

## GERMANY

Update: October 29th 2024



## Geography

**Area:** 357,022 km<sup>2</sup>  
**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:** - 4‰ (2023)  
**Migration rate:** - 6,9‰ (est. 2023)  
**Asylum applicants:** 329.120 (2023)  
**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:** 6% (September 2024)  
**Inflation:** 1.6% (September 2024)  
**Government debt:** 63.4% of GDP (Q1 2024)  
**Budget balance:** -2% of GDP (2023)  
**Stock of foreign direct investment from the entire world:** 26.4% of GDP (2022)

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



## Political System

**Federal Republic, representative parliamentary democracy.**

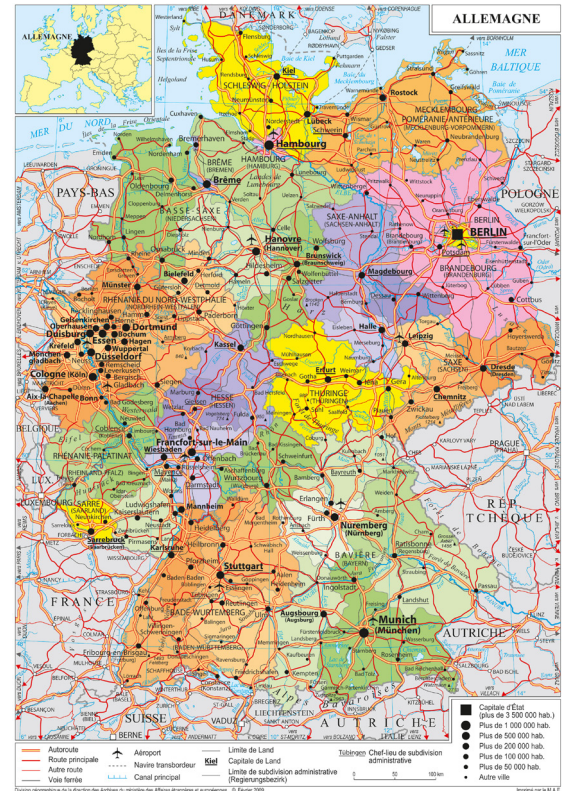
**Head of state:** Frank-Walter Steinmeier, SPD candidate supported by 4 other political parties (CDU, CSU, FDP and Green) was elected on 12th February 2017 by 931 votes out of the 1136 cast by the German federal assembly (Bundesversammlung). He took office on March 19th and was reelected on February 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 (since October 2021):**

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

**-Composition of the Bundesrat (September 2024) :**

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

**Female representation:**

in government: 7/17  
in the Bundestag: 264/733  
in the Bundesrat: 23/69

**Next elections:** legislative in 2025 and presidential in 2027