



*The National Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-2013 was adopted on 27 July 2010 by the Interministerial Committee for Sustainable Development.*

## **Contacts**

### **MEDDTL – CGDD – SOeS**

Sous-direction des méthodes et données pour le développement durable

Cécile Dormoy: [cgdd-orleans@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:cgdd-orleans@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

<http://www.stats.environnement.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>

### **Insee – Direction de la coordination statistique et des relations internationales**

Département de la coordination statistique

Claire Plateau: [claire.plateau@insee.fr](mailto:claire.plateau@insee.fr)

<http://www.insee.fr>

### **Further information available at:**

Prime Minister's website: [www.gouvernement.fr/premier-ministre/](http://www.gouvernement.fr/premier-ministre/)

Ministry for Sustainable Development website:

[www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/snodd](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/snodd)

# Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	2-3
<b>Headline indicators</b>	
Material productivity.....	4
Early school leavers.....	6
Research and Development .....	8
Participation of women in governing bodies.....	10
Aggregated emissions of six greenhouse gases .....	12
Carbon footprint.....	14
Renewable energies .....	16
Transport energy consumption and GDP.....	18
Abundance index of common bird populations.....	20
Artificialisation of soils.....	22
Life expectancy and healthy life years .....	24
Monetary poverty.....	26
Employment rate of older workers .....	28
Proportion of young people unemployed and untrained .....	30
Official development assistance .....	32
<b>Economic and social context</b>	
Net national income and GDP per capita.....	34
Unemployment rate and under-employment rate .....	36
Income distribution .....	38
Demographics: fertility rate .....	40
<b>Glossary</b> .....	42-43
<b>Abbreviations</b> .....	44
<b>Useful links</b>	

# Introduction

As intended under the Grenelle Environnement Planning Act, the Government has recently adopted the National Sustainable Development Strategy for the period 2010-2013. Numerous public and private partners were involved in preparing it throughout 2009.

The fifteen headline indicators and four economic and social context indicators presented in this document form the core of the scorecard adopted to easily monitor the NSDS and help broadcast it widely.

A national conference introduced by the State Minister Jean-Louis Borloo was held at the Palais d'Iéna on 20 January 2010 to debate the choice of these indicators. Organised jointly by Cnis, Cese and CGDD<sup>1</sup>, it brought together the different Grenelle bodies (State, regional authorities, businesses, social partners and environmental NGOs). A Consultation Committee, made up of representatives of these various bodies and stakeholders, had prepared the proposals for debate during the fourth quarter of 2009.

This open and lively consultation conveyed the importance of a wide allocation of sustainable development indicators and their potential role in the citizens' debate. It took advantage of work carried out in 2009 by miscellaneous bodies, mainly Cese, the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission and the MEDDTL Statistics Department, which proposed analyses and discussions on the question of synthetic indicators.

The preparatory work for the national conference stated the criteria governing the choice of indicators.

---

<sup>1</sup> National Statistical Information Board, Economic, Social and Environmental Council and Sustainable Development Office for the Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and the Sea.

They have been chosen to:

- illustrate the key issues in sustainable development in response to the nine key challenges of the NSDS:
  - challenge 1: Sustainable consumption and production,
  - challenge 2: Knowledge society (education and training, research and development)
  - challenge 3: Governance,
  - challenge 4: Climate change and energies,
  - challenge 5: Sustainable transport and mobility,
  - challenge 6: Conservation and sustainable management of the biodiversity and natural resources,
  - challenge 7: Public health, risk prevention and management,
  - challenge 8: Demographics, immigration and social inclusion
  - challenge 9: International challenges of sustainable development and the fight against world poverty;
- be consistent with the European headline indicators;
- be applicable to infra national territories like regions (included overseas), to express the concerns of populations as comprehensively as possible as close as possible to the roots;
- provide information on the breakdown by social categories, income classes, age or between men and women.

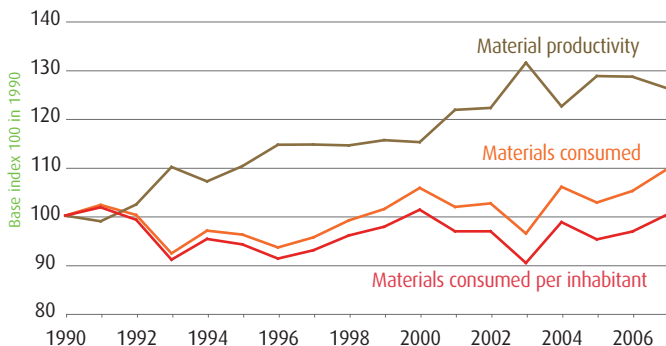
Three "categories" of indicators have been separated out for the scorecard: fifteen headline indicators relating directly to the strategy challenges (level 1), four economic and social context indicators and additional indicators connected to the strategic choices (level 2, not presented in this document).

Calculating and updating these indicators is coordinated by INSEE and SOeS, helped by other ministerial statistics departments. These sustainable development indicators will be presented to Parliament and made public annually from 2011 onwards.

## Material productivity

**Material productivity rose by 26% in France between 1990 and 2007; however, the consumption of materials per inhabitant remains stable.**

### Resource productivity and domestic consumption of resources per inhabitant



Note: The apparent domestic material consumption combines, in tonnes, the fossil fuels and mineral and agricultural products extracted from the national territory or imported as raw materials or finished products, less exports.

N.B.: The "hidden flows" relating to imports, exports and unused materials are not counted in the apparent domestic material consumption. They are currently being estimated.

Source: SOeS – Insee, 2010. Metropolitan France and overseas departments.

# "Sustainable consumption and production" key challenge

## Issues

Driving our production and consumption methods towards an economy using far fewer natural resources is a major issue. The EU strategy, in favour of sustainable development, like the French strategy, aims at decoupling economic growth and the environmental impact of using natural resources and raw materials. Progress in decoupling can be tackled through material productivity indicators. Material productivity gives a glimpse of the efficiency of an economy by linking the use of materials and economic growth.

## Analysis

Material productivity is equal to the GDP divided by the apparent domestic material consumption. The French figure was €1.90 of GDP/kg of material used in 2007 compared with €1.71 for the EU-15. It increased in France by 26 % between 1990 and 2007. It corresponded to a consumption of 14.3 tonnes of materials per inhabitant in 2007, about the same as in 1990, and to 20 tonnes for the EU-15. Also, the "hidden flows" relating to imports, exports and unused materials were estimated at 12 tonnes per inhabitant in 2007 which is added to the apparent consumption.

