Do French students cost too much?

Coding Week - Datathon 24.01.19

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We assessed the cost per student in two different ways

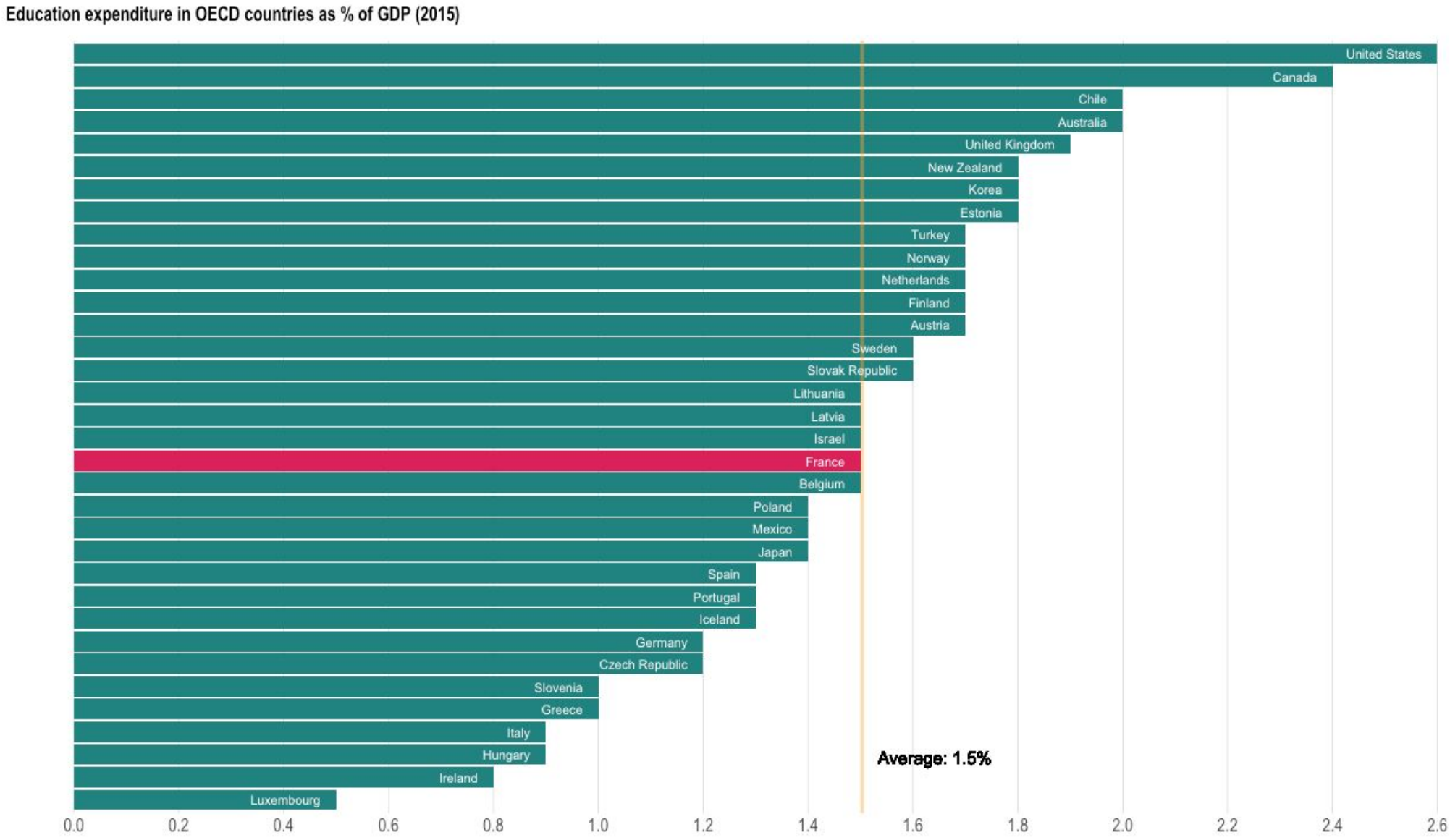
International comparison

First, we used **OECD data** to check how much France spends in university student in comparison to other, similar countries.

