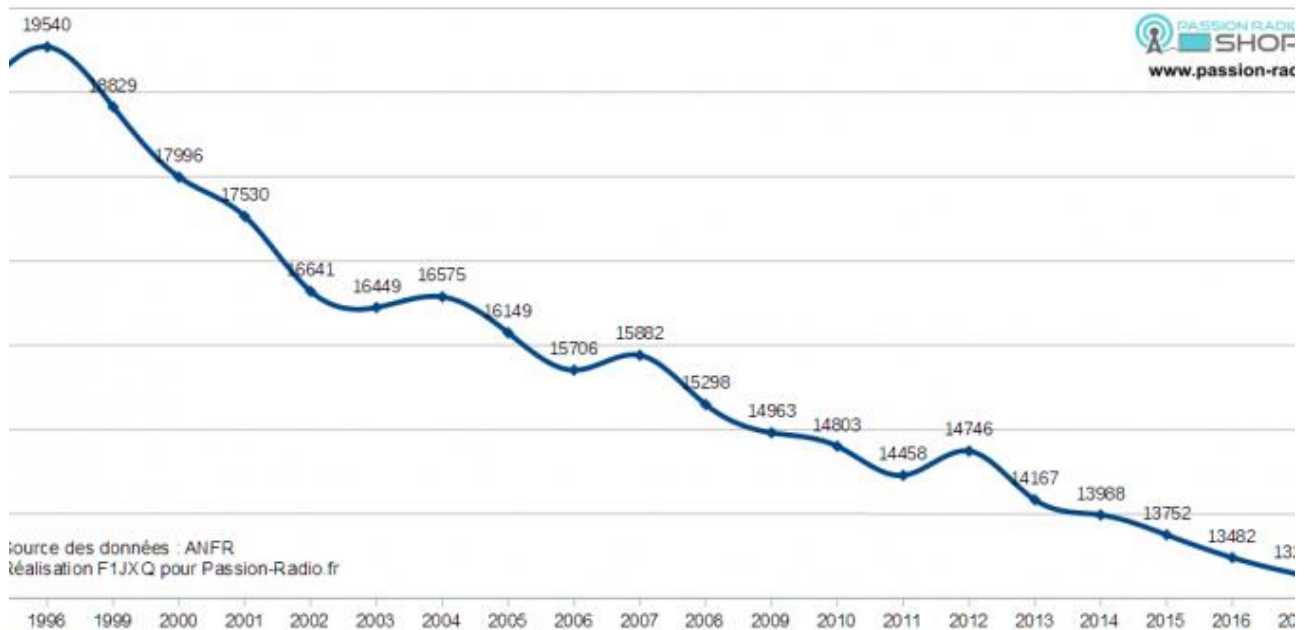


# [Update] Amateur radio statistics in France from 1997 to 2018

[January 30, 2019](#) [Passion Radio](#) [Amateur Radio Review](#) , [Regulations](#) , [Statistics](#)

Nombre de licences radioamateurs en France de 1997 à 2018



Thanks to the help of the amateur radio service of the National Frequency Agency and according to their official annual reports, [Passion Radio](#) has compiled statistics in France and overseas for the number of **amateur radio call sign and radio club codes. , special and relay, from 2010 to 2018** .

The objective was to have a graphic representation of the evolution over the years of the number of radio amateurs **with an active license** , going back since the creation of the [ANFR](#) in January 1997 which has made its data freely available since this date .

