

FRANCE: AN ATTRACTIVE ECONOMY

KEY INFO IN

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POINTS

1

▶ A GLOBAL ECONOMIC POWER

France is the fifth largest economy in the world, with a GDP of US\$2,422 billion in 2015 (IMF). France plays a major role in international trade as the world's seventh largest exporter of goods and the fifth largest exporter of services. (WTO, 2016)

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▶ 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.

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 (Airports Council International, 2016). France also boasts Europe's third best high-speed rail network. (The Boston Consulting Group, 2015)

4

▶ A COUNTRY OPEN TO INWARD INVESTMENT

France is ranked seventh in the world and fourth in Europe for cumulative FDI stock (UNCTAD, 2016). More than 20,000 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.

5 ▶ ATTRACTIVE INDUSTRY

France has been Europe's leading recipient of foreign investment in industry for the last 15 years (EY). In 2015, France attracted 285 manufacturing investments by foreign companies.

6 ▶ FOREIGN INVESTORS APPRECIATE FRANCE

In 2015, France attracted 14% of all job-creating foreign investments in Europe (Business France, Annual Report). In 2016, three-quarters of foreign investors thought France was an attractive location, up from one in two in 2009. (Kantar Public/Business France)

7 ▶ A HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AND COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

Cost competitiveness in France improved markedly in 2015. Hourly labor costs in the French manufacturing sector (€36.90) in 2015 were lower than in Germany (€38) (Eurostat, 2016). France is ranked seventh in the world for hourly labor productivity, ahead of Germany (8th) and the United Kingdom (18th). (The Conference Board, 2016)

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▶ 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, 2016)

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▶ COMPETITIVE OPERATING COSTS

In the second half of 2015, electricity rates for industrial consumers in France (€70.10€/MWh exc. VAT) were lower than in Germany (€81.30) or the United Kingdom (€146.20) (Eurostat, 2016). 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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▶ FRANCE: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

France is ranked fifth in the world for having healthcare infrastructure that matches the needs of society (IMD, 2015), while Paris offers exceptional lifestyle opportunities, ranking highly among leading global cities for cultural vibrancy and quality of living. (PwC, 2016)



For further information, please visit:
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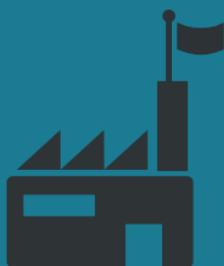
ACCESS TO A MARKET OF

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MILLION CONSUMERS

AND GATEWAY TO THE EMEA



FRANCE:

#1

**DESTINATION
IN EUROPE
FOR FOREIGN
INVESTMENT
IN INDUSTRY**