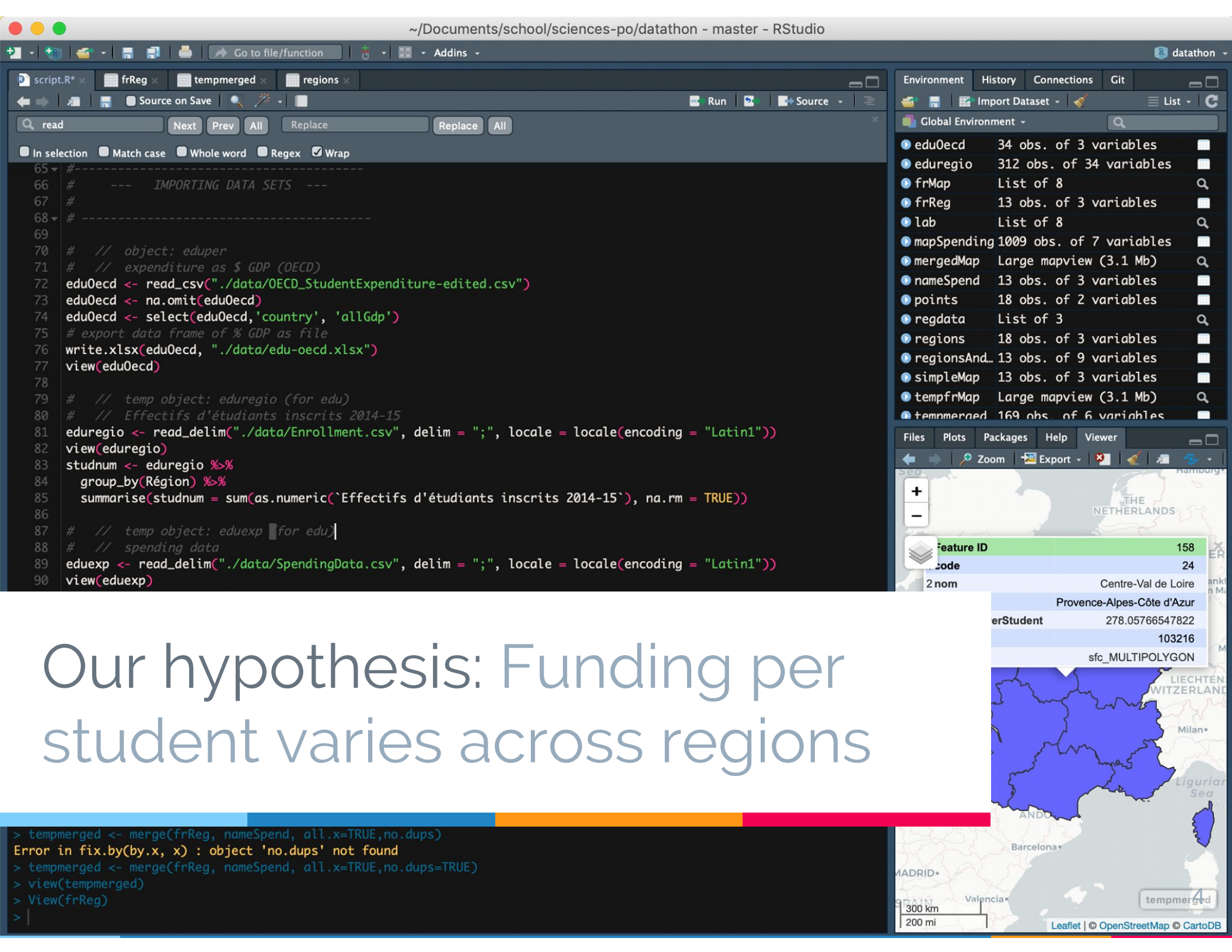
Regional comparison

Second, we wanted to check whether spending per student within France varies across regions using data from the **Ministry of Education**.

