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## Census Records during the German Empire 1871–1918

The German Empire that came to life in the Palace of Versailles near Paris on January 18, 1871 meant the end of the *Zollverein* and the North German Confederation, but the tradition of census enumerations continued. The Franco-Prussian War of 1870–71 had interfered with the census that was scheduled for December 3, 1870, but the process was continued exactly one year later. Beginning in 1875, a national census was conducted in December in five-year intervals. The First World War caused another interruption in the schedule, but a census was enumerated in 1916. With the collapse of the German Empire in November 1918, the history of German census records entered a new and unpredictable phase.

The basic premise of the imperial census was the establishment and maintenance of common standards, instructions, documents, and procedures in all of the thirty-eight states. The process of producing such a census would require several attempts and in many ways mirrors the slow evolution that took place among the states in the five decades before 1871.

The census campaigns conducted under the German empire had very similar processes. Enumeration districts composed of no more than fifty households were to be established and volunteer officials (where possible) recruited for the campaign. The owner or supervisor of each building was to see that the records for each household were complete and correct before the forms were collected by the agent. The imperial government was allowed to vary the information collected from census year to census year.<sup>1</sup> States wishing to collect data beyond what was required were allowed to do so using individual *Zählkarten* [enumeration cards]. This led to an enormous amount of documentation, as will be shown below.

From the *Haushaltungsliste*, only the number of persons was transferred to a *Controlliste* that featured a line for each head of household by name and thus represented the population of a *Zählbezirk* [enumeration

district]. The numbers (without names) were next transferred to the *Ortsliste* [town summary page] that included a line for each *Zählbezirk* and thereby established the population of the town. County and provincial officials moved those numbers to further pages on each higher geopolitical level. Final totals were submitted to the Imperial Bureau of Statistics in Berlin and publications issuing from that office included only statistics.

The founding of the empire required a new constitution with two bodies of legislature: the *Reichstag* and the *Bundestag*. It was in the latter body that decisions regarding census enumerations were made. The first such ruling was issued in the summer of 1871 and stipulated that the initial national enumeration was to take place on December 1 of that year.

This first nation-wide census featured a great deal of supporting and instructional literature, including a message meant to inspire cooperation (assuming a patriotic spirit throughout the new empire). Under the title “The Census of the German Empire on December 1, 1871 and the Support Desired from the Press and the Churches,” it began with these words:

During the last days of November of this year, thousands upon thousands of volunteer letter carriers will knock at the doors of their fellow citizens and deliver to them census forms in open envelopes. Those forms are meant for the recording of the names of the people who dwell there. These cards and papers are the tolls needed for the census that will be conducted throughout the empire on December 1—from the Memel River [northeast] to the Mosel by Metz [southwest] and from Königsau [by Denmark] to Lake Constance [south by Switzerland]—an area of more than 10,000 square kilometers [sic]. Every family in Prussia [not Germany!] will receive such an envelope and every head of

household is asked to record on a small card his own name and the name of each person in his household, their gender, age, occupation, education, religion, etc. The cards are to be returned on December 1 or 2 to the man who brought them. There will be approximately 120,000 such men out and about on those days in Prußen alone—a veritable army, well organized, consisting of men of all status and occupations, from the highest to the lowest, all of them convinced that they are participating in a grand patriotic work. And so it is. A census is undoubtedly one of the best ways for a nation to get to know itself...<sup>2</sup>

the trend of celibacy among young men and women.” The census would facilitate predictions regarding production and consumption of resources and the gross national product; those numbers could be used to help states make adjustments in occupational distribution, etc., etc. “All in all it is clear that a good census can be one of the most useful and valuable resources of the government.”<sup>3</sup>

The author, Ernst Engel (1821–1896), was well-known in the science of statistics; he insisted that the English press and churches had supported their national census well, but complained that they only did the counting every ten years (“not often enough”). “Nobody can tell precisely what has changed in a country until a new census is taken.”<sup>4</sup> His final statements were meant to tug at the heartstrings of the reader:

