FRANCE

Capital: Paris

GEODATA

Area

550 000 km²

Population

58 million (1995)

Population growth

0.5% (1995)



Type of government

Republic, parliamentary democracy, two chambers

President, Jacques Chirac (RPR)

Prime Minister, Alain Juppé (RPR)

Foreign Affairs Minister, Hervé de Charette (UDF)

Industry, Post and Telecommunications Minister

Franck Borotra (RPR)

Finance and Foreign Trade Minister-delegate

Yves Galland (UDF)

Democratic institutions

Bicameral parliament (Senate, National Assembly)

UN Human Development Index

France ranks 8th among 174 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

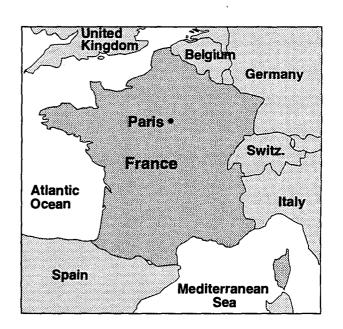
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ECONOMIC DATA

GDP US\$1.16 trillion (1995)

GDP growth rate 2.4% (1995)

GDP per capita US\$27 119 (1995)

Inflation rate 1.8% (1995)

Unemployment rate 11.6% (1995)

National public debt 32% of GDP

Public sector deficit 5.7% of GDP

Major exports

Machinery and equipment, semi-finished goods, consumer products, vehicles and agri-food products

Major imports

Machinery and equipment, semi-finished goods, consumer products, vehicles, agri-food products and energy products