

Baden-Württemberg

Patent applications, 1988

(per 100,000 inhabitants)

Baden-Württemberg	76
Hesse	69
Bavaria	58
Hamburg	55
Nordrhein-Westfalen	50
Schleswig-Holstein	31
West Berlin	30
Niedersachsen	29
Bremen	21
Saarland	17
Rheinland-Pfalz	12

Source: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Technology (State of Baden-Württemberg).

Located in south western Germany, Baden-Württemberg is known as the High Tech State. For Canadian firms hoping to partner in machine technologies and other advanced technology sectors, this region is rich in opportunity. Baden-Württemberg has 9.4 million inhabitants and an area of 36,000 km². Situated in the centre of Europe, it is within easy reach of a potential market of 200 million people. The State also offers an outstanding quality of life. Its attractions include the Black Forest and Lake Constance, and it is close to Switzerland and the Alps. The State's major centres include Stuttgart, Heidelberg, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Freiberg and Tübingen.

Structure

Large corporations such as Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Bosch, Zeiss, Sony, IBM and Hewlett-Packard have their headquarters or German operating centres there. Still, the State's industrial structure is characterized by a wide range of innovative and diversified small- and medium-sized enterprises, many of which have been owned and managed by the same families for generations. Its many flexible medium-sized companies offer first class products at all technological levels. These companies are often suppliers to large, and in some cases, internationally known companies.

Infrastructure and capabilities

Baden-Württemberg has an excellent technological infrastructure, including the highest concentration of research institutes in Europe. There are also a large number of well supported industrial parks in the region. Almost 25% of Germany's applied R&D facilities are located here. Areas covered include:

- microelectronics
- biotechnology
- measuring and control engineering
- medical technology
- sensor technology
- environmental technology
- material technology

Industrial Sectors in Baden-Württemberg, 1988

(percentage of employees)

Mechanical engineering	18.2
Electrical engineering	17.5
Automobile manufacturing	15.9
Textile industry	4.8
Chemical industry	4.8
Production of iron, sheet and metallic goods	4.7
Food industry	3.8
Precision engineering, optics, and watch making	3.4
Production of plastic goods	3.4
Wood working	2.7

Source: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Technology (State of Baden-Württemberg).