

Survey: American Households in Rheinland-Pfalz

Your answers will help us improve our offers to fellow Americans in the local communities and facilitate their transition to life in Germany!

The survey is conducted by the State Program "Welcome to Rheinland-Pfalz! Our neighbors from the USA" which is funded by the Ministry of the Interior Rheinland-Pfalz. Visit our website for more information.

We are aware of the profound changes the corona virus pandemic has forced upon social life and your ability to connect with the community since March 2020. In order to gain a genuine insight into the general mindset and the wishes of American households, we ask you to please disregard the temporary restrictions when filling out the form.

Data safety: Your respective military authorities have been informed about the survey and the content of the questionnaire. Participation is voluntary. If you do not want to answer some of the questions, please feel free to skip those. The data used will be strictly anonymous.

I. General information about you/your preferences

1. 1/21: When did you first arrive in Germany?

2. 2/21: How are you affiliated with the U.S. military?

Mark only one oval.

Active Duty - Air Force

Active Duty - Army

Spouse - Air Force

Spouse - Army

DoD Civilian (& Spouse)

Contractor

Retiree

Other: _____

3. 3/21: How old are you?

Mark only one oval.

- Under 18
- 18 - 29
- 30 - 44
- 45 - 59
- 60 +

4. 4/21: Which village do you live in?

5. 5/21: Since when do you live in your village?

6. 6/21: What are you interested in doing during your stay?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- Meet and interact with locals
- Become a member of a local club
- Attend local events
- Regional tours, local sightseeing
- Local culture and history
- Shop in the village
- Learn more about German traditions, customs, food, etc.
- Improve German language skills
- Volunteer in the community

Other: _____

II. Your life in the local community

7. 7/21: Why did you choose to live in your current village of residence?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- By chance, the apartment/house was assigned
- We liked the house/apartment, it just happened to be in this village
- We consciously selected to live in this village
- The village was recommended
- The village was in our desired school district

Other: _____

8. 8/21: How well informed did you feel about local events, clubs, and activities when you first arrived in your village?

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

very badly very well

9. 9/21: Which resources did you use to obtain the needed information?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- Online resources (websites, social media)
- The State Program Welcome to Rheinland-Pfalz!
- Information provided by the village
- The military (newcomers' briefing, etc.)
- American newspapers/media (Stars & Stripes, Kaiserslautern American, Find-It-Guide, etc.)
- My landlord
- By asking German friends/neighbors/colleagues
- By asking American friends/neighbors/colleagues

Other: _____

10. 10/21: Looking back: What information/service/resource/event could have made it easier for you to settle in the village?

11. 11/21: By now: How well informed do you feel about local events, clubs, and activities in your village?

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
very badly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	very well

12. 12/21: Do you enjoy living in your village?

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Not at all	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Very much

13. 13/21: Are you and your family regularly in contact with locals?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, we meet regularly with locals
- Yes, but there is usually just a brief "hello" in the street
- Yes, but only occasionally at local festivities and events
- No, the language barrier makes getting in contact difficult
- No, I am not interested in contact with locals due to the brevity of my stay
- No, locals do not seem to be interested
- Other: _____

14. 14/21: If you have children: How difficult is it for them to get in touch with German children in the village?

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
very difficult/no contacts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	very easy/plenty of contacts

15. 15/21: Would you like to get more involved in the community?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- Yes, in a long-term manner (i.e. firm club membership)
- Yes, with temporary activities (i.e. classes for a foreseeable period)
- Yes, but spontaneously (i.e. one-time events like fests, gatherings with no registration)
- Yes, I would like to set up activities myself (i.e. social events, block party)
- No

Other: _____

16. Please insert any comments, recommendations, tips, ideas, etc. regarding the adjustment process or the local German-American exchange here:

III. State Program "Welcome to Rheinland-Pfalz!"

17. 16/21: How did you come across the State Program “Welcome to Rheinland-Pfalz!”?

Mark only one oval.

- Social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
- Website of the base (i.e. Ramstein AB, USAG Rheinland-Pfalz, Spangdahlem AB)
- American newspaper/media (i.e. Stars & Stripes, Kaiserslautern American)
- Information material provided by the village
- American friends/neighbors/colleagues
- German friends/neighbors/colleagues
- On-base (via information brochures, newcomers' briefing, USO, MWR, FSS, ACS, etc.)
- I was not aware of the program
- Other: _____

18. 17/21: Which information on the website www.welcome-to-rlp.org do you deem most helpful for your stay?

Mark only one oval.

- Local villages (under Program Communities)
- Events
- Travel
- Guide
- Volunteering
- Alumni
- WiR! Schools

19. 18/21: Would you join one of the local German-American Stammtisch meetings in Ramstein, Mehlingen, Baumholder or Spangdahlem once the pandemic is over? (A Stammtisch is an oftentimes monthly recurring informal get-together)

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

20. 19/21: Do you know about the German American organizations in your area?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- German American Community Office - GACO (Kaiserslautern)
- German-American International Women's Club (Kaiserslautern)
- Atlantic Academy Rheinland-Pfalz (Kaiserslautern)
- Window to Rheinland-Pfalz - Ramstein Gateway (Ramstein)
- German American Friendship Committee Baumholder
- Host Nation Council Spangdahlem
- No

Other: _____

21. 20/21: Which information do you like absorbing from the "Welcome to RLP!" social media accounts?

Multiple answers possible

Check all that apply.

- Local information regarding the program villages
- Travel destinations in Rheinland-Pfalz
- German language tips
- German customs, traditions, mentality
- Local events (under non-Covid circumstances)
- Administrative regulations (Covid ordinances, pet keeping rules, quiet hours, etc.)
- German recipes
- I was not aware of the "Welcome to RLP!" social media resources

Other: _____

22. 21/21: What kind of content would you like to see additionally on the "Welcome to RLP!" social media channels?

23. Please insert any comments, recommendations, tips, ideas, etc. for the State Program here:

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