

# Quality of life in North Germany

If you work in Schleswig-Holstein, the holiday atmosphere comes free of charge. The state's attractions include **sandy beaches, beautiful landscapes, cultural highlights, urban flair, idyllic countryside and a wide range of leisure activities**. Once people have settled down in the state between two seas, they don't want to miss the maritime life in Schleswig-Holstein.



“Quay City” is one of the highlights of Kiel Week, the world's biggest sailing event.

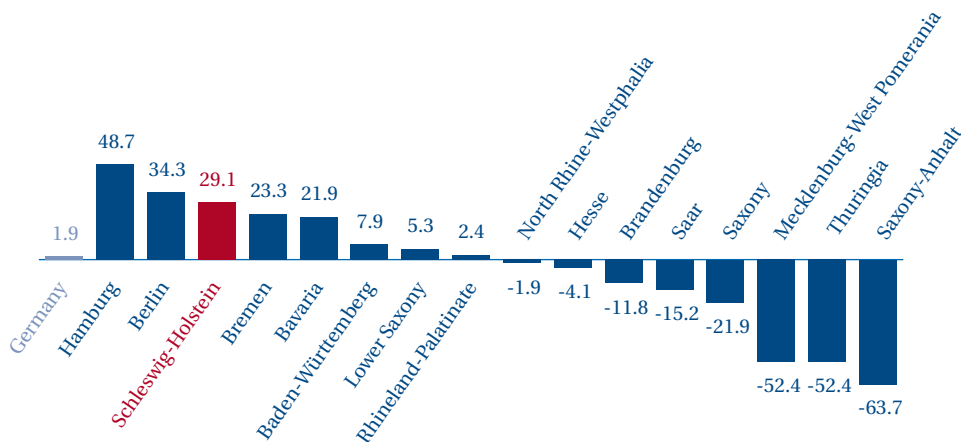
Schleswig-Holstein is one of Germany's most popular holiday regions with some **six million guests and 24 million overnight stays** per year. It is the only place in Germany that offers tourists the combination of North Sea mud flats and sandy Baltic beaches. Holidaymakers enjoy the clean, salty air along **1,190 km of coastline** and, on the island of Fehmarn, **more sunshine** than anywhere else in the country. The other attractions include great golf and horse-riding plus a rich

programme of cultural and leisure activities, museums, theatres and exhibitions. Sailors like yachting in the waters off Schleswig-Holstein, nature lovers are fascinated by the unique Wadden Sea mud flats, now a world cultural heritage, and Kiel Week, Northern Europe's biggest sailing regatta and fair, has as big a global reputation as the more high-brow Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival.

The excellent quality of life in Schleswig-Holstein not only appeals to holidaymakers. This state is one of the few regions of Western Europe to have recorded **population growth** in recent years – more than 5,000 a year on average. These new arrivals include an above-average number of under-18s and over-30s. The fact that adolescents account for 17% of the total population in Schleswig-Holstein, one of the highest ratios of any German state, is good news for businesses who will need **well qualified personnel** in future.

## Net migration per 10,000 inhabitants

Average change 2005-2009 (%)



Source: Germany's Statistical Offices, as per February 2011