

LOCATION OF SAXONY 2024

in comparison with
other regions

FUTURE.

STATE MINISTRY
FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
LABOUR AND TRANSPORT



Free State of
SAXONY

Foreword

Momentum for the future

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

A successful economy is and always has been a prerequisite and a driving force for good living and working conditions in the Free State of Saxony. Our strengths are based on a strong SME sector, highly qualified and motivated skilled labour, modern infrastructure, our excellent university and research landscape and a diverse arts and culture scene. With forward-looking economic policies, we have created excellent conditions for a successful Saxon economy, which we want to expand and improve.

Numbers often express more than words. On the following pages, more than 100 tables, diagrams and maps show how our state is developing and where it stands in comparison to other German and European regions. The figures prove it: Saxony has one of the highest labour force participation rates in Germany, the workforce is particularly well educated and broadband coverage is continuously improving.

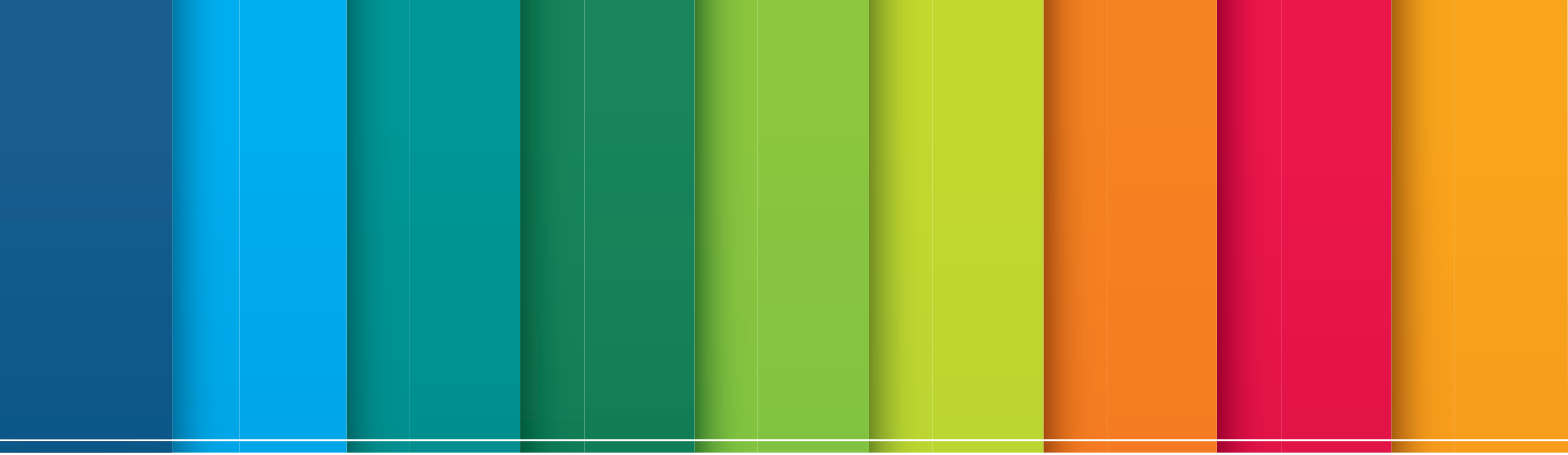
This is a solid basis for continued success into the future. In the coming years, our country will benefit from investments totalling more than 30 billion euros. These are investments by business and the state that go beyond the "normal level". These are investments in the semiconductor industry, in the steel industry, in optics, in the expansion of broadband, in the establishment of two new major research centres, and in the development of new industrial sectors such as the battery industry, electromobility, mining and the hydrogen economy.

These investments are significant indicators of confidence in uncertain times. I'm convinced that these developments will increase our state's competitiveness, create good jobs and grow new value chains.

Take a look for yourself and get to know Saxony even better.

Yours,
Martin Dulig
Saxon State Minister for Economic Affairs,
Labor and Transport





Content

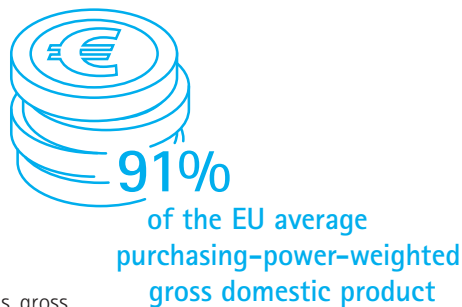
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1. Key aspects at a glance

This regional report provides an overview of economic development in the Free State of Saxony. A high level of geopolitical and economic uncertainty and the ongoing digital and ecological transformation of the economy continue to create a challenging environment that presents risks and opportunities in equal measure. The key findings are as follows.

Continuous rise in wealth and income

With a purchasing-power-weighted gross domestic product of 32,200 euros per inhabitant, the Free State of Saxony levels out at 91% of the EU average. Thus, Saxony continues to be among the top Central and Eastern European states.



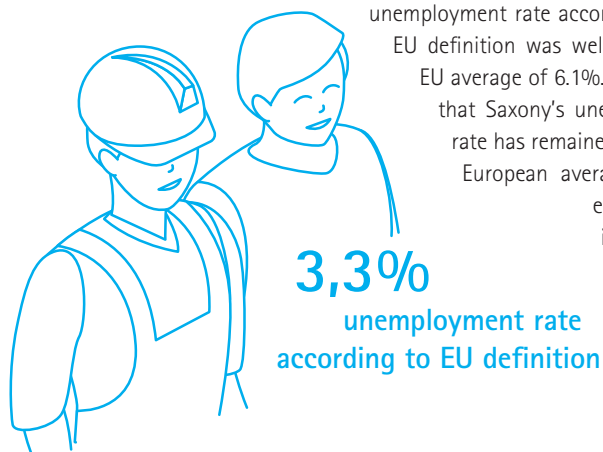
In a nation-wide comparison, Saxony's gross domestic product of 38,143 euros per inhabitant is 78.2% of the German average, with a clear lead on the other eastern German area states, which level out at between 73.3% and approximately 77.6%. With a price-adjusted growth per capita of 6.4% since 2015, Saxony is well above the national average of 4.3%.

Employment continues to grow, unemployment rate drops to record low

Successes in the economic recover process are also reflected in the labour market. Saxony's unemployment rate fell from 11.8% in 2010 to 6.2% in 2023. The difference compared to the German average of 5.7% is now only 0.5 percentage points. During the same period, the rate in the new federal states as a whole fell from 12% to 7.2%.

The labour market situation in the Free State of Saxony also stands out in a Europe-wide comparison. At 3.3%, the unemployment rate according to the

EU definition was well below the EU average of 6.1%. This means that Saxony's unemployment rate has remained below the European average for the eleventh year in a row.



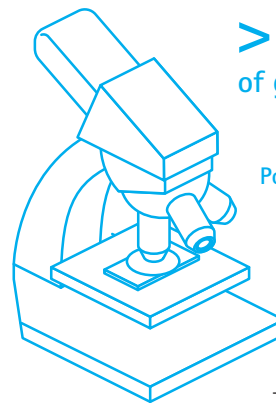
Small and medium-sized enterprises form the backbone of Saxony's economy

SMEs play a central role within Saxony's economy. Of approximately 132,000 businesses, around 95% have fewer than 50 employees. Small and medium-sized enterprises with a turnover of up to 50 million euros, generate 54% of state-wide revenue. SMEs are the most significant employers and trainers.

With 55,534 businesses, the skilled trades make up a significant share in the various sectors of manufacturing, construction, trades and services. At the same time, the density of skilled trades in Saxony is exceptionally high. With 13.6 businesses per 1,000 inhabitants, it is clearly above the German average of 12.2 businesses per 1,000 inhabitants, and in fourth place among all the federal states.

Expenditure on research and development

> 3%
of gross domestic product



Powerful Saxon research and development

Investments in research and development are of central importance for the development of Saxony as a business location.

The share of expenditure on research and development in Saxony's gross domestic product is above 3% and significantly exceeds the EU-27 average of 2.26%. This high proportion is largely due to the state and university sectors, which offer excellent training in addition to outstanding pure and applied research. This is also reflected in the high proportion of the labour force who work in scientific and technical professions or have successfully completed a degree programme in the sciences. In the Dresden and Leipzig regions, this is over 52% of the workforce.

