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# Effectiveness of a Carbon Tax to promote a climate-friendly food consumption

## Introduction

Our current dietary habits are a major contributor to climate change because the “seed-to-table” food chain produces an immense amount of greenhouse gases (GHGs) (Castellón et al., 2015). For instance, in Spain, the agricultural sector contributes 14% of the country’s total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Bourne et al., 2012). Hedenus et al. (2014) showed that emission reduction in the agro-food sector can be achieved by: 1) productivity improvements; 2) technological changes (supply-side measures); and 3) changes in consumption behaviour (demand-side measures). Supply side measures such as command-and-control regulations, cap-and-trade systems or Pigovian (corrective) taxes, have been applied extensively in the European Union (Máca et al., 2012). However, the use of command-and-control measures has been found to be economically inefficient and does not lead to optimal production, when compared to cap-and-trade measures or Pigovian taxes (Burchell & Lightfoot, 2001)

Pigou (1928) proposed that governments should influence the behaviour of economic agents causing negative (positive) externalities through taxes (subsidies) (Endres, 2010). Influencing suppliers through taxes is a delicate issue because of “carbon leakage<sup>1</sup>” (Wirsenius et al., 2011) and high monitoring costs (Schmutzler & Goulder, 1997). From the demand side, the relevance of a Pigovian tax on unhealthy/high-carbon-footprint foods is justified under the assumption

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<sup>1</sup> The European Commission defines carbon leakage as the situation that may occur if, for reasons of costs related to climate policies, businesses were to transfer production to other countries with laxer emission constraints.

1 that the food industry is close to perfect competition<sup>2</sup>. Under such an assumption, the incidence  
2 of a Pigovian tax is irrelevant, whether applied to the supply side or the demand end. For this  
3 reason, several studies have shown that imposing Pigovian taxes on food demand rather than  
4 on food supply constitutes a cost-efficient emission reduction strategy (Edjabou & Smed,  
5 2013). Consumption taxes are also more attractive from the climate perspective (Mytton et al.,  
6 2012). Säll & Gren (2015) and Wirsenius et al., (2011) argued that the tax should be imposed  
7 on consumption and not directly on the emissions. This preserves the competitiveness of  
8 domestic products in relation to imported ones and it efficiently allows consumers to adjust to  
9 the taxes according to their efficient level of consumption (internalizing the externality).

10 Influencing consumer behaviour through food taxes is not new. Several countries have  
11 introduced taxes on food consumption as a way of internalizing negative externalities  
12 associated with the intake of unhealthy and environmentally unfriendly food products  
13 (Springmann et al., 2016). In an attempt to improve health, in 2010 Denmark increased the  
14 existing taxes on some sugar products, soft drinks and cigarettes and introduced a tax on  
15 saturated fat in October 2011 (Smed, 2012). In 2011, Hungary also passed an excise tax on  
16 foods and beverages high in caffeine, fat, and sugar, which included both soft drinks and energy  
17 drinks (Escobar et al., 2013) with the objective of internalizing the cost of obesity related  
18 diseases. Similarly, Finland, in 2011, introduced a tax on sweets, ice-creams and soft drinks.  
19 Following Hungary, Denmark and Finland, France introduced the ‘soda tax’ in January 2012  
20 with the aim of reducing unhealthy consumption of sugar or sweeteners (Berardi et al., 2016).  
21 The Mexican government in September 2013 imposed excise taxes on sugar sweetened  
22 beverages and a sales tax on several highly energy dense foods (Colchero et al., 2016) to reduce

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<sup>2</sup> According to Edjabou and Smed (2013) food markets are characterised by near-perfect competition, which implicitly assumes that the tax incidence between food producer and consumer does not depend on whether it is the producer or the consumer who is taxed since, on a long term basis, the tax in both cases is likely to end at the consumer. We acknowledge that a deviation from this assumption will have serious consequences on our results. As such the result should be interpreted with caution.

1 the prevalence of obesity and related diseases. Berkeley (California, USA) has taxed sugar-  
2 sweetened beverages (Cornelsen & Carreido, 2015).

3 In a meta-analysis, Escobar et al. (2013) showed that increasing the prices of sugar-sweetened  
4 beverages (SSBs) led to a reduction in the prevalence of obesity and overweight. Jensen &  
5 Smed (2013) found that the consumption of fats in Denmark dropped by 10% following the fat  
6 tax in 2011 while a later study by Smed et al. (2016) found that the consumption of saturated  
7 fat decreased by about 4-5% on average. Escobar et al. (2013), Jensen & Smed (2013) and  
8 Smed et al. (2016) provide evidence that seems to suggest that taxes on food can change  
9 consumption behaviours and internalize the associated negative externalities.

10 Based on the evidence provided, the objective of this paper is to evaluate the potential effects  
11 of imposing a “Pigovian” CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent tax on food products in Catalonia (North-East Spain).  
12 From food demand elasticities, we show that levying a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent tax has three effects: 1)  
13 reduction in the consumption of high carbon footprint foods with consequences on nutrient  
14 intake and the quality of diet; 2) a reduction in GHG emissions; and 3) welfare effects.

15 Despite the increasing importance of this topic in the policy arena, as well as among  
16 researchers, to the best of our knowledge, only a very few papers have been published dealing  
17 with the impact of taxation of unhealthy food consumption on CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions  
18 reduction (Briggs et al., 2013; Edjabou & Smed, 2013; Garcia-Muros et al., 2017; Säll & Gren,  
19 2015; Wirsenius et al., 2011). Wirsenius et al. (2011) found that EU-27 could reduce  
20 approximately 32 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq if they imposed a GHG weighted tax on animal food  
21 products corresponding to 60 Euro per ton CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. Similarly, Edjabou & Smed (2013)  
22 internalizing the social costs of greenhouse gas emissions by imposing CO<sub>2</sub>-eq consumption  
23 taxes on 23 different foods found that emission would decline by 2.3–8.8% and 10.4–19.4% in  
24 the least and most efficient scenarios, respectively. Säll & Gren, (2015) extended the work of

1 Wirsenius et al., (2011) and found that imposing a tax on all meat and dairy products decreased  
2 emissions of GHG, nitrogen, ammonia and phosphorus from the livestock sector by up to 12%.  
3 Garcia-Muros et al., (2017) evaluated the implications of levying consumption taxes on food  
4 products in Spain based on their carbon footprint. Using demand elasticities computed from  
5 the LAIDS model showed that a CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax policy could reduce emissions and, at the same  
6 time, help to change consumption patterns towards healthier diets.

7 The above papers provide sound empirical evidence that taxes on food products based on their  
8 carbon footprints can lead to decreased CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emission and improve dietary compositions.  
9 However, they are not exempted of criticisms. From a methodological point of view, past  
10 studies have relied on the AIDS model, ignoring the impact of unobserved household  
11 heterogeneity in welfare estimates. The second criticism is that with the exception of Edjabou  
12 & Smed (2013), who considered 23 food categories, past literature usually considered a  
13 reduced number of food products (meat, meat and dairy,...), ignoring potential substitution  
14 effects among the included food categories and those categories excluded from their analysis.  
15 In the case of Spain, only Garcia-Muros et al. (2017) have dealt with the distributional effects  
16 of carbon-based food taxes. However, our study differentiates from the later in several issues:  
17 1) as mentioned, the demand model used in this study is more flexible about the functional  
18 form of the Engle curves and takes into account unobserved household heterogeneity in the  
19 welfare calculations; 2) the geographical scope is different, as our study is concentrated on a  
20 Spanish region - Catalonia; 3) tax scenarios are different with this study focusing on current  
21 EU medium- and long-term emission reduction objectives; and 4) this study focuses on  
22 revenue-neutral (compensated) scenarios.

23 The remainder of the article is structured as follows. Sections 2 and 3 describe the data and the  
24 methodological framework used in this study. Section 4 shows and discusses main results. The  
25 paper ends with some concluding remarks and limitations.

