

# France: A deforestation exposure assessment

## Headlines

**7,500 ha**

France's average annual deforestation exposure in 2021–2023, from **direct trade**

**10,500 ha**

France's average annual deforestation exposure in 2021–2023, **adjusted for re-exports**

**-52.5%**

change in total deforestation exposure from 2014–2023, **adjusted for re-exports**

## Methods note

This factsheet provides an estimate of the deforestation footprint of France's imports, combining data on global bilateral trade and the deforestation associated with 160+ different agricultural commodities. It is intended to help identify the most likely sources, trends and hotspots in global deforestation exposure. Deforestation exposure is likely to be underestimated for commodities that are often imported in more processed forms, particularly wood and rubber products. Please refer to the end of the factsheet for some key considerations, or read the full [methods note](#) for more detail on data sources and limitations.

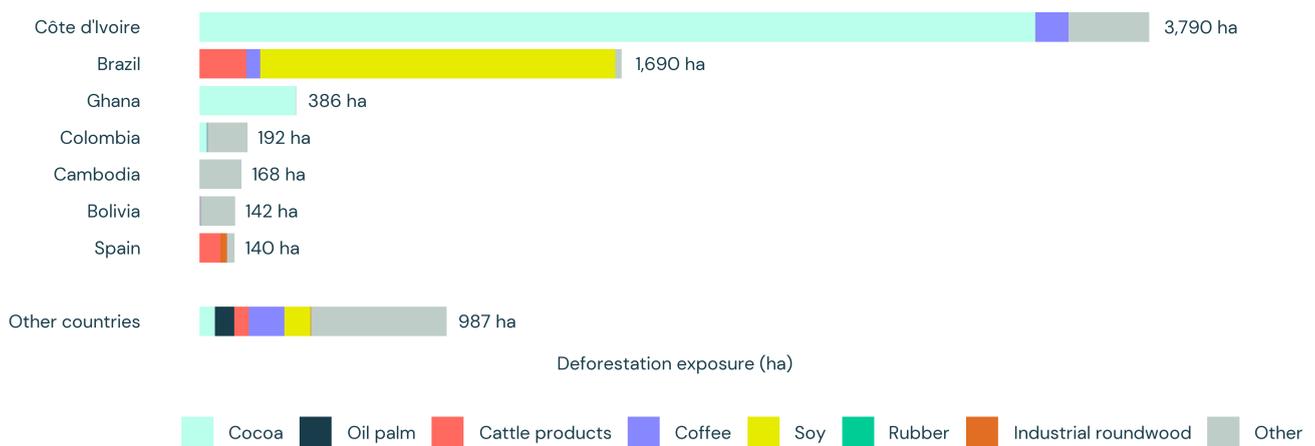
## Deforestation exposure by commodity and trade perspective

France's total deforestation exposure was larger from the re-export adjusted perspective (10,500 ha per year) and smaller from the direct trade perspective (7,500 ha per year). The re-export adjustment process uses a mass-balance approach to estimate the likely true origins and destinations of products where supply chains involve multiple trade steps. For more information, see the accompanying [methods note](#). Numbers are average annual exposure from 2021 to 2023.



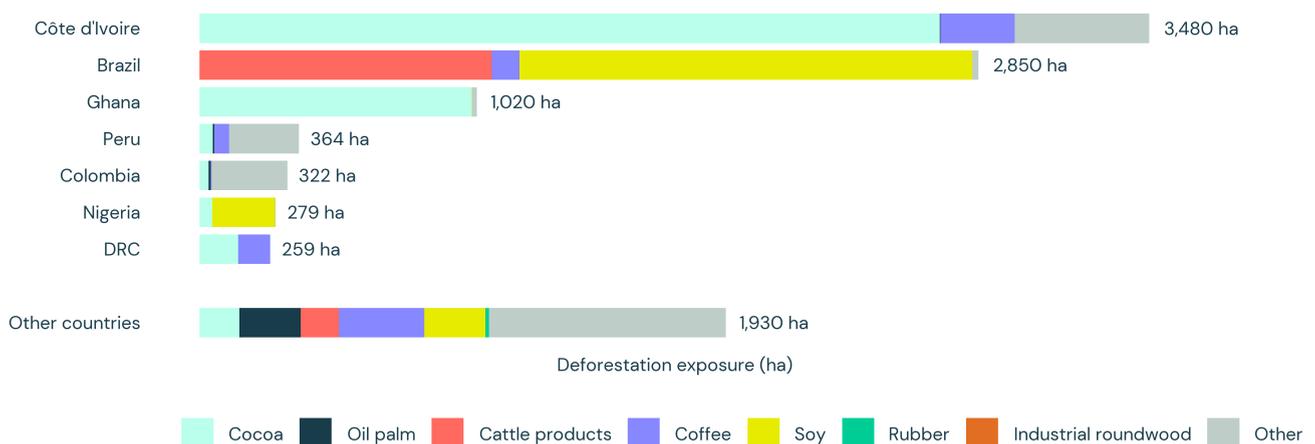
## Direct trade deforestation exposure by origin country and commodity

