INSTITUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH
The Research Institute of the Federal Employment Agency

Current Data and Indicators

REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET FORECASTS // September 2026

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The following pages present forecasts by the Institute for Employment Research, Germany (IAB) of the number of people in employment subject to social security contributions, the number of unemployed, the number of unemployed in the Social Code II and III systems and the number of people who are able to work and are eligible for benefits for various regions as well as the unemployment rate. Until the issue 1/2015, this forecast was published as “Regional Forecasts of Unemployment and Employment in the German Federal States and Labour Market Districts”. At the IAB, the calculations are carried out in the Regional Research Network.

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1 Methodology

The forecasts for the number of employed subject to social security contributions, the number of unemployed and those capable of working and eligible for benefits are carried out in a three-step process:

1. First, nine different time-series models are estimated. In two of these models, only former values of the de-pendent variable are included. These models adapt best to the short-term development in a region if there are large fluctuations in the region or there is no clear pattern in the recent past. Two further models decompose the time series to differentiate between level, trend, seasonal and business-cycle influences. The advantage of these two models is that they have a high and robust forecast quality if the time series has a regular and clearly identifiable long-term pattern. In order to profit from the advantages of both types of models, further models were constructed which use a combination of these two approaches. Especially in the case of relatively small regional units, as is the case with the labour market districts, it is likely that regional interdependencies play an important role. Such spatial interdependencies are accounted for in three further models. Two of these treat employment, unemployment and the number capable of working and eligible for benefits as separate variables whereas the third model (first used in March 2011) also accounts for the dependencies between the unemployed (at their place of residence) and the employed (at their place of work). The models with spatial autocorrelation were developed at the IAB in order to improve the forecast accuracy. The last model, a stock-flow approach, uses the information that in- and outflow of workers provide about the future level of (un)employment. These models yield especially good forecasting results during turning points.
2. In order to take the pros and cons of the different models used in the first step into account, an average of the models is calculated in a second step. However, in this so-called pooling, in each region only those models are included whose forecasts have a relatively small deviation from the forecast for Germany. At the same time, in order to control for international and national influences, we adjust the regional forecasts to match the values for the national forecast that take these (inter)national dependencies into account. Hence, the national forecast is a further explanatory variable in our pooled model for every region. The current forecast is based on those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026 (in German only).
3. In order to verify the validity of the models, in a third step the results are compared with assessments at the ten Regional Offices of the IAB. In this step, it is possible to take important unique events in a region into account. Thus, regional expertise is contained in the forecasts.

In addition to the forecasts of the yearly averages, we also predict unemployment rates based on the number of all civilian employees. Please note that the number of civilian employees is an estimate in this context. For this purpose, we use the predicted change in unemployment and employment subject to social security contributions, but hold constant the number in all other employment types, for example, mini-jobs, civil servants or self-employed.

By definition, forecasts are uncertain. For this reason, lower and upper bounds are calculated so that the future true values lie within this interval with a probability of roughly 66%. Because the underlying regional forecast model differs from the one used for the national forecasts, the statistical uncertainty and hence the lower and upper bounds differ between the two. A more complete explanation (in German only) of the methodology used can be found in:

Bach et al. (2009): Der deutsche Arbeitsmarkt – Entwicklungen und Perspektiven. In: Institut für Arbeits-markt- und Berufsforschung, Nürnberg (Ed.), Hand-buch Arbeitsmarkt 2009, (IAB-Bibliothek, 314), Bielefeld: Bertelsmann, p. 64-78.

2 Employment in the Federal States yearly average

	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
	Average	Average	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
Federal State							
Schleswig-Holstein	1,063,500	1,061,700	1,049,600	1,073,800	-0.2	-1.3	1.0
Hamburg	1,090,700	1,090,100	1,081,100	1,099,100	-0.1	-0.9	0.8
Lower Saxony	3,169,700	3,172,800	3,136,800	3,208,800	0.1	-1.0	1.2
Bremen	348,000	346,000	342,400	349,500	-0.6	-1.6	0.4
North Rhine-Westphalia	7,376,500	7,376,300	7,289,300	7,463,300	0.0	-1.2	1.2
Hessen	2,774,800	2,769,900	2,744,600	2,795,200	-0.2	-1.1	0.7
Rhineland-Palatinate	1,487,800	1,482,000	1,466,500	1,497,600	-0.4	-1.4	0.7
Baden-Württemberg	4,927,000	4,923,300	4,877,400	4,969,300	-0.1	-1.0	0.9
Bavaria	5,953,200	5,940,300	5,877,900	6,002,600	-0.2	-1.3	0.8
Saarland	383,000	378,000	373,300	382,700	-1.3	-2.5	-0.1
Berlin	1,682,500	1,694,000	1,674,700	1,713,300	0.7	-0.5	1.8
Brandenburg	883,900	884,400	874,100	894,700	0.1	-1.1	1.2
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	572,800	571,600	565,600	577,700	-0.2	-1.3	0.9
Saxony	1,613,600	1,607,000	1,589,500	1,624,500	-0.4	-1.5	0.7
Saxony-Anhalt	785,400	780,800	771,700	790,000	-0.6	-1.7	0.6
Thuringia	777,400	771,800	760,100	783,600	-0.7	-2.2	0.8
Germany (western/eastern/total)[1)]							
Germany, western	28,574,000	28,540,000	28,239,000	28,842,000	-0.1	-1.2	0.9
Germany, eastern	6,316,000	6,310,000	6,236,000	6,384,000	-0.1	-1.3	1.1
Germany, total	34,890,000	34,850,000	34,475,000	35,226,000	-0.1	-1.2	1.0

[1)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000. Due to rounding off, the sums for Germany (western/eastern/total) may diverge slightly from official statistics. Due to methodological differences, the lower and upper bounds presented here are not comparable with those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

3 Employment in the Labour Market Districts yearly average

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
30	Greifswald	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	82,000	81,300	80,100	82,600	-0.9	-2.3	0.7
31	Neubrandenburg	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	88,500	87,700	86,600	88,800	-0.9	-2.1	0.3
32	Rostock	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	168,500	169,700	168,200	171,200	0.7	-0.2	1.6
33	Schwerin	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	161,200	160,400	158,300	162,500	-0.5	-1.8	0.8
34	Stralsund	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	72,600	72,500	71,700	73,300	-0.1	-1.2	1.0
35	Cottbus	Brandenburg	218,500	217,400	214,200	220,500	-0.5	-2.0	0.9
36	Eberswalde	Brandenburg	93,200	92,600	91,200	94,000	-0.6	-2.1	0.9
37	Frankfurt (Oder)	Brandenburg	149,300	149,400	146,900	152,000	0.1	-1.6	1.8
38	Neuruppin	Brandenburg	165,800	165,500	162,600	168,400	-0.2	-1.9	1.6
39	Potsdam	Brandenburg	257,100	259,500	257,600	261,400	0.9	0.2	1.7
42	Sachsen-Anhalt Ost	Saxony-Anhalt	128,000	126,800	125,200	128,400	-0.9	-2.2	0.3
43	Sachsen-Anhalt West	Saxony-Anhalt	129,300	127,900	125,900	129,900	-1.1	-2.6	0.5
44	Sachsen-Anhalt Süd	Saxony-Anhalt	267,700	267,000	264,000	270,100	-0.3	-1.4	0.9
45	Sachsen-Anhalt Nord	Saxony-Anhalt	260,400	259,100	256,300	261,900	-0.5	-1.6	0.6
71	Annaberg-Buchholz	Saxony	107,400	106,300	104,700	108,000	-1.0	-2.5	0.6
72	Bautzen	Saxony	195,100	193,500	190,400	196,600	-0.8	-2.4	0.8
73	Chemnitz	Saxony	115,500	114,200	113,100	115,300	-1.1	-2.1	-0.2
74	Dresden	Saxony	281,200	282,600	279,400	285,800	0.5	-0.6	1.6
75	Leipzig	Saxony	294,800	296,300	293,400	299,300	0.5	-0.5	1.5
76	Oschatz	Saxony	153,500	152,000	149,700	154,400	-1.0	-2.5	0.6
77	Pirna	Saxony	79,600	79,500	78,300	80,800	-0.1	-1.6	1.5
78	Plauen	Saxony	77,800	77,100	76,000	78,300	-0.9	-2.3	0.6
79	Riesa	Saxony	88,400	88,300	87,200	89,300	-0.1	-1.4	1.0
80	Freiberg	Saxony	102,900	101,600	100,300	103,000	-1.3	-2.5	0.1
92	Zwickau	Saxony	117,400	115,600	113,500	117,700	-1.5	-3.3	0.3
93	Thüringen Mitte	Thuringia	274,500	272,900	270,000	275,800	-0.6	-1.6	0.5
94	Thüringen Ost	Thuringia	240,200	239,100	236,000	242,100	-0.5	-1.7	0.8

