

GERMANY COMPANY REPORTS

Detailed Summary of Data, Sources & FAQs



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OUR DATA SOURCES

Please find below the main original sources of information (e.g., Chambers of commerce, local courts, etc). This should apply to registered companies and sole traders/non-registered companies.

Financial data: Bundesanzeiger (<https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/>).
Unternehmensregister (<https://unternehmensregister.de/>).
Financial documents that have been provided to us by companies themselves.

Negative data: Insolvency register (<https://www.insolvenzbekanntmachungen.de/>).
Debtors register.

Demographic data:

Payment Data: Provided by our customers or provided by external suppliers.

Collection data:

Shareholder's data: Handelsregister (<https://www.handelsregister.de/>).

Group Structure/Corporate hierarchy: Group structure is calculated from the shareholdings published in the shareholder documents.

Other key information:

How often the above data is updated e.g., daily, weekly etc.?

Core data is updated daily, insolvency data is updated 4 times per day.

Do you contact companies via a telephone interview or site visits at regular intervals e.g., once a year?

During fresh investigations companies could be contacted, depending on the publicly available information.



NEGATIVE DATA

What type of negative data is available?

Bankruptcies/Insolvencies:

Insolvency publications and procedures listed in the debtors' register.

Individual dates and milestones of the insolvency procedure including all contact information of the insolvency administrator.

Court Cases/ Actions:

As part of the insolvency publications and procedures listed in the debtors register.

Debt Collection cases:

How often is this negative data updated? Negative data is updated up to 4 times a day.

CREDIT SCORES & LIMITS

Do you give a credit score & limit on all companies?

We don't give a score and limit to newly founded companies up to 18 months.

We don't give a score to companies if there is not enough data to calculate a proper score.

Are there any exceptions?

What is the credit score intended to predict?

A company must apply for any insolvency procedure within the next 12 months.

Is payment data included in your credit scoring model?

No.

What does the credit limit represent?

The credit limit considers a risk weighted combination of equity and working capital. More rules apply for group structures or companies in debt.

How is the credit limit calculated?

What other company ratings are available?



LOCAL ACTIVITY CODES & VAT NUMBERS

What version of activity codes are used in the reports?

German standard classification is WZ2008.

What company ID numbers are available? (e.g., the local registration number, VAT number, etc.)

For limited companies, the registration number is available. Coverage for VAT numbers is limited.

How are the company ID numbers formatted?

Company IDs follow internal schema country code DE + 8 digits.

Are companies obliged to file a VAT number?

No.

How is the VAT Number derived?

VAT numbers are derived from company websites and their imprints.

If they are not obliged to file and you have this data where has this data come from?

VAT numbers are derived from company websites and their imprints.

How often is the VAT number updated?



LOCAL BUSINESS CLASSIFICATIONS

Size classes	Balance sheet total in Mio	Sales in Mio	Staff
Small	< 4,015	< 8,030	< 50
Medium	>4,015 - 16,060<	>8,030 - 32,120<	>50 - 250<
Large	> 16,060	> 32,120	> 250

(1) Small corporations shall be those which do not exceed at least two of the following three characteristics:

- 6,000,000 Euro balance sheet.
- 12,000,000 euros in sales in the twelve months preceding the balance sheet date.
- On average, fifty workers.

(2) Medium-sized enterprises shall be those which exceed at least two of the three characteristics referred to in paragraph 1 and which in each case do not exceed at least two of the following three characteristics:

- 20 000 000 euros balance sheet total.
- 40,000,000 euros in sales in the 12 months preceding the balance sheet date.
- On average, two hundred and fifty workers.

(3) Large corporations are those which exceed at least two of the three characteristics referred to in subsection (2). A capital company in the sense of § 264d is always regarded as large.

(4) The legal consequences of the features according to paragraphs 1 to 3 sentence 1 shall only occur if they are exceeded or fallen short of the closing dates of two consecutive financial years. In the case of conversion or reestablishment, the legal consequences already occur if the requirements of paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 exist on the first balance sheet date after the conversion or reestablishment. Sentence 2 shall not apply in the case of a change of legal form if the legal entity transforming the legal form is a corporation or a partnership in the sense of § 264a (1).

