

# Germany

In 2024, Germany was the leading European investor in France, with 232 investment projects or 14% of all projects. In total, 217 of these projects enabled 4,432 jobs to be created or maintained nationwide, or 12% of all foreign-controlled jobs recorded in France.

**232**

projects in 2024, including 217 that were job-creating

**4,432**

jobs created or maintained

**1 in 3**

jobs were in logistics

**#2 country** for the number of projects

## Number of projects and jobs by investment type

Projects	Investment type	Jobs
112	Creation	<b>2,183</b>
89	Expansion	<b>1,913</b>
16	Takeover	<b>336</b>

**+** 15 safeguarding and technology partnership projects

## They chose France in 2024

**Knauf:** The firm has opened a plasterboard factory in Fos-sur-Mer (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region), taking advantage of a multimodal hub to optimize logistics and reduce environmental impact. With 50 employees, and the number soon to reach 80, it is improving distribution in the south of France. The factory uses innovative technology to reduce not only water consumption but also energy and greenhouse gas emissions by 15-20%. No waste is generated, with the residues being recycled. The factory also recycles plasterboard waste from regional deconstruction. Knauf welcomes the support it has received from the region, local elected officials and the port of Fos-sur-Mer.

**Siemens Mobility:** The German business is expanding its Châtillon center (Paris/Ile de France region). With an investment of €16 million, supported by the French public sector investment bank Bpifrance, Siemens Mobility has launched the Tracy project, dedicated to railway cybersecurity, which is set to create 50 jobs and increase the workforce at its Châtillon

engineering center to 500 people. A specialist in railway automation, Siemens Mobility offers digital solutions to improve safety, capacity and the passenger experience. The group has automated several Paris metro lines and is preparing the commissioning of the Grand Paris Express line 15 South for 2026, while also developing future lines.

**Cykero GmbH:** The Berlin-based firm Cykero has chosen Montpellier (Occitanie region) to set up its European technology center, dedicated to the reconditioning of electronic products. This strategic site, which embodies the business's vision of sustainable growth, plans to create 150 jobs, including 20 in research and development. This ambitious project draws on the region's many key strengths, notably its ideal geographical location, innovative ecosystem and qualified talent pool. With these strengths, Cykero aims to make this technology center a benchmark for excellence and quality in the electronic reconditioning sector in Europe.

## German investments in France

The FDI stock<sup>1</sup> of businesses from Germany in France is around €111.9 billion, making Germany the third country with the largest FDI stock in France.

In 2024, 232 new German investment projects were recorded nationwide, or 14% of all projects, including 217 projects that enabled 4,432 jobs to be created or maintained, some 12% of the overall total.

More than one-third of German projects were retail outlets (34%), ahead of production/manufacturing (23%) and logistics (12%). The latter were also the projects that created the most jobs (34%), with Germany becoming the leading country for job creation in this field

this year (41%), ahead of the United States (5%). Sector-wise, more than one-third of projects (37%) and jobs (34%) were in wholesale and retail, making Germany the leading source country for projects and jobs in this sector. Also of note was that nearly one in two jobs created in the transport sector (48%) originated from Germany.

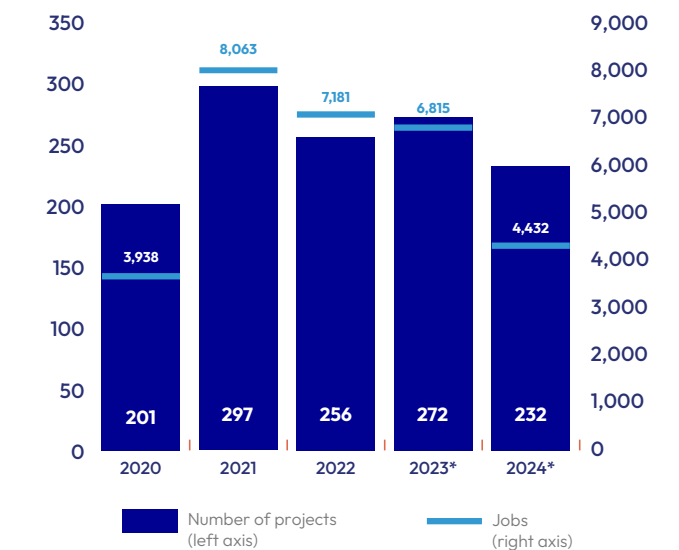
The main regions for attracting German investments were Grand Est (14%), Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (13%) and Hauts de France (12%). Also of note was that Germany was the country with the most investment projects in Grand Est (24% of the regional total), Nouvelle Aquitaine (23%), Occitanie (22%), Bretagne (Brittany) (22%) and Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (15%).

<sup>1</sup> Source: Banque de France, 2024; FDI stock in France (ultimate investor) as of December 31, 2023.

## Breakdown of projects by business activity

Business activity	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Decision-making centers	23	253	10%	6%
Logistics	27	1,491	12%	34%
Retail outlets	80	1,051	34%	24%
Production/Manufacturing	53	870	23%	20%
R&D, engineering, design	17	398	7%	9%
Business services	23	307	10%	7%
Consumer services	9	62	4%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>4,432</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Change in projects and jobs since 2020



\* Recording of safeguarding and technology partnership projects

## Top 5 business sectors by projects

Business sector	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Wholesale and retail	86	1,500	37%	34%
Transport, storage	21	1,101	9%	25%
Energy and recycling	14	207	6%	5%
IT services	12	147	5%	3%
Automotive industry	12	138	5%	3%

Source: Business France, Annual Report 2024

## Top 3 host regions in 2024

Grand Est **33** projects

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes **30** projects

Hauts de France **27** projects