From a direct trade perspective, on average between 2021 and 2023, France was most exposed to deforestation in Côte d'Ivoire (3,790 ha, 50.6%), followed by Brazil (1,690 ha, 22.5%) and Ghana (386 ha, 5.2%). Across all origin countries, the most important commodities were cocoa (3,810 ha, 50.9%), soy (1,520 ha, 20.3%) and coffee (336 ha, 4.5%). In Côte d'Ivoire, the most important commodity for France's deforestation exposure was cocoa (3,340 ha, 88%), followed by mangoes (214 ha, 5.6%). In Brazil, the most important commodity was soy (1,420 ha, 84.1%), followed by cattle products (187 ha, 11.1%).



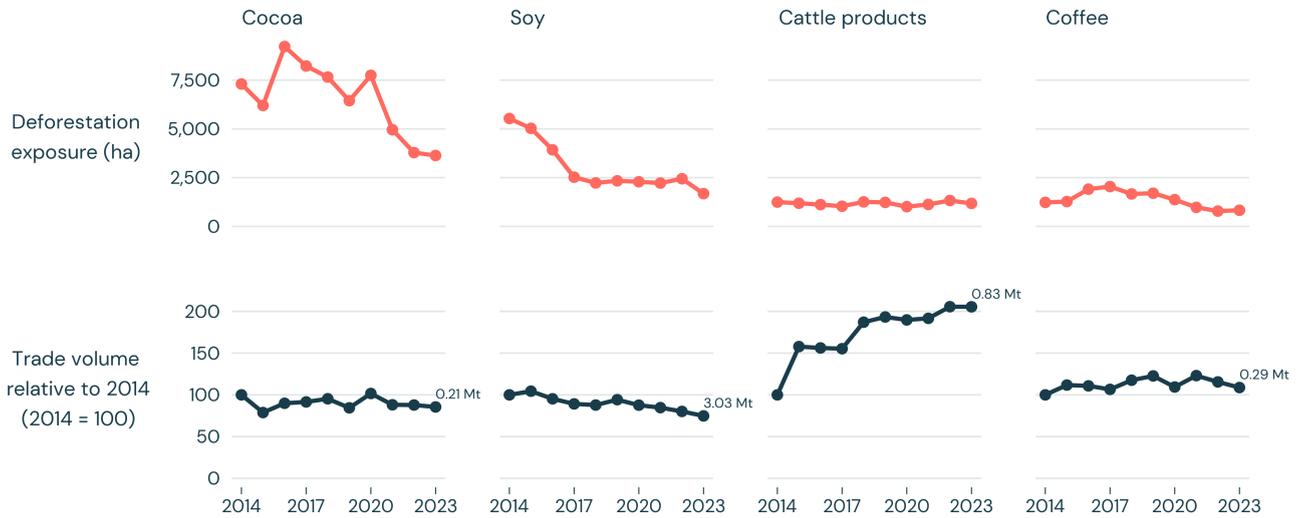
## Re-export adjusted deforestation exposure by origin country and commodity

After adjusting for re-exports, on average between 2021 and 2023, France was most exposed to deforestation in Côte d'Ivoire (3,480 ha, 33.1%), followed by Brazil (2,850 ha, 27.2%) and Ghana (1,020 ha, 9.7%). Across all origin countries, the most important commodities were cocoa (4,120 ha, 39.3%), soy (2,120 ha, 20.1%) and cattle products (1,210 ha, 11.5%). In Côte d'Ivoire, the most important commodity for France's deforestation exposure was cocoa (2,710 ha, 77.9%), followed by coffee (272 ha, 7.8%). In Brazil, the most important commodity was soy (1,660 ha, 58.2%), followed by cattle products (1,070 ha, 37.5%).



