

WARUM LERNT MAN DEUTSCH? / WHY LEARN GERMAN?

ECONOMIC REASONS: Jobs and Careers

The analysis of salaries paid in Germany throughout the course of 2017 for the latest Gehaltsatlas came from three portals: Gehalt.de, Gehaltsvergleich.com and Compensation-Partner.de.

Of the over 750,000 pieces of data evaluated, 40 percent of the salaries analyzed came from female workers and 60 percent from male workers.

Hesse takes lead as top-earning German state

One of the most significant findings of the study is that an employee in Hesse can look forward to an average of over 39 percent more income than an employee in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.

Taking a look at the wages of all 16 federal states, Hesse stands out as its wage levels are almost 30 percent above the average across the Bundesrepublik.

There are many possible reasons for this, the study states, including varying living costs and costs for rent, as well as the size and the number of companies in a certain region.

In the newer federal states in eastern Germany, for instance, the mainly small and medium-sized companies that exist there don't pay as much as large, financially strong companies mainly based in the west.

Moreover, according to the study, the average annual income of a worker at a large company with over 1,001 employees can sometimes be twice (€62,700) as high as that of a worker at a small German company with up to 20 employees (€35,400).

Hesse, which is known for its forests and for being home to financial hub Frankfurt, is also attractive for young professionals because it offers the highest income for rookies starting out in their career. Gehaltsatlas figures show that in the central German state academics start on average with a salary of €51,500 and those who have completed an apprenticeship start with €33,500.

Comparatively, academics in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania earn a starting income of €33,600 and rookies who've finished apprenticeships initially earn €21,800.

Following Hesse in the top five states for professional newcomers regarding highest income is Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Hamburg and North Rhine-Westphalia, respectively.

The states which come in 12th to 16th place, respectively, are Brandenburg, Thuringia, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.

Though Schleswig-Holstein came in 11th place, it also saw the largest year-on-year drop in wage levels of almost -3 percent.