## 1 **Data**

2 This study uses microdata: home scan panel data from a sample of 1146 households<sup>3</sup> in  
3 Catalonia (Northeast Spain) collated by Kantar Worldpanel. From the total of 1146 households,  
4 only those who had remained in the sample for at least 45 weeks were considered. Purchased  
5 quantities and expenditures for each single food product reference have been aggregated to the  
6 annual level for each household. The data set contains all day-to-day records of food purchases  
7 of Catalonian households in 2012. Each record in the Kantar data set contains detailed product  
8 information down to the Universal Product Code (UPC) level, including the store in which the  
9 household makes the purchases, product weight, price, unit of measurement, product  
10 characteristics (such as container type, brand, and flavor) and some household socio-  
11 demographic characteristics such as nationality, age, social class, presence of kids, number of  
12 pets, size of pets etc. Household's also recorded, in a book, non-UPC items as fresh fruits or  
13 vegetables, and in-store packaged breads and meats.

14 Using established Spanish Ministry of Agriculture nutrition-based guidelines, food products  
15 have been aggregated into 16 food categories<sup>4</sup> (alcoholic drinks are not included, while non-  
16 alcoholic drinks are included in the residual category for the purpose of this paper) : 1) Grains  
17 and grain-based products, 2) Vegetables and vegetable products, 3) Starchy roots, tubers,  
18 legumes, nuts and oilseeds, 4) Fruit, fruit products and fruit and vegetable juices, 5) Beef, veal  
19 and lamb; 6) Pork, 7) Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat; 8) Processed and other cooked meats, 9)  
20 Fish and other seafood, 10) Milk, dairy products and milk product imitates, 11) Cheese, 12)  
21 Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts, 13) Plant based fats, 14) Composite dishes  
22 (animal and vegetable composite dishes), 15) Snacks and other foods, 16) Residual category.

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<sup>3</sup> The sample is designed to represent the sociodemographic characteristics of households in Catalonia. Each household is assigned a weight in order to estimate total consumption for Catalonia. In this study, working with the raw data, only rural households are slightly underrepresented.

<sup>4</sup> The percentage of households with zero expenditures in the 16 food categories is shown in Table 1.

1 To standardize the products, all quantities were converted into kilograms and prices into euros.  
2 Similar to Zhen et al., (2014) the lowest level of aggregating the price data was the brand level.  
3 The brands were identified as belonging to subgroups and then to one of the 16 commodity  
4 groups.

5 To circumvent the problem of unit values encountered in cross-sectional data<sup>5</sup>, we followed  
6 Diewert (1998) to construct Fisher price indices<sup>6</sup> for the 16 food groups in our data using brands  
7 as the lowest level of aggregation. The Fisher price index, which is the geometric mean of the  
8 Laspeyeres and Paache indices, represents the deviation of the price paid by a household  
9 relative to the average household. For instance, to construct the price index for the residual  
10 category, we followed the following procedure:

11 1) Determination of the price per unit for a relatively homogeneous in-quality product. In this  
12 case, the unit value for the aggregate product  $g$  within food category  $j$  for the  $h$ -th household  
13 was calculated as:

$$14 \quad UV_{gj}^h = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M p_{mgj}^h * q_{mgj}^h}{\sum_{m=1}^M q_{mgj}^h} \quad (1)$$

15 where  $p_{mgj}^h$  is the  $h$ -th household price of the  $m$  brand in aggregate product  $g$  within the food  
16 category  $j$ , and  $q_{mgj}^h$  is the  $h$ -th household quantity purchased of the  $m$  brand in aggregate  
17 product  $g$  within the food category  $j$ .

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<sup>5</sup> We have aggregated our panel to a cross-sectional data for the following reasons: first, seasonality effects have to be taken into account. Some seasonal effects are easy to handle but others are not so easy. In case we had had three or four years, this issue would not have been a problem; second, and more relevant, the number of zero purchases increased significantly adding an additional econometric issue. We tried a double hurdle model for that but the joint estimation of a 16-equation multivariate probit and the EASI model was not econometrically feasible due to convergence problems.

<sup>6</sup> Secondly, by implementing the Fisher price index we able to reduce the level of heterogeneity bias in the aggregation of our data into a cross-sectional data and abstract out quality variation due to product heterogeneity (Silver & Heravi, 2006; Zhen et al., 2014)

1 2) Construction of the Fisher price indices using the  $UV_{gj}^h$  values obtained in the first stage. The  
 2 Fisher price index for the  $h$ -th household food category  $j$  is calculated as:

$$3 \quad P_{Fj}^h = \sqrt{P_{Pj}^h * P_{Lj}^h} \quad (2)$$

4 where  $P_{Lj}^h$  and  $P_{Pj}^h$  represent  $h$ -th household Laspeyres and Paasche price indices for food  
 5 category  $j$ , respectively.

$$6 \quad P_{Pj}^h = \frac{\sum UV_{gj}^h * q_{gj}^h}{\sum UV_{gj}^h * q_{gj}^h} \quad (3)$$

7 and

$$8 \quad P_{Lj}^h = \frac{\sum UV_{gj}^h * q_{gj}^h}{\sum UV_{gj}^h * q_{gj}^h} \quad (4)$$

9 where  $UV_{gj}^h$  is the unit value for aggregate product  $g$  within food category  $j$  for the  $h$ -th  
 10 household as defined previously,  $UV_{gj}$  is the unit value for aggregate product  $g$  within food  
 11 category  $j$  for the average household and  $q_{gj}$  is the average quantity purchased for aggregate  
 12 product  $g$  within food category  $j$  for the average household.

13 Table 1 shows the main household characteristics of the sample used in this paper. In the upper  
 14 part, data on food expenditure<sup>7</sup> shares of the sixteen food groups are provided. As can be  
 15 observed, the average household spends 21% of the food expenditure on fruits and fruit  
 16 products, and milk and milk product imitates, respectively. The next significant food category  
 17 for the average household is vegetables and vegetable products, followed by poultry, eggs and  
 18 other fresh meat. The food category that attracted the lowest expenditure share is snacks and

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<sup>7</sup> Food expenditure used in our data refers to food-at-home expenditure. Kantar Worldpanel did not provide data on food-away-from-home neither on household income. Henceforth, we have assumed weak separability of food-at-home expenditure on total expenditure. Instead of income, the dataset provides information about the social class the household belongs. Social class is defined by the following four groups of household characteristics: 1) Occupation of all household members; 2) General characteristics of the living place (size, location, ownership,...); 3) Household equipment; and 4) Number and characteristics of owned vehicles.



1 other foods. Among the socio-demographic characteristics, for the purposes of this study and  
 2 taking into account the information available in the dataset about households' characteristics,  
 3 we have included age, presence of kids and the social class, as in Ricciuto et al., (2006). Table  
 4 1 shows that, 21%, 20% and 59% percent of the households belong to the high, low and middle  
 5 social class category, respectively. Households with kids were in the minority representing  
 6 35.6% of the sample.

7

## 8 **Methodological framework**

### 9 *Estimating Food Price Elasticities*

10 Food price elasticities have been calculated by estimating an approximate EASI demand model  
 11 (Lewbel & Pendakur, 2009), which incorporates household characteristics. The EASI demand  
 12 model has several advantages over the traditional Almost Ideal Demand System (AIDS), as it  
 13 derives the Implicit Marshallian demand function which combines desirable properties of both  
 14 the Hicksian and Marshallian demand functions. Moreover, the error terms can be interpreted  
 15 as unobserved preference heterogeneity among individuals and Engle curves can adopt any  
 16 shape over real expenditures. Finally, similar to the AIDS model, we can estimate a linear  
 17 approximation which generates results similar to the full model.

18

Include Table 1 here

19 The approximate EASI demand equation expresses the budget shares,  $w_{hi}$ , as a function of  
 20 food prices  $P$ , real household food expenditure  $\tilde{y}$ , and  $K$  socio-demographic characteristics  $z$ :

$$21 \quad w_{hi} = \sum_{r=1}^5 v_{ir} \tilde{y}_h^r + \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \ln P_{hj} + \sum_{j=1}^N b_{ij} \ln P_{hj} \tilde{y}_h + \sum_{k=1}^K c_{ik} z_{hk} + \sum_{k=1}^K d_{ik} z_{hk} \tilde{y}_h + u_{hi}$$

1 where  $w_{hi}$  is the budget share of the  $i$ -th category for the  $h$ -th household;  $N$  is the number of  
 2 food categories;  $\tilde{y}_h$  is the real food expenditure for  $h$ -th household ( $\tilde{y}_h = \ln x_h - \sum_j^N \bar{w}_h$ );  $S$  is  
 3 the highest order of polynomial in  $\tilde{y}_h$  to be determined empirically;  $P_{hj}$  is the price index of the  
 4  $j$ -th food category paid by the  $h$ -th household;  $K$  is the number of exogenous demand shifters;  
 5  $z_{hk}$  is the  $k$ -th demand shifter for the  $h$ -th household, with  $z_{h1}$  being a constant;  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_{ij}$ ,  $c_{ik}$ ,  $d_{ik}$   
 6 and  $v_{ir}$  are parameters to estimate; and  $u_{hi}$  is error term, which accounts for unobserved  
 7 preference heterogeneity. For the model to be consistent with theory, the budget share  
 8 equations  $w_{hi}$  are required to satisfy the properties of adding-up, linear homogeneity and  
 9 Slutsky symmetry.