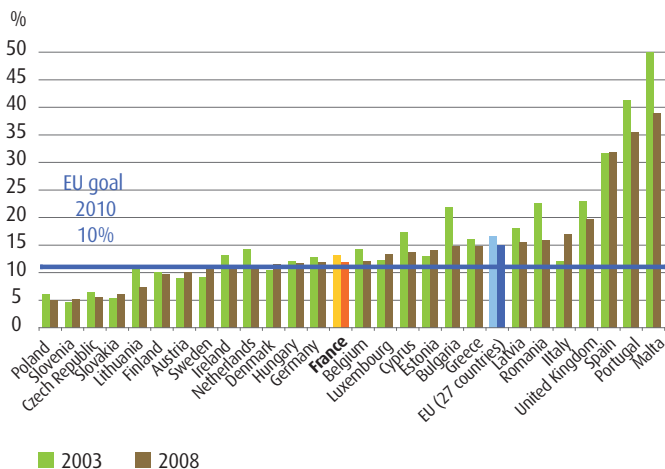
## For further information:

- <http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, heading Environnement
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators

## Early school leavers

**With 11.8% of early school leavers in 2008 for the 18-24 year olds, France was slightly above the 10% targeted by the European Union in 2010. The aim is to encourage social integration and employment through training and education.**

Early school leavers: proportion of 18-24 year olds neither studying nor training and without a higher secondary education diploma



Note: The countries are in order of the 2008 figure; break for the series from Cyprus, Spain, United Kingdom and Sweden.

Source: Eurostat (calculation from the Work Forces survey).



## "Knowledge society" key challenge

### Issues

Holding a higher level of secondary education can be seen as guaranteeing sufficient schooling to participate in the knowledge society. The EU has therefore set itself the objective that by 2010 "early drop-outs" from school among 18-24 year olds, i.e. young people no longer in training and who have not obtained a higher secondary education diploma, account for less than 10% of this age group. In France, this involves young people in this age group who are not studying or training nor have any sort of vocational qualification or higher diploma.

### Analysis

With 11.8% of early school leavers in 2008 for the 18-24 year olds, France is close to the target of 10%. It stands out from Latin countries which suffer as a result of standardising their secondary education rather late. The efforts by France between 2003 and 2008 to achieve this target have been rewarded with an improvement of 1.4 points. The early school leavers rate throughout the European Union is between 1.49% in 2008 and 16.6% in 2003.

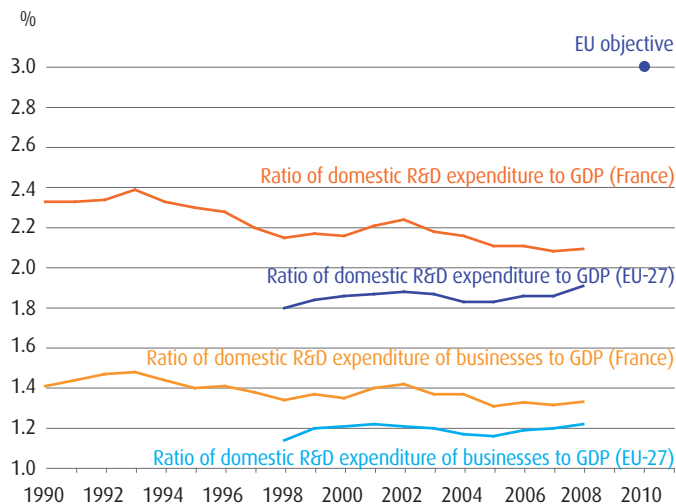
### For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Education
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Social inclusion > Education
- <http://www.oecd.org/education>
- <http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/pid20303/evaluation-statistiques.html>
- <http://www.education.gouv.fr/pid132/les-publications.html>

## Research and Development

The weight of domestic research and development (R&D) expenditure in the GDP amounted to 2.08% in 2008. This has dropped since 2000, the year of adoption of the Lisbon Strategy which set an objective of 3% in 2010.

Proportion of R&D expenditure in the GDP, including those of businesses



Source: MESR-SIES, Eurostat.

## "Knowledge society" key challenge

### Issues

R&D is a key factor in growth and medium-term employment. Its innovations provide the basis for a competitive position in the development of the knowledge society. It is one way of responding to the major challenges facing society (energy, climate, health, etc.) and encouraging sustainable growth and a "green economy". Monitoring R&D expenditure responds directly to the aim of the Lisbon Strategy to achieve an investment rate for R&D corresponding to 3% of GDP, at both European and national levels.

### Analysis

In 2008 France continued to move away from the goal of the Lisbon Strategy. It invested 2.08% of its GDP in R&D expenditure, which in 1990 accounted for 2.32% of GDP. The share of this expenditure in GDP is dropping regularly. Although higher than the EU-27 (1.9%), this proportion was still lower than Germany (2.54%) or OECD (2.29%) in 2007). Businesses produce 63% of R&D expenditure. This proportion has been stable since 1999 and close to the breakdown of R&D public and private expenditure in the EU-27.

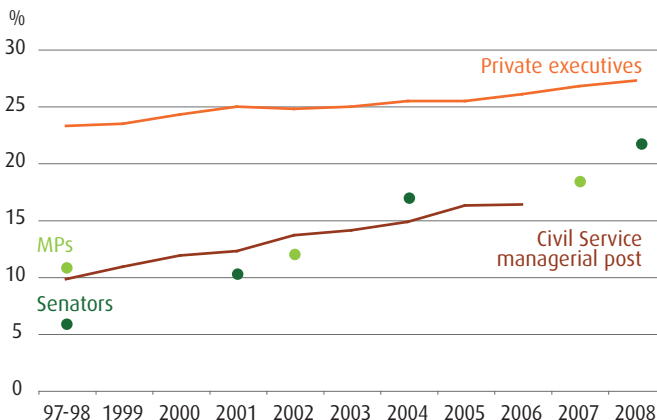
### For further information:

- <http://cisad.adc.education.fr/reperes/public/chiffres/> (Ministry of Higher Education and Research)
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Database > Statistics by theme > Science and technology
- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Education

# Participation of women in governing bodies

**There are still few women in the governing bodies, lagging behind the most advanced countries.**

Proportion of women in certain functions or jobs



Note: The field of responsibilities taken is not the same in the private and semi-public sector and in the civil service.

Source: Ministry of the Interior – DGAFP – Insee.

## For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Living standards-Society > Political and social life
- <http://www.observatoire-parite.gouv.fr>, heading Portail d'information > Repères statistiques
- <http://www.fonction-publique.gouv.fr/rubrique69.html>
- <http://www.undp.org/>, heading Publications > Annual report

## "Governance" key challenge

### Issues

Targeting better male-female parity in the national elective functions and decision-making posts in the civil service or the private sector can be seen as helping society to evolve by mobilising all its skills. It is also a way of encouraging experimentation in new paths to assign sustainable development objectives.

The main indicator for the proportion of female senators among everyone elected to the Senate gives regular (three-yearly) information depending on the workings of society as a whole and not directly on laws on parity in electoral mandates promulgated since 2000 (municipal elections for municipalities with more than 3,500 inhabitants, regional and European elections).

### Analysis

In 2008, 21.8% women were elected out of all senators against 5.9% in 1998 and 1.7% in 1977. Encouraged by the provisions of the law of 10 July 2000, this increase continues to lag strongly behind the proportion of female candidates (42%) and their presence in the electoral body (53%). Women account for 18.5% of Members of Parliament.