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
97	Thüringen Nord	Thuringia	115,300	114,200	112,200	116,200	-1.0	-2.7	0.8
98	Thüringen Südwest	Thuringia	147,400	145,600	142,600	148,500	-1.2	-3.3	0.7
111	Bad Oldesloe	Schleswig-Holstein	142,500	142,600	141,000	144,300	0.1	-1.1	1.3
115	Elmshorn	Schleswig-Holstein	198,600	198,500	196,300	200,600	-0.1	-1.2	1.0
119	Flensburg	Schleswig-Holstein	173,700	173,800	171,100	176,600	0.1	-1.5	1.7
123	Hamburg	Hamburg	1,090,700	1,090,100	1,081,100	1,099,100	-0.1	-0.9	0.8
127	Heide	Schleswig-Holstein	87,400	86,900	85,700	88,100	-0.6	-1.9	0.8
131	Kiel	Schleswig-Holstein	162,000	162,000	160,400	163,500	0.0	-1.0	0.9
135	Lübeck	Schleswig-Holstein	171,100	170,800	168,400	173,200	-0.2	-1.6	1.2
139	Neumünster	Schleswig-Holstein	128,200	127,100	125,100	129,100	-0.9	-2.4	0.7
211	Braunschweig-Goslar	Lower Saxony	258,200	257,300	254,100	260,500	-0.3	-1.6	0.9
214	Bremen-Bremerhaven	Bremen/Lower Saxony	377,500	376,700	373,000	380,300	-0.2	-1.2	0.7
224	Emden-Leer	Lower Saxony	164,200	164,100	161,400	166,900	-0.1	-1.7	1.6
231	Göttingen	Lower Saxony	178,900	177,400	175,300	179,600	-0.8	-2.0	0.4
234	Hameln	Lower Saxony	122,400	121,700	120,100	123,300	-0.6	-1.9	0.7
237	Hannover	Lower Saxony	553,400	555,200	549,600	560,800	0.3	-0.7	1.3
241	Helmstedt	Lower Saxony	179,800	178,600	174,400	182,700	-0.7	-3.0	1.6
244	Hildesheim	Lower Saxony	127,700	126,600	124,800	128,500	-0.9	-2.3	0.6
251	Lüneburger Heide	Lower Saxony	292,900	292,900	289,200	296,600	0.0	-1.3	1.3
257	Nordhorn	Lower Saxony	211,700	212,900	210,200	215,600	0.6	-0.7	1.8
261	Oldenburg-Wilhelmshaven	Lower Saxony	307,400	309,800	306,100	313,500	0.8	-0.4	2.0
264	Osnabrück	Lower Saxony	233,300	232,900	230,100	235,800	-0.2	-1.4	1.1
267	Stade	Lower Saxony	183,500	184,300	181,800	186,700	0.4	-0.9	1.7
274	Vechta	Lower Saxony	156,000	157,500	155,800	159,300	1.0	-0.1	2.1
277	Nienburg-Verden	Lower Saxony	170,800	170,900	168,800	172,900	0.1	-1.2	1.2
311	Aachen-Düren	North Rhine-Westphalia	399,600	399,000	393,900	404,000	-0.2	-1.4	1.1
315	Bergisch Gladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	250,300	249,700	246,800	252,700	-0.2	-1.4	1.0
317	Bielefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	359,000	359,500	354,300	364,700	0.1	-1.3	1.6
321	Bochum	North Rhine-Westphalia	205,300	205,800	202,800	208,700	0.2	-1.2	1.7

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
323	Bonn	North Rhine-Westphalia	369,500	371,900	367,200	376,700	0.6	-0.6	1.9
325	Brühl	North Rhine-Westphalia	209,600	209,400	206,800	212,000	-0.1	-1.3	1.1
327	Coesfeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	240,100	240,700	237,000	244,400	0.2	-1.3	1.8
333	Dortmund	North Rhine-Westphalia	268,500	269,000	265,300	272,700	0.2	-1.2	1.6
337	Düsseldorf	North Rhine-Westphalia	464,600	465,900	461,300	470,500	0.3	-0.7	1.3
341	Duisburg	North Rhine-Westphalia	179,500	178,900	177,100	180,800	-0.3	-1.3	0.7
343	Essen	North Rhine-Westphalia	273,200	273,500	270,000	277,100	0.1	-1.2	1.4
345	Gelsenkirchen	North Rhine-Westphalia	117,700	117,600	115,700	119,400	-0.1	-1.7	1.4
347	Hagen	North Rhine-Westphalia	176,000	175,400	172,700	178,000	-0.3	-1.9	1.1
351	Hamm	North Rhine-Westphalia	201,500	202,600	199,800	205,300	0.5	-0.8	1.9
353	Herford	North Rhine-Westphalia	229,800	227,600	224,200	231,000	-1.0	-2.4	0.5
355	Iserlohn	North Rhine-Westphalia	155,800	153,500	151,200	155,700	-1.5	-3.0	-0.1
357	Köln	North Rhine-Westphalia	628,200	630,400	622,600	638,100	0.4	-0.9	1.6
361	Krefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	191,300	189,500	187,200	191,800	-0.9	-2.1	0.3
364	Mettmann	North Rhine-Westphalia	198,500	198,400	195,700	201,100	-0.1	-1.4	1.3
365	Mönchengladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	272,000	274,100	270,300	277,800	0.8	-0.6	2.1
367	Ahlen-Münster	North Rhine-Westphalia	299,300	300,400	296,700	304,200	0.4	-0.9	1.6
371	Oberhausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	134,400	133,600	132,100	135,200	-0.6	-1.7	0.6
373	Detmold-Paderborn	North Rhine-Westphalia	299,600	299,300	294,900	303,800	-0.1	-1.6	1.4
375	Recklinghausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	185,300	185,400	182,400	188,400	0.1	-1.6	1.7
377	Rheine	North Rhine-Westphalia	172,700	172,800	170,200	175,400	0.1	-1.4	1.6
381	Siegen	North Rhine-Westphalia	180,500	179,300	177,000	181,500	-0.7	-1.9	0.6
383	Meschede-Soest	North Rhine-Westphalia	226,300	224,500	221,000	227,900	-0.8	-2.3	0.7
387	Wesel	North Rhine-Westphalia	259,500	261,300	257,200	265,400	0.7	-0.9	2.3
391	Solingen-Wuppertal	North Rhine-Westphalia	228,900	227,300	223,900	230,700	-0.7	-2.2	0.8
411	Bad Hersfeld-Fulda	Hessen	147,800	147,300	145,300	149,300	-0.3	-1.7	1.0
415	Darmstadt	Hessen	297,600	296,000	292,500	299,400	-0.5	-1.7	0.6
419	Frankfurt	Hessen	650,300	649,800	643,800	655,900	-0.1	-1.0	0.9
427	Gießen	Hessen	233,300	232,900	229,700	236,200	-0.2	-1.5	1.2

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
431	Hanau	Hessen	141,700	141,100	139,200	143,000	-0.4	-1.8	0.9
433	Bad Homburg	Hessen	313,500	313,400	310,400	316,400	0.0	-1.0	0.9
435	Kassel	Hessen	223,000	222,200	219,000	225,400	-0.4	-1.8	1.1
439	Korbach	Hessen	125,100	124,800	122,900	126,700	-0.2	-1.8	1.3
443	Limburg-Wetzlar	Hessen	155,500	156,000	154,200	157,900	0.3	-0.8	1.5
447	Marburg	Hessen	98,300	98,300	97,400	99,300	0.0	-0.9	1.0
451	Offenbach	Hessen	190,000	189,300	187,300	191,300	-0.4	-1.4	0.7
459	Wiesbaden	Hessen	198,700	198,800	197,000	200,600	0.1	-0.9	1.0
511	Bad Kreuznach	Rhineland-Palatinate	121,100	120,500	118,700	122,300	-0.5	-2.0	1.0
515	Kaiserslautern-Pirmasens	Rhineland-Palatinate	169,500	168,900	166,700	171,100	-0.4	-1.7	0.9
519	Koblenz-Mayen	Rhineland-Palatinate	209,700	209,500	207,300	211,700	-0.1	-1.1	1.0
523	Ludwigshafen	Rhineland-Palatinate	184,100	182,400	180,100	184,600	-0.9	-2.2	0.3
527	Mainz	Rhineland-Palatinate	260,400	260,800	258,500	263,100	0.2	-0.7	1.0
543	Landau	Rhineland-Palatinate	152,100	150,700	149,000	152,400	-0.9	-2.0	0.2
547	Rhein-Wied-Westerwald	Rhineland-Palatinate	211,500	210,200	207,800	212,600	-0.6	-1.7	0.5
555	Saarland	Saarland	383,000	378,000	373,300	382,700	-1.3	-2.5	-0.1
563	Trier	Rhineland-Palatinate	179,400	179,000	177,000	181,100	-0.2	-1.3	0.9
611	Aalen	Baden-Württemberg	188,000	187,300	185,100	189,500	-0.4	-1.5	0.8
617	Freiburg	Baden-Württemberg	290,700	292,300	289,800	294,900	0.6	-0.3	1.4
621	Göppingen	Baden-Württemberg	310,900	308,800	305,600	312,100	-0.7	-1.7	0.4
624	Heidelberg	Baden-Württemberg	290,800	293,500	291,000	295,900	0.9	0.1	1.8
627	Heilbronn	Baden-Württemberg	229,400	229,700	227,500	231,900	0.1	-0.8	1.1
631	Karlsruhe-Rastatt	Baden-Württemberg	480,100	480,800	477,100	484,500	0.1	-0.6	0.9
634	Konstanz-Ravensburg	Baden-Württemberg	334,300	334,900	331,500	338,400	0.2	-0.8	1.2
637	Lörrach	Baden-Württemberg	134,200	133,900	132,400	135,500	-0.2	-1.3	1.0
641	Ludwigsburg	Baden-Württemberg	212,300	211,300	208,900	213,800	-0.5	-1.6	0.7
644	Mannheim	Baden-Württemberg	202,300	202,200	200,400	204,100	0.0	-0.9	0.9
647	Nagold-Pforzheim	Baden-Württemberg	220,900	219,900	217,300	222,400	-0.5	-1.6	0.7
651	Offenburg	Baden-Württemberg	193,900	194,200	192,000	196,500	0.2	-1.0	1.3