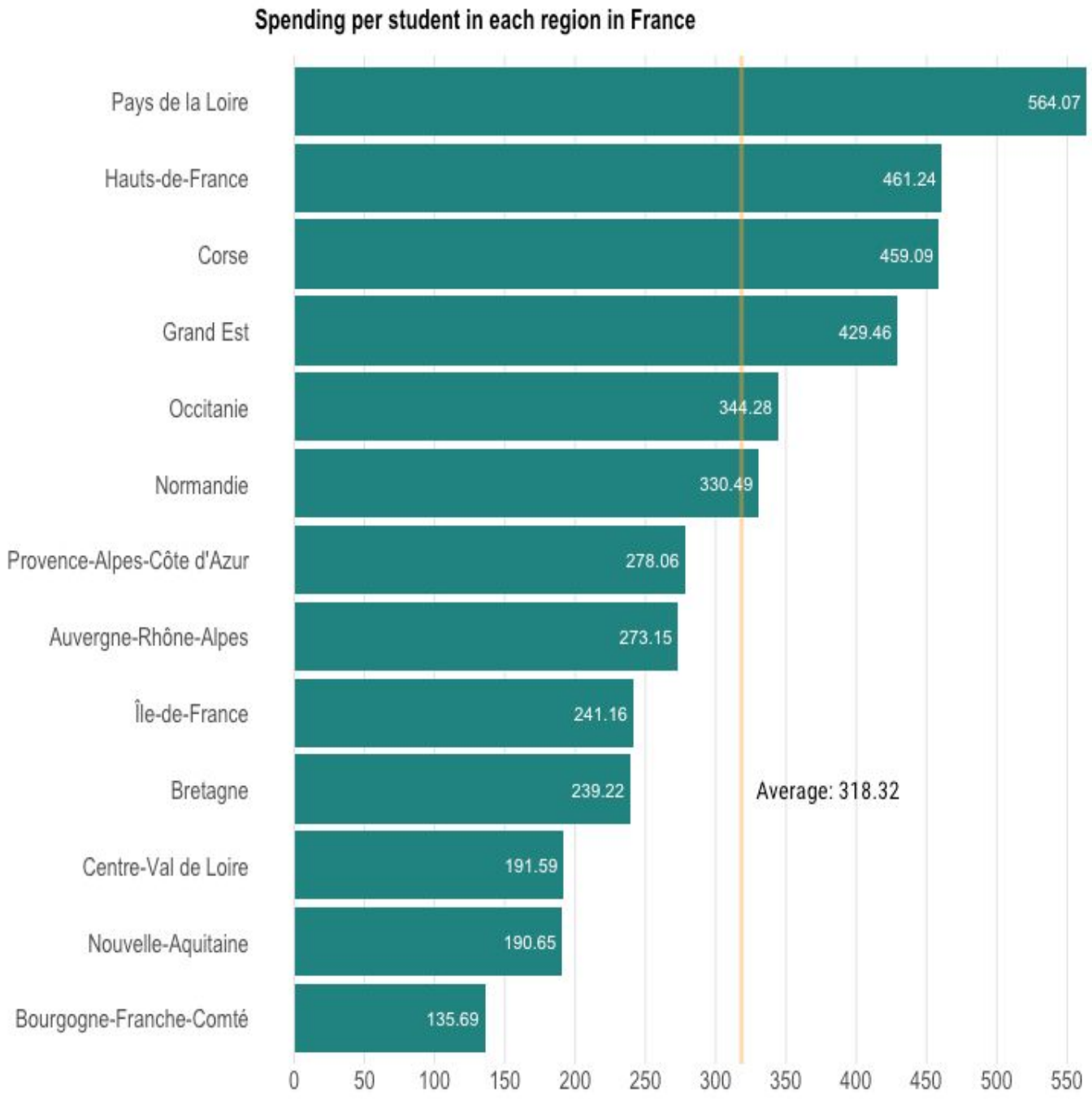
Spending per student in France is average compared to other OECD countries



Source: OECD, computation by Sciences Po students.