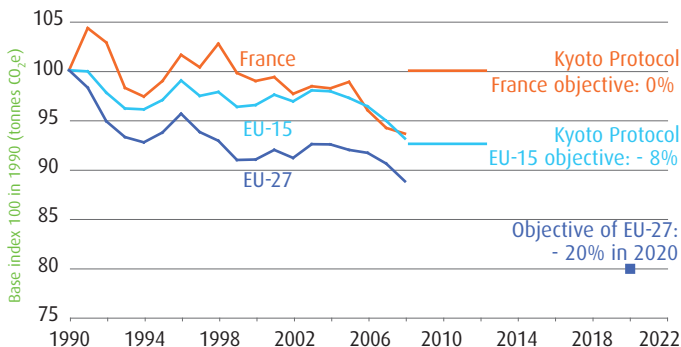
The proportion of women in managerial positions in the State civil service is still low (16.3% in 2006) whereas they account for 50% of the workforce. It is lower than the proportion of women occupying elective functions. The proportion of women is greater in the private and semi-public sector (26.7% in 2007), but these jobs do not carry the same responsibility as in the public sector.

In the global Human Development Report produced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), France was 17th in the female participation index in 2009. This is a synthetic index with the defects inherent to its type, but it indicates that France is lagging behind on these questions of male-female parity compared with the most advanced countries.

## Aggregated emissions of six greenhouse gases

**Greenhouse gas emissions in France dropped by 6.4% between 1990 and 2008, thereby exceeding the stabilisation objective of the Kyoto Protocol.**

Aggregated emissions of six greenhouse gases: France and European Union



Note: Total emissions excluding use of land, its change and the forest. Maritime and international air traffic emissions are excluded.

Source: SOeS according to Citepa, CCNUCC inventory, 2009 (including overseas territories) - European Environment Agency, 2010.

# "Climate change and energies" key challenge

## Issues

Combating climate change is a major issue for the entire planet. Under the Kyoto Protocol, the EU-15 undertook collectively to reduce its emissions by 8% by 2008-2012 compared with 1990. France is aiming to stabilise its emissions, given its low emission level per capita. Following the Copenhagen Summit, the European Union has reiterated its commitment to reduce its emissions by at least 20% by 2020. The French Government participates in this and has committed to dividing its emissions by four by 2050.

## Analysis

In 2008, French emissions were 6.4% less than in 1990. Transport and the residential-service sector emissions were on the rise throughout the period (+13.5% and +11.4% respectively) whereas emissions in other sectors were dropping.

With a drop of 6.9 % in the same period, the Europe at fifteen Member States had to make further efforts to achieve its objective (-8%). Emissions from road transport are on the rise. The greenhouse gas emissions in the EU-27 dropped by 11.3% between 1990 and 2008. The emissions in new States dropped radically between 1990 and 2000, but since then the trend has been similar to that of the EU-15.

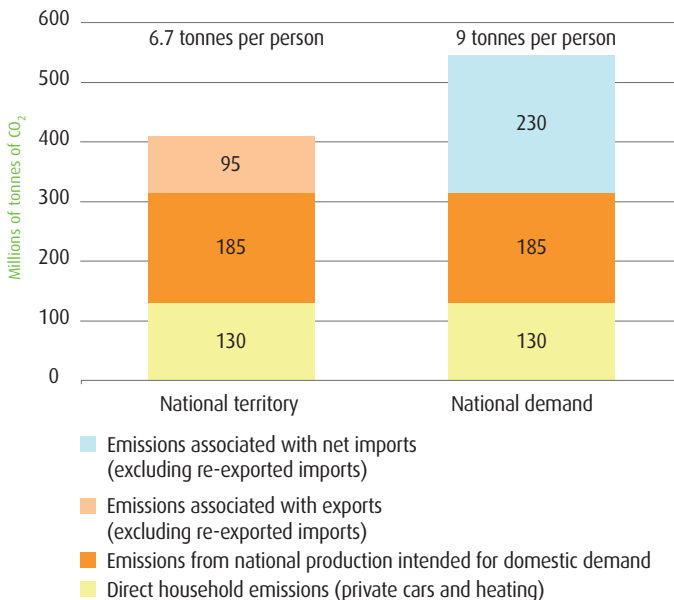
## For further information:

- <http://www.citepa.org> (Centre interprofessionnel technique d'études de la pollution atmosphérique)
- <http://www.eea.europa.eu> (European Environment Agency)

# Carbon footprint

The carbon footprint of a French individual inhabitant is 9 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year if foreign trade is taken into account, i.e. about 30% more than the amount emitted on the national territory.

## Carbon footprint of the final national demand in 2005



Note: CO<sub>2</sub> emitted on the territory of Metropolitan France in 2005, excluding CO<sub>2</sub> from biomass burning for energy purposes and excluding use of land, its change and the forest.

Source: SOeS according to Citepa, Insee, Eurostat and EEA, 2010.



# "Climate change and energies" key challenge

## Issues

Greenhouse gas emission inventories prepared under the Climate Convention are established on the basis of the territorial perimeter of signatory countries. However, in the context of a globalised economy, it seemed necessary to take account of emissions relating to all goods and services consumed, including those generated outside the national territory, as well as transfers of activities to other countries (carbon leaks). Widening greenhouse gas emission monitoring from just the country's territorial perimeter to the equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> content of external trade can also assess the global impact of the country's consumption on the climate, a global public asset.

## Analysis

An initial estimation was made in 2005. It showed that French imports emitted 230 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> generated abroad to satisfy the final domestic demand (excluding re-exported imports), i.e. more than 40% of the carbon footprint of French demand. Under these conditions, the carbon footprint (estimated here for CO<sub>2</sub> only) of the final demand of each French individual is 9 tonnes per year, whereas an average of 6.7 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per capita are emitted on the French territory.

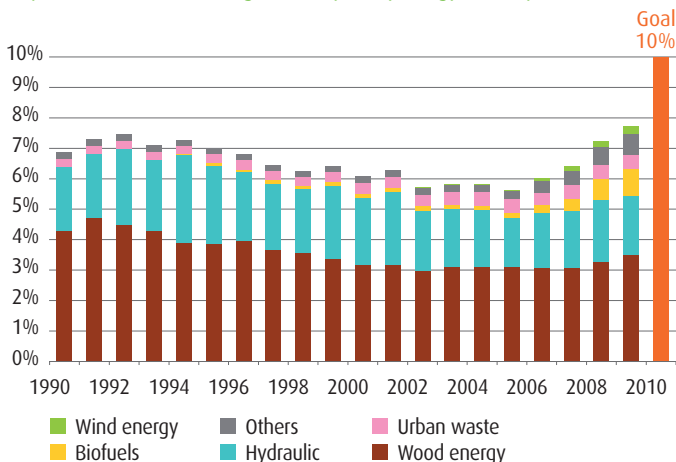
## For further information:

- <http://www.statistiques.environnement.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, heading Environnement
- <http://carbonfootprintofnations.com>

## Renewable energies

The proportion of renewable energies in the total consumption of primary energy in France was 7.7% in 2009. The goal is a 10% increase by 2010. The First Grenelle Act set a target of 23% of renewable energies in the final energy consumption by 2020, in accordance with the 2009 European Directive. In 2009 this indicator reached 12.4%.