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
664	Balingen-Reutlingen	Baden-Württemberg	332,000	331,100	327,700	334,600	-0.3	-1.3	0.8
671	Waiblingen	Baden-Württemberg	154,900	155,000	153,000	157,100	0.1	-1.2	1.4
674	Schwäbisch Hall-Tauberbischofsheim	Baden-Württemberg	257,000	256,800	253,800	259,700	-0.1	-1.2	1.1
677	Stuttgart	Baden-Württemberg	620,600	617,200	611,000	623,500	-0.5	-1.5	0.5
684	Ulm	Baden-Württemberg	259,100	259,800	257,400	262,200	0.3	-0.7	1.2
687	Rottweil-Villingen-Schwenningen	Baden-Württemberg	215,600	214,600	212,200	217,100	-0.5	-1.6	0.7
711	Ansbach-Weißenburg	Bavaria	168,500	167,700	165,100	170,300	-0.5	-2.0	1.1
715	Aschaffenburg	Bavaria	143,900	142,000	140,400	143,500	-1.3	-2.4	-0.3
723	Bayreuth-Hof	Bavaria	197,800	196,900	194,400	199,400	-0.5	-1.7	0.8
727	Bamberg-Coburg	Bavaria	242,300	240,300	237,200	243,300	-0.8	-2.1	0.4
729	Fürth	Bavaria	263,100	263,400	261,000	265,800	0.1	-0.8	1.0
735	Nürnberg	Bavaria	392,900	391,000	387,000	395,100	-0.5	-1.5	0.6
739	Regensburg	Bavaria	286,900	286,900	283,800	290,100	0.0	-1.1	1.1
743	Schwandorf	Bavaria	173,000	172,900	170,800	175,000	-0.1	-1.3	1.2
747	Schweinfurt	Bavaria	176,400	175,000	172,500	177,500	-0.8	-2.2	0.6
751	Weiden	Bavaria	87,200	86,200	85,000	87,300	-1.1	-2.5	0.1
759	Würzburg	Bavaria	221,500	221,100	218,700	223,600	-0.2	-1.3	0.9
811	Augsburg	Bavaria	276,800	276,900	274,300	279,500	0.0	-0.9	1.0
815	Deggendorf	Bavaria	141,900	141,500	139,700	143,400	-0.3	-1.6	1.1
819	Donauwörth	Bavaria	221,000	220,000	216,900	223,000	-0.5	-1.9	0.9
823	Freising	Bavaria	229,800	231,200	228,700	233,700	0.6	-0.5	1.7
827	Ingolstadt	Bavaria	222,100	219,000	216,200	221,900	-1.4	-2.7	-0.1
831	Kempten-Memmingen	Bavaria	293,400	293,200	290,100	296,300	-0.1	-1.1	1.0
835	Landshut-Pfarrkirchen	Bavaria	187,700	186,800	184,800	188,800	-0.5	-1.5	0.6
843	München	Bavaria	1,234,900	1,235,900	1,224,400	1,247,400	0.1	-0.9	1.0
847	Passau	Bavaria	130,900	129,900	128,200	131,700	-0.8	-2.1	0.6
855	Rosenheim	Bavaria	204,800	204,500	202,300	206,700	-0.1	-1.2	0.9
859	Traunstein	Bavaria	208,100	207,300	204,600	210,000	-0.4	-1.7	0.9
863	Weilheim	Bavaria	248,300	250,700	248,000	253,500	1.0	-0.1	2.1

LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
			Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
900	Berlin	Berlin	1,682,500	1,694,000	1,674,700	1,713,300	0.7	-0.5	1.8
Germany (western/eastern/total)[3)]									
Germany, western			28,574,000	28,540,000	28,239,000	28,842,000	-0.1	-1.2	0.9
Germany, eastern			6,316,000	6,310,000	6,236,000	6,384,000	-0.1	-1.3	1.1
Germany, total			34,890,000	34,850,000	34,475,000	35,226,000	-0.1	-1.2	1.0

[1)] Due to rounding off, differences between the sum of the labour market districts and Germany can occur.

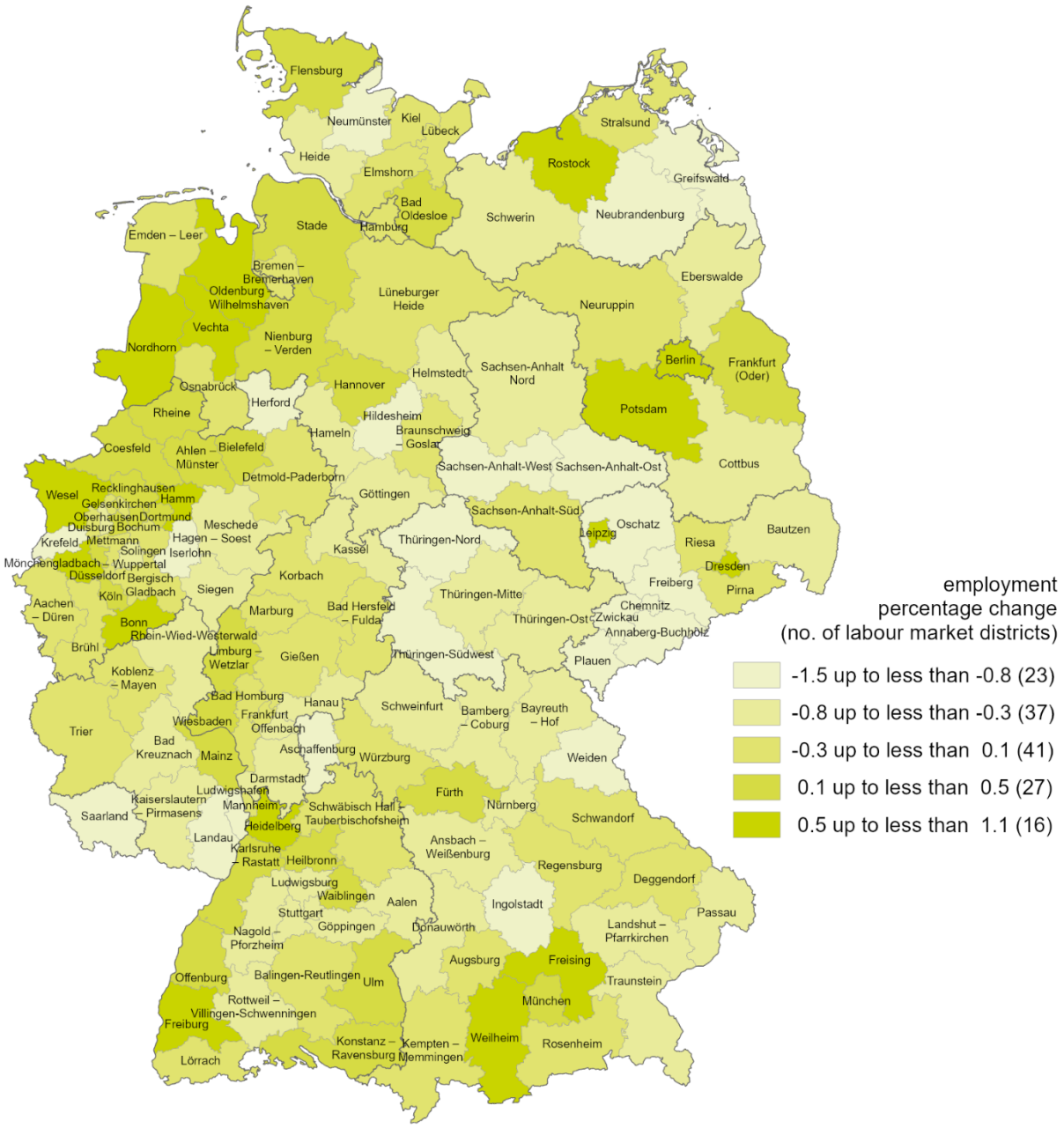
[2)] The statistical uncertainty which is represented in the lower and upper bounds is also affected by the size of a region. This means that the relative uncertainty of labour market districts is generally higher than for the Federal States. Therefore, the sums of the lower and upper bounds do not correspond to the values for the Federal States. The values for Germany (western/eastern/total) shown here are those from the results of the sum of the Federal States.