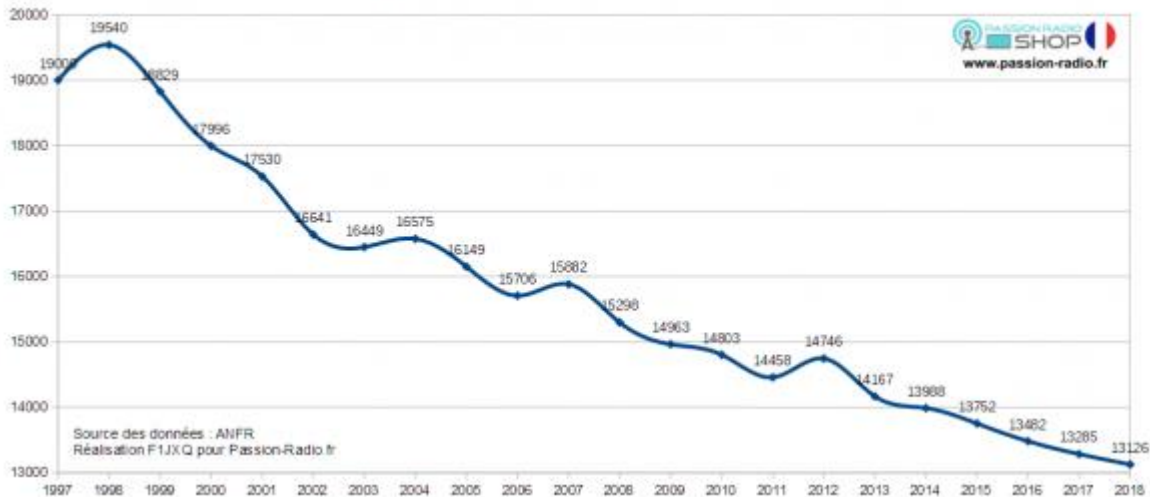
In 2018, the **number of radio amateurs licensed is 13,126, and still down** compared to 2017 (-1,19%), this represents **159 amateur licenses of less than 1 year** .

Each year the amateur community loses about 200 members. The Class 3 (F0) license, which has been abolished since 2012, earned about 150 new licensees at the time.

**200 new licensees a year would be enough to stop the decline in the number of radio amateurs in France** , while there were 150 candidates received in 2018.

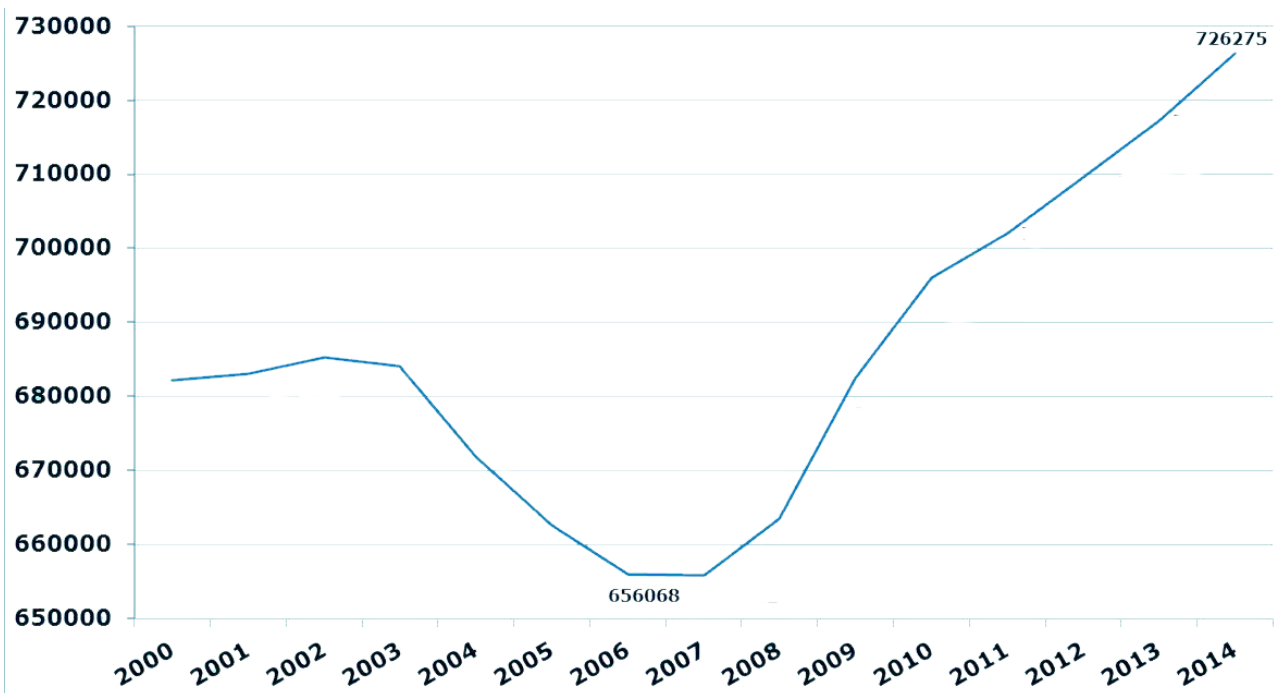
An ambitious action plan over **5-10 years to re-reach the 15,000 licensees** is yet realistic with a strategy, consensus and means to achieve this goal.

