

HA-BE

Facts and figures about the festive season



Who brings the presents at Christmas?

45% Santa Claus
39% "Christkind" (Christ Child)

Incidentally, these two would have to visit 832 houses per second to give presents to all the children in Germany.

Christmas trees

In 2013, over 28 million Christmas trees were sold in Germany.
75% were Nordmann firs, 20% blue spruce and only 5% spruce or silver firs. In total, Germans paid an average of EUR 20 for each metre.
2.24 million Christmas trees were imported, most of them from Denmark.

By the way, the Christmas tree at the Rockefeller Center is decorated with around 30,000 multi-coloured LED lights.

Christmas traditions

Only half of the Germans (52%) still go to church at Christmas.
Even fewer people still sing Christmas carols together (40%).
"Giving presents" (91%) and "decorating" (74%) are named as the most popular traditions.

White Christmas

The likelihood of a white Christmas (at an average temperature of 6 degrees Celsius in Germany)

100% Zugspitze
36% Munich
32% Chemnitz
28% Saarbruecken
24% Stuttgart
20% Berlin, Dresden, Frankfurt/Main
18% Freiburg
16% Bremen, Cologne
12% Kiel, Hamburg
8% Muenster
4% Duesseldorf



Controversial issues at Christmas

Around 31% of couples end up arguing at Christmas.
These are the "top 3" issues:

31% "We already visited your parents last year!"
17% "We are ONLY using grandma's Christmas ornaments to decorate the tree!"
13% "...and WHAT exactly have YOU contributed to this occasion?!"

HA-BE

Christmas dishes

Two thirds of all German households serve roast goose for Christmas. Therefore, 76% of the German geese are slaughtered between October and December. Carp ranks second among the most popular dishes. Around 50% of the carp to be served at Christmas are sold in the 4th quarter. More than 80 tons of gingerbread and approximately 144 million of chocolate Santa Clauses (m/f) are produced. At Christmas, the Germans spend about EUR 210 for food and beverages per household.

Top list of gifts

1. Fragrances and personal care products
2. Consumer electronics
3. Tickets for events
4. Clothing
5. Toys
6. CDs, DVDs, computer / console games
7. Jewellery and watches
8. Coffee and espresso machines
9. Food/confectionery

The Statue of Liberty is probably the largest gift that has ever been given in history, donated by France to the United States on the occasion of the festivities celebrating 100 years of independence.

"Black list"

The number of pick-pocketing incidents increases by 30% in December; 15,000 house fires are registered alone during the Advent season; the number of burglaries increases by approx. 70% in December.

Electricity consumption

Electric power consumption is at its peak on December 25: 120 million kilowatt hours of electricity more than average are consumed. This is what 34,000 households would otherwise need for the entire year.

Average per capita spending for Christmas gifts

Total EUR 273
Females EUR 248
Males EUR 299

Mailing volume

On peak days, 130 million letters are mailed (instead of the usual volume of 65 million/daily).
7 million parcels find their way to the recipients (instead of 3 million).

Reindeer

Rudolph is probably the world's most famous reindeer. The other draught animals pulling Santa Clause's sleigh are named: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.

