

# French high-speed rail sabotaged before Olympic ceremony

7 days ago Share

Lipika Pelham and Paul Kirby  
BBC News

*“Paris Olympics had representatives from over 200 countries, millions of spectators, and a budget of over \$9 billion”*

*“at least 250,000 passengers were expected to be impacted due to train cancellations and diversions”*

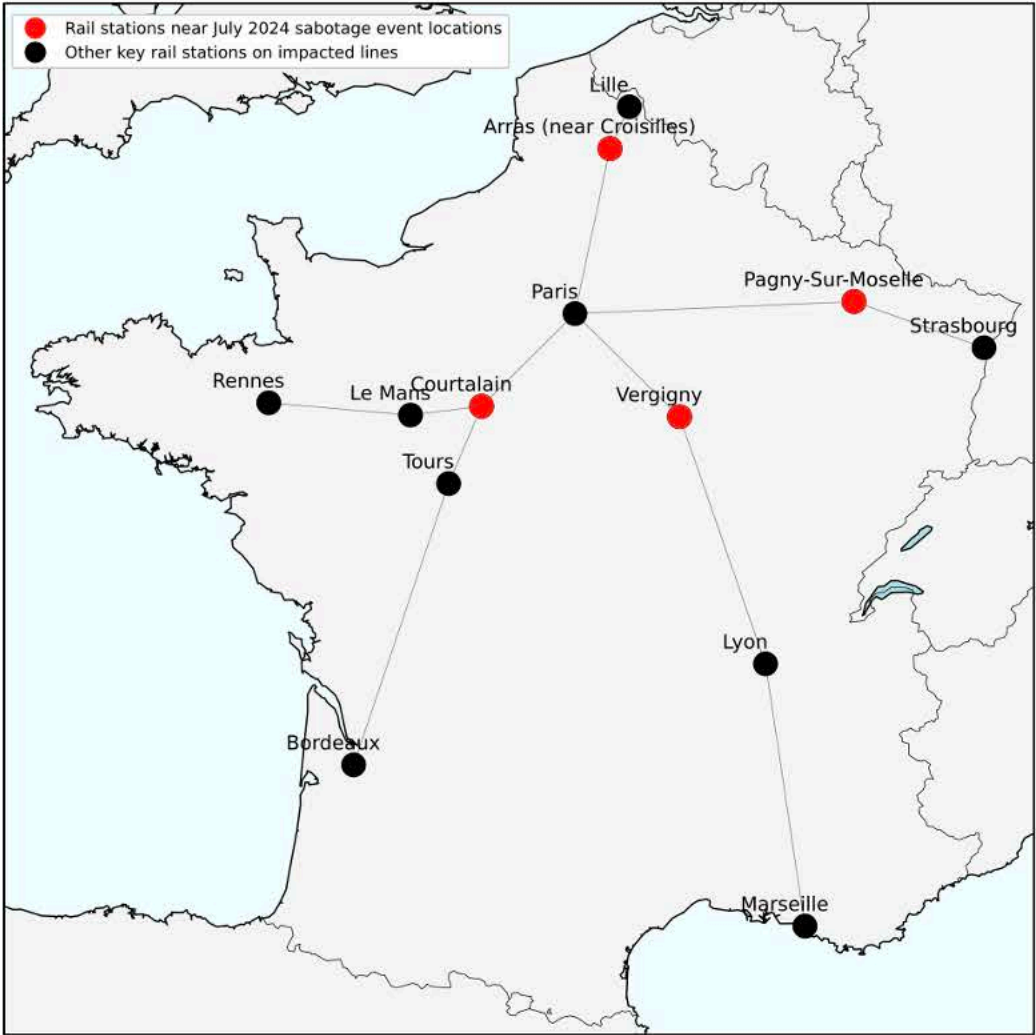
*“thousands of rail workers were distributed across the network to investigate damage and initiate repairs”*

*“presence of tens of thousands of security personnel in Paris”*

*“one foiled attack where presence of rail workers scared off individuals”*

French PM Gabriel Attal:  
[the incidents were] **“prepared and organized”** [in a way that] **“shows a kind of knowledge of the network in order to know where to strike”**