2. The Free State of Saxony at a glance

	Saxony	Germany
Population as of 31 December 2023 (1,000 persons)	4,089.5	84,669.3
Area (km ²)	18,450.0	357,587.8
Population density (inhabitants per km ²)	222	236
Gross domestic product 2023		
Billion euro	156.0	4,121.2
% to prior year (adjusted for price)	-0.6	-0.3
Index (2015 = 100, adjusted for price, chained)	106.9	107.9
Euro/inhabitant	38,143	48,750
Germany = 100	78.2	100
Euro/gainfully employed person	75,060	89,721
Germany = 100	83.7	100
Gainfully employed persons 2023 (1,000 persons)	2,079.4	45,932.0
% to prior year	0.3	0.8
Unemployed persons 2023		
Unemployment rate (% of all civil labour force)	6.2	5.7
Share in gross value added 2022 (%)		
Manufacturing sector	22.9	23.5
Germany = 100	97.4	100
Building sector	8.5	6.0
Germany = 100	141.7	100
Mining and manufacturing sector 2023		
(Operations of enterprises with 20 or more employees)		
Persons employed (1,000)	285	6,315.2
Change to prior year (%)	0	0.4
Sales (billion euro)	85.9	2,368.6
Change to prior year (%)	2.7	0.4
Export ratio (foreign/total sales)	38.4	49.9
Germany = 100	77.0	100
Industrial density as of 30 June 2023		
Employees liable to contribute in social security in manufacturing per 1,000 inhabitants	76.8	80.6
Germany = 100	95.3	100
Foreign trade 2022		
Export (million euro)	52,757.3	1,576,783.4
thereof:		
EU-27 in %	44.6	54.6
Import (million euro)	34,966.1	1,494,509.9
thereof:		
EU-27 in %	60.0	49.2
Small and medium-sized businesses		
Self-employed in 2022 (annual average, in 1,000)	187.1	3,909.0
Self-employed % of working population	9.0	8.6
Germany = 100	104.8	100
Craft businesses as of 31 December 2022 (in 1,000)	55.5	1,032.4
Germany = 100	5.4	100
Businesses per 1,000 inhabitants	13.6	12.2
Number of cars to 1 January 2023		
as 1,000	2,181.5	48,763.0
per 1,000 inhabitants	534	578
Registration of brand new cars 2022		
as 1,000	85.8	2,651.3
per 1,000 inhabitants	21	31
Level of qualification of working population 2022 (%)		
With no formal vocational qualification	5.3	10.3
with a recognised professional qualification ¹	69.3	61.7
with an academic professional qualification ²	19.9	19.4
Nature of training unknown	5.5	8.5

¹ "with a recognised professional qualification" is the sum of "recognised vocational training" and "master craftsman/technician/equivalent technical college qualification"

² "with an academic professional qualification" is the sum of "Bachelor", "Diploma/graduate degree/Master/state examination" and "doctorate"

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Statistical Office of Saxony, "Regional Accounts of the Federal States" working group (as of August 2023/February 2024), Employment Statistics of the Federal States working group (as of May 2024), Federal Employment Agency, own calculations



The qualification level of Saxony's working population is high. There are comparatively few employed people in Saxony without a formal vocational qualification. Compared to other European countries, Saxony has a very high employment rate and a low unemployment rate.

3. Saxony's position in Europe¹

	Area 2023	Population 01/01/2023	Employment rate ² 2023	Unemployment rate ³		Gross domestic product		
				2023	Change from prior year	per inhabitant (PPS) 2022 ⁴		Growth 2023/2022 (adj. for price)
						1,000	EU-27 = 100	
	1,000 km ²	million	%	%-points				
Saxony	18.5	4.1	80.1	3.3	0.2	32.2⁵	91⁶	
Germany	357.6	84.4	79.8	3.2	0.1	41.3⁵	117⁵	-0.2⁵
France	638.5	68.2 ⁵	69.6	7.3	0.0	35.5 ⁵	100 ⁵	0.9 ⁵
Italy	302.1	59.0	64.2	7.7	-0.4	34.4	97	0.9
Spain	506.0	48.1	67.4	12.2	-0.8	30.3 ⁵	86 ⁵	2.5 ⁵
Poland	311.9	36.8 ^{5 6}	70.9	2.8	-0.1	28.2	79	0.2
Romania	238.4	19.1 ⁵		5.6	0.0	26.7 ⁵	75 ⁵	2.1 ⁵
Netherlands	37.4	17.8	82.6	3.6	0.1	46.3 ⁵	131 ⁵	0.1 ⁵
Belgium	30.7	11.7	68.5	5.5	-0.1	42.4 ⁵	120 ⁵	1.4 ⁵
Greece	131.7	10.4	61.9	11.1	-1.4	23.8 ⁵	67 ⁵	2.0 ⁵
Czechia	78.9	10.8	79.0	2.6	0.4	32.0	90	-0.1
Portugal	92.2	10.5	83.7	6.5	0.3	27.9	79	2.3 ⁵
Sweden	447.4	10.5	83.1	7.7	0.2	42.4	120	-0.2
Hungary	93.0	9.6	83.6	4.1	0.5	27.0	76	-0.9 ⁵
Austria	83.9	9.1	76.9	5.1	0.3	44.0	124	-0.8
Bulgaria	111.0	6.4		4.3	0.1	22.0	62	1.8 ⁵
Denmark	42.9	5.9	79.1	5.1	0.6	48.4	137	2.5
Finland	338.4	5.6	76.9	7.2	0.4	39.0	110	-1.2
Slovakia	49.0	5.4	77.1	5.8	-0.3	25.2	69	1.6
Ireland	69.9	5.3	81.1	4.3	-0.2	83.3	235	-5.5
Croatia	56.6	3.9	71.7	6.1	-0.9	25.8 ⁵	73 ⁵	3.1 ⁵
Lithuania	65.3	2.9	56.9	6.9	0.9	31.6	89	-0.3
Slovenia	20.3	2.1	73.9	3.7	-0.3	31.9	90	1.6
Latvia	64.6	1.9	77.0	6.5	-0.4	25.7	73	-0.3
Estonia	45.3	1.4	78.4	6.4	0.8	30.1	85	-3.0
Cyprus	9.3	0.9	82.3	6.1	-0.7	33.4 ⁵	94 ⁵	2.5 ⁵
Luxembourg	2.6	0.7	77.4	5.2	0.6	90.9	257	-1.1
Malta	0.2	0.5	85.3	3.1	-0.4	36.9	104	5.7
EU-27	4,225.1	448.8	75.1	6.1	-0.1	35.4	100	0.4

¹ data standardized for international comparison and may therefore deviate from national figures

² working population aged between 15 and 64 related to the population of the same age

³ unemployment rates based on definitions recommended by the International Labour Organisation
unemployed as percentage of labour force (working population and unemployed) from the age of 15

