

2022 EDITION

SURVEY OF
COOPERATIVES
SUMMARY

The Survey of Cooperatives is published by Coop FR, the representative organisation of cooperatives in France, with methodological and analytical support from the Observatoire national de l'économie sociale et solidaire, who conducted the study of Coop FR's member organisations and federations.

The Survey of Cooperatives is the only regular publication monitoring all French cooperatives and their subsidiaries. Its companion publication is the Top 100 Cooperatives, a ranking that is established every two years.

The full 2022 edition of the Survey of Cooperatives as well as the Top 100 can be downloaded on www.entreprises.coop



22,600 COOPERATIVE
BUSINESSES IN FRANCE



€329.3 BILLION
COMBINED TURNOVER
+1.7% SINCE 2018
CONTINUOUS GROWTH
FOR 10 YEARS!



30 MILLION SHARES HELD
BY FRENCH MEMBERS



1.3 MILLION EMPLOYEES
IN FRANCE



5% OF EMPLOYEES
IN FRANCE

Against the backdrop of a public health emergency that has strongly impacted the French economy, cooperatives have continued to grow. Employment has remained fairly stable while consolidated revenue has followed a rising trend of over ten years. Cooperatives in France employed 1.3 million people and generated a combined turnover of €329 billion in 2020. Membership has grown significantly, mainly in cooperative banks. One person out of three in France is a member of at least one cooperative.

COOPERATIVES MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE FRENCH ECONOMY

French cooperatives and their subsidiaries had a combined turnover of €329.3 billion in 2020. Up 1.7% compared with 2018, this performance follows the steady rise in revenue for already more than ten years {Figure 1.}.

A large part of the total turnover of French cooperatives comes from retailer cooperatives (44.3%), cooperative banks (25.8%) and agricultural cooperatives (14.6%).

Leaders in many markets and sectors, French cooperatives play a significant role in the French economy. They also facilitate sharing services among businesses, the provision of finance, and involving user-members in the production of goods and services.

The number of jobs in cooperatives and their subsidiaries fell in 2020 (by 20,000) due in part to the public health emergency but mainly because of the restructuring of operations within some cooperative groups (cooperative banks and agricultural and consumer cooperatives) {Figure 2.}.

Among the 'cooperative core', employment was unchanged and actually rose slightly (+0.2%), i.e. 600 additional jobs. Most of this increase in employment appeared in retail and wholesale trade, construction, logistics, real estate and social care when comparing the end of 2020 with the end of 2019.

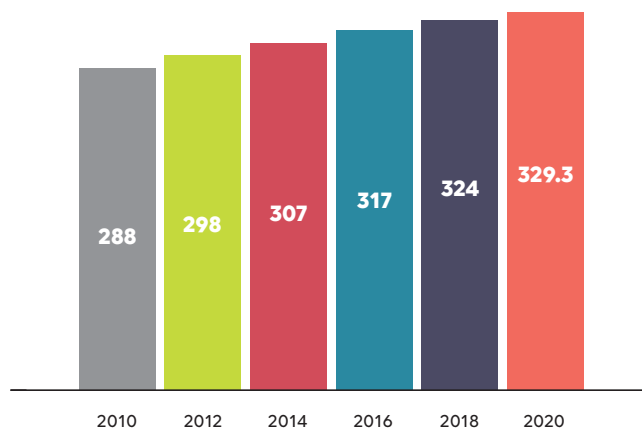


Figure 1
Turnover of French cooperatives and their subsidiaries over ten years (billion euros)

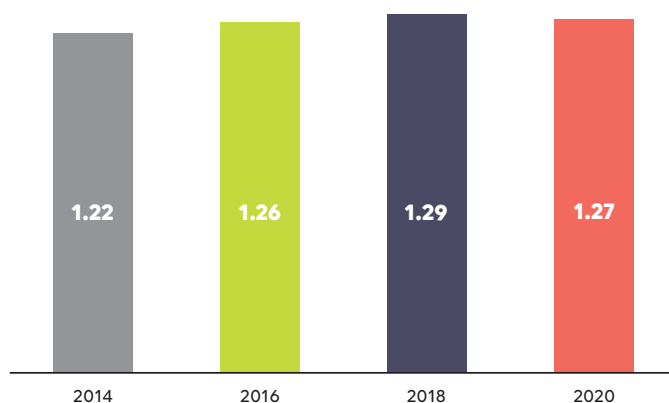


Figure 2
The number of jobs in cooperatives from 2014 to 2020 (million)

COOPERATIVES A SUCCESSFUL MODEL IN COMPETITIVE SECTORS

Cooperatives can be found in every sector and many competitive markets. They are leaders in three major sectors: agri-food, retail and banking.

