

# FRANCE

France is the world's fifth largest economic power. The country ranks 6th in the world in terms of export volumes and 5th when it comes to imports. Being a well developed economy, French trade features a lot of raw materials and manufactured goods.



**Capital:** Paris  
**Surface area:** 552 thousand sq km  
**Official language:** French  
**Population:** 62.6 million (2009)  
**GDP (A\$bn):** 2,644 (2009)  
**Export (A\$bn):** 451.3 (2009)  
**Imports (A\$bn):** 525.8 (2009)



**Life Expectancy:** Second best life expectancy in the world: 74 years (men), 82 years (women).

**Road Network:** One of the best road networks in the world. Very dense network and longest in the EU with 965,916 km, including 9,011 km of highway (2nd in Europe).

**Rail Network:** 31,000+ km of tracks. World speed record for a train with 515 km/h with the famous TGV high-speed train. Normal commercial operations: the train travel at around 270 km/h. 295 million passengers per year.

**Largest Cities:** Paris (10 million), Lyon (1.4 million), Marseille - Aix en Provence (1.4 million), Lille (1.2 million), Toulouse (1.1 million).

### France's global merchandise trade relationships:

#### France's principal export destinations, 2009:

1 Germany	14.9%
2 Italy	8.5%
3 Spain	8.0%
<b>27 Australia</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

#### France's principal import sources, 2009:

1 Germany	16.3%
2 Belgium	8.3%
3 Italy	7.9%
<b>48 Australia</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

### Australia's trade and investment relationship with France:

#### Major Australian exports, 2009 (A\$m):

Coal	410
Aircraft, spacecraft & parts	114
Oil-seeds & oleaginous fruits, soft	83
Medical instruments (incl veterinary)	72

#### Major Australian service exports, 2009 (A\$m):

Personal travel excl education	347
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#### Major Australian imports, 2009 (A\$m):

Medicaments (incl veterinary)	764
Organo-inorganic compounds	349
Perfumery & cosmetics (excl soap)	215
Alcoholic beverages	181

#### Major Australian service imports, 2009 (A\$m):

Personal travel excl	
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Exportia acknowledges the following sources of information:

Invest in France, <http://www.invest-in-france.org>  
 Insee, [www.insee.fr](http://www.insee.fr)  
 CIA World Facts, <https://www.cia.gov/>  
 Economy Watch, <http://www.economywatch.com/>

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