⁴ as of August 2022, PPS = Purchasing Power Standards

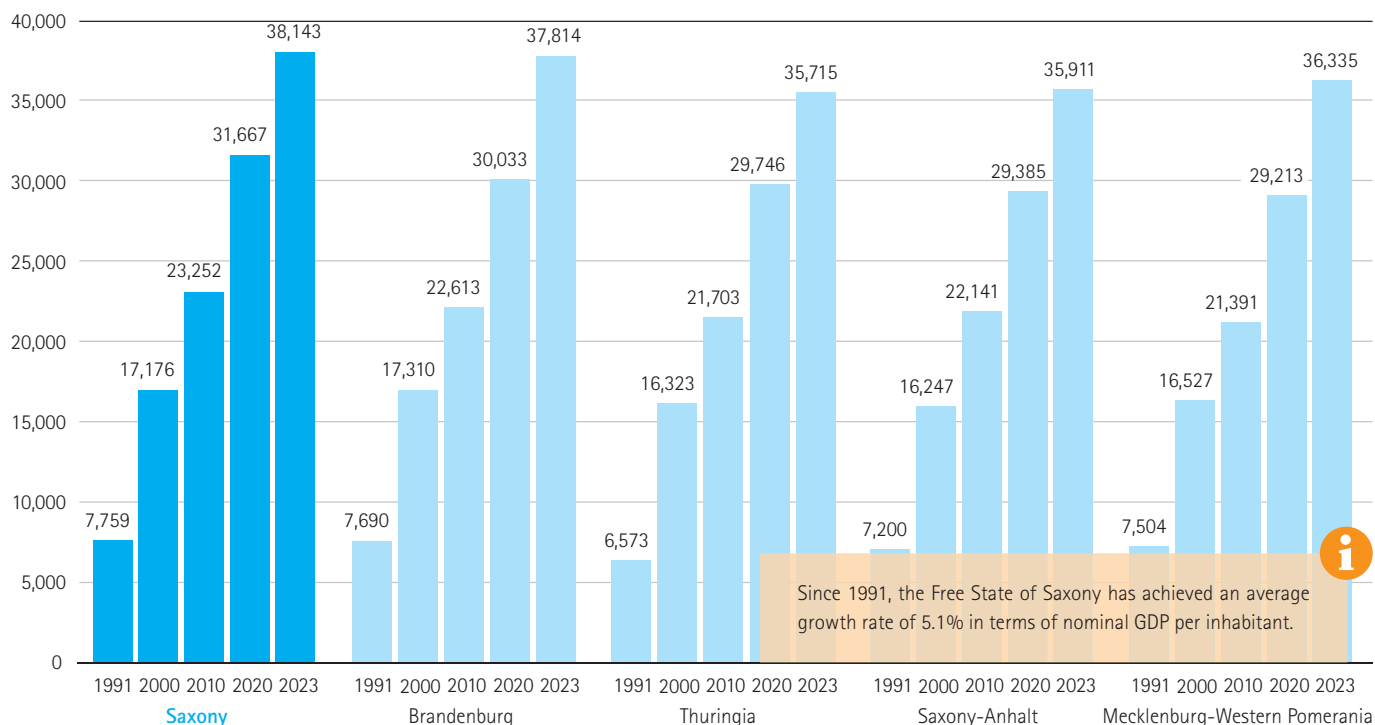
⁵ preliminary figure

⁶ estimated

Deviations as to sums due to rounding

Source: Eurostat

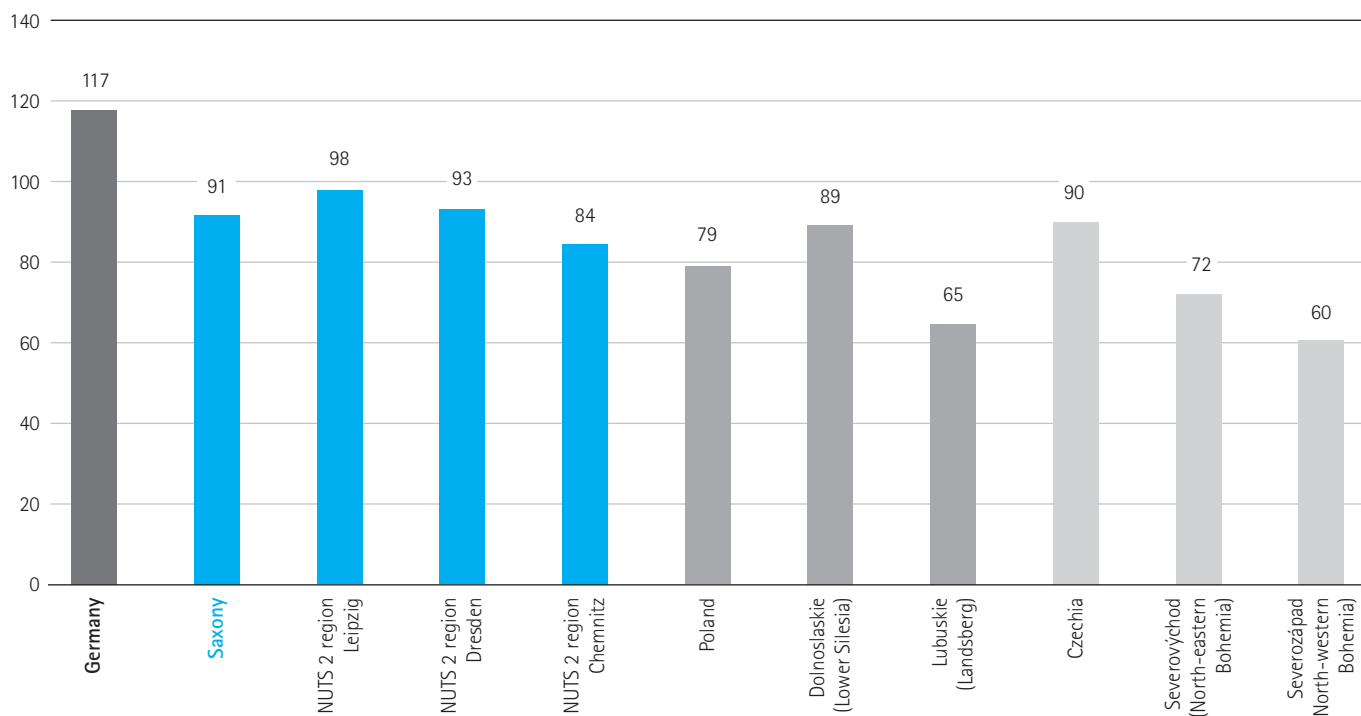
4. Gross domestic product per inhabitant 1991, 2000, 2010, 2020 und 2023 (euro)



Source: "Regional Accounts of the Federal States" working group (as of August 2023/February 2024)

5. Economic power of Saxony and Germany as compared to the neighbouring regions (NUTS 1 and NUTS 2 regions) 2022

Gross domestic product per inhabitant¹ (EU-27 = 100)



¹ Purchasing Power Standard (PPS)
Source: Eurostat (as of July 2024)

In terms of economic power, the Free State of Saxony is just ahead of its neighbour the Czech Republic and well ahead the Republic of Poland in the upper midfield in Europe.

6. Employment rates¹ of EU member states and German federal states 2023 (%)

	Regions	Employment rate ¹
1.	Netherlands	85.5
2.	Sweden	84.0
	Leipzig	82.7
	Bavaria	82.4
	Dresden	81.8
	Baden-Württemberg	81.7
	Saxony	81.7
3.	Estonia	81.6
4.	Denmark	80.8
5.	Malta	80.7
	Chemnitz	80.7
	Thuringia	80.3
	Rhineland-Palatinate	80.0
	Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	79.9
6.	Finland	79.9
	Brandenburg	79.8
7.	Germany	79.7
	Lower Saxony	79.3
8.	Cyprus	79.0
	Schleswig-Holstein	79.0
	Saxony-Anhalt	78.9
9.	Lithuania	78.8
	Hamburg	78.6
	Hesse	78.5

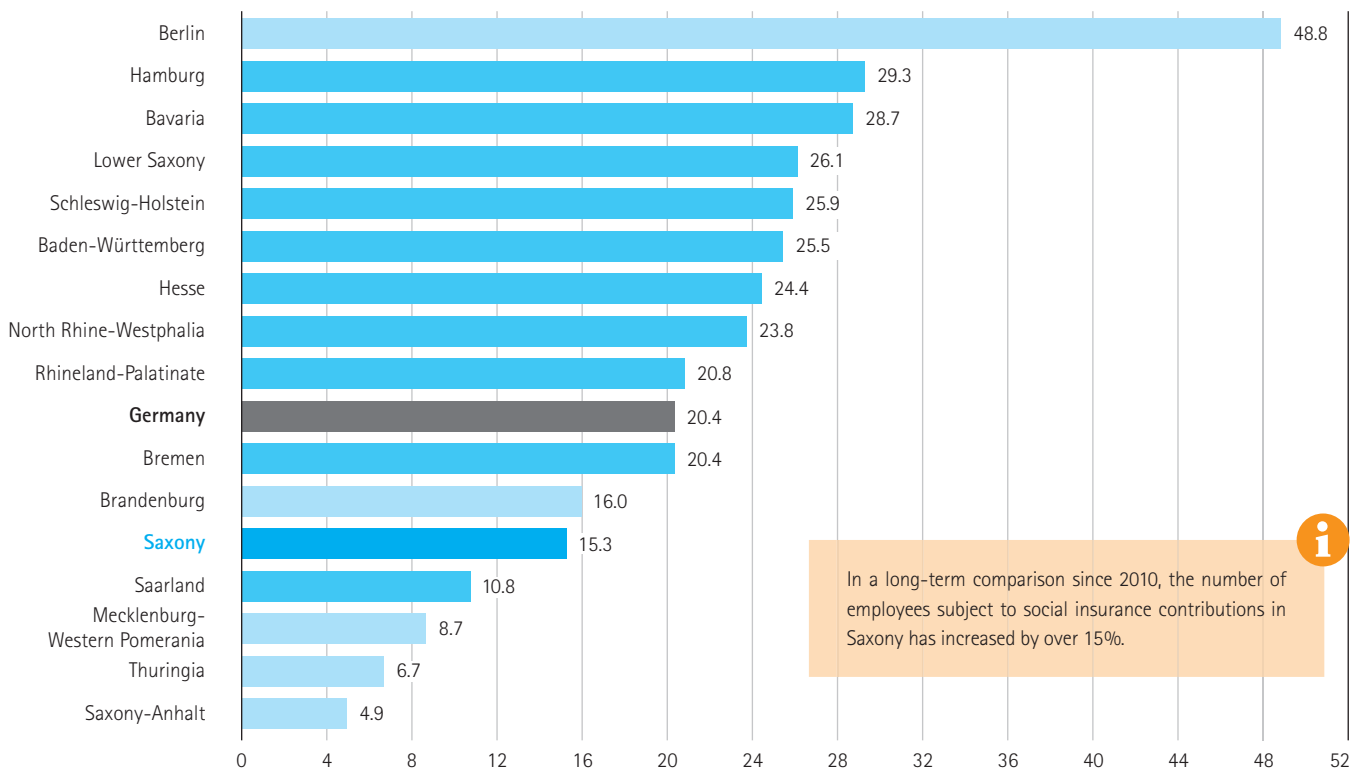
	Regions	Employment rate ¹
10.	Austria	78.2
	Berlin	78.1
11.	Hungary	78.0
	Saarland	77.7
12.	Portugal	77.6
	North Rhine-Westphalia	77.5
13.	Ireland	77.5
14.	Czechia	77.1
15.	Latvia	76.6
16.	Slovakia	76.5
	Bremen	75.3
17.	Slovenia	75.2
	EU-27	75.0
18.	Spain	74.5
18.	Poland	74.5
20.	Luxembourg	74.1
21.	France	73.9
21.	Bulgaria	73.9
23.	Belgium	70.5
24.	Croatia	70.1
25.	Greece	69.5
26.	Romania	66.8
27.	Italy	66.7

¹ labour force (employed and unemployed) aged between 15 and 64 related to the population of the same age
Source: Eurostat (as of July 2024)

Compared to the 27 EU member states, Saxony's labour force participation rate is well above the European average. This is due in particular to the high participation of women in the labour market. In Saxony, this is more than 8 percentage points above the European average.

