

TRANSPORT: France's transportation network is highly sophisticated with an extensive and modern highway system, a national railway network, well developed warehousing and distribution systems, both international and domestic flag airline companies, a merchant fleet and easily accessible, modern ocean ports.

ROADS: The French road system is a coordinated network radiating from Paris, the administrative and commercial centre of France and comprises an expanding motorway system consisting of more than 6,000 kilometres. Registered road vehicles include some 3.3 million goods vehicles (1987).

RAILWAYS: The SNCF, the state owned railway is a modern highly efficient system which operates 34,577 km of track in France. Current development of the system focusses on extension of the network of the high speed trains (TGV). Paris and Lyon are connected and an Atlantic route to Bordeaux is under construction. A northern route is also expected to connect with the United Kingdom through the channel tunnel designed for completion in 1993. Freight traffic on SNCF totalled 171 billion tonnes in 1985.

AIRLINES: France has three airlines, Air France, Air Inter and UTA which together carried 24 million passengers in 1985 and travelled 39.6 billion passengers/kilometre. There are 18 main airports in France severing all the principle regions.