

BRIEF INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT REFUGEE SITUATION IN GERMANY.

NUMBERS AND STATISTICS.

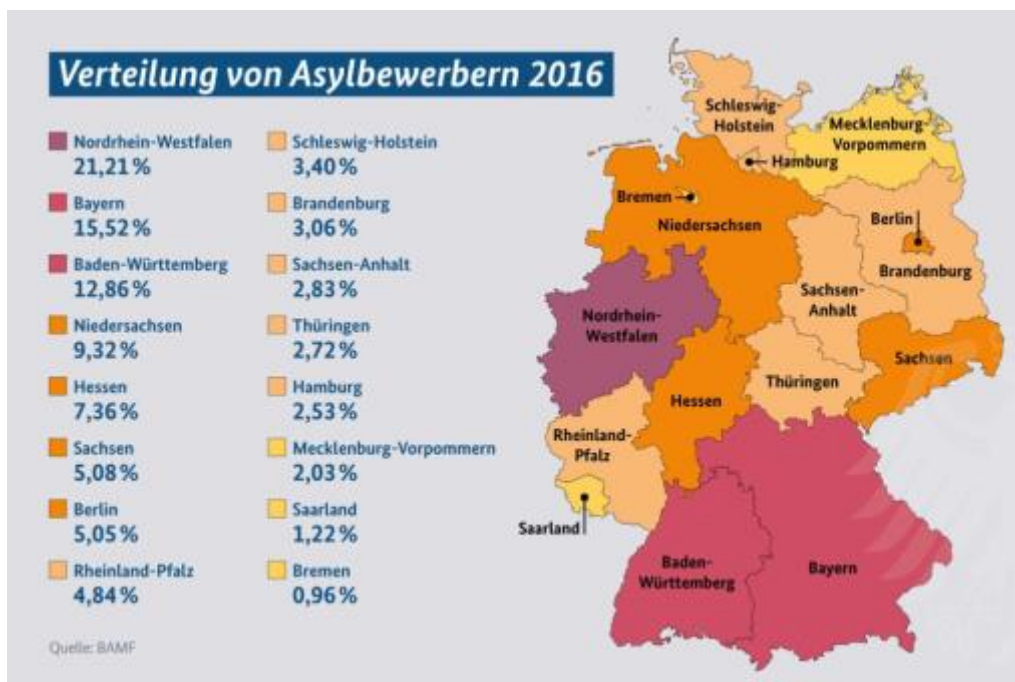
In 2015 about one million refugees arrived in Germany and 470.000 asylum requests were made. In 28 EU countries, there were made 1.2 billion asylum requests overall. Most of the asylum seekers who came to Germany from January 2016 until July 2016 are from Syria (41,8%), Afghanistan (16,9%), Irak (14.1%).

Regarding the numbers of refugee arrivals all over the world, Germany, China and the UK are among the three top refugee welcoming countries worldwide.

(Information provided from PowerPoint Presentation made by IBS)

(www.dw.com), "Germany Needs Billions To Educate Refugees: Report | News | DW.COM | 18.08.2016". DW.COM. N.p., 2016. Web. 7 Sept. 2016.

The following graphic shows the allocation of asylum requests on the 16 federal states of Germany. Nordrhein-Westfalen and Bayern are among the federal states with the leading numbers of asylum requests.



(www.dw.com), Deutsche. "Germany Needs Billions To Educate Refugees: Report | News | DW.COM | 18.08.2016". DW.COM. N.p., 2016. Web. 7 Sept. 2016.

DEVELOPMENT.

As Angela Merkel was highly criticised by many people because of her strongly welcoming refugee policy, stricter control rules have been established over time, the numbers of asylum requests in Germany have dropped significantly but in the first quarter of 2016 the number of asylum seekers still reached 270.000.

(Information provided from PowerPoint Presentation made by IBS)



This graphic shows the drop of numbers of refugees coming to Germany from December 2015 to July 2016 (“The number of refugees stays low”). Regarding the numbers of December 2015, it is obvious that numbers have dropped significantly.

(Wichtige Zahlen Zu Flüchtlingen In Deutschland". *Deutschland kann das*. N.p., 2016. Web. 9 Sept. 2016.

CHALLENGES.

The refugee crisis has challenged Germany in various ways, as well as other EU countries. One of the challenges facing Germany are the rising votes for right-wing parties, such as for the Anti-Immigration Party AfD (federal trend 13% of votes, survey of Forschergruppe Wahlen May 2016) that stand in opposition to the unparalleled civic commitment for refugees in the majority of the German society.

Moreover, the proper coordination of civic and governmental initiatives is needed but challenged by the large number of different governmental initiatives.

One of the major challenges consists in integrating refugees into Germany’s educational system which requires three billion Euros, a study by the “Bildungsmonitor” concludes. According to this study, no progress has been made in 2016 yet.

(www.dw.com), Deutsche. “Germany Needs Billions To Educate Refugees: Report | News | DW.COM | 18.08.2016”. *DW.COM*. N.p., 2016. Web. 7 Sept. 2016.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs has established a program, called “Menschen stärken Menschen” (engl. humans help humans), that supports interested and dedicated citizens with 10 million Euros to build god parenthoods for fled children, adolescents, adults and families.

We are grateful for support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Robert Bosch Foundation, the Körber Foundation and the Lipoid Foundation.

As part of the program, 500.000 Euros have been provided to the Association of German Foundations who have initiated the project “Bürgerstiftungen stiften Partnerschaften” (engl. community foundations build good parenthoods) to increase local integration, support existing local structures, strengthen local societies by supporting community foundations and create 2.000 good parenthoods within 2016.

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Also the Software AG Foundation has dedicated the initiative “auf Augenhöhe” (engl. at eye level) to the strengthening of support for refugees. The initiative provides a fund for community foundations to develop integration and support measures for refugees.

(FONDS Auf Augenhöhe”. *Fonds-auf-augenhoehe.de*. N.p., 2016. Web. 8 Sept. 2016.)

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS.

More than 50% of German community foundations are showing active commitment towards the refugee situation.

Community foundations are local platforms that are able to act locally. They can specifically address local demands and issues and are therefore eligible platforms to operate through.

Examples for community foundation initiatives are the Dresden Community Foundation who has developed the project “Magic of Location” which provides a proper welcome for refugees in nice public spaces.

Also the Wiesbaden Community Foundation has developed a project cooperating with the civil academy in Dresden (Bürger Kolleg) to qualify volunteers on their work with refugees and offer free courses on basic language education and intercultural communication.

Furthermore, the Aachen Community Foundation is committed to explaining the German civil rights charter for the everyday life by translating it into seven different languages.

There are many more initiatives of German community foundations whose common goal it is to integrate refugees and create social cohesion of locals and refugees.

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