7. Development of employees subject to social insurance contributions by federal states

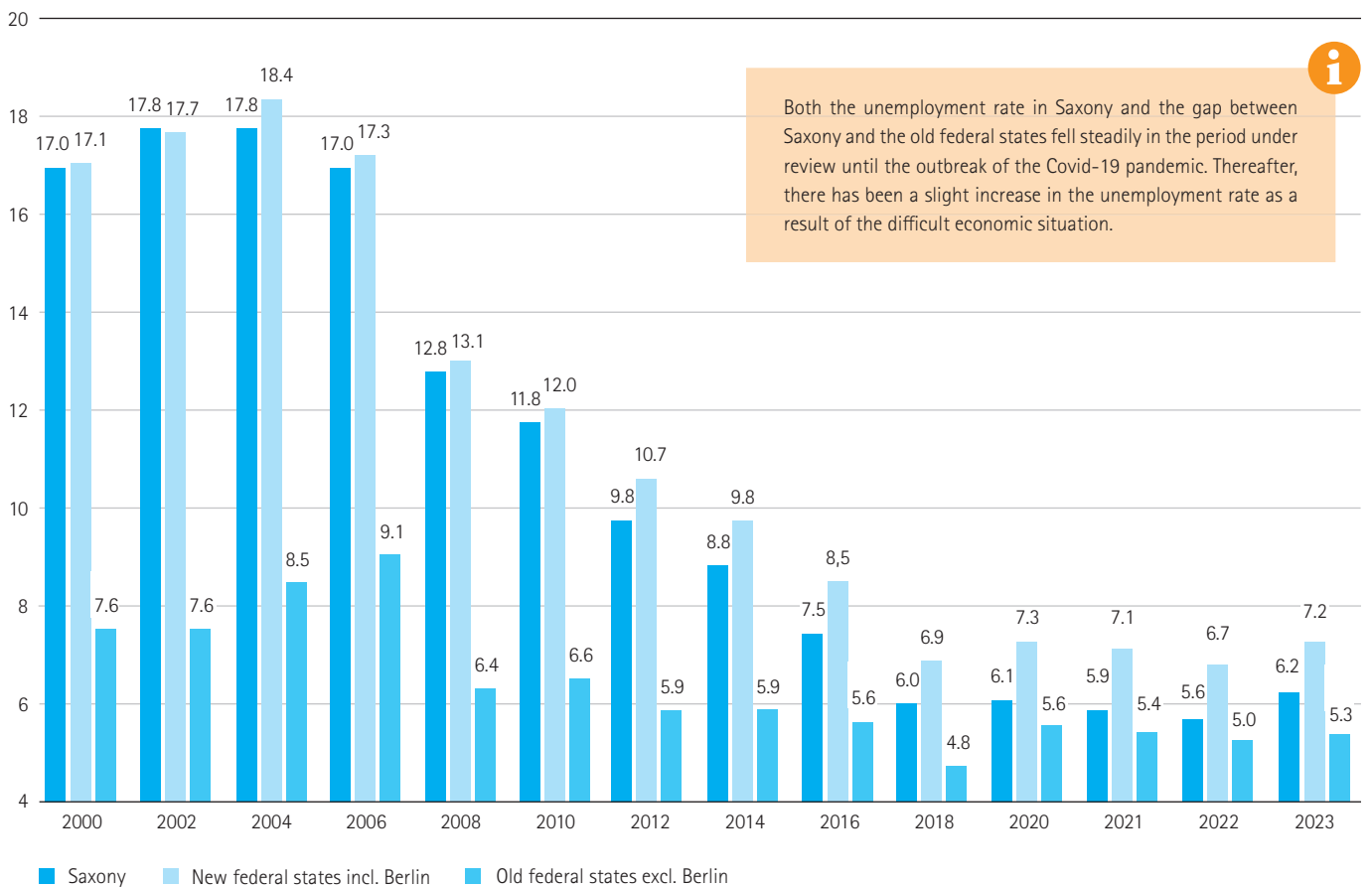
Change 30 June 2023 as against 30 June 2010 (%)



In a long-term comparison since 2010, the number of employees subject to social insurance contributions in Saxony has increased by over 15%.

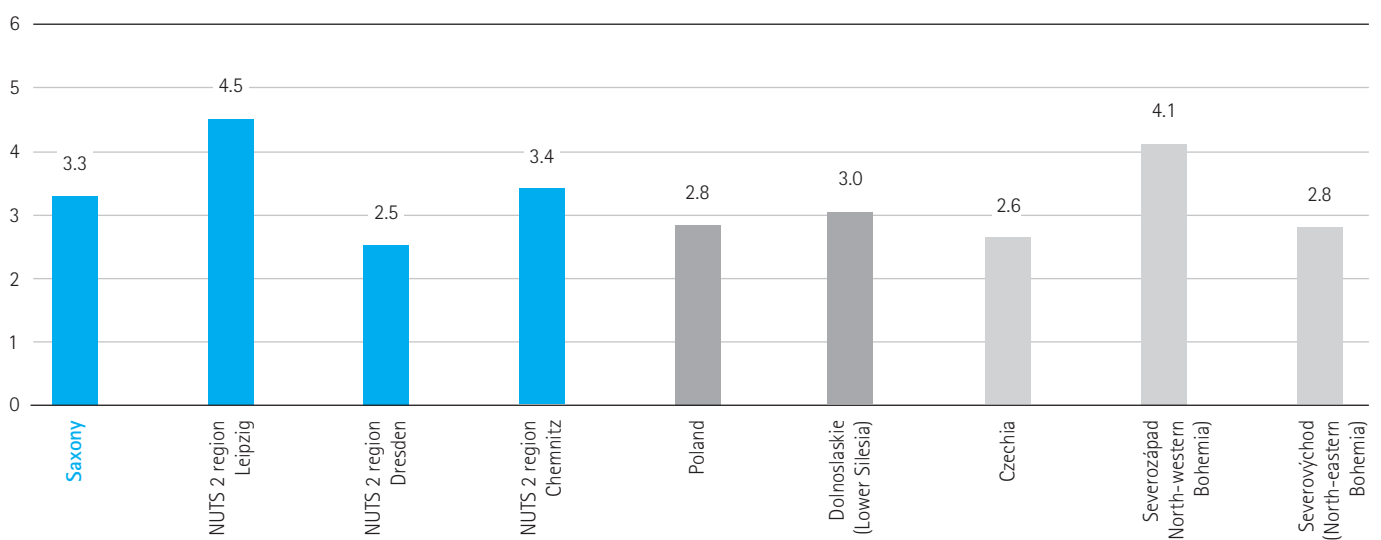
Source: Federal Employment Agency (preliminary results, employees subject to social insurance contributions at place of work, as of November 2023), own calculations

8. Unemployment rate¹ (%)



¹ Unemployment rate of all civil labour force, annual average
Source: Federal Employment Agency

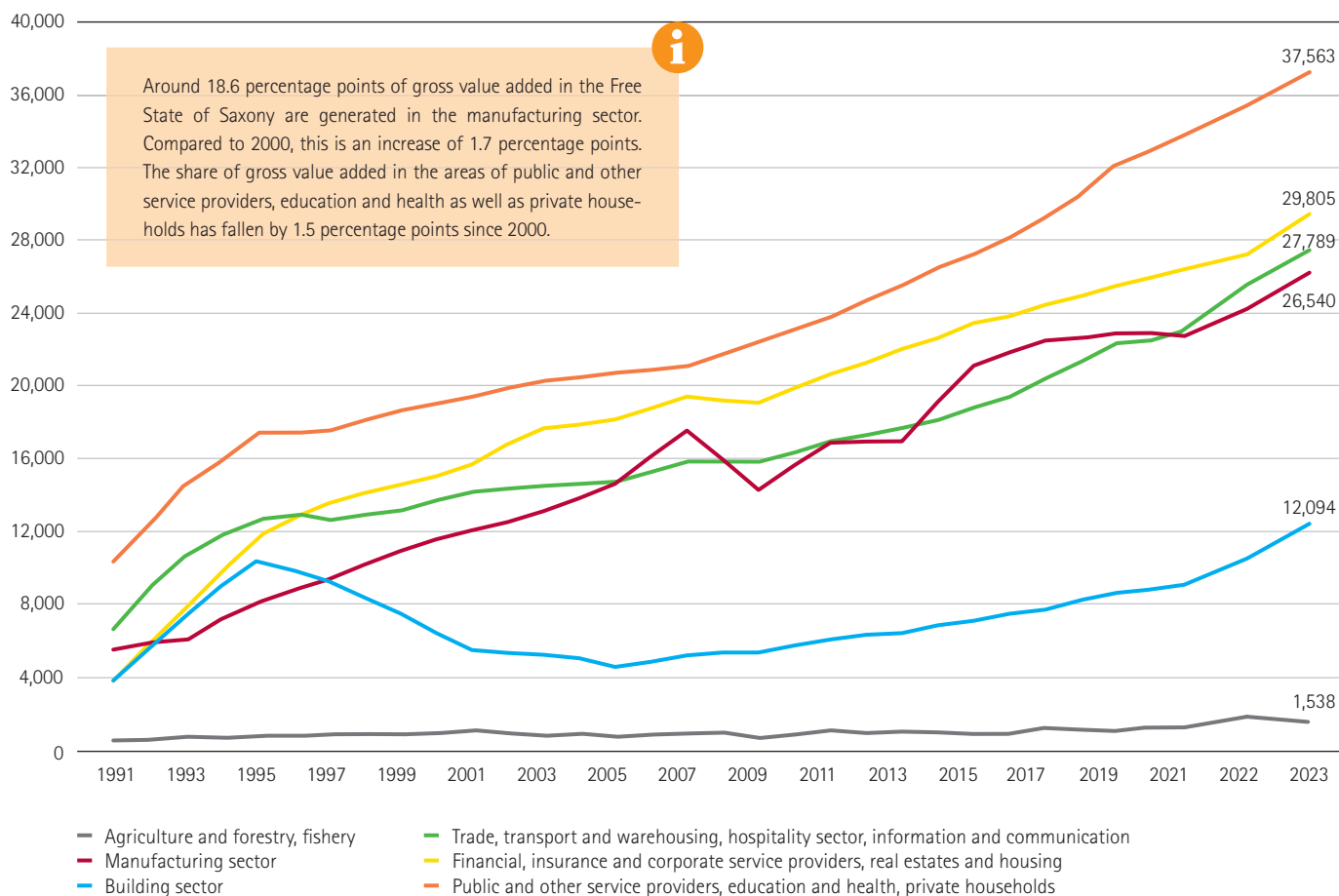
9. Unemployment rates¹ in Saxony, Poland and Czechia 2023 (%)



