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in 2017

EDITORIAL



Presidential and legislative election years, which come every 5 years, are special years for INSEE. The publication calendar is restricted by the legally-required communication reserve periods, during which only cyclical indicators (GDP, unemployment, inflation, turnover indices, etc.) continue to be published. Despite this restriction, INSEE has kept its productivity and standards high by publishing nearly a hundred issues in its *Insee Première*, *Insee Focus* and *Insee Analyses* collections. Out of the eight publications released in the *Insee Références* collection, one was dedicated for the first time to the major issue of the environment. Entitled “Economic players and the environment”, it consists essentially of contributions from the statistical services of the Ministries in charge of the Environment (Service de la donnée et des études statistiques, SDES) and Agriculture (Service de la statistique et de la prospective, SSP) and sheds light on several issues for which detailed analyses were lacking.

Despite having to interrupt the course of its publications, the Institute still stepped twice into the democratic debate: to issue a reminder of what official statistics measure when it comes to migratory flows, and about inflation during the changeover to the euro. In so doing, it served its function as a reference source in an environment increasingly saturated with information, where inaccurate figures can drive out the accurate.

Alongside these publications, many projects were moved forward so that the essential statistics and studies could continue to be delivered. Some are based on new sources, such as the very first estimate of the magnitude of tourist accommodation offered by individuals via Internet platforms. Another project enabled by big data is continuing, on the use of cash-desk data from major retail to calculate the consumer price index, and will soon cover all the relevant retail chains.

The new items in 2017 also include economic indicators. In the first quarter, ACOSS, DARES and INSEE published quarterly harmonised employment statistics, which now cover all employees.

A key player in the opening up of public data, INSEE made the Sirene database freely accessible in January 2017. This new form of dissemination, in partnership with Etalab, was rolled out exactly according to plan, demonstrating our Institute’s ability to grasp new expectations regarding data openness while preserving quality of service.

Population census is continuously developing, now with a majority of responses available via the Internet. In 2017, the Institute distributed key figures on the populations of French Polynesia and Mayotte.

In the regions, INSEE is completing the reform of its organisation. Our work supports the new regional stakeholders resulting from territorial reform and is carried out in a coordinated and shared manner on the major regional schemes arising from the NOTRe law. This offer aligns in particular with a partnership agreement between INSEE and Régions de France since April 2017.

INSEE also aims to help young people become informed citizens, who are familiar with and understand the reference figures. In synergy with Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, and with a decisive partnership with the Ministry of National Education and the *Société française de statistique*, our Institute has thus launched the first ever European statistics competition for France.

Our DNA is and will continue to lie in measuring society and the economy of the nation to make it understood to all users of our statistics.

Jean-Luc TAVERNIER,
Director General

GUEST EXPERT



Professor **Christian de Perthuis** is founder of the Climate Economics Chair at *Université Paris-Dauphine*. He directed the *Caisse des Dépôts*' "Climate Mission" and has conducted various missions for the public authorities, including chairing the Committee for Ecological Taxation, which initiated the introduction of a carbon tax in France. He is the author of some ten works, including "The Climate, at What Price?"

WHEN INSEE PUBLISHES "ECONOMIC PLAYERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT", WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?

I say 'hats off'! As far as I am aware, this is the first time INSEE has compiled, in a single

publication, data and articles on the subject of the environment.

As a climate economist, I particularly appreciated the report on the drop in CO2 emissions from energy combustion since 1990. The breakdown analysis it offers gives the data a voice and enables the reader to understand the dynamics in play. The author stresses the importance of explaining the methodological choices made, as they influence the results thereafter. Take the three accounting methods used to measure the contributions of nuclear and renewable energies to the energy mix: depending on which calculation rule you adopt, the contribution of nuclear power to the trend in CO2 emissions over the period can be estimated at -15%, -13% or -9%. This type of analysis is valuable in documenting the public debate on the place of nuclear power.

Similarly, the issue of urban sprawl is often debated in ideological terms. Objective measurements are needed to move beyond this and to shed light on the political choices made. In this sense, the report on the space taken up by buildings in mainland France is quite new, and is essential in fighting urban sprawl.

The work also deals with the differentiated impact of the carbon tax on households, according to their social category. This kind of information, extracted through rigorous use of public databases, was sorely lacking in 2013 and 2014 when we introduced carbon taxation. They are now very useful in supporting its ramp-up!

DO YOU FIND THE CONTRIBUTION OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS TO CLIMATE ECONOMICS SUFFICIENT?

Some aspects are well documented. For example, official statistics inform us very effectively about CO2 emissions stemming from fossil fuel combustion.

It is a more complicated matter, though, when you want to trace emissions related to agriculture and forestry, which I call "living carbon". While agricultural statistics are fairly good in France, they do not effectively inform about the connection between the work of agricultural soil and their capacity to store CO2. This is becoming a major challenge toward bringing our country in line with the new goal of "carbon neutrality".

In our work on the energy transition, we also lack information on energy efficiency and on how energy distribution networks function. In its energy balance report on France, INSEE clearly presents supply and final consumption; however, the circuit between the energy produced and the energy consumed is still a black box.

In other words, statistical information on environmental and energy issues continues to be patchy. I hope INSEE will find ways to fill in the gaps in the years to come!

1. A work published in December 2017 in the collection *Insee Références*, consisting primarily of contributions from the statistical departments of the Ministries of the Environment (*Service de la donnée et des études statistique, SDES*) and Agriculture (*Service de la statistique et de la prospective, SSP*).

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

JANUARY



Access to the Sirene Register became free and open, pursuant to the Act for a Digital Republic.

FEBRUARY

INSEE released an initial estimate of the magnitude of tourist accommodation offered by individuals via Internet platforms.

MARCH



For the first time, INSEE made available on its website indicators of the UN's Sustainable

Development Goals at the national level.

The review *Économie et Statistique* became **bilingual** in French-English, taking on the name **Économie et Statistique / Economics and Statistics**.

INSEE added **two new indices** to its range of economic indicators: the Services Production Index (IPS) and the Sales Volume Index in Trade (IVVC).

At the **New Techniques and Technologies for Statistics Conference** in Brussels, Eurostat held a Big Data hackathon to help decision-makers **even out the balance between jobs offered and skills available**. The INSEE team took **2nd place** (out of 22 teams).

APRIL

INSEE is partner to the exhibition « **Terra Data, nos vies à l'ère du numérique** » (Terra Data, Our Lives in the Digital Age) proposed by Unverscience at the Cité des sciences et de l'Industrie, in Paris, from **April 2017 to January 2018**.



INSEE and *Régions de France* signed a **partnership agreement to combine their expertise** with the aim of shedding light on territorial issues stemming from regional policies.

MAY

INSEE presented its inventory report on **the statistical output of the Overseas Statistical Service** at the CNIS' Territories Commission meeting.

JUNE

On **7, 8 and 9 June**, the National Accounting Association held its 16th colloquium on the theme "**Virtues, Limits and Outlook for National Accounts**".

The figures on payroll employment are now published quarterly. Co-produced with the Central Agency of Social Security Organizations (ACOSS) and the Directorate for Research, Studies and Statistics (DARES), the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Labour, these statistics now cover all employees.

INSEE offered an **initial analysis of residential mobility in France**, thanks to data produced from the overhauled census questionnaire.



JULY

INSEE shared its methods for census-taking and making use of administrative data and business directories, with the 2,000 participants in the 61st Biennial Congress of the International Institute of Statistics (ISI), in Marrakech, from 16 to 21 July.

AUGUST

INSEE leadership and nearly 250 employees met in Montrouge for a status update on the Institute's strategic outlook for 2025. Some of the key topics included the commitment to European issues of the French Official Statistical System.

Population census collection began in Polynesia. Duration of the operation: 4 weeks.

SEPTEMBER

INSEE continues to modernise its website with the overhaul of access to the macroeconomic data bank and corporate structural statistics (Alisse) time series.

Collection of population census data began in Mayotte on 5 September. End of the operation: 2 October.

OCTOBER

On 20 October, for European Statistics Day, INSEE joined Eurostat, the European Union Statistical Office, and 11 other national statistical institutes to offer the first European statistics competition for students aged 14 to 18. On that same occasion, INSEE offered an interactive publication "La vie des femmes et des hommes en Europe" (The Life of Women and Men in Europe).



INSEE released two national studies and thirteen regional studies depicting participation in the presidential and legislative elections in 2017.

NOVEMBER

INSEE provided an analysis of the distance between places of residence of the active French population from employer sites, specifically large private establishments. Users were invited to view this distance using an interactive tool.

With statistiques-locales.insee.fr, INSEE renovated the provision of local data by offering a new interactive mapping tool.

DECEMBER

With the assistance of the Data and Statistical Studies Service, the statistical department of the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition, INSEE published "Economic players and the environment", the first work dedicated to the subject of the environment.



INSEE provided the updated values of the 10 new wealth indicators that are part of the sustainable development objectives and which supplement GDP in three areas: social, economic and environmental.

The Collex-Persée Scientific Interest Group, which reports on documentary funds of excellence for research, awarded the Collex label (collections of excellence) to the INSEE library.





INSEE AND OFFICIAL STATISTICS

A MAIN OBJECTIVE: TO INFORM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEBATE

INSEE collects, produces, analyses and disseminates information on the French economy and society. This information is of interest to the public authorities, administrations, social partners, businesses, researchers, the media, teachers and individuals. It enables them to enrich their knowledge, carry out studies, make forecasts and make decisions.

INSEE: FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC STUDIES

INSEE is a Directorate General of the Ministry of Economy and Finance established throughout France, whose employees are national civil servants. INSEE is bound by the rules of public accounting and its funding is included in the general budget of the State.

INSEE operates as a completely independent professional entity. Article 1 of the French Statistical Act stipulates that *"the design, production and dissemination of official statistics shall be carried out in complete professional*

independence". The Official Statistics Authority, created by the Economic Modernisation Act of 4 August 2008, ensures that the principle of independence is upheld.

INSEE COORDINATES THE WORK OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

The official statistical system is made up of INSEE and the Ministerial Statistical Departments (SSM) that carry out statistical operations in their area of expertise. In the context of coordination provided by the Institute, INSEE and SSM decide on methods, standards and procedures for the establishment of statistics and their publication.

INSEE IN THE COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES

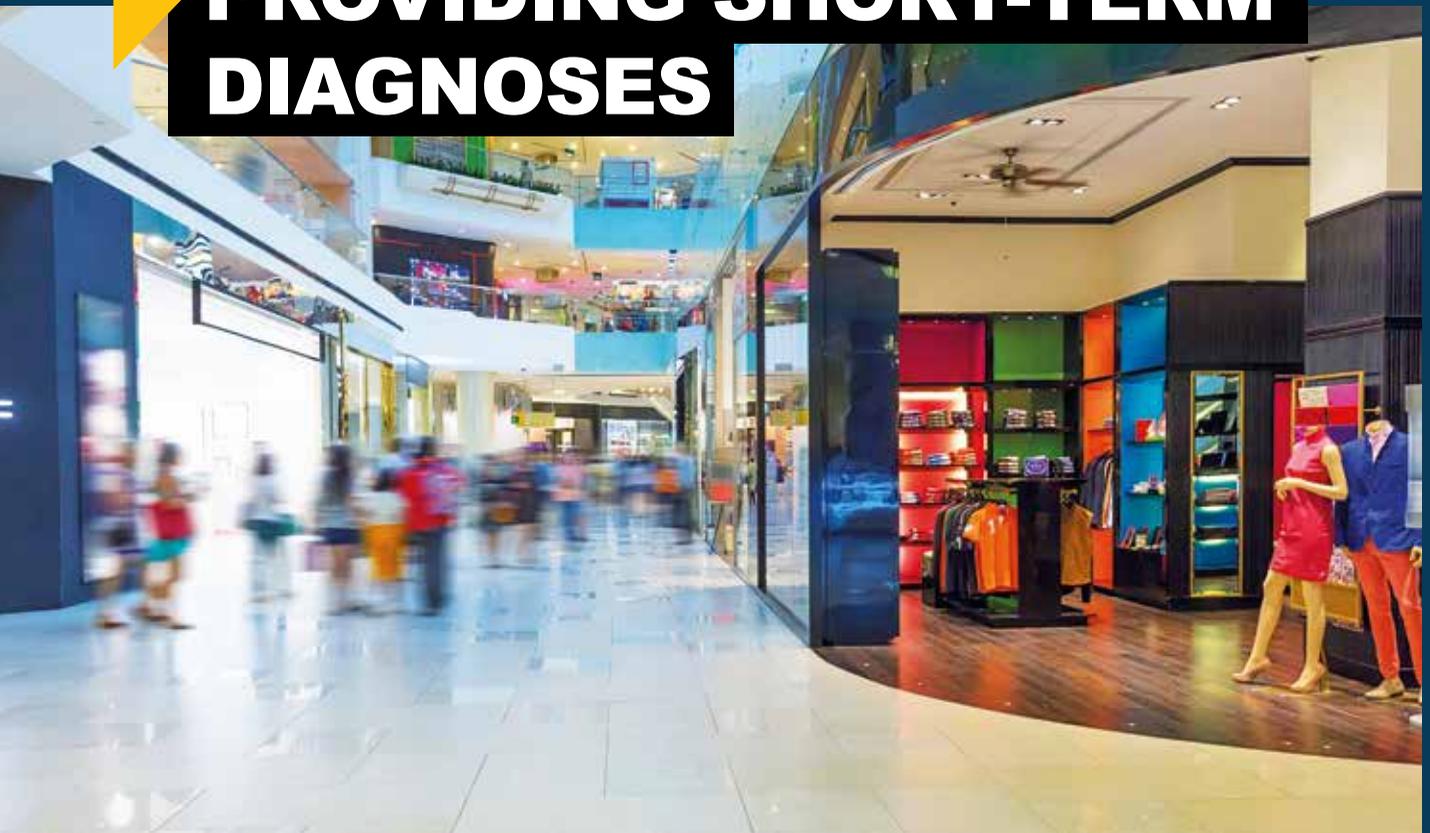
INSEE works daily with Eurostat (the European Union Statistical Office) and its counterparts in the European Union. It thus contributes to building the Union's community statistical area. INSEE also takes part in the statistical work of the UN (United Nations Organisation), the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the OECD

(Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) and the World Bank. It is a member of the UN Statistical Commission, the UN Economic Commission for Europe and the OECD Statistics Committee.

