

Scholz leads race to succeed Merkel

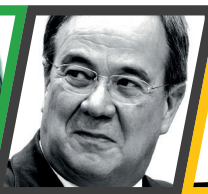
As German voters prepare to choose chancellor Angela Merkel's successor, polls suggest the Social Democrats' candidate Olaf Scholz has built a commanding lead ahead of election day



Olaf Scholz
Social Democratic
Party (SPD)



Annalena
Baerbock
Greens



Armin
Laschet
CDU/CSU*



Christian Lindner
Free Democratic
Party (FDP)

Predicted vote
share in Sep 26 election†

POPULARITY OF GERMANY'S PARTIES

2017 election result

CDU/CSU 22%

CDU/CSU 32.9%

SPD 26%

SPD 20.5%

AfD†† 11%

AfD 12.6%

FDP 11%

FDP 10.7%

Left 6%

Left 9.2%

Greens 15%

Greens 8.9%

*Christian
Democratic
Union / Christian
Social Union

††Alternative for
Germany (AfD)

†According to Infratest-dimap poll of 1,512 respondents, Sep 13-15, 2021