¹ Percentage unemployed of labour force (employed and unemployed), 15 years and older; with bordering regions of neighbouring states; no data is available for the NUTS 2 region of Lubuskie. Unemployment rates are based on definitions that are in keeping with the recommendations by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Therefore, the unemployment rates determined on national level may vary.
Source: Eurostat (as of July 2024)

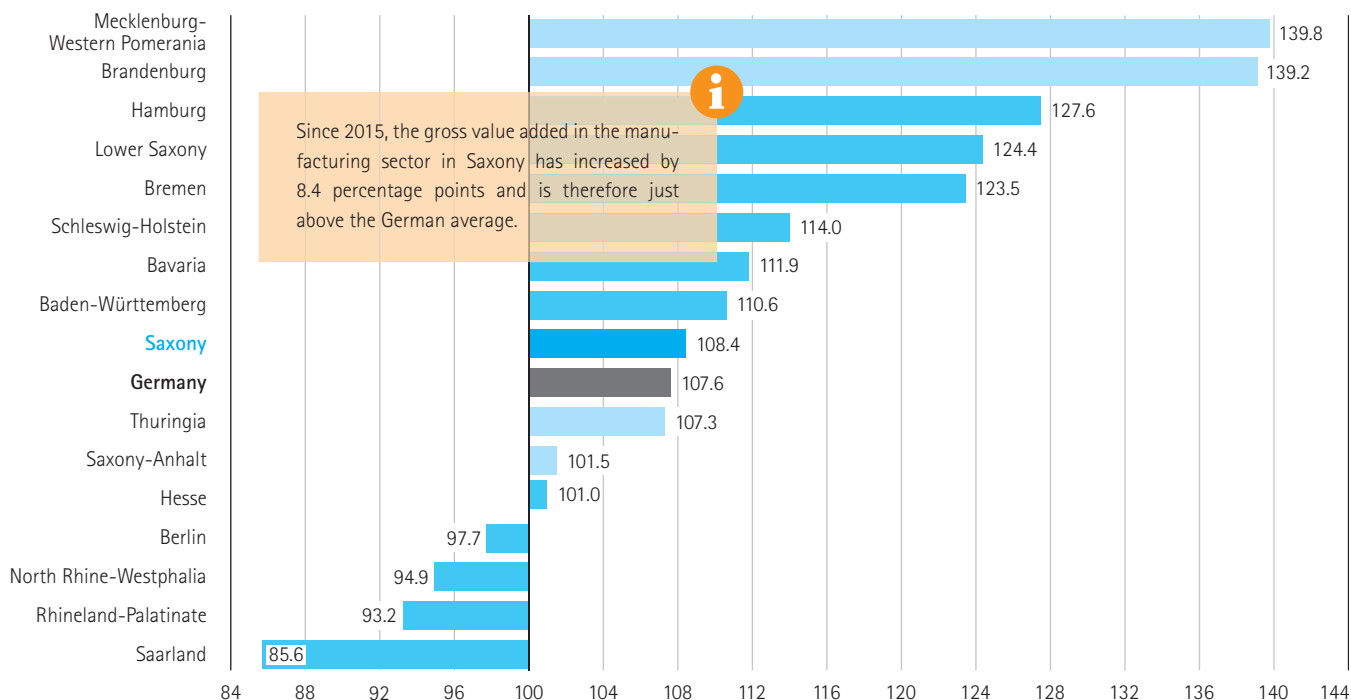
Based on the ILO definition, the unemployment rate in Saxony is 3.3%. The figure has thus risen by 0.2 percentage points from 2022 to 2023. Contrary to the general trend, unemployment in the NUTS 2 region of Dresden fell by 0.8 percentage points.

10. Gross value added in Saxony for selected business sectors (million euro)



Source: "Regional Accounts of the Federal States" working group (as of August 2023/February 2024)

11. Gross value added of manufacturing sector 2023 (adjusted for price changes, chained), index (2015 = 100)



Source: "Regional Accounts of the Federal States" working group (as of August 2023/February 2024)

12. Overnight stays of foreign guests in lodging establishments and at camping sites¹ in Germany 2023

	Overnight stays of foreign guests		
	Number in thousand	Change to prior year %	Share of all overnight stays by foreign guests %
Bavaria	19,546	20.6	24.2
Berlin	11,921	17.5	14.7
Baden-Württemberg	11,654	17.7	14.4
North Rhine-Westphalia	10,577	24.6	13.1
Hesse	6,940	22.1	8.6
Rhineland-Palatinate	4,766	8.6	5.9
Lower Saxony	3,793	16.0	4.7
Hamburg	3,529	15.2	4.4
Schleswig-Holstein	1,988	16.3	2.5
Saxony	2,016	21.3	2.5
Brandenburg	1,117	14.9	1.4
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	908	18.1	1.1
Saxony-Anhalt	590	10.5	0.7
Thuringia	552	18.1	0.7
Bremen	507	18.6	0.6
Saarland	498	22.9	0.6
New German federal states incl. Berlin	17,105	17.6	21.1
Old German federal states excl. Berlin	63,797	19.2	78.9
Germany	80,902	18.8	100.0

¹ lodging establishments of minimum 10 beds and camping sites of minimum 10 pitches; deviations in sums due to rounding
Source: German Federal Office of Statistics (as of July 2024), own calculations



The recovery following the reduction and subsequent lifting of the Covid-19 restrictions is also reflected in the number of overnight stays by foreign guests in Saxony. While the number was still 1.66 million in 2022, it rose to 2.02 million in 2023.

13. Craft businesses 2022

	Craft businesses existing on 31 December 2022 (annexes A, A simple activities, B1 and B2)		
	Number	Businesses per 1,000 inhabitants ¹	Share in Germany (%)
Baden-Württemberg	140,975	12.5	13.7
Bavaria	210,585	15.8	20.4
Berlin	30,349	8.1	2.9
Brandenburg	38,342	14.9	3.7
Bremen	5,539	8.1	0.5
Hamburg	15,359	8.1	1.5
Hesse	77,638	12.1	7.5
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	19,904	12.2	1.9
Lower Saxony	86,574	10.6	8.4
North Rhine-Westphalia	197,080	10.9	19.1
Rhineland-Palatinate	54,826	13.2	5.3
Saarland	12,487	12.6	1.2
Saxony	55,534	13.6	5.4
Saxony-Anhalt	24,504	11.2	2.4
Schleswig-Holstein	32,771	11.1	3.2
Thuringia	29,907	14.1	2.9
New German federal states incl. Berlin	198,540	12.1	19.2
Old German federal states excl. Berlin	833,834	12.3	80.8
Germany	1,032,374	12.2	100.0

¹ Inhabitants as of 31 December 2022

Source: German Confederation of Skilled Crafts. German Federal Office of Statistics. own calculations



Saxony has the fourth highest number of craft businesses per 1,000 inhabitants in Germany.