A BIT OF HISTORY...

The National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies - INSEE - was created by the Finance Act of 27 April 1946 (arts. 32 and 33). The new institution then resumed an activity of official statistics which had been carried out without interruption since 1833.

PROVIDING SHORT-TERM DIAGNOSES



Each quarter, INSEE performs short-term economic forecasts, on a horizon of six to nine months. They are published in three *Notes de Conjoncture* and one *Point de Conjoncture*. To produce these outlooks, INSEE forecasters rely on models such as *Mésange* (see Studying the functioning of the French economy). They also draw upon business tendency surveys, the responses to which are qualitative, and which are benchmarked on detailed quantitative data.

Some of these data are taken from administrative sources. INSEE uses them as much as possible, in order to avoid companies having answering the same questions twice. Since 2017, VAT returns, combined with price indices, have thus been used to produce two new indicators: **service production index and sales volume index in trade**, which make it possible to track the real activity of both sectors as closely as possible. **The monthly survey on the activity of large-scale food retailers (EMAGSA)**

rounds out the observation mechanism on trade activity conjuncture.

In 2017, INSEE also created a new “**Employment Climate**” indicator. Calculated each month, it is used not only to report on the hiring intentions of business leaders but also to better forecast short-term employment trends. In parallel, INSEE, with two partners, has broadened the scope of its quarterly job estimates. Now they cover France, excluding Mayotte, and all sectors, in particular the civil service.



BETTER MONITORING services and merchant activity

At the end of March 2017, INSEE published two new indices related to services and retail. Its aim: to report early on activity in these two sectors, in volume terms.

Services are of increasing importance in the economy, in France and in all European countries. To reflect this, INSEE has developed the Services Production Index (IPS). Similarly, trade did not have any indicators on its sales in volume terms across the entire scope. This gap has now been filled, with the Sales Volume Index in Trade (IVVC).

IPS and IVVC are published 60 days after the end of each month, like the indices on turnover in value terms from which they are derived. They cover France as a whole, with the exception of Guyana and Mayotte, where companies are not subject to VAT. They are calculated by deflating

the turnover indices in value terms. Relevant price indices (deflators) are determined for each fine-grained sector. So as to monitor shifts in the economy as closely as possible, the IPS and IVVC base and reference are changed every five years. They are essential information for monitoring the economic cycle in both sectors. Between 2010 and 2017, production grew by 24.1% in services and trade sales grew by 16.7%, in volume terms.

At the same time, the Institute continued to enhance its range of short-term publications. A new monthly *Informations Rapides* report is dedicated to turnover in food superstores, previously commented on in connection with retail trade and services to individuals. Sales are broken down by type of store, supermarket and hypermarket, and by major product family (food, non-food and fuel). Taking into account

the frequent restructuring and demographic changes in the sector, this makes it possible to analyse cyclical movements more precisely.



24.1%

OF INCREASE
for the production
in the service sector
between 2010 and 2017

THE EMPLOYMENT CLIMATE complements the business climate

To assess short-term employment trends in the market sector, forecasters use both macroeconomic models and business tendency surveys. Over the horizon of one or two quarters, survey-based results are often more accurate than models, especially in periods of marked cyclical downturn. These surveys provide qualitative assessments from company managers: workforce expected to rise, fall or remain stable. Statisticians then have to tie them back into actual measured changes in employment to calculate the forecasts: they “calibrate” the two sets of data. The accuracy of employment measurements is of course crucial to ensuring the quality of forecasts. In 2017, INSEE worked with two partners to extend the scope of these measurements (see box).

The employment forecasts produced in this manner cover both total market employment and each of the four major sectors comprising it: industry, construction, temporary employment and market services excluding temporary employment. Having this breakdown is important because employment trajectories can be quite different from one sector to the next. In particular, temporary workers

account for only 4% of market employment but account for nearly 40% of its quarterly fluctuations since 2007.

Alongside this forecasting work, INSEE has built a new indicator: the “employment climate” indicator. It summarises the information reported each month by the business leaders on changes in their workforce. This “climate” effectively traces back the economic cycle of employment: a cycle close to that of activity, summarised by the business climate in France, but less turbulent and slightly lagging: employment responds with some delay,

whether to decline in activity or to recovery. The gap between the business climate and the employment climate consistently reflects the apparent labour productivity cycle. The employment climate indicator, integrated into the calibrations used for employment forecasts, thus provides significant additional information and enables the institute to refine its analyses.



4%
OF MARKET
LABOUR

is temporary employment

Quarterly employment estimates now cover all employees

At the national level, INSEE calculates two successive quarterly estimates of payroll employment: a “flash estimate” 45 days after the end of the quarter, and a “second estimate” 70 days after the end of the quarter. Since the results of the first quarter of 2017, estimates at the 70-days mark are co-produced with the Central Agency of Social Security Organisations (ACOSS) and DARES (Statistical Department of the Ministry of Labour). This partnership makes it possible to cover all employees

and departments overseas (excluding Mayotte). ACOSS provides data on the private sector, excluding temporary work. DARES produces the figures on temporary work. INSEE is in charge of what constitutes the extension of the field compared to previous publications: salaried agricultural employment, that of the civil service, as well as that of all individual employers, including those in non-market sectors. All business sectors are thus covered, apart from extra-territorial activities.



TESTIMONY
of Denis FERRAND,
Director General
of Coe-Rexecode

HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE SHORT-TERM INDICATORS PRODUCED BY INSEE IN YOUR ACTIVITY?

INSEE indicators are the raw material of my work as a conjuncturist. Quantitative

magnitudes such as industrial production indices or price indices provide an economic diagnosis that is both reliable (because it has been little-revised overall), rapid and sufficiently precise to make it possible to distinguish particularities beyond the overall picture. Indicators of a qualitative nature, meanwhile, such as business tendency surveys, offer a real sense of the pulse of those involved in economic decision-making. They provide an overview of expectations over a short and high frequency horizon, whether in terms of changes in activity,

employment, prices or investment. Because they are also constructed with reference to a European framework, these indicators also enable an international comparison that can quickly bring to light how economies are positioned in relation to one another. All of these factors combined explain why I so look forward to reading the survey results and indicators when they are released! We are just as eagerly awaiting the publication of INSEE's *Note de Conjoncture*. It enables us to compare our hypotheses, analyses and estimates. It also systematically



provides useful points of reference for quantifying the impact of a particular event (oil prices, consequences of attacks, impact of strikes, etc.).

WHAT ARE THE KEY QUALITIES YOU ASCRIBE TO THESE INDICATORS?

In addition to the above points (reliability, precision and comparability), the first of the qualities I recognise in these indicators is the speed with which they are delivered. An initial estimate of GDP delivered d+30 is very useful in helping change -- or maintain -- one's own perception of the course of economic activity. On another level, since INSEE surveys are based on a large sample, they are much more able to rely on the law of large numbers than a smaller survey such as that of Markit. An important point in INSEE's survey system

is the complementarity of its monthly and quarterly explorations. To be delivered quickly, the former must focus on a few basic but also precise questions. The quarterly surveys deal with supplementary questions and it is the combination of these two formats that makes it possible to provide answers to all the issues that influence economic activity (difficulty in terms of supply or demand, cash position, competitive position, etc.).

IN YOUR OPINION, DOES THE SYSTEM NEED TO BE DEVELOPED AND, IF SO, ON WHAT POINTS?

As it stands, I see the system as one of the most satisfactory and comprehensive around. However, I do constantly continue to ask myself one question: how to take into account the influence of digital players, in particular

as regards sharing between changes in business volumes and prices. More broadly, I would be very curious to benchmark the relevance of indicators based no longer on statements as is the case of business surveys but on actions and intentions as reflected by the digital footprints we leave on the web. This is a huge field of investigation but it is starting to be mined, primarily for contextual advertising. The use of big data, in that sense, promises real-time economic information but to a degree of reliability and relevance that is still very uncertain.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PUBLICATIONS

Note de conjoncture, Point de Conjoncture and Informations Rapides can be viewed at insee.fr ("statistics" section, "economy..." theme, "Economic outlook..." sub-theme)

■ Passeron V., Roucher D., Patier B., and Virely B., "**Purchasing power slows down, while the outlook remains positive**". *Note de Conjoncture* - March 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/2662668?sommaire=2662688>

■ Passeron V., Roucher D., Rousset C. and Stoliaroff-Pépin A.-M., "**Solid growth**". *Note de Conjoncture* - June 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/2872055?sommaire=2872121>

■ Pouget J. and Roucher D., "**The Eurozone makes up lost ground**". *Note de Conjoncture* - October 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/3134644>

■ Berthier D., Pouget J., Quévat B., and Roucher D., "**France keeps up the pace**". *Note de Conjoncture* - December 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/3292543>

DETAILED FIGURES

■ The related Time Series can be viewed at insee.fr (heading "Statistics" section, "Economy..." theme, "Economic outlook..." sub-theme, "Data" category)

STUDYING THE FUNCTIONING OF THE FRENCH ECONOMY



To analyse the overall functioning of the French economy, **INSEE uses macroeconomic models**. In 2017, working with the Directorate General of the Treasury, it re-estimated and enhanced the *Mésange* model (model for econometric simulation and analysis at the general level of the economy). The model has been enhanced on two main points: a distinction between skilled and unskilled workers, and a finer sectoral breakdown than in the previous version. In particular, services are now fragmented into services exposed to or protected from international competition. *Mésange* can help

simulate and assess the macroeconomic effects of certain economic policy measures. Their effects can also be explored at the microeconomic level, an area in which INSEE has built up recognised experience. It is on the strength of this expertise that it naturally became involved in a series of seminars on public policy impact assessment. Coordinated by *France Stratégie*, these seminars bring together five other institutions. Their ambition is **to show the specificity of these assessment techniques, to illustrate their field of intervention and to legitimise their regular use to measure the effectiveness of public decisions**.

Business tendency surveys also help to inform these decisions. Since 2017, INSEE has completed the questions it asks companies about their workforce. Business leaders now provide information on the possible presence of barriers to hiring and, where applicable, on the nature of these barriers, a complement that enables the institute to always analyse as closely as possible the functioning of the French economy.



MÉSANGE 2017: a renovated and enriched model

Macroeconometric models reproduce, in the form of equations, the main economic mechanisms at work in a country or sometimes a set of countries. For France, INSEE has been using the *Mésange* model since 2002, after building it with the Directorate General of the Treasury, then known as the Forecasting Directorate. *Mésange* stands for model for econometric simulation and analysis at the general level of the economy. It contains 1800 equations. The French economy is represented as a “small open economy”: it has no impact on the international environment, considered exogenous. *Mésange* is used to assess the macroeconomic impact of different types of shocks, whether domestic (public policies, etc.) or external (oil prices, currency exchange

rates, etc.). *Mésange* also helps support the development of economic forecasts.

Every model requires regular re-evaluation: statisticians revise the coefficients of the equations that interconnect its variables with one another by integrating the latest macroeconomic data. The model can also be enriched to respond to a larger number of questions. In 2017, INSEE and the Directorate General of the Treasury re-estimated *Mésange* on the final results of the quarterly accounts of 1st quarter 2016, and introduced several new features. Compared with the previous version, the sectoral disaggregation is more fine-grained. It distinguishes the agricultural versus the manufacturing sector, services exposed to international competition versus those sheltered from it, and lastly, energy and the non-market sector. In addition, its labour market modelling

has been enriched by a distinction between two types of employees, based on their level of qualification. This distinction makes it possible to assess the impact of targeted employment policy measures.

The model was presented at the Fourgeaud seminar in March 2017, organised by the Directorate General of the Treasury. It is presented in detail in an INSEE’s “*Documents de travail*”.

A + B(x) : Σ = C

1,800

**EQUATIONS INTEGRATED
into the MÉSANGE model**

PUBLIC POLICY ASSESSMENT: INSEE involved in a cycle of seminars

Given its expertise in microeconometrics, INSEE has naturally joined in a cycle of seminars on public policy impact assessment, coordinated by *France Stratégie*, and with the participation of *Agence nouvelle des solidarités actives (ANSA)*, *Centre de recherche en économie et statistique (CREST)*, *Institut d'économie publique (IDEP)*, *Laboratoire interdisciplinaire d'évaluation des politiques publiques de Sciences Po (LIEPP)* and *Institut des politiques publiques (École d'économie de Paris and GENES)*.

To improve public policies, it is essential to assess their consequences. Over the last fifteen years, new methods based on individual data mining have emerged, as have new stakeholders specialising in assessment, with increased participation of research laboratories, facilitated by procedures for secure access to the confidential microdata contained in official statistics. Nevertheless, public policy impact assessment culture remains unevenly

developed in France. The aim of these seminars is to show the specificity of these assessment processes, illustrate their scope of action and bring legitimacy to their regular use in measuring the effectiveness of public decision-making.

The cycle consists of six sessions, one every two months. The first was held on 17 November 2017. Each session includes a thematic component and a cross-cutting component.

The first focuses on specific subjects, such as the size of classes in the field of education. The other areas are: housing, employment, health, crime and the environment.

The cross-cutting component addresses: the assessment approach and choice of methods; the scope of assessment findings; the place of impact assessment in the assessment landscape (including administrative assessments); issues

of access to confidential data; dissemination and receipt of impact assessment results; and challenges for impact assessment.

At each session, researchers, decision-makers, practitioners, working in France or abroad, will speak, to compare and contrast their viewpoints.

BARRIERS TO HIRING: more precise insights on short-term labour market developments



For many years now, INSEE has been surveying companies about their workforce: past and future changes in their numbers, issues faced in recruitment, production constraints due to insufficient staff. From 2017, this information was supplemented: each quarter, company managers report any barriers that prevent them from hiring more employees on permanent or longer fixed-term contracts. Where applicable, they specify the type, from one of eight contexts listed: uncertainty about the economic situation, unavailability of skilled labour, recruitment costs, level of employer taxes, level of wages, direct financial costs of redundancy, legal risks associated with dismissal procedures and, lastly, uncertainty about the stability of labour legislation.

The survey covers approximately 70% of non-agricultural wage earners, excluding retail and other service activities. INSEE thus has more precise insights to back up its diagnosis on companies.

An initial use of the answers to these questions was proposed in the *Note de Conjoncture* of June 2017. Later on, an *Insee Focus* was produced at the end of the year drawing up a more detailed analysis, both of the sectors and the size of the companies involved.