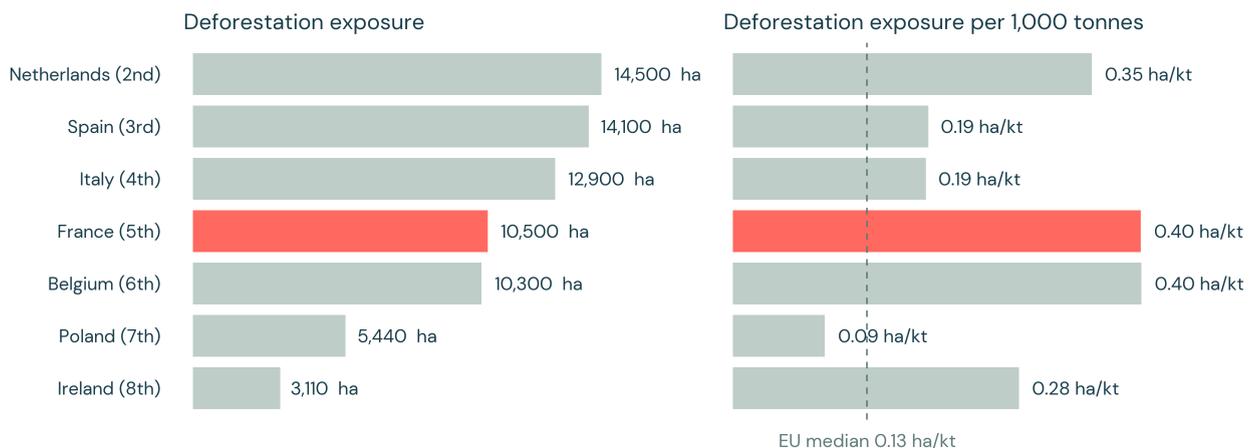
## Trends in deforestation exposure and trade volume for top commodities

The following charts show trends in re-export adjusted deforestation exposure and trade volume for the top four commodities (selected based on total deforestation exposure over the last three years of the time series). Overall, France's total exposure decreased between 2014 and 2023 by 10,100 ha, a change of -52.5%. Of the top seven commodities, soy saw the biggest change over the time series in both absolute and relative terms, with a decrease of -3,850 ha (-69.6%).



## Comparison with deforestation exposure of other EU countries

After adjusting for re-exports, France ranks 5th among EU countries for deforestation exposure, accounting for 9.7% of the EU27 total. Looking at the deforestation per 1,000 tonnes of imported material, France ranks 3rd at 0.4 ha/kt, higher than the EU median of 0.13 ha/kt.



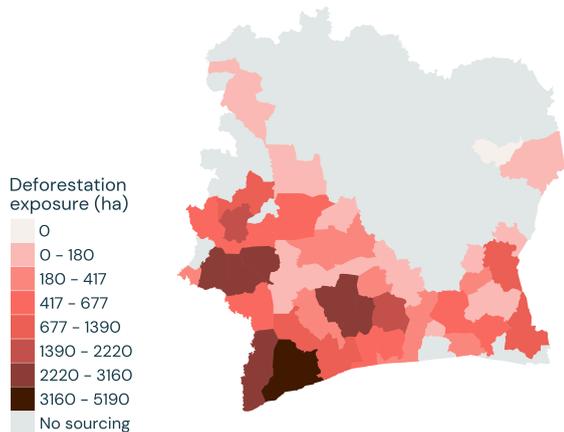
## Subnational deforestation exposure

Estimates of subnational deforestation exposure presented in this section will differ from the national-level estimates presented earlier in the factsheet and are not directly comparable. This reflects different definitions of deforestation (in Brazil, for example, the subnational data includes the conversion of any native vegetation, including ecosystems such as the Cerrado), and other methodological differences (e.g. the time periods used to attribute deforestation to commodities can vary substantially between Trase's subnational data and the global dataset used for this factsheet, and can lead to large differences in estimates). See the [methods note](#) accompanying the factsheet for more information.

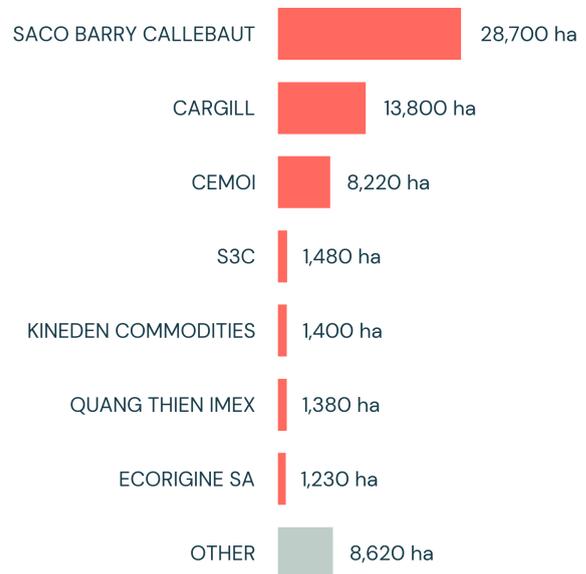
### Côte d'Ivoire cocoa: Subnational detail