[3)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

4 Employment in the Labour Market Districts percentage change in yearly average from 2026 to 2027



September 2026

Basis for the figure: GeoBasis-DE/Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy 2024;

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

5 Unemployment in the Federal States yearly average

	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
	Average	Average	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
Federal State							
Schleswig-Holstein	96,600	98,200	92,600	103,800	1.7	-4.1	7.5
Hamburg	95,600	97,100	92,400	101,800	1.6	-3.3	6.5
Lower Saxony	276,400	278,600	265,100	292,100	0.8	-4.1	5.7
Bremen	42,700	42,600	40,700	44,500	-0.2	-4.7	4.2
North Rhine-Westphalia	790,600	799,100	756,400	841,800	1.1	-4.3	6.5
Hessen	210,800	212,400	201,000	223,800	0.8	-4.6	6.2
Rhineland-Palatinate	128,200	128,700	121,000	136,500	0.4	-5.6	6.5
Baden-Württemberg	302,400	306,000	284,400	327,600	1.2	-6.0	8.3
Bavaria	322,900	321,300	293,800	348,800	-0.5	-9.0	8.0
Saarland	39,000	38,800	36,300	41,300	-0.5	-6.9	5.9
Berlin	225,000	229,000	217,400	240,600	1.8	-3.4	6.9
Brandenburg	87,100	86,800	79,100	94,500	-0.3	-9.2	8.5
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	64,700	62,200	55,600	68,800	-3.9	-14.1	6.3
Saxony	154,800	157,700	145,200	170,300	1.9	-6.2	10.0
Saxony-Anhalt	89,700	91,000	83,500	98,500	1.4	-6.9	9.8
Thuringia	71,300	70,000	63,300	76,600	-1.8	-11.2	7.4
Germany (western/eastern/total)[1)]							
Germany, western	2,305,000	2,323,000	2,184,000	2,462,000	0.8	-5.2	6.8
Germany, eastern	693,000	697,000	644,000	749,000	0.6	-7.1	8.1
Germany, total	2,998,000	3,020,000	2,828,000	3,211,000	0.7	-5.7	7.1

[1)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000. Due to rounding off, the sums for Germany (western/eastern/total) may diverge slightly from official statistics. Due to methodological differences, the lower and upper bounds presented here are not comparable with those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

6 Number of Unemployed in the Social Code II System[1)] in the Federal States yearly average

	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
	Average	Average	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
Federal State							
Schleswig-Holstein	59,700	61,500	57,200	65,800	3.0	-4.2	10.2
Hamburg	59,600	60,300	56,700	63,900	1.2	-4.9	7.2
Lower Saxony	171,700	173,300	163,200	183,400	0.9	-5.0	6.8
Bremen	31,300	31,300	29,800	32,800	0.0	-4.8	4.8
North Rhine-Westphalia	526,700	531,850	506,550	557,150	1.0	-3.8	5.8
Hessen	132,800	133,700	124,800	142,600	0.7	-6.0	7.4
Rhineland-Palatinate	72,000	72,800	68,600	77,000	1.1	-4.7	6.9
Baden-Württemberg	154,600	156,100	146,900	165,300	1.0	-5.0	6.9
Bavaria	144,300	138,200	127,600	148,800	-4.2	-11.6	3.1
Saarland	25,500	25,400	23,600	27,200	-0.4	-7.5	6.7
Berlin	147,400	149,550	138,850	160,250	1.5	-5.8	8.7
Brandenburg	54,500	53,600	47,900	59,300	-1.7	-12.1	8.8
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	42,000	39,500	35,000	44,000	-6.0	-16.7	4.8
Saxony	96,200	98,300	89,500	107,100	2.2	-7.0	11.3
Saxony-Anhalt	58,000	58,700	53,000	64,400	1.2	-8.6	11.0
Thuringia	42,200	41,400	36,900	45,900	-1.9	-12.6	8.8
Germany (western/eastern/total)[2)]							
Germany, western	1,378,000	1,384,000	1,305,000	1,464,000	0.4	-5.3	6.2
Germany, eastern	440,000	441,000	401,000	481,000	0.2	-8.9	9.3
Germany, total	1,819,000	1,826,000	1,706,000	1,945,000	0.4	-6.2	6.9

[1)] SGB II unemployed.

[2)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000. Due to rounding off, the sums for Germany (western/eastern/total) may diverge slightly from official statistics. Due to methodological differences, the lower and upper bounds presented here are not comparable with those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

7 Number of Unemployed in the Social Code III System[1)] in the Federal States yearly average

	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
	Average	Average	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
Federal State							
Schleswig-Holstein	36,900	36,700	34,100	39,300	-0.5	-7.6	6.5
Hamburg	36,000	36,800	34,000	39,600	2.2	-5.6	10.0
Lower Saxony	104,700	105,300	96,000	114,600	0.6	-8.3	9.5
Bremen	11,400	11,300	10,100	12,500	-0.9	-11.4	9.6
North Rhine-Westphalia	263,900	267,250	244,000	290,500	1.3	-7.5	10.1
Hessen	78,000	78,700	70,700	86,800	0.9	-9.4	11.3
Rhineland-Palatinate	56,200	55,900	50,700	61,100	-0.5	-9.8	8.7
Baden-Württemberg	147,800	149,900	135,600	164,300	1.4	-8.3	11.2
Bavaria	178,600	183,100	165,000	201,200	2.5	-7.6	12.7
Saarland	13,500	13,400	11,800	15,100	-0.7	-12.6	11.9
Berlin	77,600	79,450	73,250	85,750	2.4	-5.6	10.5
Brandenburg	32,600	33,200	29,800	36,600	1.8	-8.6	12.3
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	22,700	22,700	20,700	24,700	0.0	-8.8	8.8
Saxony	58,600	59,400	54,000	64,800	1.4	-7.8	10.6
Saxony-Anhalt	31,700	32,300	28,300	36,300	1.9	-10.7	14.5
Thuringia	29,100	28,600	25,200	32,000	-1.7	-13.4	10.0
Germany (western/eastern/total)[2)]							
Germany, western	927,000	938,000	852,000	1,025,000	1.2	-8.1	10.6
Germany, eastern	252,000	256,000	231,000	280,000	1.6	-8.3	11.1
Germany, total	1,179,000	1,194,000	1,083,000	1,305,000	1.3	-8.1	10.7

[1)] SGB III unemployed.

[2)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000. Due to rounding off, the sums for Germany (western/eastern/total) may diverge slightly from official statistics. Due to methodological differences, the lower and upper bounds presented here are not comparable with those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

8 Unemployment in the Labour Market Districts yearly average

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
30	Greifswald	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	10,400	9,900	8,800	10,900	-4.8	-15.4	4.8
31	Neubrandenburg	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	11,700	11,400	10,300	12,500	-2.6	-12.0	6.8
32	Rostock	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	15,200	14,600	13,200	16,100	-3.9	-13.2	5.9
33	Schwerin	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	17,300	16,500	14,500	18,500	-4.6	-16.2	6.9
34	Stralsund	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	10,100	9,800	8,600	10,900	-3.0	-14.9	7.9
35	Cottbus	Brandenburg	18,900	18,700	16,400	21,000	-1.1	-13.2	11.1
36	Eberswalde	Brandenburg	12,400	12,400	10,900	13,800	0.0	-12.1	11.3
37	Frankfurt (Oder)	Brandenburg	15,000	15,100	13,900	16,300	0.7	-7.3	8.7
38	Neuruppin	Brandenburg	19,600	19,600	18,100	21,200	0.0	-7.7	8.2
39	Potsdam	Brandenburg	21,200	21,000	19,600	22,400	-0.9	-7.5	5.7
42	Sachsen-Anhalt Ost	Saxony-Anhalt	13,900	14,200	12,800	15,600	2.2	-7.9	12.2
43	Sachsen-Anhalt West	Saxony-Anhalt	14,600	14,800	13,000	16,600	1.4	-11.0	13.7
44	Sachsen-Anhalt Süd	Saxony-Anhalt	32,400	33,000	30,600	35,400	1.9	-5.6	9.3
45	Sachsen-Anhalt Nord	Saxony-Anhalt	28,800	29,000	26,100	32,000	0.7	-9.4	11.1
71	Annaberg-Buchholz	Saxony	9,600	9,900	8,600	11,200	3.1	-10.4	16.7
72	Bautzen	Saxony	20,000	20,000	18,200	21,800	0.0	-9.0	9.0
73	Chemnitz	Saxony	12,700	13,000	12,100	13,800	2.4	-4.7	8.7
74	Dresden	Saxony	22,800	23,500	22,500	24,500	3.1	-1.3	7.5
75	Leipzig	Saxony	32,000	32,900	31,200	34,600	2.8	-2.5	8.1
76	Oschatz	Saxony	16,600	17,100	15,600	18,600	3.0	-6.0	12.0
77	Pirna	Saxony	7,200	7,400	6,600	8,100	2.8	-8.3	12.5
78	Plauen	Saxony	6,900	6,700	5,900	7,500	-2.9	-14.5	8.7
79	Riesa	Saxony	7,200	7,000	6,300	7,700	-2.8	-12.5	6.9
80	Freiberg	Saxony	9,500	9,800	8,800	10,800	3.2	-7.4	13.7
92	Zwickau	Saxony	10,300	10,400	9,000	11,700	1.0	-12.6	13.6
93	Thüringen Mitte	Thuringia	22,700	22,400	20,000	24,700	-1.3	-11.9	8.8