...everything grows from census to census, the number of people, houses, trains, ships and all of that shows that we are moving forward. The census measures this. Let us see to it that the census is done as well as possible and may God grant that the next census shows the greatness and the prosperity of the Vaterland. The English press supported the census on April 3, 1871. Let us approach the census with confidence and trust in God... Thus we hope that our press and our churches will offer similar support so that by Easter next year at the latest the results of the first general German census of December 1, 1871 can be announced to the German people. That will be a testimony that Germany deserves a high position among the nations, not just because of its power and the brilliance of its weapons, but because of the ingenuity, ambition, and virtue of its citizens.<sup>5</sup>

Ernst Engel was the head of the Royal [not Imperial!] Statistical Bureau in Berlin.<sup>6</sup> This statement was probably not circulated among all of the states in Germany, but rather only in the thirteen Prussian provinces and a few other states. According to Puttkammer and Mühlbrecht, the instructions and forms emanating from Berlin in 1871 were used



Figure 1. The first of four pages of the patriotic essay introducing the national census in 1871. The document was written by Dr. Ernst Engel of the Royal Statistical Office in Berlin.

This four-page essay reviewed the statistics compiled for Prußen since 1820 (to show the growth of the kingdom) and mentioned the importance of the census to determine military strength (“to defend our country, ... our numbers will convince our neighbors to keep peace with us”). The writer indicated that the census would involve papers weighing 4,000 *Zentner* [about 200 tons] and that it would take 120 assistant civil servants to compile the data in the Berlin office over perhaps one year’s time. The census would help determine how old or young the people are; how many persons work to support how many others; the ages of married people and the duration of their marriages and “perhaps help us find a way to prevent

only by Preußen, Lauenburg (a district in Schleswig-Holstein), Braunschweig, Waldeck, and Hamburg.

The full set of documents sent to those few states from the national *Innenministerium* [Interior Ministry] in Berlin for the census campaign of 1871 included these elements (identified by alphabetical characters as follows):

- A. *Zählkarte*: the card to be filled out for each individual
- B. Example of a *Zählkarte* filled out
- C. Lists of persons present on December 1
- D. General instructions
- E. Instructions for the town authorities: these included the procurement of the forms to be distributed, filled out, and collected; the selection/assignment and training of enumerators, and the transfer of data to the next higher government office.
- F. Instructions for the enumerators: these included the responsibility to be very familiar with all forms to be used; to see that all forms were filled out correctly or to fill them out himself; to treat any adult living alone in a home as a head of household; to treat e.g. the director of a hospital or a prison as a head of household; and to transfer the names and numbers from the *Zählkarte* to columns 1–3 of the *Controlliste*.
- G. *Controlliste* (sample); the name of each head of household was to be transferred from the household list to a line on this form, along with only the total number of members of the household by gender and number. (States not using the *Zählkarte* transferred the numbers from the *Haushaltsvorstandsliste* to the *Controlliste*.)
- H. Statistical summary: from the *Controlliste* the total numbers of persons (by gender and number but not by name) were transferred to this list that represented the entire enumeration district. The resulting numbers were transferred to yet another form (*Ortsliste*) that included totals for the town or the city.

## Census Forms Used in the German Empire from 1871 to 1916

The five forms shown below constitute the literature printed for national census campaigns throughout the life of the German Empire. During those ten enumerations, individual states continued to print these pages under their own governmental titles and included a few items not required by national standards.

