

**Research Fields:** economics of education · labor economics · applied microeconomics

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**CONTACT INFO**


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**REFERENCES**


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**Pierre Cahuc**  
 Professor of Economics  
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 Sciences Po Paris  
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**CURRENT POSITION**


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**London School of Economics**  
 Centre for Economic Performance, Education and Skills Programme  
*Postdoctoral Research Economist*

*since sept. 2023*

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**EDUCATION**


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**Sciences Po Paris**

*Ph.D. Economics*

*sept. 2019 - nov. 2023*

*Supervisor:* Pierre-Philippe Combes

*Committee:* Pierre Cahuc, Gabrielle Fack, Lindsey Macmillan, and Roland Rathelot

*Award:* Honorable Mention, French Council of Economic Advisors - Philippe Martin Prize

2024

*Visiting:* University College London, sponsored by Lindsey Macmillan

*spring 2022*

**Paris School of Economics**

Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair

*PhD Research Fellow*, sponsored by Julien Grenet and Luc Behaghel

2022 - 2023

**Sciences Po Paris**

*M.Res. Economics*

2015 - 2017

**King's College London**

*B.Sc. Political Economy*

*Exchange program:* University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

2012 - 2015

*spring 2014*

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**JOB MARKET PAPER**


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**Older Schoolmate Spillovers on Higher Education Choices**

*(latest version)*

*with Nagui Bechichi*

**Abstract:** A key decision students face is where to apply to higher education. The importance of this decision is exacerbated by the vast differences in returns to higher education across majors and institutions. This paper examines a previously overlooked factor shaping this choice: the high school environment. Specifically, we analyze how students' applications and enrollments are influenced by the higher education trajectory of recent graduates from their high school. Exploiting random admission cutoffs in France's centralized admission system, we compare high schools where older schoolmates were marginally admitted versus rejected from a given degree (subject-institution combination). Our findings reveal significant older schoolmate spillovers: students are 6 percentage points (+19%) more likely to apply to and 2 percentage points (+45%) more likely to enroll in the same degree as a marginally enrolled older schoolmate. These effects are large, corresponding to roughly 45% of spillovers across siblings estimated in other countries. We find that both teacher influence and homophily/role model effects mediate these cross-cohort spillovers. Lastly, we quantify the extent to which differences in exposure to high-achieving older schoolmates between low and high SES students affects the gap in applications to very selective degrees. We find that equalizing this exposure across SES would narrow the gap by around 10%. These results demonstrate how inequalities in higher education choice can be perpetuated or mitigated through high school peer networks.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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### **Intergenerational Income Mobility in France: A Comparative and Geographic Analysis** [\(link\)](#)

*Journal of Public Economics*, 2023.

*(VoxEU column)*

with Louis Sirugue

**Abstract:** We provide new estimates of intergenerational income mobility in France for children born in the 1970s using rich administrative data. Since parents incomes are not observed, we employ a two-sample two-stage least squares estimation. We show, using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, that this method slightly underestimates rank-based measures of intergenerational persistence. Our results suggest France is characterized by a strong persistence relative to other developed countries. 9.7% of children born to parents in the bottom 20% reach the top 20% in adulthood, four times less than children from the top 20%. We uncover substantial spatial variations in intergenerational mobility across departments, and a positive relationship between geographic mobility and intergenerational upward mobility. The expected income rank of individuals from the bottom of the parent income distribution who moved towards high-income departments is around the same as the expected income rank of individuals from the 75th percentile who stayed in their childhood department.

## WORKING PAPERS

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### **Beyond the Enrolment Gap: Financial Barriers and High-Achieving, Low-Income Students Persistence in Higher Education** [\(latest version\)](#)

Reject and Resubmit at *Journal of Human Resources*

**Abstract:** Little is known about what influences high-achieving, low-income students persistence in higher education, despite extensive work on their enrolment decision. This paper investigates the role of credit constraints. Using exhaustive administrative data for France, I estimate the impact of automatically granting generous additional aid to enrolled high-achieving, low-income students. Eligibility is communicated too late to affect initial enrolment, allowing me to recover the pure effect on the intensive margin. I find this aid had precisely estimated null effects on persistence, graduation, and did not induce switches to higher quality degrees. This suggests high-achieving students may be less sensitive to financial aid than their lower performing peers.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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### **Higher Education Mismatch: Causes and Consequences**