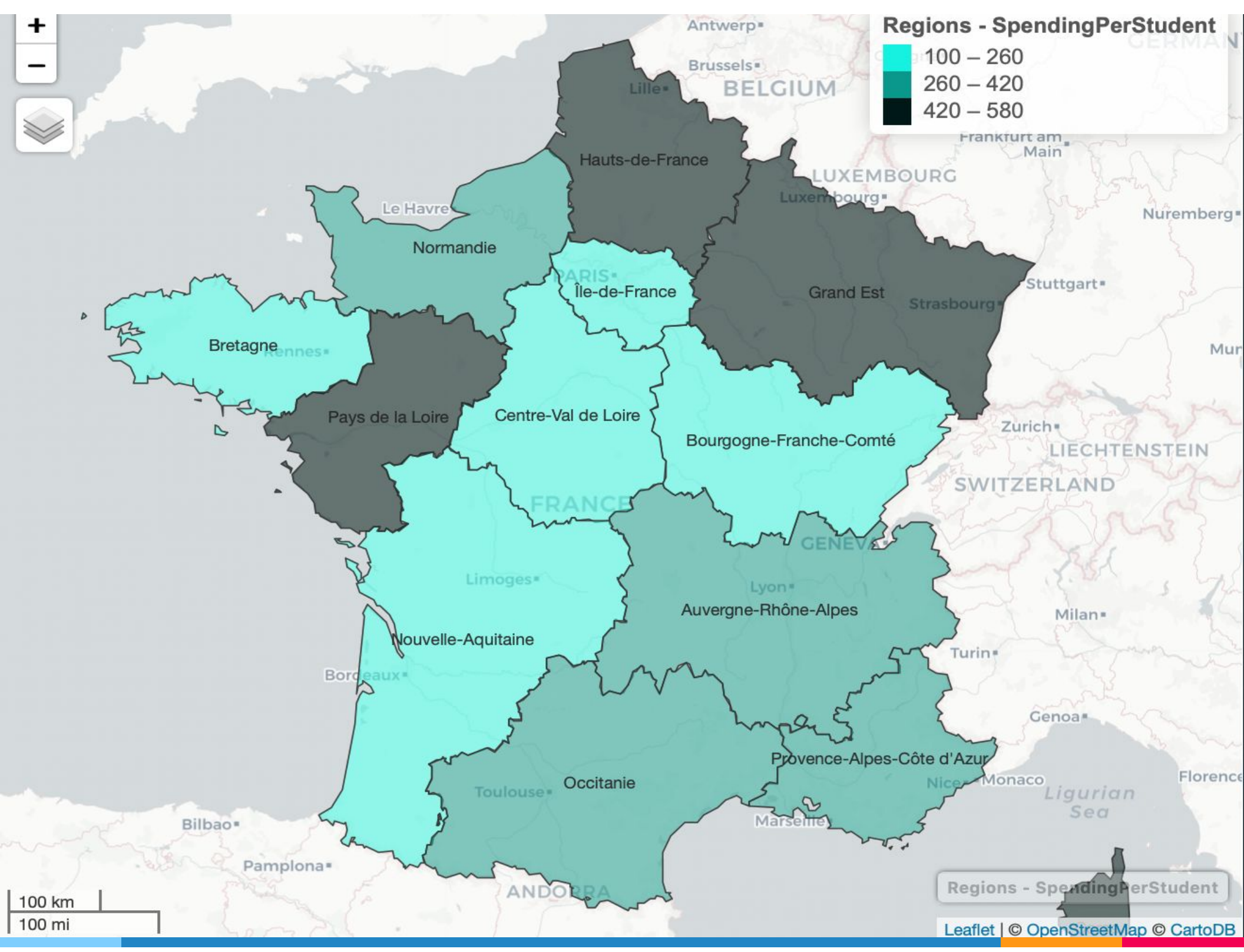


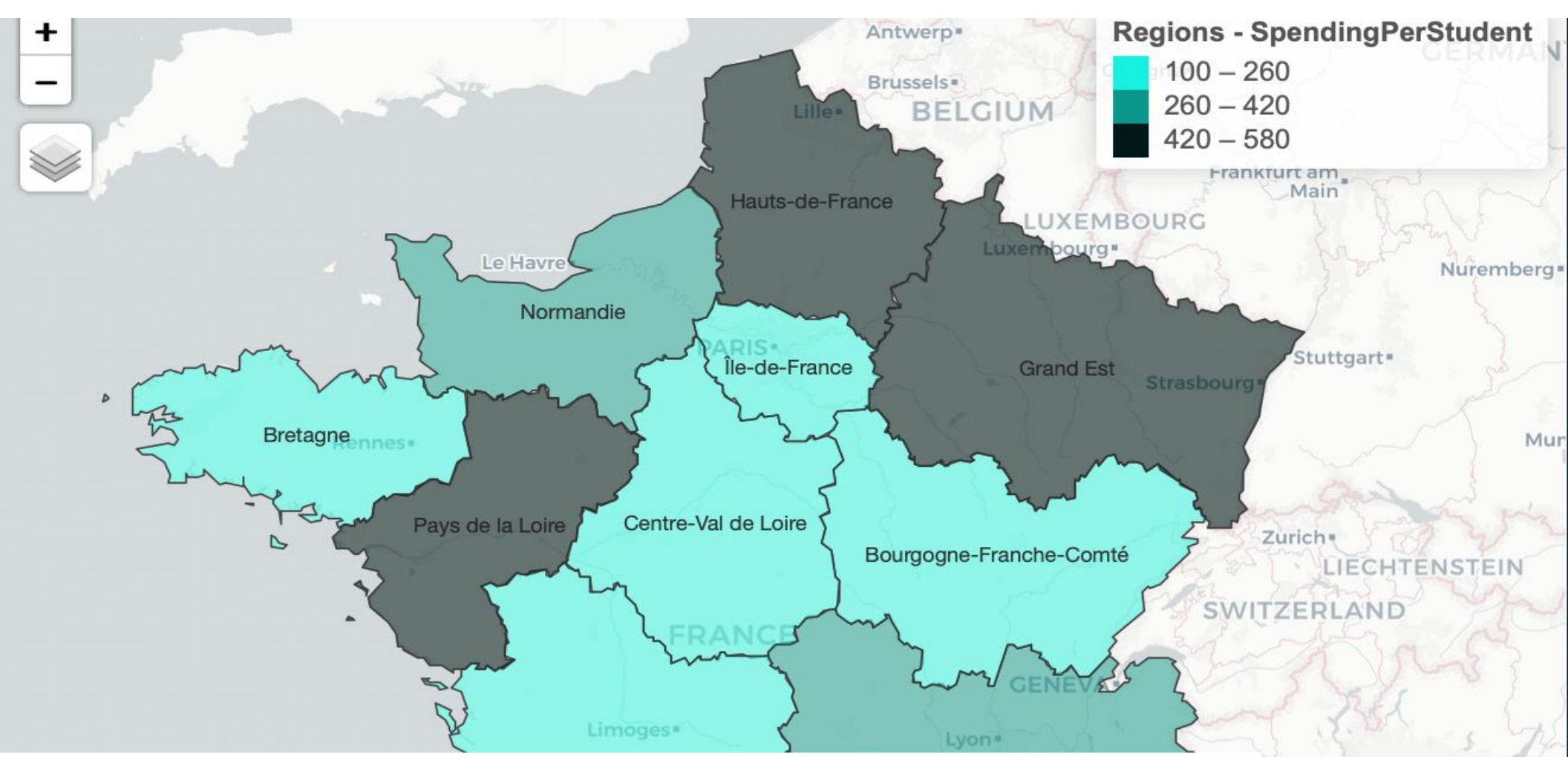
Our hypothesis: Funding per student varies across regions



Source: Ministère de l'Éducation nationale et de la Jeunesse, computation by Sciences Po students.