Trase data estimates that France was exposed to 64,900 ha of deforestation from its direct imports of Côte d'Ivoire cocoa in 2021, the most recent year with subnational data available. France's deforestation exposure was highest in the departments of San-Pedro (5,190 ha, 8%), Duekoue (3,160 ha, 4.9%) and Tabou (2,940 ha, 4.5%). Indirect sourcing accounted for 28.8% (18,700 ha) of France's deforestation exposure, where it was not possible to determine the department of production. In total, France imported Côte d'Ivoire cocoa from 23 exporters in 2021. The exporter groups most exposed to deforestation were SACO BARRY CALLEBAUT, CARGILL and CEMOI, which together accounted for 78.2% of France's deforestation exposure. To explore the data in more detail, visit [trase.earth](https://trase.earth)

#### Deforestation hotspots for exports to France



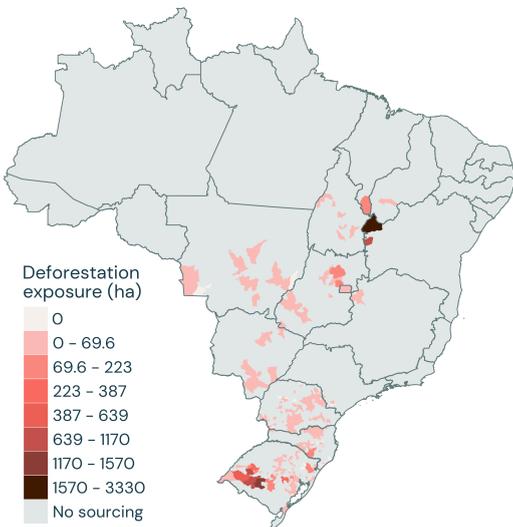
#### Exporter exposure for exports to France



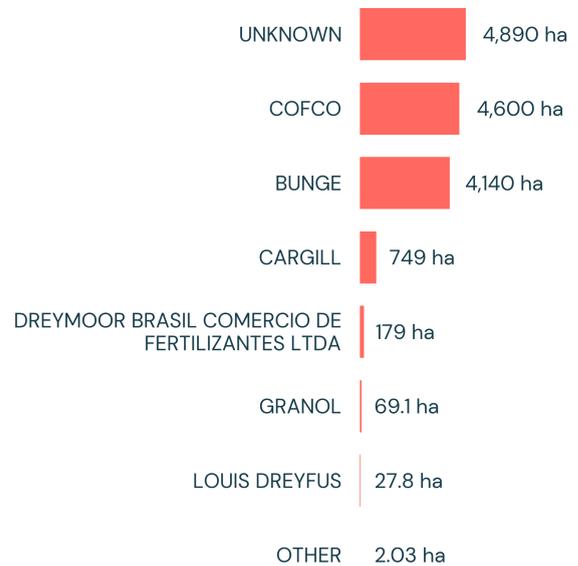
## Brazil soy: Subnational detail

Trase data estimates that France was exposed to 14,700 ha of deforestation from its direct imports of Brazil soy in 2022, the most recent year with subnational data available. France's deforestation exposure was highest in the states of Rio Grande Do Sul (8,200 ha, 56%), Bahia (4,500 ha, 30.7%) and Santa Catarina (634 ha, 4.3%). Zooming in to a finer spatial scale, France sourced Brazil soy from 289 municipalities, while 80% of France's exposure was spread across 15 municipalities. In total, France imported Brazil soy from 8 exporters in 2022. The exporter groups most exposed to deforestation were COFCO, BUNGE and CARGILL, which together accounted for 66.6% of France's deforestation exposure. To explore the data in more detail, visit [trase.earth](https://trase.earth)

### Deforestation hotspots for exports to France



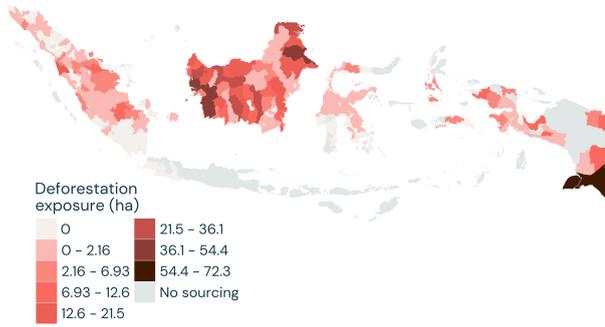
### Exporter exposure for exports to France



