



COUNTRY REPORT

French Economy

France is the 2nd European economy, and 6th worldwide. It is a vast & large market with sophisticated customers.

Home of some of the largest companies, worldwide leaders in their field ¹, it offers unique opportunities for refined consumer goods.

In addition, France innovates and has strong industrial base. Mechanics, energy & environment, transport (automotive, shipyards, train, aerospace), biotechs & health, chemistry, services etc..., France provides suppliers and customers for your know-how and products.

France is the 5th country for spending in R&D with more 47 billion dollars. Many innovations come from France such as the smart cards, high speed train, and airplanes.

Well engaged in globalization (6th largest exporter and importer worldwide), French companies are eager to develop links with foreign partners.

Paris is at the crossroad of Europe, ideally located between London and Milan, Amsterdam and Madrid, Frankfurt and Dublin. At the center of one of the largest

¹ AXA is the world's largest insurance company; Air France is the world's largest airline company; L'Oreal is the world's biggest cosmetic company; LVMH and PPR are the world's 1st and 2nd largest luxury companies; GDF-Suez is the world's largest energy company; EDF is the world's largest utility company; Areva is the world's nuclear-energy leader; Veolia Environnement is the world's largest environmental services and water management company; VINCI, Bouygues and Eiffage are respectively world's 1st, 2nd and 4th building and public work companies; Michelin is the world's pneumatic leader; Lafarge is the world's largest cement company; JCDecaux is the world's largest outdoor advertising corporation; EADS is the world's second aerospace company; BNP Paribas, Credit Agricole and Societe Generale are respectively the world's 1st, 6th and 8th biggest banks in assets in 2010¹⁰; Total is the world's fourth largest private oil company; Danone is the world's fifth largest food company and the world's largest mineral water provider; Sanofi Aventis is the world's fifth largest pharmaceutical company; Publicis is the world's third largest advertising company...

market of 250 millions inhabitants reachable in less than 3 hours, developing business with France will help you growing and achieving success.

Economy of France	
GDP	\$2.113 trillion nominal : \$2.635 trillion
GDP growth	1.9% (09/10)
GDP per capita	Nominal : \$46,016 (2008)
GDP by sector	agriculture (2.1%), industry (19%), services (78.9%) (2009 est)
Inflation	1.5% (2010 est.)
Labour force	28.21 million (2010 est.)
Labour force by occupation	services (71.8%), industry (24.3%), agriculture (3.8%) (2009)
Unemployment	9.7% (December 2010) ¹
Main industries	machinery, chemicals, automobiles,metallurgy, aircraft, electronics;textiles, food processing; tourism
External	
Exports	\$508.7 billion (2010 est.)
Export goods	machinery and transportation equipment, aircraft, plastics,chemicals, pharmaceutical products,iron and steel, beverages, electronics
Main export partners	Germany 15.88%, Italy 8.16%, Spain7.8%, Belgium 7.44%, United Kingdom7.04%, United States 5.65%,Netherlands 3.99% (2009)
Imports	\$577.7 billion (2010 est.)
Import goods	machinery and equipment, vehicles, crude oil, aircraft, plastics, chemicals
Main import partners	Germany 19.41%, Belgium 11.61%,Italy 7.97%, Netherlands 7.15%, Spain6.68%, U nited Kingdom 4.9%, United States 4.72%, China 4.44% (2009)

Market opportunities :

biotechs, renewable energy, consumer goods, chemistry, car parts, environment, support services, R&D activities, agro-food.

Stockholm

Address: Pipersgatan 26, 11228,
Phone: + 46 707 72 85 27
Email: stockholm@columdae.com

Copenhagen

Address: Njalsgade 18, 2300,
Phone: +45 21 74 97 68
Email: copenhagen@columdae.com

Paris

Address: 7, Rue Dahomey, 75011,
Phone: +33 607 52 81 76
Email: paris@columdae.com

Milan

Address: Via Monte Leone 22,
Phone: +39 34 08 97 50 70
Email: milan@columdae.com