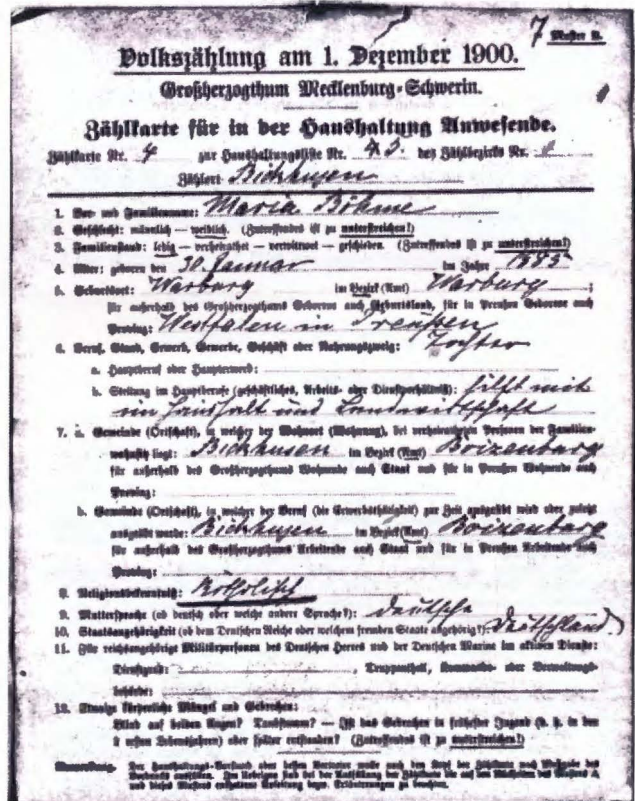


Figure 2. A rarity: an individual *Zählkarte* from a town in Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Most of these pages were destroyed after the information was transferred as numbers to the household list. [<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MVY1-FDP1>]

a. Verzeichniß aller in der Nacht vom 30. November zum 1. Dezember in der Wohnung des Haushaltungsvorstandes anwesenden Personen.

Haushalts-Vorstand			Geschlecht		Geburtsort		Geburtszeit			Beruf oder Gewerbeart		Staatsangehörigkeit		Anmerkungen	
Name des Haushaltungsvorstandes und der Wohnung, die Wohnung ist bei Wohnort zu bezeichnen.			Wohnort	Wohnort	Name des Orts	Preis, bei im Haushalt Wohnenden	Tag	Monat	Jahr	Religionsbekenntnis	Bezeichnung des Berufs oder Gewerbes	Bei dem Wohnort ist bei dem Wohnort zu bezeichnen	Bei dem Wohnort ist bei dem Wohnort zu bezeichnen	Bei dem Wohnort ist bei dem Wohnort zu bezeichnen	Bei dem Wohnort ist bei dem Wohnort zu bezeichnen
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Figure 3. This Haushaltungsliste was used in some states instead of the Zählkarte.

Fürstenthum Schaumburg-Lippe.  
F. Volkszählung am 1. Dezember 1885.

Kontrollliste

für den Zähler Herrn F. Pöhl, Schlangenberg  
 betreffend den Zählbezirk Nr. 17  
 Stadt Bückeburg, Schaumburg-Lippe Nr. 10  
 im Zählort Landgemeinde  
 Kreisbezirk Landkreis  
 Landratsamt Landkreis  
 (Kann für die weitere Ergänzung bei Zählern benutzt.)  
Herrn Pöhl, Schlangenberg, Kreis Nr. 1 - 10 und

Kontrollnummer der Zählkarte	Name (auch Vornamen und Nachnamen) der Wohnung des Haushaltungsvorstandes und anderer Familienmitglieder	Name des Haushaltungsvorstandes (bzw. Wohnungsvorstandes) für welche die Zählkarte auszugeben werden.	Personen im Zählort					
			weiblich und unter 14 Jahren	weiblich über 14 Jahren	männlich unter 14 Jahren	männlich über 14 Jahren	unbekannt	sonstige
1.	1	Grünberg, Albert	2	1				
2.	2	Winkelhake, Josef	1	3				
3.	3	Oldenborg, Carl	5	1				
4.	4	Wagner, Carl	2	6				
5.	5	Wachwächter	2	6				
6.	6	Möller, Josef	6	6				
7.	7	Behning, Wilhelm	1	2				
8.	8	Harke, Josef		1				
9.	9	Hinemann, H.	1	1			1	
10.	10	Lukmann	3	2				
11.	11	Krämer, Johann	4	5				
		u. v. d. L.						

Figure 4. This 1885 Kontrollliste shows the counts of persons in each household; the data were taken from the Haushaltsvorstandslisten. [Bückeburg, Schaumburg-Lippe; Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv Bückeburg Dep 9C Nr 637]

Muster einer ausgefüllten Ortsliste.