### Proportion of renewable energies in the primary energy consumption



Source: SOeS, 2010. Metropolitan France

### For further information:

- <http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, headings Energie et Environnement
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>

## *"Climate change and energies" key challenge*

### Issues

Renewable energies do not use the stock of exhaustible natural resources. They also have the advantage over fossil fuels of not emitting greenhouse gas when producing or using energy (solar, wind, hydraulic) or even, for biomass, of having a zero balance (CO<sub>2</sub> is considered to be released when the combustion is equal to that absorbed during the growth of the vegetation). Renewable energies thus help diversify and secure energy supplies and their development is considered a priority path towards controlling climate change.

### Analysis

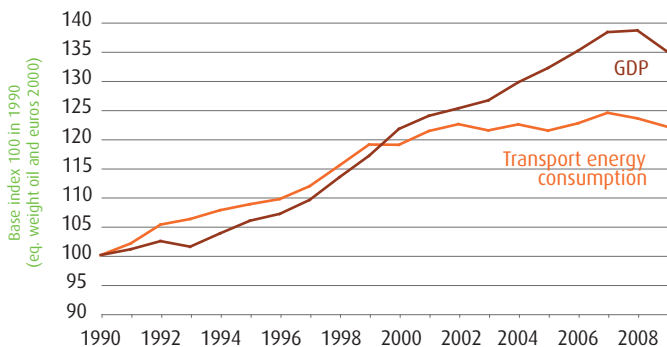
In 2009, 20 million oil-equivalent tonnes of renewable primary energy were produced in France, mainly from wood and hydroelectricity. The proportion of renewable energies in the total consumption of primary energy in France was 7.7% in 2009. France has set itself the goal of a 10% increase by 2010. The improvement noted since 2006 comes from the combined increase in generated electricity – resumption of hydraulic production and major advances in wind energy – and primary thermal production which increases under the effect of agrofuels.

In the Europe of 27, renewable energies accounted for 7.8% of energy requirements in 2007, whereas the objective for 2010 is 12%. The First Grenelle Act set a target of 23% of renewable energies in the final energy consumption by 2020, in accordance with the 2009 European Directive. In 2009 this indicator reached 12.4%.

## Transport energy consumption and GDP

Until 1999, the transport energy consumption (made up of 98% oil products) matched GDP growth closely. It has been far slower since 2000.

### Transport energy consumption and GDP in France



Note: Final energy consumption of the transport sector, excluding international maritime holds, corrected for climate, Metropolitan France.

Source: SOeS – Insee, 2010.

# "Sustainable transport and mobility" key challenge

## Issues

The National Sustainable Development Strategy, just like the EU strategy, highlights the need to decouple economic development and increased transport flows, to minimise environmental damage. This mainly involves opting for more energy-saving and environmentally-friendly transport methods and mobility practices.

## Analysis

Until 1999, the transport energy consumption (made up of 98% oil products) matched GDP growth closely. It has been far slower since 2000. The price of fuels, less greedy vehicles and more compliance to speed limitations have all helped.

In 2008, 82% of domestic journeys were made by car but this proportion has tended to drop since 1995, at the same time as public rail traffic has increased its share. Road haulage continues to increase, however. In 2008 it accounts for 83% of the traffic measured in tonnes-km. Non-road freight (rail and river) have a 12% share. The aim of the First Grenelle Act is to increase this share by 25%, in order to reach 15% in 2012.

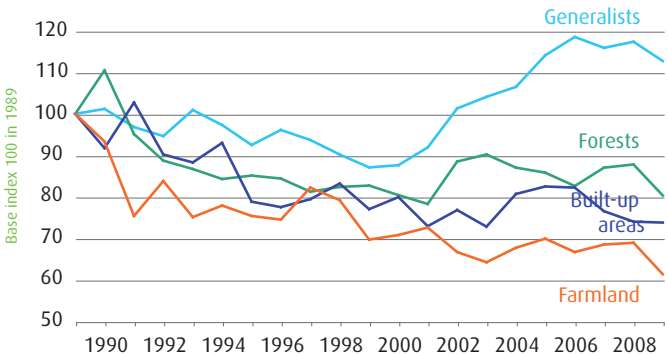
## For further information:

- <http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, headings Transports et Environnement
- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Publications and services > Files > Sustainable development

# Abundance index of common bird populations

Twenty years of observations show that common bird populations have evolved diversely. The specialist species in farmland, built-up and forest environments are declining whilst the generalist species adapt better and grow.

Abundance index of common bird populations



Source: National Natural History Museum, 2010 (Metropolitan France).

## **"Biodiversity and natural resources"**

### **key challenge**

#### **Issues**

In accordance with its international commitments, France adopted a national biodiversity strategy in 2004, with the global purpose of halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010. Along with Spain, France has the most varied birdlife in Europe. Common birds are monitored throughout the territory and are good markers of pressures exerted on the environments.

#### **Analysis**

Twenty years of observations show that common bird populations have evolved diversely. The general evolution trend noted since 1989 for the 65 monitored species shows a decline in farmland species (-25%), sensitive to the degradation of habitats, a decline in species in built-up environments (-21%) and in forest environments (-12%). Generalist species adapt better and grow (+20%).

The same trends are observed in Europe. There are many causes of these declines. The degradation or loss of habitats remain the main threat. EU action to preserve the biodiversity is based in principle on the "Bird" and "Fauna, flora and habitats" directives. All sites designated under these two directives form the "Natura 2000" network which covers 17% of the land territory of the EU-27.

The United Nations proclaimed 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity.

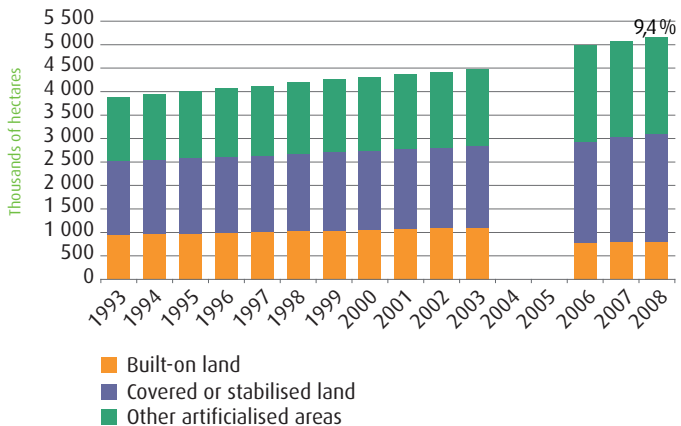
#### **For further information:**

- <http://www2.mnhn.fr/vigie-nature>, rubrique Oiseaux
- <http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, heading Environnement

# Artificialisation of soils

According to the Teruti-Lucas survey, artificialised spaces accounted for 9.4% of the territory in 2009, i.e. 5.1 million hectares. They continue to expand at the expense of farmland and natural environments.

## Artificialised areas



Note: Series break between 2003 and 2006.

Source: Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishing, Teruti-Lucas survey, 2010 (Metropolitan France).