14. Human resources in science and technology (HRST)¹ in the EU member states and for Germany in the NUTS 2 regions 2022

	Regions	as % of the workforce
1.	Luxembourg	66.9
	Berlin	66.5
	Hamburg	59.7
2.	Sweden	58.5
3.	Ireland	58.3
4.	Netherlands	57.5
	Upper Bavaria	57.3
5.	Belgium	57.1
	Cologne	54.6
6.	Lithuania	54.4
7.	France	53.9
8.	Denmark	53.7
9.	Cyprus	53.7
	Darmstadt	53.6
10.	Finland	53.0
11.	Estonia	52.9
12.	Slovenia	52.8
	Leipzig	52.2
	Dresden	52.2
	Karlsruhe	52.2
	Stuttgart	51.9
13.	Austria	51.6
	Hesse	51.5
	Baden-Württemberg	51.2
	Gießen	50.8
	Rheinessen-Pfalz	50.7
	Tübingen	50.6
	Hanover	50.6
	Bavaria	50.5
	Braunschweig	50.5
	Middle Franconia	50.3
14.	Germany	50.3
	Düsseldorf	50.0
	North Rhine-Westphalia	49.9
	Freiburg	49.3
	Brandenburg	49.0
	Saxony	48.7

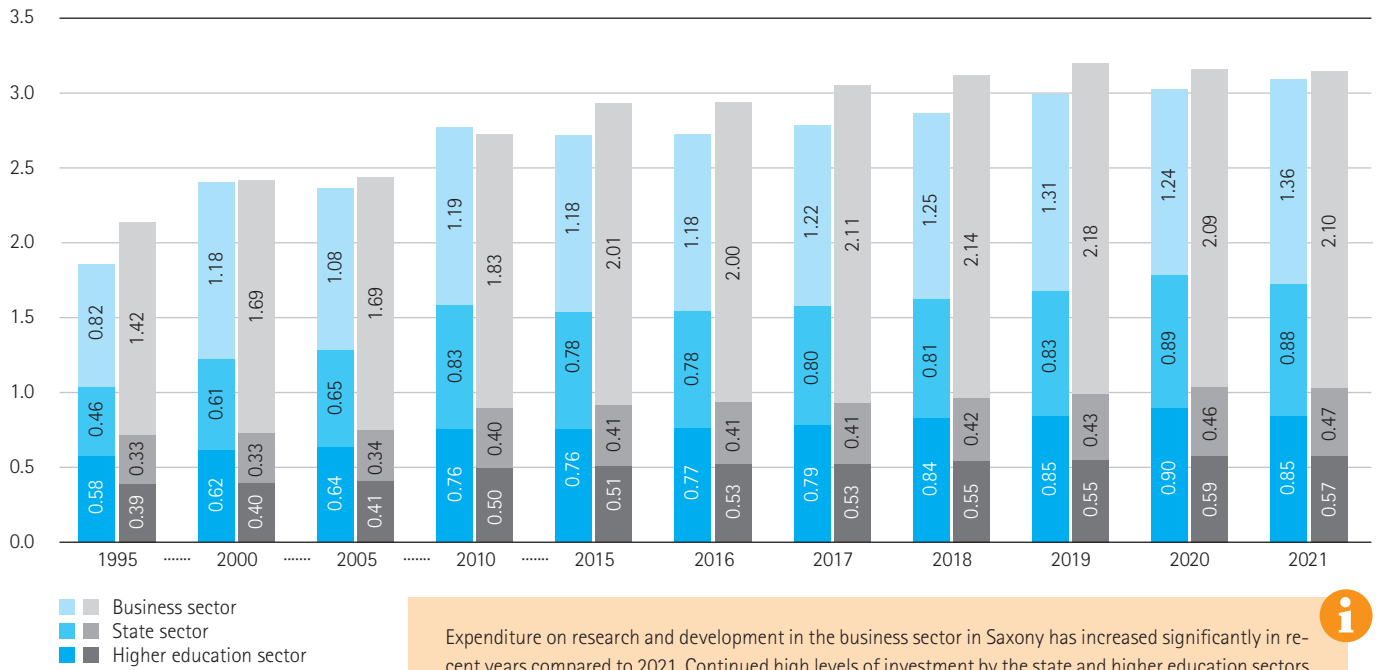
	Regions	as % of the workforce
	Bremen	48.6
15.	Latvia	48.4
	Lower Saxony	48.0
	Münster	47.9
16.	Spain	47.8
	Rhineland-Palatinate	47.7
	EU-27	47.5
	Detmold	47.0
	Lower Franconia	46.9
	Arnsberg	46.8
17.	Malta	46.7
	Upper Palatinate	46.6
	Lüneburg	46.2
	Saarland	46.0
18.	Poland	45.9
	Schleswig-Holstein	45.7
	Upper Franconia	45.6
	Weser-Ems	45.6
	Trier	45.2
	Koblenz	44.8
	Swabia	44.8
	Kassel	44.4
	Lower Bavaria	43.9
	Thuringia	43.7
	Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	43.4
19.	Portugal	43.0
	Saxony-Anhalt	42.5
20.	Slovakia	42.0
21.	Greece	41.9
	Chemnitz	41.4
22.	Czechia	41.0
22.	Hungary	41.0
24.	Bulgaria	37.2
25.	Croatia	37.0
26.	Italy	36.3
27.	Romania	30.2

¹ Persons working in a science and technology occupation and/or who have completed a scientific degree, HRST as proportion of working population aged 15-74
Source: Eurostat (as of August 2023)



The high qualification level of employees in Saxony is reflected in both national and European comparisons. In the growth centres of Dresden and Leipzig in particular, the proportion of qualified people is well over 50%.

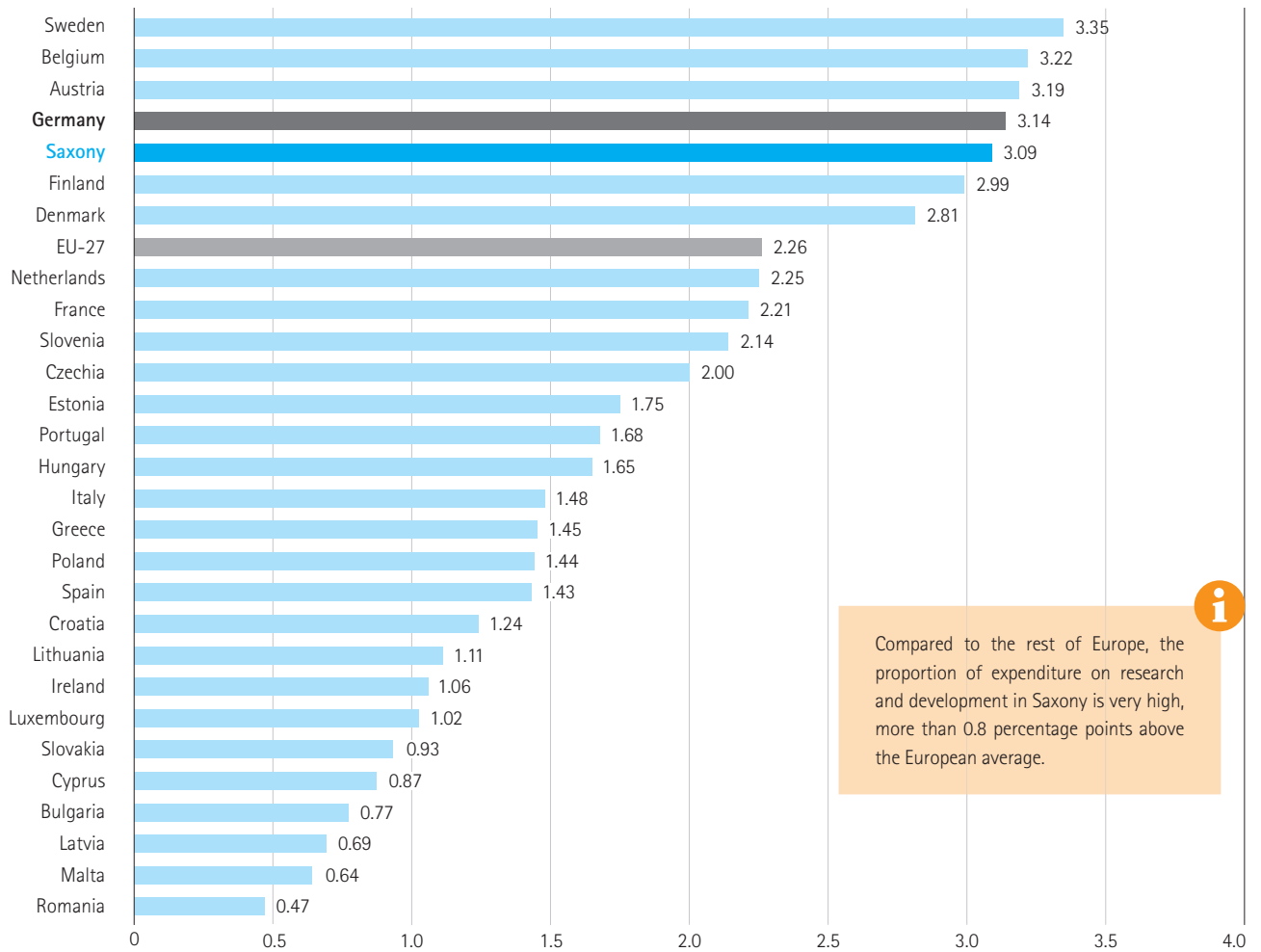
15. Share of expenditure on research and development in GDP (%)



left bar Saxony, right bar Germany
Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Expenditure on research and development in the business sector in Saxony has increased significantly in recent years compared to 2021. Continued high levels of investment by the state and higher education sectors mean that the total expenditure on research and development is close to the German average.

16. Expenditure on research and development¹ 2021 in an EU-wide comparison



Compared to the rest of Europe, the proportion of expenditure on research and development in Saxony is very high, more than 0.8 percentage points above the European average.