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
94	Thüringen Ost	Thuringia	23,400	23,000	20,800	25,200	-1.7	-11.1	7.7
97	Thüringen Nord	Thuringia	12,400	12,000	10,600	13,400	-3.2	-14.5	8.1
98	Thüringen Südwest	Thuringia	12,800	12,600	10,800	14,400	-1.6	-15.6	12.5
111	Bad Oldesloe	Schleswig-Holstein	12,400	12,700	11,900	13,500	2.4	-4.0	8.9
115	Elmshorn	Schleswig-Holstein	18,500	18,800	17,800	19,900	1.6	-3.8	7.6
119	Flensburg	Schleswig-Holstein	15,600	15,700	14,200	17,200	0.6	-9.0	10.3
123	Hamburg	Hamburg	95,600	97,100	92,400	101,800	1.6	-3.3	6.5
127	Heide	Schleswig-Holstein	9,300	9,400	8,600	10,200	1.1	-7.5	9.7
131	Kiel	Schleswig-Holstein	14,600	15,100	13,800	16,300	3.4	-5.5	11.6
135	Lübeck	Schleswig-Holstein	15,400	15,800	14,400	17,200	2.6	-6.5	11.7
139	Neumünster	Schleswig-Holstein	10,800	10,700	9,900	11,600	-0.9	-8.3	7.4
211	Braunschweig-Goslar	Lower Saxony	23,800	24,400	23,200	25,600	2.5	-2.5	7.6
214	Bremen-Bremerhaven	Bremen/Lower Saxony	45,100	45,100	42,700	47,500	0.0	-5.3	5.3
224	Emden-Leer	Lower Saxony	16,900	17,300	16,300	18,400	2.4	-3.6	8.9
231	Göttingen	Lower Saxony	15,700	15,900	14,700	17,200	1.3	-6.4	9.6
234	Hameln	Lower Saxony	13,600	13,700	12,800	14,500	0.7	-5.9	6.6
237	Hannover	Lower Saxony	53,500	54,000	50,800	57,200	0.9	-5.0	6.9
241	Helmstedt	Lower Saxony	13,800	14,100	13,500	14,700	2.2	-2.2	6.5
244	Hildesheim	Lower Saxony	16,100	16,200	15,300	17,100	0.6	-5.0	6.2
251	Lüneburger Heide	Lower Saxony	28,900	29,400	27,900	30,800	1.7	-3.5	6.6
257	Nordhorn	Lower Saxony	9,700	9,200	8,200	10,100	-5.2	-15.5	4.1
261	Oldenburg-Wilhelmshaven	Lower Saxony	26,900	27,000	25,500	28,600	0.4	-5.2	6.3
264	Osnabrück	Lower Saxony	16,400	16,000	14,900	17,100	-2.4	-9.1	4.3
267	Stade	Lower Saxony	17,400	17,400	16,400	18,400	0.0	-5.7	5.7
274	Vechta	Lower Saxony	8,200	8,300	7,700	8,900	1.2	-6.1	8.5
277	Nienburg-Verden	Lower Saxony	13,100	13,200	12,400	14,100	0.8	-5.3	7.6
311	Aachen-Düren	North Rhine-Westphalia	44,400	45,000	41,900	48,100	1.4	-5.6	8.3
315	Bergisch Gladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	25,900	26,300	24,800	27,700	1.5	-4.2	6.9
317	Bielefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	28,600	29,000	27,200	30,800	1.4	-4.9	7.7

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
321	Bochum	North Rhine-Westphalia	28,900	29,200	27,200	31,200	1.0	-5.9	8.0
323	Bonn	North Rhine-Westphalia	33,700	34,400	32,300	36,400	2.1	-4.2	8.0
325	Brühl	North Rhine-Westphalia	24,300	24,600	23,300	26,000	1.2	-4.1	7.0
327	Coesfeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	14,900	14,900	13,500	16,300	0.0	-9.4	9.4
333	Dortmund	North Rhine-Westphalia	40,700	41,300	39,000	43,600	1.5	-4.2	7.1
337	Düsseldorf	North Rhine-Westphalia	29,500	29,800	27,900	31,700	1.0	-5.4	7.5
341	Duisburg	North Rhine-Westphalia	35,700	36,100	34,100	38,100	1.1	-4.5	6.7
343	Essen	North Rhine-Westphalia	35,400	35,400	33,500	37,300	0.0	-5.4	5.4
345	Gelsenkirchen	North Rhine-Westphalia	26,400	26,700	25,200	28,100	1.1	-4.5	6.4
347	Hagen	North Rhine-Westphalia	25,700	26,000	24,600	27,500	1.2	-4.3	7.0
351	Hamm	North Rhine-Westphalia	25,100	25,400	23,900	26,900	1.2	-4.8	7.2
353	Herford	North Rhine-Westphalia	20,300	20,700	19,200	22,200	2.0	-5.4	9.4
355	Iserlohn	North Rhine-Westphalia	19,000	19,200	17,600	20,900	1.1	-7.4	10.0
357	Köln	North Rhine-Westphalia	56,300	56,500	53,800	59,200	0.4	-4.4	5.2
361	Krefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	23,300	23,400	22,100	24,700	0.4	-5.2	6.0
364	Mettmann	North Rhine-Westphalia	19,100	19,200	18,100	20,200	0.5	-5.2	5.8
365	Mönchengladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	31,700	32,200	30,400	33,900	1.6	-4.1	6.9
367	Ahlen-Münster	North Rhine-Westphalia	18,700	18,800	17,700	19,800	0.5	-5.3	5.9
371	Oberhausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	20,100	19,900	18,600	21,200	-1.0	-7.5	5.5
373	Detmold-Paderborn	North Rhine-Westphalia	26,500	27,000	25,300	28,800	1.9	-4.5	8.7
375	Recklinghausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	29,000	29,500	27,700	31,400	1.7	-4.5	8.3
377	Rheine	North Rhine-Westphalia	14,300	14,400	13,500	15,200	0.7	-5.6	6.3
381	Siegen	North Rhine-Westphalia	13,400	13,300	12,100	14,400	-0.7	-9.7	7.5
383	Meschede-Soest	North Rhine-Westphalia	18,100	18,300	17,100	19,600	1.1	-5.5	8.3
387	Wesel	North Rhine-Westphalia	29,000	29,600	27,400	31,900	2.1	-5.5	10.0
391	Solingen-Wuppertal	North Rhine-Westphalia	32,600	33,000	30,700	35,300	1.2	-5.8	8.3
411	Bad Hersfeld-Fulda	Hessen	8,200	8,100	7,300	9,000	-1.2	-11.0	9.8
415	Darmstadt	Hessen	24,800	25,400	23,800	27,100	2.4	-4.0	9.3
419	Frankfurt	Hessen	31,900	32,700	30,700	34,700	2.5	-3.8	8.8

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
427	Gießen	Hessen	19,900	20,000	18,600	21,400	0.5	-6.5	7.5
431	Hanau	Hessen	15,700	15,600	14,600	16,700	-0.6	-7.0	6.4
433	Bad Homburg	Hessen	24,800	24,700	23,400	26,100	-0.4	-5.6	5.2
435	Kassel	Hessen	18,500	18,700	17,200	20,200	1.1	-7.0	9.2
439	Korbach	Hessen	8,600	8,500	7,500	9,500	-1.2	-12.8	10.5
443	Limburg-Wetzlar	Hessen	13,800	13,600	12,600	14,600	-1.4	-8.7	5.8
447	Marburg	Hessen	6,300	6,300	5,700	6,900	0.0	-9.5	9.5
451	Offenbach	Hessen	19,700	20,100	19,000	21,300	2.0	-3.6	8.1
459	Wiesbaden	Hessen	18,600	18,700	17,600	19,700	0.5	-5.4	5.9
511	Bad Kreuznach	Rhineland-Palatinate	11,900	11,800	10,900	12,800	-0.8	-8.4	7.6
515	Kaiserslautern-Pirmasens	Rhineland-Palatinate	19,200	19,300	18,000	20,500	0.5	-6.3	6.8
519	Koblenz-Mayen	Rhineland-Palatinate	13,400	13,300	12,500	14,200	-0.7	-6.7	6.0
523	Ludwigshafen	Rhineland-Palatinate	17,100	17,100	16,000	18,100	0.0	-6.4	5.8
527	Mainz	Rhineland-Palatinate	21,700	21,900	20,500	23,300	0.9	-5.5	7.4
543	Landau	Rhineland-Palatinate	14,100	14,300	13,300	15,200	1.4	-5.7	7.8
547	Rhein-Wied-Westerwald	Rhineland-Palatinate	17,400	17,600	15,900	19,200	1.1	-8.6	10.3
555	Saarland	Saarland	39,000	38,800	36,300	41,300	-0.5	-6.9	5.9
563	Trier	Rhineland-Palatinate	13,400	13,400	12,300	14,500	0.0	-8.2	8.2
611	Aalen	Baden-Württemberg	11,500	11,400	10,400	12,500	-0.9	-9.6	8.7
617	Freiburg	Baden-Württemberg	16,700	17,200	16,200	18,100	3.0	-3.0	8.4
621	Göppingen	Baden-Württemberg	23,000	23,900	22,400	25,300	3.9	-2.6	10.0
624	Heidelberg	Baden-Württemberg	18,300	18,800	17,800	19,900	2.7	-2.7	8.7
627	Heilbronn	Baden-Württemberg	13,900	14,000	12,900	15,100	0.7	-7.2	8.6
631	Karlsruhe-Rastatt	Baden-Württemberg	26,700	27,200	25,400	29,000	1.9	-4.9	8.6
634	Konstanz-Ravensburg	Baden-Württemberg	17,700	17,800	16,500	19,100	0.6	-6.8	7.9
637	Lörrach	Baden-Württemberg	12,100	12,600	11,900	13,300	4.1	-1.7	9.9
641	Ludwigsburg	Baden-Württemberg	14,300	14,600	13,600	15,600	2.1	-4.9	9.1
644	Mannheim	Baden-Württemberg	15,200	15,400	14,600	16,300	1.3	-3.9	7.2
647	Nagold-Pforzheim	Baden-Württemberg	16,700	16,700	15,100	18,200	0.0	-9.6	9.0