(4a) The balance sheet total consists of the items listed in letters A to E of § 266 (2). A deficit on the asset side (§ 268 (3)) is not included in the balance sheet total.

(5) The average number of employees is the fourth part of the total number of persons employed on 31st March 30th June 30th September and 31st December, including those employed abroad, but excluding those related to their vocational training employees.

(6) Information and information rights of employee representatives under other laws remain unaffected.



FINANCIAL DATA & FILING REQUIREMENTS

Which types of company must file financial data?

The following legal forms must publish financial figures:

- The Limited Liability Company (GmbH).
- The limited partnership (KGaA).
- The stock corporation (AG) with the special form of the European company (SE).
- the Entrepreneur Company (limited liability) (as the sub form of a GmbH) (UG).
- Persons trading companies without a natural person as a personally liable partner (GmbH & Co.KG).
- Other companies that exceed a certain size.
- Cooperatives.

In the case of an exemption pursuant to § 264 HGB, the companies do not need to publish because the Group has consolidated financial statements.

Are there any filing exemptions and thresholds?

Yes, companies can choose to get a filing exemption, therefor the holding company must create consolidated financial statements.

How long after the financial year end do companies have to file financials?

24 Months.

What is the penalty for not filing the financial data, and is it likely a company would prefer the penalty rather than filing them?

Up to 25.000 EUR. There definitely are cases where companies rather take the penalty.

How did you collect the accounts?

There are around 1.4 million companies that publish financial documents.

What is the number of companies that must publish accounts?

Depending on the company size, accounts are published and free in the Bundesanzeiger or available for purchase in the Unternehmensregister.

What is the number of companies that can decide to publish or not publish accounts?

Are the accounts free in this country?



REGISTERED & LAW INFORMATION

Source: http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_bmg/

FAQS REGARDING UNAVAILABLE INFORMATION

Why does the local score show as inactive, however the report status shows as active?

The report status reflects the status in the Handelsregister. It might be the case that the company already is dissolved, before is officially extinguishes.

Why are the headquarters of companies not rated?

Why is there no shareholders information?

Depending on the legal form certain publication rules apply. For certain legal forms and sole traders, the director/owner is liable personally.

Why are some reports not available instantly on-line?

Some reports especially for non-limited companies must be ordered fresh investigation.



COUNTRY POPULATION & TRADE DATA

Population

84,191,461

Source - <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/germany-population/>

GDP

Germany is the 4th largest economy by nominal GDP. Its national debt in 2020 was (2,643,428 million of dollars), (68.7% debt-to-GDP ratio) and its public debt per capita is \$31,789 dollars per inhabitant.

The last annual rate of CPI published in Germany was in November of 2021 and it was 5.2%.

In terms of the human development index (HDI) of Germany, which is the index used by the United Nations to measure the progress of a country, was 0.947 points in 2019, leaving it in 6th place in the table of 189 countries published.

Source - <https://countryeconomy.com/countries/germany>

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Germany was worth 3846.41 billion US dollars in 2020, according to official data from the World Bank. The GDP value of Germany represents 3.40 percent of the world economy.

Source: <https://tradingeconomics.com/germany/gdp>

Import / Export

Export goods motor vehicles, machinery, chemicals, computer and electronic products, electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals, metals, transport equipment, foodstuffs, textiles, rubber and plastic products	Import goods machinery, data processing equipment, vehicles, chemicals, oil and gas, metals, electric equipment, pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, agricultural products
Main export partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United States 8.8% France 8.2% China 6.8% Netherlands 6.7% United Kingdom 6.6% Italy 5.1% (2017 est.) ^[6]	Main import partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netherlands 13.8% China 7.0% Poland 6.7% France 6.6% Belgium 5.9% Italy 5.4%

Source - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Germany

IMF Economy and Response to COVID-19

Source - <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#Germany>