



Overall performance

France's infrastructure procurement processes rank among the best in the world. In combination with strong financial markets and a regulatory framework that supports the creation of new businesses, this promotes competition among providers and helps bring better value for money and higher quality outcomes from investment. However, sluggish GDP growth, poor tax incentives, growing public debt and the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic may hinder France's ability to fund future infrastructure expenditure.

| Drivers | Rank (/16) | Rank change (2017-20) | Score (/100) | Emerging | Aspiring | Contender | Top performer | Global leader |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Governance | 15 | - | 76 | | | | | |
| Regulatory frameworks | 23 | - | 68 | | | | | |
| Permits | 21 | ↓ 1 | 81 | | | | | |
| Planning | 15 | ↓ 1 | 96 | | | | | |
| Procurement | 3 | ↑ 7 | 94 | | | | | |
| Activity | 64 | ↓ 3 | 19 | | | | | |
| Funding capacity | 16 | ↑ 1 | 68 | | | | | |
| Financial markets | 16 | - | 59 | | | | | |

France at a glance

\$41,761
GDP per capita
(USD, 2019)

64.8 million
Population
(2019)

2.6% of GDP
Infrastructure investment
(2019 estimate)

0% of GDP
Infrastructure gap
(2019 estimate)

89.7
Infrastructure quality
(0-100, 100 is best, 2019)

\$2,691 million
Private infrastructure investment
(5-year average, USD, 2019)

Top performing metrics

100/100

Transparency in public procurement

France's public procurement notices are made available online and tender documents detail both procurement procedures and shortlisting criteria. Transparency encourages more participation and competition, which drives value for money and improves outcomes.



98.6/100

Cost to start a business

According to the World Bank, it costs 0.7% of income per capita to start a business in France, well below the 4.7% High Income Countries average, easing the entry of new firms.



92.5/100

Financial stability

According to the International Monetary Fund, French authorities have improved system stability through the establishment of the High Council for Financial Stability and enhanced monitoring of stability risks. The long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is a concern.

Opportunities to grow

8.8/100

Long term GDP growth trend

France's long-term GDP growth trend increased to 1.3%, up slightly from 0.9% in InfraCompass 2017. Long-term growth rates signal a country's capacity to fund infrastructure from future growth. The COVID-19 pandemic may impact GDP growth trends.



22.2/100

Gross government debt

France's gross government debt rose to 99% of GDP in 2019, well above the High Income Countries' average of 74%. With the COVID-19 pandemic impact on borrowing, servicing debt may hinder the French government's ability to fund infrastructure through public investment.



32.5/100

Dealing with construction permits

According to the World Bank it takes an average of 213 days to obtain construction permits in France. Expediting this process could significantly impact investment in infrastructure by helping to reduce delays.

For guidance on how to improve these metrics, please see the [France Country Page](#) on the InfraCompass website.



ECONOMY OVERVIEW

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|--|-------|---|------|
| GDP (\$US billion, 2019) | 2707.1 | Population (million, 2019) | 64.8 | Unemployment rate (2019) | 9.1% |
| GDP per capita (\$US, 2019) | 41,761 | Urbanisation ratio (2018) | 80.0% | Inflation rate (2019) | 1.2% |
| GDP growth rate (annual, 2019) | 1.2% | Gross Government Debt (% of GDP, 2019) | 99.0% | Digital Adoption Index (0-1 best, 2016) | 0.75 |
| GDP per capita growth rate (annual, 2019) | -2.8% | Sovereign risk rating (2019) | 92 | Gini coefficient (0-100 worst, 2015) | 32.7 |

METRIC SCORES

The below metrics are normalised so that they all range from 0 to 100. For original metrics and data sources, please see <https://infracompass.github.org/>

| GOVERNANCE | | REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS | | PERMITS | |
|---|--------|--|--------|--|--------|
| Post-completion reviews? | Yes - | Effect of taxation on incentives to invest | 28.8 ↓ | Cost to start a business | 98.6 - |
| Infrastructure or PPP unit/agency? | Yes - | Prevalence of foreign ownership | 74.2 ↑ | Dealing with construction permits | 32.5 ↓ |
| Recovery rate | 74.8 ↓ | Product market regulation, network sectors | 57.9 - | Quality of land administration | 80 ↓ |
| Rule of law | 78.8 ↑ | Regulatory (including competition) quality | 73.5 ↑ | Registering property | 62.5 ↑ |
| Shareholder governance | 56.7 - | Strength of insolvency framework | 68.8 - | Time required to start a business | 91.2 ↓ |
| Political stability and absence of violence | 51.8 ↑ | Investment promotion agency? | Yes - | | |
| PLANNING | | PROCUREMENT | | ACTIVITY | |
| Published project pipeline? | Yes - | Average procurement duration – transaction RFP | 81.3 ↑ | Infrastructure investment | 28 ↑ |
| Published infrastructure plan? | Yes - | Degree of transparency in public procurement | 100 ↑ | Private infrastructure investment | 13 ↓ |
| Preparation of PPPs | 76 ↓ | Published procurement guidelines? | Yes - | Value of closed PPP infrastructure deals | 12.6 ↓ |
| Economic analysis assessment? | Yes - | Procurement of PPPs | 89 - | Value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship | 22.1 ↑ |
| Market sounding and/or assessment? | Yes - | PPP contract management | 53 - | | |
| Environmental impact analysis? | Yes - | | | | |

FUNDING CAPACITY

FINANCIAL MARKETS

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| GDP per capita | 53.3 ↑ | Domestic credit to private sector | 50.4 ↑ |
| Gross government debt | 22.2 ↓ | Financing through local equity market | 65.2 ↑ |
| Long term GDP growth trend | 8.8 ↓ | Stocks traded | 37.2^ - |
| Summary credit rating | 92 ↑ | Financial depth | 75.2 ↑ |
| | | Financial stability | 92.5 ↑ |

Drawing on data from: International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, World Bank, World Economic Forum, IJ Global, CEPIL, Oxford Economics, Trading Economics, and Deloitte.

Metric key:

↑ Increase from InfraCompass 2017 ↓ Decrease from InfraCompass 2017 - No change from InfraCompass 2017

Note:

'Top performing metrics' are the metrics with the highest score out of 100.

'Opportunities to grow' are the metrics with the lowest weighted score out of 100. These metrics would have the greatest impact on the overall score.

^Denotes interpolated metric data. See Technical Appendix for further explanation on the interpolation techniques.