Nombre de licences radioamateurs en France de 1997 à 2018



The most significant decline occurred in the years 1999-2002 with a loss of 500-800 area codes each year, when it was 300-500 each year between 2004-2010 and eventually 200 fewer area codes per year. since 2013.

For comparison, the number of licenses in the United States from 2000 to 2015, increasing every year since 2007, with 726275 licenses in 2015 or 0.22% of the US population, when this figure is only 0, 02% in France, **there is, in proportion, in the United States 10 times more radio amateurs in the population!** But with another regulation.



Via Kryss Topat in comment, source: [ARRL](#)

### New licensees between 2010-2018

In the early 2000s there were between 800 and 1000 new amateur radio exams per year, when today it is only about 150 each year.

Since 2012, the year of the introduction of the Harec Class 2 single license and the elimination of Class 1 (CW) and Class 3 (F0), **the number of students registered for the exam has dropped by almost -60%.**

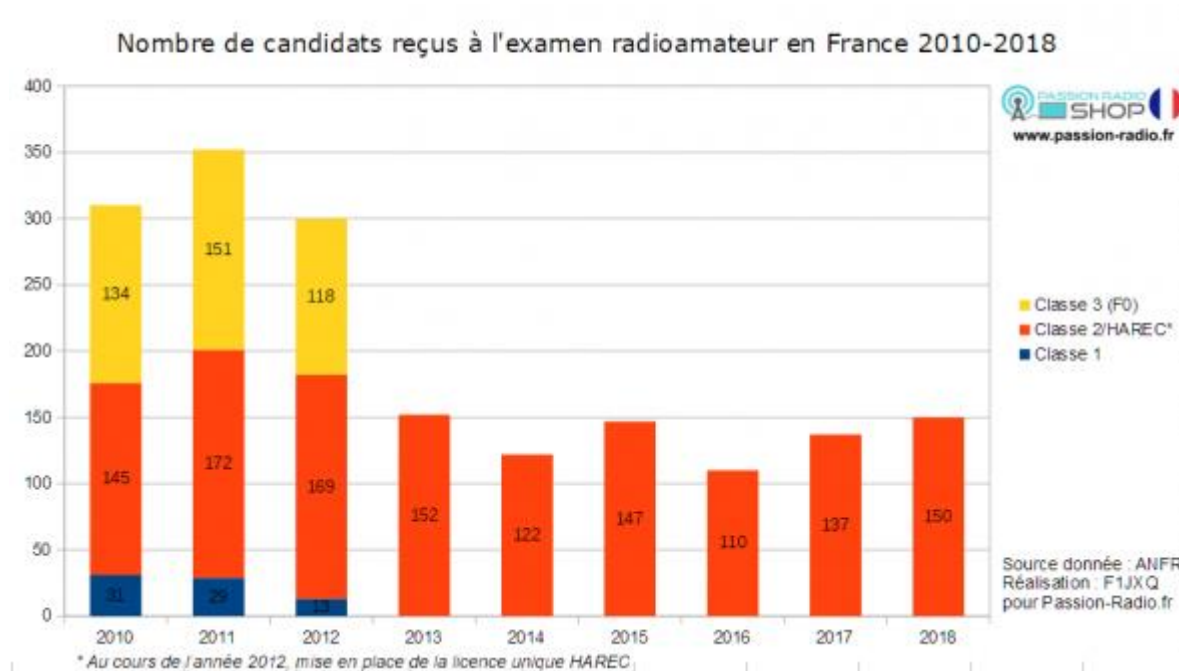
**In 2018 there were 241 exam registrations, up 13.69% from 2017 with 150 successful candidates, a success rate of 62% (down from 2017).**

Thus again in 2018, the 150 new licensees fail to fill the loss of the 159 licensees.

As the ANFR already pointed out in its activity report in 2007: **The renewal of the amateur radio population has not been ensured** for many years.