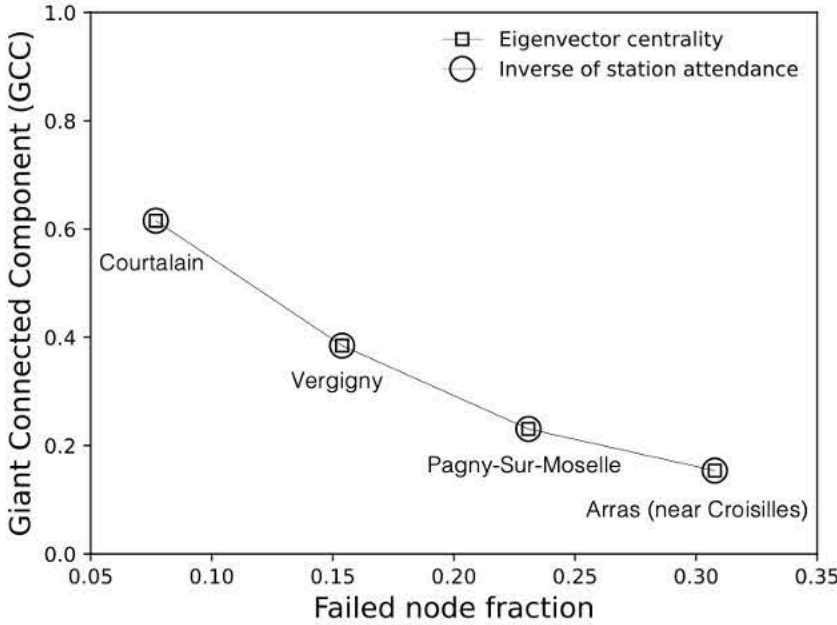
Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cv2gd9pqwlxo>  
<https://www.cnn.com/2024/07/26/europe/france-rail-network-disruption-paris-olympics-intl-hnk/index.html>



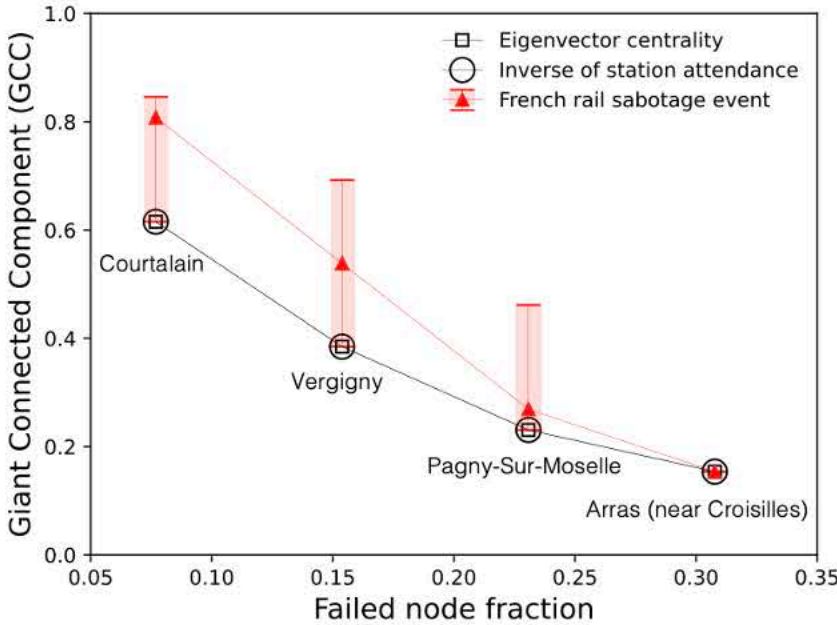
a. French high speed rail sub-network with key stations and impacted lines

## Network robustness with French high speed rail sub-network

- Network topology and flow-based failures provide a worst-case scenario for the July 2024 event sequence
- Node level risk and deterrence analysis is *necessary*, but not *sufficient*, to fully understand and mitigate soft target threats in surface transportation networks



b. Network robustness (excluding Paris) with topology and flow-based failure sequences



c. Network robustness (excluding Paris) with French rail sabotage event sequence uncertainties