

PROCESSED FOODS INDUSTRY

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1

▶ AGRI-FOOD: FRANCE'S #1 INDUSTRY

With revenues of €171 billion, 17,600 companies and nearly 420,000 employees in 2014, the agri-food industry is the leading industrial sector in France. The sector is particularly attractive to foreign investors, with 115 projects between 2014 and 2015, creating or maintaining over 3,300 jobs.

2

▶ 80% OF FOODS CONSUMED ARE PROCESSED

The share of processed foods has increased to reach nearly 80% of foods consumed today.

3

▶ INTERNATIONAL AMBITIONS

France is the world's sixth largest exporter after the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, China and Brazil. Agri-food is the third largest contributor to France's trade balance. The top four exports are drinks (€14.5 billion), dairy products and ice creams (€6.5 billion), meat and meat-based products (€4.5 billion), and grain processing products (€2.7 billion). (French Customs Authorities, 2015 data)

4

▶ FRANCE: #1 GLOBAL EXPORTER OF NATURAL MINERAL WATER

France is the leading global exporter of natural mineral water. The drinks sector, including wines and spirits, provides France's leading trade surplus, worth more than €11 billion in 2015.

5 ► BUOYANT EXPORT MARKET FOR GOURMET PRODUCTS

Since 2000, the share of delicatessen and gourmet products in French agri-food exports has more than doubled. In 2015, exports of gourmet products amounted to €7 billion. Chocolate and confectionery products account for a quarter of exports of gourmet products, bakery and biscuit products for another quarter. Jams, condiments, spices, coffee/tea, gourmet meat/seafood products and specialty cheeses constitute the remaining 50%, with shares of between 1 and 9%.

6 ► SOUGHT-AFTER SWEET PRODUCTS

France is the third largest producer of chocolate in Europe, 60% of which was exported in 2014. France exported more than 206,000 tonnes of biscuits and cakes in 2014, amounting to more than 45% of total output. France is also the leading country in the jam market. (French Customs Authorities)

7 ► GOURMET MEAL GOES GLOBAL

In 2010, the French gourmet meal, an integral part of France's cultural heritage, was added to UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Since 2015, the "Goût de France / Good France" initiative has celebrated the art of French living throughout the world. In March 2016, more than 1,700 chefs on five continents, 85% of whom were foreign, celebrated French cuisine.

8

▶ COMBINING HEALTH AND PLEASURE

Manufacturers are developing new product ranges (organic, gluten free, palm oil free, etc.) to offer a balanced diet to every consumer. Among OECD countries, France is one of the least affected by obesity.

9

▶ SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sustainable development has been a priority for agri-food companies for more than a decade. The first reports on Social and Environmental Responsibility were published by agri-food cooperatives from 2008, before any legal obligation. More than 80% of the agri-food companies assessed achieve “advanced” or “exemplary” level.

10

▶ AN INNOVATIVE INDUSTRY

Sixty-two percent of firms in the French agri-food industry are innovative companies, compared with an average of 58% for the manufacturing sector. Automation and digital resources are rapidly transforming the industry and its facilities. Connected and sustainable agriculture, bioeconomy, alternatives to animal protein, automation and collaborative innovation are the key themes for research. (French Ministry for Agriculture; Bpifrance)



For further information, please visit:
www.businessfrance.fr





Produced in partnership with COOP de France

Business France
77, boulevard Saint-Jacques
75680 Paris Cedex 14 - France
Tel.: +33 1 40 73 30 00



80%
OF FOODS CONSUMED
ARE PROCESSED



**AGRI-FOOD
INDUSTRY: FRANCE'S
#1
INDUSTRY**



FRANCE:
EUROPE'S **#1**
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER



€171 billion
IN SALES, INCLUDING
21% IN EXPORTS