

FRANCE



Budget: In 2020, France spent 4 889 157 842 € on the implemented judicial system budget: 72.5€ per inhabitant (above the CoE median) and 0.21% of the GDP (below the CoE median). The judicial system budget in France is stable, while the European median is constantly increasing. In 2020, 72% were spent on courts, 18% on prosecution services, and 10% on legal aid. As there is one single budget of courts and prosecution services, the data are based on a distribution key of 80% courts/20% prosecution.

ICT in judiciary

In 2020, the ICT index (5,9) increased significantly by 0,8 points but is still below the CoE median. Since 2020, a digital criminal procedure and the Legal aid information system (SIAJ) are being implemented at national level. The single electronic counter was created in 2019 in commercial matters. The investment in ICT represents 2,2% of the court budget.

Child-friendly justice

In police stations and gendarmeries, there are specially equipped hearing rooms (Melanie rooms) dedicated to minors, and offices pre-equipped to accommodate mobile audio-visual and video recording equipment dedicated to this type of hearings. In hospitals, there are paediatric reception units which provide multidisciplinary care for minors and paediatric child-at-risk units that limit the psychological impact of the legal proceedings on minor victims.

Domestic violence

The 2021 European Crystal Scales of Justice prize was awarded to France for the project "Simplified filing of complaints in hospitals for victims of domestic violence". Investigating authorities can receive complaints from victims of domestic violence directly in medical facilities. Victims benefit from a simplified procedure and the possibility to lodge a complaint at the very moment and place where the violence was reported.

Efficiency: Contrary to the European trend, in France, administrative cases are faster than civil litigious cases. The courts are the fastest in 3rd instance criminal cases, but with a DT above the CoE median. Civil litigious cases seemed to have the highest DT combined for all three instances, the values going far beyond the respective CoE medians. The highest DT was given for 1st instance civil litigious cases. The DT indicator is below the CoE median only in 1st instance administrative cases.

The adverse influence of the COVID-19 caused the efficiency of the courts to decrease, in certain case types considerably. The health crisis and the lockdown resulted in a decrease in the number of incoming cases, but also and mainly in the number of resolved cases. Prior to this, a major lawyers' strike and a transport strike had mainly affected resolved cases.

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Gender balance



0.98

2012

Courts (per 100 000 inhabitants)



First instance general and specialised courts (legal entities) Specialised courts General jurisdiction courts 1,76 1.65 1.62 1,19 1.19 1.17



0,96

2016

0,97

2014



1:25

2020

1,50

1.00

2020

0,96

2018

ICT in judiciary (index from 0 to 10)



Salary at the begining of career 46 149€

Absolute gross salaries



123 213 €

Ratio with the average annual gross salary

Salary at the begining of career







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CEPEJ efficiency indicators



Public prosecution services





Discontinued during the reference year2.45Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed
or negotiated by the public prosecutor0.71Cases closed by the public prosecutor for
other reasonsNAPCases brought to court0.79

Distribution of discontinued cases per 100 inhabitants



Note: There are different methodologies on calculating number of cases in prosecution statistics by event or by perpetrator. CEPEJ collects data per case (event) but some countries present it by perpetrator.

0.68

Judiciary related websites

1. Legal texts

http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/

2. Case-law of the higher court/s

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr

3. Information about the judicial system <u>https://www.justice.gouv.fr;</u> https://www.pre-plainte-en-ligne.gouv.fr