

# AGRI-FOOD: A FLAGSHIP INDUSTRY

KEY INFO IN

**10**  
POINTS

# 1

## ▶ A KEY PLAYER

With revenues of €185 billion, 61,000 companies and nearly 570,000 employees in 2015, the agri-food industry is the leading industrial sector in France. It accounts for one-fifth of employees and value added in French manufacturing. (French government figures)

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# 2

## ▶ INTERNATIONAL AMBITIONS

In 2017, France was the world's sixth largest agri-food exporter after the United States, the Netherlands, Germany, China and Brazil (UN Comtrade). Agri-food is the third largest contributor to France's trade balance, with a surplus of €5.7 billion. The top four exports are drinks (€15.9 billion), dairy products (€6.6 billion), meat and meat-based products (€4.5 billion), and grain processing products (€2.7 billion). (French Customs Authorities)

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# 3

## ▶ AN ATTRACTIVE MARKET

This attractive sector welcomed 149 foreign investment projects between 2016 and 2017, resulting in more than 4,200 jobs being created or maintained. (Business France)

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# 4

## ▶ EUROPE'S #1 PRODUCER OF SUGAR AND CEREALS

France is the European leader in sugar and cereal production, with 5.8 million tonnes of pure sugar other than glucose and 53.6 million tonnes of cereals produced in 2016. (Eurostat)

# 5

## ▶ FRANCE: EUROPE'S LARGEST CATTLE HERD

In 2017, France had over 19 million cattle, more than any other European country (Eurostat). There are more than 178,000 cattle farmers in France (Idele), producing 1.44 million tonnes in carcass weight equivalent (CWE) in 2017 (Eurostat), making it Europe's leading beef producer.

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# 6

## ▶ WORLD-CLASS POULTRY SECTOR

France was the third largest poultry producer in the European Union in 2017 (1.65 million tonnes CWE) after Poland (2.34 million) and the United Kingdom (1.83 million) (Eurostat). It is ranked sixth in the world for poultry exports (UN Comtrade), totaling €934 million in 2017. (Eurostat; French Customs Authorities)

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# 7

## ▶ AN ORGANIC MARKET WORTH OVER €8 BILLION

With 1.8 million hectares, representing 13% of the European Union's (EU) organic utilized agricultural area (UAA) in 2017, France has the EU's third largest area of agricultural land given over to organic produce. French organic farming stands out for the diversity of its output, with the market for organic food products worth more than €8 billion in 2017, up 17% from 2016. (Eurostat; Agence Bio, 2018)

# 8

## ▶ LAND OF WINE

France is the world's second largest wine producer after Italy, with production reaching 35.6 million hectoliters (Mhl) in 2017. It is also the world's leading wine exporter, with €9.1 billion-worth of exports in 2017, almost one-third of world exports in value terms (French Customs Authorities). Vines account for 4% of the agricultural land area and 15.6% of the value added in French agriculture, equivalent to €11.2 billion in 2017. (Eurostat, INSEE)

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# 9

## ▶ SMART FOOD TAKES OFF

Many innovative projects have already emerged under the “smart food choices” banner, focusing on new forms of food. Examples include the Algolife algae production and processing facility and the success of Novolyze, recognized for its innovation and expertise in the food safety market.

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# 10

## ▶ FARMING GOES DIGITAL

Created in 2016 to support the farms of tomorrow, the Digital Farming Association brings together innovative players from the agricultural industry. These include Weenat, supplier and manager of meteorological and agricultural information through connected sensors, and Agriconomie.com, the first marketplace to specialize in agricultural supplies (seeds, parts, equipment and fertilizer).



**FRANCE: EUROPE'S**

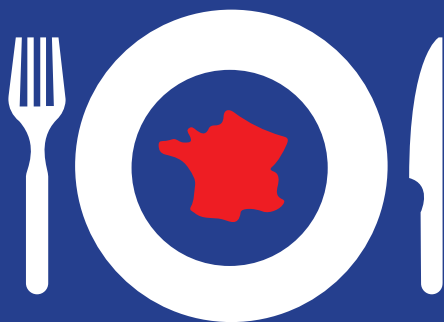
**#1**

**DESTINATION FOR FOREIGN  
INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY**

(EY, 2017)



**ACCESS TO A MARKET OF**  
**67**  
**MILLION CONSUMERS**  
**(INSEE)**



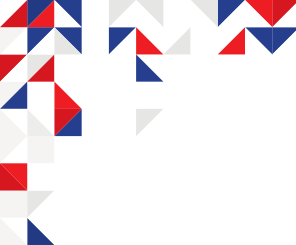
**€185** BILLION  
IN AGRI-FOOD SECTOR  
REVENUES

(FRENCH GOVERNMENT FIGURES, 2017)

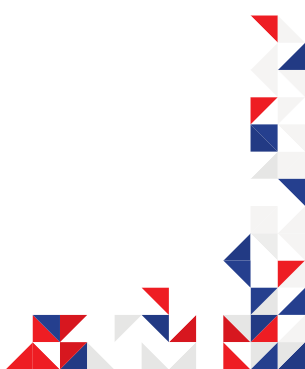


**FRANCE: THE WORLD'S  
SIXTH LARGEST  
AGRI-FOOD EXPORTER**  
(UN COMTRADE)





More information on  
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