In France, cooperatives account for:

- 40% of agri-food revenue
- 30% of retailing
- Over 60% of bank deposits



THE TOP 100 COOPERATIVES: LEADERS IN THEIR MARKETS

With a combined turnover of €257 billion in 2020, the 100 largest cooperatives have increased their revenue by €3.5 billion since 2018.



+1.4%

€257 BILLION
IN REVENUE



+3.9%

29 MILLION
MEMBERS



+0.6%

912,000
EMPLOYEES (+0.6%)



51 YEARS OLD:
AVERAGE AGE OF
COOPERATIVES



77% OF
HEADQUARTERS OUTSIDE
THE PARIS REGION

Did you know?

SODIAAL is the largest cooperative dairy in France

E. LECLERC is the leading supermarket chain in France

ORPI is the number 1 real estate agency in France

BIOCOOP is the top organic food retail chain in France

GROUPE UP is ranked third internationally in the service voucher market (formerly known as Chèque Déjeuner)

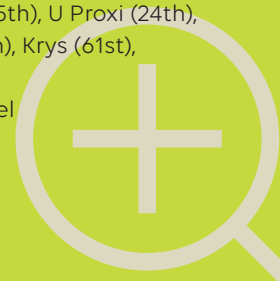
ACOME is the European leader in automotive and fibre optic cabling

COOP ATLANTIQUE is nearly 200 local stores including seven hypermarkets under the U banner

ORCAB is the 4th largest builders' merchants in France (by market share)

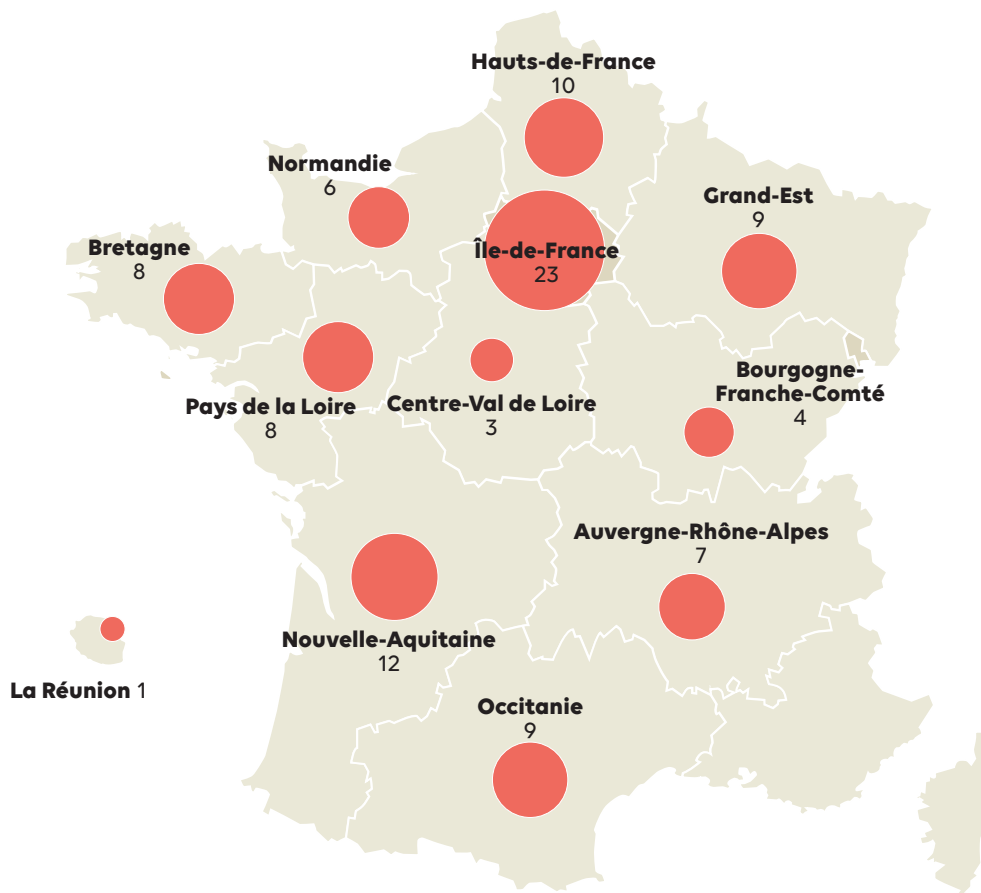
> Visit entreprises.coop/des-chiffres-qui-presentent to download the 2022 edition of the TOP 100 Cooperatives.

