

Full of innovative energy

Blessed by a plentiful supply of wind, Schleswig-Holstein has developed into a wind power champion, **generating more energy from wind power than its 2.8 million inhabitants can use**. That has only been possible thanks to a supportive climate for innovations in the renewable energy sector. Starting from the state's "wind capital" Husum, the home of the **leading wind energy trade fair**, an innovative network has emerged with some 100 firms employing around 7,000 people.

Innovation is well established in Schleswig-Holstein, as a comparison of German states in various renewable energy categories shows. In 2010, Schleswig-Holstein was second in terms of industrial and technological policy successes (down from first place in 2008) and tops the table for the percentage of businesses involved in the renewables' sector (1.68%) – well above the Germany average of 1.03%. In no other German state did the **share of electricity generated from wind, solar or biomass energy** increase so fast as in Schleswig-Holstein between 2004 and 2008 – by 18.4% compared with the average for Germany of 8%.

Schleswig-Holstein always gets top marks for its consistent technological support programmes and effective locational policies. First-class engineers and technicians guarantee a steady flow of innovations – now and in future. No other German state offers so many university courses in renewable energies, and the Educational Centre for Renewable Energies and the CEwind Centre of Excellence for Wind Energy, a research network involving the state's universities, are setting standards in this sector.

Successes in technological change by state

Left-hand figure: ranking in 2010; figure in brackets: change from 2008