10 The EASI demand system was estimated using 3-Stage least Squares to account for  
 11 endogeneity. There are two sources of endogeneity. First, the presence of budget shares in the  
 12 stone index makes this index to be endogenous<sup>8</sup>. Second, the real food expenditure ( $\tilde{y}_h$ ) is a  
 13 function of the endogenous food group expenditure ( $x_h$ ). In our conditional food-at-home  
 14 demand model, we have controlled for this form of endogeneity by using social class as a proxy  
 15 for income to instrument for food groups expenditure ( $x_h$ )<sup>9</sup>.

16 By taking the derivatives of (5) with respect to log prices and expenditure, we get the Hicksian  
 17 demand semi-elasticities, which were converted into price elasticities following Castellón et  
 18 al. (2015) and expenditure elasticities following Zhen et al. (2014).

- 19 • Hicksian price elasticities for  $i$ -th good with respect to the price of the  $j$ -th food product  
 20 was calculated as:

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<sup>8</sup> Lewbel & Pendakur (2009) and Zhen et al., (2014) have shown that this source of endogeneity in demand models is numerically unimportant.

<sup>9</sup> Another way of dealing with this form of endogeneity is to estimate an incomplete food-at-home demand model as in Zhen et al. (2014) and ignore the need to use instruments. However, this strategy needs information about household income which is not available in our dataset.

$$H_{ij} = \frac{(a_{ij} + b_{ij}\bar{y})}{w_i} + w_j - \delta_{ij} \quad (6)$$

where  $\delta_{ij} = 1$  if  $i = j$ , and 0 otherwise.

- The  $N \times 1$  vector of food expenditure elasticities,  $FE$  was calculated as:

$$FE = (\text{diag}(W))^{-1}[(I_j + XP')^{-1}X] + \mathbf{1}_j \quad (7)$$

where  $W$  is the  $N \times 1$  vector of observed budget shares,  $X$  is a  $N \times 1$  vector whose  $i$ -th element equals  $\sum_{r=1}^5 r v_{ir} y^{r-1} + d_{ik}z + b_{ij}p$ ,  $P$  is the  $N \times 1$  vector of log prices, and  $\mathbf{1}_j$  is a  $N \times 1$  vector of ones.

- The Marshallian price elasticity,  $\varepsilon_{ij}$ , were recovered from the Slutsky equation using:

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = H_{ij} - w_j * f e_i \quad (8)$$

where  $f e_i$  is the  $i$ -th element of  $FE$ .

### Measuring the impact of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>-Eq) tax on food demand

To measure the impact of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax on food demand, we needed data on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kilogram of food products. Although several studies have provided some figures, there is no single study that covers all the food categories considered in this study in Spain (Macdiamid et al., 2012). For complete and comprehensive estimates, CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions for major food products consumed in the EU were taken from Hartikainen & Pulkkinen (2016)<sup>10</sup>. Their estimates were based on the following assumptions: 1) they are restricted to the food chain (from primary production to final consumption, encompassing processing, packaging [including recycling of packaging material], storing and cooking); 2) transport activities

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<sup>10</sup> Although this dataset contains information for a large number of food products, we could not find information for 9 out of the 112 products considered in this study (minced beef; all other beef and veal; all other lamb; pork joints; pork chops; all other pork; chicken and turkey, cooked; turkey, uncooked - whole turkey or turkey pieces; bacon and ham, cooked). In the case of missing information, we took the data from Bonnet et al. (2018).

1 (including consumers' displacement to retail outlets) are not included; 3) GHG emissions due  
2 to food waste were not accounted for; and 4) direct land-use changes were not considered due  
3 to lack of data. The work also considers changes in the weight of food products because of  
4 evaporation, addition of water for cooking and exclusion of inedible parts<sup>11</sup>. Despite the  
5 limitation to using this data due to differences in food production systems in Spain and other  
6 EU countries, we consider that the data set will serve the purposes of this study because it uses  
7 a common framework to estimate GHG emissions for a large list of food products.

8 To determine the average CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions from each food category, we multiplied the  
9 average daily consumption (kg) of each food group by their corresponding average CO<sub>2</sub>-eq  
10 emissions to obtain the average CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions per kg of food category per day for the 16  
11 food groups considered in this study (see Table 2). The impact of imposing a carbon/green tax  
12 on demand for food has been analysed, taking into account the price/ton of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent  
13 emissions for each of the 16 food categories. Previous studies have used a wide range of values  
14 ranging from 0 Euro up to 365 Euro (Stern, 2007). To cite only two examples, Edjabou & Smed  
15 (2013) based on the Tol (2012) and (Stern, 2007) estimates, assumed a carbon social cost of  
16 30 Euro per ton and a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of 100 Euro per ton, respectively. (Irz et al., 2015)  
17 assumed a value of 32 Euro, based on the meta-analyses carried out by Tol (2012).

18 Include Table 2 here

### 19 *Simulation scenarios*

20 This study aims to simulate two tax scenarios (compensated and uncompensated), following  
21 Edjabou & Smed (2013). In the uncompensated (U) scenario, taxes were imposed on all food

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<sup>11</sup> Hartikainen & Pulkkinen (2016) estimates are based on ready-to-eat foods. They used the conversion factor proposed by McCance and Widdowson (2015). However, in their dataset, transport emissions are not considered. For the purpose of our estimation, we assume that our food products are all ready-to-eat (ignoring the impact of exclusion or inclusion of inedible parts).

1 groups proportional to their carbon footprint. In the compensated (C) scenario, the taxes were  
2 imposed, as in Säll & Gren (2015), only on those food categories that generate higher GHG-  
3 emissions: all meats, milk and dairy products, cheese and composite dishes (see Table 2).  
4 Additionally, tax revenues generated from the above mentioned taxed foods were used to  
5 subsidize the rest of the foods that generate comparatively lower CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions per kg.

6 Under both scenarios (U and C), this study considers two different policy goals taking into  
7 account the EU's medium- and long-term carbon emission reduction objectives. The EU  
8 proposes a social cost of CO<sub>2</sub>/t equivalent emission of 56 EUR (scenario 1) and 200 EUR  
9 (scenario 2) to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions by 20% and 60% by 2020 and 2050,  
10 respectively, across the EU (Quinet, 2009). Thus, in total, this study considers four tax  
11 scenarios U1, U2, C1 and C2 (Table 3)

12 In scenarios U1 and U2 (uncompensated case under the two policy goals) and following  
13 Baumol & Oates (1975), the taxes imposed on each food category was calculated as follows:

$$14 \quad t_i = \rho_i * \varphi \quad (9)$$

15 where  $t_i$  is the tax imposed on the  $i$ -th food category,  $\rho_i$  is the used average CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent  
16 for the  $i$ -th food group and  $\varphi$  is the social cost of releasing 1 kg of GHG measured in CO<sub>2</sub>  
17 equivalents in scenarios 1 or 2.

18 Include Table 3 here

19 In scenarios C1 and C2 (compensated case), we have followed the seminal paper by Edjabou  
20 & Smed (2013) to create revenue-neutral policy scenarios. Under both cases, the new price,  
21  $p_{i1}$  for the subsidized  $i$ -th food category that was not taxed was calculated as:

$$22 \quad p_{i1} = p_{i0} - \varphi * p_{i0} \quad (10)$$

1 where  $\phi$  is a consistently positive factor and  $p_{i0}$  is the price of the  $i$ -th food category with the  
 2 CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax from scenarios U1 or U2 (Table 3). The value of  $\phi$  is determined as the value where  
 3 the total tax revenue after the price change equals the tax revenue before the price change.  
 4 Based on the above method, the subsidies ( $\phi$ ) generated for scenarios C1 and C2 are:  $\phi_{C1} = 8\%$   
 5 and  $\phi_{C2} = 27\%$ , respectively.