- **4 cooperative groups among the Top 30 agri-food businesses in France:** Groupe Agrial (3rd), Sodiaal (5th), Cooperl Arc Atlantique (10th), Terrena (15th)
- **14 retailer cooperatives among the top 100 French retailers:** E.Leclerc (1st), Super U (4th), Hyper U (15th), U Proxi (24th), Giphar (33rd), Intersport (28th), Mr Bricolage (36th), Biocoop (40th), BigMat (52nd), Optic 2000 (59th), Krys (61st), Weldom (70th), JouéClub (84th), Sport 2000 (87th)
- **3 cooperative groups among the top 6 French banks** (ACPR 2021): Crédit Agricole, BPCE, Crédit Mutuel



COOPERATIVES ARE ROOTED IN THE REGIONS

Cooperatives are firmly rooted in their regions, meeting the needs of members locally and enabling them to fulfil their projects where they live. Forging partnerships with their regions, they have a strong impact on local development and regeneration



77% of large French cooperatives are outside of Paris

Map 1 Geographical distribution of the headquarters of the 100 largest cooperatives





COOPERATIVE MEMBERS
12% REPRESENT AT LEAST
OF THE WORLD
POPULATION

Source: the International Cooperative Alliance.

COOPERATIVES AN INTERNATIONAL REALITY

**Cooperatives are not solely a French phenomenon.
They are an international reality.**



3 MILLION
COOPERATIVES
AROUND THE WORLD



10% OF THE WORLD
WORKFORCE



1 BILLION
MEMBERS



280 MILLION
JOBS WORLDWIDE



IN FOCUS

The top two cooperatives are French

According to the World Cooperative Monitor (2021), **the 300 largest cooperatives and mutuals had a combined turnover of US\$2,180 billion in 2019, up from 2018.**

Two French cooperative banking groups were ranked first and second – Groupe Crédit Agricole (with 142,675 FTE employees in 2019) and Groupe BPCE (105,019 employees in 2019) respectively – while the German group REWE (241,691 employees in 2019) took third place.

French cooperatives are well represented in the world's Top 300:

- **3 French banking groups:** Groupe Crédit Agricole (1st), Groupe BPCE (2nd), Groupe Crédit Mutuel (8th)
- **5 retailer cooperatives:** ACDLEC – E.Leclerc (6th), Système U (21st), Astera (90th), Biocoop (241st), Krys Group (286th)
- **16 agricultural cooperatives:** Agrial (73rd), In Vivo (84th), Sodiaal Union (88th), Terrena (97th), Tereos (105th), Vivescia (126th), Axérial (145th), Cooperl Arc Atlantique (156th), Groupe Even (169th), Limagrain (194th), Lur Berri (234th), Euralis Groupe (239th), Maisadour (244th), Natup (252nd), Advitam (255th), Cristal Union (296th)

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MORE THAN **17%** OF
THE EUROPEAN POPULATION
ARE MEMBERS OF A **COOPERATIVE**.



COOPERATIVES IN EUROPE

Cooperatives have a strong impact across Europe
and provide over 4.7 million jobs.



176,000
COOPERATIVES



€1000
BILLION
TOTAL TURNOVER



141 MILLION
MEMBERS



4.7 MILLION
EMPLOYEES



IN FOCUS

France leads Europe for cooperatives

Based on turnover, France is well ahead of Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. **Ten French cooperatives are among the 30 largest cooperatives in Europe.**

Of the 300 largest cooperatives in the world in 2019, 159 are European businesses, 35 of which are French.

