

Horse population in France

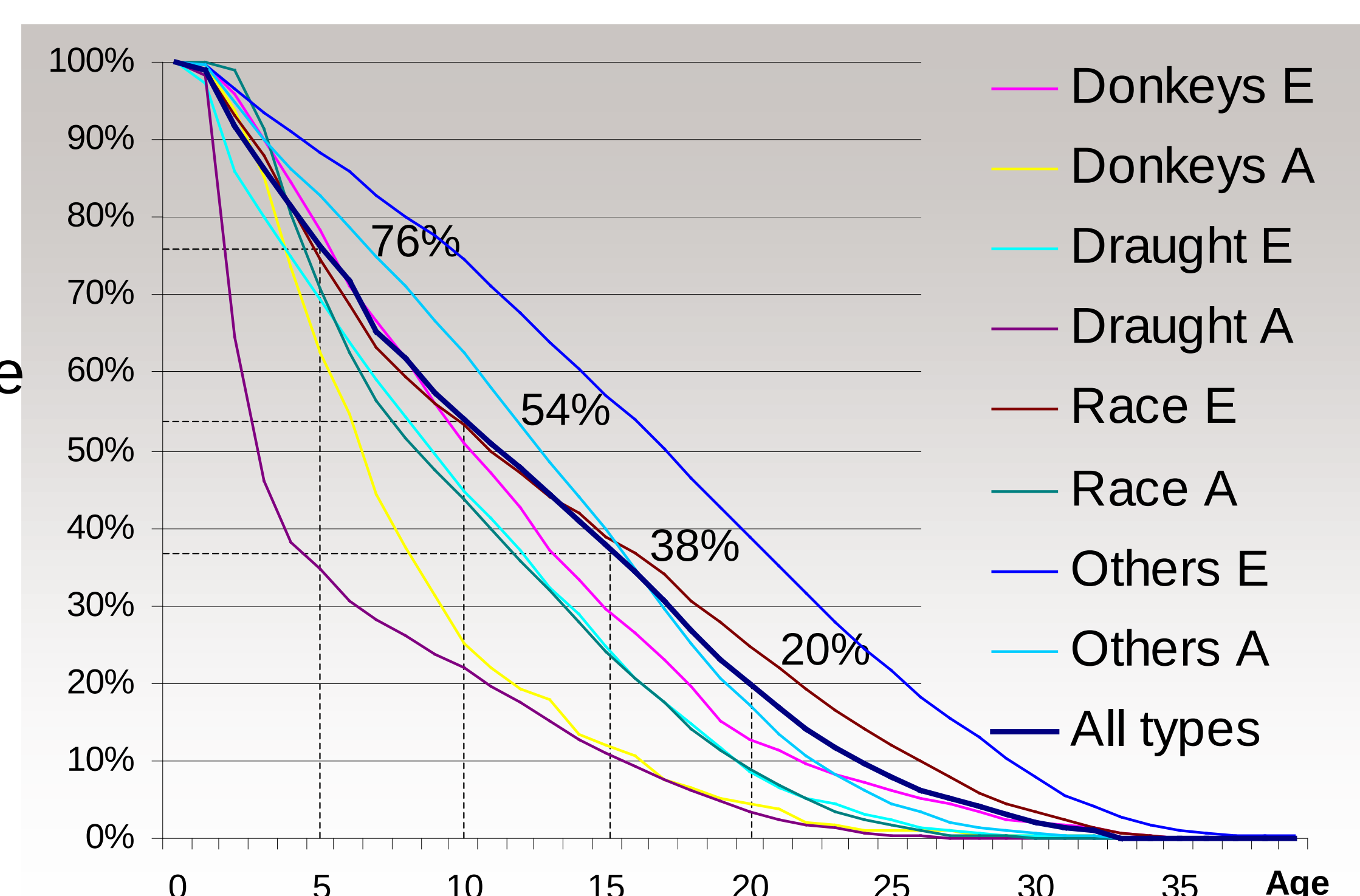
Mandatory microchipping, census from 2003 to 2008

- **1,118,000** registered microchips (including imported horses)
- Assumption : at the end of 2008, about 50,000 horses not yet microchipped

