

# FRANCE: AN ATTRACTIVE ECONOMY

KEY INFO IN

**10**

POINTS





# 1

## ▶ AN OPEN COUNTRY

France is ranked 10th in the world for FDI stock (UNCTAD, 2017). More than 22,000 foreign companies operate in France, where nearly one employee in nine works for a foreign-owned subsidiary, while in the manufacturing sector this figure is one in five. (INSEE, 2017)

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# 2

## ▶ A GATEWAY TO EMEA MARKETS

France is the second largest economy in Europe, with more than 66 million consumers, and has the highest fertility rate in Europe (Eurostat, 2016). Its central location also provides easy access to EMEA markets.

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# 3

## ▶ EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS

Paris Charles de Gaulle airport is ranked first for cargo and second by passenger numbers in Europe, while Paris Le Bourget is Europe's leading business airport (Eurostat, 2017). France also boasts the world's fifth best rail network. (WEF, Global Competitiveness Report, 2017-2018)

# 4

## ▶ #5 ECONOMY IN THE WORLD

France is the world's fifth largest economy, with a GDP of US\$2,575 billion in 2017 (IMF). France plays a major role in international trade, and was the world's seventh largest exporter of goods and the fourth largest exporter of services in 2016. (UNCTAD, 2017)

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# 5

## ▶ ATTRACTIVE INDUSTRY

France is Europe's leading recipient of foreign investment in industry (EY, 2017), attracting 280 manufacturing investments by foreign companies in 2016. (Business France, 2017)

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# 6

## ▶ FOREIGN INVESTORS APPRECIATE FRANCE

In 2016, France attracted 19% of all job-creating foreign investments in Europe (Business France, 2017). In 2017, 84% of foreign investors thought France was an attractive location, up from one in two in 2009. (Kantar Public; Business France, 2017)

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# 7

## ▶ A COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

In 2016, hourly labor productivity in the French manufacturing sector was up 2.8%, rising at a faster rate than the European Union average (0.5%). (The Conference Board, 2017)

# 8

## ▶ A COUNTRY PRIORITIZING R&D

France is ranked first, ahead of the United Kingdom and Germany, for its effective corporate tax rate on R&D operations (KPMG, Competitive Alternatives, 2016). France is also the third leading recipient of investments involving R&D operations, after Germany and the United Kingdom. (EY, 2017)

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# 9

## ▶ COMPETITIVE OPERATING COSTS


In the second half of 2016, electricity rates for major industrial consumers (> 70,000 MWh) in France were €0.09/kWh, lower than in Germany (€0.12/kWh) and the United Kingdom (€0.14/kWh) (Eurostat, 2017). France is ranked second among leading industrialized nations for industrial facility leasing costs (US\$4.65/sq. ft.). (KPMG, Competitive Alternatives, 2016)

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# 10

## ▶ FRANCE: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

France is ranked sixth in the world for having healthcare infrastructure that matches the needs of society (IMD, 2017), while Paris offers exceptional lifestyle opportunities, and is ranked number one in the world for demographics and livability. (PwC, Cities of Opportunity, 2016)



For further information, please visit:  
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**FOREIGN  
INVESTMENT  
DECISIONS  
PER WEEK**

(BUSINESS FRANCE, 2017)



EUROPE'S  
**#1**  
BUSINESS AIRPORT

(EUROSTAT, 2017)

ACCESS TO A MARKET OF  
**66**  
MILLION CONSUMERS  
AND GATEWAY TO THE EMEA



(INSEE, 2017)





FRANCE:  
**#1**  
DESTINATION  
IN EUROPE  
FOR FOREIGN  
INVESTMENT IN  
INDUSTRY

(EY, 2017)



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