



GERMANY
Europe Region

COUNTRY STATS

POPULATION (2023):

83.3 million

POPULATION (2050):

79.2 million

GDP (2023): 3.8 trillion

PER CAPITA INCOME (2023):

\$52,800

MARKET SNAPSHOT: GERMANY

Germany is the 4th-largest economy in the world and the economic engine of the European Union (EU). Economic growth in 2022 was a respectable 1.8% but it contracted to 0.3% in 2023. It is projected to recover to 1.5% in 2024. Inflation and price volatility in the energy sector continue to impact economic growth seriously.

U.S. Soy has collaborated in Germany for more than 50 years.

MARKET STATS

Soy Use by Sector 2023

Pork	9,351 MT
Cattle	6,786 MT
Poultry	6,523 MT

MT=metric tons

STRENGTHS

- The high quality of U.S. Soy is well known in the feed industry, as is the reliability of the U.S. as an exporter.
- The U.S. is recognized within the animal feed and livestock industry as being low risk for deforestation.
- Demand for food-quality soybeans/plant protein will increase slowly as consumption patterns change toward less meat and more plant sources.

OPPORTUNITIES

- The U.S. Soy Sustainability Assurance Protocol (SSAP) and the sustainability practices of U.S. soybean producers are positioned to meet the growing demand for sustainable soy in Germany, particularly among food processors and the retail sector.

CHALLENGES

- Livestock numbers are expected to remain stable in the short term and decrease in the longer term, aligned with the growing trend for less meat consumption and more plant proteins.
- Continued strong anti-genetically modified (GM) sentiment among consumers and vocal environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs). EU GM tolerances create high risk to U.S. exporters of non-GM food beans.
- U.S. Soy is linked to all soy imports, with strong public attitudes against deforestation and land conversion in South America.
- Draft EU legislation on deforestation-free sourcing and farm level traceability requirements could hinder U.S. exports.

Sources:

- USDA FAS GATS
- International Monetary Fund
- Oil World
- IDH Soy Monitoring Report 2021