In October 2017, half of companies – 70% in building – faced barriers when hiring employees on permanent or longer fixed-term contracts. One-third did not face any such issues, while the others reported not being concerned by this issue, probably because they had not recently recruited new



employees. Hiring is hampered by the difficulty of finding skilled labour (barrier cited by 32% of companies), uncertainty about the economic situation (25%), labour costs considered too high (22%) and labour market regulations (17%). Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

seem subject to slightly more constraints in their hiring than larger companies. Only the difficulties linked to the unavailability of a competent labour force are slightly greater for large companies and mid-sized companies than for SMEs; the gap is nevertheless very small. The building,

shell and finishing industries, the automobile industry and road haulage in particular report being held back by this barrier.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

PUBLICATIONS

■ Bardaji J., Campaign B., Khder M.-B., Lafféter Q. and Simon O. (Insee) - Dufernez A.-S., Elezaar C., Leblanc P., Masson E. and Partouche H (Directorate General of the Treasury), « **Le modèle macroéconométrique Mésange : réestimation et nouveautés** », *Documents de travail G 2017/04*, May 2017

■ Dortet-Bernadet V., “Half of all companies report barriers to hiring”. *Insee Focus n°106* - December 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/3310731>

■ Focus in *Note de Conjoncture* - June 2017. “What do companies tell us about the barriers to hiring?” <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/2872073?sommaire=2872121>

■ *Economics and Statistics* n° 493 – 2017 - “Evaluation of public support to small and medium-sized firms – *Varia*”, July 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/2890096>

■ “French economy”, *Insee Références*, July 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/3050911>

■ See also, *Informations Rapides*

PROVIDING DETAILS ABOUT THE PRODUCTIVE SYSTEM



Asking companies about their activities, investments, recruitment and organisations is essential in order to get to know them better and thus gain a broad picture of the French productive system. Consequently, **INSEE conducts surveys with companies that collect both structural information (size, type of activity, characteristics of workforce employed, type of organisation, etc.) and short-term information, as well as data on specific topics (energy consumption, use of new technologies, innovation, etc.).** This survey mechanism aligns in particular with European regulations.

To reduce the reporting burden that these surveys can represent for companies, INSEE and the ministerial statistical departments coordinate to prevent the same company from being too frequently called upon for surveys from the official statistical services. They are also more likely to take into account the administrative data provided by companies as part of their standard procedure.

Some of the key studies of 2017 include analyses devoted to changing trends in employment by business category and the location of retail businesses on the territory in the publication “Enterprises in France”, a first estimate of the importance of tourist accommodation offered by individuals via Internet platforms or a panorama view of groups established in France.



BETTER CONSIDERATION for the economic reality of companies

INSEE continues to give substance to the economic definition of the “enterprise” introduced by the decree implementing the 2008 law on the modernisation of the economy (LME) regarding categories of companies. An enterprise is henceforth defined as “the smallest combination of legal units forming an organisational unit that produces goods and services, and enjoys a certain degree of decision-making autonomy, in particular as regards the allocation of its current resources”. This definition makes it possible to better understand group organisations and thus better describe the actual organisation of companies.

To implement this new definition, INSEE carries out profiling operations, i.e., identifying from within the groups, the relevant enterprise or enterprises, as defined by the 2008 Act and reconstituting their consolidated accounts.

Concurrent to this profiling activity, INSEE proposes analyses that take into account this new definition. The studies released regularly demonstrate the latter’s relevance.

Thus, in the 2017 edition of *Insee Références* “Enterprises in France”, one of the studies shows that if we take a complete view of the enterprise, meaning one not based solely on legal units, it is mid-cap enterprises that created the most jobs between 2009 and 2015. Over this period of slow growth, they recorded a



balance of jobs of nearly +340,000, while micro-enterprises lost nearly 100,000 jobs.

INSEE also released a study specifically on groups based in France. It shows in particular that, as at end-2015, 442,000 companies operating on French soil were organised as corporate groups or were under the control of the public authorities. These 123,000 groups employed half of all employees in the private and public sectors. Half have less than 10 employees on French soil and only 220 have 5,000 or more employees. The study also shows that these groups include companies dedicated primarily to industry and retail.

REFLECTING the effects of globalisation

The study of French multinational firms sheds some light on the phenomenon of globalisation. Like every year, INSEE produced in 2017 an analysis based on the results of the survey on the activity of foreign subsidiaries of French groups (O-FATS). One of the key lessons was the fact that French multinational firms (excluding the banking sector) controlled 37,000 subsidiaries abroad. They earn 54% of their consolidated turnover and employ 58% of their workforce, i.e. 5.5 million people there. One out of every

four subsidiaries is based in the United States, the United Kingdom or Germany.

Symmetrically, INSEE measures the importance of foreign operations in France. In 2015, foreign multinational firms employed 1.8 million people in France, excluding the agricultural and financial sectors. Out of the 118 countries controlling companies in France, the United States and Germany lead the way.

To go further in measuring the internationalisation of companies, INSEE is conducting a survey on their “global business

chains”. This survey examines the fragmentation of production processes implemented by companies, which leads them to outsource in France or relocate work carried out in-house abroad, or even to relocate activities conducted abroad to France.

The latest edition was produced between September and December 2017, on the specific population of SMEs. The results should be available in the second half of 2018.



THE WEIGHT OF CHAIN NETWORKS in market services

The results of the business surveys conducted by INSEE are of interest to various types of users. Professional bodies use them to keep abreast of their sectors and design their strategies. Businesses use them to situate themselves against their competitors or to improve their understanding of sectors upstream or downstream of their own activities. The public sector relies on these results to make decisions. For economists, the surveys address multiple needs for cross-cutting or sector-specific analysis and allow them to monitor the climate. They are furthermore indispensable for the creation of national accounts.

There are several approaches to understanding the organisation of an economic sector and measuring its weight within the economy.

While the definition of the company adopted in 2008 favours a vision by group, the approach by retail network is also relevant and INSEE is working to reflect this. This is particularly the case for the services sector, which was the focus of a survey in 2016. It enabled INSEE to identify the chain networks of at least seven establishments in some forty services sectors organised in this way.

In total, 400 companies running one or more networks were surveyed, representing a total of 450 different networks. These are made up of points of sale linked to a brand clearly identified by customers, which guarantees a single concept and the same quality throughout the territory.

The latest study carried out by INSEE showed that at the end of 2015, the services sector in France had 723 networks with at least 20 points of sale. These include 68,000 points of sale and generate €181 billion in turnover, or 21% of market services activity.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION offered by individuals via Internet platforms

In 2017, INSEE published a first estimate of the magnitude of tourist accommodation offered by individuals via Internet platforms. It emerged that their numbers increased sharply in 2016 (+30%). The momentum is stronger for resident customers (up 36%) and for housing in the provinces (up 36%); the *Île-de-France* market appears to have reached maturity. Thus, in 2016, 66% of customers are estimated to be residents and 80% of users are estimated to use housing located in the provinces. The development of Internet platforms has enriched the offer

of commercial tourist accommodations, even though some of the private offering already existed outside these channels. In 2016, it is estimated that these networks attracted around

11% of all accommodation users, i. e. including supply from professional providers: hotels, campsites and tourist residences.



+30%

OF GROWTH IN 2016
for tourist accommodation
offered by individuals
via Internet platforms



TERRITORIAL INEQUALITIES

through the prism of store locations

INSEE has proposed a new perspective on the issue of territorial inequalities by analysing the location of stores. This partly reflects geographical divides. It also shows the spatial diversity of the population's consumer habits, the proximity or over-representation of certain types of shops that may be linked to the inhabitants lifestyle.

This study shows in particular that although peri-urban rural communities comprise more than four-fifths of the rural population, they are the least-equipped in shops, with 22 points of sale per 10,000 inhabitants, compared to 55 in rural communities outside the influence of a city.

22     

**POINTS OF SALE
per 10,000 inhabitants,
in peri-urban rural
communities**

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OBSERVATION OF THE SOCIETY



To learn about changes in French society, INSEE conducts a large number of surveys, at the level of households or individuals. **Regular surveys measure changes or persistence in major economic and social situations** (income and living conditions, employment, etc.) when structural surveys conducted every five to ten years focus on certain behaviours or phenomena, such as the mobility of people survey. **INSEE also uses numerous administrative files to consolidate data without necessarily resorting to surveys.** Combined with data from the population census, data from administrative files can generate valuable information on population, family structures, employment, wages, income distribution, etc.

Among the outstanding studies in year 2017, a portrait of the specificities of unmarried couples living together, a special report on trends in household income, consumption and savings by major category between 2011 and 2015 as well as analyses on the latest participation levels in presidential and legislative elections in France.



MARITAL SITUATIONS, new insight on unmarried couples living together

In the 2017 edition of “France, social portrait”, INSEE has published a first-time special report on people who live under the same roof without being married or in a civil partnership. In 2015, in France, people living together as unmarried couple made up one in five people living as a couple. The number of break-ups of unmarried couples living together, estimated at 265,000 per year between 2011 and 2015, exceeds the number of divorces and terminations of civil partnerships. On average, between 2011 and 2014, 546,000 new unmarried couples living together were formed each year, more than twice the number of marriages over the same period (around 240,000 per year) and three times the number of civil partnership concluded (164,000).

This report is based on a specific use of data from the permanent demographic sample. Created by INSEE in 1967, this sample is a panel of individuals that currently concerns around 4% of the population, i.e. nearly 2.7 million individuals. For each, it keeps socio-tax and census data.

This permanent panel approach makes it possible to monitor individuals and accumulate information as they go along. It takes time but provides information that is not subject to memory effects. The mobilisation of administrative data or the secondary use of census data make this sample a particularly economical means of lightening the burden of household surveys. By its size, this sample enables fine-grained analyses that can in particular take into account generation effects and differentiations by qualification, origin, geographical location or marital status.



 **1/5**
**PEOPLE LIVING AS A COUPLE
are unmarried couples**

STUDYING CHANGES IN INCOME COMPOSITION and household consumption

In the 2017 edition of “French economy”, INSEE published a special report that presents a breakdown of household numbers for 2011 according to standard of living, age, socio-professional category of the reference person and household membership. The objective is to go beyond the averages assessed by national

accounting, by combining the latter with the results of household surveys. This work updates a study of similar nature conducted on data from 2003. It also proposes an extrapolation of the results obtained until 2015. In year 2011, the disposable income (which includes income from employment, net benefits from direct taxes, and income from wealth) reported by the richest 20% of households is almost four times higher than that of the most underprivileged 20%. The share

of received net transfers decreased from 46% to 5% of this disposable income between these two extreme groups. For the least-privileged 20%, more than one-third of this income is allocated to pre-committed expenditure.

LOWER PARTICIPATION

in the presidential and legislative elections in 2017

In this year of presidential and legislative elections, 2017, INSEE also turned its attention to electoral participation. To this end, a sample was drawn from the permanent demographic sample, representing 45,000 people (France, excluding Mayotte). Based on the attendance lists available in the prefecture within ten days of the vote, INSEE workers were able to measure up the participation of these people in the 2017 elections, as any voter can do.

The results of this survey show a shift in voter behaviour. Since 2002, in mainland France, participation in at least one round of the presidential or legislative elections has remained stable. Nonetheless, voting behaviour changed in 2017 compared with previous national elections. Turnout was significantly

lower in all four rounds of the presidential and legislative elections. The percentage of people who voted in both rounds of the presidential election but did not vote at all in the legislative election continued to increase, reflecting the declining interest in legislative elections. The drop in systematic participation in 2017 encompasses all age groups, qualification levels and social categories.

A TALK WITH

Céline BRACONNIER,

Director of Sciences Po Saint-Germain-en-Laye,

Baptiste COULMONT,

Lecturer at the University of Paris 8

and Jean-Yves DORMAGEN,

Professor of Political Science at the University of Montpellier



WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF INSEE'S ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION SURVEYS COMPARED TO TRADITIONAL SURVEYS?

Unlike opinion polls, the selection procedure for the voter turnout survey sample does not require consent or even contact with the surveyed population. As a result, the surveys thus escape the selection or self-selection biases that affect polls on electoral behaviours. The large sample size

– 40,000 people (Metropolitan France) – allows fine-grained stratifications that maintain good statistical power, something that proves valuable in studying minority behaviours (proxy, abstention in the case of some presidential elections) or certain targeted groups. The survey also stands

out for the wealth of information available at the individual level: in addition to the census variables, tax data or data from the general electoral roll. Lastly, participation is calculated directly from the sign-out lists. The survey is thus exceptional in its accuracy and objectivity, two essential qualities when it comes to exploring a phenomenon such as abstention, which continues to



carry stigma today and can therefore potentially be under-reported. It offers outstanding, unparalleled material at the international level for addressing this issue.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN LESSONS FROM THE RECENT ELECTIONS?

