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A Perennial Issue: Joblessness (1991-2004)

Since unification in 1990, no issue has preoccupied Germans in East and West more than joblessness. During the period 1991-2004, the unemployment rate rose almost continuously in both parts of Germany, but the differences between the old and new *Länder* still remain considerable. East and West Germans alike lost jobs to globalization, but the losses were far more severe in the East, since they coincided with the restructuring of unprofitable industries.

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### Registered Unemployed, Unemployment Rate

	Germany as a whole		Territory of the former FRG, not including Berlin*		New <i>Länder</i> , including Berlin	
	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %
2005	4 860 234	13.0	3 246 097	11.0	1 614 137	20.6
2004	4 381 042	11.7	2 781 347	9.4	1 599 695	20.1
2003	4 376 028	11.6	2 752 589	9.3	1 623 439	20.1
2002	4 060 317	10.8	2 497 678	8.5	1 562 639	19.2
2001	3 852 564	10.4	2 320 500	8.0	1 532 064	18.8
2000	3 889 695	10.7	2 380 987	8.4	1 508 707	18.6
1999	4 100 499	11.7	2 604 720	9.6	1 495 779	18.7
1998	4 280 630	12.3	2 751 535	10.3	1 529 095	19.2
1997	4 384 456	12.7	2 870 021	10.8	1 514 435	19.1
1996	3 965 064	11.5	2 646 442	9.9	1 318 622	16.6
1995	3 611 921	10.4	2 427 083	9.1	1 184 838	14.8
1994	3 698 057	10.6	2 426 276	9.0	1 271 781	15.7
1993	3 419 141	9.8	2 149 465	8.0	1 269 676	15.4

	Germany as a whole		Territory of the former FRG, not including Berlin*		New <i>Länder</i> , including Berlin	
	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %
1992	2 978 570	8.5	1 699 273	6.4	1 279 297	14.4
1991	2 602 203	7.3	1 596 457	6.2	1 005 746	10.2
1990	-	-	1 883 147	7.2	-	-
1989	-	-	2 037 781	7.9	-	-
1988	-	-	2 241 556	8.7	-	-
1987	-	-	2 228 788	8.9	-	-
1986	-	-	2 228 004	9.0	-	-
1985	-	-	2 304 014	9.3	-	-
1984	-	-	2 265 559	9.1	-	-
1983	-	-	2 258 235	9.1	-	-
1982	-	-	1 833 244	7.5	-	-
1981	-	-	1 271 574	5.5	-	-
1980	-	-	888 900	3.8	-	-
1979	-	-	876 137	3.8	-	-
1978	-	-	992 948	4.3	-	-
1977	-	-	1 029 995	4.5	-	-
1976	-	-	1 060 336	4.6	-	-
1975	-	-	1 074 217	4.7	-	-
1974	-	-	582 481	2.6	-	-
1973	-	-	273 498	1.2	-	-
1972	-	-	246 433	1.1	-	-
1971	-	-	185 072	0.8	-	-
1970	-	-	148 846	0.7	-	-
1969	-	-	178 579	0.9	-	-
1968	-	-	323 480	1.5	-	-
1967	-	-	459 489	2.1	-	-
1966	-	-	161 059	0.7	-	-
1965	-	-	147 352	0.7	-	-
1964	-	-	169 070	0.8	-	-
1963	-	-	185 646	0.8	-	-
1962	-	-	154 523	0.7	-	-
1961	-	-	180 855	0.8	-	-

	Germany as a whole		Territory of the former FRG, not including Berlin*		New <i>Länder</i> , including Berlin	
	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment Rate** in %
1960	-	-	270 678	1.3	-	-
1959	-	-	539 942	2.6	-	-
1958	-	-	763 850	3.7	-	-
1957	-	-	753 711	3.7	-	-
1956	-	-	876 287	4.4	-	-
1955	-	-	1 073 576	5.6	-	-
1954	-	-	1 410 717	7.6	-	-
1953	-	-	1 491 000	8.4	-	-
1952	-	-	1 651 915	9.5	-	-
1951	-	-	1 713 887	10.4	-	-
1950	-	-	1 868 504	11.0	-	-

\* Until 1990, the territory of the former FRG and West Berlin; from 1950 to 1958 without Saarland.

\*\* Unemployment rate among dependent (i.e., non-self-employed) employable civilians.

Preliminary data was used from 1998 on.

Source: Federal Office of Statistics [Statistisches Bundesamt], *Registrierte Arbeitslose, Arbeitslosenquote 1991-2005* [*Registered Unemployed, Unemployment Rate, 1991-2005*] (2007).

Translation: GHI staff