#### Financial situation of French cities

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# Characteristics of the French financial system in 1982

Tax (tax) rate power Freedom to borrow money Transfers of (ov) many skills

### Situation of local finances in France

- Expenditure by local authorities amounted to
- € 212 billion, for a total public expenditure of 1,292.3, or about 17%, from 8.6% of GDP to 11.1% of GDP.
- 3/4 of public investment is local public investment

# First crisis of the 1990s

Case of over-indebtedness

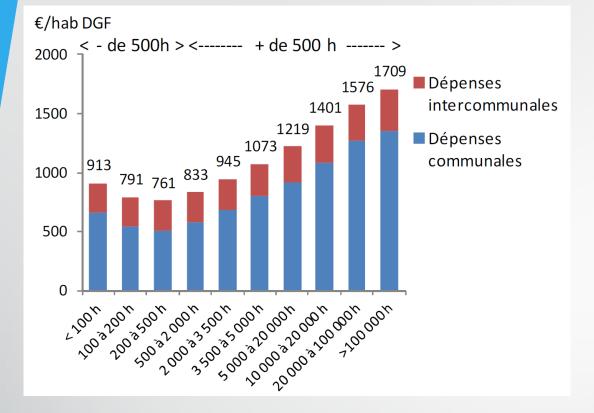
Creation of mandatory budget ratios

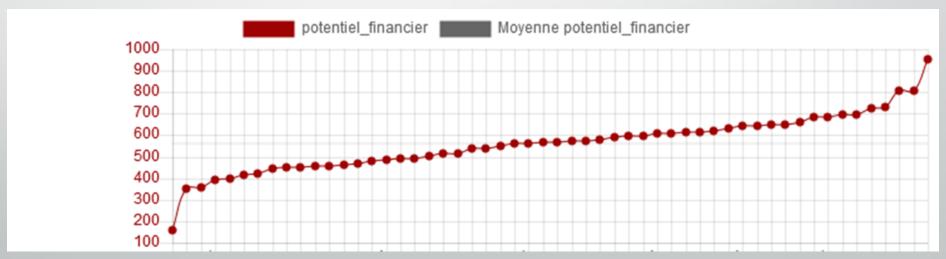
- Staff expenses/ hab
- Staff/ Operating Expenditures
- Outstanding debt/ hab
- Capital expenditure/ hab

# The analysis of the financial ratios

 Comparison of ratios of the same demographic size

The effect of urban concentration





#### 2000

- Very good financial health
- Communities continued to spend on operations
- Creation of new local authorities

# Early signs of future deterioration

- Transfers of costly powers from the State to the local authorities
- Rise of structured borrowing

#### The crisis of 2008

- Changes relationships between currencies
- Triggers massive public spending to stem systemic system collapse

# Pressure from the European Union and the financial markets on the Member States

- Drastic decline in State allocations to local authorities
  From 2014 to 2017, decrease of 3.5 billion euros per year
- Some toxic borrowings prove dangerous with an increase of interest rates

# The consequences since 2012 concerning local cities

- Reduce of Local taxation
- Development of cooperation between cities
  - Development of disparities
- Degradation of the financial health of cities

# Local taxation

- Decrease in rate power in 2010
- Communes retain a power of rate but transferred in many cases to intercommunalities
- New housing tax reform to come: no doubt a further reduction in rate power

### Cooperation between cities

- All municipalities have joined a cooperation structure
- Loss of local authority competence to the public institution
- Larger weight of the State
- State allocations related to fiscal and financial integration

# Development of disparities

- Implementation of equalization arrangements
- Weak constitutional recognition of equalization
- National arrangements
  - Ex: The equalisation fund of the intercommunal and communal resources of one billion euros
  - Measures of resource inequalities
  - Difficulties in measuring expenditure inequalities (fiscal effort and income)

# Degradation of the financial health of municipalities

- Slower local public investment
- Rise in local government debt

#### Contractualization

- Cap at + 1.2% of actual operating expenditures
- An objective to improve the need for financing