¹ Expenditure on research and development in percentage of GDP
Source: Eurostat (data partly preliminary, estimated), German Federal Office of Statistics (data for Germany and Saxony)

17. Road network length and density as of 1 January 2023

	Road network length		Road network density			
	km		km per 1,000 km ²		km per 1,000 inhabitants ¹	
	Germany	Saxony	Germany	Saxony	Germany	Saxony
Federal motorways	13,172	577	37	31	0.16	0.14
Federal roads	37,810	2,292	106	124	0.45	0.56
State roads	86,751	4,784	243	259	1.03	1.17
District roads	91,823	5,742	257	311	1.09	1.41
Total	229,556	13,395	642	726	2.72	3.28

¹ Inhabitants as of 31 December 2022

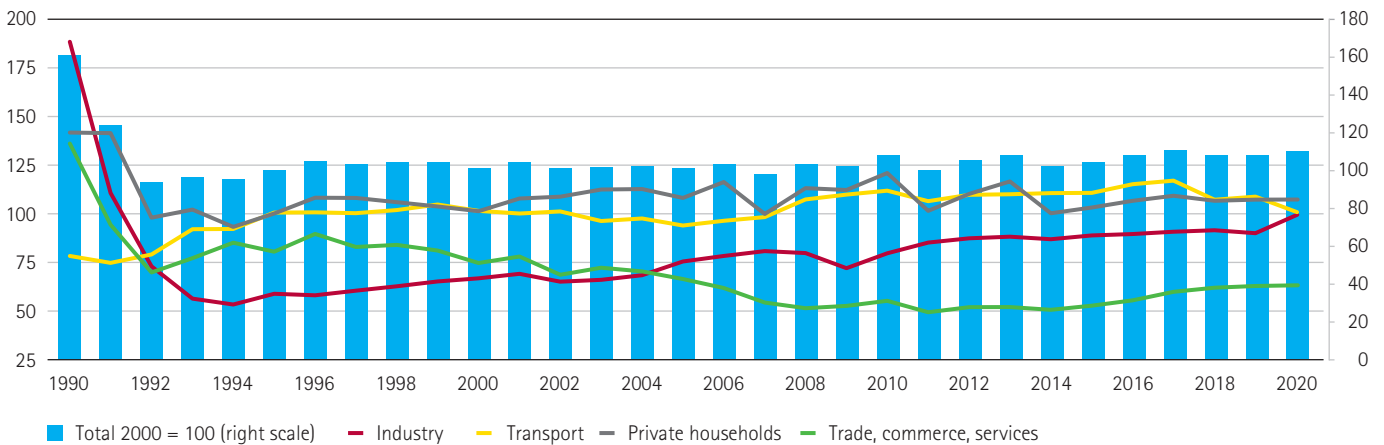
² Area in km² as of 31 December 2022

Source: Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, German Federal Office of Statistics, own calculations

Compared to the rest of Germany, the road network density in the Free State of Saxony is above average, in terms of both area and population. The expansion of the road network in Saxony is at a lower level compared to the previous year.

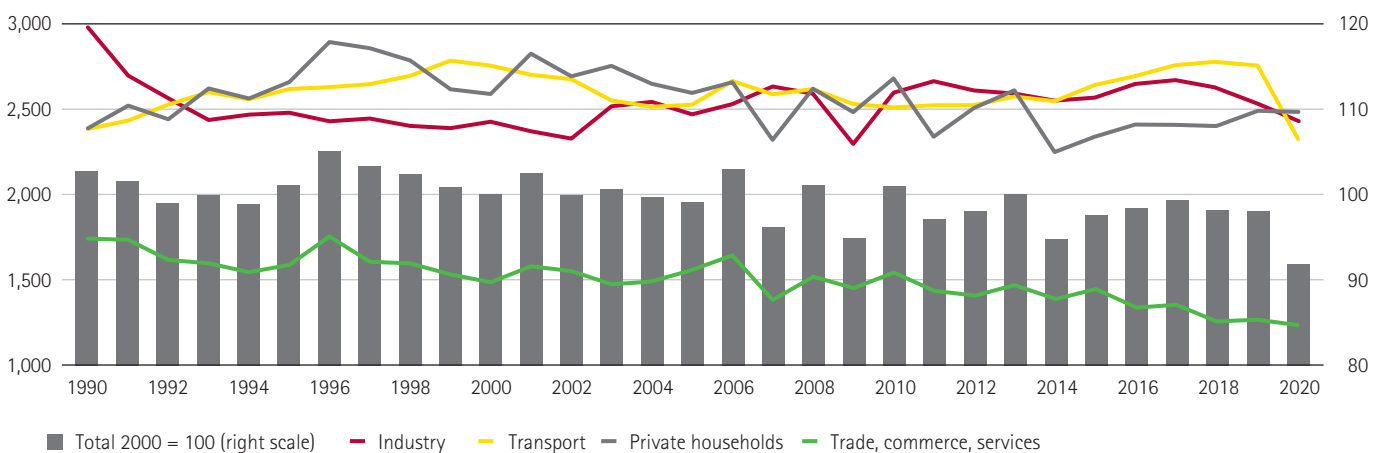
18. Development of final energy consumption by sectors (Petajoule)

Saxony



Source: Saxony State Statistical Office, own calculations

Germany



Source: AG Energiebilanzen e. V., own calculations

Final energy is the energy consumed in industry, households, trade and services in an economy. Primary energy sources such as natural gas or secondary forms of energy, including electric power, can be used for this. Final energy consumption in Saxony increased slightly in 2020. This growth was primarily attributable to the industrial sector, while a significant decline was recorded in the transport sector.

19. Foreign trade of Saxony

	Export		Import	
	million euro	Change from prior year %	million euro	Change from prior year %
1991	2,581.6	-	2,086.8	-
1992	2,587.2	0.2	2,641.2	26.6
1993	2,721.9	5.2	2,648.9	0.3
1994	3,099.3	13.9	3,319.4	25.3
1995	3,645.9	17.6	3,858.2	16.2
1996	3,804.6	4.4	4,315.4	11.9
1997	5,376.3	41.3	4,865.1	12.7
1998	7,873.7	46.5	5,785.0	18.9
1999	8,876.7	12.7	5,823.7	0.7
2000	10,425.4	17.4	7,327.2	25.8
2001	13,209.1	26.7	8,046.1	9.8
2002	13,931.7	5.5	8,309.3	3.3
2003	15,143.9	8.7	9,002.3	8.3
2004	16,259.6	7.4	9,732.2	8.1
2005	17,696.2	8.8	10,623.5	9.2
2006	19,589.9	10.7	13,746.9	29.4
2007	23,432.6	19.6	14,856.3	8.1
2008	23,200.0	-1.0	15,388.8	3.6
2009	19,501.1	-15.9	13,605.3	-11.6
2010	24,743.4	26.9	16,902.7	24.2
2011	29,408.4	18.9	20,252.9	19.8
2012	31,827.7	8.2	19,477.9	-3.8
2013	31,430.3	-1.2	18,988.8	-2.5
2014	35,907.1	14.2	20,616.0	8.6
2015	38,349.8	6.8	22,115.1	7.3
2016	36,662.8	-4.4	21,938.6	-0.8
2017	41,257.4	12.5	24,038.0	9.6
2018	40,486.0	-1.9	24,741.6	2.9
2019	40,252.0	-0.6	26,783.2	8.3
2020	36,878.8	-8.4	27,092.9	1.2
2021	44,974.1	22.0	32,454.8	19.8
2022	52,749.5	17.3	34,957.1	7.7

	Major foreign trade partners:	
	Export	Import
2022	China	Czechia
	USA	China
	Czechia	Poland
	Poland	Netherlands
	United Kingdom	Hungary

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, own calculations



After a massive increase in 2021, Saxony's exports also rose sharply in 2022 and are now 43% higher than the pandemic-induced slump in 2020. The neighbouring countries of Poland and Czechia continue to be Saxony's major European foreign trade partners.

