

PARIS, MAY 21, 2024

## What career paths are open to international students trained in France?

*As part of the 2nd World Alumni Day, Campus France, in partnership with the Verian Institute (formerly Kantar Public), is publishing the results of its survey of 10,000 international students educated in France. The aim: to measure the long-term benefits of this experience on their career path and the importance of the link created with France.*

[Download the survey \(French\)](#)

### A sample of over 10,000 respondents

More than 10,000 alumni responded to the survey at the end of 2023. With an average age of 33, most of them have studied in France over the last ten years, and half of them have been awarded a scholarship. 54% of respondents were men and 46% women. The sample is geographically diverse, with alumni from 154 countries, particularly from the following: Sub-Saharan Africa (28%), North Africa - Middle East (21%), Europe (20%), Americas (18%) and Asia-Oceania (12%) – see Appendix 1.

### A majority of degree-seeking university students among respondents

The vast majority of respondents came to study in France for the purpose of getting a degree: **70%** by pursuing **diploma-seeking programs** and **12%** through **joint degree** programs. Nearly **two out of ten respondents** came to France as part of an **academic exchange**, including over a third via the Erasmus+ program (35% of 19%).

Nearly **seven out of ten alumni** studied in France in a **university** (68%), **two out of ten** in an **engineering school** (20%) and **one out of ten** in a **business school** (9%). Nearly **seven out of ten respondents** were enrolled at **Master's** level during their studies in France (69%).

## Studying in France: advantages for your career

A third of alumni continued their education after studying in France: **96%** of them declare that it was an asset for their further studies.

**87% of alumni found a job within a year of studying in France** (73% within 6 months). For **88%** of them, the job met their expectations in terms of profession, sector and salary level. – see appendix 2.

**91% of respondents say that their studies in France were an asset in helping them get their first job.** Nearly one in two alumni found their first job in France (48%), 44% in their country of origin, and 8% in another country.

## A career-long advantage

**80%** of alumni currently work in an intellectual or managerial professions: 55% in an intellectual and scientific profession; 25% in manager or executive positions – see appendix 3.

**90%** of respondents say that their studies in France were an asset in helping them get their first job.

## FRANCE ALUMNI DAY 2024

The results of this survey are being published to coincide with the 2nd edition [World Alumni Day](#) on the theme: "French-speaking talent, global careers". Launched in 2023 by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, this operation is organised by Campus France to celebrate French higher education graduates and their achievements across all five continents. Over 200 events took place worldwide during the first event. [An evening event was held at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs on May 15, 2024.](#)

In line with this global operation, Campus France and the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs are implementing a **strategy to improve the France Alumni network**, created in 2014. This **global action plan** aims to expand the French higher education alumni community – which now numbers almost **380,000 members** – and increase its impact and influence.

This strategy relies on **four key principles**:

1. Increasing membership and commitment by offering new services and benefits
2. Incorporating an "alumni mindset" into all diplomatic post activities
3. Connecting with alumni institutions and associations by working as a network of networks
4. Optimising the France Alumni platform

## The French language is central to the experience of studying in France

Studying in France **significantly increased alumni's French speaking aptitudes**. Just about half of respondents declared that they could speak two languages before their studies in France (47%): more than three quarters at the end of their stay (76%). **Almost 80% of alumni now use the French language in their daily business** and/or personal lives – see appendix 4.

## Alumni, ambassadors for France

**93% of respondents have a positive image of France:** the words most often used to describe their experience are "discovery, enriching, freedom, culture" – see appendix 5.

Staying in France for study purposes majorly contributes to France's attractiveness as a business location for alumni: nearly nine out of ten say it has a positive effect on their desire to work with French people (88%), and more than eight out of ten say it has a positive effect on their desire to work with French companies (85%).