6 Table 4 summarizes the price changes under the different tax scenarios considered in this paper.  
 7 As can be observed, in the two uncompensated scenarios, but mainly in scenario U2, price  
 8 changes range from about 2% (starchy roots, legumes and pulse category) to 44% (beef, veal  
 9 and lamb category) and 55% (composite dishes). Even if the policy goal is aimed to be achieved  
 10 exclusively by a tax policy, it is unreliable assuming that policy makers would tax food  
 11 products generating prices outside their natural variation. Moreover, taxing all categories  
 12 would not be plausible, as the potential reduction in the consumption of all food products could  
 13 have negative consequences on households that are poorer as well as on the overall  
 14 population's quality of diet (i.e. the reduction in the consumption of fruits and vegetables). For  
 15 this reason, for the rest of this study, we will concentrate all the analyses in the compensated  
 16 or revenue neutral scenarios. Under such scenarios, all untaxed food categories are subsidized  
 17 equally while taxed foods remained as in the uncompensated case.

18 The percentage reduction in the quantities consumed after imposing the taxes were calculated  
 19 taking the own- and cross- price elasticities into account:

$$20 \quad \frac{\Delta Q_i}{Q_i} = \sum_j^N \epsilon_{ij} * \frac{\Delta p_j}{p_j} \quad (11)$$

21 where  $\frac{\Delta p_i}{p_i}$  and  $\frac{\Delta Q_i}{Q_i}$  represent the percentage change in prices and quantities of the  $i$ -th food  
 22 group after the tax, respectively (Säll & Gren, 2015).

1 Finally, the post-tax change in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emission for the  $h$ -th household  $\Delta Em_h$  was  
 2 obtained by multiplying the change in consumption for the  $i$ -th food category,  $\Delta Q_i$  by the CO<sub>2</sub>  
 3 equivalent emission per kg of the  $i$ -th food category.

$$4 \quad \Delta Em_h = \sum_j^N \rho_{ij} * \Delta Q_i \quad (12)$$

5 where  $\rho_{ij}$  is the used average CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent for the  $i$ -th food group and  $\Delta Q_i$  is the change in  
 6 quantity taking into account own- and cross- price elasticities.

7 Include Table 4 here

8 *Estimating the impact of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax on household's welfare*

9 In order to calculate the impact of the aforementioned taxes on a household's welfare, being  
 10 consistent with previous literature, we have assumed that the food supply is perfectly inelastic  
 11 and is not influenced by the CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax. This implicitly assumes that the tax burden between  
 12 Catalonian food producers and consumers does not depend on whether it is the producer or the  
 13 consumer who is taxed, since in the long term, the tax is likely to end on the consumer<sup>12</sup>. Under  
 14 this assumption, welfare estimates are calculated through the so-called log of living cost index  
 15 of Lewbel & Pendakur (2009) which takes into account both first-order and second-order  
 16 effects. The first order-effect assesses the distributional impact of the tax imposition on each  
 17 food category as the product of its corresponding budget share by the price change in that food  
 18 category, while the second order-effect considers how consumers react to price changes:

$$19 \quad C(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) - C(\mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{z}, \varepsilon) = (\mathbf{p}_{i1} - \mathbf{p}_{i0})' \mathbf{w}_0 + 0.5(\mathbf{p}_{i1} - \mathbf{p}_{i0})' (\sum_j^N \mathbf{a}_{ij} + \mathbf{b}_{ij} \tilde{\mathbf{y}}) (\mathbf{p}_{i1} - \mathbf{p}_{i0}) \quad (14)$$

---

<sup>12</sup> We acknowledge that a deviation from this assumption could have consequences on our results. First, the tax burden will be shared by both consumers and producers, affecting the competitiveness of domestic firms. Second, the magnitude of the impact on consumption (reduction in quantity and emissions) could likely to be lower. However, it is also true that in the short run producers cannot modify their supply taking into account the existence of fix costs.

1 The term  $(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0)' \mathbf{w}_0$  in (14) is the Stone index for the price change while  
2  $0.5(\mathbf{p}_{i1} - \mathbf{p}_{i0})' (\sum_j^N \mathbf{a}_{ij} + \mathbf{b}_{ij} \bar{\mathbf{y}}) (\mathbf{p}_{i1} - \mathbf{p}_{i0})$  models substitution effects resulting from price  
3 changes.

4 To estimate the welfare effects for the  $k$ -th social demographic group, we subsampled the data  
5 based on the  $k$ -th demographic group to estimate the average prices and average budget shares,  
6 which were introduced into equation (14).

7

## 8 **Results and Discussion**

### 9 *Price and food expenditure elasticities*

10 The EASI demand model in (5) has been estimated imposing adding-up, homogeneity and  
11 symmetry<sup>13</sup>. Several Wald tests have been carried out to check for model adequacy. In relation  
12 to the functional form of the Engle curve, we followed a sequential procedure. We considered  
13 first a 5-degree polynomial and test for the significance of the fifth parameter. As the p-value  
14 was 0.75, we consider a fourth-degree polynomial as test for the significance of the fourth  
15 parameter. Its p-value was 0.50. We repeated the process with a cubic functional form and here  
16 we obtained a 0.005 p-value, indicating that a cubic functional form was appropriate in our  
17 case. Finally, we tested for the joint significance of the interaction parameters between socio-  
18 demographic variables and prices and real food expenditure, respectively. Results indicated  
19 that parameters associated to interactions with prices were not jointly statistically significant  
20 (p-value 0.78), while were significant in the case of real expenditure (p-value 0.003).

---

<sup>13</sup> Taking into account how price indices were calculated based on unit values, and as the households choose prices and budget-shares simultaneously, following Dhar et al. (2003) we performed a Hausman test for price endogeneity by comparing the OLS estimated model with 3SLS estimator including region and nationality as instruments. Results indicated that endogeneity was not an issue in our model.



1 Table 5 shows the calculated food expenditure as well as Marshallian own- and cross-price  
2 elasticities<sup>14</sup>. Food expenditure elasticity estimates are statistically significant at the 1% level  
3 and positive. Three food groups out of the 16 are food expenditure elastic, including vegetables  
4 and vegetable products, fruit and fruit products and poultry, eggs and other fresh meats. Again,  
5 in this case, results do not significantly differ from previous studies, taking into account again  
6 that sample periods and food categories are different. Garcia-Muros et al., (2017) found Fruits  
7 (1.02) and Vegetables (1.03) to be slightly expenditure elastic. Similarly, Molina (1994) and  
8 Laajimi et al. (1997) found fruit and vegetables to have expenditure elasticity of 1.333 and  
9 1.034, respectively, in Spain. Contrary to our results, Garcia-Muros et al., (2017) found poultry  
10 to be inelastic (0.850). However, Molina (1994) and Laajimi et al. (1997) summed all meat  
11 into one category and found meat consumption to be expenditure elastic in Spain.

12 Table 5 also shows the own price elasticities at the sample means. All own-price elasticities  
13 estimates are statistically significant at the 5% level and negative, except for beef, veal and  
14 lamb and the residual category, which are significant at the 10% level. All food categories have  
15 absolute price elasticities less than unity, except for the residual food category. We found price  
16 elasticities for fruit and fruit products and vegetable and vegetable products to be -0.75 and -  
17 0.65, respectively. This is in line with the previous findings from Molina (1994) and Laajimi  
18 et al. (1997), although both studies combined fruits and vegetables into one single category and  
19 found price elasticities to be -0.68 and -0.84, respectively.

20 All animal and dairy products were found to be price inelastic. Beef, veal and lamb had the  
21 lowest price elasticity (-0.16). However, this result is consistent with previous studies in Spain  
22 using cross-section data. For instance, Angulo et al. (2008) found a price elasticity for all meats,

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<sup>14</sup> For comparative purposes, we have provided the elasticity estimates for the QUAIDS model in the Appendix.

1 jointly considered, of -0.399, which corresponds to the average of all price elasticities found in  
2 this paper for meat products.

