

Rich in human resources



The focus in Schleswig-Holstein is on purposeful initial and further training measures; one outcome is a stable labour market.

The strength of the economy in Schleswig-Holstein is reflected in the positive development of the labour market.

Young adults, in particular, have profited from this trend: unemployment among the under-25s fell by nearly 12% from 2009 to 2010. This was further proof of how small and mid-sized business are the strong backbone of Schleswig-Holstein's economy, even in difficult times. The

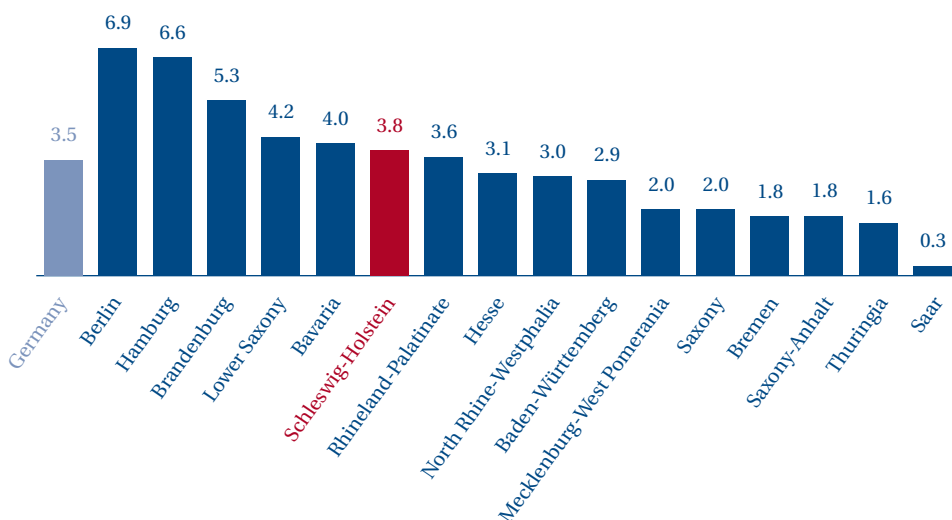
unemployment rate in Schleswig-Holstein rose only slightly during the recent recession – and that is something hardly any other Germany state can claim.

So it is no surprise that the workforce in Schleswig-Holstein has increased to an above-average extent in recent years – by 50,000 or 3.8% from 2006 to 2010 when a total of 1.28 million gainfully employed persons were recorded. This puts Schleswig-Holstein among the top six German states.

The stability of Schleswig-Holstein's labour market is due in part to the sensible personnel policies practised by most businesses in the state and their targeted spending on further training measures. In this way, businesses are constructively developing the potential of Schleswig-Holstein's well-trained and highly qualified workforce.

Gainfully employed persons by state

Average year-on-year change (%), 2006-2010



Source: German Employment Statistics Working Groups, as per February 2011