

## MILMET Project

### IO1-Handbook: Country's situation

#### **Migrants' situation in France**

By its written History, France is known to be a multicultural country. Its 2 913 kilometres long borders are shared with 8 countries ([Cairn, 2022](#)): Belgium, Luxemburg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Andorra, Monaco, and Spain. These borders give access the main French country of Europe by terrestrial routes.

In 2020, most migrants arriving in France come from African countries (41%). Other regions of origin are European countries (32%) and Asian countries (16,1%) or even America or Oceania (10,9%) ([Insee, 2022](#)). Among the African, most were born in Morocco (9,5%), Algeria (7,1%), Tunisia (4,5%). Among the European, most were born in Italy (4,5%), Spain (3,3%), United-Kingdom (3,2%).

#### **I. Immigration procedure**

When entering the country, migrants go through both a security and a medical check. Once the first step is completed, migrants submit an asylum application whose investigation will be given by [OFPRA](#) (French Office of Refugees and Stateless people Protection, 2023). Meanwhile migrants obtain an official authorization to stay in France or a residence permit, OFII (French Office of Immigration and Integration) is in charge of the identification of their education level. In relation to the CIR (Republic Integration Contract) ([Service Public, 2021](#)) and according to the results of the taken tests, either migrants must attend mandatory French classes or are exempted to pass the A1 level (CECRL). Several criteria determine the access to and right to stay France for migrants:

- seek political asylum;
- family reunification;
- long stay visa;
- medical visit.

In 2021, France notices:

- 104 190 asylum seekers ([OFII, p.18](#)) ;
- among the 73,8% demands, refugees' main origins are : the Maghreb (51,6%), Cameroon, Ivory coast and Senegal (11,9%) ([OFII, p.33](#)) ;
- 29 004 family reunification demands of which 11 358 were admitted;
- 53 260 medical visits achieved in OFII offices.

Demands of legal stay increased drastically since the covid-19 crisis. Also, the gap between the pending demands and the French official acceptance is greater than ever before since 2007.

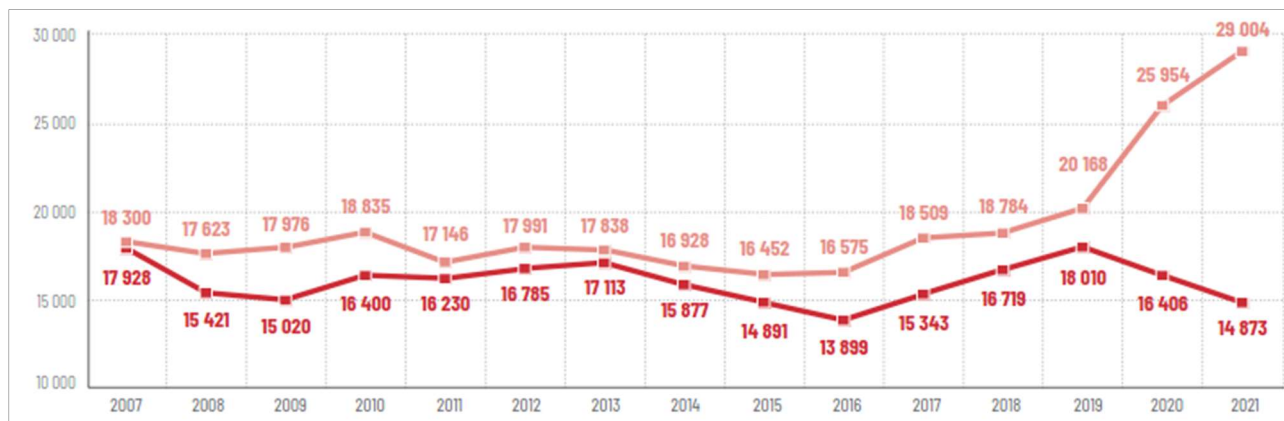


Figure 1 Submitted migration demands (pink) and admitted ones (red) from 2007-2021, OFII <sup>1</sup>

## II. Immigration housing

According to their reason of staying in France, migrants can be housed in different structures (CIMADE, 2019):

- ☐ SAS (CAES / CAO): first solution of short-term (10 days) housing when the situation of migrant person is not officially settled. Acronym stands for: reception center and (either) orientation (or) situation analysis ;
- ☐ HUDA: emergency housing solution in regional areas. Acronym stands for : Emergency housing for asylum seekers (Gouv.fr, 2023) ;
- ☐ CADA: housing solution for people whose asylum application is pending. Acronym stands for : reception center for asylum seekers (RFSMS, 2023) ;
- ☐ CPH: Acronym stands for : temporary accommodation center.