3 In relation to cross-price elasticities (Table 5), we have found 150 complementarities among  
4 food categories and 115 substitutions. Most of the cross-price elasticities are significant and  
5 plausible. For instance, we found that poultry, eggs and other fresh meat category is a close  
6 substitute for all animal products including fish and marine products. We also found  
7 complementarity between all animal products and fruits and fruit products. Grains and grain  
8 based products and vegetable and vegetable products are complement to all animal products,  
9 starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oil seeds. Finally, milk and other dairy products were  
10 found to be complementary to cheese.

11 Include Table 5 here

### 13 *Impact of a CO<sub>2</sub> tax on household CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions and food consumption*

14 Figure 1 shows, for the average household, the reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions after the tax  
15 imposition, under the compensated tax scenarios, taking into account both price and cross-price  
16 elasticities. As can be observed, the mean reduction in emissions ranges from 2% to 6.4%,  
17 depending on the associated damage cost of emissions.

18 Include Figure 1 here

19 Figure 2 shows the impact on the consumption of the different food categories considered in  
20 this study. The consumption of taxed food categories would decrease, particularly in the case  
21 of pork. The impact on beef and lamb would be lower in comparison with other studies, such  
22 as Henschion et al. (2014) and Säll & Gren (2015), as in the case of Catalonia, the beef, veal  
23 and lamb consumption is significantly price inelastic and its budget share is relatively low in

1 comparisons with other meats. On the other hand, the consumption of subsidized food  
2 categories would increase. The magnitude of the increase highly depends on the public  
3 revenues from taxed products. As the public revenue from the taxed foods increases, the  
4 compensation to subsidized categories also increase generating higher consumption levels.  
5 This is particularly relevant in the residual category; snacks and other foods; and starchy roots,  
6 tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds category. Cheese consumption would increase despite the  
7 fact that it was taxed, which could be due to the strong complementarity with subsidized foods.

8 Include Figure 2 here

9

#### 10 *Welfare impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent taxes*

11 Welfare effects have been calculated using the compensated variation based on the log of the  
12 living cost index proposed by Lewbel & Pendakur (2009) for the average household, as well  
13 as for the different types of households, taking into account the socio-demographic  
14 characteristics that were included in the EASI demand system (the age of the household head  
15 and the presence of children).

16 The log of living cost index measures the change in the initial expenditure that a household  
17 should require to maintain the same food consumption level than before the imposition of the  
18 tax. In both scenarios, by definition, the public revenue generated is set to zero and it is  
19 allocated to subsidize food products with low CO<sub>2</sub>-eq footprint. The first row in Table 6 shows  
20 the food expenditure compensation that the average household would receive due to price  
21 increases. Results indicate that in the first scenario (reducing carbon emissions by 20% by  
22 2020), after the imposition of the taxes and subsidies, on average, consumers would save about  
23 0.25% of their initial expenditure. In scenario C2 (reducing carbon emissions by 60% by 2050),

1 consumers would require a slight increase of 0.41% in their initial expenditure to maintain their  
2 current consumption patterns.

3 Table 6 also shows the distributional impact of the tax on different household groups. In  
4 scenario C1, all household groups save on their initial expenditure, however, the level of  
5 savings differ. For instance, in households without kids or when the household head is older  
6 savings would be higher than in other socioeconomic segments. Under scenario C2 (see table  
7 3 for definitions), all households except pensioners would require an increase in their initial  
8 expenditure to maintain the same food consumption level. Economically, scenario C1 would  
9 be more cost efficient for government and less regressive across different consumer groups.

10 Include Table 6 here

### 11 *Impact of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax on diet quality*

12 To end with the impact assessment of the alternative tax scenarios, in this section we aim at  
13 reporting their potential effect on diet quality. Although there is a vast amount of literature  
14 about alternative measures for diet quality<sup>15</sup>, here we have used a relatively simple approach  
15 by taking into account the 2005 Spanish Strategy for Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity  
16 Prevention (NAOS), which recommended that dietary proteins should provide between 10%  
17 and 15% of total calorie intake; total dietary fats should not exceed 30% of the daily caloric  
18 intake; and total carbohydrates should represent between 50% and 60% of the energy intake.  
19 As our dataset only contains household values, we have calculated average per capita adult  
20 equivalent values. Figure 3 shows the main results from this analysis. The last two bars  
21 correspond to current nutrient ratios and the NAOS recommended values, respectively. The  
22 remaining bars correspond to each of the tax policy scenarios. Our result indicates that that the

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<sup>15</sup> The definition of diet quality and its empirical determination is beyond the scope of this paper.

1 current macronutrient intake significantly exceeds the recommended values in the case of lipids  
2 (42.04%) and very slightly in the case of proteins (16.00%). Consequently, the intake of  
3 carbohydrates is lower than the recommended values (41.96%). These results are consistent  
4 with previous studies in Spain suggesting an overconsumption of fats (Moreno et al., 2002),  
5 which is one of the main reasons for the rapid increase of the prevalence of obesity and health-  
6 related diseases compared to other EU countries (Garcia-Goñi & Hernández-Quevedo, 2012).

7 Include figure 3 here

8 Any tax policy to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions would produce results that would either generate a  
9 more or less equilibrated diet depending on the policy scenario. Our results indicate that the  
10 total calorie intake would not significantly change in any tax scenario (the current caloric intake  
11 of  $1.816 \pm 512$  Kcal/capita/day would decrease by 0.2% under scenario C1 but increase by  
12 0.1%, under scenario C2. The impact on the quality of diet would be limited but would go in  
13 the right direction. As Figure 3 shows, there would be a reduction in the intake of lipids and  
14 proteins together with an increase in that of carbohydrates. For instance, in scenario C2, the  
15 intake of proteins and lipids would decrease by 2% and 5.6%, respectively, while that of  
16 carbohydrates would increase by 4.3%. In order to complete the overview about the potential  
17 impact of the two tax scenarios, we have calculated the changes in the most relevant nutrients  
18 intake (Figure 4). Consistent with the previous results, changes are higher in scenario C2  
19 (reducing carbon emissions by 60% by 2050). For instance, saturated fat and cholesterol intake  
20 would be reduced due to the reduction in the consumption of meat, composite dishes and lipids  
21 (Figure 2), while carbohydrates intake would increase. On the negative side, the sugar intake  
22 would increase due to the increase consumption of cereals and starchy roots as these food  
23 categories would be subsidized as a result of their low contribution to CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions.  
24 Similarly, the consumption of healthy fatty acids like mono- and poly- saturated acids  
25 decreases. Summing up, our results suggest that CO<sub>2</sub> tax scenarios could lead to nutrient

1 redistribution but not enough to meet the recommended dietary requirements in line with the  
2 NAOS strategy<sup>16</sup>. In addition, dietary changes results in trade-offs between healthy fatty acids,  
3 such as mono-saturated and poly-saturated fatty acids, and saturated fatty acids.

4

## 5 **Concluding remarks**

6 The study aimed at assessing the impact of introducing a Pigovian or CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax on food  
7 demand, dietary composition, emission reduction and consumer welfare in Catalonia  
8 (Northeast Spain). Alternative tax policy scenarios have been considered, which, in essence,  
9 reflect the alternative social cost of emissions or alternative tax magnitudes. In any case, the  
10 scenarios have been chosen by taking into account real scenarios discussed in the EU. The  
11 methodological framework has been based on food expenditure as well as on own- and cross-  
12 price elasticities calculated from estimating an EASI food demand system. From elasticity  
13 estimates, the paper has assessed the impact of the tax on CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emission, diet quality and  
14 household's welfare.

15 Results obtained in this study suggest that taxing all food categories depending on their  
16 contribution to CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emission would be unrealistic, as it would generate significant price  
17 changes, which would increase up to 55% (very far from their natural variation). Our analysis  
18 shows that a revenue neutral tax policy could be a plausible policy alternative for achieving  
19 green objectives at minimal consumer welfare impacts, also contributing to slightly improve  
20 the quality of diet. In any case, it is also evident that, by comparing the impact of the two  
21 scenarios considered in this study, the impact increases as the level of the tax increases,  
22 suggesting that the tax level should be large enough to generate significant reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>-

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<sup>16</sup> We have also carried out this analysis by social classes but we have not found any significant differences in relation to the average behaviour. Results are available from authors upon request.

1 eq emissions. In other words, tax policies should be implemented as a complementary measure  
2 to efficiently reduce such emissions.

