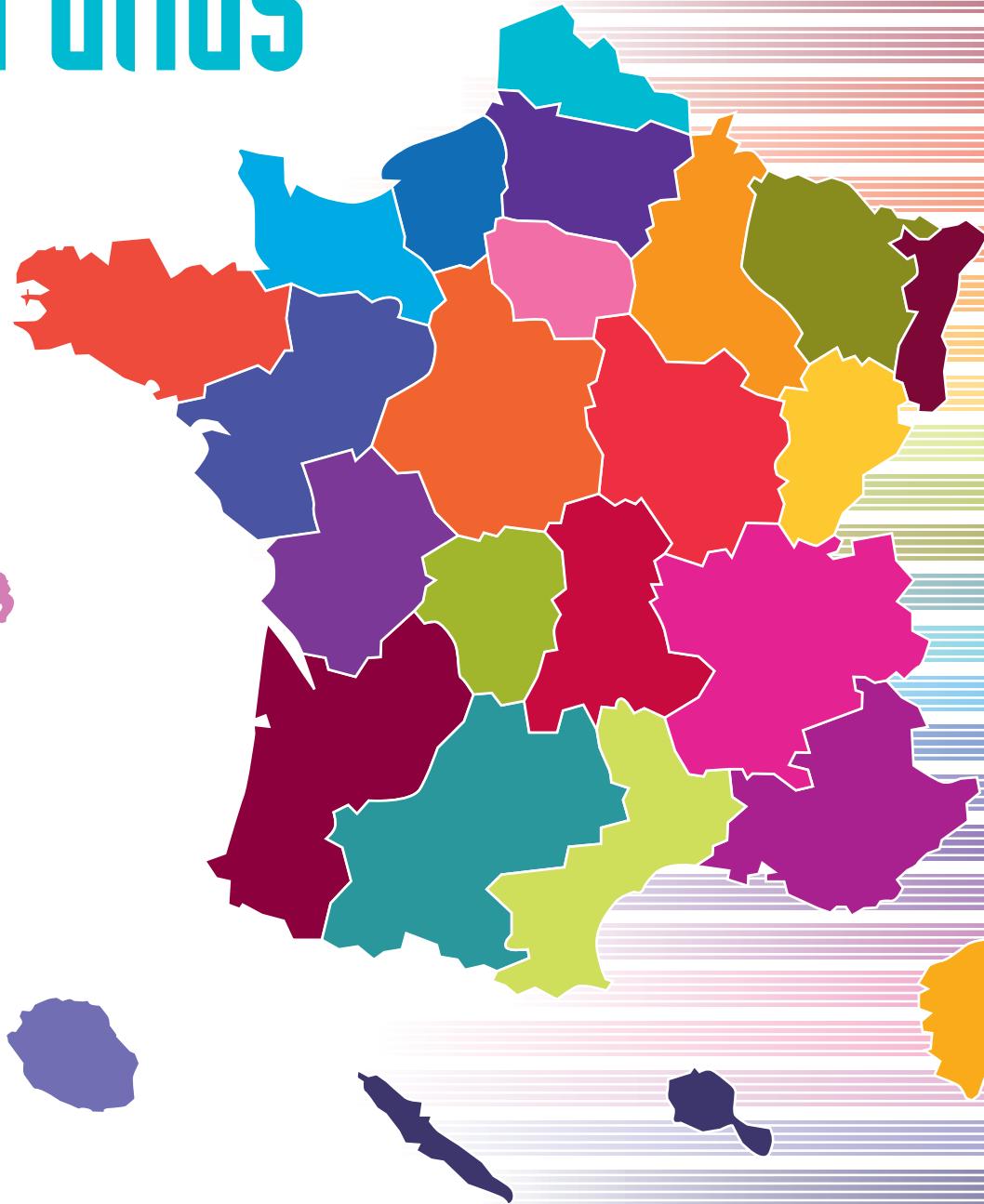
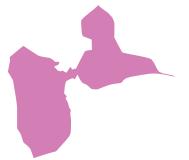


