

9 FRANCE'S APPEAL FOR SKILLED FOREIGN PROFESSIONALS

Residence permit data from the French Ministry of the Interior shows continued **growth in student residence permits**, with **117 766 permits issued to students and trainees in 2025** (an increase compared with 2024), indicating France's ongoing attractiveness for international talent.

Sources : immigration.interieur.gouv.fr

10 SOLID FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL TALENT AND ENTREPRENEURS

France maintains structured residence categories for skilled professionals and entrepreneurs, such as the **Passeport Talent** scheme for highly qualified workers, researchers and founders of innovative start-ups. These frameworks aim to facilitate long-term stays for international talent who contribute to France's economy and innovation ecosystems. Official data reflects that **"scientific/skills & talents" residence permits continue to be issued each year**, underscoring this commitment.

Sources : immigration.interieur.gouv.fr



FRANCE : A HAVEN FOR TALENT

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1 FRANCE ATTRACTS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

France continues to host a large and growing number of international students. In the academic year 2024–2025, **329 100 international students** were enrolled in higher education institutions in France, representing about **12 % of the total student population**. This number has increased steadily over the past decade.

Sources : businessfrance.fr

2 FRANCE: A KEY DESTINATION FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

France is consistently ranked among the top global destinations for international students, reflecting its strong higher-education infrastructure and academic reputation. French universities and grandes écoles attract students from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Sources : beta.timeshighereducation.com

3 FRANCE: A HUB FOR RESEARCHERS

France remains an important destination for international researchers. In 2022, nearly **4 400 long-stay scientific “Talent Passport” visas** were issued to researchers, an increase from previous years, showing the continued interest of foreign scientists to work in France. Additionally, France is one of the top European destinations for researchers participating in European research mobility programs.

Sources : businessfrance.fr

4 FRANCE: A PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY

France continues to demonstrate strong productivity performance. In 2024, average hourly labour productivity reached **€66.2 in purchasing-power-parity terms**, one of the highest among major industrialized economies.

Sources : businessfrance.fr

5 FOREIGN EXECUTIVES VALUE FRANCE'S WORKFORCE

France's workforce is internationally recognized for its high levels of education and training. According to Business France's **Key Indicators of French Economic Attractiveness 2025**, France ranks among the top countries worldwide for the quality of its skilled labour force, contributing significantly to the country's appeal for foreign businesses.

Sources : businessfrance.fr



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6 HIGHLY QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS AND GRADUATES

France offers a strong higher-education system, with **27 French universities ranked among the world's top 1 000 institutions** in the latest Shanghai Ranking. This reflects the capacity of French institutions to produce highly educated graduates in science, technology, and other advanced fields.

Sources : monacolife.net

7 RENOWNED BUSINESS AND GRADUATE SCHOOLS

French business schools and higher-education institutions (HEC, ESSEC, ESCP, etc.) maintain solid positions in international rankings and continue to attract a growing body of international students, especially in business, management, and engineering.

Sources : businessfrance.fr

8 MAJOR URBAN CENTRES ATTRACTIVE FOR GRADUATES

Paris and other large French cities continue to offer strong academic, cultural and professional opportunities. Paris is regularly ranked in global best student city listings due to its research institutions, cultural life and career opportunities, reinforcing its appeal for young graduates.

Sources : businessfrance.fr