3 A policy setback from our study could be border trade problems. The significant differential  
4 between the prices of products sold in Catalonia, after the carbon tax imposition, and the same  
5 products sold in neighbouring regions or countries could trigger a similar effect like the Danish  
6 fat tax (see Vallgård et al. 2015). If the tax is only applied to Catalonia<sup>17</sup>, consumers would  
7 like to bypass the tax by shopping from neighbouring regions and, to a lesser extent, from  
8 France if the transaction cost plus the non-taxed price is lower than the price paid for in  
9 Catalonia. If the tax is applied in all Spain, the effectiveness for Catalonia would be higher as  
10 cross-border trade will take place only with south-east of France and the most populated towns  
11 are located more than one hundred kilometres from the border, making transaction costs high  
12 enough to compensate price differentials.

13 In any case, results from this study only apply to Catalonia and similar analyses that consider  
14 all food categories should be conducted for the country as a whole. Despite the contribution of  
15 this study to the policy discussion, we must recognize that our results should be interpreted  
16 with caution for several reasons: the most important is the lack of data. Although there are  
17 many studies on life-cycle analysis, most of them are product specific and no existing study  
18 covers a wide range of products in Catalonia using a common methodological approach.  
19 Second, we have assumed that the food supply is perfectly inelastic by ignoring potential  
20 strategic decisions of firms. Further research could be focused on relaxing this assumption.  
21 Finally, authors have assumed, due to data unavailability, a strong separability between food-  
22 at-home and food-away-from-home, other durable and non-durable goods. On the other hand,  
23 this limitation is difficult to overcome as we would need, at least, a composite indicator of

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<sup>17</sup> Catalonia introduced only in its territory a sugar tax on soft drinks in 2018

1 GHG emissions of other durable and non-durable goods. Despite these limitations, this study  
2 provides some evidence about the potential impacts of imposing a CO<sub>2</sub>-eq tax on food products  
3 and welfare in Catalonia.

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20

1 **Table 1 Household characteristic (%)**

	Variable	Non-Consuming Households (%)	Mean	Std. Dev	
Food-at-home Expenditure Shares	Grains and grain-based products	0.00	0.045	0.03	
	Vegetables and vegetable products	0.00	0.131	0.07	
	Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	0.50	0.016	0.01	
	Fruit and fruit products	0.00	0.207	0.09	
	Beef, veal and lamb	3.10	0.021	0.02	
	Pork	1.00	0.020	0.01	
	Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	0.30	0.067	0.04	
	Processed meat products	0.20	0.037	0.02	
	Fish and seafood	0.10	0.046	0.03	
	Milk and dairy products	0.00	0.210	0.10	
	Cheese	0.30	0.024	0.01	
	Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	0.00	0.055	0.03	
	Plant based fats	3.00	0.027	0.02	
	Composite dishes	1.10	0.063	0.05	
	Snacks and other foods	2.70	0.008	0.01	
	Residual category	0.30	0.025	0.02	
	Socio-demographics	High Social Class		0.213	0.41
		Low Social Class		0.197	0.40
		Lower Middle Social Class		0.238	0.43
Middle Social Class			0.352	0.48	
0-34 years			0.090	0.29	
35-49 years			0.422	0.49	
50-64 years			0.332	0.47	
60+ years			0.155	0.36	
Presence of Kids 0-5 years			0.158	0.36	
Presence of Kids 5+ years			0.198	0.40	
No Kids		0.644	0.48		

2

3

1 **Table 2. Average kg CO2 equivalent emissions per kg for each food category**

<i>Food Category</i>	<i>kg CO2-eq/kg food/day</i>	<i>Standard Deviation</i>
Grains and grain-based products	1.10	0.30
Vegetables and vegetable products	1.20	0.70
Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	0.40	0.50
Fruit and fruit products	0.90	0.70
Beef, veal and lamb	18.90	11.70
Pork	5.80	0.20
Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	5.90	1.70
Processed meat products	5.40	0.40
Fish and seafood	5.30	2.30
Milk and dairy products	1.50	0.10
Cheese	8.20	0.05
Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	1.20	0.50
Plant based fats	2.60	1.00
Composite dishes	12.50	8.60
Snacks and other foods	1.90	0.20
Residual category	1.30	0.30

2 Source: Own elaboration from Hartikainen & Pulkkinen (2016)

3

1 **Table 3 Description of tax scenarios (taxed products and social cost emissions associated**  
 2 **to each scenario)**

Scenario	Uncompensated Scenario		Compensated Scenario	
	U1	U2	C1	C2
<b>Food categories</b>				
Grains and grain-based products	X	X		
Vegetables and vegetable products	X	X		
Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	X	X		
Fruit, fruit products and fruit and vegetable juices	X	X		
Beef, veal and lamb	X	X	X	X
Pork	X	X	X	X
Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	X	X	X	X
Processed and other cooked meats	X	X	X	X
Fish and other seafood	X	X		
Milk, dairy products and milk product imitates	X	X	X	X
Cheese	X	X	X	X
Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	X	X		
Plant based fats	X	X		
Composite dishes	X	X	X	X
Snacks and other foods	X	X		
Residual category	X	X		
<b>Social cost of emission</b>				
EU 2020 (56 Euro)	X		X	
EU 2050 (200 Euro)		X		X

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1 **Table 4 Price changes under alternative tax scenarios (%)**

% changes relative to baseline	UNCOMPENSATED SCENARIOS		COMPENSATED (REVENUE-NEUTRAL) SCENARIOS	
	U1	U2	C1	C2
Food Groups				
Grains and grain-based products	2%	8%	-6%	-23%
Vegetables and vegetable products	4%	13%	-5%	-19%
Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	0%	2%	-8%	-27%
Fruit, fruit products and fruit and vegetable juices	4%	13%	-5%	-19%
Beef, veal and lamb	12%	44%	12%	44%
Pork	4%	14%	4%	14%
Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	9%	33%	9%	33%
Processed and other cooked meats	4%	13%	4%	13%
Fish and other seafood	3%	12%	-5%	-19%
Milk, dairy products and milk product imitates	6%	22%	6%	22%
Cheese	6%	22%	6%	22%
Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	1%	5%	-7%	-25%
Plant based fats	6%	20%	-3%	-12%
Composite dishes (animal and vegetable composite dishes)	15%	55%	5%	55%
Snacks and other foods	2%	6%	-7%	-23%
Residual category	2%	6%	-7%	-24%

2 \*See Table 3 for the description of each scenario (subsidies are negative; taxes are positives).

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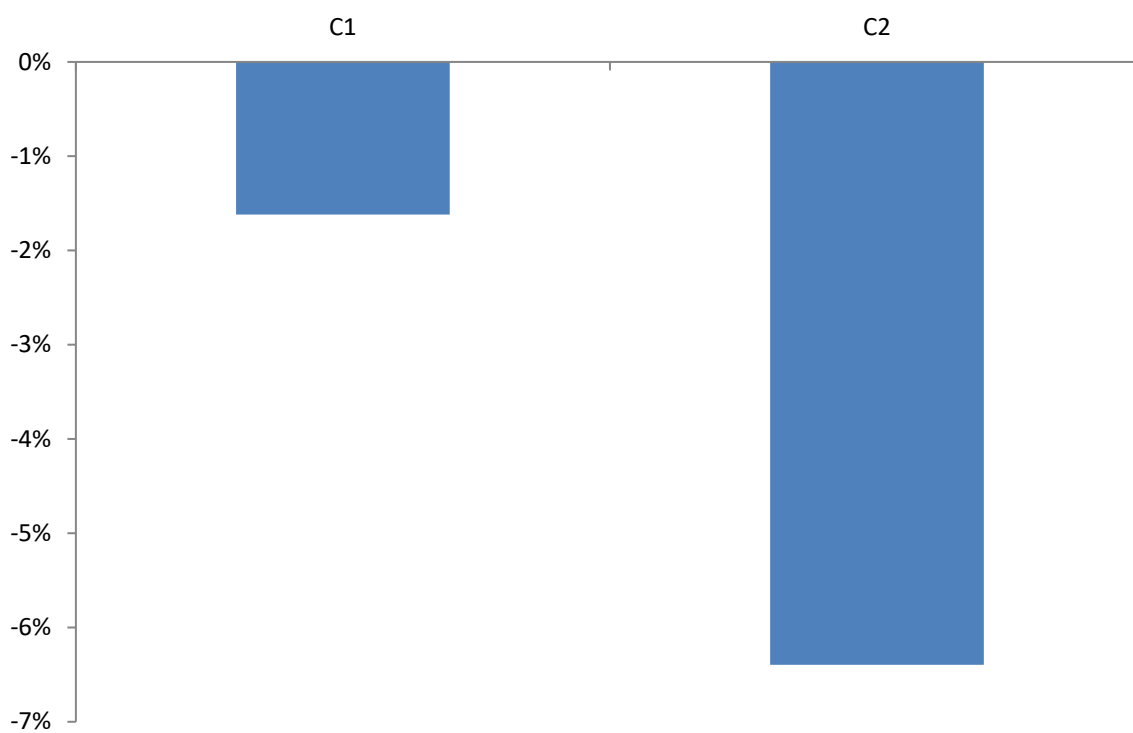


