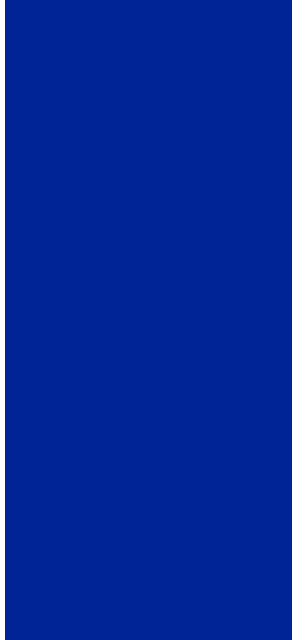


# French Republic



France today is one of the most modern countries in the world and is a leader among European nations. It plays an influential global role as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, NATO, the G-7, the G-20, the EU, and other multilateral organizations.

Most visited country in the world, with over 85 million tourists every year.

## Geography

**Official Name:** French Republic

**Conventional Short Form:** France

**Region:** Western Europe

**Area:** 643,801 sq km (includes France's five regional territories)

**Bordering Countries:** Andorra, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain, Switzerland

**Climate:** Generally cool winters and mild summers, but mild winters and hot summers along the Mediterranean

**Physical Features/Terrain:** Mostly flat plains or gently rolling hills in the north and west, mountains in the south and east

**Natural Hazards:** Flooding, avalanches, midwinter windstorms, drought, forest fires

## People and Society

**Population:** 66,836,154 (22nd in the world)

**Ethnic Groups:** Celtic and Latin with Teutonic, Slavic, North African, Indochinese, Basque minorities

**Official Language:** French

**Other Languages Spoken:** N/A

**Religions:** Christian—overwhelmingly Roman Catholic (63-66%), Muslim (7-9%), Buddhist (0.5-0.75%), Jewish (0.5-0.75%), other (0.5-1.0%), none (23-28%)

**Capital City:** Paris

**Other Major Cities:** Lyon, Marseille, Lille, Nice, Toulouse

**Median Age** (*half the people are younger than this age and half are older*)

Male: 39.5

Female: 42.9

Total Population: 41.2 (2016 est.)

**Literacy Rate** (*percentage of the population 15 and older who can read and write*)

Male: 99%

Female: 99%

Total Population: 99%

**Life Expectancy at Birth** (*average number of years to be lived by those born in the same year*)

Male: 78.7

Female: 85.1

Total Population: 81.8 (2016 est.)

## Government

**Country Founded:** No official date of independence, however a constitutional monarchy was adopted on July 14, 1789

**Type of Government:** Semi-presidential republic

**Country Leaders**

President: Emmanuel Macron

Prime Minister: Edouard Philippe

**Allies:** Nato countries

**Enemies:**

## Economy

**Currency:** Euro

**GDP:** \$2.699 trillion

**Natural Resources:** Coal, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, uranium, antimony, arsenic, potash, feldspar, fluorspar, gypsum, timber, arable land, fish

**Unemployment Rate:** 9.7% (2016 est.)

**Population Below Poverty Line:** 14% (2013 est.)

**Major export and imports**

Exports: Machinery and transportation equipment, aircraft, plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, iron and steel, beverages

Imports: Machinery and equipment, vehicles, crude oil, aircraft, plastics, chemicals

**Biggest trading partners**

Exports: Germany, Spain, United States, Italy, United Kingdom, Belgium

Imports: Germany, China, Italy, United States, Belgium, Spain, Netherlands, United Kingdom

More information can be found at:

*<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/fr.html>*