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Cover: A small 19th-century Catholic chapel nestles amid fir trees in Upper Bavaria.

Pages 1 and 2: The national emblems of the two Germanys are shown on page 1. The emblem of the Federal Republic has a black eagle with 10 feathers, a stylized version of the 12-feathered eagle adopted by the Holy Roman Empire of Germany and later by the Prussian-forged German empire of 1871 to 1918. The emblem of the Democratic Republic features a hammer and a pair of dividers, representing industry, and a wreath of ears of wheat, symbolizing agriculture. The two German flags (*page 2*) are fundamentally the same: a horizontal tricolour of black over red over yellow. The GDR, however, has its emblem at the centre of the national colours.

Front and back endpapers: A topographic map showing the major rivers, mountain ranges and other natural features of Germany appears on the front endpaper; the back endpaper shows the 11 states of West Germany and the 15 counties of East Germany, with principal towns and rivers.

This volume is one in a series of books describing countries of the world—their natural resources, peoples, histories, economies and governments.

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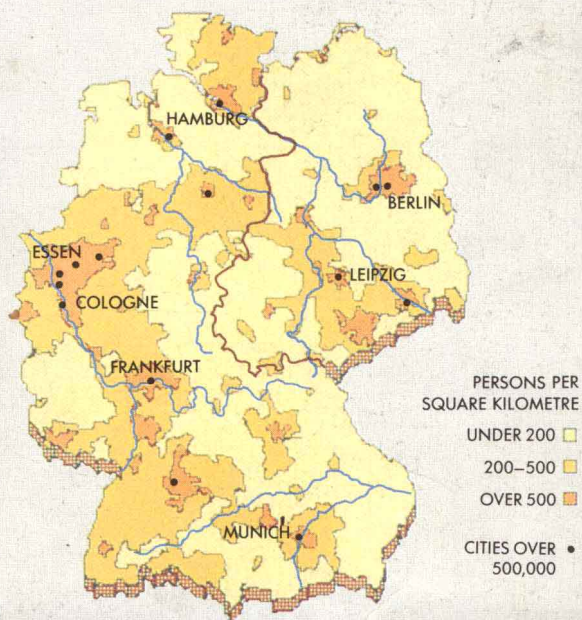
Sprawling on each side of the River Elbe, the city-state of Hamburg, with 1.6 million people, is the FRG's busiest port and second largest metropolis.



PATTERNS OF URBANIZATION

The distribution of Germany's population has changed dramatically since World War II. Conurbations have developed with industrial expansion, especially in the west and south-west. Above all, there has been a huge population shift from the east. Between 1945 and the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961—more than 14 million refugees and expellees fled westward. As a result, the new Federal Republic—after the Netherlands and Belgium—is the third most densely populated state in Europe.

Today, West Germany has 61.5 million inhabitants, compared with 20 million a century ago, and an average of 248 persons per square kilometre. East Germany has 16.8 million and only 155 to the square kilometre. Although both Germanys have been highly urbanized since the war, the GDR has medium-sized towns. Whereas the Federal Republic has 68 towns with over 100,000 inhabitants, the GDR has only nine, mostly in the industrial south.





In the May Day parade, members of the Free German Youth stride through East Berlin beneath a blaze of flags bearing portraits of Communist heroes.



MOBILIZING THE COUNTRY'S YOUTH

There are approximately three million young people aged 14 to 25 in East Germany. More than three quarters of them belong to the Free German Youth (FDJ), a movement which developed out of anti-fascist youth committees formed immediately after World War II. Founded in 1946 by future Head of State Erich Honecker, the FDJ now claims to have helped in raising and shaping almost half of the GDR's total population. It represents its 2.3 million members in all sectors of public life where their interests are

at stake: in schools, colleges, collectives and factories. It also has 40 representatives in the 500-deputy People's Chamber, the GDR parliament.

Through the FDJ, the energies and interests of East German youth are effectively harnessed. Members are organized into more than 6,500 youth clubs. They take part in German-Soviet festivals and in *Spartakiaden*, nationwide sports contests held biennially. They attend political rallies, and political study courses to assimilate Marxism-Leninism, and

in order to become "convinced, class-conscious socialists".

As good socialists, FDJ members are encouraged to contribute directly to the economy of the state by joining voluntary youth brigades formed to supplement the work force where urgently needed. In return for modest wages, such brigades help with a variety of projects—bringing in harvests, building dams, draining swamps, or working on a sector of the great Soviet pipeline being laid to carry natural gas from Siberia to both Eastern and Western Europe.



DEEP-ROOTED TRADITIONS OF FAITH

In 1517, the north German monk Martin Luther launched a challenge to papal authority that culminated in the Reformation and the division of Germany into two warring camps, Catholic and Protestant. Today, in West Germany, the two churches are divided almost equally: about 26.7 million Catholics largely in the Rhineland and Bavaria; and some 26.5 million Protestants, mainly in the north and east. However, only one third of the Catholics and less than 10 per cent of the Protestants are regular churchgoers. And in East Germany, where Protestants (some

7.7 million) far outnumber Catholics (about 1.2 million), churchgoing has declined even more dramatically. Indeed, only about 5 per cent of the GDR Protestants are churchgoers.

