



# Comparison USA/Germany

- a subjective account -

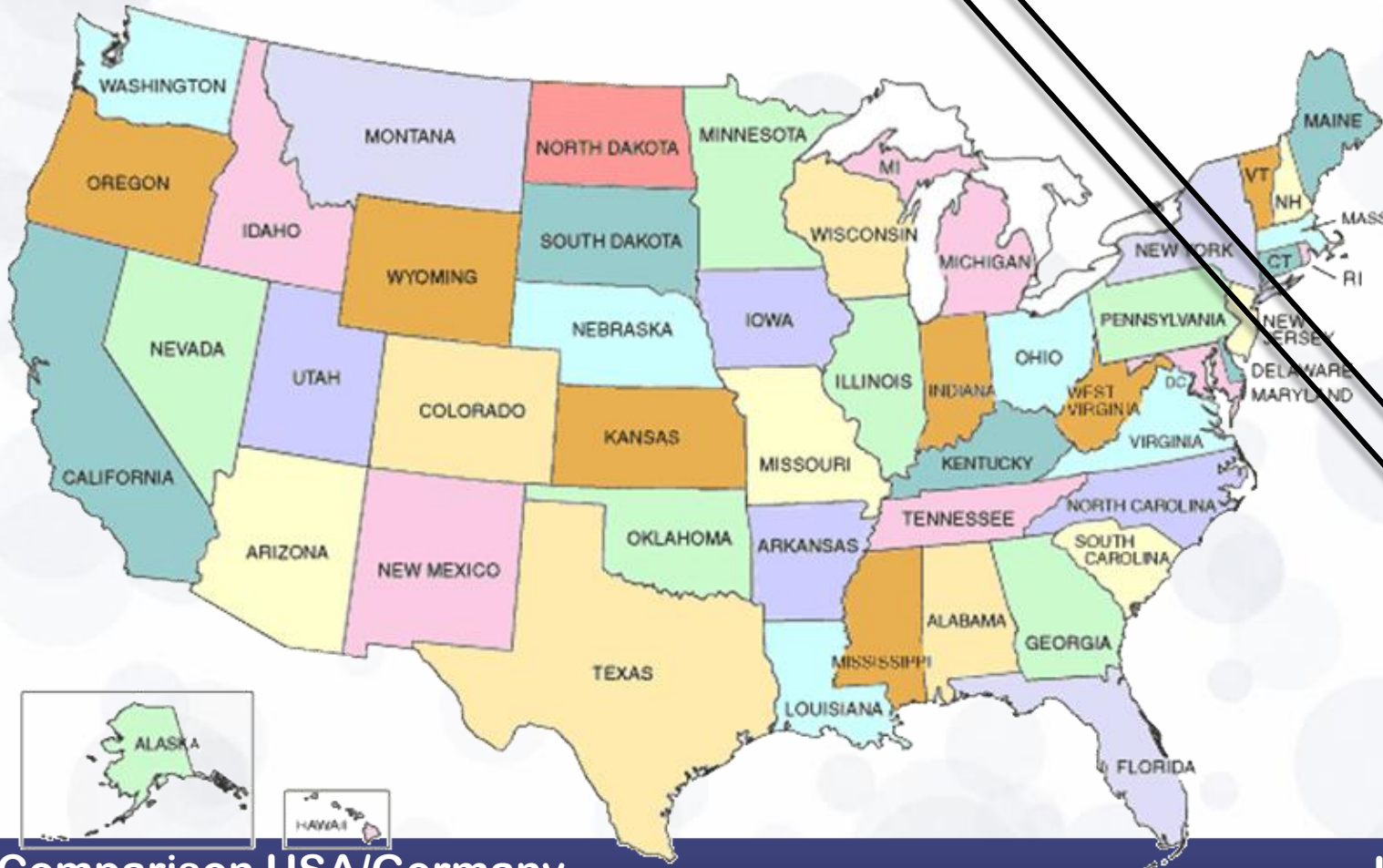
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3,794,101 sq mi  
Population: 308M



137,847 sq mi  
Population: 82M





# German Ancestry in the US

**50,764,352 (16%) people of German ancestry**

**Largest ancestry in the US (2nd: Irish 11%)**



# Political Landscape

**Germany: Federal parliamentary republic**

**USA: Federal presidential constitutional republic**

**President vs. Chancellor**

**Voter participation: US: 50%; Germany 80%**



# National Identity

**“Proud to be American!”**

**VS.**

**Remembering Nazi History**



# Legal System

US legal system is openly partisan and political

Right to Jury Trial (US)

Local prosecutors and judges are appointed (G)

Attorney fees mostly regulated by law (G)

“Loser pays it all!” (G)



# Tax System

Germany: STATES do not collect income tax

Only money earned in Germany taxed

(vs. 'world income' for US citizens)

States collect taxes for the church (G)



# Money and Banking

**Germans save; US citizens live on credit**

**APR changes of 100%+ considered usury (G)**

**Checks no relevant payment form (G)**

**One-time passwords for online transactions (G)**



# Religion

**Germany: 64% Christianity, 29.6% non-Religious**

**US: 75% Christianity, 20% non-Religious**

**No TV priests or Mormons in Germany**

**Number of Christians dwindling**



# Media & Press

**Largest TV stations are non-profit (G)**

**Language on TV/Radio not censored (G)**

**Google search results government-censored (G)**



# Sports

**German Bundesliga (“Major League Soccer”)**

**No significance of football, baseball or basketball**



# Education

No emphasis on competition (G)

Home-schooling illegal (G)

Trade schools for all trades (G)

Limit on number of times to past tests

In Germany all but one university are public



# Work

**Factual based resume (G)**

**Self employed US 25%  
vs. less than 10% in Germany**

**Many Germans work only 35 hours a week**

**Many Germans long vacations**



# Employment

**German companies employ over 800,000 US cit.**

**Third largest group of foreign employers**

**US the largest foreign non-EU employer in G.**



# Health / Health Care

Life expectancy about the same in both countries

Health care spending 60% higher in US

All German employees and unemployed are covered under health insurance

Infant mortality is about 40% higher (US)



# Infrastructure

**The “Autobahn Myth” / No toll roads / No NSEW**

**Public Transportation density in Germany**

**Virtually all major cities have tram and/or subway systems**

**Higher quality of streets and walk-ways**



# Environmentalism

**EVERYTHING** gets recycled

German efficiency and color-coding

No free plastic bags in super markets



# Shopping

**All shops closed at night and on Sundays**

**By law all prices must include tax**

**Customers are troublemakers**

**Don't wait for someone to bag your stuff!**



# Social Interaction

Being on time is being early

“Herr Dr. Dr. Meier”

Keep your hands above the table

Finally “Don’t ask me how I am!”



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Download at: <http://kameir.com/US/compare.pdf>