<sup>1</sup>

[https://www.ofii.fr/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/HR\\_RA\\_OFII\\_2021\\_21x297\\_p3\\_p114\\_compressed.pdf](https://www.ofii.fr/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/HR_RA_OFII_2021_21x297_p3_p114_compressed.pdf)

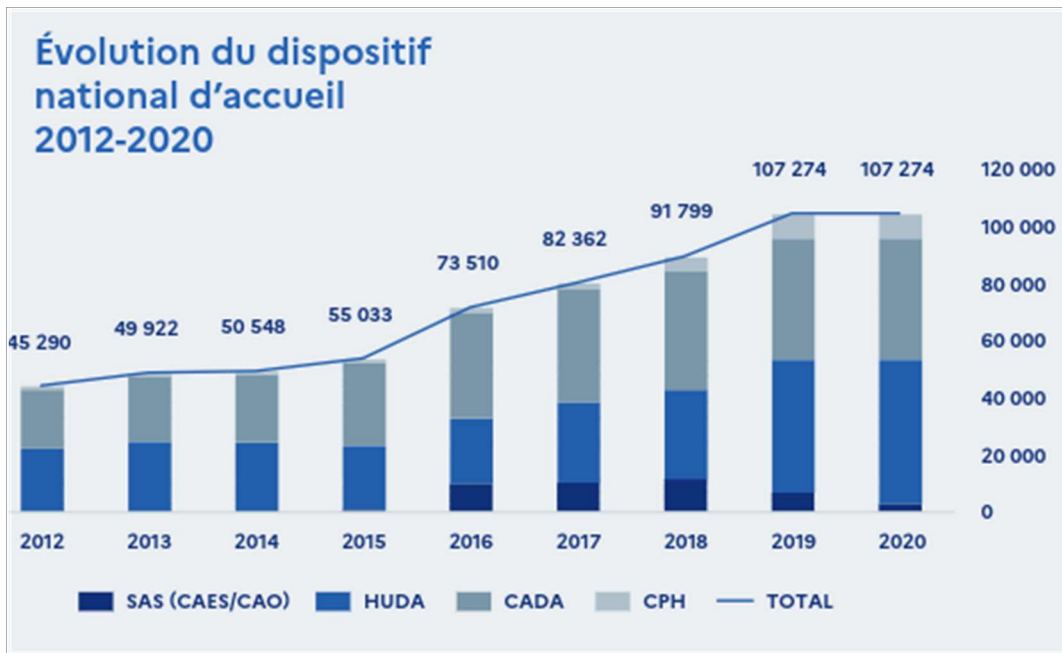


Figure 2 National plan for the reception of asylum seekers and the integration of refugees 2021-2023, Ministry of Home Office <sup>2</sup>

The distribution of migrant people in the housing solutions in France shows the different migration organization of the territory.

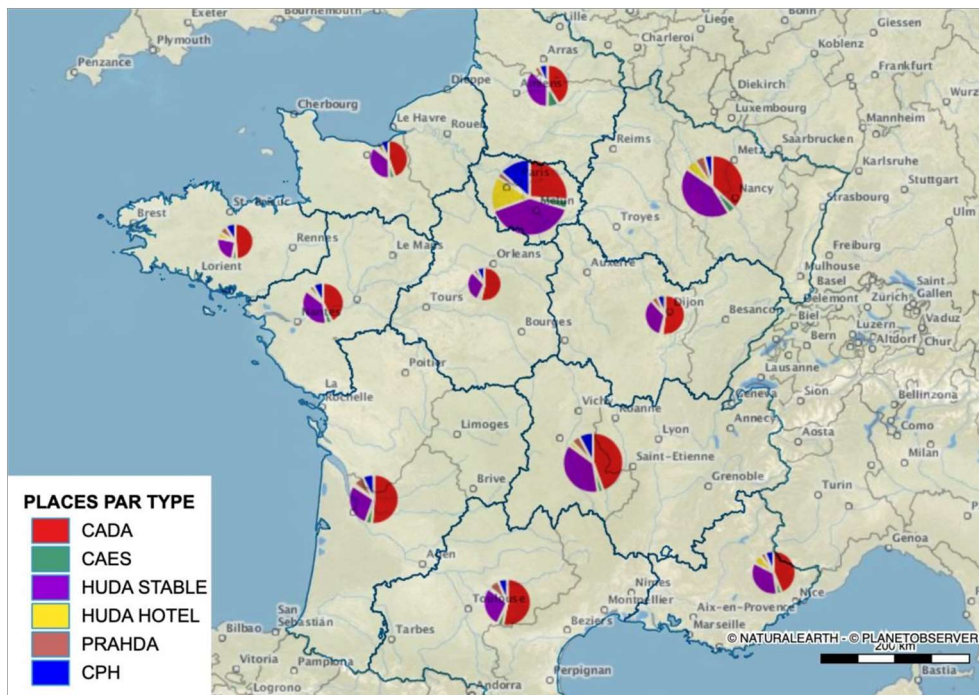


Figure 3 National organization of migrants' housing in each regional capital city (CIMADE, 2023) <sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/content/download/125575/1004750/file/Snadar-17dec2020.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.lacimade.org/schemas-regionaux-daccueil-des-demandeurs-dasile-quel-etat-des-lieux/>