**Table 5 Marshallian price elasticities at mean values**

Food category	Grains	Vegetables	Pulse, Legumes and Starchy roots	Fruit and vegetable juices	Beef, veal and lamb	Pork	Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	Processed and other cooked meats	Fish and other seafood	Milk, dairy and milk product imitates	Cheese	Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	Plant based fats	Composite dishes	Snacks and other foods	Residual category	Food Expenditure Elasticity
Grains and grain-based products	-0.29**	-0.18**	-0.04	-0.26**	-0.06	-0.10	-0.10**	-0.03	-0.04	-0.19**	-0.04	0.02	-0.06	-0.01	0.10	0.64	0.96 **
Vegetables and vegetable products	-0.10	-0.65**	0.05	-0.01	-0.05	-0.09	-0.17**	-0.10	0.32**	-0.14**	0.10	-0.11	-0.17	-0.11**	-0.10	0.31	1.21 **
Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	-0.05**	-0.15**	-0.61**	-0.20**	0.07**	0.02	-0.06**	-0.09**	-0.04*	-0.19**	0.05*	-0.07**	-0.11**	-0.10**	0.06	0.07	0.78 **
Fruit and fruit products	-0.21**	0.19**	0.34**	-0.75**	-0.18	0.32**	0.09**	0.31**	-0.04	-0.04	-0.05	0.02	0.36**	-0.06	0.01	-0.48	1.08 **
Beef, veal and lamb	-0.06*	-0.16**	0.10**	-0.24**	-0.16*	-0.22**	-0.04**	-0.10**	0.01	-0.21**	0.01	0.00	-0.01	-0.04**	0.11	0.11	0.92 **
Pork	-0.08**	-0.17**	0.04	-0.19**	-0.21**	-0.80**	-0.03**	-0.18**	-0.13**	-0.21**	-0.07	-0.02	0.00	-0.03*	0.22*	0.70**	0.94 **
Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	-0.08**	-0.21**	0.07**	-0.17**	0.09**	0.12**	-0.85**	0.08**	0.01	-0.15**	0.07**	0.06**	0.05**	0.11**	0.11**	0.09	1.08 **
Processed meats products	-0.04	-0.18**	-0.13**	-0.16**	-0.13*	-0.28**	-0.01	-0.34**	0.15**	-0.23**	0.03	-0.07*	-0.12*	-0.04**	0.08	0.13	0.91 **
Fish and seafood	-0.03	-0.03	0.00	-0.22**	0.10	-0.21**	-0.04**	0.21**	-0.40**	-0.20**	-0.11	0.00	-0.04	-0.06	-0.13	-0.50	0.99 **
Milk and dairy products	0.03	-0.05	0.20**	-0.05	-0.05	-0.06	0.10**	-0.16**	-0.02	-0.64**	0.17**	-0.01	-0.10	0.12**	0.29**	0.39	0.99 **
Cheese	-0.05	-0.14	0.09**	-0.23**	0.02	-0.08	-0.04**	0.00	-0.09**	-0.19**	-0.26**	0.05	0.13*	-0.01	-0.06	-0.60**	0.86 **
Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	0.03	-0.19**	-0.10	-0.21**	0.11	0.06	0.01	-0.07	0.01	-0.20**	0.19**	-0.58**	-0.12*	0.05*	-0.06	0.23	0.80 **
Plant based fats	-0.07*	-0.19**	-0.15**	-0.17**	-0.01	0.01	-0.04**	-0.10**	-0.06	-0.22**	0.15**	-0.09**	-0.38**	-0.09**	0.05	0.35	0.84 **
Composite dishes	0.02	-0.19**	-0.21**	-0.23**	0.00	0.05	0.08**	-0.02	-0.06*	-0.16**	0.09**	0.07*	-0.11**	-0.47**	0.08	0.04	0.80 **
Snacks and other foods	-0.02	-0.16**	0.02	-0.22**	0.02	0.07*	-0.06**	-0.02	-0.07**	-0.20**	-0.04	-0.05**	-0.01	-0.04**	-0.67**	-0.07	0.61 **
Residual category	0.32	-0.09	0.13	-0.28	0.14	0.89**	-0.03	0.07	-0.30	-0.16	-0.62**	0.07	0.33	-0.02	-0.17	-1.79	0.90 **

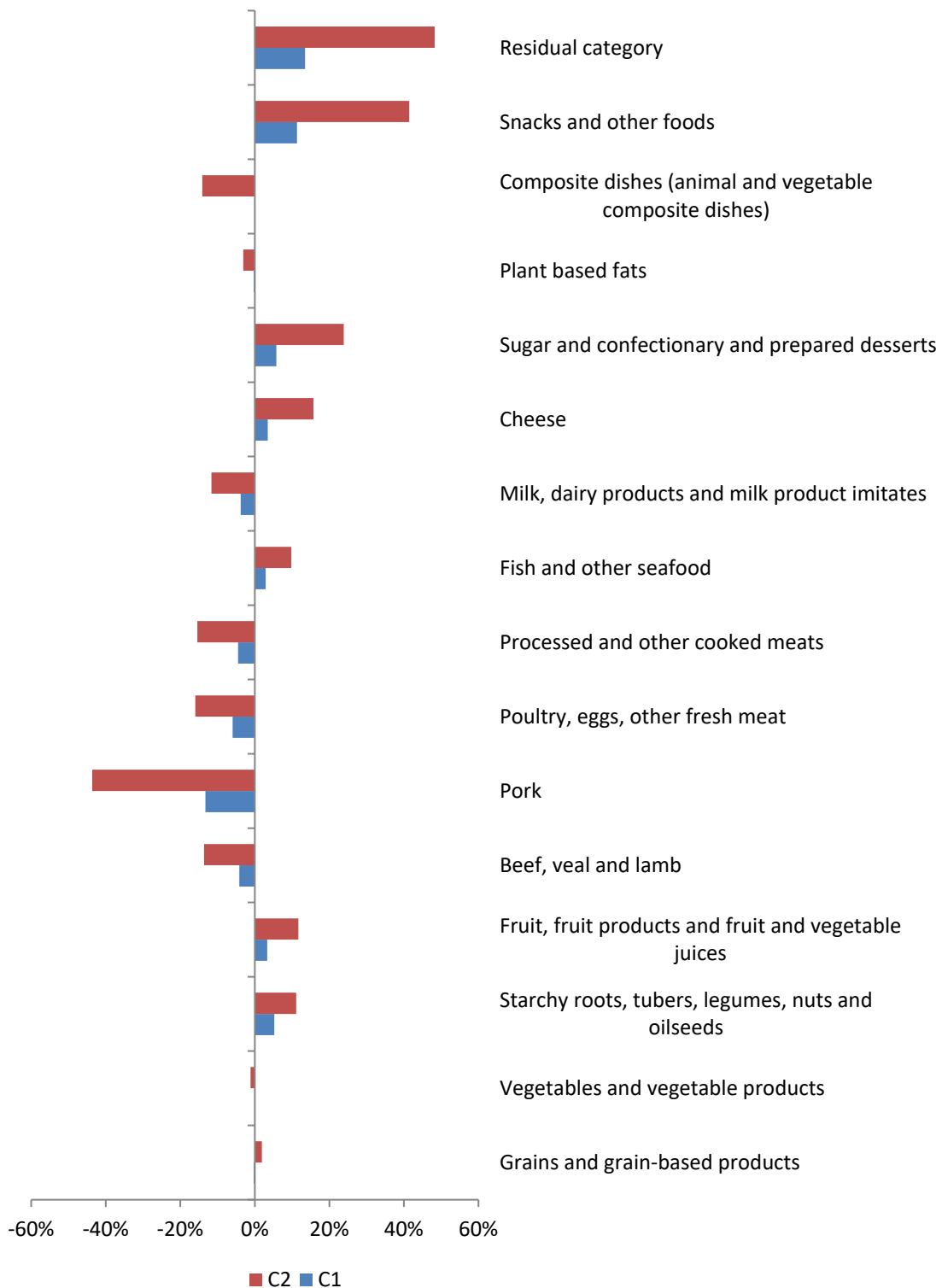
\*\* , \* indicate significance at 5% and 10% respectively

