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Carbon dioxide emissions due to household consumption

This paper aims at studying the share of carbon dioxide in household consumption taking differences between household sub-categories into account.

In France, 70% of carbon dioxide emissions come from intermediate consumption. Beyond emissions directly due to fuel consumption and heating, the impact of households on the greenhouse effect should also be measured through the CO2 emission of the production process set up in order to satisfy household needs. To assess this indirect source of CO2 emission, an “input/output” type of model enables us to link each final consumption expenditure to its CO2 content according to carbon dioxide emissions of each branch of the economy as long as it's dedicated to final consumption products. The result of this model is a set of indicators that give us the content in CO2 of each component of final demand.

Once these indicators are implemented we take the differences of consumption patterns into account hence estimating carbon dioxide emissions according to household sub-categories (this classification is relative to household expenditures). Four criteria are investigated : income, profession, age, family structure. We especially focused on testing whether or not differences in income has an effect on CO2 emission.