### III. Migrants' incorporation to the French labour market

From the moment an adult migrant person is legal in France, he/she is helped by the Job Centre (Pole Emploi) to find a job that suits best his/her needs. Current unemployment rates come close to a 7% in Metropolitan France (Insee, 2023). In both genders, the highest rates are identified in the 15-25 yo bracket (women: 14,8% ; men : 18,6%). As covid-crisis has surely played a role in these rates, human capital is also a source of inequality. Among its factors, origins group and education level carry weight in the incorporation of migrants to the French labour market (Brinbaum, Y., 2018). This can either be related to the “duration of stay in France, nationality, the problem of recognition of qualifications, language skills and more” (Chiswick & Miller, 2014). A solution to many discriminating items of those could be the knowledge of the French labour market and the passing of the language barrier, as is noticed that many migrants use their personal networks to find a job (“social capital” (Brinbaum<sup>4</sup>, Y. 2018), rather than following a (non mandatory) training to access to skilled positions.

Two formation-working plans are currently operating in France (Prefecture, 2023) :

- **HOPE**, standing for Housing, Orientation and People's Employment support: this plan aims to ease migrants' integration to the French society and therefore to the labour market. This plan's approach is to train migrant job seekers for (skilled) jobs in the sectors experiencing shortages. It also includes housing and administrative and social care ;

- **AGIR** (previously known as ACCELAIR, 2018) , standing for Global Care and Refugees' Integration : as there are many plans to help refugees with their integration in their new home country, AGIR aims to be a complementary plan to the previous ones, helping refugees for an average period of 20 months (for housing, training and administrative rights) throughout a coordination with other organizations.

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<sup>4</sup> Brinbaum, Y. (2018). Incorporation of Immigrants and Second Generations into the French Labour Market: Changes between Generations and the Role of Human Capital and Origins. *Social Inclusion*, 6(3), 104-118. doi:<https://doi.org/10.17645/si.v6i3.1453>

#### **IV. Migrants' incorporation to the labour market in Haute-Garonne**

In 2019, the Haute-Garonne area has an employment rate of 75,3% for the 15-64 y.o. residents. In the Haute-Garonne area, 13% of the Ukrainian adult refugees are taken charge of by Pole Emploi ([France bleu](#), 2023) this year. It is "still a low percentage" as the deputy prefect H el ene Lastarquit says, but it is also encouraging as Ukrainian refugees have a temporary permit of stay allowing them to find a job.

Currently, there are few statistics about migrants' incorporation to the local labour market in the Haute-Garonne area. However, several professional associations and non-profit organizations gather data about employment in order to consider the needs of the market, as well for job seekers as recruiting organizations. In fact, each year, the French job seekers agency lists the jobs with the most job offers both on the region scale and on the department scale about ([IMT de Pole Emploi](#), 2023). For example: personal care (childcare, adult care), accounting, caretaker, order assistant, all jobs being displayed with the job-offers' link.

Then, a regional job seekers agency summarises more details about the local labour market with data about administrative districts. Consequently, many data about sociodemographic, labour-market, training offers, training centers can be found there. However, no identification of foreign people from the migration flow can be found yet. In the "Comminges" administrative district (zone), as the chart shows, the unemployment rates are close to the regional (Occitanie) rates.

Finally, a local labour-market organization aims to make job-seekers and recruiting companies meet by displaying all the informations into one website: Job-en-Comminges. According to their local datas, the main recruiting sectors around Saint-Gaudens are (as shown below): healthcare (nurse, nursing auxiliary, personal care assistant), construction industry, industry (mechanic), catering and food service and large retailers (department supervisor).

The lack of information about migrants' integration to the labour market might reveal several interpretations:

- migrant job seekers commit to a training and do not access to the labour-market in the long term well enough to be taken into account in the rates;
- migrant job seekers have moved to another region, department or administrative district;
- migrant job seekers have moved out from France;
- migrant job seekers or with a migration background are not (yet) a criteria taken into account when rates about labour-market are made.

Still, in the Comminges administrative district, migrants' can have a full training-job-integration process at AFIDEL's, as long as their residence permit is still valid and their domiciliation remains the same. To do so, they:

- attend to a (mandatory - OFII) linguistic training for the first language level (A1) ;
- attend to a second linguistic training for the second language level (A2);
- attend to a third linguistic training to take an exam (DELF) and testify their A2/B1 level, and also have an internship to confirm their career objectives;
- attend to a francophone training about their future job;
- become an employee in an organic-garden of the *Cocagne* Network, known as a welfare-to-work program.