FRANCE

Capital: Paris

GEODATA

Area 550 000 km²

Population 58 million (1995)

Population growth 0.5% (1995)

Major language French

Major religions Roman Catholic (90%), Protestant (2%), Jewish (1%), Muslim (1%)

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government Republic

Leaders President Jacques Chirac

Prime Minister Alain Juppé

Foreign Affairs Minister Hervé de Charette

Minister-Delegate for Finance and Foreign Trade Yves Galland

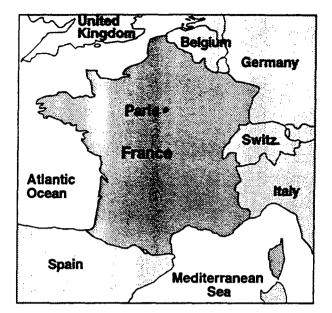
Democratic institutions Bicameral parliament (Senate, National Assembly)

UN Human Development Index France ranks 8th among 174 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Benoît Bouchard The Canadian Embassy 35, avenue Montaigne 75008 Paris, France

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ECONOMIC DATA

GDP US\$1.573 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)

Major exports Machinery and transportation equipment, chemical products and other manufactured goods

Major imports Machinery and transportation equipment, chemical and energy products

Major exports to Canada \$3.12 billion (1995), including electronic equipment and avionics

Major imports from Canada \$1.95 billion (1994), including forestry products and avionics