Königreich Preußen.

G. Volkszählung am 1. Dezember 1885.

Ortsliste

für { die Stadt \_\_\_\_\_  
 die Landgemeinde Telgte \_\_\_\_\_  
 den Gutsbezirk \_\_\_\_\_  
 im Kreise Münster \_\_\_\_\_

Name und topographische Bezeichnung der zum Gemeindebezirk gehörigen Wohnplätze.	Zahl der vorhandenen					Ortsanwesende Bevölkerung:	
	bewohnten Wohnhäuser.	unbe- wohnten	sonstigen Wohn- stätten.	gewöhn- lichen und Einzel- Ganz- haltungen.	Anstalten für gemein- samen Auf- enthalt.	männliche Personen.	weibliche Personen.
Bauerschaft Raastrop	43	1	1	45	—	142	117
" "	27	—	—	27	—	76	83
Summe 1 u. 2.	70	1	1	72	—	218	200
Bauerschaft Berdel	30	—	—	31	—	107	119
Bauerschaft Schwanhorst	30	—	—	30	2	111	232
Bauerschaft Verth	42	—	1	45	—	140	139
" "	22	—	—	33	—	98	86
Summe 3 u. 4.	74	—	1	78	—	236	225
u. z. w.							
Hauptsumme							

Telgte, den 20ten Dezember 1885.  
 Die Zählungskommission (Ortsbehörde).  
 (Unterschrift:) Jahn.

Figure 5. Names were reduced to numbers when the data from the Controllisten were moved to the Ortsliste (town summary).

## Volkszählung am 1. Dezember 1890.

## Endgültiges Hauptergebnis

für die  
 Amtl. Gemeinde Fritzlar  
 im Kreise Fritzlar, Regierungsbezirk Kassel

I. Abschnitt.		II. Abschnitt.	
Wohnplätze und Haushaltungen, Wohnbevölkerung.		Ortsanwesende Bevölkerung.*)	
a) Wohnplätze.		d) Geschlecht und Alter.	
1. Wohnplätze . . . . .	6	13. Ortsanwesende Personen überhaupt . . . . .	3232
2. Bewohnte Wohnhäuser . . . . .	423	14. Davon männliche Personen . . . . .	1637
3. Unbewohnte Wohnhäuser . . . . .	10	15. " weibliche " . . . . .	1595
4. Bewohnte, aber hauptsächlich nicht zu Wohnzwecken dienende Gebäude . . . . .	—	16. Knaben von unter 6 Jahren . . . . .	182
5. Stätten, Bretterbuden, Zelte u. s. w. . . . .	—	17. " " über 6 bis zu 14 Jahren . . . . .	266
6. Wagen, Schiffe, Flüsse u. s. w. . . . .	—	18. Mädchen von unter 6 Jahren . . . . .	197
		19. " " über 6 bis zu 14 Jahren . . . . .	302
		20. Aktive Militärpersonen . . . . .	298
b) Haushaltungen.		e) Religionsbekenntnis.	
7. Gewöhnliche Haushaltungen von zwei oder mehr Personen . . . . .	531		
8. Einzeln lebende männliche Personen mit eigener Hauswirtschaft . . . . .	16	21. Evangelische . . . . .	männlich 622 weiblich 461
9. Einzeln lebende weibliche Personen mit eigener Hauswirtschaft . . . . .	38	22. Katholische . . . . .	954 1048
10. Anstalten . . . . .	7	23. Andere Christen . . . . .	— 1
		24. Juden . . . . .	61 85
		25. Bekenner anderer Religionen . . . . .	— —
c) Wohnbevölkerung.*)		26. Anderen oder unbekanntem Religionsbekenntnisses . . . . .	— —
11. Wohnhafte männliche Personen . . . . .	1632		
12. Wohnhafte weibliche Personen . . . . .	1595		
			1637 1595

\*) Zur Wohnbevölkerung gehören die am Zähltag in der Gemeinde wohnhaft und anwesenden, sowie die baselbst wohnhaft, aber vorübergehend auswärts abwesenden Personen.