There is a lot of variation in spending per student - but it's hard to find discernable patterns


Regions - SpendingPerStudent
100 – 260
260 – 420
420 – 580
Hauts-de-France
Normandie
Île-de-France
Grand Est
Bretagne
Pays de la Loire
Centre-Val de Loire
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté
Nouvelle-Aquitaine
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes
Occitanie
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
Antwerp
Brussels
BELGIUM
Lille
Le Havre
Frankfurt am Main
LUXEMBOURG
Luxembourg
Nuremberg
PARIS
Stuttgart
Strasbourg
Rennes
Zurich
LIECHTENSTEIN
SWITZERLAND
FRANCE
GENEVA
Limoges
Lyon
Milan
Turin
Bordeaux
Genoa
Toulouse
Nice
Monaco
Ligurian Sea
Florence
Marseille
Bilbao
Pamplona
ANDORRA
100 km
100 mi
Regions - SpendingPerStudent
Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap © CartoDB



BUT: Take these results with a few grains of salt.

THE DATA IS DARK AND FULL OF ERRORS

We were faced with various challenges with our data

Lots of missing data in the datasets we used

Very little and bad data available on HE spending

Some data was only available through a terrible UI

Effectifs d'étudiants inscrits 2012-13	Effectifs c
470	455
736	717
12820	12705
nd	nd
25020	26120
2715	2953
1333	1280
3530	3617
28397	28766
17174	17383
528	570
Comptabilisés dans les effectifs de leur établis	Comptabilis
7344	7331
651	663
1130	1304
933	981
424	429

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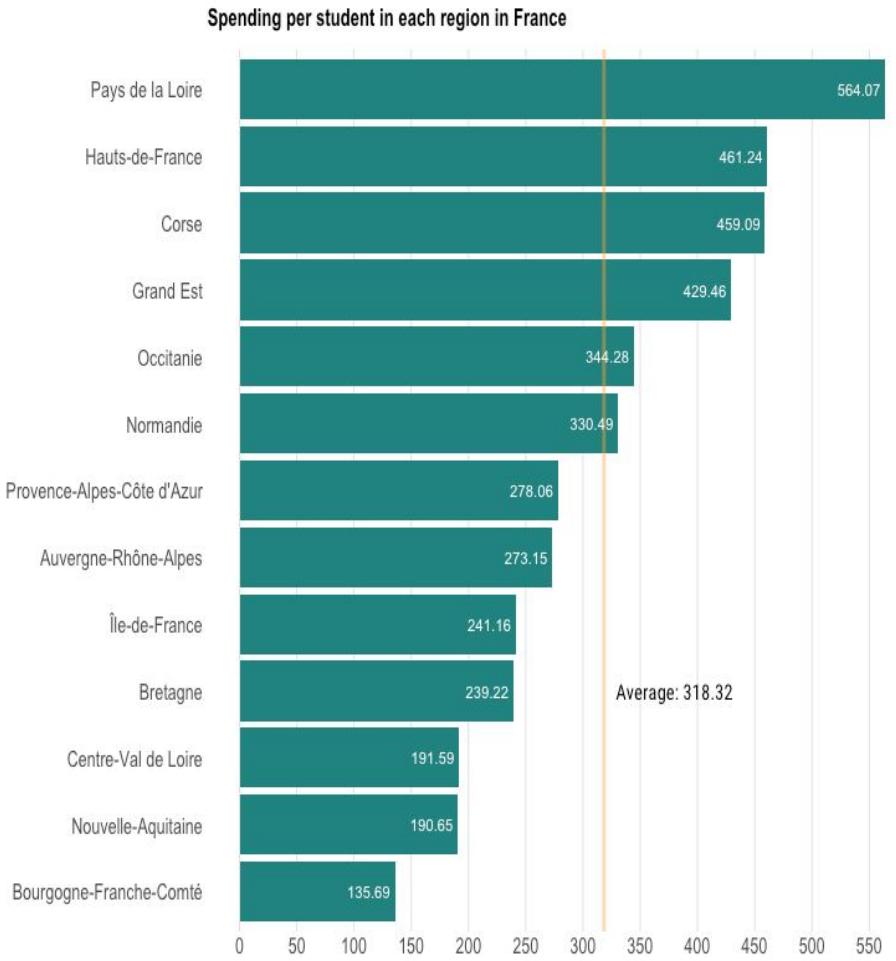

Source: Ministère de l'Éducation nationale et de la Jeunesse, computation by Sciences Po students.

