

7 Misconceptions about France and Germany

#5 “German SMEs are performing better than French ones”. Wrong!

German Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) contribute to an impressive export engine. There are 300,000 exporters in Germany, 125,000 in France.

But the financial strength of these companies is a bit counterintuitive. **Profit margins** stand at 3.1% in France and only 2% among German SMEs. The **return on capital employed** is 22.4% for French SMEs, and 15.3% for German ones.

+1.1pp
additional margins
for French SMEs
in 2016