



THURINGIA AND THE UNITED STATES

I. Economic and Business Connections

A. Investment

U.S. Investment in Thuringia

- There are in total **43 American firms** with investments in Thuringia. The number of Thuringia residents employed as a result amounts to **nearly 7,600**.
- The five firms with the highest publicized employment totals are:
 - General Motors **1,900**
employees
 - IBM Corporation **750**
employees
 - Trucklite Co., Inc **600**
employees
 - BBDO **390**
employees
 - Coca-Cola Erfrischungsgetränke **360**
employees
- The US is the **largest foreign investor in Thuringia** with a current **investment capacity of over €2 billion since reunification**.
- The **General Motors Opel** plant in Eisenach alone accounts for **€1.1 billion**, making it the largest investor in the state.

B. Trade

- Thuringia exports to the United States totaled **€699 million** in 2007 and accounted for **6.5% of total Thuringia exports**. This figure has **increased nearly fivefold over the past 10 years**.
- American goods accounted for **2.4% of total imports to Thuringia** totaling over **€173 million** in 2007. This figure has **nearly doubled over the past 10 years**.
- While the importation of American goods to Thuringia continues to fluctuate each year, Thuringia exports to the United States have shown significant growth since reunification.
- US-Thuringia Trade: Comparison of 1997 and 2007 (in Mill. €)

	Thuringia Exports to US	US Imports in Thuringia
1997	145.4	96
1998	179.2	236.9
1999	201.7	168.3
2000	386.3	87.5
2001	452.8	132.7
2002	432.1	120.7
2003	439.2	110.3

2004	542	118.4
2005	580.4	165.5
2006	682.8	163.9
2007	699	173.3

2008, Thüringer Landesamt für Statistik

II. People-to-People Connections

A. Tourism from the U.S.

- The number of American tourists traveling to Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, and Thuringia is lower than in other parts of Germany but has increased significantly since the early 1990's.
- In 2001, 13,756 Americans visited Thuringia and stayed a total of 32,397 overnights. This number only reflects members of groups of 9 or more.
- In 2007, this number has fallen to 11,955 (as part of groups of 9 or more) who stayed a total of 26,123 nights.

B. Resident Citizens and Emigrants

US – German Immigration and US Residents per district

- Thuringia has also seen a slow increase in the number of immigrants both to and from the U.S. In 1990, 4 people migrated to the U.S.; 249 migrated in 2007.
- 7 Americans took up residency in Thuringia in 1990, 246 in 2007.
- There are currently 421 American Citizens living in Thuringia.

III. Research & Technology

A. Universities and Technical Colleges –see III B.

B. Research Institutes

- **The Max Plank Institute** of Chemical Ecology in Jena has research partnerships with the following U.S. institutions: Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Brigham Young University, Clemson University, University of South Carolina, Michigan State, NC State, Stevens Institute of Technology, Tamaki Foundation, The Rockefeller University, University of Arizona, University of Idaho, University of Pennsylvania, University of Western Illinois, Washington State University, Wellesley College.
- **The Leibniz Institute for Age Research** in Jena has research partnerships with Brandeis University, University of South Carolina, University of Florida, Institute for Cancer Research in Philadelphia, University of California, Vanderbilt University, Case Western Reserve University, Yale, Baylor College of Medicine, MIT, Santa Fe Health Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Johns Hopkins Medical Institute and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, University of Maryland, University of Arizona, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Harvard, University of Chicago

IV. Educational & Cultural Exchanges

A. Academic

- Each year, institutes of higher learning in Thuringia host approximately 75 American students each year. **No exact numbers for students from Thuringia in the U.S.**

B. Partnerships

- Seven cities in Thuringia have sister city partnerships with cities in the US, among them are Apolda with Rapid City (1994), Eisenach with Waverly (Iowa) since 1992, Ellrich with Custer (2007), Erfurt with Shawnee (1993), Gera with Fort Wayne (1992), Gotha with Gastonia (1993) and Ilmenau with Blue Ash since 2000.
- Each year, sister city partnerships bring about 300 American visitors to Thuringia.
- In September 2007, the city of Gera hosted an “American Day” to celebrate 15 years of Gera’s sister city partnership with Fort Wayne, Indiana. Over 70 guests from Fort Wayne were present and were welcomed by the DCM. Organized by the city of Gera and the Gera-Fort Wayne Sister City Committee, the American Day and following American Night brought a diverse German-American program to the region.

VI. U.S. Military and Government

N/A

U.S. Consulate General Leipzig. November 2009.

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