Especially since **the abolition of the novice F0 class in France has prevented the arrival of 150 new radio amateurs every year** since 2012.

The maintenance of the novice license could alone have allowed to reach 200 to 300 new graduates each year.



The success rate for the Class 2 Single License Examination (HAREC) in 2018 is **62% and down from 2017** which had a success rate of 66%.

Note that the success rate of the class 2 HAREC, remains close to that of class 1 and 2 before 2012. And the rate of 98% success at the novice license F0 at the time.

## **Radio clubs, amateur relay and special call sign**

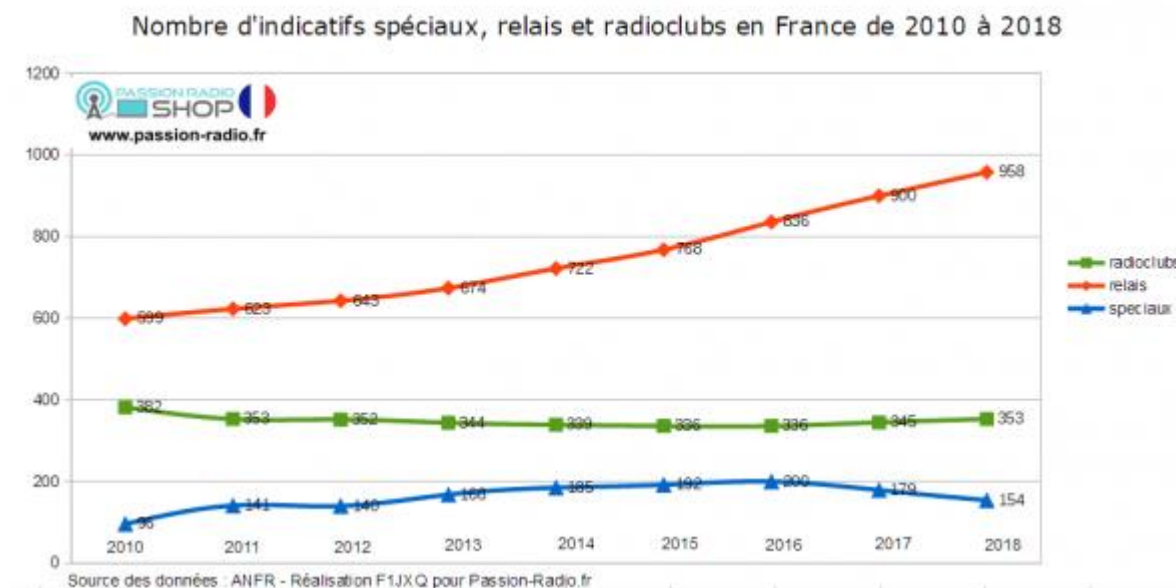
This is the very good news of the 2018 edition and confirms the 2017 trend in terms of the number of **radio club signposts again rising in 2018**, from 336 in 2015/2016 to **353 radio clubs** .

As a reminder, there were more than 600 radio clubs in the 2000s and they play a vital role in promotion and paramount in training and exam preparation to succeed.

Also up, the number of **amateur radio relay codes continues to increase in 2018** .

