



OECD Demographics Survey

Germany

Executive Summary by Alex v. Broen



Factsheet

Fertility rate (births/woman)	Net migration rate (entering-leaving/1000)	Family policies	Attitude towards immigration
1.58 (20th in the OECD)	11.67 (13th in the OECD)	Generous	Friendly

Immigration Policies

Since the 1950s immigration has been seen as the easiest tool to alleviate workforce shortages, a point which has been reiterated many times over the years. As proper integration has been neglected for many decades, immigration is debated very emotionally, as the negative effects of parallel societies are very tangible for many citizens, despite the positive effects of immigration on the workforce and the economy. Although Germany has long been a very open country, it has never properly adjusted its culture or administrative structures to deal with the corresponding challenges.

Potential allies: France, Canada, Sweden

Family Policies

In contrast to many other countries, German family policies do not aim primarily at an increase in family size, but at creating a societal framework that allows for family life to co-exist with work life and career. The hope is that in this environment enough people will decide to found a family, no matter the size or parent's life plan. Thus, although financial incentives proportional to the number of children per woman exist, most family policy tools are set to enable a career for both parents while having a family life, or at least treat the time spent raising children equal to work time when it comes to pension claims etc.

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