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East-West German Immigration Statistics (1962-1990)

Due to improved East-West German relations, the number of people leaving the German Democratic Republic for the Federal Republic rose in the 1970s. The SED regime, which was subject to growing domestic pressure in the 1980s, increasingly used emigration as a safety valve to rid itself of unwanted critics.

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Year	Immigration to West Germany		Immigration to East Germany
	West German statistics	East German data	East German data
1949	129,245		
1950	197,887		
1951	165,648	135,767	27,372
1952	182,393	135,988	24,012
1953	331,390	270,440	32,201
1954	184,198	173,279	77,239
1955	252,870	270,115	72,928
1956	279,189	316,028	73,768
1957	261,622	304,957	77,927
1958	204,092	194,714	54,600
1959	143,917	120,226	63,083
1960	199,188	181,473	42,479
1961	207,026		33,703
1962	21,365		13,080
1963	42,622		11,647
1964	41,866		9,895
1965	29,552		8,833
1966	24,131		
1967	19,573		
1968	16,036		

1969	16,975		
1970	17,519		
1971	17,408		
1972	17,164	14,310	
1973	15,189	11,761	
1974	13,252	11,760	
1975	16,285	16,586	
1976	15,168	13,489	
1977	12,078	9,795	
1978	12,117	10,669	
1979	12,515	11,513	
1980	12,763	10,438	
1981	15,433	13,166	
1982	13,208	11,118	
1983	11,343	9,154	
1984	40,974	,	
1985	24,912		
1986	26,178		
1987	18,958		
1988	39,832		
1989	343,854	203,116	
30.6. 1990		238,384	

Source: Matthias Judt, ed., *DDR-Geschichte in Dokumenten* [*GDR History in Documents*]. Berlin, 1997, pp. 545-46.