\*) Zur ortsanwesenden Bevölkerung gehören die am Zähltag in der Gemeinde wohnhaft und anwesenden, sowie die baselbst vorübergehend anwesenden, aber auswärts wohnhaften Personen.

Figure 6. Taken from the *Ortslisten*, these are the final totals for the city of Fritzlar after the census of 1890. [Stadtarchiv Fritzlar]

According to Michel, the data sought in all states for all individuals under the first national census were as follows:<sup>7</sup>

1. relation to head of household
2. gender
3. birth place
4. birth year
5. marital status
6. religion
7. occupation or employment
8. citizenship
9. place of residence (if not permanently here)
10. persons absent from this household on December 1

The national directives for 1871 allowed the states to gather additional information if desired, but restricted that additional information to the following: precise birth date, native language, level of education, handicaps, and reason for being at the current location (if not a permanent resident).

Because many of the states were still attempting to act as independent entities not yet subsumed by the empire, the regulations for the census sent to local authorities in many states did not cite the Statistical Bureau in Berlin as the origin. For example, a communique from the grand duchy of Baden dated September 30, 1871 indicated that "the grand duke had decided" that his state would participate in the census mandated by the national government. The government of Sachsen-Meiningen in Hildburghausen issued a similar statement on November 12. Cards for individuals were not used in Baden; a page issued to each head of household facilitated the recording of the same data included on the Prussian *Zählkarte*.

Only the five German states named above used the individual *Zählkarte* in 1871, while all others employed a *Haushaltungsliste* [a page showing all persons in a given household]. Thus somewhat different instructions were issued to towns and enumerators under that system. Nevertheless, the same basic data was collected for individuals throughout Germany.

Hausfl. 262 I - 259 II      mit fl. 255.

Household No.	Date	Name	Relation	Occupation	Age
262 I	19.2.1	Andreas Thamer	1	Endweber	13/20
		Anna v. Weise	-	Wirtin	24/28
		Maria	1	?	21/11
262 II	18.1.3	Adolf Koch	1	ackerr.	20/14
		Anna v. Schmale	-	Wirtin	21/0
		Wilhelm Koch	-		25/267
		Reinhold Mann	-	ackerr.	22/14
262 III	17.2.2	Adolf Meinhof	1	ackerr.	21/29
		Anna v. Schmale	-	ackerr.	20/12
		Ernst	1		19/11
		Luise	-		21/19
4	16.1.3	Anna Schmale v. Meinhof	-		20/109
		Ernst	-		13/1
		Adolf	-		21/44
		Luise	1		27/267
5	15.3.2	Adolf Meinhof	1		12/8
		Anna v. Falke	-	Galer.	16/02/4
		Ernst	1		12/958
		Anna	-		20/106
		Adolf	1		13/970
261	14.2.1	Anna Bied (v. Meinhof)	1		32/15
		Anna v. Meinhof	-		20/120
		Anna Wagner	1	Lehrer.	16/851

Figure 7. Original lists of residents from the 1871 census were not often preserved, but they do exist. This one is a left-hand page from the town of Gandersheim, Braunschweig. [Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv Wolfenbüttel 254 N, Nr. 1]

## 1875 German Empire Census

The analysis of the 1871 census was apparently complicated by misunderstandings regarding two major issues: birth place and occupation. The instructions for enumerators of the 1875 census featured very detailed interpretations of those aspects of each person's status. A question was added regarding the status of men on active or reserve status in the military. The following are the topics of the questions included on the *Zählkarte* for 1875:

1. first and last name
2. gender
3. birth date
4. marital status
5. religion
6. citizenship
7. place of residence (if not here: town, county, state)
8. for military personnel: command post and unit

9. occupation
10. principal employment
11. secondary occupation
12. secondary employment
13. does this person employ more than five persons?
14. details of business that employs more than five persons

As in 1871, the census campaign of 1875 was still not carried out uniformly in all states of the empire. Preußen, Lauenburg, Hessen, both Mecklenburgs, Oldenburg, Braunschweig, Waldeck, Schaumburg-Lippe, Lippe, Bremen, Hamburg, and Elsaß-Lothringen used the individual *Zählkarte*, while the rest still employed the *Haushaltungsliste*. Again, the instructions and the forms designed for the census usually were printed over the signature of the minister of the interior of the state from its capital city, not from the Statistical Bureau in Berlin.

