

GERMANY

Update: July 8th 2024



Geography

Area: 357,022 km²
Capital: Berlin
Borders: 3,621 km; Austria: 784 km, Belgium: 167 km, Czech Republic: 646 km, Denmark: 68 km, France: 451 km, Luxembourg: 138 km, Netherlands: 577 km, Poland: 456 km, Switzerland: 334 km
Coastline: 2,389 km
Official language: German



Population

Population: 84,358,845 (2023 est.)
Rate of natural increase: -3.9‰ (2022)
Migration rate: 1.8‰ (2023 est.)
Asylum applicants: 243,835 (2022)
Life expectancy: men 79.4 years, women 84.2 years (2023 est.)
Population: 13.8% under 15 years old, 23.3% over 65 years old (2023 est.)
Foreign residents: EU nationals 5.2%, non-EU nationals 7.0% (2019)
Ethnic groups: German 86.3%, Turkish 1.8%, Polish 1%, Syrian 1%, Romanian 1%, other/stateless/unspecified 8.9% (est. 2020)
Religions: Roman Catholic 26%, Protestant 23.7%, Muslim 3.6%, other 4.8%, none 41.9% (2021 est.)

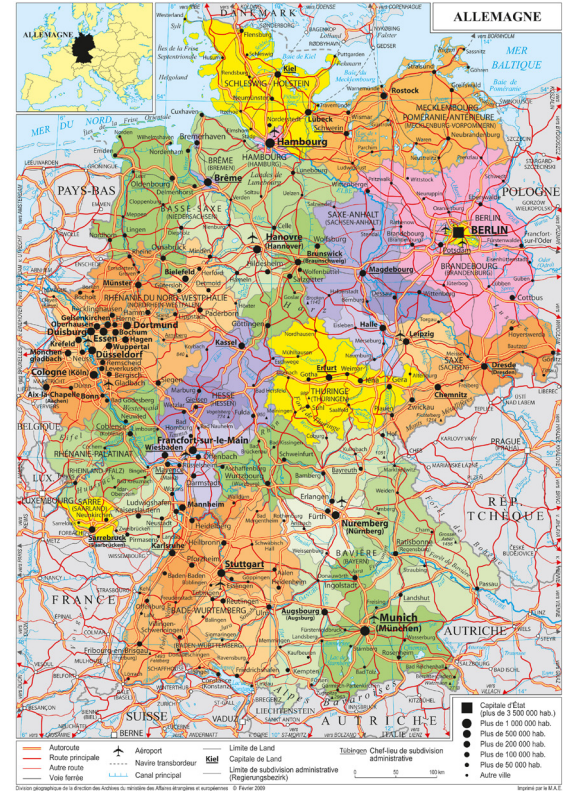
Source : Eurostat, World Fact Book



Economy

Currency: Euro
GDP: € 4,121,160 millions (2023)
GDP per capita (PPS): € 48,750 (2023)
GDP growth: -0.3 (2023)
Unemployment: 3.3% (May 2024)
Inflation: 2.8% (May 2024)
Government debt: 66.3% of GDP (December 2022)
Budget balance: -2% of GDP (December 2023)
Stock of foreign direct investment from the entire world: 48.8% of GDP (2022)

Source : Eurostat, OECD, European Commission, FMI, Trading Economic, Statista



Political System

Federal Republic, representative parliamentary democracy.

Head of state: Frank-Walter Steinmeier, SPD candidate supported by 4 other political parties (CDU, CSU, FDP and Green) was elected on 12th February 2017 by 931 votes out of the 1136 cast by the German federal assembly (Bundesversammlung). He took office on March 19th and was reelected on February 13th 2022.
Chancellor: Olaf Scholz, following the elections of September 26th 2021, is leading a SPD-Green-FDP coalition. He took office on December 8th 2021.

Bicameral parliamentary system:
The Bundesrat (Federal council or Senate) represents the 16 Länder. It comprises 69 members who are proportionally divided amongst the Länder according to their populations.
The Bundestag (National Parliament) comprises 736 representatives who are elected for four years by direct federal universal suffrage. Every citizen has two votes. Half of them are directly distributed among 299 electoral constituencies, the other half through party lists of the different Länder, and 111 (for the current term of office) are "overhang mandates" (the Parliament usually comprises 598 representatives). This amount of additional mandates is equally established by the Sainte-Lague/Schepers procedure.



Political Representation

Composition of the Bundestag (in July 2024):

- 207 seats SPD (Social-Democratic Party)
- 195 seats CDU-CSU (Christian Democratic Union/Christian-Social Union)
- 117 seats The Greens
- 91 seats FDP (The Liberals)
- 77 seats AfD (Alternative for Germany)
- 28 seats Die Linke (Left Party)
- 10 seats BSW (Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance)
- 8 seats unassociated

-Composition of the Bundesrat (December 2023):

- 22 seats CDU/CSU
- 22 seats SPD
- 18 seats The Green
- 2 seats FDP
- 3 seats Die Linke
- 2 seats Independents

Female representation:

- in government: 7/17
- in the Bundestag: 263/733
- in the Bundesrat: 28/69

Next elections: legislative in 2025 and presidential in 2027