## **"Biodiversity and natural resources"**

### **key challenge**

#### **Issues**

Artificialisation of the land generates a loss of natural and agricultural resources and makes soils impermeable, which is normally irreversible. It is accompanied by fragmenting and partitioning of natural environments which is unfavourable to many species. It also helps increase movements and consequently emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases. Controlling the artificialisation of spaces and homogenisation of landscapes is one of the objectives of the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

#### **Analysis**

According to the Teruti-Lucas survey, artificialised areas accounted for 9.4% of the territory in 2009, i.e. 5.1 million hectares. 16% of these surface areas correspond to built-on land (houses, apartment buildings, etc.), 44% to covered or stabilised land (roads, car parks, etc.) and 40% other artificialised spaces (gardens, sites, etc.). The artificialised spaces have been increasing by about 60,000 hectares a year since 1993, mainly at the expense of farmland but also semi-natural environments.

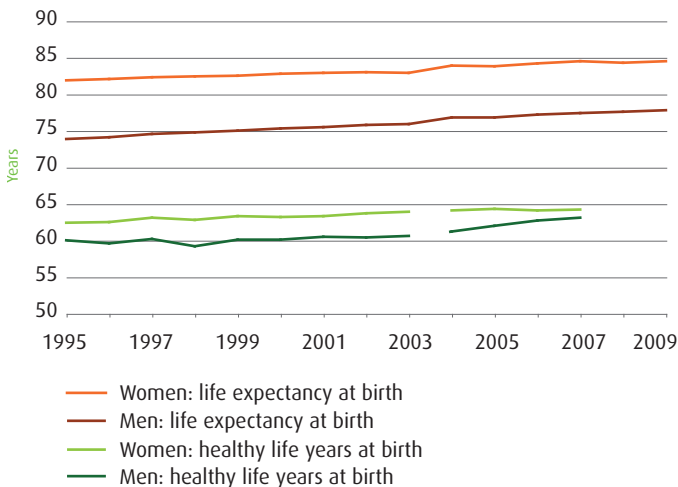
#### **For further information:**

- <http://agreste.agriculture.gouv.fr>, heading Theme > Territoire, Environnement
- <http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>, heading Environnement

## Life expectancy and healthy life years

**Life expectancy and healthy life years, at birth, continue to improve. The results are comparable to those of neighbouring countries, but slightly below the Scandinavian countries. The differences in life expectancy per social category remain huge.**

### Life expectancy and healthy life years, at birth in France



Note: Series break in 2004 for life expectancy in good health.

Source: Insee-Eurostat. Metropolitan France

# ***"Public health, risk prevention and management," key challenge***

## **Issues**

Life expectancy at birth like healthy life years, i.e. without activity limitations or major incapacities, responds to a well-being issue and measures the global results of the health policy. The differences between social categories testifies to inequalities to be taken into account in this area.

## **Analysis**

In France, in 2007, healthy life years, at birth, i.e. without activity limitations was estimated at 64.2 years for women and 63.1 years for men. The differences between men and women for life expectancy at birth between men and women were larger: 84.5 years for women and 77.8 years for men in 2009. Men have gained in life expectancy quicker than women in the last ten years. The results are comparable to those of neighbouring countries, but slightly below the Scandinavian countries. The differences in life expectancy per social category are huge. In France, in the mid-1990s, white-collar men had a life expectancy of 35 to 46 years against just 39 years for blue-collar workers. The difference was two times less between white-collar women and blue-collar workers (50 and 47 years respectively). The difference in life expectancy for between white-collar men and blue-collar men had even increased at the start of the 1980s.

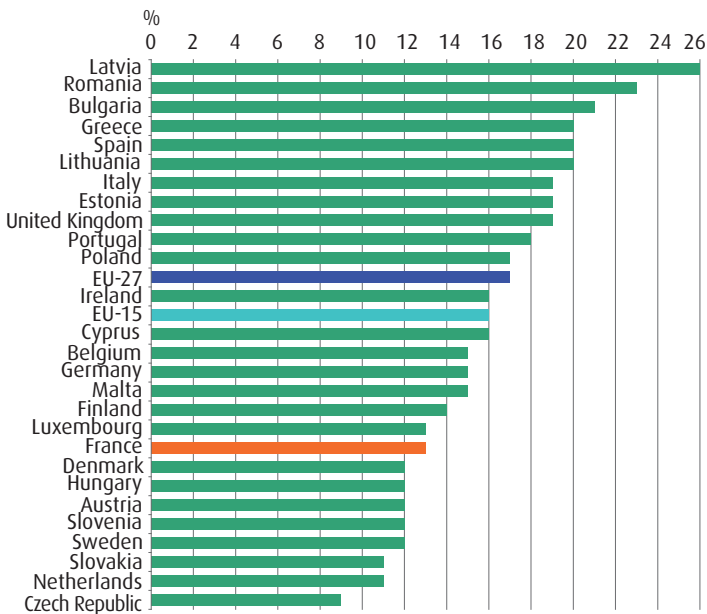
## **For further information:**

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Population
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Public health

## Monetary poverty

In 2008, 13% of people were living under the monetary poverty threshold. This proportion has no longer been dropping for several years. The average in the European Union of 27 is 17%.

### Monetary poverty rate after social transfers in 2008



Source: Eurostat

# "Demographics, immigration and social inclusion" key challenge

## Issues

The domestic income can be used to assess average economic prosperity but it gives no clue as to how this prosperity is divided between individuals. To understand the objective of social cohesion, a central component in the sustainable development concept, inequalities of income and, upstream, inequalities in access to employment and education also have to be considered. The main indicator used for this purpose is the rate of monetary poverty after social transfers, i.e. the proportion of people whose standard of living (disposable income once taxes and social contributions have been taken into account along with the composition of the household) is less than 60% of the median standard of living.

## Analysis

Monetary poverty thus defined affected 13% of people in France in 2008. It affects nearly 30% of single-parent families. The European average is 17% with huge differences between countries: 11% to 12% in the Netherlands and Sweden, against 19% to 20% in the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. After a clear drop in the 1970s-1980s and a downwards tendency in the 1990s, the poverty rate in France is no longer dropping. It is also stable in the European Union of 27.

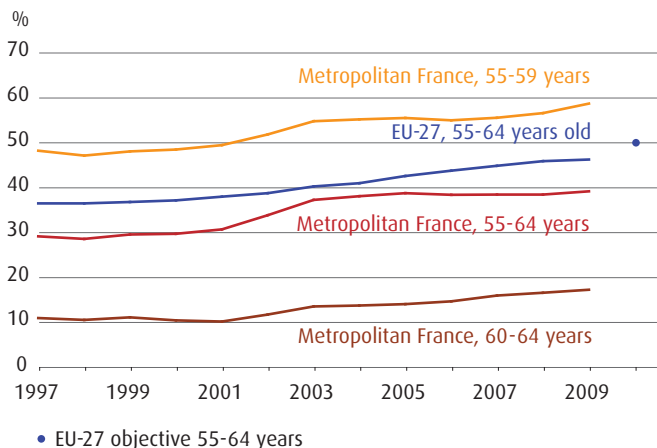
## For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Publications and services > Dossier > Inégalités sociales
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Social inclusion

## Employment rate of older workers

In 2009, 38.9 % of people aged between 55 and 64 had a job. This employment rate is still low compared with the European Union of 27 (46%). It is still far from the objective of 50% in 2010 fixed by the Lisbon Strategy.