No.	Name	Place of Birth	Birth Date	Occupation	Marital Status
15 1/2	1. Hermann Knapp	Burg Gelshausen	1845 August 9	Lehrer	verheiratet
2.	Vanny Knapp	"	1848 Januar 15	"	Chefrau
3.	Sigmund Knapp	"	1870 Decem. 8	"	Sohn
4.	Wina Knapp	"	1872 Junij 18	"	Tochter
5.	Lassa Knapp	"	1874 Dec. 26	"	Sohn
6.	Lassa Knapp	"	1854 Sept. 2	"	Schwester
7.	Adelheit Ocker	Dieburg	1856 März 30	Putzarbeiterin	Schwägerin
17 1	Johan Georg Klippert	Burg Gelshausen	1822 April 19	Cath. Hofmeister	Lehrermeister
2.	Cathrina Klippert	"	1827 Mai 1	"	Chefrau
3.	Susanna Klippert	"	1865 August 9	"	Tochter
4.	Elisa Klippert	"	1867 August 3	"	Tochter
17 1	Carl Laitsch	"	1824 April 8	Cath. Hofmeister	Tagelöhner
2.	Friedrich Laitsch	"	1853 März 26	"	Lehrer
3.	Wilhelm Lohr	Offenbach	1869 März 2	"	Lehrer
17 1	Maria Korf	Burg Gelshausen	1838 Dec. 17	Cath. Leinwand	Tagelöhnerin
2.	Jacob Korf	"	1861 Juli 28	"	Sohn
3.	Susanna Korf	"	1865 April 26	"	Tochter
17 1	Katharina Schling	"	1815 Febr. 2	Cath. Hofmeister	Kroschmayer
2.	Margretha Schling	"	1821 Octobr 19	"	Chefrau

Figure 8. A page from the 1875 census of Burg, Hessen-Nassau [Stadtarchiv Gelnhausen]

# 1880 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1880:

1. first and last name
2. gender
3. birth date
4. birth place; state of birth if not Preußen
5. permanent residence if not here; county of residence if not in this state
6. place of residence if absent from here
7. citizenship if not Preußen
8. religion
9. marital status
10. relationship to head of household
  - a. how are you related?
  - b. are you employed by head of household?
  - c. do you only sleep in this household?
11. handicaps
12. occupation, profession, or office
13. are you self-employed?
14. are you employed by another?

Lini. fam. No.	Geb. No.	Vorname	Name	Geburtsdatum		Beruf
				Tage	Monat Jahr	
89	354	Johann	Steinhäuser	1	Febr. 1865	Drehmühlen-Geselle
90	355	Johann	Reichmann	31	Jan. 1836	Arbeiter
91	"	Milgalmann	"	13	Mai 1839	Hofmann
92	"	Friedrich	"	20	April 1864	Knecht
93	"	Augusta	"	9	Nov. 1867	Kindfrau
94	356	Leinhard	Dietzel	22	Jan. 1834	Lohnarbeiter
95	"	Maria	"	24	Aug. 1866	Hofmann
96	"	Georg	"	6	Jan. 1862	Kindfrau
97	"	Augusta	"	19	Oct. 1880	Kindfrau

Figure 9. The 1880 census form was quite simple. [Weißensee, Sachen-Provinz; Kreisarchiv Sömmerda]

# 1885 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1885:

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. first and last name | 8. citizenship   |
| 2. gender              | 9. military personnel: assignment and unit                       |
| 3. birth date          | 10. place of residence if not permanently here                   |
| 4. marital status      | 11. place of residence if temporarily absent from this household |
| 5. birth place         | 12. comments   |
| 6. religion            |  |
| 7. occupation          |  |

