

/ [Home](#) / [World News](#)

Support for Germany's ruling bloc falls to five-year low – poll

The CDU/CSU trails the AfD by eight points amid economic stagnation and delayed reforms

Published 16 Aug, 2026 07:47



German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Dublin, Ireland, July 28, 2026. © Picture alliance/ Getty Images

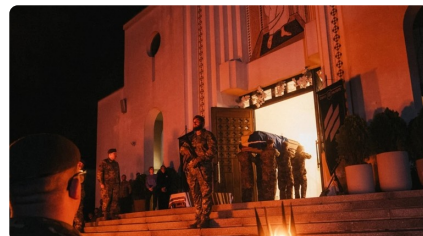
Germany's governing CDU/CSU bloc has fallen to its lowest level of support in almost five years, trailing the opposition AfD by eight points, according to an INSA poll published by Bild.

Approval ratings for Merz's coalition, comprising the Christian Democratic CDU/CSU bloc and the Social Democratic Party, have declined steadily since it took office in May 2025. The government has faced criticism over continued economic stagnation and its failure to deliver on pre-election promises.

The survey, conducted by INSA for Bild am Sonntag and published online by Bild on Saturday, surveyed 1,203 people across Germany between August 10 and 14, with a reported margin of error of 3.1 percentage points.

Support for the CDU/CSU dropped one point from the previous week to 20%, its weakest INSA result since October 2021. The AfD remained unchanged at 28%, making it the most popular party in the poll.

Top stories



Far-right troops bid farewell to Nazi collaborator with torch-lit march in Kiev (VIDEO)

Wired for War: Why is the UK protecting Israeli election meddlers? [QUESTION MORE](#)

Hungary's prosecutor general finds seizure of opposition servers unlawful

Russian Olympic star clinches second gold at European Gymnastics Championship

Ukrainian press gang conscripts Red Cross driver during evacuation (VIDEO)

Subscribe to RT newsletter to get news highlights of the day right in your mailbox

E-mail

☐ We offer you the possibility to receive RT's news highlights



Read more: Germany has reached a new low in election rigging

spending priorities.

The findings also showed that 16% of respondents were satisfied with Merz's performance, while 78% expressed dissatisfaction. Four in five disapproved of the federal government's work.

"Support has never been so low and rejection so high," INSA director Hermann Binkert told Bild. He argued that the trend may no longer be reversible because most remaining supporters of the governing parties no longer backed the cabinet.

Around 10,000 people demonstrated against the government in Plauen last week, according to Saxony police, demanding snap elections, lower energy costs, and changes to healthcare, migration, and military policy.

While unchanged from the previous week, the AfD's 28% rating represents a substantial increase from the 20.8% it secured in the February 2025 federal election. The party has continued to rise in national surveys despite efforts by Germany's mainstream parties to exclude it from governing coalitions.

Its growing support comes ahead of regional elections in eastern Germany, where it is polling at around 41% in Saxony-Anhalt and 36% in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. Researchers cited by Reuters have linked the party's strength there to lower incomes, population decline, labor shortages, and perceptions of political neglect.

You can share this story on social media:

The Greens received 13%, while the SPD stood level with the Left at 12%. The FDP recorded 5% and the Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance 3%.

Together, the two governing parties received 32%, only four points more than the AfD alone. Several major reforms remain unresolved following coalition disputes over taxes, welfare, and



Read more: 'Merz must go': Thousands protest against German government (VIDEO)

every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by email.

Subscribe

RT Features



Britain's forgotten proxy war against Russia FEATURE



The fragile machines that carried Russia into the First World War FEATURE



No license to kill: This country insists on its right to prosecute British troops FEATURE

Podcasts

[All podcasts](#)

- How to get a national security state w/ Thomas Drake, part 1
0:00 28:53
- Ex-World Bank lead economist says WWII being made more likely by current state of capitalism
0:00 28:25

Germany

Please check our [commenting policy](#). If you have questions or suggestions feel free to send them to feedback@rttv.ru.

AA B i “ <> ☰ 1 2 3

Your comment here

Sign In ▾

Sort by Recently updated ▾

S Skip Shaw 8/16/2026 at 10:18 AM 0

It's not surprising at all when you have corrupt leaders who were never «elected» but were «selected». The kind of leaders who all seem to be in a race with each other to see who gets the richest the fastest. It's funny that they don't realize that none of those pieces of trash are going to take that money to Hell with them when they go. It's going to stay right here and corrupt the next individual whose hands that money falls into

/ [Home](#) / [World News](#)

5 shot, 1 killed after downtown Lexington shooting

A 4-year-old, a 14-year-old, and two adults were hospitalized after gunfire at Charles Young Park in Lexington, Kentucky, local police said

Published 16 Aug, 2026 03:39 | Updated 16 Aug, 2026 05:42