### Employment rate of older workers



Note: The employment rate for people between 55 and 64 years old is obtained by comparing the number of employed people between 55 and 64 to the population in this age grouping.  
Source: Insee (Employment survey) - Eurostat (Work Forces survey).

## ***"Demographics, immigration and social inclusion" key challenge***

### **Issues**

The employment rate for people aged between 55 and 64 is viewed as a preferred lever to limit the exclusion of these people from the job market and control pension expenditure. The EU objective stated in the Lisbon Strategy is to reach an employment rate of 50% by 2010.

### **Analysis**

In 2009, the average employment rate of workers aged between 55 and 64 was only 38.9% in France. It was 46.0% in the EU-27, whereas the EU objective, like that of France, is to achieve 50% in 2010. A significant increase occurred between 1998 and 2004, due to an effect of demographic structure, with more numerous and active generations reaching this age grouping. Since then, the employment rate has stabilised with the arrival of these same generations in the 60-64 age grouping, which is far less active.

Given especially the legal provisions for retirement age in force in 2009, the difference in France between the employment rate of the 55-59 age group (58.4% in 2009) and that of the 60-64 age group (17.0%) is huge.

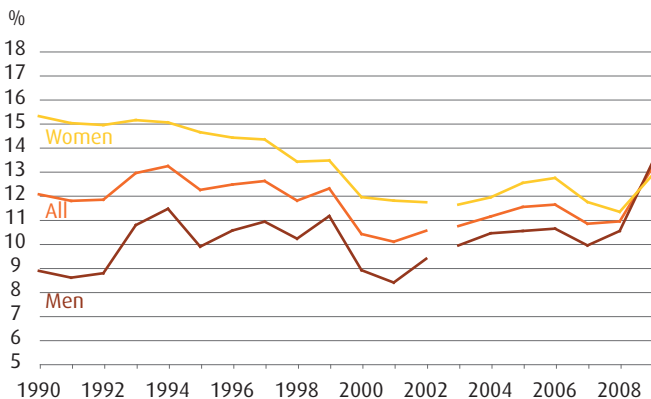
### **For further information:**

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Labour-Employment > Employment-Active population
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Demographic change
- <http://www.travail-solidarite.gouv.fr>, heading Etudes, recherches, Statistiques de la Dares, étude n° 039 de Juin 2010

## Proportion of young people unemployed and untrained

In 2009, 13.1% of young people between the ages of 16 and 25 were unemployed and were not attending any training course. This proportion increased substantially in 2009, returning to its level from the mid-1990s.

Proportion of young people between the ages of 16 and 25 unemployed and without training



Note: Series break in 2003. Age at year end.

Source: Insee (Survey Quarterly employment since 2003, survey Annual employment previously).  
Metropolitan France



# "Demographics, immigration and social inclusion" key challenge

## Issues

Young people's access to employment and training is a decisive element in their integration and social cohesion. This integration helps develop the human capital and galvanise it for future development.

## Analysis

The proportion of young people 16-25 years old who are unemployed or inactive without having recently attended a training course, however short, is an indicator of integration difficulties for young people and of the lack of prospects which can marginalise them.

In 2009, 13.1% of young people were in this situation, i.e. two points more than a year earlier. There must be a connection with the economic crisis.

Young women were for the first time in 2009 less exposed to this type of situation than young men: they were 12.8% unemployed and untrained against 13.3% for young men. Before reversing, the difference has been reduced regularly – it was 6.4 points in 1990. Whereas the proportion of unemployed and untrained women followed a downward trend, the proportion of unemployed and untrained men increased.

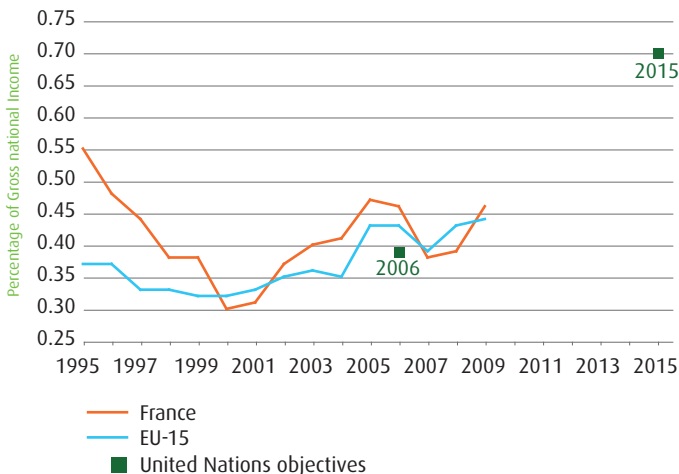
## For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Labour-Employment
- <http://www.travail-solidarite.gouv.fr>, heading Etudes, recherches, Statistiques de la Dares and heading Etudes, recherches, Statistiques de la Drees

## Official development assistance

In 2009, France set aside 0.46% of its gross national income for development aid. This level remains below the commitment made to the United Nations of reaching 0.7% in 2015.

### Official development assistance



Source: Eurostat

## *"International challenges of sustainable development and world poverty" key challenge*

### Issues

The challenge highlights concerns for equity on a global scale. Sustainable development would be inconceivable without reducing poverty in the world and the huge imbalances in wealth sharing. Public development aid provides a measure of the effective solidarity of countries in relation to the rest of the world. The European Union is behind approximately half the public aid efforts worldwide.

### Analysis

In 2009, France set aside 0.46% of its gross national income (GNI) for development aid, a level close to that of the European Union. This level reached 0.44% for the EU-15 and 0.42% for the EU-27. But given the commitments made by the European countries under the so-called "Millennium" Goals in 2000, efforts have to be increased to achieve the objective of 0.7% in 2015. Sweden, Luxembourg, Denmark and the Netherlands have already met the 2015 objective.

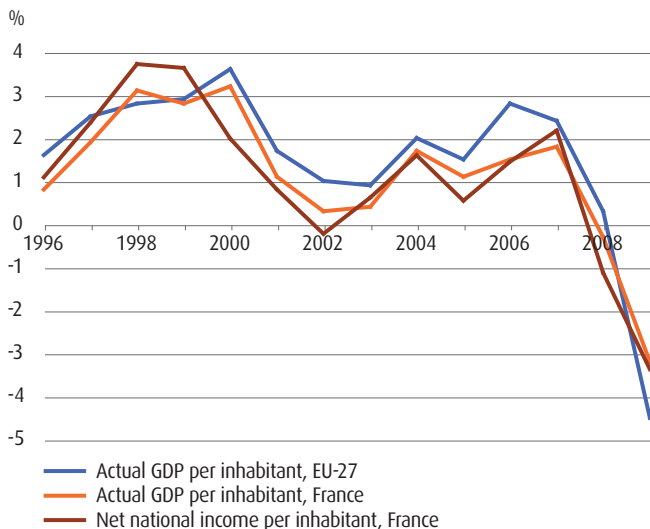
### For further information:

- <http://www.oecd.org/cad> (OECD Development Aid Committee)
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Global partnership
- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Publications and services > Files > Sustainable development

## Net national income and GDP per inhabitant

Between 2009 and 2009, the economic growth measured by the actual net national income per inhabitant increased on average by 0.3 % per year. By the yardstick of the gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, a more usable indicator for international comparisons, growth was more modest in France (0.5%) for this period than in the European Union as a whole.