The increase in abstention during the election

sequence in 2017 – real but contained in the presidential election, dramatic in the legislative elections – is not, contrary to what opinion polls during the campaign suggest, a sign that citizens are becoming equal in the face of the vote. Quite to the contrary, socio-demographic inequalities in participation have only increased over the last decade. They are primarily the result of inequalities in schooling:

the level of participation increases steadily the higher the degree of the individual. Secondly, they are determined by age: between ages 25 and 69, the level of participation increases parallel to age. The latest electoral sequence also confirms that people living in families are more likely to vote than lone individuals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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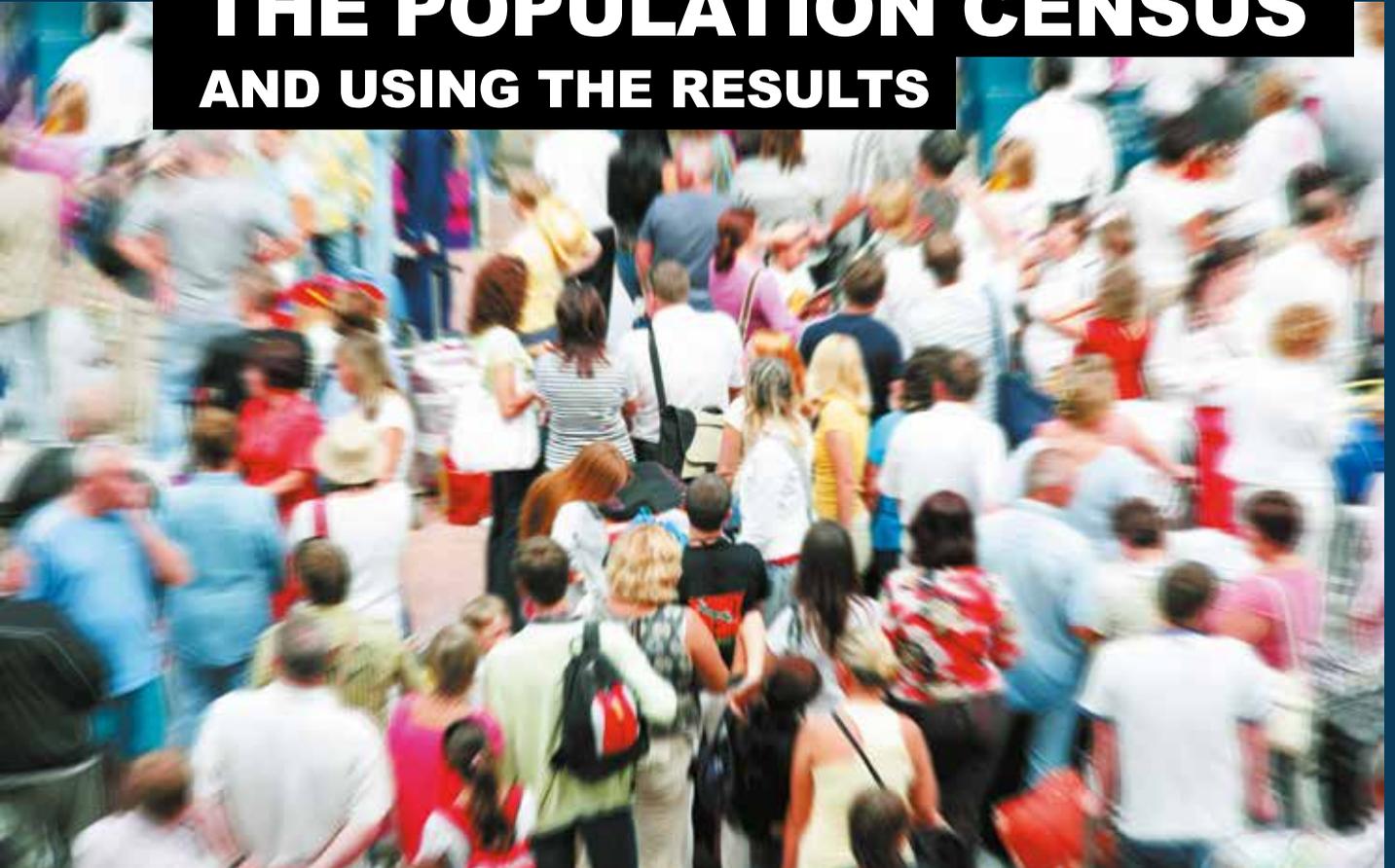
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CONDUCTING THE POPULATION CENSUS AND USING THE RESULTS



The French population census is one of INSEE's historical activities, and includes organising and overseeing surveys, making use of the data and disseminating results. Households have been increasingly taking advantage of the ability to respond online since 2015. In 2017, 46% of households and 54% of the individuals in the census responded electronically.

Thanks to the responses collected, the Institute provides statistics on France's inhabitants, families and housing, in number and with respect to multiple characteristics: breakdown by sex, age, nationality, profession, housing conditions, commuting, transport used for commuting, etc. This is fundamental information for many public and private stakeholders.

Year 2017 stood out for the census collections in Mayotte and French Polynesia and the availability of statistics on the populations of these territories.

Out of the many studies using census data in 2017: an analysis of the residential mobility of the French and the distance between home and work at the nearest large establishment.



A COMPREHENSIVE POPULATION CENSUS in Mayotte and French Polynesia

The population census holds a special place in official statistics since it is specifically covered by Act No. 2002-276 of 27 February 2002 on local democracy. Thus, INSEE is responsible for organising the collection of census data in all French, mainland and overseas territories. However, while the requirement is the same, the system is adapted to take into account the realities on the ground.

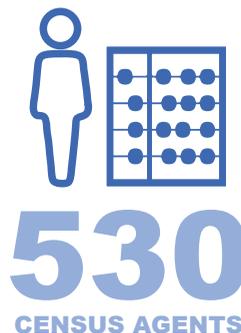
Thus, in Mayotte, in partnership with the 17 municipalities, INSEE carried out a general census of the population on the ground. This method takes into account local conditions in particular the absence of sufficiently exhaustive administrative records, the poor quality of addressing and the precarious nature of the Mahora habitat. Comprehensive collection was conducted over a four-week period in September-October 2017. The previous census had taken place in 2012. The census agents use the direct interview method with paper questionnaires. A significant proportion of the population has difficulty writing and does not have a perfect command of French. The 530 census agents recruited for the occasion thus had to be able to speak shimaoré, the most used language in Mayotte, or kibouchi, depending on the villages.

The questionnaires include a few questions specific to this population, for instance about water supply under the category housing or the one concerning the chibarouas ("small jobs") on individual forms.

To divide the communes into appropriately-sized collection districts as reliably as possible, determine the number of dwellings to be counted and facilitate the monitoring of the collection process, INSEE surveyors conducted an exhaustive mapping survey that mobilised

them for 6 months. This detailed survey was updated during the collection process. The data on precarious housing, which is very widespread in Mayotte, shifts regularly. The bangas, or makeshift homes most often made of sheet metal, can appear and disappear very quickly. Paths and trails can also change between the census preparation and collection times respectively.

showing the demographic dynamism of this overseas department. The expectations of the population and local stakeholders were very high, given the substantial population growth and the challenges associated with the development of Mayotte, a region where the poverty rate is highest in France and where more than half of the population is under 18. In September 2017, 256,500 people were living in Mayotte. From 2012 to 2017, the population



The survey was then carried out by the 530 census agents employed by the town halls, with the supervision and involvement of an INSEE Project Leader, supervisors on site, the regional service and census inspectors, including multiple INSEE survey interviewers. To accompany the collection campaign, television ads and radio messages were broadcast. The Mahora population has a traditional culture that is more oral than written, so posters are less effective. The mainlanders in Mayotte are the most difficult to count: they often feel less involved, as they are only visiting the island for a few years.

The data collection process was completed in early October and, by mid-December, the day the decree was signed authenticating the populations by commune, with effect on 1st January 2018, INSEE published a study

grew by an average of 3.8% per year. The pace of growth is picking up compared to 2007-2012, breaking with two decades of gradual slowdown. Mayotte remains the French department with the greatest demographic growth, ahead of Guyana.

In 2017, INSEE also carried out a general census of French Polynesia. The exhaustive collection method for all municipalities took place over a period of 4 weeks in August 2017. As in Mayotte, the census agents interviewed the residents directly using paper questionnaires.

At the end of December 2017, INSEE published on its website the legal populations of French Polynesia as well as those of Mayotte. In 2017, French Polynesia was home to 281,674 inhabitants.

L'Institut de la statistique de la Polynésie française, which is responsible for making statistical use of the census conducted by INSEE, makes its results available on its website.



281,674

INHABITANTS
in French Polynesia



Mahorais habitat

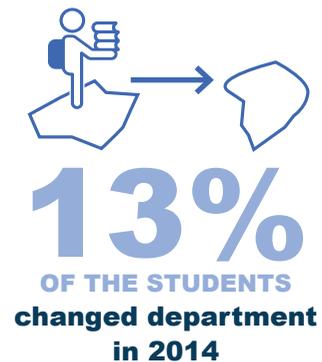
CENSUS DATA: at the heart of many studies

The data provided by the annual census survey helps to shed light on many subjects. Every year, INSEE statisticians produce numerous studies based solely on their own operations or through links with other sources.

Thus in June 2017, based on census data, INSEE studied the residential mobility of the French population. The publication shows that in 2014, 7.3 million people living in France, or 11% of the population, changed their housing compared to the previous year. It showed that one quarter of them settle in another department, with the South and West of France being the regions that concentrate the largest share of new arrivals. Making the distinction

between multiple categories, the study finds that retirees and active workers contribute significantly to these net north-south moves. They alone account for two-thirds of those who

move to a different department. It also took a look at students, 13% of whom, or 310,000, have changed department; 80% of student migrations are concentrated in 36 departments.



By comparing census data with those of its register of companies and institutions, INSEE produced in November 2017 an analysis of the distance between the place of residence of active French workers and their employer's site, in this case, the nearest large private establishment.

The study shows that the vast majority of the active population lives near one or more

establishments employing over 200 employees. Amounting to 8,300 in total, these employers are concentrated in major conurbations and structure France's business landscape.

To visually illustrate the distance between individuals and employment at large establishments, INSEE has also released an interactive tool. Interested users may specify a business sector, an establishment size (less

than 200, 500 or 1,000 employees) and their numbers as well as the average distance recorded between these establishments and the active workers' place of residence.

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DETAILED FIGURES

- Legal populations of Mayotte in 2017 - December 2017
- Legal populations of French Polynesia in 2017 - December 2017

INTERACTIVE TOOLS

- Distance from active persons to big corporates 2014 - France without overseas. November 2017, <https://insee.fr/en/statistiques/3132009>

DESCRIBING AND ANALYSING REGIONS AND TERRITORIES



Thanks to its regional offices, INSEE has been able to develop detailed knowledge of each of France's territories. Each year, INSEE's Regional Directorates produce a large number of studies, very often in partnership with local public stakeholders.

This work is, of course, of interest to all local stakeholders, first and foremost; however, their broad-ranging scope makes them **useful as well to civil society and the general public**. Like national publications, these studies make use of the abundant statistical data that Regional Directorates contribute to produce and to consolidate, for example through annual census survey or surveys of companies. **Some of the topics regularly taken up for inventory reports are: the economic situation in the region and in particular employment, the annual economic review, and population trends.**

INSEE regularly releases studies with a dual perspective, both national and regional.

The Regional Directorates provide their advice and expertise to regional public stakeholders, in response to their requests on the deployment of public policy, participate in discussion groups and regional committees, and even provide them with support in the use of data.

Highlights in year 2017 include: **a national partnership with *Régions de France*, an inventory of official statistics describing the overseas territories, a European regulation that harmonises the nomenclature of territorial units, etc.**



TESTIMONIAL of Gilles MERGY,

Delegate General
of *Régions de France*

“LIKE THE RELATIONS [...] BETWEEN
THE REGIONS AND INSEE REGIONAL
DIRECTORATES, THIS NATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP NEEDS TO BE CONTINUED
AND EXPANDED.”



A NEW SERVICE OFFER supporting regional stakeholders

Local stakeholders need diagnostics which they can use to establish the specificities of a territory or sector, to take stock of a situation at a given time to identify strategic lines of action, and to carry out the subsequent assessment.

The regional directorates then produce dedicated studies, carried out in partnership with public stakeholders of regional rank, whether regional prefectures and State services, regional councils, or departmental councils, public inter-municipal cooperation establishments, regional or departmental tourism committees, metropolises, town planning agencies, etc.

In 2017, INSEE overhauled its service offering in support of regional public stakeholders to offer them tools for monitoring the major regional schemes arising from the NOTRe law:

the regional development plans for innovation and internationalisation (SRDEII) and the regional development, sustainable development and regional equality schemes (SRADDET).

This offer is part of a partnership signed in July 2017 between INSEE and *Régions de France* (cf. testimonial of Mr Gilles Mergy, General Delegate of *Régions de France*). The agreement provides a global framework for these regional collaborations and harmonises all the services offered for the benefit of both parties. This is reflected in the production and supply of dedicated indicators: indicators for monitoring SRDEII, SRADDET, State-Region plan contracts 2015-2020 or others that enrich the website of the Observatoire des politiques régionales de *Régions de France*... but also by opportunities to compile study files on a particular subject.

As territorial reforms take place, the regions are gradually and naturally strengthened in their powers.

This recognition of the regional level obviously has its roots in its relevance in conducting certain structural policies for our territories but also from the effectiveness with which the regions have taken ownership of and exercise these new powers.

After each transfer, they gained increasingly robust expertise and tools for managing and becoming familiar with their territory that are essential to the success of the public policies for which they are responsible.

In the same way, across *Régions de France*, the aim was to establish an Observatory that can ultimately become a full-fledged resource centre and a regional policy laboratory able of establishing ties with the academic world, research, think tanks, etc.

In this context, INSEE naturally emerged as a key partner for the success of this project. In addition to providing data, INSEE also and above all provided its expertise. In terms of both economic development and regional development, its contribution has been key in informing the regions' activities.

Clearly, like the relations building between the regions and INSEE regional directorates, this national partnership needs to be continued and expanded.

It is in the interest of the regions whose success requires a perfect knowledge of their territory and its developments. It is also in the interest of INSEE which, in order to continue to provide high-quality expertise, must continually adapt to the economic, social, societal and also institutional transformations which our country is experiencing.

SHAPING OFFICIAL STATISTICS

in the overseas departments and governments

As part of the preparation of the Act on Actual Equality for Overseas Territories adopted on 14 February 2017, INSEE, in consultation with the entire official statistical service, consolidated a report taking stock of their organisation in order to produce statistics in overseas France and detailing the available data.

The report shows that the coverage of the territories is fairly uniform as far as surveys

of companies and population census are concerned. When it comes to household surveys, official statistical output is significantly higher in the overseas territories, and in many areas makes it possible to disseminate relevant statistics at the level of the DOM (Overseas departments), which have no equivalent for the mainland regions or departments.

In terms of data exploitation, a particular effort is also being made in national accounts.

The report reasserts the official statistical service's determination to correct any remaining

shortcomings, which can foster a feeling of inadequacy in statistics relating to Overseas France. However, it also emphasises that these shortcomings are due mainly to shortcomings in quality or even the absence of certain administrative data, which are increasingly mobilised by official statistics, and which are difficult to replace with surveys.

HOW WILL THE FRENCH POPULATION

look by 2050?

Some of the most important publications in 2017 included INSEE's nationwide study, detailed data, 16 regional studies and interactive pyramids on regional and departmental population projections by 2050.

The national study summarising major trends shows that by 2050, the population of each French region will increase except in Guadeloupe and Martinique. Demographic growth is estimated to be stronger in the western and southern regions of metropolitan France.

