



The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region is a stronghold for agri-food businesses due to its natural resources, its significant number of consumers (a population of 8 million, France's second most densely populated region) and a strategic geographical situation, bolstered by major communication infrastructure.



## SPECIFIC FEATURES AND STRENGTHS OF THE SECTOR

The region is at the forefront of three industries: **meat, dairy and beverages**. These **three sectors account for almost 54% of salaried jobs** in the sector within the region, of which 24% for the meat sector alone.

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is the leading producer of dry curing. With an annual output of 130,000 tonnes, it **ranks third for the production of charcuterie**.

The beverage sector is singled out by the presence of some of the main **French mineral water springs (Vichy, Evian, Volvic, Badoit)**, as well as world-renowned wine production (Côtes du Rhône, Beaujolais).

Agriculture also has a strong presence in the region; its 3 million hectares of arable land rank it 4th in France. It has **54,000 farms**, which account for some **102,000 workers in permanent employment**.

The organic produce industry has strong growth in the two départements of Drôme and Ardèche, with **5,380 producers working with organic practices**.

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes has an abundance of specialities: **wine** what with the Côtes du Rhône and Beaujolais, **pasta** with crozets and others, Auvergne **cheeses**, water, olives and more.

In all, **77 PDOs and 59 PGIs** are registered in the territory.

Furthermore, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is ranked **third region in France** in terms of numbers of manufacturers making animal feed.

Lastly, the energy bar market for sportspeople is experiencing strong growth in the region, with a growing number of players on this niche.



## KEY FIGURES

### FOR THE SECTOR

- **2,500 companies**
- **41,000 employees**  
i.e. 11% of agri-food jobs in France
- **€9,4 billion in turnover**
- **#1 region for the production and processing of organic produce** with 5,380 producers
- **77 PDOs (Protected Designation of Origin) and 59 PGIs (Protected Geographical Indication)**

# 12

## MAIN AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN THE SECTOR

- Meat industry (production and processing)
- Dairy industry (production and processing)
- Beverages (water, wine, etc.)
- Chocolate industry
- Coffee roasting
- Bread and pasta products
- Ready-meal processing
- Production of health foods and nutritional products
- Farms and cereal processing
- Animal feed
- Fruit and vegetable processing and canning

## JOBS AND TRAINING

# #3

**REGION IN FRANCE FOR JOBS IN THE AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY, WITH 41,000 EMPLOYEES**

Training centres educate future employees of the sector at every level and throughout the territory:

- the universities of **Clermont-Ferrand, Lyon and Grenoble**,
- the engineering schools **ISARA, VetAgroSup and AgroParisTech**.

There are also many training courses through apprenticeship and a network of 120 agricultural colleges (Les Sardières in Bourg-en-Bresse 01, La Martellière in Voiron 38, La Rochefort-Montagne 63, etc.)

## THE SECTOR'S ECOSYSTEM



The associations **ARIA Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes** and **Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Gourmand** represent and promote the sector, both in France and abroad.



The clusters **Vegepolys Valley, Cluster Bio Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes** and **Terralia-PASS** facilitate the network of companies, laboratories and training institutes.



The research and innovation centres **INRAE** and **Alimentec**, technical centres **ADIV, NOVALIM, CTCPA**, and public laboratories and engineering schools (**VetAgroSup Clermont-Ferrand, ISARA Lyon**, etc.) contribute to innovation in the sector.



## COMPANIES ESTABLISHED

IN AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES



Contact us:  
[www.invest-in-auvergnerhonealpes.com](http://www.invest-in-auvergnerhonealpes.com)  
**+33 (0)4 73 19 59 97**

