

Bertelsmann Stiftung (Hrsg.)

Wer, wo, wie viele? – Bevölkerung in Deutschland 2030

Datenreport

Abstract

Providing contemporary data that creates transparency and facilitates municipal planning – that is the idea behind the Wegweiser Kommune information portal. The portal offers those active in rural and urban municipality planning a variety of data on demographic change. At the core of this set of data are population projections for individual municipalities with more than 5,000 inhabitants. The data, which currently looks at the year 2030, includes several demographic indicators and outlines developments for ten age groups. The study presented here provides an overview of the most important data relevant to all rural and urban districts in Germany.

The recently updated population projections for 2012 through 2030 incorporate data showing the considerable increase in immigration to Germany underway since 2009. As of 2010, Germany's net migration rate has been considerably more positive than in the years before.

The projections also take into account the total population figures resulting from the 2011 census. These changes, along with other methodological adjustments, have resulted in new findings that in some cases differ considerably from previous findings.

The recent projections suggest a less severe population decline in Germany from 2012 to 2030 at -0.7 percent. In absolute numbers, this means the number of inhabitants will fall from 80.5 million to 79.97 million. In the 13 federal »area« states (Flächenländer, meaning those not designated as city-states), population projections vary from a 3.5 percent increase in Bavaria to a 13.6 percent decline in Saxony-Anhalt. The city-states of Berlin and Hamburg are expected to grow by 10.3 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively, while Bremen is expected to show slight population increase of 1 percent.

In addition to these developments, the population will also grow increasingly older. This can be seen clearly by the median age, which will have increased by 2.8 years by the year 2030. This means that half of the German population will be older than 48.1 years of age, the other half younger than 48.1. Each of the five eastern federal states will have a median age above 50 years. In the states of Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the median age is expected to increase by more than four years from 2012 to 2030. Berlin and Hamburg, by contrast, are expected to feature much younger populations in 2030, each with median ages of 43. For Berlin this means the median age will remain constant; for Hamburg the median age will have increased by only one year since 2012. In each of the 16 German federal states, the number of inhabitants above 65 years of age will increase significantly. Nationwide, the number of 65 to 79-year olds will grow by 25 percent. In individual states, this age group is expected to grow by, for example, 11 percent in Hamburg and 35 percent in the Rhineland-Palatinate. An average increase of 47 percent is expected for those older than 80, with the Saarland showing an increase of 32 percent for this group and Berlin with 75 percent. In total, the number of people 65 years of age and older will increase by more than five million by the year 2030, which means one in every four inhabitants will be at least 65 years old.

The demographic trends presented here provide a sound basis for the tailored analysis and planning of issues relevant to communities and municipalities. They are used, for example, in making decisions regarding whether or not to expand child care facilities, close down schools or build long-term care facilities.