## Indonesia palm oil: Subnational detail

Trase data estimates that France was exposed to 893 ha of deforestation from its direct imports of Indonesia palm oil in 2022, the most recent year with subnational data available. France's deforestation exposure was highest in the provinces of Kalimantan Barat (247 ha, 27.6%), Kalimantan Tengah (155 ha, 17.3%) and Papua Tengah (118 ha, 13.2%). Zooming in to a finer spatial scale, France sourced Indonesia palm oil from 242 kabupaten, while 80% of France's exposure was spread across 32 kabupaten. In total, France imported Indonesia palm oil from 1 exporter in 2022. One exporter group was exposed to deforestation: ROYAL GOLDEN EAGLE. To explore the data in more detail, visit [trase.earth](https://trase.earth)

### Deforestation hotspots for exports to France



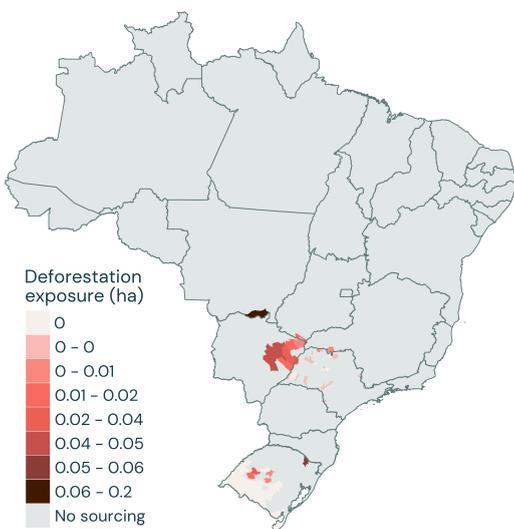
### Exporter exposure for exports to France

In 2022, France was exposed to deforestation (893 ha) from just one exporter group, ROYAL GOLDEN EAGLE.

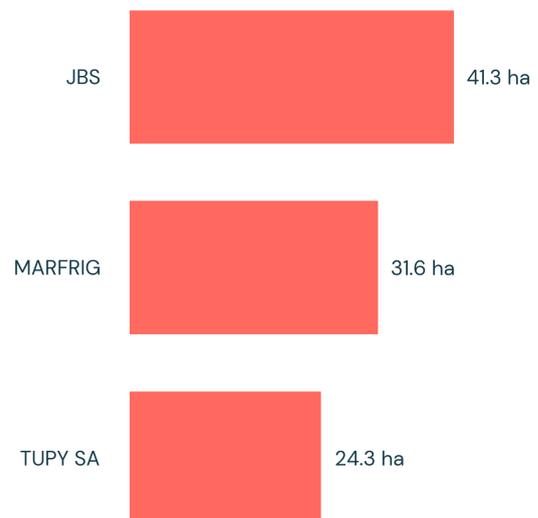
## Brazil beef: Subnational detail

Trase data estimates that France was exposed to 97 ha of deforestation from its direct imports of Brazil beef in 2023, the most recent year with subnational data available. France's deforestation exposure was highest in the states of Mato Grosso (0.2 ha, 0.2%), Mato Grosso Do Sul (0.2 ha, 0.2%) and Rio Grande Do Sul (0.1 ha, 0.1%). For 99.4% of France's imports (96.7 ha), the production location was unknown. In total, France imported Brazil beef from 3 exporters in 2023. The exporter groups most exposed to deforestation were JBS, MARFRIG and TUPY SA, which together accounted for 100% of France's deforestation exposure. To explore the data in more detail, visit [trase.earth](https://trase.earth)

### Deforestation hotspots for exports to France



### Exporter exposure for exports to France



## Interpreting this factsheet

To identify the most important commodities and countries globally for France's deforestation exposure, this factsheet uses the best available data [linking commodities to deforestation at the global scale](#), based on conversion of natural forests with canopy cover of at least 25%. Due to data availability limitations, we are currently unable to include deforestation exposure estimates for the imports of more processed materials, meaning that deforestation exposure is likely to be underestimated for commodities typically imported in more processed forms – particularly affecting wood and rubber products. We refer you to our [methods note](#) for further details.

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For methods information, data sources, and frequently asked questions, please refer to the [accompanying methods note](#).

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