AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY & INNOVATION

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1 A DRIVING FORCE

With 2.11 million passenger vehicles registered in France in 2017 (up 4.7%), France is ranked third in Europe for car sales (Eurostat). The automotive industry recorded sales of €190 billion in 2016, representing 18% of the French manufacturing industry's total revenues (DGE). It accounts for 10.4% of France's total exports and is one of the leading export sectors, with exports in 2017 amounting to €48 billion. (French Customs Authorities)

2 A GROWING INDUSTRY

The total worldwide motor vehicle production by French automakers in 2016 was 6.7 million, up 11% on 2015. Total motor vehicle output in France, including from foreign companies, was 2.2 million, up 6.1% on the previous year. (CCFA, 2017)

3 #2 MARKET IN EUROPE FOR ELECTRIC CARS

With 21,758 new registrations in 2016, up 26% on 2015, France is ranked second in Europe for the number of electric passenger cars after Norway (28,965) but ahead of Germany (11,410). France is also ranked second for the overall number of electric cars, which amounted to 63,000 in 2016, after Norway (97,532) but ahead of Germany (34,022). (Eurostat)

4 BUOYANT R&D SPENDING

The French automotive industry spends the highest amount of money on R&D out of any other sector. In 2015, its R&D spend came to €4.4 billion, representing 13% of all business enterprise R&D expenditure. (MENESR, 2017)

5 MORE THAN 20,000 PUBLIC CHARGING STATIONS

At the end of 2017, there were more than 20,000 public parking spaces with charging points for electric vehicles in France, an increase of 35% on 2016 (Gireve). Alsace-based startup Freshmile offers an end-to-end supervision and maintenance system for vehicle charging points that is sure to encourage further expansion of the charger network.

6 AN INNOVATIVE ECOSYSTEM

The PFA automotive industry trade association has 3,543 members, and coordinates a network of innovation clusters committed to developing cleaner vehicles: Véhicule du Futur (Grand Est region), Mov'eo (Ile de France – Paris region), CARA (formerly LUTB) (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes), and iD4CAR (Pays de la Loire). The industry focused on driverless vehicles, strategic materials, carbon footprints, and additive manufacturing.

7 GREEN FUELS

French startup HySiLabs has developed a hydrogen-based, environmentally-friendly liquid fuel which works in a similar way to conventional fuels. This green alternative to fossil fuels has been the subject of international patent applications in Europe, Asia and North America.

8 MANUFACTURERS INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

World-class French manufacturers are developing future-ready transport systems: the Renault ZOE (with a range of 300 km) and Twizy (7 g CO_2/km), PSA Peugeot-Citroën with its iOn and Partner models, Bolloré and the Bluecar, as well as Valeo, Faurecia, Plastic Omnium, Michelin, Schneider Electric, etc. These manufacturers are also investing in R&D by creating innovation labs.

9 7% OF EMPLOYEES IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

There were nearly 195,000 people employed in the automobile industry (made up of automakers and equipment manufacturers) in 2016, representing 7% of the total number of employees across the entire manufacturing industry (INSEE). The latter includes 2,450 companies with revenues of more than €750,000. (Banque de France-PFA, 2017)

10 AN ATTRACTIVE SECTOR

In 2017, France welcomed 72 foreign investment projects from car and equipment manufacturers, creating 3,766 jobs. In early 2018, Japanese car giant Toyota announced plans to invest €300 million in its Onnaing production facility near Valenciennes, creating 400 permanent jobs.

For further information, please visit:
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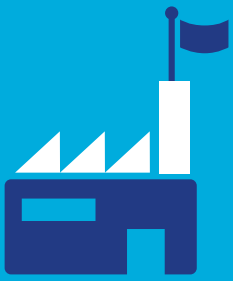


FRANCE: EUROPE'S

#1

DESTINATION
FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT
IN INDUSTRY

(EY, 2017)

FRENCH AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY:

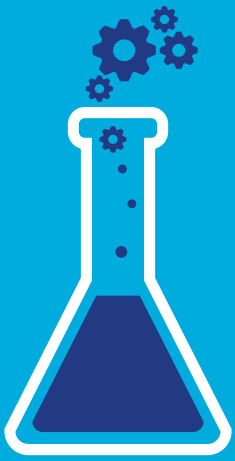
€48 billion

IN EXPORTS

(FRENCH CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES, 2018)

ACCESS TO A MARKET OF
67
MILLION CONSUMERS
AND GATEWAY TO THE EMEA

(INSEE, 2018)



HIGHEST R&D SPEND BY SECTOR IN FRANCE IN 2015

(MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, 2017)

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