In all the regions, however, as the large baby-boomer generations reach high mortality ages, it is believed that the increase in population will be curbed. Thus, according to estimates, the death rate is overtaking the birth rate in many regions.



16

REGIONAL STUDIES



EUROPEAN HARMONISATION of territorial units

European regional statistics are widely used within the framework of the Union's regional policy, as well as to determine the eligibility of regions for cohesion funds. In recent years, Eurostat has broadened the range of statistics published on a number of territorial

typologies to meet the demand of EU politicians, who have a growing need for such data within the framework of cohesion and territorial development policies. In order to enable harmonised application of the typologies and to allow overlap with other acts and programmes, Eurostat adopted the Tercet Regulation¹ in 2017. This regulation supplements the common

statistical classification of territorial units (NUTS) by including territorial typologies which until now had no regulatory formalisation (cities, urban, rural or coastal areas or regions, 1 km² squares, etc.).

1. The Tercet regulation can be viewed at <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/tercet-territorial-typologies>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PUBLICATIONS

■ All the regional publications produced by INSEE in 2017 can be viewed at the Institute's website. To do so, go to the "Statistics" section and select the criteria "Publications" and geographical level "Region"

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■ « *État des statistiques dans les départements et collectivités d'outre-mer (DOM et COM)* » (State of statistics in overseas departments and local authorities (DOM and COM)), viewable in the "Public Statistical Service" section of the insee.fr website, <https://www.insee.fr/en/information/2386424>

MANAGING LARGE REGISTERS

INSEE has experience in handling large files and knows how to guarantee their security and confidentiality. Consequently, the Institute is required by law to maintain several registers, although their use is not only statistical. **These include: Sirene, a computerised system for the directory of companies and establishments, used for the identification of companies; the national directory for the identification of natural persons and the general electoral roll, which will change under the law of 1st August 2016 renovating voter registration procedures.** In this regard, INSEE holds sovereign powers in managing registers of companies, establishments and people.

Since 2013, **INSEE has also been issuing LEIs (Legal Entity Identifiers)** to entities governed by French law, i.e., identifiers that are unique worldwide for financial market participants.

In 2017, this activity gained magnitude in two respects: data were added concerning the financial links of requesting entities; and the arrival of a new European directive extending the obligation to obtain an LEI. INSEE has also continued to prepare the future single electoral register that will replace the general electoral roll in 2019.



TO BETTER MANAGE and control risks on the financial markets

In June 2012, the G20 approved a unique global identifier system for financial market participants.

The aim is to facilitate risk management and control, both by the private sector and by the public authorities. This identifier is known as the LEI (Legal Entity Identifier). In view of the Institute's expertise in register management and identification, the French authorities have designated INSEE as the issuer of LEI for entities governed by French law (funds registered by the Autorité des marchés financiers and legal entities registered in the Sirene register).

INSEE committed to the LEI attribution process in July 2013. From as early as 2014, this activity

was ramped up, with the entry into force in February of a European regulation¹ requiring companies to declare, using their LEI, all transactions which they carry out on derivatives.

In 2017, a new stage was reached with a new European regulation² that extends the obligation to use the LEI to legal entities, even non-financial, that issue financial instruments or send transaction orders to an investment firm.

The allocation conditions have also changed. Organisations applying for LEI must disclose their financial relationship with the entity that directly holds them and with their group head. For INSEE, this means additional work to verify the information provided, and thereby guarantee the continued quality of the register.

Thus, in 2017 alone, the volume of requests for LEI creations was multiplied by 4 compared to 2016. This year, INSEE allocated 14,000 new LEIs and renewed 17,000 existing ones.

At the end of January 2018, the organisation coordinating the global LEI system, the GLEIF (Global LEI Foundation), accredited INSEE as an LEI issuer for entities governed by French law, rewarding its efforts. Thirty operators are accredited worldwide.

14,000
NEW LEIS
allocated by INSEE

TOWARDS THE INITIALISATION of the single electoral register

The Act of 1 August 2016 revising the registration procedures on the electoral lists institutes a single electoral register, giving INSEE responsibility for managing it, and makes it mandatory to update the electoral lists continuously, rather than annually.

One of the aims is to enable citizens to register within the shortest possible time prior to an election. The end of a year will no longer be synonymous with the closing of voter registrations.

As part of a larger project led by the Ministry of the Interior (see testimonial below), INSEE is in charge of building the electoral register and the IT tool enabling continuous supply of the register under conditions that are both robust and user-friendly.

The new electoral management process will be implemented in 2019, if all goes according to plan: it will therefore be used for the European elections in May 2019. To serve its mission in this large-scale project, INSEE launched a dedicated project in autumn 2016.

2017 was dedicated to developing the future register and data exchange management system. In parallel,



1. The EMIR Regulation (European Market and Infrastructure Regulation).
2. MiF 2 Regulation.

INTERVIEW with Zoheir BOUAOUICHE,
Project Head, Electoral List Reform, Single Electoral
Register, Head of the Interministerial Project,
Ministry of the Interior

**“INSEE’S ROLE IN THIS PROJECT
 IS IMPORTANT IN MANY RESPECTS.”**



**WHAT ARE THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF THE PROJECT CREATING
 THE SINGLE ELECTORAL REGISTER?**

This project has a strong Interministerial dimension. The electoral process is the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior. INSEE, a Directorate General of the Ministry of Economy, is legally responsible for keeping the register. This directory is updated using information from the Mayors, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministries of Justice or the Armed Forces for automatic registrations and removal. We need a very large table when we meet!

The continuous updating of the future register requires us to adapt our procedures, so that our information systems can dialogue. We have worked very closely together as, in order to meet the deadline of 2019, multiple IT developments had to be initiated before the regulation was set in stone. Our shared goal is to successfully implement the reform!

Everyone’s opinion matters. No player is locked into its own area of expertise. As a result, our cooperation is healthy, constructive and fruitful.

**HOW IS INSEE’S INVOLVEMENT
 DECISIVE?**

This project would not be possible without INSEE, which is responsible by law for maintaining the directory. Its involvement is decisive in view of the technical and IT expertise it deploys.

INSEE’s role in this project is important in many respects as it provides its advice and know-how beyond technical aspects alone. Its opinion was heard when drafting the decrees implementing the laws of 1st August 2016 and its mobilisation will be invaluable in training municipal officials and supporting them in implementing this ambitious reform.

the first work was carried out to exploit the municipal electoral lists, centralised by the network of prefectures, in order to pave the way for the creation of the register itself: identification of voters on the basis of declared civil status, search for registration dates in order to decide cases of double registration, etc.

INSEE’s IT experts are fully mobilised in view of the security issues that are particularly significant in the project: guaranteeing the availability of the system, particularly when the elections are organised, and preventing alterations and disclosure of personal data.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE SIRENE REGISTER

The Sirene register lists all companies (legal persons and sole proprietorships) and all establishments operating in the territory.

Each company is identified by a 'SIREN number' and each establishment by a 'SIRET number' which starts with the SIREN number of the company to which it is linked. Sirene has been covering administrations since 1983 and the agricultural sector since 1995.

In 2017, around 10 million companies and 11.5 million active institutions were listed.

INSEE updates Sirene based on declarations completed by companies at the time of their creation and then during other events affecting them, such as a change of address or activity, or winding-up. These declarations are made to the Business Formalities Centres and sent to INSEE, which thus keeps the Sirene register up-to-date.

Since January 2017, the database of companies and establishments from the Sirene register has been available free of charge from sirene.fr and etalab.fr.

FRENCH NATIONAL DIRECTORY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF NATURAL PERSONS

The French National Directory for the Identification of Natural Persons (*Répertoire national d'identification des personnes physiques, RNIPP*) includes all persons born in France as well as persons born abroad subject to the requirement with the social sphere, i.e. have a NIR, or directory registration number, better known as social security number (or INSEE number).

It includes, for each person present, their NIR and civil status information: surname, first and middle names, date and place of birth as well as, where applicable, date and place of death.

INSEE updates it mainly on the basis of birth, death and any other official document modifying the civil status of persons.

THE GENERAL ELECTORAL ROLL

The general electoral roll indicates, for each person registered or having been registered on an electoral roll, the civil status, current municipality of registration and past electoral statuses, and, where applicable, incapacity to vote.

INSEE manages this file to ensure that each voter is registered only once, or to ensure that a person deprived of the right to vote indeed cannot do so. It is from this file that the municipalities are offered updates to their electoral list.

This file will be replaced by the future single electoral register.

DISSEMINATING ITS STATISTICS AND STUDIES



Statistics are a public good, serving all. A pioneer among national statistical institutes, INSEE opted for open data when it decided to provide free access to its website for all the data it produces in 2003, as well as its publications.

A true gold mine for multiple categories of users, research firms and urban planners for local development, economists, researchers and journalists, to inform the public debate, companies in their contractual relations in particular, or quite simply a student or a curious citizen, [the insee.fr](http://the.insee.fr)

website is the Institute's prime means of dissemination, receiving more than 30 million visits per year. It also offers a complete showcase of the production of official statistical services, featured in the publication calendar of all the ministerial statistical departments.

To respond to its users, INSEE provides continuous assistance by telephone or by e-mail to all those seeking information or who need additional clarifications. **INSEE also offers customised products for those who need specific data tables.**

Lastly, to reach all audiences, INSEE shares its production with its social networks, intervenes in public events and establishes partnerships with key players in the popularisation of science.

Among the flagship actions of the year: **easier access to indices and time series, showcasing of local statistics, the dissemination of the Sirene database on an open data basis... and many meetings with the public.**



FACILITATING ACCESS TO TIME SERIES and indices as well as to local statistics

The result of a major overhaul to optimise access to INSEE's various products, the Institute's website, which went online in November 2016, is continuing its metamorphosis. For example, the indices and time series, the oldest of which go back to 1949, have undergone multiple changes: the interactive graphs have been revised to better reflect changes over time in economic indicators for the convenience of users, download functions have been improved;

it is now possible to build and display a basket of series from the 115,000 available, and thus very quickly compare trends on a selection of indicators, or the evolution of an aggregate for its various components. For a certain number of major indicators (consumer or production price indices in particular), Internet users can now access INSEE's revision chronicles issued following successive publications. As part of the open data strategy, all this data is accessible in structured form while complying with the SDMX (Statistical Data and Metadata

eXchange) standard to facilitate data exchange, particularly with international organisations (Use of the SDMX web service).

INSEE has published a new version of the mapping website dedicated to local statistics. This tool provides essential indicators at all geographic levels in the form of user-friendly maps. It also allows users to represent their own data sets with those of INSEE for example, a distributor can superimpose the population of the communes in a department with its points of sale.

REACHING OUT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC and younger generations in particular

INSEE's ambition is to enable the general public and young generations in particular to understand statistics but also to become familiar with the key figures of the French economy and society.

Consequently, the Institute invests every year in two events aimed at high school and university students.

During the *Printemps de l'Économie* (Spring of Economy) event, in Paris in March, INSEE proposed an appointment on the theme "Combating poverty and inequalities: what are the impacts of social and fiscal measures?". Michaël Sicsic, an economist at INSEE,

invited the public to understand the effects of redistribution on inequalities and to see the impact of the measures of social and fiscal policies.

On 7 November, as part of the *Journées de l'Économie* (Economic Days) in Lyon, INSEE's Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes regional directorate welcomed the general public to present the many resources offered by the Institute on its website. On the same day, Sylvie Marchand, Head of the Department of Regional Action, spoke during a debate entitled "What relations between cities and countrysides in the 21st century?".

The regional management of INSEE La Réunion-Mayotte and the Réunion Island

Academy have also formed a partnership for the benefit of high school students. In addition to interventions in high schools to present panoramas of the economic and social situation of the region, representatives of INSEE co-constructed with their partners from the French Ministry of Education a series of 10 educational videos « *Explique-moi l'éco* » (Explain Economics to Me). Practical and useful, these videos provide multiple answers to the questions asked: "How is unemployment measured?" "What is inflation?" "What is meant by the standard of living?" "What is meant by GDP? ", etc.

For the same purpose, INSEE partnered with Unverscience for the "Terra Data, Our Lives

THE SIRENE REGISTER

available as Open Data

in the Age of Digital” exhibition at the *Cité des sciences et de l’industrie* in Paris from 4 April 2017 to 7 January 2018. This meeting offered the general public the opportunity to explore the world of data, to grasp the phenomenon of massive data (Big data) generated by the digital society. INSEE offered a multimedia system that explained the difference between the concepts of correlation and causality to emphasise the importance of engaging in critical thinking whenever presented with interpretations of figures.

Since January 2017, INSEE has been providing free, open access to the Sirene database, 10 million companies and 11.5 million establishments, in accordance with the Act for a Digital Republic.

A multi-form distribution system is offered to users from the website Sirene.fr, they can create lists according to the criteria of their choice and download files containing up to 100,000 establishments. To download the entire database, they need only visit data.gouv.fr.

A TALK with Guillaume MORDANT,

Head of INSEE Info
Service Department

**“THE SIRENE DATABASE’S ROLL-OUT
AS A FREE AND OPEN SOURCE
IS A TRUE SUCCESS.”**



IN WHAT WAYS CAN THE ROLL-OUT OF THE SIRENE DATABASE ON AN OPEN DATA BASIS BE CONSIDERED A SUCCESS?

It is a success in two major respects. First, it significantly increased the number of direct users from about 500 regular users to 4,400 monthly users, including at least 400 potentially permanent users. More than 50,000 downloads were made from Sirene.fr and data.gouv.fr in 2017, compared with 5,200 in 2016. The other major positive point for us is that we were able to open this register while maintaining its high quality. This reference base must remain a reference point!

HAS THIS NEW DISTRIBUTION METHOD FOR INSEE CHANGED ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS USERS?

The relationship with users has been transformed. Nearly 12,000 new accounts were created in Sirene.fr and an open data user community has formed on data.gouv.fr. There is a new paradigm! Our users ask questions via a forum on data.gouv.fr and the answers are provided either by the other users or by INSEE. Contributions are also posted, listing tools available, or examples illustrating reuse of the dataset.

In the end, the transition to free access to the Sirene register on an open data basis is an opportunity that has enabled multiple strides: more modern access to information, a drastic increase in the direct use of information, and the emergence of a new community of open data users.