In the early 1930s, some 530,000 Jews made up Germany's most vital religious minority. Now, following the Nazi holocaust, there are only 28,000 Jews in West Germany, and about 1,500 in the GDR, half in East Berlin. Their numbers continue to decline, while, in West Germany, a large religious minority increases: some 1.5 million Muslims, mainly Turkish "guest workers" and families.

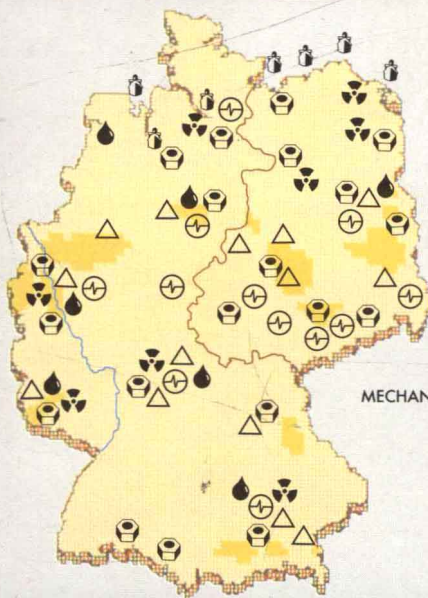
In the town of Chieming, in the predominantly Catholic state of Bavaria, girls in traditional dress are going to church for their first communion.












In a steel-making shop in East Germany, white-hot steel is poured into a mould. The GDR ranks 10th among the steel-producing countries of Europe.

PILLARS OF INDUSTRIAL MIGHT

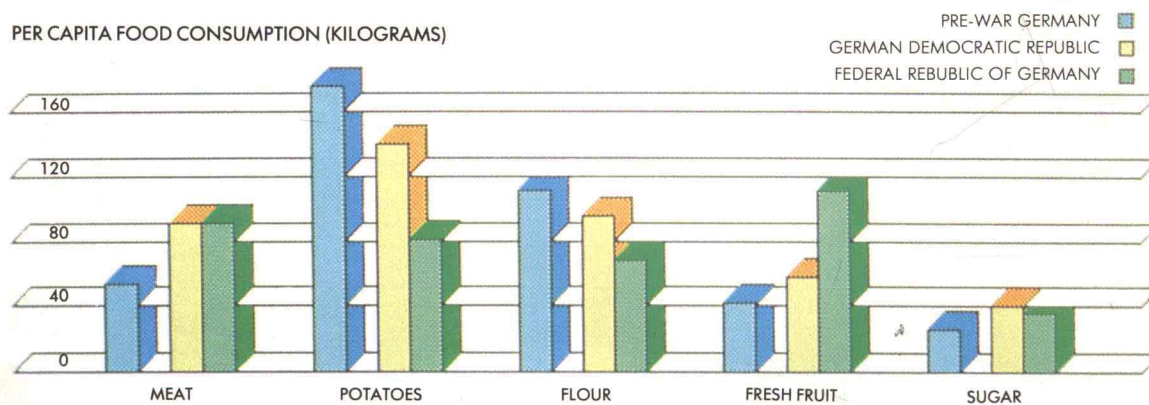


- SHIPBUILDING 
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERING 
- ELECTRONICS 
- CHEMICALS 
- OIL REFINING 
- NUCLEAR POWER 
- MINING 

German industry—both east and west—made a spectacular recovery from the devastation of World War II. Within two decades, the Federal Republic was the third economic power in the world; within 25 years, the GDR was the 10th strongest industrial nation. Both achieved prominence in chemical production and mechanical and electrical engineering. Both prospered with relatively few raw materials. Since the 1970s, after rises in world oil prices, the two Germanys have built nuclear power stations and made greater use of their natural resources. West Germany has major hard coal reserves in the Ruhr and Saarland, and large deposits of lignite near the Harz mountains. The GDR has two minerals in abundance: lignite and potash. The former now accounts for 80 per cent of the country's energy.



PER CAPITA FOOD CONSUMPTION (KILOGRAMS)



A CONSUMING LOVE OF FOOD AND DRINK

The German people—as first noted by the Roman historian, Tacitus—have always been renowned for prodigious appetites; and the reputation, as statistics show, is still merited. In recent years, however, there has been a swing away from such starchy staples as potatoes and flour, and a demand for fresh fruit and meat. The trend—a measure of German prosperity and

greater diet-consciousness—has been most pronounced in West Germany. There, for example, the annual consumption of potatoes has fallen since pre-war days from 176 kilograms per capita to around 80 kilograms. In the GDR, the pre-war figure has fallen to 141 kilograms, but East Germany remains third—behind the Soviet Union and Poland—among the potato-

growing nations of Europe. The low consumption of fresh fruit in the GDR is a reflection of supply rather than demand. When it comes to drink, Germans, east and west, retain their traditional place as the greatest beer-drinkers. They are also drinking more wine, especially in the Federal Republic, where consumption increased by almost half in the 1970s.



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