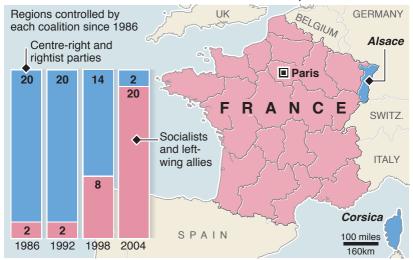
Sarkozy facing regional election wipeout

Since 2004, the Socialists and their left-wing allies have been in control of all but two of the 22 regions in mainland France. Now, President Nicolas Sarkozy's centre-right UMP party faces losing these two regions to the left in the final electoral test before the 2012 presidential race



Regional elections in all 22 metropolitan and four overseas regions – French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Reunion – take place on March 14 and 21 Source: WorldElections.com