

Central and Eastern Europe

There were 12 investment projects from CEE countries¹ in France in 2024, creating 233 jobs. Eight different CEE countries invested in France in 2024, with four out of 10 projects involving decision-making centers.

12
projects in 2024

233
jobs created

42%
of projects were in decision-
making centers

One-quarter of jobs were in transport and storage

Number of projects and jobs by investment type

Projects	Investment type	Jobs
11	Creation	231
1	Expansion	2

They chose France in 2024

Olpha: With nearly 50 years of expertise in manufacturing high-quality medicines and pharmaceutical products, Olpha has established itself as the leading pharmaceutical maker in the Baltic States. Building on its expertise and presence in over 60 countries, the group has expanded its activities by setting up in Paris (Ile de France region), strengthening its position in Europe and entering the markets for generic medicines and dietary supplements. Olpha also relies on strong local partners to ensure reliable pharmaceutical distribution tailored to the specific needs of each region.

Skeleton: This global leader in mission-critical high-power and fast-charging energy storage, has chosen France to expand its activities. The first phase of this expansion involves establishing a new R&D center in Toulouse to develop next-generation battery technologies. Following this, the business intends to build a manufacturing plant in Occitanie to produce high-power batteries called “SuperBattery”, which will account for an investment of €600 million, creating 300 jobs (scientists, engineers, operators, etc.).

Breakdown by source country

Source country	Projects	Jobs
Estonia	4	144
Ukraine	2	35
Poland	1	30
Latvia	1	10
Slovakia	1	6
Slovenia	1	5
Czech Republic	1	2
Hungary	1	1

Central and Eastern European businesses in France

The FDI stock² of businesses from Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries in France amounted to €1.7 billion in 2024. Twelve new investment projects from eight CEE countries were identified in France in 2024, creating 233 jobs. One-third of the projects were of Estonian origin, as well as 62% of jobs created, while two Ukrainian projects were recorded. The projects originating from the CEE countries were mainly decision-making centers (42%), which were responsible for 19% of the jobs created by countries from the area, ahead of manufacturing projects (17%). It should be noted that the project by Estonian firm Skeleton,

which is developing an R&D center for batteries in Toulouse, created 43% of all jobs from CEE countries. One-quarter of the projects (25%) and jobs (24%) were in the transport/storage sector, followed by the energy/recycling sector and the IT services sector (17% each). Three regions hosted three projects each, Occitanie, Ile de France (Paris region) and Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur.

² Source: Banque de France, 2024; FDI stock in France (ultimate investor) as of December 31, 2023, excluding confidential data.

Breakdown of projects by business activity

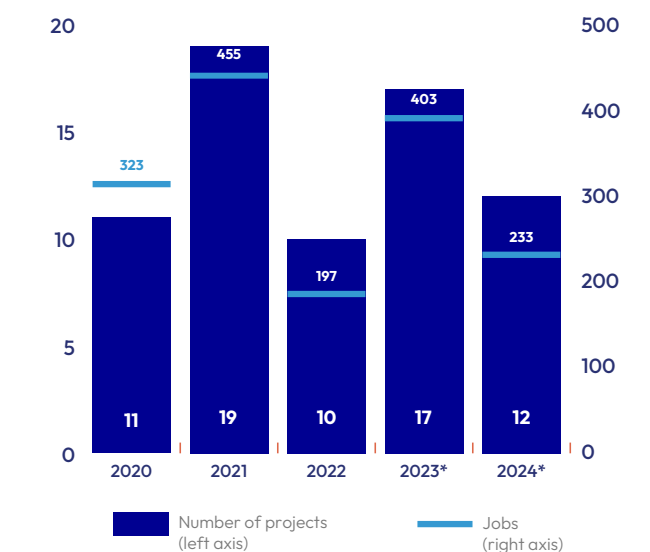
Business activity	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Decision-making centers	5	45	42%	19%
Logistics	1	30	8%	13%
Retail outlets	1	1	8%	0.4%
Production/Manufacturing	2	32	17%	14%
R&D, engineering, design	1	100	8%	43%
Business services	1	20	8%	9%
Consumer services	1	5	8%	2%
Total	12	233	100%	100%

Top 5 business sectors by projects

Business sector	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Transport, storage	3	55	25%	24%
Energy and recycling	2	102	17%	44%
IT services	2	26	17%	11%
Glass, ceramics, minerals, wood, paper	1	30	8%	13%
Pharmaceuticals and biotechnologies	1	10	8%	4%

Source: Business France, Annual Report 2024

Change in projects and jobs since 2020



* Recording of safeguarding and technology partnership projects

Top 3 host regions in 2024

Occitanie 3 projects
Ile de France (Paris region) 3 projects
Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur 3 projects