Read also: variances.eu, “Access to company data: what are the consequences of the move to free access?”, Guillaume Mordant



A new website for CNIS

Now viewable from any device, and equipped with new functionalities, the National Council of Official Statistics (CNIS) website was overhauled in 2017. This site offers multiple features, including access to the statistical survey programme, the work of the various thematic commissions and, more generally, to information on official statistics and the tasks of the CNIS, which is responsible for coordinating consultation between producers and users of official statistics.

THE INSEE FOCUS COLLECTION has reached its 100th issue!

***Insee Focus*, the last collection of INSEE publications, reached its 100th edition in November 2017!** In this issue, readers will find many indicators on summer turnout in 2017.¹ *Insee Focus* is aimed at presenting all the key data needed to understand a subject.



1. Jean-Claude Gidrol, "Summer Tourist Season 2017. Summer tourist numbers bounced back after the fall in 2016", *Insee Focus* November 10, 2017.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PUBLICATIONS AND DATA

- All publications and data are available on the insee.fr website, in the "Statistics" section
- "The French Economy", *Insee References*, March 2017

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Dailymotion : <http://www.dailymotion.com/InseeFr>
- LinkedIn : <https://www.linkedin.com/company/insee/>
- Twitter : @InseeFr : https://twitter.com/InseeFr_News
- Youtube : <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChCCvJTbZEYsCXyfu27eQ6g>
- SlideShare : <https://www.slideshare.net/InseeFr>

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- See "Videos & Educational tools" at insee.fr

WEB SITES

- insee.fr : <https://insee.fr>
- cnis.fr : <https://www.cnis.fr/>
- sirene.fr : <https://www.sirene.fr>
- statistiques-locales.insee.fr : <https://statistiques-locales.insee.fr/#c=home>

IMPROVING ITS METHODS AND INNOVATING

The “data revolution”, current capacities for receiving and processing this “big” data, as well as the context of the law for a digital republic that facilitates the use of administrative files and private data for statistical purposes, is opening up new opportunities for INSEE.

Thus, to meet growing social demand on varied and complex subjects, **the Institute is conducting important methodological work**

and is experimenting with the provision of new data, in close collaboration with the ministerial statistical departments.

It also invests in innovative methods for the selection of samples and post-collection processing of surveys with households or companies; the development of internet collection as part of a “multimode” collection programme combining face-to-face, telephone and internet; and the development of indicators

for measuring the level of social segregation in middle schools with the Ministry of National Education’s Evaluation, Forecasting and Performance Department.

In 2017, INSEE drew up an inventory of the use of big data by official statistics to measure the economy, initiated a collaboration with the National Geographic Institute to optimise the integration of new address data into the statistical information system...



BIG DATA: new sources for official statistics?

INSEE is exploring the use of Big data to improve or supplement certain statistics produced by the public statistical service. It participates in European initiatives in this area.

However, the use of these data represents a technical and statistical challenge as they are complex and highly variable in format, their mobilisation may require costly technical investments, and there are not always guarantees on their representativeness or predictive power. Their potential therefore needs to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

In 2017, INSEE proposed an inventory of its own experiments and some research carried out in other countries, published in its report “Big data, official statistics and measuring the economy” in “French Economy”.

One of the first areas to be explored is that of supporting the assessment of current economic developments. Do the real-time data available on the web help improve early estimates of activity or employment? The *Note de conjoncture* published in March 2015 had focused on the contribution of Google Trends to forecasting consumer behaviour. Its March 2017 issue looked at whether the analysis of online articles in the economic press could lead

to advanced indicators on paid employment or the general economic sentiment.

These experiments show that, to date, data from the Internet are well correlated with economic activity and employment, but not to a point that outperforms the predictive ability of economic surveys.

Another area of application is the measurement of emerging phenomena, including certain aspects of the digital economy: the weight of digital in the activity of companies, new forms of collaborative production, etc. While these are areas partially covered by survey data, big data can provide interesting and complementary insights.

It is in price monitoring that the contribution of big data appears the most tangible at this stage. Scanner data collected from large chains of retailers is of proven interest in calculating the consumer price index (CPI).

There are many advantages: improving the quality of the CPI by making use of more data, reducing its cost of production by limiting the collection of prices on the ground, and producing new indicators such as price changes in market segments, etc.

Six European countries are already using them to calculate their consumer price indices. After an initial feasibility study conducted in 2011,

INSEE launched an experiment with brands participating on a voluntary basis to do the same in 2012. INSEE was able to broach the difficulties in handling cash register data (size of databases, disappearance and appearance of new products, promotion, seasonality of products, etc.), the solutions to be provided, but also the gains and innovations made possible by cash register data. The data were used to calculate an experimental index according to the methodology of the future index.

Lastly, it has been shown that the volume of data greatly improves the accuracy of the index, particularly for particular segments of consumption (eco-labelled, organic, fair trade products), information on the exhaustiveness of sales and on the sales figures associated with the sale of each product is also valuable to ensure the absence of statistical bias. Space-price comparison tests have also been carried out, with very encouraging results.

In 2016, the Act for a Digital Republic adopted on 7 October allows official statistics now have access to data held by private companies. INSEE thus felt confirmed in the sustainability of the IT and methodological developments undertaken.

The Institute now aims to integrate brand data into the current production of the price index in 2020.

TOWARDS BETTER SHARING of key geographical information

In 2017, INSEE and the *Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière (IGN)* signed a partnership agreement to work together to update two reference databases on geolocation and addressing.

Whether it is to prepare the sampling plan for the annual census survey or to produce thematic statistics at sub-communal levels and in particular on urban policy districts, INSEE needs geographical information and in particular very precise addresses. To this end, it uses a variety of tools such as the Address control list (ACL), which it updates with

administrative sources (building permit, tourist establishments, etc.), site observations made during the census and collaboration with the municipalities. These operations make it possible to very quickly identify changes in the housing stock and the municipality roadways affected by these operations.

The IGN, meanwhile, constitutes and updates the large-scale reference frame (RGE), which notably includes an address component, called BD ADRESSE®, covering the entire national territory. To update this database, the IGN integrates data produced by third parties insofar as they meet the specifications predefined by the State, in terms of content, quality and timing.

In order to mutually improve their processes and the consistency of their productions, the two institutes have decided to share data useful to the ACL and the ADDRESS® database in the form of web services: INSEE and municipal agents access the IGN's map holdings in the application for entering ACL updates, as well as for quality control operations. They can thus position the new routes and new housing that they inform well. The IGN has daily access to these updates for integration in the BD ADDRESS® database.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

LATEST NEWS

■ « Retour sur le Hackathon Big Data d'Eurostat. L'équipe Insee classée 2^e sur 22 équipes » ("A look back at Eurostat's Big Data Hackathon. The INSEE team ranked 2nd out of 22 teams"), March 2017

EVENTS

■ "Hedonic models: is happiness is in the price tag?" Statistical Methodology Seminar of the Statistical Methods Department, 24 March 2017

■ "Big Data and Public Statistics: New Practices for New Uses", Statistical Methodology Seminar of the Statistical Methods Department, 19 May 2017

■ "Household Surveys: Modes and Research", Seminar on Statistical Methodology of the Statistical Methods Department, 22 June 2017

PUBLICATIONS

■ Bortoli C., Renault T., and Combes S., "How to forecast employment figures by reading the newspaper". *Note de Conjoncture* - March 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/2662636?sommaire=2662688>

■ Blanchet D. and Givord P., "Big data, official statistics and measuring the economy". *French economy, Insee Références* - December 2017, <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/3050899?sommaire=3050911>

CONTRIBUTING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPEAN STATISTICS

INSEE and the Ministerial Statistical Departments (SSM) constitute the French official statistical system (SSP). INSEE is responsible for coordinating the SSP and, as such, interacts with the SSM. It supports the latter in generalising and systematising quality procedures throughout the official statistical service, based on the European Statistics Code of Practice.

At the European level, INSEE raises the concerns of the SSP and promotes its methods to its European partners, particularly in the context of drawing up official statistical texts.

The majority of SSP production is covered by European regulations which define the characteristics of the statistics to be produced in order to ensure their quality and comparability, as well as certain specific standards to be applied such as nomenclatures, transmission deadlines, data formats, etc.

To consolidate the European statistical system, INSEE and SSM are involved in many projects. They also contribute to the necessary international consultations and cooperation actions.

In 2017, the SSM charter, which presents their missions, obligations and working conditions, was updated through collaborative work between SSM and INSEE.

Where European projects are concerned, INSEE is involved in multiple projects to measure globalisation as well as in projects that show the contribution of statistics to the general public.



IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING of the ministerial statistical departments' identity and activities

Less well-known to the general public in some cases, Ministerial Statistical Departments (SSM) are major stakeholders in the official statistical system, alongside INSEE.

Their positioning within a Ministry is an important issue for the quality, speed and relevance of their production. Moreover, their action is part of a specific legal framework and is based on an ethical commitment whose references are codified and shared at European level. The statistics that they produce and

disseminate thus meet shared requirements that form the DNA of official statistics: quality, impartiality, independence, accessibility, etc.

In 2017, to clarify these common references of the SSM, the foundation of the confidence that users can have in the statistics produced, a charter was updated under the impetus of INSEE as coordinator of the SSP.

The Charter presents the missions of the SSMs and their specific obligations relating to their membership of the official statistical service such as compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice or their responsibilities linked to the production of European statistics.

It also details their rights with regard to privileged access to data as well as their specific conditions of exercise: IT-based tools to guarantee data security *a fortiori* those covered by statistical secrecy, principles of independence and transparency attached to the dissemination of the statistics produced, etc.

This charter (in French) can be consulted on INSEE's website, which has also posted calendars for the publication of SSM publications since last year, thus showing the richness and complementarity of the official statistical service's productions.

MEASURING GLOBALISATION at the heart of multiple European projects

To meet the challenge of measuring the impact of globalisation phenomena on the economic performance of individual Member States, and of the European Union in particular, European statistical institutes are strengthening their cooperation and sharing new projects under the impetus of Eurostat.

In the autumn of 2017, the European Office thus initiated a new information sharing system or

alert system (Early warning system), which will enable European statistical institutes to inform their counterparts as quickly as possible of any decision or phenomenon that might impact the measurement of their national economy or the analysis of their productive apparatus.

This system, to which INSEE contributes, is intended to facilitate early knowledge of cases of restructuring of multinational enterprise groups in the Member States in order to reach, as far as possible, a methodological consensus in the treatment of these cases by the national data compilers; ensure the consistency of European

statistics with regard to these globalisation phenomena; allow coordinated publication of the first results and revisions and lastly ensure timely, harmonised and interconnected communication with users of national and European statistics.

In addition to this long-term project, INSEE is a stakeholder in a task-force on "globalisation". It also regularly participates in seminars to share its methods for profiling large groups with its counterparts.

BRINGING OUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS of statistics for European citizens

Within the framework of Vision 2020, the Eurostat strategic plan and the national statistical institutes, the DIGICOM programme for DIGital COMmunication, has two main objectives: To respond more quickly and agilely to users' needs by adapting to their various expectations and giving visibility to the benefits of European statistics by facilitating access to them, reiterating their values and offering products or publications aimed at the general public.

Some of the programme's flagship achievements in 2017 include: an interactive digital publication entitled "The life of women and men in Europe – a statistical portrait".

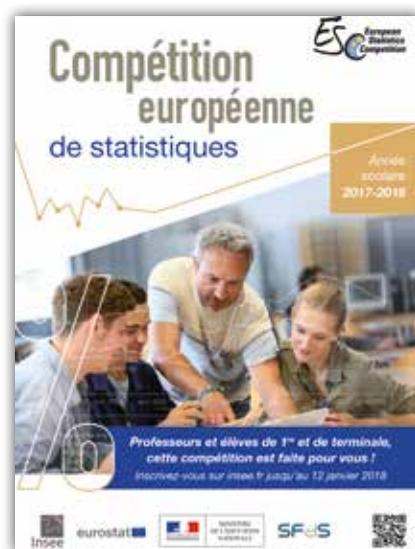
On the occasion of the European Statistics Day on 20 October, it proposes to compare women and men in their everyday lives around three main themes: Living, growing, ageing... ; Learning, working, earning a living... and Eating, buying, surfing, having a social life...

The publication thus shows how the daily lives of women and men can be similar or different in European countries.

Developed by Eurostat in collaboration with national statistical institutes of European Union and EFTA countries, it is available for the first time in twenty-four languages.

Other emblematic actions include the organisation of a European statistics competition for students aged 14 to 18. This operation involved INSEE, 11 national institutes (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Spain, Finland, Greece, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia) and Eurostat. First national, then European, the competition invited each participating team to work in groups to test their theoretical knowledge, take an interest in the data produced by the actors of official statistics and discover or rediscover their societal challenge. In France, INSEE benefited from the invaluable support of the French Ministry of Education and the *Société française de statistique* to offer this competition to all high school students in the first

and final grades. With over 400 French teams participating, i.e. nearly 1,200 students involved, this competition was a rather successful first!



THREE QUESTIONS to Emanuele BALDACCİ,
Director of Digital services,
European Commission
since January 2018,
former Director of methodologies
and corporate statistical
and IT services at Eurostat

WHAT ARE THE REASONS AND PURPOSES OF VISION 2020 AND HOW DOES INSEE 2025 FALL WITHIN THIS SCHEME?

The ESS Vision 2020 is a comprehensive transformation program for modernization of

official statistics in Europe. It tackles the need to respond more rapidly to fast changing users

needs, addressing measurement challenges underpinned by complex and multidimensional questions and using data and methodologies to support





information and knowledge. This approach builds on innovative data, technologies and methodologies to produce new statistical services that are fit for purposes to answer EU needs, through collaboration among ESS partners. Both the goal and the method are common to the INSEE 2025 program, which aims at creating a future-proof, smart statistical system in France, building on innovation and multiple data sources to strengthen statistical services.

IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT ARE THE MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS OF INSEE TO THE EUROPEAN STATISTICAL SYSTEM?

In my experience as director of research and technology in Eurostat, I have had multiple opportunities to see the concrete contributions of colleagues from INSEE to different work streams and to observe the leadership role in the innovation of the European Statistical system. In the context of the ESS Vision 2020

Program ,INSEE plays a key role in different areas including on the use of big data for statistics, innovation in statistical dissemination and communication, methodological research, and modernization of business statistics just to name a few. INSEE has also played a key role in strengthening the statistical quality framework which is the distinguishing mark of official statistics. The competences and energies of INSEE will continue to be needed in the transformation of the European statistics system.