**Figure 1 Mean reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions per person per day**



Note: See Table 3 for a description of the different tax scenarios

**Figure 2 Reduction in consumption due to CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent taxes**



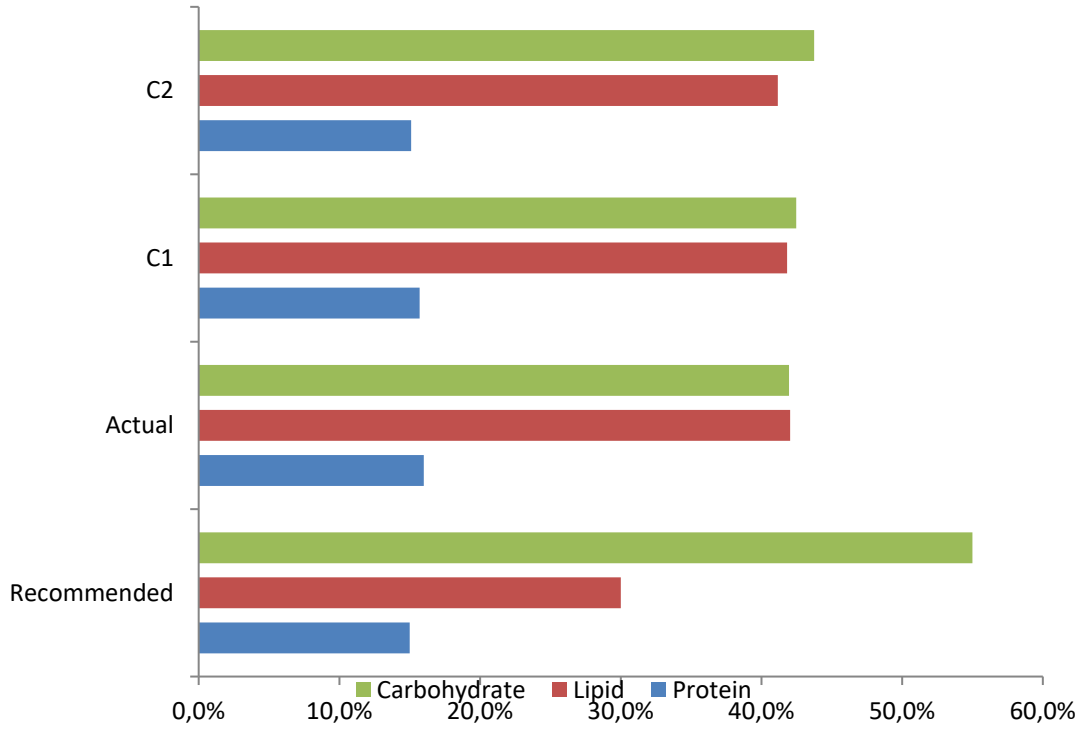
Note: See Table 3 for a description of the different tax scenarios

**Table 6 Welfare effects for different policy scenarios**

	C1	C2
Average Household	-0.25	0.41
Head of the Household younger than 34 years	-0.10	1.14
Head of the Household between 35-49 years	-0.11	0.98
Head of the Household between 50-64 years	-0.24	0.13
Head of the Household older than 60 years	-0.50	-1.03
Presence of kids younger than 5 years old	-0.10	0.58
Presence of kids older than 5 years old	-0.02	1.16
No kids	-0.28	0.21

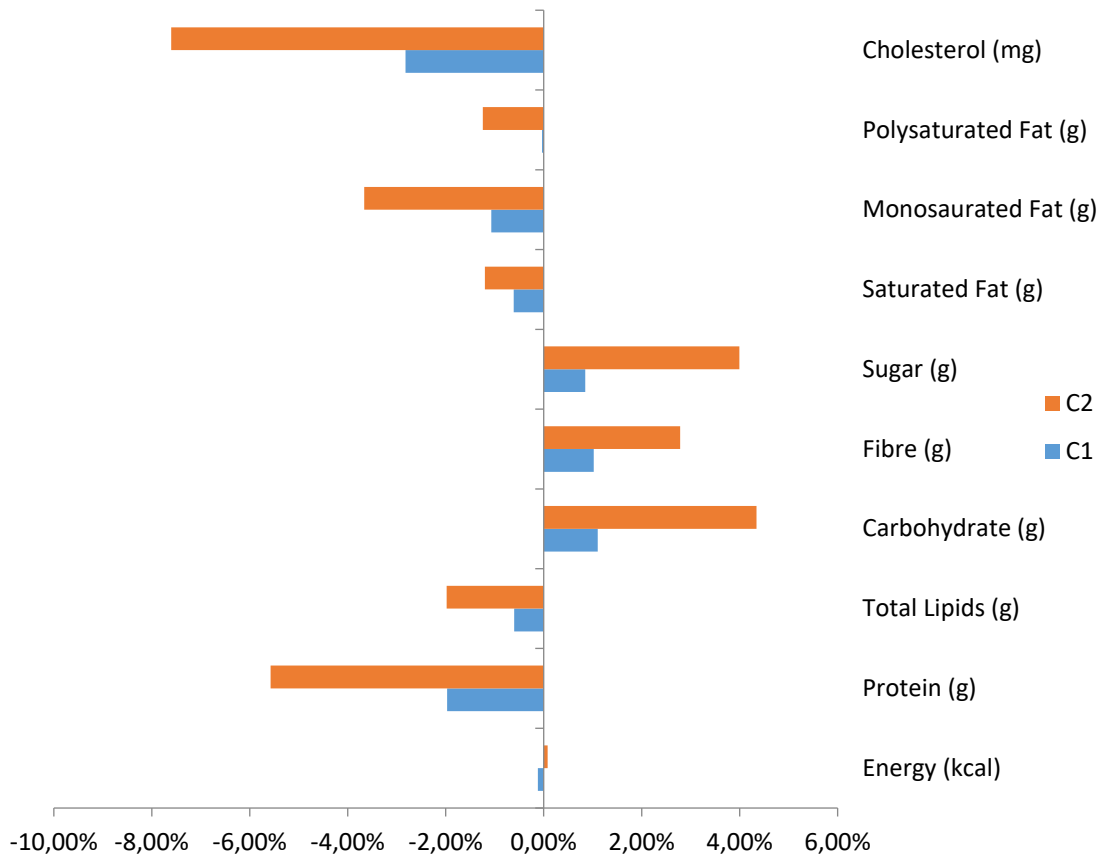
Note: See Table 3 for a description of the different tax scenarios

**Figure 3 Impact of CO2-eq tax on diet quality**



Note: See Table 3 for a description of the different tax scenarios

**Figure 4 Impact of CO2-eq tax on nutrient compositions**



Note: See Table 3 for a description of the different tax scenarios

## Appendix

### Own- and expenditure elasticity estimates from the QUAIDS model

Food Category	Expenditure Elasticities	Price Elasticities
	QUAIDS	QUAIDS
Grains and grain-based products	1.00	-0.24
Vegetables and vegetable products	1.12	-0.68
Starchy roots, tubers, legumes, nuts and oilseeds	0.85	-0.60
Fruit, fruit products and fruit and vegetable juices	1.03	-0.77
Beef, veal and lamb	0.77	-0.22
Pork	1.00	-0.70
Poultry, eggs, other fresh meat	1.12	-0.85
Processed and other cooked meats	1.04	-0.36
Fish and other seafood	1.00	-0.45
Milk, dairy products and milk product imitates	0.97	-0.70
Cheese	0.90	-0.53
Sugar and confectionary and prepared desserts	0.89	-0.57
Plant based fats	0.78	-0.41
Composite dishes (animal and vegetable composite dishes)	0.98	-0.56
Snacks and other foods	0.88	-0.69
Residual Category	0.94	-0.46