**PART I: ENROLMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

The German HE system fits the North European Model. Just over 60% of the country’s HE students enrolled in comprehensive universities in 2018, with almost all the rest in hybrid institutions. Total enrolments in German HE rose by just over 40% between 2006 and 2018, which was much faster than across the rest of Western Europe. While the number of hybrid institutions rose somewhat, the number of universities stayed relatively constant, causing average institutional size to grow substantially. Just under 90% of German students studied in public institutions in 2018, which was almost exactly the average across the rest of Western Europe.

**TABLE 1 — Types of higher education providers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>INSTITUTIONS</th>
<th>INSTITUTIONS COUNT IN 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PUB.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Universities</td>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialised Universities</td>
<td>Colleges of art and music; pedagogical colleges; colleges of theology</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrids</td>
<td>Fachhochschule; civil service college; Fachschulen; Fachakademien/ Berufsakademien</td>
<td>1090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Schools</td>
<td>Berufsfachschulen and Fachgymnasien (Erzieherausbildung), Schulen des Gesundheitswesens in Thüringen</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 1 — Numbers of institutions by type, 2006-2018**

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2200</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>2600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 2 — Total enrolments with public and private higher education providers, 2006-2018 (Millions)**
PART II: HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCING

Public HE spending in Germany rose by about 50% in constant dollars from 2006 to 2018, which was much faster than across the rest of Western Europe and the Global North. Relative to GDP, spending also increased and was higher than across the rest of Western Europe and the Global North. Total spending of HEIs, which was almost entirely provided for through public funds (albeit, often indirectly through research foundations and hospitals), rose in lockstep with public HE spending. Per-student transfers to German public universities were well above average when compared to the rest of Western Europe and the Global North. Per-student institutional expenditures rose even faster at private institutions than at public ones from 2006 to 2018.
FIGURE 9 — Change in real total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

FIGURE 10 — Per-student total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in real PPP, in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

FIGURE 11 — Government transfers relative to total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006 and 2018

FIGURE 12 — Change in real total institutional spending of private institutions by institution-type in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

FIGURE 13 — Per-student total institutional spending of private institutions by institution-type in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

FIGURE 14 — Student fee revenues relative to total institutional spending of private institutions by institution-type in Germany and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018
PART III: STUDENT FEES

With few exceptions, students in Germany paid some kind of compulsory fee in 2018. Yet, we classify this overall as a token fee-charging system. At public institutions, these fees were only about USD 100 per year in 2018, down from around USD 750 year previously. At private institutions, fee revenues per student were approximately USD 8,000 per year in 2018, and stable for nearly a decade.

FIGURE 15 — Share of students at public institutions under each type of tuition regime in Germany, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006 and 2018

FIGURE 16 — Fee revenues per student paying “regular” rates at public institutions by institution type in PPP, 2006-2018

FIGURE 17 — Fee revenues per student at private institutions by institution type in PPP, 2006-2018
PART IV: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Government student financial aid in Germany was comprised of an even proportion of loans and grants in 2018, though we classify this as an Œuvres Universitaires model due to substantial subsidies for student housing (for which we have not yet gathered data). From 2006 to 2018, amounts of direct student financial aid disbursed annually increased somewhat, but the proportion of students receiving support fell sharply. As a percentage of GDP, student financial aid disbursements rose slightly between 2006 and 2010 and then declined back towards their initial level. Overall, Germany’s student financial aid disbursements were very small in 2018, well below levels across the rest of Western Europe and the Global North.

TABLE 2 — Student financial aid regime, including recipients and amounts disbursed in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>PROGRAMS</th>
<th>BASIS OF ALLOCATION</th>
<th>RECIPIENTS</th>
<th>AMOUNTS DISBURSED (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>Funding under the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG); Stipendiaten</td>
<td>Need and merit-based</td>
<td>517,675</td>
<td>1,397,402,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
<td>Funding under the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG)</td>
<td>Need-based</td>
<td>527,407</td>
<td>1,303,990,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Studentenwerk offers some student housing and receives modest government subsidies</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: For more on methodology and data quality please see Appendices A and B.*