**96% of alumni are ambassadors for France**, recommending it for study, 97% for vacation, 85% for work, 82% for living.

## Campus France

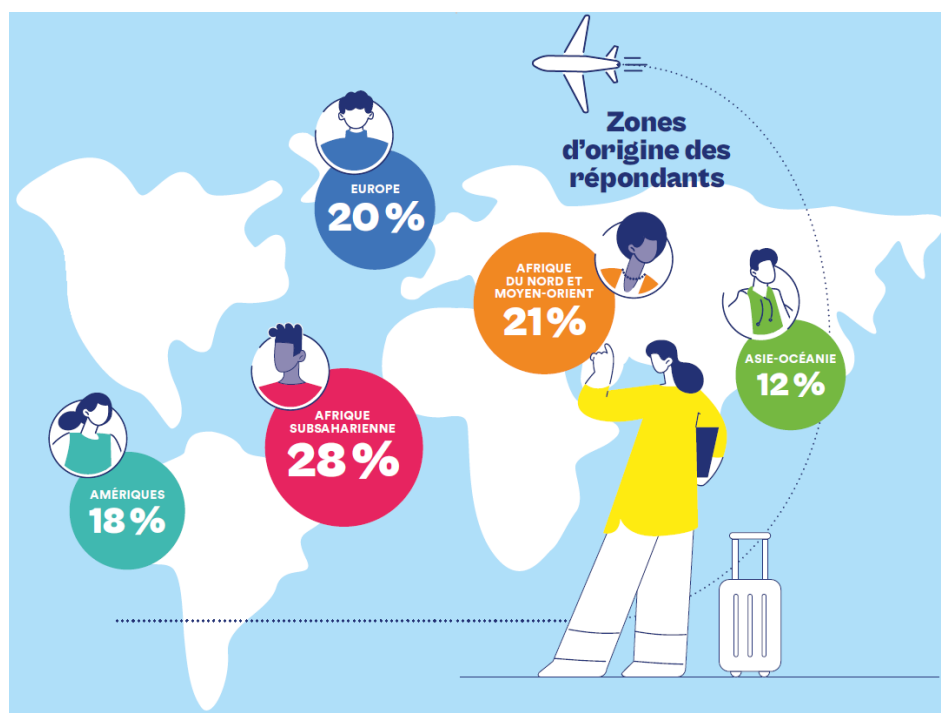
Campus France promotes the attractiveness of French higher education to international students. It also manages French and foreign government grants, supports students and researchers in their mobility, manages the France Alumni network and analyses student mobility in France and worldwide. The agency coordinates the Campus France Forum in France (372 establishments). Worldwide, it relies on the 275 Espaces Campus France, under the authority of French embassies in 134 countries.

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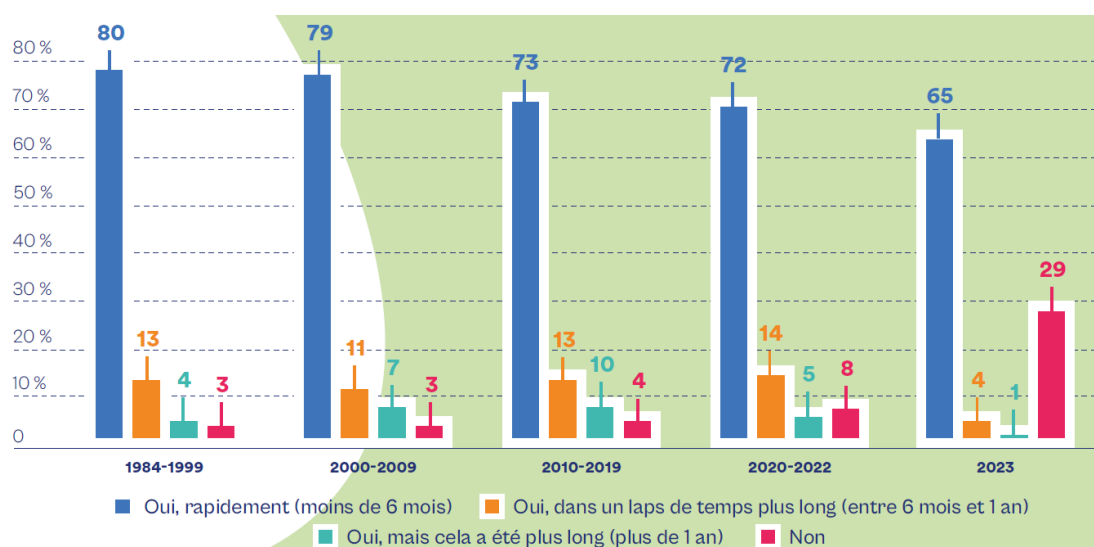
## APPENDIX 1