WHETHER COLLECTING DATA OR DISSEMINATING THEM TO USERS, NSIS USE THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY. ACCORDING TO YOU, WHAT ARE STILL THE BIG MARGINS OF PROGRESS TO BE MADE?

Digital transformation is at the core of a modern public administration. In my current position,

as responsible for digital services in the IT Directorate of the European Commission, I can witness the critical importance of using data for better user centric services and more effective policies in government. Technologies can offer smarter ways of combining data into intelligence and knowledge by tailoring information services to the needs of users. The use of AI- powered technologies in particular can be a game changer for governments, leading to the provision of intelligent, predictive and smarter services that cost less and meet real time users expectations. In this domain, statistical agencies are increasingly playing a very important role in developing smarter statistics, which are at the basis of information systems for society.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

EVENTS

- European Statistics Competition

PUBLICATIONS

- “The life of women and men in Europe. A statistical portrait”, <https://www.insee.fr/fr/outil-interactif/3142332/index.html?lang=en>

- International Technical Support, information newsletter, <https://www.insee.fr/en/information/2404021>

INSEE IN FACTS AND FIGURES



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AN ORGANISATION on the move

In order to carry out its various missions successfully, meet the new needs of its public, while enabling its staff to work under the best possible conditions, INSEE is expanding its organisation. The French administrative landscape as adopted in January 2016 has led to a change in the Institute's territorial organisation.

INSEE ON THE ROAD TO COMPLETING THE REORGANISATION OF ITS REGIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Although INSEE was able to propose studies at the scale of future new regions in January 2015, it needed to carry out the reorganisation of its regional establishments from 2015.

In less than three years' time, the Institute finalised its new organisation, formed by bringing together its former directorates from the same region.

The reorganisation first focused on the studies and distribution of regional directorates, which

were grouped together with another in the capital of the new region. These services were brought together in the capital of the new region, close to the prefect, in a service logic as close as possible to the regional public actors. This is where the largest number of public stakeholders of regional rank is established, stakeholders with whom the INSEE research departments work very frequently.

The support functions are also concerned in order to be able to maintain local functions in each establishment while pooling overall management at the regional head office.

At the Institute level, approximately 200 staff members from these departments left their posts and received support to embark on another mission.

Today, the challenge continues to lie in determining the best remote work modes, particularly for the management committees and support functions spread across 2 or 3 sites linked to the same regional management.

Key dates for territorial reform	The key dates of INSEE's development in the regions
<p>27 January 2014 Act for the 'modernisation of local and regional public action and the status of cities'</p>	<p>2014 INSEE became able to produce analyses and data at the scale of future new regions</p>
<p>16 January 2015 Act on the Delimitation of Regions and Regional and Departmental Elections</p>	<p>2015 January, INSEE published « <i>Aquitaine - Limousin - Poitou-Charentes : 5,8 millions d'habitants en 2012</i> » (Aquitaine - Limousin - Poitou-Charentes: 5.8 million inhabitants in 2012). INSEE chooses the sites of its Regional Directorates and defines the target organisations. Two thirds of RDs were impacted by the convergence of activities in the new organisation.</p>
<p>7 August 2015 NOTRe law (new territorial organisation of the Republic)</p>	<p>2017 Detailed organisation of institutions (Regional Directorate / Services / Divisions) completed</p>
<p>1st January 2016 New regions born, with the combination of 16 regions into 7 new regions</p>	<p>2018 Latest mobility of INSEE staff members impacted by the reorganisation</p>

TESTIMONIAL from Fabienne LE HELLAYE,**Regional Director,
Insee Nouvelle-Aquitaine****“THIS NEW REGIONAL DIRECTORATE,
CONCURRENTLY ONE AND THREE-FOLD (...)
NOW CARRIES DEFINITE POWER.”****WHAT WERE THE KEY STEPS IN
THIS REORGANISATION
FOR YOU?**

The organisation of the INSEE Nouvelle-Aquitaine regional management, bringing together the establishments of the three former regions whose headquarters based in Poitiers started at the end of 2015. The establishment of the Management Board was the first step. The aim was to organise to lead the reorganisation project and current activities simultaneously, identify the priority issues, the project management methods...

The coordination of regional action has become a priority, specifically: how to build an intervention strategy on the scale of this new region, vast like Austria, and deploy it on the whole territory. It was important to quickly establish relations with our partners, often reorganized themselves, to define a study program that met their expectations: understand this new territory, respond to requests for advice and expertise. From the end of 2016, the single, concentrated study and distribution service in Bordeaux was in place. National decisions made it possible to set up new activities in Limoges and Poitiers and offer opportunities to agents whose post was deleted.

It took more time to determine the organisation of the support functions, which is more complex to outline, with management in Poitiers and functions kept close to the three sites.

A seminar organised at the end of 2016, which brought together nearly 250 staff from the three sites, probably marked a turning point in the birth of the new Regional Directorate (RD). It gave the agents the chance to meet and exchange, share their concerns, and we are all starting to “make RD”.

The construction and coordination of a group of supervisors, relays and project leaders was also a key to the project and was the subject of specific actions.

In the end, the involvement of staff and their supervisors and the development of inter-site relations were crucial to achieving an original and empowering organisation by the end of 2017, making the best possible use of existing skills at the various sites.

We have capitalised on these reflections and exchanges to define our guidelines for 2020, allowing us to go beyond that of territorial reform.

**IS THIS NEW ORGANISATION A
NEW ASSET FOR INSEE?**

The first months of operation were difficult, with a real impact from the reorganisation for all agents, although to varying degrees. However, it appears over the months that this new RD, both one and three, is setting up and now has a certain strength. Pooling has made it possible to secure certain functions and to professionalise those involved in dealing more frequently with certain complex cases. The RD contributes more to national work and develops new skills. For example, the Studies and Distribution Service participates in national work on data visualisation tools that benefit the other departments of the RD.

The change of scale encourages the industrialisation of processes and thinking as a “collective”. Multi-site configuration creates creativity and inventiveness to overcome certain difficulties inherent in distance. For instance, when it came to sharing information instantly on the three sites, internal communication was very much in demand.

INSEE moves into new premises

2017 was marked by the implementation and completion of multiple real estate projects:

- In June, the agents of the regional establishment of Martinique moved to a new building in line with seismic standards.

- In Normandy, INSEE's various departments in Caen are grouped together in a single building.

- In Aix-en-Provence, services are moving to new, better-suited premises.

- In Guadeloupe, preparations are being made to move the Inter-Regional Directorate Antilles-Guyane.

- And at the General Management level, preparations are being made to move 1,200 agents for the future new premises in Montrouge by spring 2018.

HEAD OFFICE

organisation chart

(on December 31st, 2017)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Jean-Luc Tavernier
Director General



Pascal Rivière
Internal Audit Unit



Benoît Ourliac
Director General's Office



Alain Bayet
General Secretariat



Sylvie Lagarde
Methodology, Statistical Coordination
and International Relations Directorate



Christel Colin
Business Statistics Directorate



Didier Blanchet
Economic Studies and National
Accounts Directorate



Chantal Cases
Demographic and Social
Statistics Directorate



Françoise Maurel
Dissemination and Regional Action Directorate

Information Technology Services
Olivier Lefebvre

Financial Affairs
and Planning of Work resources

Legal Affairs
and Litigation

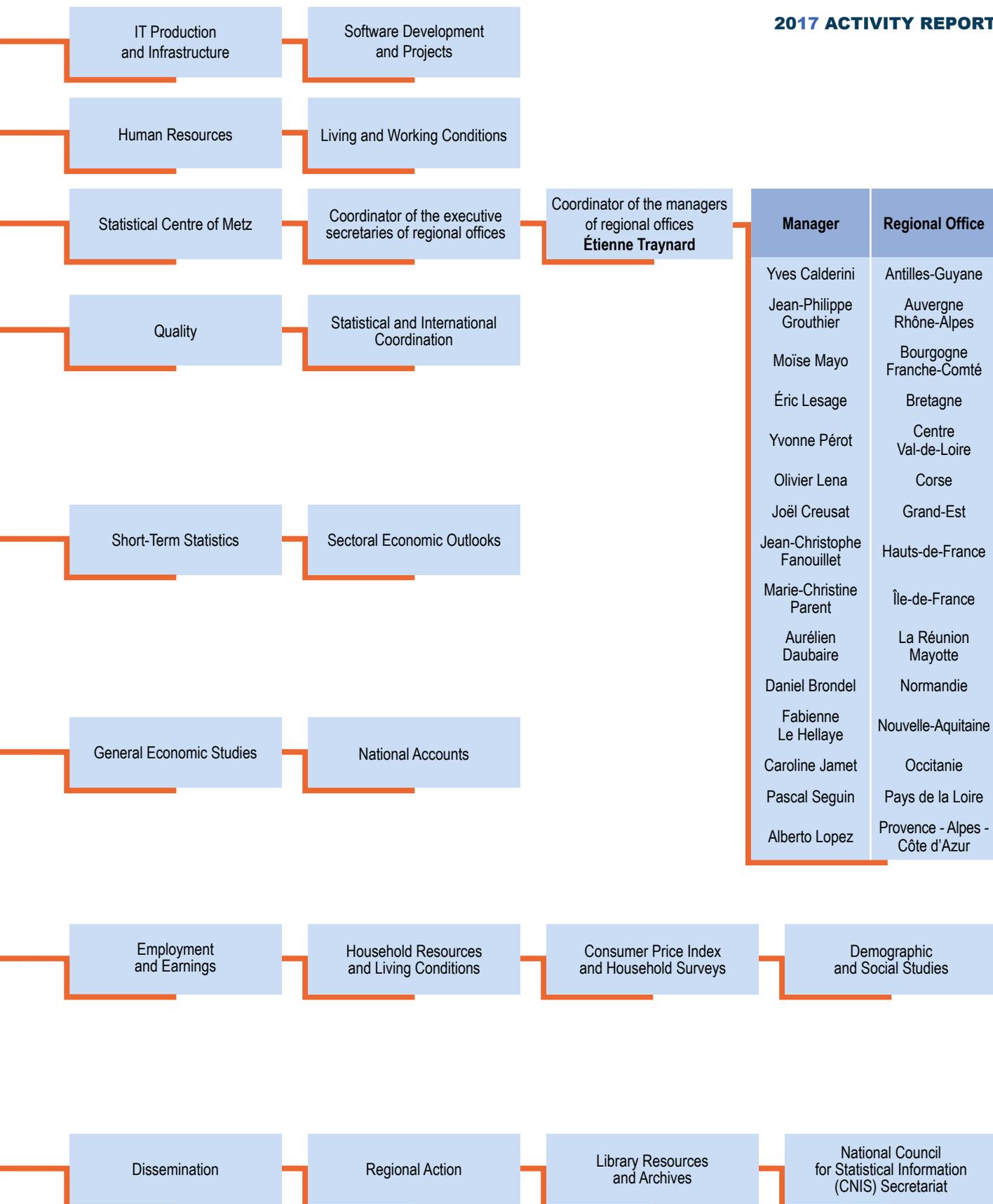
Statistical
Methods

Registers, Infrastructures
and Structural Statistics

Short-Term Economic Analysis

Demography

INSEE Info-Service





INSEE: a nationwide presence



WORKFORCE BY REGION

and by category

Personnel category	A	B	C excl. survey interviewers	C survey interviewers	Total
Head Office	746	553	171	0	1,470
Paris*	680	388	78	0	1,146
Metz	66	165	93	0	324
Regional Offices	654	1,659	575	867	3,755
Antilles-Guyane (dirag)	33	71	23	95	222
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	66	140	57	97	360
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	30	112	20	37	199
Bretagne	30	69	14	53	166
Centre-Val-de-Loire	16	63	29	32	140
Corse	11	27	2	4	44
Grand Est	51	164	47	90	352
Hauts-de-France	81	141	61	73	356
Île-De-France	31	104	46	77	258
La Réunion – Mayotte	28	44	18	42	132
Normandie	60	176	51	44	331
Nouvelle-Aquitaine	61	154	46	73	334
Occitanie	62	150	53	75	340
Pays de la Loire	50	126	71	27	274
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	44	118	37	48	247
National IT Centres (CNI)	142	90	6	0	238
Paris	47	35	3		85
Nantes	69	36	2		107
Orléans	26	19	1		46
INSEE total	1,542	2,302	752	867	5,463

* Including staff from the INSEE Training Centre in Libourne (CEFIL)

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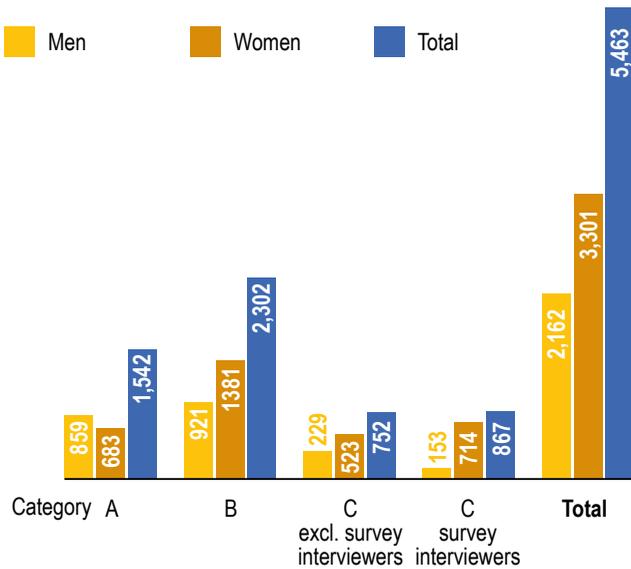
- All active employees during regular operations at INSEE
- Incoming availability and civil volunteers are accounted for.
- Technical Aid Volunteers (VATs), supervisors and CLD employees (on sabbatical) are not accounted for.