Foreign trade 2022

	Export		Export ratio ¹ %
	million euro	New German federal states excl. Berlin = 100 %	
New German federal states excl. Berlin	122,010.5	100	28.0
thereof:			
Saxony	52,749.5	43.2	36.0
Saxony-Anhalt	23,882.3	19.6	31.7
Thuringia	17,814.2	14.6	24.9
Brandenburg	17,763.3	14.6	20.0
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	9,801.2	8.0	18.3

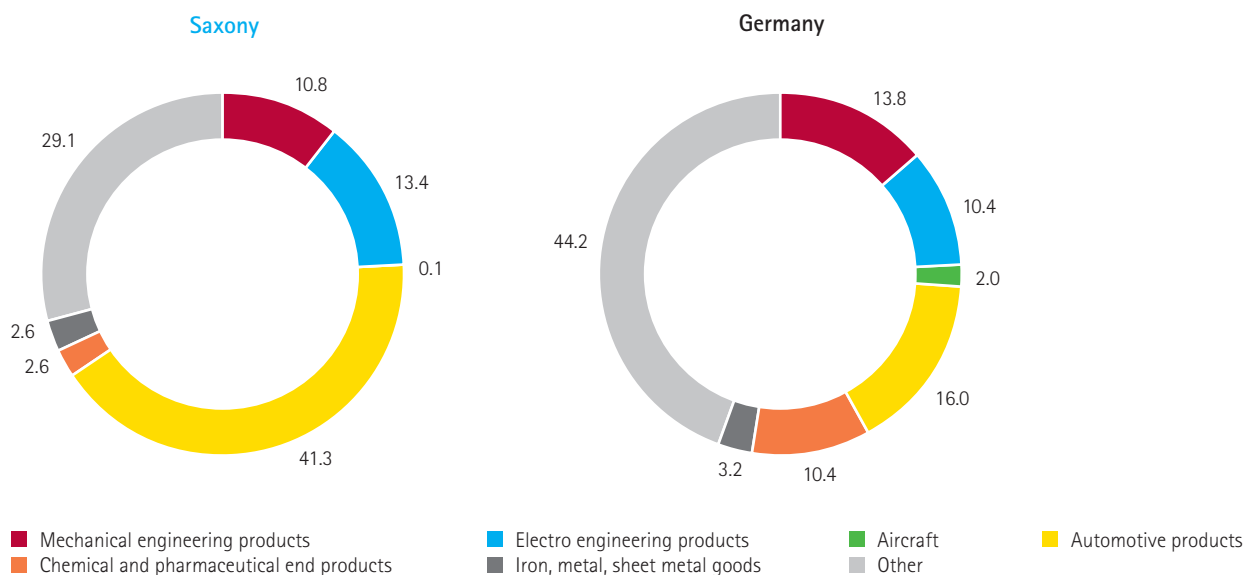


The export of goods and services plays a particularly important role for Saxony's economy. Both, the absolute level of exports and the export ratio, are significantly higher than those in the other East German federal states.

¹ratio of exports to gross domestic product

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, "Regional Accounts of the Federal States" working group (as of March 2023), own calculations

20. Exports by commodity groups 2022 (%)



Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, own calculations



The most important export sector for Saxony is automotive products. These are more than twice as important as they are for Germany as a whole. Other important export sectors are mechanical engineering and the manufacture of electrical engineering products.

21. Air transport 2022 by reporting airports

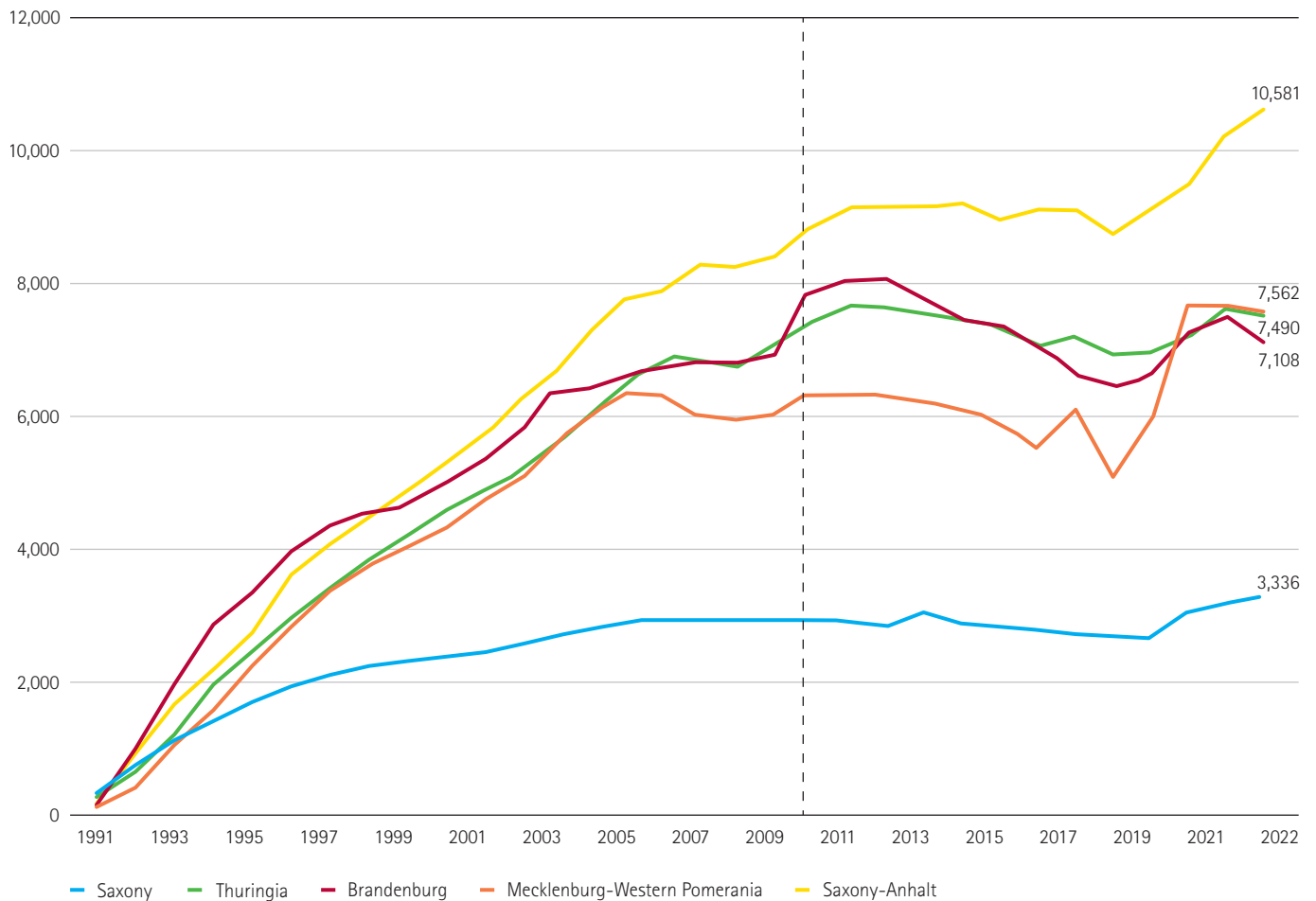
Reporting airport	Goods transported		Persons transported	
	Loading (1,000 tonnes)	Unloading (1,000 tonnes)	Embarking (number)	Disembarking (number)
Germany	2,642,337	2,405,818	820,058,621	82,590,626
Frankfurt/Main	1,027,194	940,067	24,235,108	24,557,211
Leipzig/Halle	776,959	730,965	774,158	775,434
Cologne/Bonn	498,619	459,184	4,374,293	4,368,181
Munich	149,521	117,159	15,754,418	15,858,858
Hahn	103,314	90,509	667,793	679,456
Berlin-Brandenburg	21,870	13,390	9,869,481	9,965,032
Stuttgart	19,324	14,216	3,496,763	3,474,750
Hanover	17,584	17,462	1,965,986	1,989,439
Hamburg	11,912	9,276	5,533,277	5,557,749
Düsseldorf	11,889	11,550	8,004,568	8,044,226
Nuremberg	2,022	1,374	1,628,095	1,625,228
Karlsruhe	1,662	119	651,019	649,949
Erfurt	280	177	66,881	68,684
Paderborn/Lippstadt	94	98	247,148	250,649
Bremen	61	229	749,575	741,446
Dresden	25	19	421,382	413,570
Münster/Osnabrück	7	14	415,308	422,527
Dortmund	0	0	1,296,660	1,287,506
Saarbrücken	0	10	150,994	148,968
Berlin-Schönefeld	-	-	-	-
Berlin-Tegel	-	-	-	-
Friedrichshafen	-	-	166,707	165,493
Lübeck	-	-	-	-
Memmingen	-	0	986,905	1,001,269
Lower Rhine	-	-	520,602	516,227
Rostock-Laage	-	-	28,740	28,774
Sylt-Westerland	-	-	-	-
Zweibrücken	-	-	-	-

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics



Leipzig/Halle Airport is one of the most important trans-shipment centres after Frankfurt/Main. Dresden Airport is another major transport hub in the infrastructure of the Free State of Saxony.

22. Debt per capita¹ of new non-city states Euro per inhabitant²



	1991	1992	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Saxony-Anhalt	168	906	2,665	5,154	7,740	8,798	8,933	9,080	9,083	8,722	9,095	9,462	10,180	10,581
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	124	405	2,184	4,200	6,291	6,261	5,899	5,505	6,076	5,059	5,898	7,647	7,655	7,562
Brandenburg	153	974	3,251	4,921	6,607	7,795	7,351	7,049	6,609	6,416	6,587	7,237	7,431	7,108
Thuringia	266	637	2,393	4,460	6,418	7,415	7,334	7,030	7,181	6,900	6,947	7,162	7,565	7,490
Saxony	325	734	1,654	2,317	2,849	2,854	2,831	2,773	2,724	2,673	2,659	3,033	3,171	3,336

¹ debts from credit market funds and with public budgets of core budgets of states (Saxony: budget-related debt level), from 2010, system change including the ancillary budgets and excluding cash loans

² inhabitants as of 30 June of the respective year

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics, Saxon State Ministry of Finance

i Debt per capita in the Free State of Saxony is less than half that of the new area states put together. At 44%, the growth in the debt per capita between 2000 and 2022 was significantly lower than the economic growth over the same period. This was more than twice as high and totalled around 110%.

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