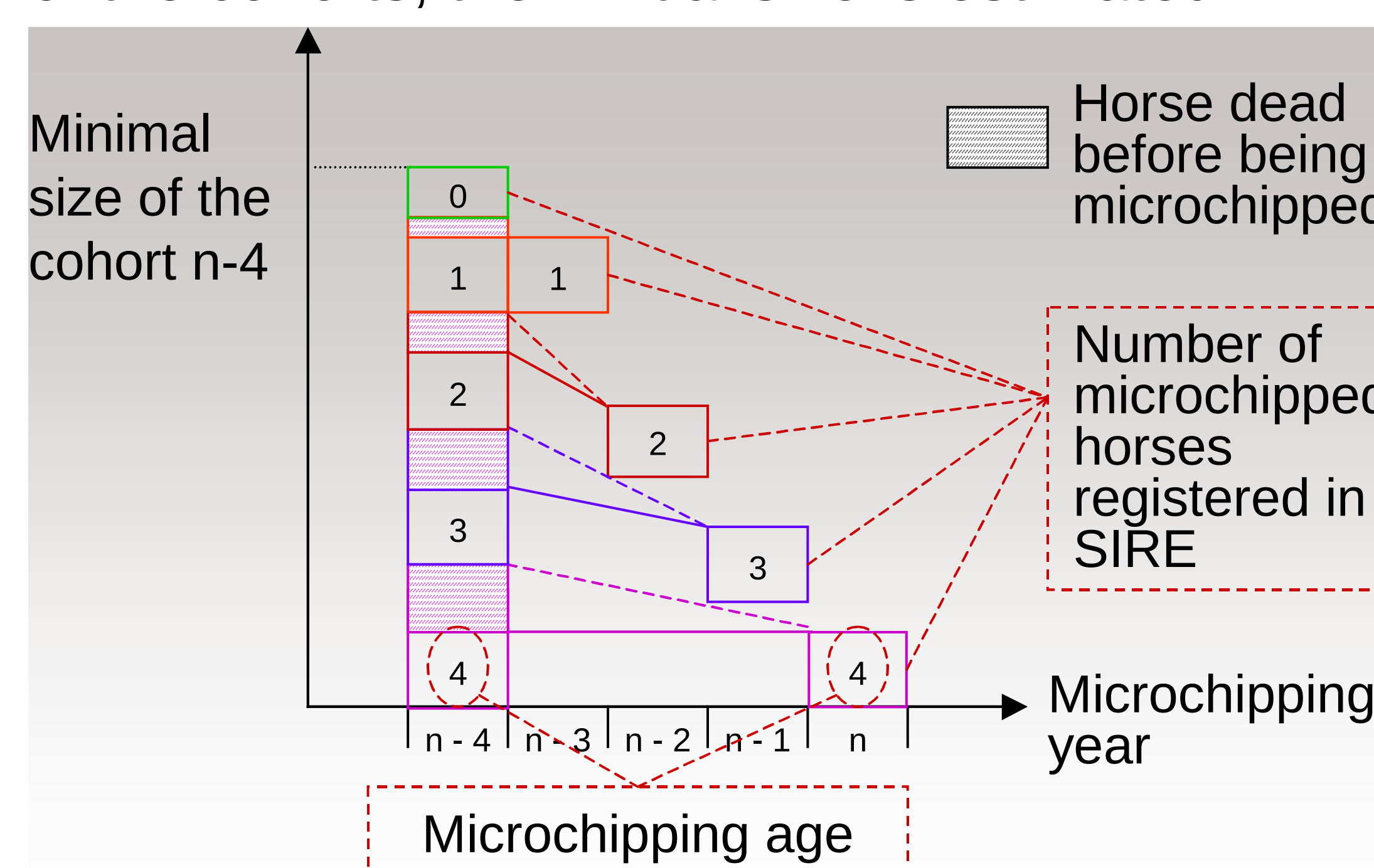
- Some horses inventoried since 2003, disappeared before the end of 2008 (death, export)
- Only 30% of deaths are registered

Estimation and use of survival curves

Survival curves are estimated with the registered deaths for each type of equidae and each destination (A=slaughter, E=knackery).



To estimate the population still alive at the end of 2008, we apply the survival curves to initial cohorts. Knowing only the microchipped part of the cohorts, their initial size is estimated.



Cohorts estimation principle

For horses microchipped at over one year old, death rates are used to estimate the number of horses who died before being microchipped.

