

	France					EU-25				
Demographic Trends	1960	1980	2004/5	2030	2050	1960	1980	2004/5	2030	2050
Population in Millions	47	54	60	65	66	378	426	457	469	450
Total Fertility Rate (number of children per women)	2,9	1,9	1,9	1,9	1,9	2,6	1,9	1,5	1,6	1,6
Life expectancy at birth for women in years	74	78	83	88	89	73	76	80	84	86
Life expectancy at birth for men in years	67	70	76	81	83	67	69	74	78	81
Net migration in the population in thousands			64	59	59			1.464	835	822
Mean age of women at childbirth			30					29		
Population share of persons under 25 in %	39	38	31	28	27	40	38	29	24	23
Population share of persons aged 25-64 in %	50	48	52	48	46	50	49	54	51	47
Population share of persons aged 60-79 in %	15	14	16	23	22	13	15	18	25	25
Population share of very old persons 80+ in %	2	3	5	8	11	1	2	4	7	11
Old age dependency ratio (15-64) in %	19	22	25	41	48	15	21	25	40	53
<b>Gender Equality and Family situation</b>			<b>2004/5</b>					<b>2004/5</b>		
Employment rate women/men in %			58/69					56/71		
Gender pay gap in %			12					15		
Share of part time work among women/men in %			31/6					33/7		
Childcare availability for children ( 0-3 / 3 - compulsory school age) in %			43/100					:/		
At-risk-of-poverty after social transfer in total/children in %			13/13					17/20		
<b>Ageing and the Labour Market</b>			<b>2004/5</b>					<b>2004/5</b>		
Employment rates for persons aged 55-64 women/men in %			35/41					34/52		
Employment rates for persons aged 60-64 in %			13					27		
Employment rates for persons aged 65-69 in %			3					8		
Average exit age from the labour market			59					61		
Inactive for health reasons in % of inactive (aged 50-64)			0,4					16		
Internet use total/people 65-74 in %			:/					51/12		
<b>Education, R&amp;D and Productivity</b>			<b>2004/5</b>					<b>2004/5</b>		
Early school leavers women/men in %			11/15					13/17		
Youth educational attainment levels women/men in %			84/81					80/74		
Total population having at least completed secondary edu. in %			66					69		
Lifelong learning			9,7/11,4					9,4/11		
R&D share in % GDP			2,2					1,9		
Productivity per hour relative to EU15 in %			117					100		
<b>Migration and Integration</b>			<b>2004/5</b>					<b>2004/5</b>		
Share of non nationals in the population in %			6					6		
Employment rate of nationals in %			64					65		
Employment rate of non EU-25 nationals in %			44					55		
Unemployment rate of nationals in %			9					9		
Unemployment rate of non EU-25 nationals in %			25					17		
Low education of nationals in %			42					35		
Low education non EU-25 nationals in %			65					49		
<b>Sustainability of Public Finances and Social Protection</b>			<b>2004/5</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2050</b>			<b>2004/5</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>
Government debt as % of GDP			66,8					63,4		
% of government revenue in GDP			49,1					43,7		
% of public expenditure on pensions in GDP			12,8	14,3	14,8			10,6	11,9	12,8
% of public expenditure on health care in GDP			7,7	8,9	9,5			6,4	7,4	8,0
% of public expenditure on long term care in GDP			:	:	:			0,9	1,1	1,5

### Demographic challenges and ...

France has one of the highest fertility rates in the EU and the population projections assume that this will not change. Life expectancy is assumed to rise above the EU average. The total population is expected to grow while the old-age dependency ratio could evolve more favourably than for the EU as a whole.

### ... opportunities for tackling them

Employment opportunities for women are relatively well developed thanks to extensive childcare provision, and the gender pay gap is below the EU average.

By contrast, there is much scope for increasing the labour force participation of older workers. A more modern employment protection combined with lifelong learning would increase labour market flexibility. Another area which would generate employment growth is the integration of third country nationals whose employment rates and educational attainment are particularly low.

Public debt is slightly above the EU average and the projected increase in public social protection expenditure is also roughly in line with the EU as a whole.