

Germany Report Overview (updated as of October 16, 2020)

This is an overview of the economic and industry related information for Germany as of October 2020. This report will summarize the economic state of Germany and changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fast Facts/Statistics¹

- Population: 83,020,000
- GDP (PPP): \$3.9 trillion
- GDP per capita: \$46,500
- GDP growth rate: -7.8%
- Projected GDP growth rate: 5.4% (2021)
- Inflation (CPI): 1.45%



UK Overview and Economic Summary

The structure of the German government is derived from the country's constitution, the Grundgesetz (or Basic Law), which went into effect on May 23, 1949. In 1970, East and West Germany were merged into one country. The doctrine of "two German states in one German nation" was developed to create this merger.² Germany's economy is ranked fourth in the world. It is not only Europe's largest, but also its strongest economy. In 1980, Germany was the third-largest economy in the world.³

COVID-19 Impact and 2020 Economic Data

Germany's economy has been greatly affected by COVID-19. They are predicted to recover from their drastic economic drops in 2021. In the figure to the right, it shows the 2020 economic GDP numbers and the 2021 predictions.⁴

GDP	Actual	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2021
GDP Growth Rate (%)	-9.70	2	1.5	1.4	0.8	1.4
GDP Annual Growth Rate (%)	-11.30	-6	-2	9.2	7.9	6.5
GDP (USD Billion)	3845.63	3400	3700	3700	3700	3700
GDP Constant Prices (EUR Billion)	716.31	767	761	777	782	783
Gross National Product (EUR Billion)	804.49	897	838	868	879	916
Gross Fixed Capital Formation (EUR Billion)	156.92	159	161	167	171	162
GDP per capita (USD)	47628.00	46500	47200	47200	47200	47200
GDP per capita PPP (USD)	53815.40	50900	51600	51600	51600	51600
GDP From Agriculture (EUR Billion)	5.79	6.18	5.49	5.67	6.32	6.31
GDP From Construction (EUR Billion)	44.48	47.14	44.98	37.77	48.58	48.13
GDP From Manufacturing (EUR Billion)	132.65	177	155	154	145	181
GDP From Public Administration (EUR Billion)	135.24	150	145	146	148	153
GDP From Services (EUR Billion)	111.67	130	121	116	122	133

¹<https://tradingeconomics.com/germany/gdp#:~:text=GDP%20in%20Germany%20is%20expected,according%20to%20our%20econometric%20models>.

² <https://www.britannica.com/place/Germany/Government-and-society>

³[https://www.investopedia.com/insights/worlds-top-economies/#:~:text=Germany%20is%20not%20just%20Europe's,is%200%2446%2C560%20\(18th%20place\)](https://www.investopedia.com/insights/worlds-top-economies/#:~:text=Germany%20is%20not%20just%20Europe's,is%200%2446%2C560%20(18th%20place)).

⁴ <https://tradingeconomics.com/germany/forecast>

Major Industries and Trends

COVID-19 caused a historic decline in the economic output in Germany. The German government took decisive, vigorous action to protect the country by deploying the largest assistive package in history for 130 billion euros. It built a protective shield for employees, self-employed, and businesses by creating:

- Multiple measures to safeguard the provision of healthcare in times of crisis
- Fast and very extensive support for small businesses, self-employed individuals, and freelancers
- Comprehensive measures to support the real economy - protecting businesses, employees, and jobs
- Tax related assistance that is available to companies of all sizes in order to strengthen their liquidity

Some key industries in Germany that were hit the hardest:

1. Automotive Sector
2. Machinery and Plant Engineering
3. Aviation Industry
4. Tourism

Germany's reduced hours working scheme has helped many companies to stay afloat with the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is recognized as the gold standard of labor market instruments in times of crisis, but it comes as a huge cost to the public. Predictions of a severe second wave are a large concern for the German community, but they are used to their government stepping in to protect them from the worst effects of the pandemic. Even Europe's largest economy cannot mitigate all the negative effects of COVID-19.⁵

Major Cities and Housing

Major cities and their populations

- Berlin (3,700,000)
- Hamburg (1,700,000)
- Munich (1,500,000)
- Frankfurt (750,000)

Berlin

Berlin is the capital and chief urban center for Germany. It is the epicenter for Germany's economy, politics, and culture. Berlin has a diverse population with 21% of residents consisting of foreign-born residents. There is an average age of 42.7 years old. The average student spends around 850 euros per month on living expenses. The cost of food, housing, clothing, and cultural activities are slightly higher than the EU average.

⁵ <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/reflections-covid-19-views-germany>

Hamburg

Hamburg is the second largest city in Germany by population. As compared to Berlin, the average age is similar at 42.1 years old, but a smaller foreign population at 14%. For only accommodation in Hamburg, the average student can expect to spend between 290 to 560 euros per month. Hamburg is one of the most expensive cities to live in for Germany. Compared to Boston though, it is quite inexpensive.

Munich

Munich is a popular tourist destination in Germany. Their foreign-born resident population is quite large at 37%. The average age is 40.7 years old. In Munich, the average student can expect to spend 850 euros per month on living expenses. This includes rent, food, leisure activities, public transport, etc. The average rent per month in Munich varies depending on type of apartment (room in a shared flat, single apartment, student residence halls) from 300 to 800 euros.



(Left to right:) Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt

Opportunities for Internships and Co-ops

Germany has historically been a student destination for industry and research co-ops. In addition to positions posted on NUworks, students can explore dedicated websites to identify opportunities (see partial list below). Currently due to COVID-19, some of the organizations may not offer internships or co-ops. However, as mentioned earlier the strong industries in Germany continue to be growing and fighting against the negative effects of COVID-19.

- [DAAD](#)
- [MeinPraktikum.de](#)
- [Stepstone.de](#)
- [Indeed.de](#)
- [Berufsstart.de](#)
- [Praktikumsstellen.de](#)
- [UNICUM](#)

Resources for NU Students

GoinGlobal

GoinGlobal helps new and experienced job seekers find opportunities both at home and abroad. As the market leader in online career and employment resources for more than 16 years, our website has helped millions of new and experienced professionals expand their horizons.

We are committed to providing “grassroots employment intelligence” through our team of local career experts. These globally-minded individuals are in place around the world, personally monitoring and updating the career information and resources that we deliver to you.

GoinGlobal’s Internship database features millions of opportunities around the globe—all updated daily. Our proprietary search engine has the unique ability to identify internships that have been posted in the local language, as well as in English. Each internship opportunity lists the position title and description, company name, location and date of posting.

GoinGlobal makes it easy to search for internship positions in the nonprofit and international development fields, as well as opportunities with public and private organizations of every size and focus.

Link: <http://www.goinglobal.com/>

GlobeSmart

With over 25 years of experience, Aperian Global provides organizations with scalable, blended solutions that enable them to conduct business effectively across boundaries. Our consulting, training, and online learning tools help employees at all levels to engage global and local counterparts in a fully inclusive way, bringing out their best ideas while serving as a catalyst for innovative new solutions.

Prepare for trips or relocation abroad with guidance on over 50 cultural business topics, including travel, attitudes towards women, safety, manners and etiquette, and more.

Link: <https://www.globesmart.com/>