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
651	Offenburg	Baden-Württemberg	10,900	10,800	9,800	11,800	-0.9	-10.1	8.3
664	Balingen-Reutlingen	Baden-Württemberg	21,000	21,400	19,600	23,200	1.9	-6.7	10.5
671	Waiblingen	Baden-Württemberg	11,500	11,500	10,700	12,300	0.0	-7.0	7.0
674	Schwäbisch Hall-Tauberbischofsheim	Baden-Württemberg	13,500	13,500	12,300	14,600	0.0	-8.9	8.1
677	Stuttgart	Baden-Württemberg	35,200	35,400	33,400	37,500	0.6	-5.1	6.5
684	Ulm	Baden-Württemberg	10,600	10,200	9,000	11,500	-3.8	-15.1	8.5
687	Rottweil-Villingen-Schwenningen	Baden-Württemberg	13,600	13,600	12,200	15,100	0.0	-10.3	11.0
711	Ansbach-Weißenburg	Bavaria	8,400	8,100	7,300	8,900	-3.6	-13.1	6.0
715	Aschaffenburg	Bavaria	11,300	11,200	10,400	12,000	-0.9	-8.0	6.2
723	Bayreuth-Hof	Bavaria	12,600	12,600	11,500	13,600	0.0	-8.7	7.9
727	Bamberg-Coburg	Bavaria	14,400	14,200	12,700	15,700	-1.4	-11.8	9.0
729	Fürth	Bavaria	14,400	14,400	13,300	15,400	0.0	-7.6	6.9
735	Nürnberg	Bavaria	26,800	26,900	25,600	28,200	0.4	-4.5	5.2
739	Regensburg	Bavaria	13,900	13,800	12,700	14,800	-0.7	-8.6	6.5
743	Schwandorf	Bavaria	9,400	9,200	8,300	10,100	-2.1	-11.7	7.4
747	Schweinfurt	Bavaria	9,700	9,600	8,700	10,400	-1.0	-10.3	7.2
751	Weiden	Bavaria	5,300	5,100	4,600	5,700	-3.8	-13.2	7.5
759	Würzburg	Bavaria	10,500	10,400	9,500	11,200	-1.0	-9.5	6.7
811	Augsburg	Bavaria	19,500	19,100	17,600	20,600	-2.1	-9.7	5.6
815	Deggendorf	Bavaria	8,400	8,000	7,400	8,700	-4.8	-11.9	3.6
819	Donauwörth	Bavaria	9,800	9,800	8,500	11,100	0.0	-13.3	13.3
823	Freising	Bavaria	12,000	12,000	11,200	12,800	0.0	-6.7	6.7
827	Ingolstadt	Bavaria	10,400	10,600	9,900	11,300	1.9	-4.8	8.7
831	Kempten-Memmingen	Bavaria	12,600	12,500	11,300	13,700	-0.8	-10.3	8.7
835	Landshut-Pfarrkirchen	Bavaria	10,900	10,800	10,000	11,500	-0.9	-8.3	5.5
843	München	Bavaria	59,500	60,100	57,000	63,200	1.0	-4.2	6.2
847	Passau	Bavaria	7,900	7,900	7,300	8,600	0.0	-7.6	8.9
855	Rosenheim	Bavaria	10,300	10,000	9,100	10,800	-2.9	-11.7	4.9
859	Traunstein	Bavaria	10,700	10,600	9,700	11,500	-0.9	-9.3	7.5

			2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	Average[1)]	Average[1)]	Lower Bound[2)]	Upper Bound[2)]	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
863	Weilheim	Bavaria	14,200	14,400	13,500	15,400	1.4	-4.9	8.5
900	Berlin	Berlin	225,000	229,000	217,400	240,600	1.8	-3.4	6.9
Germany (western/eastern/total)[3)]									
Germany, western			2,305,000	2,323,000	2,184,000	2,462,000	0.8	-5.2	6.8
Germany, eastern			693,000	697,000	644,000	749,000	0.6	-7.1	8.1
Germany, total			2,998,000	3,020,000	2,828,000	3,211,000	0.7	-5.7	7.1

[1)] Due to rounding off, differences between the sum of the labour market districts and Germany can occur.

[2)] The statistical uncertainty which is represented in the lower and upper bounds is also affected by the size of a region. This means that the relative uncertainty of labour market districts is generally higher than for the Federal States. Therefore, the sums of the lower and upper bounds do not correspond to the values for the Federal States. The values for Germany (western/eastern/total) shown here are those from the results of the sum of the Federal States.

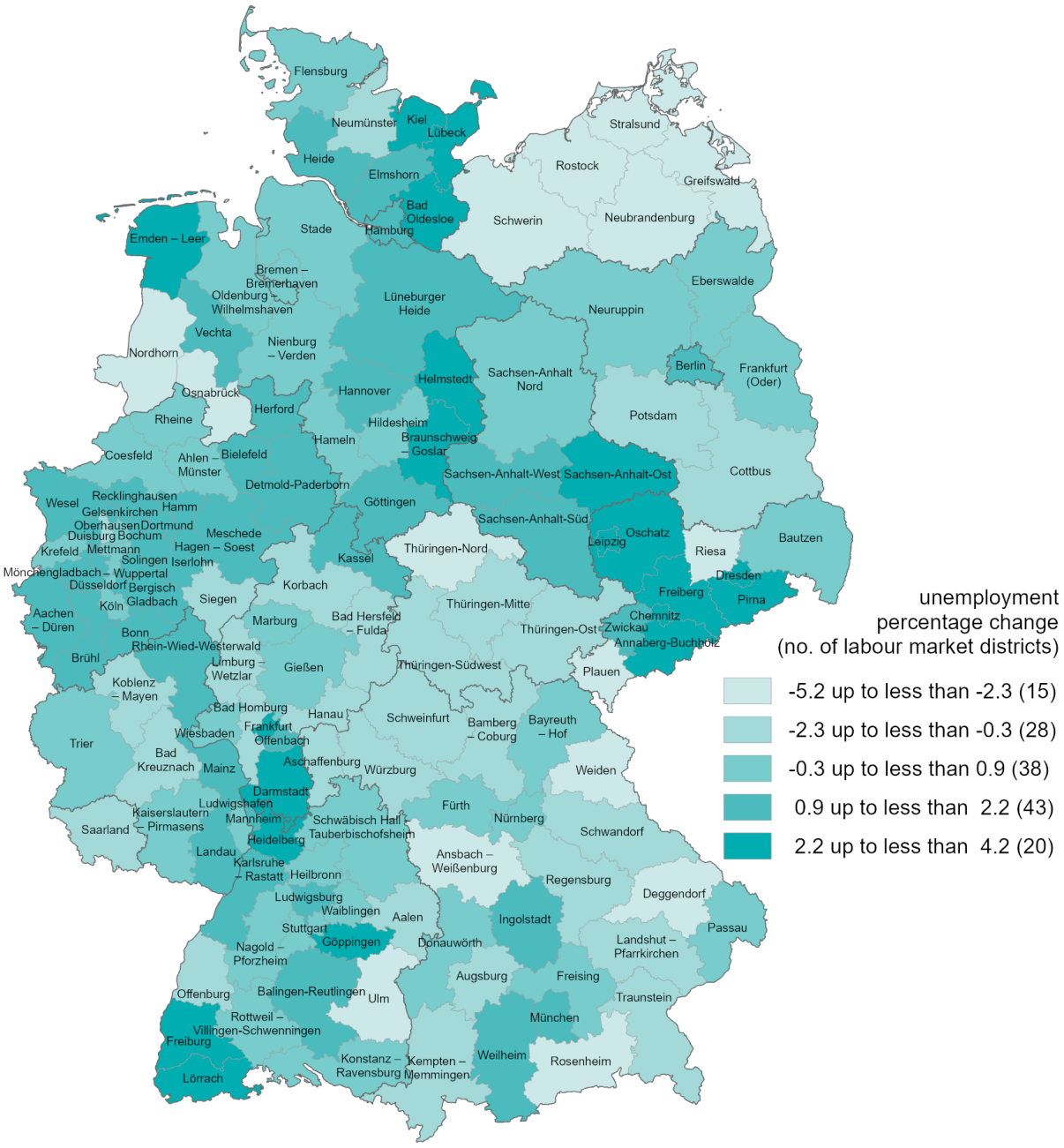
[3)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