#### **Austerity and Student Achievement**

with Francesca Foliano, Sandra McNally, and Olmo Silva

#### **Spillover Effects of School Competition: Evidence from England's Academies**

with Francesca Foliano, Sandra McNally, and Olmo Silva

#### **Understanding the Role of Personal Statements in Elite University Admissions**

with Oliver Cassagneau-Francis and Gill Wyness

## PRE-PHD PUBLICATION

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### **Does educational expertise matter for PVCs education? A UK study of PVCs educational background and skills** [\(link\)](#)

*Journal of Higher Education Policy and Management*, 2018.

with Anna Mountford-Zimdars

## POLICY REPORTS

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### **Intergenerational income mobility in France: A comparative and geographic analysis** 2023

*Institut des Politiques Publiques*, Note 95, with Louis Sirugue

*(in english) (in french)*

### **How does place of origin influence earnings in adulthood?** 2020

*France Stratégie*, Note d'Analyse 91, with Clément Dherbécourt

[\(link\)](#)

### **Occupational mobility, skills and training needs** 2019

OECD Science, Technology and Industry Policy Papers 70, with Nagui Bechichi, Stéphanie Jamet, Robert Grundke and Mariagrazia Squicciarini

[\(link\)](#)

### **OECD Skills Outlook** 2019

OECD, with Nagui Bechichi, Stéphanie Jamet and Andreea Minea-Pic

[\(link\)](#)

## PRESENTATIONS

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**2024:** CEP Junior Workshop, Workshop "The Economics of Human Capital" (Padua), SOLE (Portland), CEP Annual Conference, CEPEO Seminar, IWAE (Catanzaro), EALE (Bergen), Sciences Po, PSE Applied Seminar.

**2023:** Sciences Po, KCL-Collège de France Junior Research Day, PSE Labour Public Seminar, Workshop on Educational choices and transitions in secondary and higher education (PSE), CEP Education Work in Progress Seminar.

**2022:** UEA (London), Workshop in Economics of Education (PSE), LAGV (Marseille), HCEO-briq Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality Bonn, ESPE (Calabria), EEA (Milan), Sciences Po PhD Internal Seminar.

**2019-2021:** Sciences Po PhD Internal Seminar, Sciences Po, SSH Data Week, LIEPP Young Researcher Seminar, Augustin Cournot Doctoral Days (online), AFSE Annual Congress (online), EDP Users Committee, LIEPP Education Policy Seminar, AFSE-DG Trésor Public Policy Evaluation Conference.

## TEACHING

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**Introduction to Econometrics with R** 2020 - 2022  
Undergraduate (year 2), Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris. (slides)

**Public Economics** 2022  
Executive MPA, Lecturer (online), Sciences Po Paris.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

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**OECD**, Junior Economist (Consultant), Department for Education and Skills. 2017 - 2019

**France Stratégie**, Research Analyst, Social Policy Division. 2017

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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**French Council of Economic Advisors - Philippe Martin Prize.** Honorable mention. 2024

**Funding call.** Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair (PSE) (€3,000) 2024

**4th year of Ph.D. funding.** Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair (PSE) 2022 - 2023

**Program for young researchers in policy evaluation.** LIEPP (Sciences Po) (€2,000) 2021

**Best masters thesis (co-winner).** Sciences Po. 2017

**Best performance in BSc Political Economy.** Kings College London. 2015

## SERVICE

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**Referee:** *Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Applied Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Economics of Education Review, European Association of Young Economists Conference (2024)*

**CEP Junior Workshop.** 2023-2025  
Bi-monthly internal seminar. Co-organiser. London School of Economics

**Workshop in economics of education.** June 2022  
One-day workshop. Co-organiser. Paris School of Economics

**Internal PhD Seminar.** 2021-2022  
Co-organiser. Sciences Po Paris

**PhD Breakfasts.** 2021-2022  
Monthly discussions with faculty. Co-organiser. Sciences Po Paris

**PhD Student Rep.** 2021-2022  
Representative for PhD students in economics. Sciences Po Paris

## PERSONAL

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**Citizenship:** France, USA.

**Languages:** English (Native), French (Native), Italian (Proficient).