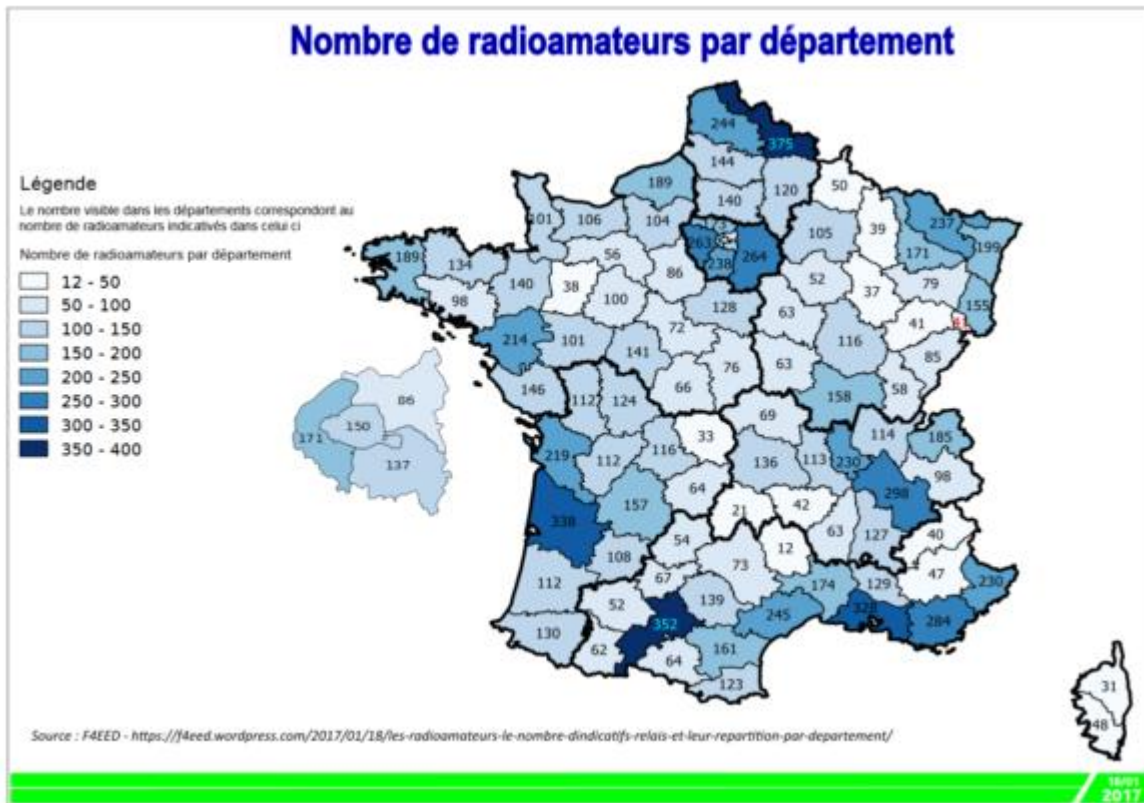
Thus, there were **58 new relay codes declared in 2018** . This trend has been reinforced since 2013 and we can think that digital and D-STAR modes, DMR, C4FM, RFF (analog connected) represent the main locomotives of this growth.

These two indicative relays and radioclubs up, show that despite a decline in the number of licensees in France, **the activity is not at half-mast and even knows a new dynamism thanks to digital radio modes, digital and connected** which represent a a major asset for attracting and recruiting new radio amateurs in the future.