regional atlas

student population
in 2005-2006



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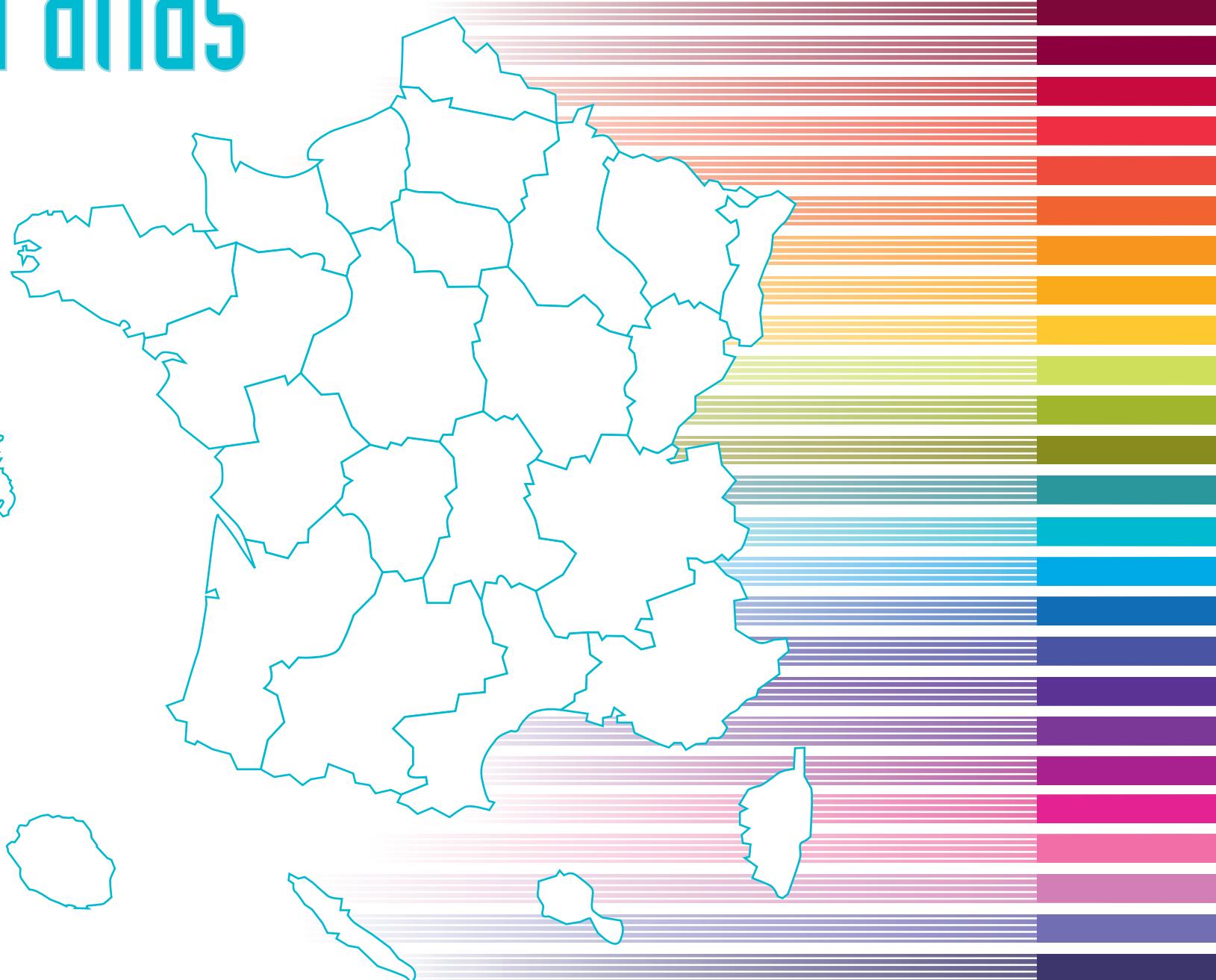
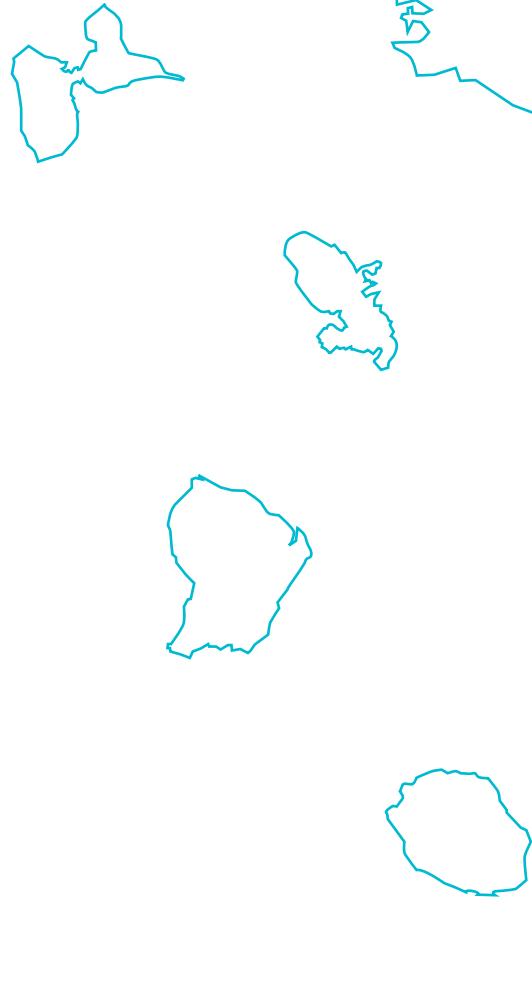
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french higher education

