



Volume 5. Wilhelmine Germany and the First World War, 1890-1918
Confessional Breakdown of the German Population (1871 and 1910)

The confessional division of Germany between Protestant and Catholic is one of the defining features of modern German history. In the wake of the Reformation, political and confessional divisions often went hand in hand. Political unification in 1871 did little to change the religious map of Germany. Confession remained a central political issue, especially in the wake of the *Kulturkampf* of the 1870s, a policy of persecution directed against the large German Catholic minority by Otto von Bismarck, who remained Prussian minister president after unification.

I. Confessional Breakdown of the German Population (December 1, 1871)

State and region	On December 1, 1871, for every 10,000 residents, there were:				
	Christian			Jewish	Other or no religion given
	Evangelical (Protestant)	Roman Catholic	Other		
Prov. East Prussia	8,609	1,278	34	79	0,1
Prov. West Prussia	4,819	4,880	98	203	0,3
City of Berlin	8,904	626	31	436	3
Prov. Brandenburg	9,760	170	14	56	0,1
Prov. Pomerania	9,761	118	30	91	0,0
Prov. Posen	3,228	6,374	7	391	0,1
Prov. Silesia	4,749	5,115	10	126	0,3
Prov. Saxony	9,351	603	18	28	0,1
Prov. Schleswig-Holstein	9,894	60	10	36	0,1
Prov. Hanover	8,727	1,191	17	65	0,1
Prov. Westphalia	4,543	5,347	13	97	0,1
Prov. Hesse-Nassau	7,056	2,655	28	259	2
Prov. Rhineland	2,534	7,343	16	107	0,1
Hohenzollern	269	9,618	5	108	-
Kingdom of Prussia	6,497	3,349	22	132	0,3
Kingdom of Bavaria	2,761	7,123	11	104	1
Kingdom of Saxony	9,755	209	19	13	3
Württemberg	6,867	3,044	21	67	0,2
Baden	3,359	6,449	16	176	0,2
Hesse	6,852	2,803	46	297	2
Mecklenburg-Schwerin	9,921	24	2	53	0,4
Hamburg	9,044	229	93	407	227
Alsace-Lorraine	1,744	7,973	14	264	5
German Reich	6,231	3,621	20	125	5

II. Confessional Breakdown of the German Population (December 1, 1910)

State and region	On December 1, 1910, for every 10,000 residents, there were:			
	Christian			Jewish
	Evangelical (Protestant)	Roman Catholic	Other	
Prov. East Prussia	8,434	1,409	84	3
Prov. West Prussia	4,632	5,182	99	82
City of Berlin	8,155	1,173	53	434
Prov. Brandenburg	8,984	734	50	150
Prov. Pomerania	9,536	328	70	52
Prov. Posen	3,079	6,773	20	126
Prov. Silesia	4,208	5,669	25	86
Prov. Saxony	9,161	753	23	25
Prov. Schleswig- Holstein	9,556	330	61	21
Prov. Hanover	8,513	1,372	43	63
Prov. Westphalia	4,722	5,143	58	51
Prov. Hesse-Nassau	6,839	2,824	56	233
Prov. Rhineland	2,946	6,903	41	80
Hohenzollern	503	9,437	2	57
Kingdom of Prussia	6,182	3,631	47	104
Kingdom of Bavaria	2,821	7,061	20	80
Kingdom of Saxony	9,405	491	53	37
Württemberg	6,856	3,036	53	49
Baden	3,856	5,932	62	121
Hesse	6,615	3,101	52	188
Mecklenburg-Schwerin	9,618	320	20	22
Hamburg	9,163	503	42	199
Alsace-Lorraine	2,178	7,629	21	165
German Reich	6,159	3,669	46	95

Source: *Statistisches Jahrbuch für das Deutsche Reich* [*Statistical Almanac for the German Reich*], 1880, p. 13 and 1913, p. 11.

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