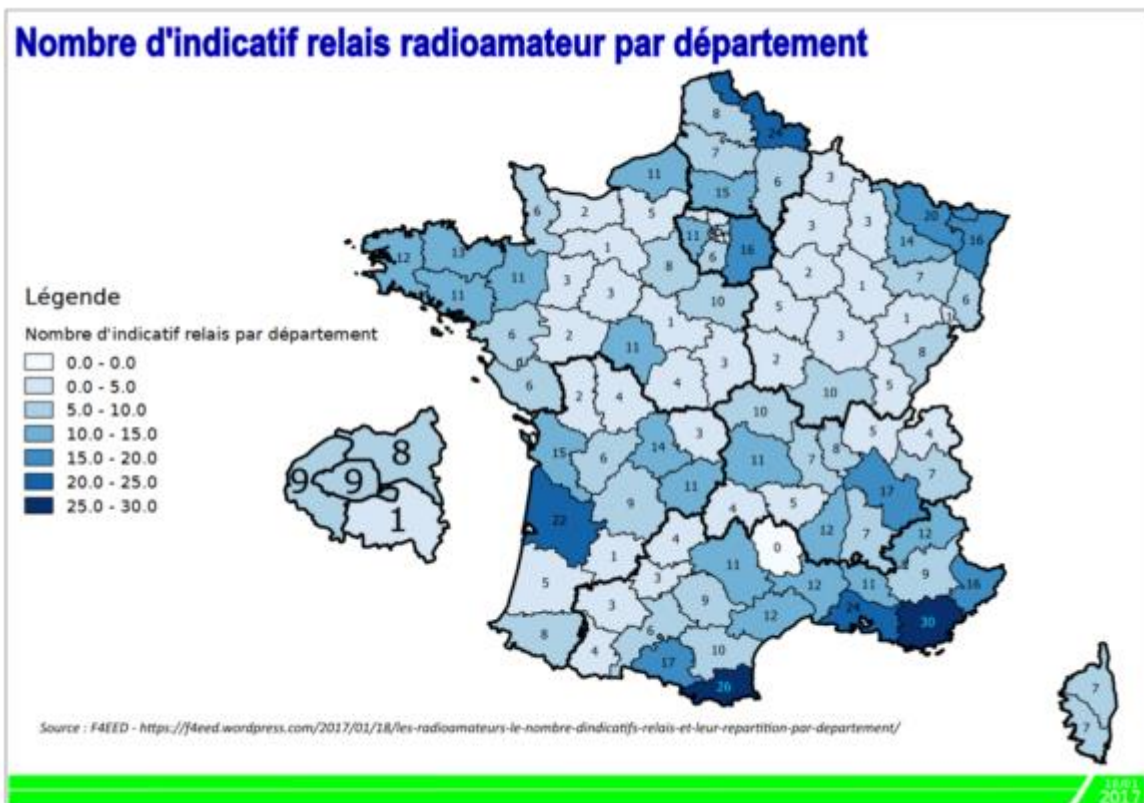


## Distribution of amateur radio and relay by department

Realized by [F4EED](#) , here is the breakdown of radio amateurs by department:



And the breakdown of amateur radio relay by department:



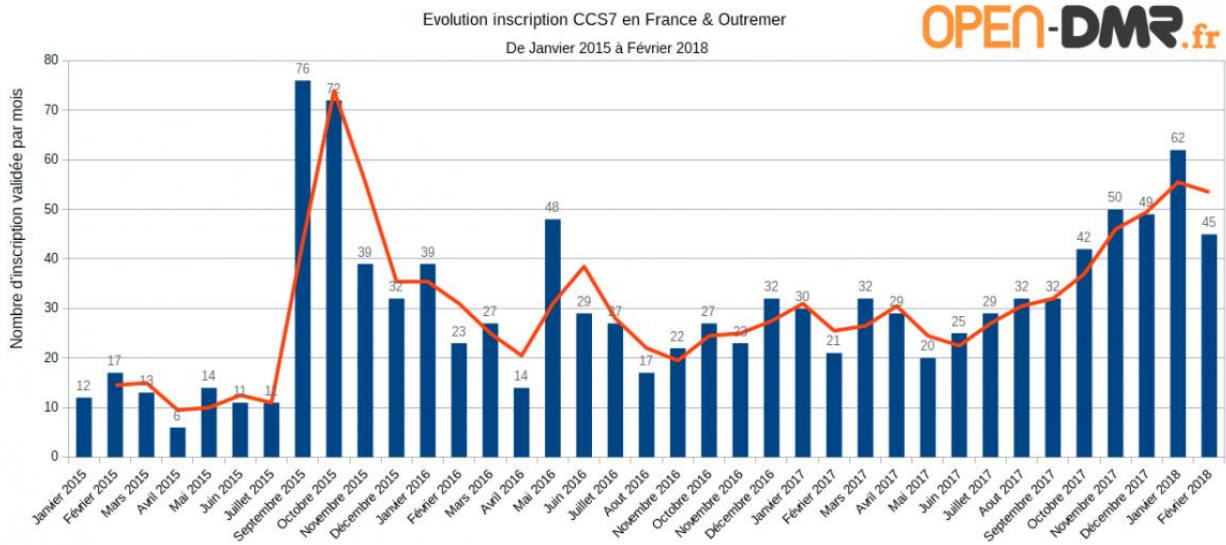
CCS7 statistics and digital modes (DMR / D-star)



To traffic in DMR and D-Star connected digital mode, a CCS7 identifier is necessary, tracking the number of IDs granted makes it possible to measure the share of digital and DMR activity in France over the years.

As of May 1, 2016, there were **506 (unique)** CCS7 subscribers in metropolitan France and overseas.

As of March 1, 2018, there are **1126 (single) radio-controlled radio operators registered CCS7, representing 8.98% of the total amateur radio population in France. They were 3.7% in 2016, a growth of + 120% between 2016 and February 2018** . Read more on [OPEN-DMR](http://OPEN-DMR.fr) .



Sources of amateur radio data: [ANFR](http://ANFR)

A big thank you to the ANFR for their help with each of our requests and the supply of data.