Types of institution

Higher education is provided in the universities, all of which are public with the exception of five Catholic institutions, or in so-called écoles supérieures, higher public-sector or private 'schools', some of which are known as *grandes écoles*.

Institutes or schools may be attached to universities. They include *instituts universitaires de technologie* (IUTs) providing short technological courses, *instituts universitaires professionnalisés* (IUPs) for students working for qualifications in engineering, and *instituts universitaires de formation des maîtres* (IUFMs) which prepare students for competitive examinations to recruit teachers and provide teacher training, etc.

Some lycées contribute to higher education because they offer preparatory tuition to those seeking admission to the *grandes écoles*, in so-called *classes préparatoires aux grandes écoles* (CPGE), or because they include *sections de techniciens supérieurs* (STS, or sections for higher technicians) which provide short technical training courses.

Access

Universities accept holders of the baccalaureate, the *diplôme d'accès aux études universitaires* (DAEU, or 'diploma for admission to university studies'), or a qualification regarded as equivalent, without any further selection procedure, except in the medical, dental and pharmaceutical fields and in the case of the IUTs. Admission to the most prestigious higher 'schools' normally known as *grandes écoles* is by competitive exa-

mination for which students receive preparatory tuition lasting two years in the CPGE, *classes préparatoires aux grandes écoles*.

Generally speaking, admission to the very wide variety of institutions in the non-university sector is based on strict selection procedures.

Qualifications

Long university courses have traditionally been structured into three successive stages of study leading to national degrees – and the data is still displayed this way in this ATLAS edition :

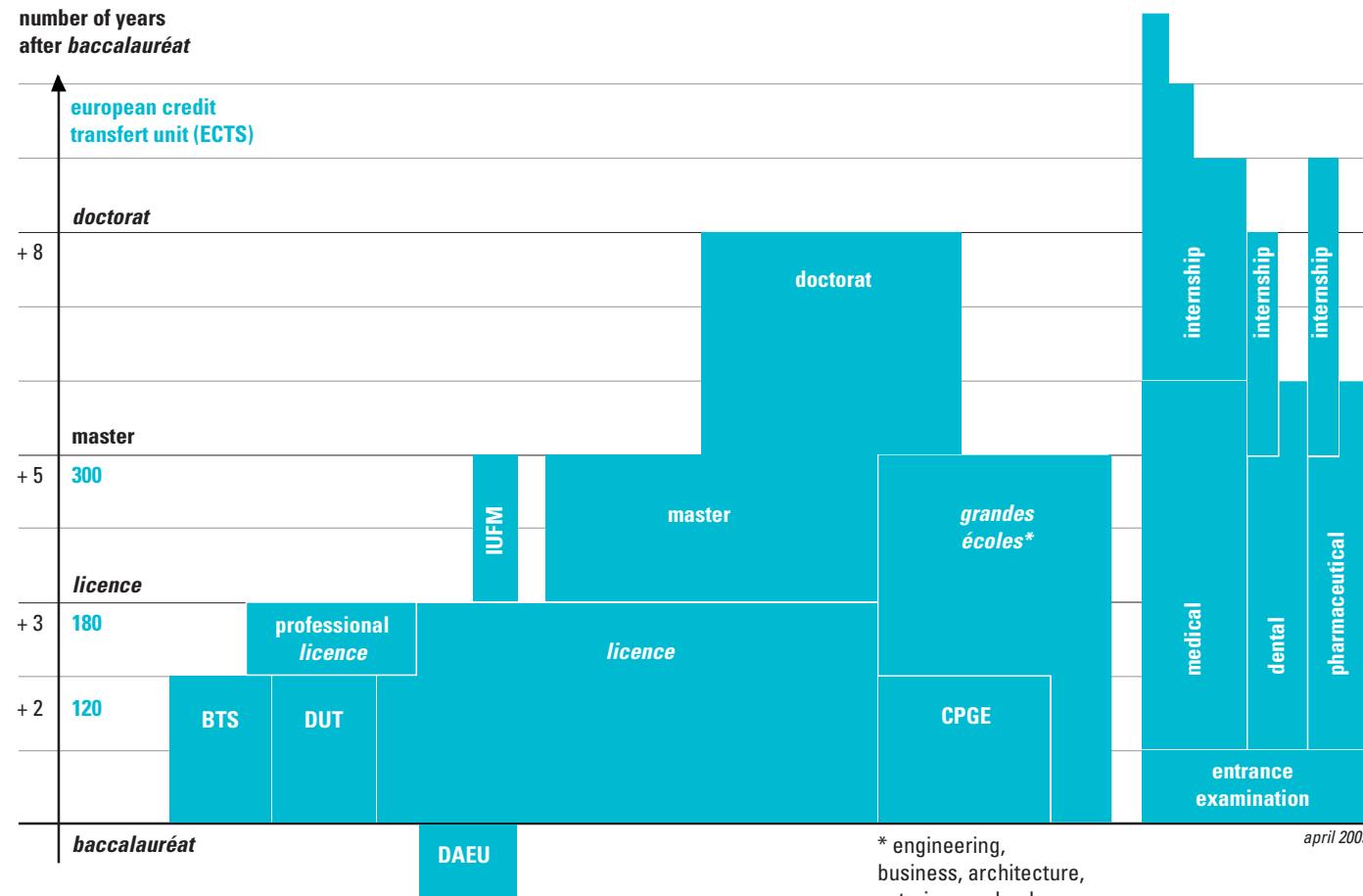
the *diplôme d'études universitaires générales* (DEUG, or 'diploma of general university studies') covering a two-year period after the baccalaureate (first stage); the *licence* (roughly equivalent to a Bachelor's degree, a further year) and the *maîtrise* (roughly equivalent to a Master's degree, a further year still, corresponding to four years after the baccalaureate) (2nd stage); qualifications obtained in the third stage of studies, namely the *diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées* (DESS, or 'diploma of specialised higher studies'), the *diplôme d'études approfondies* (DEA, or 'diploma of more advanced studies') and the doctorate.

