



Volume 5. Wilhelmine Germany and the First World War, 1890-1918
Organization of German Agriculture (1882 and 1907)

The course of industrialization also changed the patterns of production in the countryside. While historical differences account for the prevalence of smaller farms in the western regions of Germany, the overall concentration of farmland increased rapidly as the result of urbanization and the reorganization of agriculture for the industrial age.

Number of farms, classified according to farm size, across the territory of the German Reich in 1882 and 1907 (in thousands and percent of total farm operations)

		1882		1907	
Classification of farm size		1,000	%	1,000	%
under	2 hectares (ha)	3,062	58.0	3,379	58.9
	2- 5 ha	981	18.6	1,006	17.6
	5- 20 ha	927	17.6	1,066	18.5
	20- 100 ha	282	5.3	262	4.6
	above 100 ha	25	0.5	24	0.4
	total	5,277	100.0	5,737	100.0

Source: Hermann Aubin and Wolfgang Zorn, eds., *Handbuch der deutschen Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte [Handbook of German Economic and Social History]*. Stuttgart, 1971-76, vol. 2, p. 512.

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