

## Qualified professionals

### Skilled labour shortages in German companies – Which occupations are in demand?

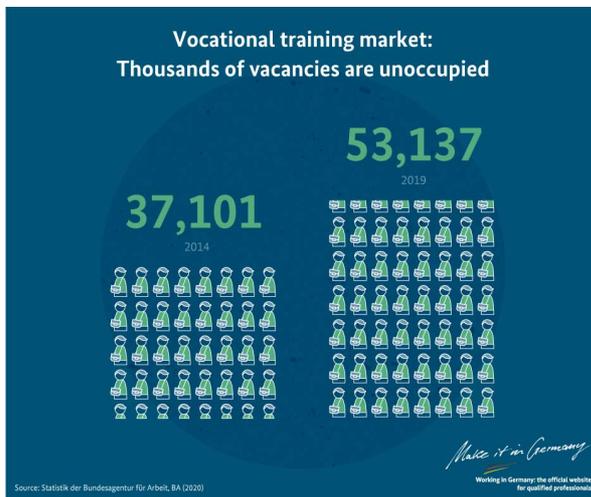
In Germany there is currently no nationwide shortage of skilled workers, although it is already affecting certain occupations. The most severely hit are occupations in the sciences and engineering, and in **health care**. The difficulties currently occurring in some occupations are also heavily dependent on the level of qualifications. A distinction is made between three groups: Skilled professionals are persons who have completed at least two years of vocational training or a comparable qualification; Specialists are workers with a master craftsman's or technician's training, a university of applied sciences/university degree or a comparable qualification; Experts are persons who have at least a four-year university education or equivalent qualification.

The current skills shortage in specific occupational groups or regions cannot be met fully by the available supply of labour. For instance, there is a lack of skilled workers in nursing care for the elderly, specialists in nursing care for the sick and experts in IT occupations such as software development and programming.



### (Vocational) training: many vacancies are unoccupied

Its automotive sector apart, Germany is known the world over for its **dual education system** in industry and vocational schools. Since the economy is growing and companies need more qualified professionals, the chances of securing a traineeship in Germany are also growing, because thousands of intern vacancies remain unoccupied – 53,137 in 2019. In Germany, small and medium-sized businesses especially are facing great difficulties in finding suitable trainees and widening their radius: even people who are not from the EU may, under certain circumstances, undertake a vocational training course in Germany. In any case, the **vocational training market** in Germany is open to EU nationals. Regardless of your country of origin, (vocational) training in Germany gives you a good chance of entering the **German labour market**.



## Information on the web

**Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy**

Skilled professionals for Germany

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<https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/living-in-germany/discover-germany/qualified-professionals>

17.08.2021, 16:20