At the end of 2008, 910,000⁽¹⁾ microchipped equidae are still alive, present or not on the territory

900,000 equidae in France

Exportations :

- Assumption : mainly draught foals of the year
- 2004 : microchipping mandatory at birth
- Of the 80,000 exported horses since 2004, only 60,000⁽²⁾ are supposed to be alive in the model

Results : 910,000⁽¹⁾ equidae still alive – 60,000⁽²⁾
= **850,000 microchipped equidae**, alive and living in France
+ **50,000** not yet microchipped (estimated)

Data sources :

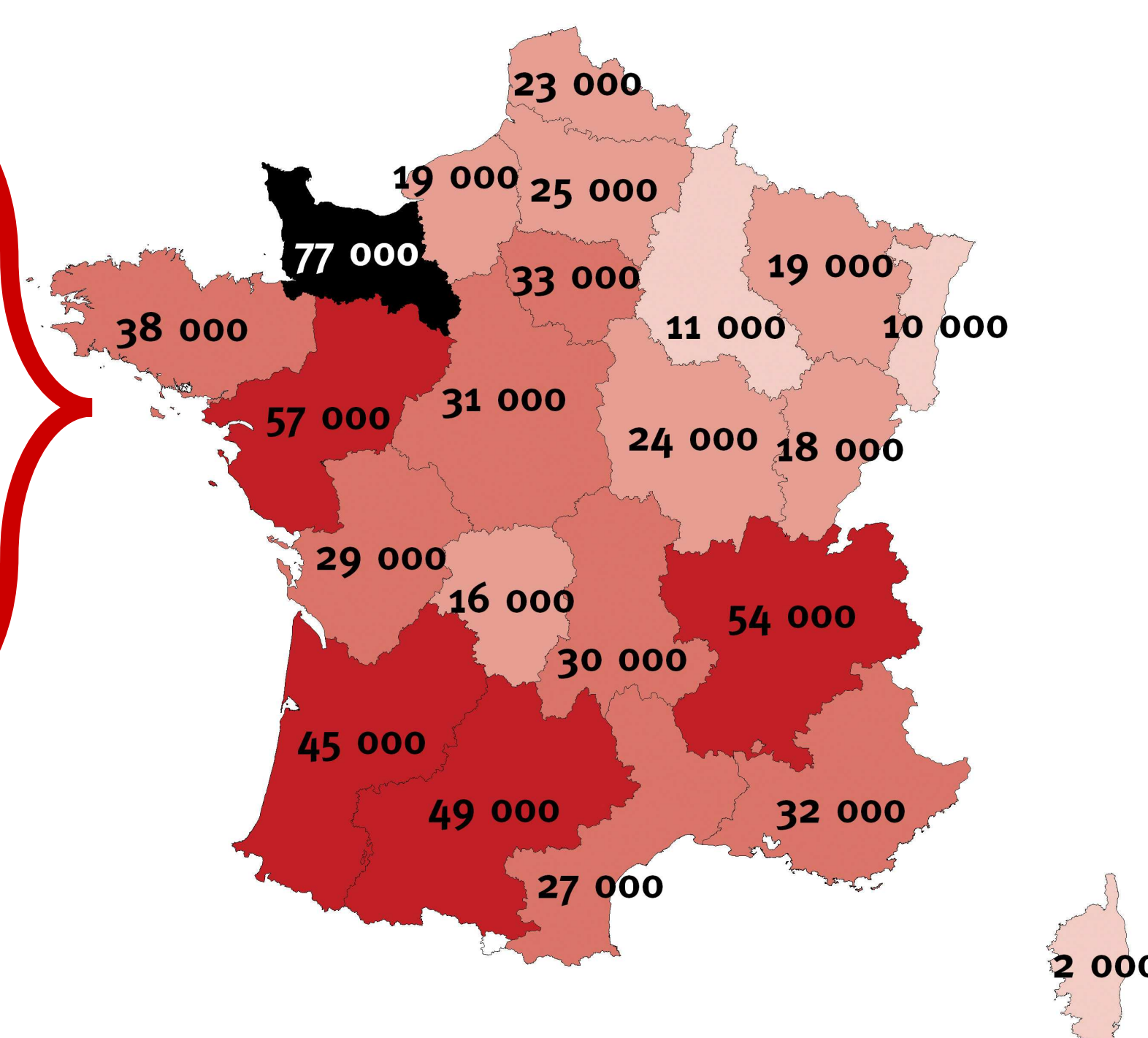
- estimation of whole number : SIRE, Customs
- Declinations : databases (SIRE, France Galop, SECF, FFE) and surveys (OER, program « cheval et territoire » of INRA)

Almost 700,000 sport and leisure equidae

In agricultural structures :

Equidae in breeding → 460,000
of which sport / leisure → 270,000
Racehorses in training → 27,000
Equidae in equestrian centers → 200,000
≈ 690,000

In individual properties :
by deduction, **210,000** equidae



Employment generated by the equine industry

Databases

Equine databases :

