



Volume 4. Forging an Empire: Bismarckian Germany, 1866-1890
 Net Domestic Product by Economic Sector (1870-1913)

The table below shows how much of Germany's net domestic product (NDP) – in millions of marks (at factor cost) – was generated by the country's various economic sectors. We see that agriculture lost its economic primacy around 1890, with its share of the NDP decreasing between 1870 and 1913 from more than 40% to just 23%. Agriculture's loss was industry's gain: in 1913 more than half of Germany's NDP was generated by industry, crafts, mining, and transportation.

Figures in Millions of Marks at 1913 Prices

Year	Agriculture, forestry, fishery	Mining and salt-works	Industry and crafts	Transportation	Trade, banking, insurances, restaurant business	Domestic services	Other services excluding defense	Defense	Non-agricultural housing	Total
1870	5,738	255	3,742	280	1,082	1,014			488	14,169
1875	6,595	356	5,453	412	1,438	1,025	1,586	172	614	17,651
1880	6,427	455	5,194	506	1,437	1,027	1,694	174	765	17,679
1885	7,525	563	6,110	629	1,741	1,024	1,760	185	880	20,417
1890	7,732	674	7,941	878	1,982	1,054	2,074	203	1,051	23,589
1895	8,573	757	9,732	1,073	2,478	1,081	2,383	243	1,301	27,621
1900	9,924	1,049	12,220	1,576	2,881	1,038	2,685	252	1,544	33,169
1905	10,231	1,201	13,931	1,984	3,564	1,060	3,088	261	1,869	37,189
1910	10,625	1,530	17,016	2,621	3,953	1,080	3,651	272	2,233	42,981
1913	11,270	1,903	19,902	3,146	4,415	1,061	4,000	346	2,437	48,480
%										
1870	40.5	1.8	26.4	2.0	7.6	7.2	11.3		3.4	100
1913	23.3	3.9	41.1	6.5	9.1	2.2	8.3	0.7	5.0	100

This table shows the net product of the various economic sectors, as well as the sum total of these contributions, which, according to Alfred Stobbe (*Volkswirtschaftliches Rechnungswesen*, 3rd edition. Berlin, 1972, p. 331), amounts to the net domestic product at factor costs. [Walther] Hoffmann – probably neglecting the difference between the “domestic market” and “domestic residence” concepts [*Inlands- und Inländerkonzept*] – calls this “national income” or “net national product at factor costs” (p. 453).¹ The estimate was derived through the commodity service method based on production statistics and the additional use of the structure of employment and capital incomes according to economic sector in 1913.

Source: Walther G. Hoffmann et al., *Das Wachstum der deutschen Wirtschaft seit der Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts* [*The Growth of the German Economy since the Middle of the 19th Century*]. Berlin, 1965, pp. 454-55.

Original German table reprinted in Gerd Hohorst, Jürgen Kocka and Gerhard A. Ritter, *Sozialgeschichtliches Arbeitsbuch II* [*Social History Workbook II*], 2nd ed. Munich: Beck, 1978, pp. 88-89 (note pp. 90-91).

¹ According to the “domestic market concept” [*Inlandskonzept*], national income is defined as all income earned in the domestic market of a country, including income earned by foreigners who commute to jobs in the country, but excluding income paid to residents of that country who commute to jobs elsewhere. According to the “domestic residence concept” [*Inländerkonzept*], national income is defined as all income earned by residents of a given country – trans.