However, since April 2002 and in accordance with implementation of the Bologna Process to develop a European Higher Education Area, a set of regulations has been published with a view to gradually gearing the structure of French higher education to the European system, LMD standing for *licence, master and doctorat* (the data will fit this system in the next edition of this ATLAS).

Universities are structuring their courses into semesters and modules enabling students to obtain credits in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Students who acquire 180 credits normally over a period of three years may obtain the *licence*; 300 credits are necessary (i.e. an additional 120 after the *licence*, corresponding to two further years of study) for the award of the *master*. Furthermore, there is a *master professionnel* (Master's vocational qualification) geared to the labour market, and *master recherche* (Master's research qualification), preparation for which is similar to study for the DEA and constitutes the first stage of doctoral studies lasting three years until the doctorate itself is obtained. The *écoles supérieures* (schools for higher education), including *grandes écoles*, award their own diplomas. Public-sector or private engineering schools award a diploma that has to be recognised by the committee for engineering qualifications. Business and management schools award a diploma which, under certain circumstances, may be recognised by the State.

Short technological higher education courses lasting two years lead to the *diplôme universitaire de technologie* (DUT) prepared in the IUTs, or to the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (BTS, or higher technician's diploma) that students work towards in the higher technician's sections in some *lycées*.

Adapted from Eurydice, information network on education in Europe (<http://www.eurydice.org>)



BTS: Brevet de technicien supérieur (Higher Technician Certificate)

CPGE: Classe préparatoire aux grandes écoles (Preparatory class for Grandes Écoles)

DAEU: Diplôme d'accès aux études universitaires (diploma that qualifies to enrol at university)

DUT: Diplôme universitaire de technologie (University degree in technology)

IUFM: Institut universitaire de formation des maîtres (University Institute for Teacher Training)

reading notes

This atlas presents the numbers of students enrolled in institutions and programmes of higher education, as recorded in the information systems and surveys of the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fishing and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of the Family and Social Protection. The combination of the above resources can sometimes lead to an incremental number of duplicate records of students enrolled in the higher education system. This is because the same student may enrol in several programmes and may be counted more than once if assigned a different identification number for each enrolment.

The geographic unit used in the present document is the “urban unit”, or agglomeration; for the Ile-de-France region, the commune is the geographic unit of reference.

to learn more

Visit the website for the regional atlas on student population at www.education.gouv.fr/pid132/les-publications.html



You can print and/or save the various parts of the present document from the website.

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