- On breeding (SIRE), equestrian centers (FFE), racing stables (France Galop, SECF)
- On employment in racing stables (AFASEC)

Others databases :

- On agricultural employment in establishments whose main activity is related to the horse industry (MSA)
- On balance sheets (turnover, employment) published by companies subjected to this requirement (available online)

Surveys

Regular regional surveys (OER) :

- 8 activity sectors surveyed every 3 to 5 years
- According to a national method : census, stratification, sampling, survey administration
- An operation supported by the Horse Councils and the IFCE and integrated to the REFErences Network

Occasional national surveys :

Ex. PMU retail outlets :

- Thirty outlets surveyed in 2009
- Results adjustments : stratification of the population of retail outlets based on departments' turnover

Many non-agricultural jobs

Agricultural professions : ≈ **39,000 jobs**
(Breeders*, equestrian centers*, trainers*)

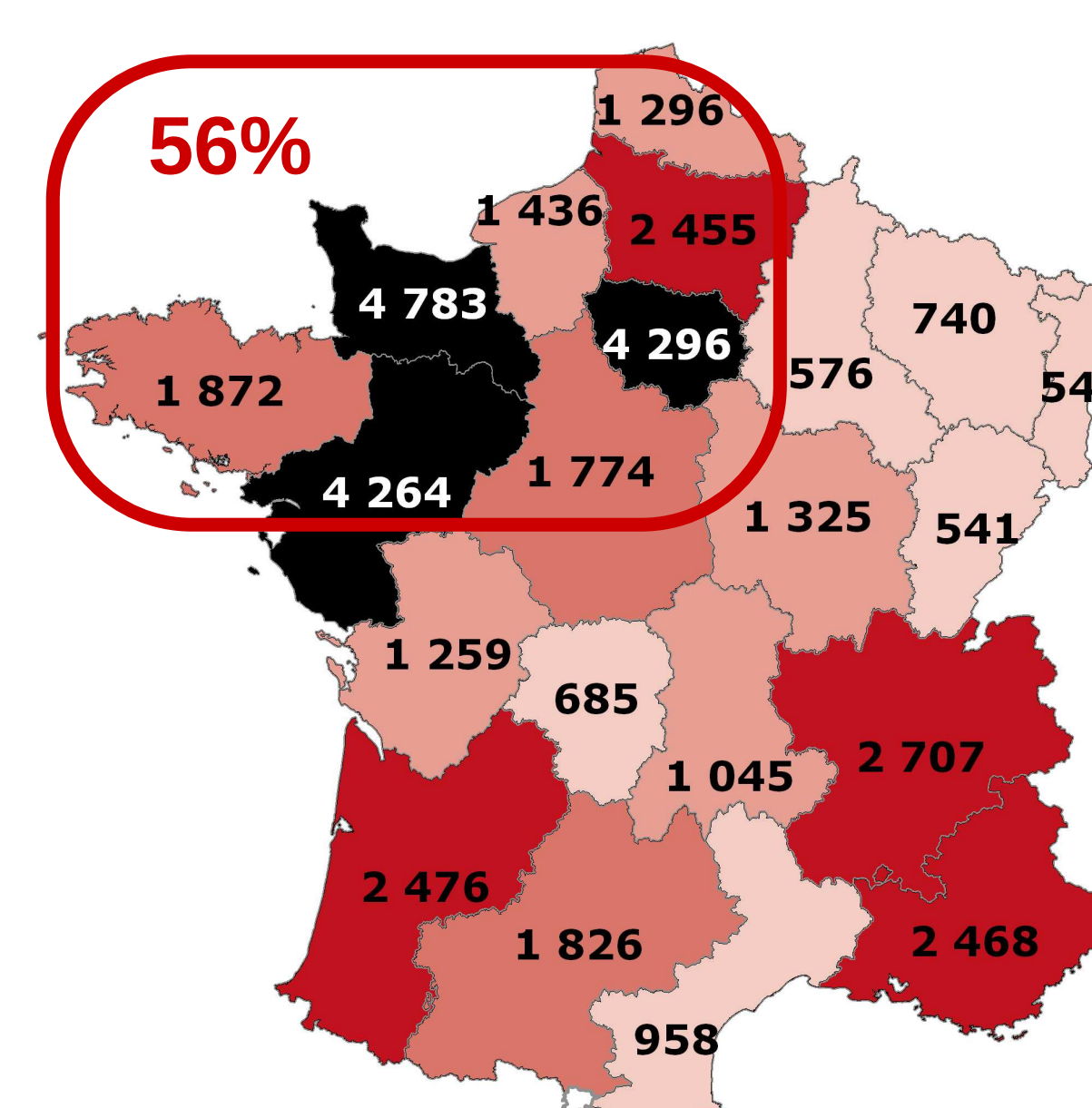
Non-agricultural professions ≈ **35,000 FTE**