### Origin regions of alumni surveyed



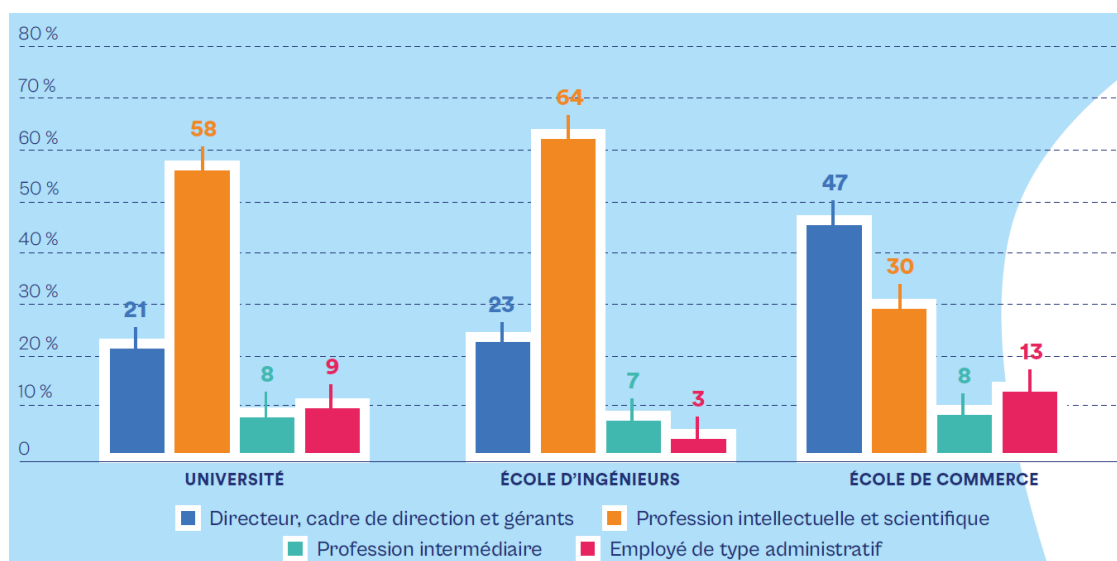
## APPENDIX 2

How quickly alumni find employment, by year of graduation in France (question "Did you find a job when you finished your studies?", as a percentage)



## APPENDIX 3

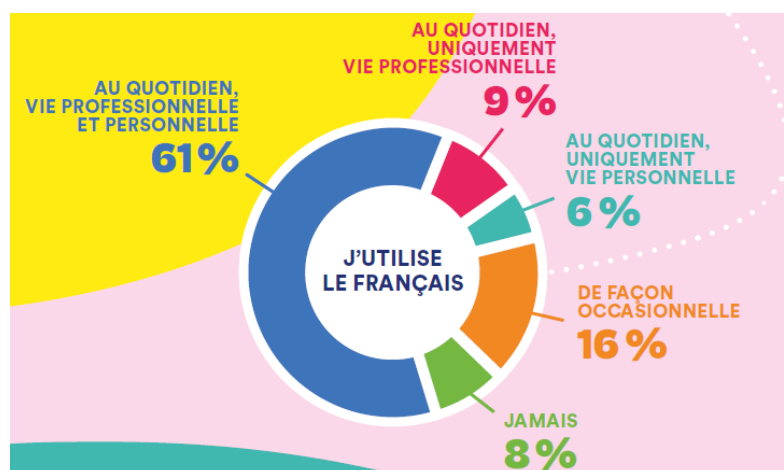
### Alumni's current professions



More than half of alumni are currently working in a private company (54%), over a third in a public administration or company (36%), and the remainder are in associations/NGOs (5%) or are self-employed (5%). The main professional sectors are education (17%), IT (12%), industry (8%), the civil service (8%) and finance (5%).

## APPENDIX 4

### Use of the French language



French is widely perceived as having been a professional asset: **88%** of French-speaking respondents consider that knowing this language has been an asset in their professional life.

## APPENDIX 5

Words used by alumni to describe their experience in France (French and English being the possible languages of response)

