



BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY



Area: 137,847 sq. mi. (63rd) – 3 times size of Pennsylvania

Capital: Berlin; **Currency:** Euro

Population: 83.6 million (19th)

Government: Federal Parliamentary Republic

Chancellor (PM): Olaf Scholz

Religions: 24.3% Protestant, 25.7% Roman Catholic, 3.5% Muslim, 4.8% Other, 40.7% None

GDP (PPP): \$5.3 trillion (5th)

GDP (PPP) per capita: \$63,835 (18th)

UN Human Development Index: .942 *very high* (9th) vs US .926 (17th)

German imports from US: \$ 71.33b (3rd) **German exports to US:** \$ 118.68b (1st)

Organizations: UN, EU, NATO, OECD, G7, G20

As Europe's largest economy and second most populous nation (after Russia), Germany is a key member of the continent's economic, political, and defense organizations. European power struggles immersed Germany in two devastating world wars in the first half of the 20th century and left the country occupied by the victorious Allied powers of the US, UK, France, and the Soviet Union in 1945. With the advent of the Cold War, two German states were formed in 1949: the western Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and the eastern German Democratic Republic (GDR). The democratic FRG embedded itself in key western economic and security organizations, the EC (now the EU) and NATO, while the communist GDR was on the front line of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. The decline of the USSR and the end of the Cold War allowed for German reunification in 1990. Since then, Germany has expended considerable funds to bring eastern productivity and wages up to western standards. In January 1999, Germany and 10 other EU countries introduced a common European exchange currency, the Euro.

Germany is the source of much of “European Culture.” The country has produced giants in music, art, literature and philosophy. The science and technology contributions from Germany have had a major impact on the world.

In the words of Ambassador Emily Haber: “Decades of US-German cooperation have created a tight-knit fabric of bonds across our entire relationship, making our partnership rock-solid”. As of the 2000 US Census, more than 20% of all Americans claim German descent. German-Americans are an assimilated group which influences political life in the US as a whole.

Germany is the second biggest aid donor after the US and it is the second most popular immigration destination after the US.

Fun Facts:

*There are over 1,000 varieties of sausage in Germany

*65% of German highways (autobahn) have no speed limit.

*There are 20,000 castles in Germany

*First book (Gutenberg Bible 1455) and the first magazine (1663) were printed in Germany

* Germany brought the first Kindergarten to the US, as well as the hot dog and hamburger.