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Baden-Württemberg Expects Grape Harvest Yields to Rise 13% in 2026

The first estimate puts vineyards at 77 hectoliters of must per hectare, with irrigation and low disease pressure offsetting heat.

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Baden-Württemberg expects a stronger grape harvest in 2026, with average vineyard yields projected at 77 hectoliters of grape must per hectare, up 13% from last year, according to an initial estimate released Sept. 28 by the State Statistical Office of Baden-Württemberg.

The estimate points to a clear recovery in one of Germany’s main wine-producing states after a weaker 2025 crop. Based on the new figure, last year’s average yield was about 68.1 hectoliters per hectare, which means the projected gain this year is roughly 8.9 hectoliters per hectare. The office said the 2026 result would also be broadly in line with the average of the past 10 years.

The state office said the increase is notable because growers faced weeks of heat and dry weather during the season. It said the crop held up better than might have been expected because many vineyards had access to irrigation and because disease pressure remained low. Those factors helped limit damage and supported grape development despite the difficult weather.

The figures refer to the first estimate of 2026 harvest yields in Baden-Württemberg and measure output in hectoliters of grape must per hectare, a standard indicator used in the wine sector to assess vineyard productivity before total wine production is known. Grape must is the pressed juice from grapes before fermentation, and the yield estimate offers an early picture of the size of the crop.

The statistical office warned that the number is still provisional. It said the estimate is based largely on responses collected before the start of the harvest, which means the final result may change as picking progresses and more complete data become available. The release also does not yet include total production in hectoliters for the state’s 2026 vintage.

That caution is important for growers, traders and wineries, since final volumes can still be affected by late weather conditions, harvest timing and fruit quality. Even so, the first estimate suggests that the 2026 season in Baden-Württemberg is shaping up better than the previous year in output terms, and that vineyards in the state have so far managed to withstand a season marked by heat and dryness better than early conditions may have suggested.

Baden-Württemberg, in southwestern Germany, is one of the country’s central wine regions, and its harvest data are closely watched by producers and the market for signs about supply, pricing pressure and the balance between quantity and quality. The latest estimate does not address those broader market effects directly, but it does indicate that vineyard productivity this year is likely to return to a more typical level after 2025 fell below that benchmark.

The release from the state statistics office did not break out all regional differences in this first estimate, and it did not indicate whether later updates would revise yields up or down. For now, the main signal from the data is that average production per hectare is expected to improve in 2026, supported by irrigation access and relatively limited disease problems even after a hot and dry stretch in the growing season.