

Germany wants workers from India

26th March 2026



Germany needs lots of workers. It is struggling to find enough skilled people to work in many areas. This is because many older workers are retiring and the birth rate is falling. There are not enough young people to fill

hundreds of thousands of job vacancies. It needs to attract 288,000 foreign workers per year. A recent report from the BBC said Germany wants to fix this problem by asking workers from India to fill many vacancies. India has 600 million people below the age of 25. In particular, Germany needs people to work in engineering, healthcare, and manufacturing. The country needs thousands of nurses and caregivers. It also needs thousands of IT professionals.

Germany is Europe's largest economy. It is famous for manufacturing, especially for cars. Companies like Volkswagen, Mercedes, Porsche, and BMW make some of the most famous cars in the world. Germany is also a leader in renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and financial services. The government has made it easier for people to get visas to work in Germany. It has increased the number of visas available to Indians from 20,000 per year to 90,000. However, many business owners say more workers are needed. Indian employment expert Aditi Banerjee said: "There's a huge labour surplus in India." She is helping many young Indian workers to find work in Germany.

Sources: [dw.com](https://www.dw.com) / [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [ndtv.com](https://www.ndtv.com)

Writing

Countries should use AI more to fill job shortages. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

Germany / workers / skilled people / retiring / birth rate / job vacancies / age / nurses / economy / manufacturing / cars / renewable energy / pharmaceuticals / expert / work

True / False

- 1) Germany has a worker shortage in two areas. T / F
- 2) The birth rate in Germany is rising. T / F
- 3) There are 600 million people in India under the age of 25. T / F
- 4) The article says Germany needs thousands of nurses. T / F
- 5) The article says Germany is the largest economy in Europe. T / F
- 6) Germany's government has made it harder for Indians to get a visa. T / F
- 7) Many business owners in Germany want more workers. T / F
- 8) An employment expert said there are very few extra workers in India. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. struggling | a. pioneer |
| 2. retiring | b. repair |
| 3. vacancies | c. look for |
| 4. fix | d. openings |
| 5. people | e. specialist |
| 6. especially | f. battling |
| 7. leader | g. excess |
| 8. expert | h. individuals |
| 9. surplus | i. giving up work |
| 10. find | j. mainly |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about Germany's economy?
- c) What do you think of German cars?
- d) Would you like to work in another country?
- e) How is technology changing jobs?
- f) What do you think of AI replacing many jobs?
- g) What do you think of working?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the German government?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. It is struggling | a. workers are needed |
| 2. fill hundreds of thousands of | b. many vacancies |
| 3. asking workers from India to fill | c. surplus in India |
| 4. Germany needs people to work | d. available to Indians |
| 5. It also needs thousands of IT | e. in engineering |
| 6. It is famous | f. to find enough |
| 7. Germany is also a leader in renewable | g. for manufacturing |
| 8. It has increased the number of visas | h. professionals |
| 9. business owners say more | i. energy |
| 10. There's a huge labour | j. job vacancies |

Discussion – Student B

- What job would you really like?
- What is the job situation like in your country?
- How surprised are you about Germany's labour shortage?
- What skills would you like to have?
- What age is best for people to retire at?
- What do you think of getting workers from other countries?
- How easy is it to find a job in your country?
- Is Germany's plan a problem for India?

Spelling

- It is rlgituggsn to find enough
- older workers are irgrntie
- thousands of job svaniccae
- It needs to atattrc 288,000 foreign workers
- Germany needs people to work in iegrnegienn
- thousands of IT irpofaoesssln
- Germany is Europe's largest yemoocn
- It is famous for ngnctfaiurma
- a leader in earbleenw energy
- the number of visas ilbaavlae
- Indian employment trpxee
- a huge labour srlusup in India

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. d	4. b	5. h
6. j	7. a	8. e	9. g	10. c

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions. (Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	What are many older workers in Germany doing?
2.	What does the article say is falling in Germany?
3.	How many foreign workers a year does Germany need each year?
4.	How many people in India are under the age of 25?
5.	What kind of professionals does the article say Germany needs?
6.	What is Germany famous for manufacturing?
7.	What kind of energy is Germany a leader in?
8.	How many working visas are available to Indians each year?
9.	What is Aditi Banerjee's job?
10.	What did Aditi Banerjee say there was a surplus of in India?

Speaking – Jobs

Rank these with your partner. Put the best jobs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| • Gardener | • Police officer |
| • Nurse | • Graphic designer |
| • Influencer | • English teacher |
| • Farmer | • Fisherman/woman |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	T	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.