre : pour une société plus productive et équitable**” as the theme for the 2025–2026 year. To launch this thematic year, join us on September 17 at CIRANO for a panel discussion with the lead researchers of the major themes **Skills** and **Inequalities and Poverty**.



### Launch of the book “Québec: A Health System Profile”.

Emmanuelle Arpin, professor at École de santé publique de l'Université de Montréal, Amélie Quesnel-Vallée, professor at McGill University, both CIRANO researchers, and Lara Gautier, professor at École de santé publique de l'Université de Montréal, co-author the book *Québec: A Health System Profile*, published by University Toronto Press. This book provides a comprehensive overview of Québec's distinctive health care system, analyzing its organizational structure, policy reforms, socio-political history, and trailblazing innovations in Canada's health care landscape. On September 23, the authors invite you to the launch of their book from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



### What choices does the government have in the face of public opinion in favor of healthcare spending in Quebec?

The combined effect of rising healthcare costs and government budget restrictions is limiting the resources that can be allocated to the healthcare system. Governments are therefore faced with trade-offs when it comes to allocating public funds both within healthcare systems and between different state functions such as education, pensions and income support. In a recent CIRANO study, Olivier Jacques (Université de Montréal, CIRANO) and Philippe Chassé show that the level of prioritization of health is high in public opinion, especially in Quebec. The authors will present their study “Priorité à la santé : les préférences des Québécois et Québécoise en perspective comparée”.

A journal for the dissemination and valorization of research at CIRANO



### Measuring carbon intensity in Quebec at the city level

*Bryan Campbell, Michel Magnan, Robert Normand, Elizabeth Labonté and Léo Lamy-Laliberté*

The success in achieving global and national carbon neutrality targets depends largely on the decisions and actions of cities regarding climate risk management (KPMG, 2022). Municipal administrations' efforts to manage carbon neutrality can have a significant ripple effect on both the population and the private sector. Unfortunately, few cities have implemented systematic processes to measure carbon emissions, primarily due to a lack of resources. A CIRANO report (Campbell et al., 2025) proposes the development of a carbon emissions dashboard that reflects the activities directly related to the management of a city. This tool could prove highly

valuable for any municipal organization seeking to identify the most appropriate measures to reduce its emissions.



### **A demanding patient: Assessing Quebec's healthcare spending needs**

*Olivier Jacques and Philippe Chassé*

Rising costs and reduced budgets have been putting constraints on healthcare systems. This has led to governments making difficult trade-offs when it comes to allocating public funds. This is taking place both within the healthcare system and between different social missions such as education, pensions or social assistance. In a CIRANO study (Jacques and Chassé, 2025), the authors reveal that Quebecers by and large are very dissatisfied with the healthcare system. There is a strong public push for more spending on healthcare but an unwillingness to pay more taxes to support that new spending.

ALL PERSPECTIVES

## **-PUBLICATIONS**

### **PROJECT REPORTS**

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### **Trajectoires des grands utilisateurs de soins de santé au Québec**

*Maude Laberge, Bile Yacouba Djedou, Thomas G. Poder, Anaïs Lacasse and Catherine Hudon*

In 2024–2025, public health expenditures in Québec exceeded \$60 billion, representing 50% of total public spending. It is well documented that health expenditures are concentrated within a minority of users identified as “high users” of healthcare services. However, the care trajectories of these high users (HUs) remain largely underexplored. This study serves as a highly strategic tool for healthcare planning in Québec. The early identification of high-risk trajectory profiles enables upstream action through targeted interventions before overuse becomes entrenched.



### **Inégalités de richesse Québec-Ontario : une comparaison par cohortes**

*Raquel Fonseca, Markus Poschke et Simon Lord*

The objective of this report is to study wealth inequality and cohort differences in wealth in Québec and Ontario for the period 1999–2019. Based on data from Statistics Canada's Survey of Financial Security, it compares household wealth and its distribution across the two provinces, highlights the role of various demographic groups and asset types, and

analyzes the evolution of wealth accumulation by age over time. The main findings show that household wealth in Québec was lower than in Ontario as early as 1999, a disparity that has since widened. This gap does not appear to be attributable to differences in household growth, data sources, income growth, educational dynamics, or income shares held by the wealthiest. Instead, the analyses suggest that the primary factor lies in divergent trends in real estate wealth.

## FOR REFLECTION

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### **Algorithmic Pricing and Competition: Balancing Efficiency and Consumer Welfare**

*Frédéric Marty and Thierry Warin*

This article examines the competitive implications of algorithmic pricing in digital markets. While algorithmic pricing can enhance market efficiency through real-time adjustments, personalized offers, and inventory optimization, it also raises substantial risks, including tacit collusion, discriminatory pricing, market segmentation, and exploitative consumer manipulation. Drawing on theoretical models, simulations, and emerging empirical evidence, the brief explores how algorithmic strategies may lead to supra-competitive prices without explicit coordination, particularly in oligopolistic or data-rich environments. It also highlights how common algorithm providers, shared data sources, and learning dynamics can undermine competition. Special attention is given to the challenges posed by loyalty penalties, ecosystem lock-in, and granular predatory pricing.

## SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

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### **Estimation of Non-Gaussian SVAR Using Tensor Singular Value Decomposition**

*Alain Guay and Dalibor Stevanovic*

### **Beware Diworsification: A Firm- and Supply-Chain Approach to Trade Resilience**

*Thierry Warin*

### **A language economics perspective on language spread: Simulating language dynamics in a social network**

*Marco Civico, François Grin and François Vaillancourt*

### **Shadow Banking and Regulation: A Quantitative Assessment**

*Césaire Meh and Kevin Moran*

### **Gravity Models versus Comparative Advantage: It is not enough for trade to be free; trade should also be fit**

Thierry Warin

**GDP 5.0: Real-Time, Micro-Founded and Sustainable Metrics for Beyond-GDP Economic Assessment**

Thierry Warin and Sarah Elimam

**Intergenerational transmission of inequalities: Are health inequalities at birth the missing link?**

Abdel-Hamid Bello, Maripier Isabelle and Guy Lacroix

**Socio-demographic determinants of Consumables Deliveries in Montreal Metropolitan Area**

Brigitte Milord, Jean-Philippe Meloche and François Vaillancourt

**Not Efficient, Not Optimal: The Biases That Built Global Trade and the Data Tools That Could Fix It**

Thierry Warin

**Beneath the Clouds: A Microdata Approach to Understanding Storm Impacts in India**

Dorothy Bantasan, Nicolas Charette, Martino Pelli and Jeanne Tschopp

All publications

CIRANO news on our social networks



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