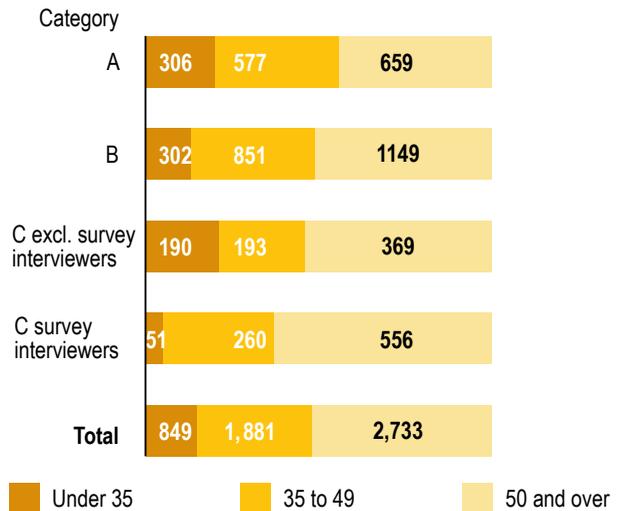
THE WOMEN AND MEN

at INSEE (on December 31st, 2017)

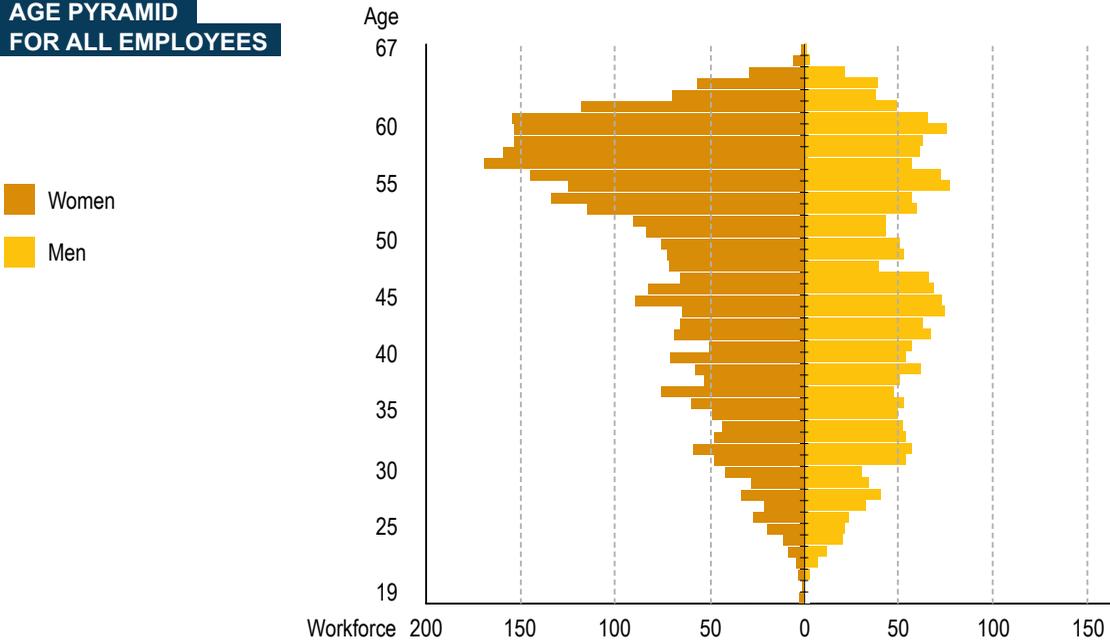
BREAKDOWN OF WORKFORCE BY CATEGORY AND BY GENDER



BREAKDOWN OF WORKFORCE BY AGE GROUP ACCORDING TO CATEGORY



AGE PYRAMID FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

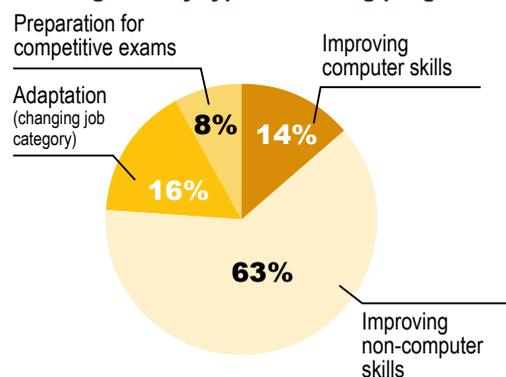


TRAINING

of INSEE personnel in 2017

Personnel category	A	B	C	Total
Training programme participation rate⁽¹⁾				
Women	76.9%	79.8%	83.8%	80.7%
Men	72.7%	74.3%	82.4%	75.0%
Total	74.5%	77.6%	83.5%	78.4%
Average number of training days per trained employee				
Women	6.3	8.0	7.8	7.6
Men	6.4	8.7	7.3	7.5
Total	6.3	8.3	7.7	7.6

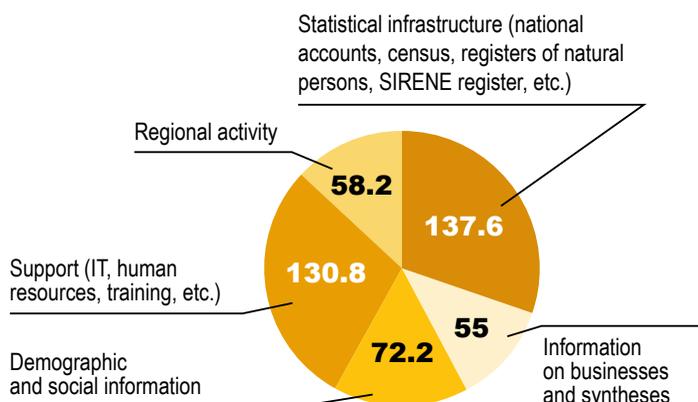
Training time by type of training programme



INSEE BUDGET

in 2017

Million euros	Initial Budget Law 2017
Staff budget	377.6
Operating budget	49.3
Investment budget	2.6
Intervention budget	24.3
Total	453.8



1. Percentage of employees having attended a training program during the year.



KEY FIGURES

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK



340 Informations Rapides
per year
20,000 businesses
surveyed every month
1,800 households
interviewed every month

BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYMENT

Business surveys



258,000
businesses
surveyed
29
surveys
online

Unemployment



108,000
people
surveyed
for the Labour
Force Survey

PRICE INDEX



200
survey workers

90
staff employed

200,000
price listings
collected

30,000
sales outlets

190,000
prices
collected every month
(SNCF, electricity, etc.)

SOCIETY

Household and individual surveys



500,000 households interviewed

15 household surveys

865 survey interviewers

Population census

Census figures in metropolitan France, Antilles-Guyane and La Réunion



9 million people surveyed

445 supervisors

24,625 census agents

5 million homes

7,968 municipalities of which **6,980** have fewer than **10,000** inhabitants

REGIONS AND TERRITORIES



793 regional studies of which **1/3** conducted in partnership with regional public bodies

EUROPE AND INTERNATIONAL



169 international groups, of which **131** are european, involving INSEE experts

158 international cooperation actions of which **46%** are in national accounting and economic outlook

LARGE REGISTERS



RNIPP

108,079,613 people registered in the National Directory for the Identification of Natural Persons (RNIPP)

Voters

45.5 million voters on electoral lists in France

590,000 new voters

(1st March 2018)

Sirene

10 million active companies

11.5 million active establishments in SIRENE



WEB, MEDIA, RELATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC



32 million visits
to insee.fr per year

58,000 Twitter followers
@InseeFr

6,700 LinkedIn subscribers
<https://fr.linkedin.com/company/insee>

40,000 subscribers to INSEE's newsletter
"insee.net actualités"



75,000 quotes
in print and online

7,700 subjects or reports
in the audiovisual media



86,000 calls per year
to the voicemail server

45,000 telephone
responses

25,000 e-mail requests
of which 97% receive a response within two business days

SURVEYS CARRIED out in 2017

HOUSEHOLD AND INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS

Demographics

- Annual population census
- Census survey in Mayotte and French Polynesia (previous census in 2012)

Living conditions

- **Monthly Consumer Confidence Survey (CAMME)**: measures households' opinion on their economic environment, their personal financial situation and their intentions in terms of savings and consumption.

- "Family Budget" Survey, carried out every 5 years or so: provides an estimated consumption for different goods and services at a very detailed level and broken down by various categories of household.
- **Annual Victimization Survey – "Living Environment and Security" (CVS)**: the main goal is to find out about any criminal acts of which households and their members have been victim; it also provides the rate of complaint by offence and thus of undeclared offences.

- **Annual survey on Information and Communication Technologies use in households**: gathers information on household and individual equipment and use of computers, internet and telephones.

Housing

- **Quarterly survey on rents and charges**: measures change in rents, particularly to be incorporated in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Resources

- **Annual survey on “Statistics on income and living conditions” (SRCV):** The French part of a European statistical operation providing indicators on poverty and exclusion in the Member States. In addition to the annual survey, it includes a panel of households to be monitored in France for nine years. This survey includes a secondary module on the health of children and adults.
- **Life Story and Heritage Survey:** A European investigation which intends to collect information about the composition and evolution of household heritage.

Employment, qualifications, professional integration, wages

- **Labour Force Survey, conducted on an ongoing weekly basis:** every quarter it measures the unemployment rate according to the International Labour Office making uniform international comparisons possible. It also provides very comprehensive data on employment, working conditions and working time. This is the largest household survey in terms of sample size. In 2017 this survey included a complementary module on types of self-employment.
- **Annual Labour Force Survey in Mayotte**
- **Annual survey on Entry into Adult Life (EVA):** covers a panel of young people to measure their professional and social integration and links the conditions of their integration with their schooling and university paths.
- **Adult Education Survey (AES), conducted every 6 years:** European survey measuring the access rate of adults to education and training throughout their lives. Analysis is by population category (e.g. in employment, unemployed, etc.) to reveal rates of access to training and any existing obstacles.

Local economy

- **Survey of travellers leaving Mayotte, known as a “Tourist flow survey”:** provides annual quantitative information on tourists visiting Mayotte in order to follow the development of this important sector of the local economy.

BUSINESS SURVEYS

Housing

- **Quarterly survey of social housing providers, on rent in the social housing sector (ELBS):** measure the change in rents in the social housing sector, especially to integrate this into the consumer price index.

Productive system

- **Annual survey by sector (ESA):** on services, construction, agri-food industries, transport and trade, the annual sectoral surveys asks businesses to provide basic information about their activities (from which their principal activity can be deduced), events that have happened during the year, such as a merger or absorption, and information specific to each sector.
- **Annual output survey (EAP):** conducted in the manufacturing industry, the annual output survey gathers the same information as the ESA as well as a detailed breakdown of billing and quantities.
- **Outward Foreign Affiliates Trade Statistics survey (O-FATS):** annual survey of French business groups located abroad which provides information on their subsidiaries, their location, their activity and their employee numbers.
- **Survey on Observation of Prices in Industry and Services (OPISE):** measures the monthly or quarterly change in transaction prices for goods and services. It covers the industrial production indices for the domestic market and for foreign markets, and the indices for import prices of industrial products.
- **Business survey of food supermarkets (EMAGSA):** measures the evolution of the activity of major food retailers, through sales and by broad product category.
- **Annual survey on information and communication technologies and electronic commerce in businesses with at least 10 employees (ICT):** the aim of this survey is to improve understanding of computerisation and the dissemination of information and communication technologies in businesses.
- **Structural survey on businesses in Mayotte:** the aim of this annual survey is to be able to produce reports, especially for

the branches, providing a description of the formal and informal economy of Mayotte, with an accurate breakdown of value added by sector, and to monitor and update the SIRENE register and the tax files.

- **Survey on global value chains for SMEs:** studies the fragmentation of production processes used by businesses. This fragmentation leads them to outsource in France or contract tasks or works heretofore completed internally, or to outsource previously contracted activities. It investigates both groups and independent businesses on their strategies for maintaining in-house employment.

Tourism

- **Monthly hotel occupancy survey**
- **Monthly outdoor accommodation occupancy survey, May to September**
- **Monthly holiday and other short-stay accommodation survey**

These three surveys are used to monitor the occupancy of these establishments and tourist overnight stays, by nationality.

Industry

- **Monthly branch survey (EMB):** used to calculate the Industrial Production Index.
- **Annual survey on the Aerospace sector in Greater South-West France:** measures the economic power of the aerospace sector in Greater South-West France, that is to say of regional units whose activity contributes to the aerospace construction field at a global level.

Environment and sustainable development

- **Survey of environmental protection studies and investments (ANTIPOL):** the aim of the survey is to update knowledge of the total cost and type of studies, investments (yearly) and current expenditure (every three years) for environmental protection.
- **Annual survey on industrial energy consumption (EACEI):** provides information on quantities consumed by energy type, related costs and breakdown energy type.
- **2016 Waste Survey:** Every four years this measures the production of non-hazardous waste by industry and commerce.



Financial system and financing the economy

- **Annual leasing survey:** measures the distribution of leasing contracts by institutional sector and sector of activity, information which is required for an economic analysis of company accounts.

Businesses and market strategies

– outlook

- **Monthly outlook survey in industry**
- **Quarterly business outlook survey of investment in industry**
- **Bi-monthly business outlook survey of wholesaling**
- **Monthly survey of the retail trade and the trade and repair of motor vehicles**
- **Monthly outlook survey of services**
- **Monthly business outlook survey of the building industry**
- **Quarterly business outlook survey of public works**
- **Half-yearly survey of the cash flow situation in industry**
- **Quarterly outlook survey of the building trades**

- **Quarterly business outlook survey of real estate development**

Employment, professional integration, employees

- **Annual survey on the cost of labour and wage structure (ECMOSS):** the purpose is to monitor on an annual basis the structure of employee earnings and working time. Every two years, it asks for explanations of wage discrepancies and measures and provides a breakdown of labour costs for employing establishments.

OTHER SURVEYS

Prices, Purchasing power

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)¹:** A tool to measure inflation, the CPI is used to estimate the average variation in the prices of products consumed by households between two given periods. The CPI excluding tobacco is used to index-link the minimum wage (SMIC), many private contracts, alimony and annuities.
- **European survey on Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)¹**

Territories

- **Quarterly business tendency survey on local public investment:** survey of territorial authorities, launched in 2016 in partnership with the Caisse des Dépôts.

Election Participation

- **The surveys on election participation intent to measure participation in the presidential election and legislative elections.** This involves comparing voter registration to the participation of registered voters via a sample of people who are part of the long-term demographic sample². From this information the participation-rate in elections can be analysed by socio-demographic criteria: (gender, age, level of education, social status, standard of living).

1. Survey requiring no response time on the part of enterprises.

2. The surveys are completed by employees of the regional offices and not by investigators.



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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE



Measuring, understanding