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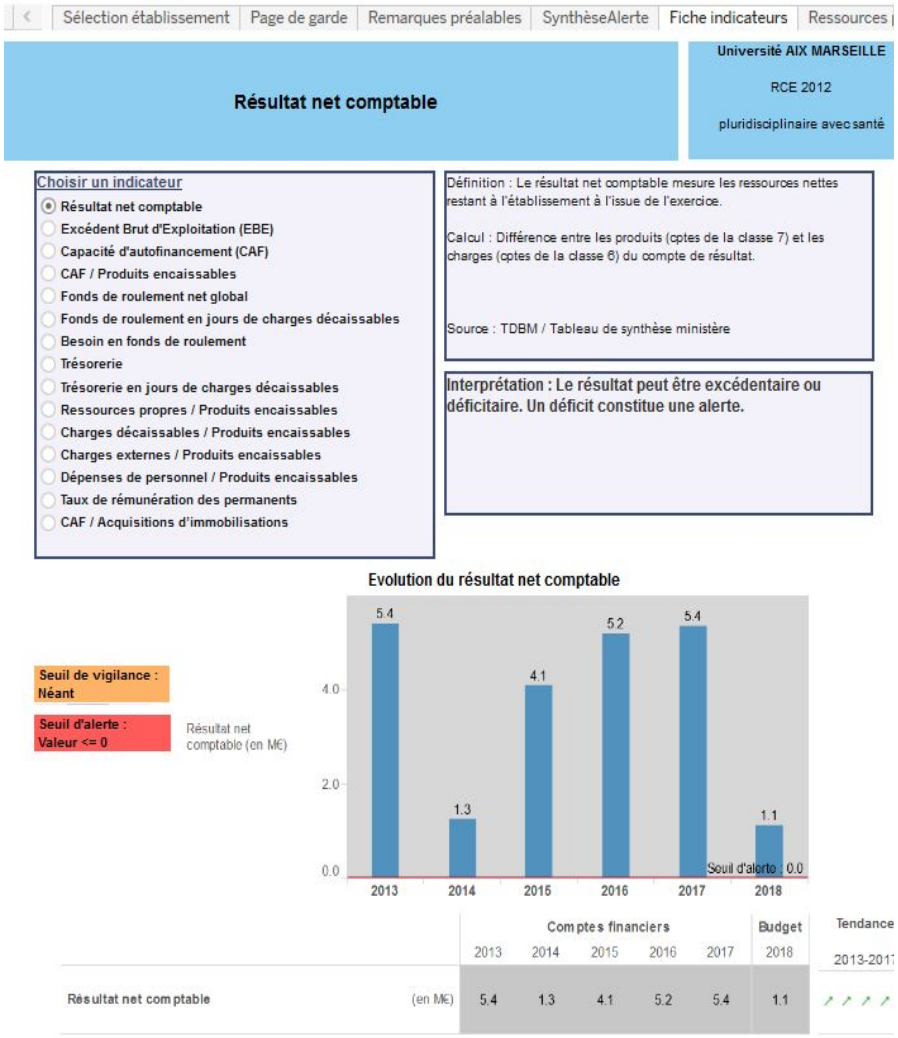

This is why by yesterday evening we looked like this

France may be at the forefront of the open data movement - but there's still a lot of work left

So how can we address the issues we encountered?

Create an incentive system for public org's

To benchmark ministries and public agencies, we suggest an open data score based on **usability, relevance and completeness**.

Make quality control a high-level task

To enforce standards and **ensure data quality**, there needs to be a high-level unit in charge of controlling and curating datasets.

Take user feedback seriously

To effectively use the feedback data users provide, a **rating system** can be used to flag bad datasets and trigger consequent actions.

Thanks!

Any questions?

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24.01.19

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