

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 16 September 2024

**Health of the population: *Santé Publique France* and ANSES
launch the first phase of the Albane survey in Île-de-France and Nouvelle-
Aquitaine**

The aim of the Albane survey is to document the state of health of the population living in France, its dietary habits, physical activity and exposure to various chemicals, in order to guide the public authorities in determining the measures that need to be taken to improve population health. The Île-de-France and Nouvelle-Aquitaine regions have been chosen for the first phase of this new survey, beginning on 16 September 2024, which will involve 200 adults and 200 children.



Albane is a new survey being implemented on an unprecedented scale, including health examinations of participants, to obtain a comprehensive and continuous view of the population's health. In particular, it will improve our understanding of the links between health, the environment and food. It is being conducted jointly by two national health agencies: the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) and *Santé Publique France*, with co-funding by the Ministries of Health, Agriculture, the Environment and Labour.

The first "pilot" phase of Albane is being launched on 16 September 2024 and will run until December 2024. It will check whether the survey protocol has been accepted by the participants and test the questionnaires and general organisation of the survey under real conditions. This pilot is taking place in two regions chosen for their different population densities – Île-de-France

and Nouvelle-Aquitaine – and more specifically in the *départements* of Gironde, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Seine-Saint-Denis, Seine-et-Marne and Val-d'Oise.

Four hundred participants selected at random

The first phase will involve 200 adults between the ages of 18 and 79 years and 200 children over 2 years of age, spread evenly across the two regions and selected at random from an INSEE database. Children under 2 years of age living with participating adults will also be included in the survey. The people drawn at random will receive an information letter and be contacted by an Ipsos researcher to ask for their consent.

The survey will take place in three stages:

1. A researcher will visit participants in their homes to present the study, obtain their consent to take part and ask them questions about their household, home, health, diet, etc. The researcher will also give them the necessary materials and instructions for the remainder of the survey.
2. Over a three-week period, participants will complete a questionnaire on their lifestyle, health, dietary habits and physical activity. They will be free to respond when they wish. They will also be asked to describe their food intake on three days selected at random. Some of the participants will also have to wear an accelerometer over a seven-day period to measure their physical activity.
3. Lastly, participants will be asked to visit a partner biomedical laboratory for a health examination, including measurements of height, weight, muscle strength and blood pressure. Urine tests will also be carried out, along with blood tests for participants over 6 years of age. A nurse will ask them about any chronic illnesses they may have, smoking habits and exposure to specific chemicals.

At the end of the survey, if they wish, participants may receive a summary of their food intake for certain food groups, giving them an overview of what they reported for the three days, as well as a reminder of the nutritional recommendations. They will also receive the results of the measurements and analyses carried out by the biomedical laboratory.

First step towards a national survey

This pilot study will pave the way for the national phase of the Albane survey in spring 2025, which will then be repeated every two years on a new sample of the population.

Albane's goal is to gain a better understanding of the state of health of the French population in order to guide public authorities with their public health and prevention policies. In particular, it will improve understanding of:

- the frequency of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, obesity and high blood pressure;
- exposure to chemicals such as pesticides, bisphenols, phthalates and PFAS¹;
- the population's dietary habits and levels of physical activity.

All this information, once analysed, will help guide the public authorities in their efforts to better protect health for all age groups of the population.

Respect for personal data

The Albane survey involves the processing of personal data for a task in the general public interest for which *Santé Publique France* and ANSES are responsible. *Santé Publique France* and ANSES will ensure the security and confidentiality of participants' responses and measurements, from collection through to destruction, in order to protect participants' privacy. An information letter detailing how the data will be processed and participants' rights with regard to these data will be sent to all the people contacted prior to their participation. The survey has been authorised by the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL).

Visit the website for the Albane survey: www.enquete-albane.fr/

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¹ Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

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The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) provides public decision-makers with the scientific benchmarks needed to protect humans and the environment against health risks. It studies, assesses and monitors all the chemical, microbiological and physical risks to which humans, animals and plants are exposed, thereby helping the public authorities take the necessary measures, including in the event of a health crisis. A national agency working in the public interest, ANSES comes under the responsibility of the French Ministries of Health, the Environment, Agriculture, Labour and Consumer Affairs.

<https://www.anses.fr/en>

Santé Publique France

Santé Publique France is France's reference and expertise centre for public health. Based on the continuum between knowledge and action, our task is to protect and improve population health. Our actions encompass the major public health challenges over the long term: from protection against threats (mainly infectious risks, environmental risks, health determinants, etc.) to improving health (prevention, health promotion to reduce the burden of disease and social and territorial inequalities, etc.). *Santé Publique France* is a public body under the authority of the Ministry of Health.

www.santepubliquefrance.fr