### Annuals growth rate of the actual net national income and GDP per inhabitant



Source: Insee (national accounts) - Eurostat

## *Economic and social context*

### Issues

Economic prosperity is one of the pillars of sustainable development. In this the European Union strategy for sustainable development is in line with the terms of the Lisbon Strategy approved in March 2000 and reaffirms the need for a dynamic economy as a development force.

### Analysis

Dynamic economic growth per inhabitant helps develop resources which can be mobilised to respond to the social and environmental needs, both present and future. The dynamics of this growth can be assessed by changes in the actual net national income per inhabitant.

In France, between 2000 and 2009, the actual net national income per inhabitant increased by 0.3% per year. It measures what is actually available nationally per inhabitant, once consideration has been given to exchanges of primary revenues with the rest of the world and the need to renew the installed fixed capital to ensure a certain sustainability. It is a better indicator than the GDP per inhabitant for measuring sustainable development. As a gross figure, it changes in similar fashion to the GDP, an indicator which can be more easily used for international comparisons. The growth in actual GDP (i.e. in volume) per inhabitant was more modest in France than for the European Union as a whole between 2000 and 2009: +0.5% per year against +0.6% for the European Union of 15 and +0.9% for the European Union of 27.

### For further information:

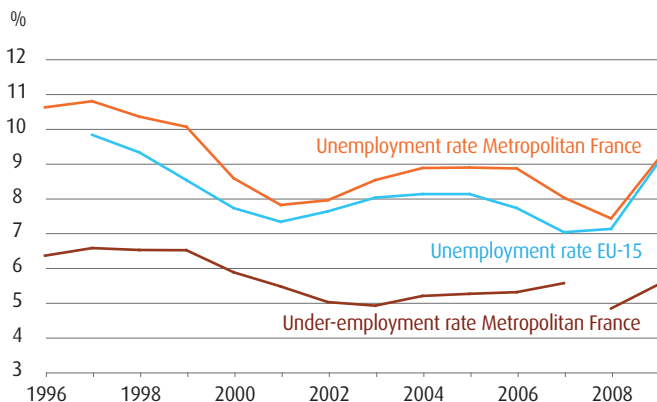
- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > National accounts-public finances
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Socio-economic development

## Unemployment rate and under-employment rate

Following a drop since 2006, unemployment once more increased radically in 2009 to 9.1%, matching the level of the European Union of fifteen.

In 2009, 5.5% of employed people, some 1.4 million people, involuntarily worked less than they would have wished.

### Unemployment rate and under-employment rate



Note: Series break for the under-employment rate in France in 2008.

Source: Insee (Employment survey) – Eurostat (Work Forces survey).

## Economic and social context

### Issues

Variations in employment and the active population are demonstrated on balance by variations in unemployment. Like the unemployment rate, the under-employment rate is an indicator of the disparity between supply and demand in work. In terms of sustainability, this disparity can be seen as both a sign of inefficiency in mobilising existing human resources and as a source of tension weighing on the well-being and standard of living of part of the population.

### Analysis

France is one of the European countries experiencing high unemployment. Between 1993 and 1999, more than 10% of the active population was unemployed. This was more than in the European Union of 15. Following a drop since 2006, unemployment once more increased radically in 2009 to 9.1%, matching the level of the EU-15. The unemployment profile comes in short-term cycles with lows that can reach several points in strong economic conditions.

The under-employment rate represents the proportion of people in employment who involuntarily worked less than they would have wished. It experiences changes similar to those of the unemployment rate. In 2009, about 5.5% of employed people were under-employed, i.e. about 1.4 million people. There is a particularly marked difference between men and women: under-employment affects 9% of occupied active women against 2.5% of men.

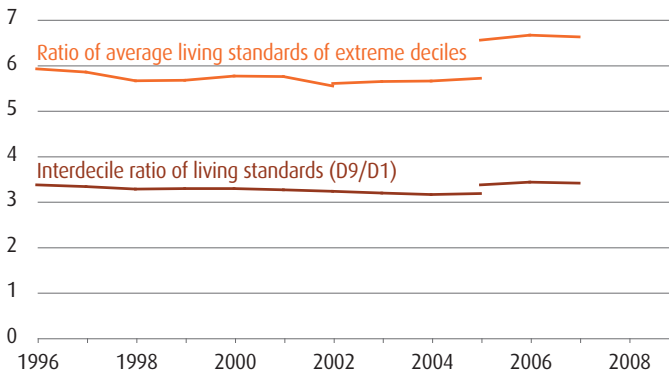
### For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Labour-Employment
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Socio-economic development

## Income distribution

**The distribution of standards of living between the extreme deciles is fairly stable, including social revenues. It is more narrow than in the European Union as a whole.**

Distribution of standards of living: ratio of extreme deciles and interdecile ratio



Note: Series breaks in 2002 and 2005.

Field: Households where the declared revenue is positive or nil and where the reference person is not a student in Metropolitan France.

Source: Insee-DGI, Tax revenues survey 1996-2005 and Insee-DGFIP-Cnaf-CCMSA, Tax and social revenues survey 2005 to 2007.

### For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Dossiers > Inégalités sociales and heading Publications and services > National collections > Insee References > Incomes and household wealth- Edition 2010
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Social inclusion



## *Economic and social context*

### **Issues**

The distribution of standards of living, i.e. of income per consumption unit, gives a more global picture of monetary inequalities. It can be interpreted in terms of sharing of the fruits of the growth and the importance given to questions of solidarity and equity or to risks that includes a flaw of social cohesion. A major difference in average standard of living between first and last decile or a strong interdecile ratio thus indicates low solidarity which can potentially be a carrier of social risks. These analyses however depend strongly on the cultural context, as practices vary considerably from one country to the next. When attention is focused on the most deprived and the fight against poverty and exclusion, the problems enter explicitly in the challenge of the national strategy on demographics, immigration and social inclusion.

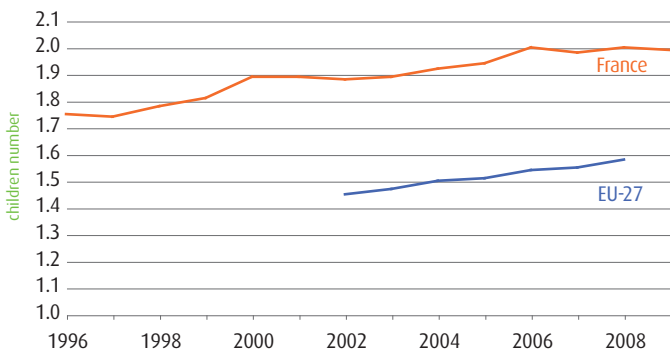
### **Analysis**

In Metropolitan France, the ratio between the average standards of living (including social revenues net of direct taxes) of extreme deciles was 6.60 in 2007 according to the tax and social revenues survey. It corresponds to an average disposable income of €50,780 per an per consumption unit above the 9th decile, compared with an average income of €7.700 per year below the first decile, including social revenues. This ratio of average living standard has appeared fairly stable since the mid-1990s. The interdecile ration, i.e. the ratio between the last and first decile of standard of living, is another measurement of inequalities in standards of living: it was 3.39 in 2007. It also has appeared stable since 2005. Based on a narrower revenue field, it had dropped slightly between 1996 and 2005. According to the European survey on income and living conditions, the distribution of standards of living seems more narrow in France than in the European Union as a whole. The ratio of average standards of living of extreme quintiles was respectively five in the EU-27 and four in France in 2008.