9 Unemployment in the Labour Market Districts

percentage change in yearly average from 2026 to 2027

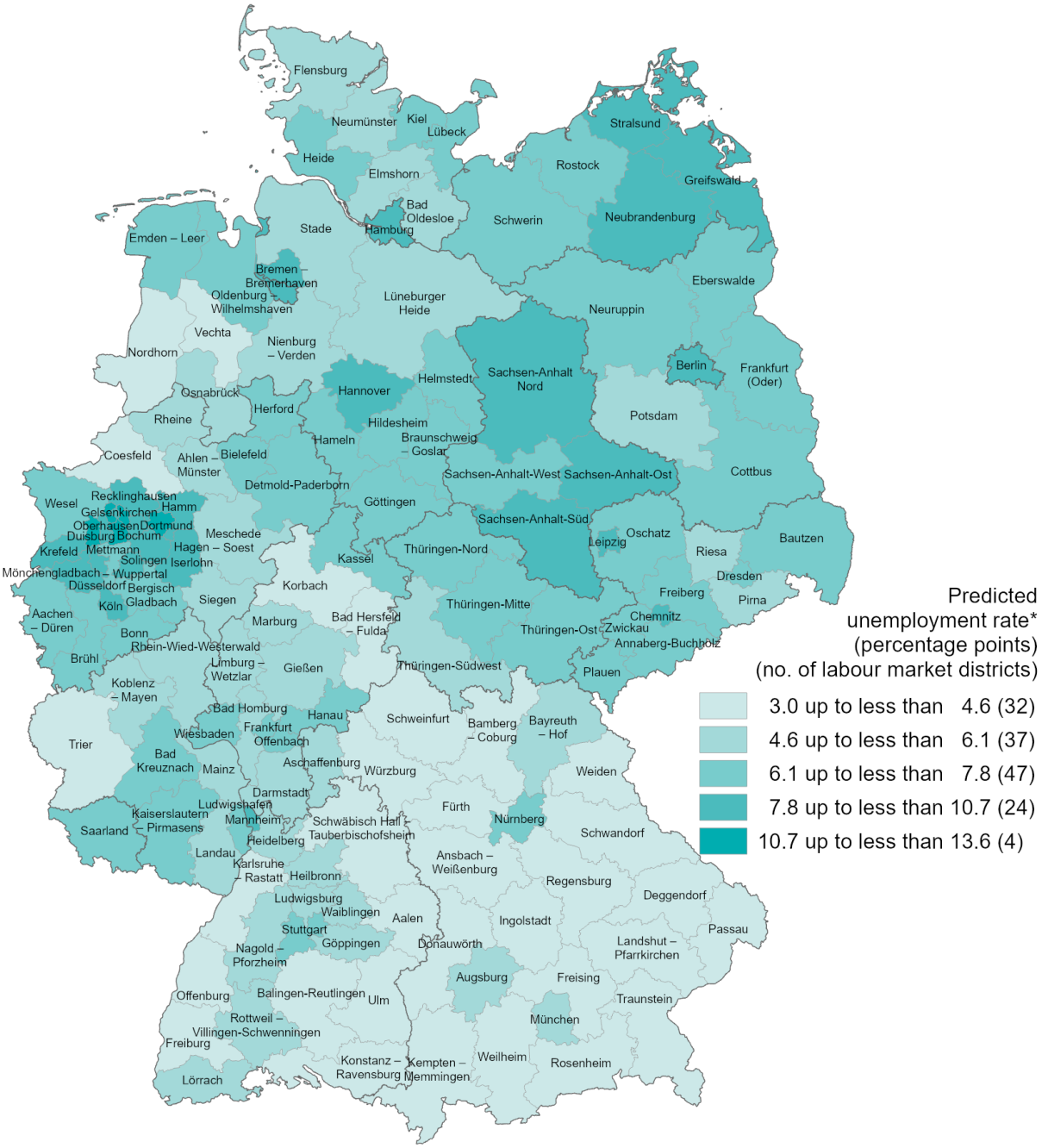


September 2026

Basis for the figure: GeoBasis-DE/Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy 2024;
Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

10 Unemployment Rates 2027 in the Labour Market Districts

in percent



* In relation to the number of people in the civilian labour force; estimate under the assumption that the number of mini-jobs, civil servants, self-employed and working family members remains constant in the years 2026 and 2027.

September 2026

Basis for the figure: GeoBasis-DE/Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy 2024.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

11 Unemployment Rate in the Labour Market Districts

yearly average

LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%	Change 2026 to 2027 in percentage points[1)]
30	Greifswald	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	9.2	8.8	-0.4
31	Neubrandenburg	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	9.2	9.1	-0.2
32	Rostock	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	6.8	6.5	-0.3
33	Schwerin	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	7.1	6.8	-0.3
34	Stralsund	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	9.0	8.8	-0.2
35	Cottbus	Brandenburg	6.1	6.1	0.0
36	Eberswalde	Brandenburg	7.7	7.7	0.0
37	Frankfurt (Oder)	Brandenburg	6.6	6.6	0.0
38	Neuruppin	Brandenburg	6.5	6.5	0.0
39	Potsdam	Brandenburg	5.9	5.8	-0.1
42	Sachsen-Anhalt Ost	Saxony-Anhalt	7.7	7.9	0.2
43	Sachsen-Anhalt West	Saxony-Anhalt	7.6	7.7	0.1
44	Sachsen-Anhalt Süd	Saxony-Anhalt	8.7	8.8	0.2
45	Sachsen-Anhalt Nord	Saxony-Anhalt	8.0	8.1	0.1
71	Annaberg-Buchholz	Saxony	5.9	6.1	0.2
72	Bautzen	Saxony	7.3	7.4	0.1
73	Chemnitz	Saxony	10.0	10.2	0.3
74	Dresden	Saxony	7.1	7.3	0.2
75	Leipzig	Saxony	9.0	9.2	0.2
76	Oschatz	Saxony	6.8	7.1	0.2
77	Pirna	Saxony	5.6	5.8	0.2
78	Plauen	Saxony	6.2	6.1	-0.1
79	Riesa	Saxony	5.8	5.7	-0.1
80	Freiberg	Saxony	6.2	6.4	0.2
92	Zwickau	Saxony	6.5	6.6	0.1
93	Thüringen Mitte	Thuringia	6.3	6.3	-0.1
94	Thüringen Ost	Thuringia	7.1	7.0	-0.1
97	Thüringen Nord	Thuringia	6.8	6.7	-0.2
98	Thüringen Südwest	Thuringia	5.7	5.7	0.0
111	Bad Oldesloe	Schleswig-Holstein	5.0	5.1	0.1
115	Elmshorn	Schleswig-Holstein	5.3	5.4	0.1
119	Flensburg	Schleswig-Holstein	6.0	6.0	0.0
123	Hamburg	Hamburg	8.4	8.5	0.1
127	Heide	Schleswig-Holstein	6.4	6.4	0.1
131	Kiel	Schleswig-Holstein	6.9	7.1	0.2
135	Lübeck	Schleswig-Holstein	6.7	6.9	0.2
139	Neumünster	Schleswig-Holstein	5.6	5.6	0.0
211	Braunschweig-Goslar	Lower Saxony	7.2	7.3	0.2
214	Bremen-Bremerhaven	Bremen/Lower Saxony	10.3	10.2	0.0
224	Emden-Leer	Lower Saxony	6.6	6.7	0.1
231	Göttingen	Lower Saxony	6.4	6.5	0.1
234	Hameln	Lower Saxony	6.8	6.9	0.1

LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%	Change 2026 to 2027 in percentage points[1)]
237	Hannover	Lower Saxony	8.1	8.2	0.0
241	Helmstedt	Lower Saxony	6.4	6.6	0.2
244	Hildesheim	Lower Saxony	7.1	7.2	0.1
251	Lüneburger Heide	Lower Saxony	5.8	5.9	0.1
257	Nordhorn	Lower Saxony	3.4	3.2	-0.2
261	Oldenburg-Wilhelmshaven	Lower Saxony	6.2	6.2	0.0
264	Osnabrück	Lower Saxony	5.3	5.2	-0.1
267	Stade	Lower Saxony	5.4	5.4	0.0
274	Vechta	Lower Saxony	4.1	4.1	0.0
277	Nienburg-Verden	Lower Saxony	4.8	4.8	0.0
311	Aachen-Düren	North Rhine-Westphalia	7.3	7.4	0.1
315	Bergisch Gladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.5	6.6	0.1
317	Bielefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	7.0	7.1	0.1
321	Bochum	North Rhine-Westphalia	10.2	10.2	0.1
323	Bonn	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.5	6.6	0.1
325	Brühl	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.4	6.5	0.1
327	Coesfeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	4.2	4.2	0.0
333	Dortmund	North Rhine-Westphalia	12.2	12.4	0.1
337	Düsseldorf	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.1	8.1	0.0
341	Duisburg	North Rhine-Westphalia	13.4	13.5	0.1
343	Essen	North Rhine-Westphalia	11.3	11.3	0.0
345	Gelsenkirchen	North Rhine-Westphalia	13.2	13.3	0.1
347	Hagen	North Rhine-Westphalia	9.3	9.4	0.1
351	Hamm	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.0	8.1	0.1
353	Herford	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.5	6.6	0.2
355	Iserlohn	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.4	8.6	0.1
357	Köln	North Rhine-Westphalia	9.0	9.0	0.0
361	Krefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.0	8.1	0.1
364	Mettmann	North Rhine-Westphalia	7.2	7.2	0.0
365	Mönchengladbach	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.0	8.1	0.1
367	Ahlen-Münster	North Rhine-Westphalia	5.3	5.3	0.0
371	Oberhausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	10.0	9.9	-0.1
373	Detmold-Paderborn	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.0	6.1	0.1
375	Recklinghausen	North Rhine-Westphalia	8.7	8.8	0.1
377	Rheine	North Rhine-Westphalia	5.3	5.3	0.0
381	Siegen	North Rhine-Westphalia	5.7	5.7	0.0
383	Meschede-Soest	North Rhine-Westphalia	5.6	5.7	0.1
387	Wesel	North Rhine-Westphalia	6.9	7.0	0.1
391	Solingen-Wuppertal	North Rhine-Westphalia	9.7	9.8	0.1
411	Bad Hersfeld-Fulda	Hessen	4.2	4.2	0.0
415	Darmstadt	Hessen	5.3	5.5	0.1
419	Frankfurt	Hessen	7.1	7.2	0.2
427	Gießen	Hessen	5.1	5.2	0.0
431	Hanau	Hessen	6.6	6.5	0.0
433	Bad Homburg	Hessen	5.9	5.9	0.0
435	Kassel	Hessen	6.3	6.3	0.1

LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%	Change 2026 to 2027 in percentage points[1)]
439	Korbach	Hessen	4.6	4.5	0.0
443	Limburg-Wetzlar	Hessen	5.9	5.8	-0.1
447	Marburg	Hessen	4.6	4.6	0.0
451	Offenbach	Hessen	6.9	7.1	0.1
459	Wiesbaden	Hessen	7.0	7.0	0.0
511	Bad Kreuznach	Rhineland-Palatinate	6.2	6.2	0.0
515	Kaiserslautern-Pirmasens	Rhineland-Palatinate	6.8	6.9	0.1
519	Koblenz-Mayen	Rhineland-Palatinate	4.6	4.6	0.0
523	Ludwigshafen	Rhineland-Palatinate	7.3	7.3	0.0
527	Mainz	Rhineland-Palatinate	5.8	5.8	0.0
543	Landau	Rhineland-Palatinate	5.3	5.4	0.1
547	Rhein-Wied-Westerwald	Rhineland-Palatinate	4.8	4.9	0.1
555	Saarland	Saarland	7.4	7.4	0.0
563	Trier	Rhineland-Palatinate	4.5	4.5	0.0
611	Aalen	Baden-Württemberg	4.4	4.4	0.0
617	Freiburg	Baden-Württemberg	4.3	4.4	0.1
621	Göppingen	Baden-Württemberg	5.0	5.2	0.2
624	Heidelberg	Baden-Württemberg	4.7	4.7	0.1
627	Heilbronn	Baden-Württemberg	4.9	4.9	0.0
631	Karlsruhe-Rastatt	Baden-Württemberg	4.4	4.5	0.1
634	Konstanz-Ravensburg	Baden-Württemberg	3.8	3.8	0.0
637	Lörrach	Baden-Württemberg	5.3	5.5	0.2
641	Ludwigsburg	Baden-Württemberg	4.5	4.6	0.1
644	Mannheim	Baden-Württemberg	8.3	8.3	0.1
647	Nagold-Pforzheim	Baden-Württemberg	4.8	4.8	0.0
651	Offenburg	Baden-Württemberg	4.2	4.1	0.0
664	Balingen-Reutlingen	Baden-Württemberg	4.3	4.4	0.1
671	Waiblingen	Baden-Württemberg	4.7	4.7	0.0
674	Schwäbisch Hall-Tauberbischofsheim	Baden-Württemberg	3.9	3.9	0.0
677	Stuttgart	Baden-Württemberg	6.1	6.1	0.1
684	Ulm	Baden-Württemberg	3.3	3.2	-0.1
687	Rottweil-Villingen-Schwenningen	Baden-Württemberg	4.7	4.7	0.0
711	Ansbach-Weißenburg	Bavaria	3.2	3.1	-0.1
715	Aschaffenburg	Bavaria	5.2	5.2	0.0
723	Bayreuth-Hof	Bavaria	4.9	4.9	0.0
727	Bamberg-Coburg	Bavaria	4.1	4.1	0.0
729	Fürth	Bavaria	4.0	4.0	0.0
735	Nürnberg	Bavaria	6.2	6.2	0.0
739	Regensburg	Bavaria	3.7	3.7	0.0
743	Schwandorf	Bavaria	3.8	3.7	-0.1
747	Schweinfurt	Bavaria	3.9	3.9	0.0
751	Weiden	Bavaria	4.4	4.3	-0.1
759	Würzburg	Bavaria	3.5	3.4	0.0
811	Augsburg	Bavaria	4.8	4.7	-0.1
815	Deggendorf	Bavaria	4.1	3.9	-0.2
819	Donauwörth	Bavaria	3.0	3.0	0.0

LMD-No.	Labour Market District (in German)	Federal State	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%	Change 2026 to 2027 in percentage points[1)]
823	Freising	Bavaria	3.1	3.1	0.0
827	Ingolstadt	Bavaria	3.5	3.5	0.1
831	Kempten-Memmingen	Bavaria	3.1	3.1	0.0
835	Landshut-Pfarrkirchen	Bavaria	3.9	3.9	0.0
843	München	Bavaria	5.2	5.3	0.0
847	Passau	Bavaria	4.2	4.2	0.0
855	Rosenheim	Bavaria	3.2	3.1	-0.1
859	Traunstein	Bavaria	3.6	3.6	0.0
863	Weilheim	Bavaria	3.6	3.6	0.0
900	Berlin	Berlin	10.5	10.6	0.1
Germany (western/eastern/total)					
Germany, western			6.0	6.0	0.0
Germany, eastern			8.0	8.0	0.0
Germany, total			6.4	6.4	0.0

[1)] Due to rounding off, the differences between the two unemployment rates may diverge from the shown rates.

Note: Unemployment rates based on the number of people in the civilian labour force; estimate under the assumption that the number of mini-jobs, civil servants, self-employed and working family members remains constant in the years 2024 and 2025.

Total values correspond to those in the IAB-Kurzbericht 17/2026.

Source: Own forecasts based on data of the Federal Employment Agency. © IAB

12 People Capable of Working and Eligible for Benefits[1)] in the Federal States yearly average

	2026	2027 GDP: +1,0%			Growth Rate 2026 to … 2027 (in %)		
	Average	Average	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	… Average …	… Lower Bound …	… Upper Bound …
Federal State							
Schleswig-Holstein	132,400	129,700	125,400	133,900	-2.0	-5.3	1.1
Hamburg	130,900	129,900	126,600	133,200	-0.8	-3.3	1.8
Lower Saxony	354,100	342,500	333,100	351,900	-3.3	-5.9	-0.6
Bremen	64,100	62,800	61,300	64,400	-2.0	-4.4	0.5
North Rhine-Westphalia	1,073,500	1,052,200	1,028,700	1,075,600	-2.0	-4.2	0.2
Hessen	280,100	274,800	268,100	281,600	-1.9	-4.3	0.5
Rhineland-Palatinate	152,800	148,800	144,500	153,100	-2.6	-5.4	0.2
Baden-Württemberg	347,500	348,300	338,300	358,300	0.2	-2.6	3.1
Bavaria	319,000	318,100	306,400	329,900	-0.3	-3.9	3.4
Saarland	55,300	53,800	52,100	55,500	-2.7	-5.8	0.4
Berlin	317,400	309,600	296,500	322,700	-2.5	-6.6	1.7
Brandenburg	102,000	96,700	90,200	103,200	-5.2	-11.6	1.2
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	76,400	72,400	68,000	76,800	-5.2	-11.0	0.5
Saxony	178,900	174,600	165,500	183,600	-2.4	-7.5	2.6
Saxony-Anhalt	116,800	111,700	105,600	117,700	-4.4	-9.6	0.8
Thuringia	78,800	74,100	69,700	78,500	-6.0	-11.5	-0.4
Germany (western/eastern/total)[2)]							
Germany, western	2,910,000	2,861,000	2,785,000	2,937,000	-1.7	-4.3	0.9
Germany, eastern	870,000	839,000	796,000	883,000	-3.6	-8.5	1.5
Germany, total	3,780,000	3,700,000	3,580,000	3,820,000	-2.1	-5.3	1.1

[1)] "erwerbsfähige Leistungsberechtigte".

[2)] Values for Germany (western/eastern/total) are rounded off to the nearest 1,000. Due to rounding off, the sums for Germany (western/eastern/total) may diverge slightly from official statistics.

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