- Veterinary**, farrier*, horse trader* 3,700
- Other related activities* 7,300
- Public services 2,200
- Horse racing and betting organisations ** 21,500
- Organisms related to riding activities 300

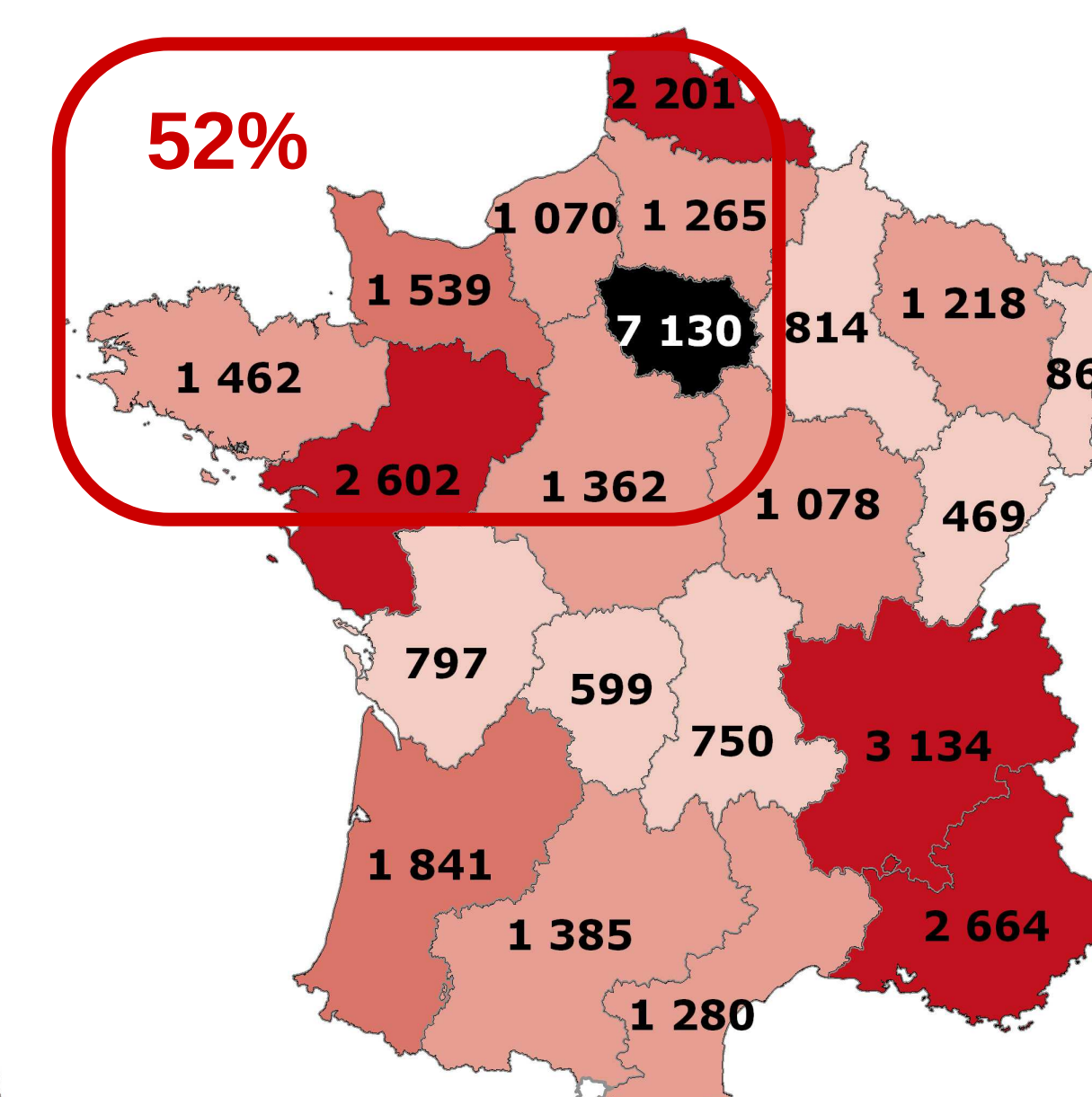
* : sources : databases

* : sources : surveys

The Northwest, an agricultural labor pool



Agricultural jobs



Non-agricultural FTE