## Demographics: fertility rate

The short-term indicator of fertility has been progressing steadily over the past fifteen years. With 1.99 children for each woman in 2009, France has joined Ireland as the European Union country with the highest fertility. In 2008 the rate for the European Union as a whole was 1.58 children for each woman, demonstrating the low fertility of Southern and Eastern European countries.

### Short-term fertility indicator



Note: Short-term fertility rate or sum of reduced births, measures the average number of children borne by a woman throughout her life if the fertility rates observed for the year in question at each age remain unchanged.

Source: Insee (civil status) – Eurostat.

## *Economic and social context*

### Issues

The short-term fertility indicator is often used to give a snapshot of the ability of the population to renew itself in the long term simply based on natural movements (births and deaths). It is then compared with a replacement level estimated at 2.1 in the most developed countries. However, it is important to note that to ensure a certain balance in present generations or the population structure by major age groupings, thereby ensuring both dynamism and continuity, other paths other than natural fertility are possible, mainly the influx of other populations widely used in the immigration countries.

### Analysis

In 2009, the short-term fertility rate for France was equal to 1.99. In 2008, it had reached its highest level since 1975, exceeding the symbolic threshold of two children for each woman. France is, with Ireland, the European Union country with the highest fertility. In the entire European Union of 27, the short-term fertility indicator was 1.58 in 2008, demonstrating the low short-term fertility in Southern and Eastern European countries (Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal on the one hand, Germany, Austria, Poland and Hungary on the other).

### For further information:

- <http://www.insee.fr>, heading Topics > Population
- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>, heading Statistics > Sustainable development indicators > Demographic changes
- <http://www.ined.fr>, heading Population in figures

## Glossary

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** values of all goods and services produced, less the value of goods and services used for their production. GDP measures economic activity.

**Net National Income (NNI):** measures what is actually available on the national territory, once consideration has been given to exchanges of primary revenues with the rest of the world and the need to renew the installed fixed capital to ensure a certain sustainability.

**Unemployment rate (in the ILO meaning):** percentage of unemployed in the ILO meaning in the active population (employed workers and unemployed).

**Under-employment rate:** compares under-employment with total employment. Under-employment includes people working part-time who would like to work more during the reference period.

**Household disposable income:** includes active income, asset income, transfers from other households and social services, including retirement pensions and unemployment benefits, net of direct taxes (normally income tax, local residence tax, standardised social contributions (CSG) and contribution to reducing the social debt (CRDS)).

**Standard of living:** household's disposable income divided by the number of consumption units. The standard of living is therefore the same for all individuals in the same household.

**First decile of standard of living (D1):** the maximum income of 10% of the population with the lowest income.

**Last decile of standard of living (D9):** the minimum income of 10% of the population with the highest income.

**Interdecile ratio:** ratio between D9 and D1.

**Consumption units:** calculated from the number of individuals in the household according to the OECD-modified scale of stated equivalence, which allocates one unit to the first adult in the household, 0.5 to other people aged 14 and over and 0.3 to children under 14.

**Gross domestic expenditure on research and development (GERD):** relates to research and development (R&D) carried out on the national territory regardless of the source of the funding. One part is executed by the administration (DIRDA), the other by businesses (DIRDE). It includes running and capital expenses.

**The six greenhouse gases of the Kyoto basket:** carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), dinitrogen oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) and perfluorocarbons (PFC).

**Life expectancy at birth:** represents the average lifetime – in other words the average age at death - of a fictitious generation which would be subjected to the year's mortality conditions. It characterises mortality independently from the structure by age.

**Healthy life years, at birth:** measures the number of years in good health that a person can expect to live (at birth). Good health is defined by the lack of activity limitations in the actions of everyday life and the lack of incapacities.

**Unemployed and untrained young people:** this involves young people between the ages of 16 and 25 who have not worked, if only for one hour in the reference week, have finished their initial schooling and have not attended a course or training session, however short, for three months.

**Official development assistance:** net amount of donations and loans granted at favourable terms by public bodies in the countries and bodies on the list of beneficiaries of the OECD Development Aid Committee. The aid encompasses technical cooperation as well as financial contributions.

## Abbreviations

**Agreste:** site of the Statistics and Forecasting Department of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishing.

**BEP:** Vocational study certificate

**CAP:** Vocational aptitude certificate

**CCMSA:** Central Office of the agricultural social mutual plan

**Citepa:** Inter professional Technical Centre for Atmospheric Pollution Studies

**Cnaf:** National Family Allowance Office

**Dares:** Directorate of Coordination and Research, Studies and Statistics of the Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment and the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Civil Service

**DGAFP:** Directorate-General of Administration and Civil Service (Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Civil Service)

**DGFIP:** Directorate-General of Public Finance

**DGI:** Directorate-General of Taxes

**Drees:** Directorate of Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics of the Ministry of Health and Sports

**EU:** European Union

**Eurostat:** Statistical Office of the European Commission:

**GNI:** Gross National Income

**GDP:** Gross Domestic Product

**IEA:** International Energy Agency

**ILO:** International Labour Organisation

**Ined:** National Institute of Demographic Studies

**Insee:** National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies

**MESR:** Ministry of Higher Education and Research

**NNI:** Net National Income

**OECD:** Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development

**SOes:** Observation and Statistics Department

**UNFCCC:** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

## Useful links

**La stratégie nationale de développement durable et les indicateurs nationaux de développement durable**

<http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>

(ministère chargé du Développement durable)

Rubrique « Développement durable »

**Les indicateurs de développement durable sur le site du Service de l'observation et des statistiques**

<http://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>

Rubrique « Environnement » > « Indicateurs »

**Les indicateurs de développement durable sur le site de l'Insee**

<http://www.insee.fr>

Rubrique « Publications et services » > « Dossiers » > « Développement durable »

**Les indicateurs européens de développement durable**

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>

Rubrique « Statistiques » > « Indicateurs de développement durable »

**Les indicateurs de développement durable des Nations unies**

<http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/index.shtml>

Rubrique « Areas of work » > « Indicators of sustainable development »

**Travaux de l'OCDE relatifs au développement durable**

<http://www.oecd.org>

Rubrique « Thèmes » > « Développement durable »



Present  
for the  
future

---

Commissariat général  
au développement durable  
Service de l'observation  
et des statistiques  
Tour Voltaire  
92055 La Défense cedex  
mél : diffusion.soes.cgdd@developpement-  
durable.gouv.fr  
Fax : 33 (0) 1 40 81 13 30

Institut national de la statistique  
et des études économiques  
18 boulevard Adolphe Pinard  
75675 Paris cedex 14