Additional information

A comparative study of the top 100 cooperatives in France, Europe and world by Oliver Frey for Coop FR (January 2022) is available on

>> www.entreprises.coop

Go further

>> www.coopseurope.coop

FRENCH COOPERATIVES 2020 FIGURES

TYPE OF COOPERATIVE	NUMBER OF COOPERATIVES	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	TURNOVER (billion euros)
Agricultural	2,200 cooperatives, consortia and public-interest companies (SICA) 11,510 agricultural equipment co-ops (CUMA)	380,000 farmers ¹ 199,000 (CUMA)	180,000 farmers 4,800 (CUMA)	8.6 ² 0.6 (CUMA)
Artisan	124	20,569	69,875 ³	1.3
Retailer	104 groups 185 chains 50,037 stores	31,383 business owners	562,585	156
Fishing	85	5,000 fishers	700	0.8
Haulage	15	966 haulers	38,287 ³	0.1
Consumer	45	950,000 consumers	4,900	1.3
Low-income housing (HLM)	160	83,852 users	3,079	0.6
Co-housing	31	400 residents	-	-
School	42,512	4,978,592 members	121	0.4
Worker (SCOP)⁴	2,666	34,798 members including 29,754 employee members	65,552	6.7
Community-Interest (SCIC)⁴	1,084	83,306 members	10,140	0.8
Self-employed (CAE)⁴ (64% Scop ; 29% Scic)	153	3,500 entrepreneur-employees	11,500	0.3
Banking	3 banking groups	28,229,590 customers	325,538	74 ⁵
Groupe Crédit Agricole	39 regional banks 2,404 local banks 6,800 branches	11,000,000	142,000	34 ⁵
BPCE	29 regional banks 7,800 branches	9,134,758	100,344	22.5 ⁵
Caisse d'Épargne	15 regional banks	4,434,758	33,931	6.9 ⁵
Banque Populaire	14 regional banks	4,700,000	30,470	6.3 ⁵
Groupe Crédit Coopératif	114 branches	99,070	1,965	0.4 ⁵
Groupe Crédit Mutuel	15 regional and cross-regional federations 19 regional banks 20,059 local banks 5,433 local branches	8,094,832 customers	83,194	17.5 ⁵
TOTAL	22,575 ⁶	30,022,359	1,265,577	329.3

1. Estimate based on the percentage of farmers who are members of a cooperative (source: Observatoire BPCE 2021) and the total number of farmers in 2018 (source: MSA). 2. 2019 data. 3. Employees in cooperatives and member firms. 4. The majority of worker cooperatives (SCOPs), Community-interest cooperatives (SCICs) and Self-employed entrepreneur cooperatives (CAEs) are members of CG-SCOP, the federation of French worker cooperatives. 5. Net banking income. 6. Excluding school cooperatives and local branches of cooperative banks; including local member banks of cooperative banks and agricultural-equipment cooperatives (CUMAs). NB: The turnover figures for retailer and fishing cooperatives include the turnover of their member businesses. The number of employees in retailer, artisan and haulage cooperatives includes employees in member businesses. In French corporate law, 'artisans' are entrepreneurs in skilled manual trades and services (translator's note).

METHODOLOGY

The boundaries of the cooperative universe:

As defined by Coop FR, the cooperative universe encompasses:

- > firms with the cooperative legal form,
- > cooperative groups made up of cooperatives,
- > firms in which one cooperative or a group of cooperatives has a controlling interest (public limited companies in which one or more cooperatives hold more than 50% of the capital and voting rights). A cooperative group made up of cooperatives is regarded as a single cooperative.

The cooperative universe as used in this publication includes not just firms that have the legal form of a cooperative but also their members (when the members are firms)

and their subsidiaries: This in effect is the 'corporate boundaries' of cooperatives and offers a broader account of their economic and social impact regionally and locally. This approach extends the methodology used by the Observatoire national de l'ESS for studying the social and solidarity economy, which includes the 'cooperative core'.

Parent cooperatives, partner firms, and subsidiaries form a coherent whole made up of complementary organisations. Over the course of past editions of the survey, the structure of some cooperatives may have evolved as organisations change. From a financial and legal point of view, and in terms of employment, cooperatives and their subsidiaries are tightly bound together by their responsibilities. These connections justify using the 'corporate boundaries' to calculate consolidated turnover and number of employees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

L'Observatoire national de l'économie sociale et solidaire (ONESS), responsible for providing the data for the Survey of Cooperatives, monitors and measures the SSE in France at the national and regional levels. ONESS is at the centre of the network made up of ESS France and the Observatoires regionaux de l'ESS (ORESS) run by CRESS. Regional bodies that compile data and share research on the SSE, the *observatoires* employ the same, consistent, analytical methodology to provide studies, monitoring, and decision-making and planning tools for both SSE organisations (networks, federations, businesses) and government.

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Coop FR is part of
the global cooperative movement