Volkszählung am 1. December 1885

Haar N	Namen	Beruf	Alter geboren	Jahr	Geburtsort
1.	Wilhelm Clara Wilke	Landwirthin	5 August	1840	Reuden
	Carl Wilke	Vater	1. Novbr.	1865	"
	Otto	"	"	"	"
3	Hedwig	Lehrer	26 März	1873	"
	Wilhelm Schulze	Bauergl.	4 Decbr.	1869	"
	Friederike Friedrich	Magd.	27 März	1867	Preetz.
2.	Andreas Lüdicke	Landwirth	23 Septbr.	1839	Reuden
	Henriette	Gefährt.	8 Januar	1838	"
	Gottlieb	Vater	6 Septbr.	1860	"
	Otto	"	6 October	1864	"

Figure 10. The 1885 census form was still handwritten in many areas. [Reuden, Anhalt; Kreisarchiv Zerbst]

# 1890 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1890:

1. first and last name
2. relationship to head of household
3. gender
4. age (birth date or age in years)
5. marital status
6. occupation and specialty
7. birth place (town and county)
8. if on active military duty (status and unit)
9. religion
10. citizenship
11. native language
12. persons temporarily here (permanent place of residence and county)

Name	Familien- und Vornamen	Geburtsort	Geburtsjahr	Staatsangehörigkeit	Religion				Stand	Bemerkungen
					evangelisch	katholisch	andere	unbekannt		
	Georg Leo Kaufmann	1842	1842	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Kaufmann	1842	1842	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Hilf, Mathias	1851	1851	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Elise	1851	1851	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Johann, August	1851	1851	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Elise	1851	1851	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Anna Johanna	1875	1875	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Philippine	1876	1876	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Auguste	1878	1878	Preußen					Landwirt	
	Leopold	1880	1880	Preußen					Landwirt	

Figure 11. This 1890 census features full birth dates and home towns or provinces. [Rheydt, Rheinprovinz; Stadtarchiv Mönchengladbach]

# 1895 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1895:

1. first and last name
2. gender
3. age (birth date or age in years)
4. marital status
5. religion
6. citizenship
7. occupation and specialty
8. employment and duration thereof
9. if on active military duty (status and unit)
10. if male 39–45: member of militia and if trained
11. handicaps

Haus- Nr.	Nummer		1. Vor- und Familiennamen	3. Geburts- Datum	Verwands- schaft oder sonstige Stellung zum Haus- haltungs- vorstand	4. Familien- stand			5. Reli- gions- bekennt- nis	6. Staats- angehörigkeit
	des Zähl- briefs	der Zähl- karte				ledig	verheiratet	verwitwet		
19	11	1	Joh. Hein. Tross	17/9 37	Vorstand	1			Dorf	D
		2	Koppia	29/2 34	Frau	1			"	"
		3	Wilk. Gink.	6/10 67	Kofer	1			"	"
		4	Rob. v. Tissew	28/10 78	Gepelle	1			"	"
		5	Kas. Hircu	20/8 77	"	1			"	"
21	12	1	Lorenz Schmütz	29/6 59	Vorstand	1			"	"
		2	Elisabeth	24/4 50	Frau	1			"	"
		3	Wilk.	13/2 89	Kofer	1			"	"

Figure 12. 1895 census from Lobberich, Rheinprovinz [Stadtarchiv Kempen GALobberich101.2]

# 1900 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1900:

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. first name           | 7. religion          |
| 2. last name            | 8. town of birth     |
| 3. status or occupation | 9. county of birth   |
| 4. day of birth         | 10. country of birth |
| 5. month of birth       | 11. citizenship      |
| 6. year of birth        | 12. comments         |

Straße.	Haus Nr.	Vorname.	Familienname.	Stand oder Gewerbe.	Geburtszeit.		
					Tag.	Monat.	Jahr.
<i>La Prof. Linde 8. Hof.</i>		<i>Heidemann</i>	<i>Märker</i>	<i>Maler</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>1879</i>
		<i>Erופן</i>	"	<i>Taylor</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Juli</i>	<i>1893</i>
		<i>Moritz</i>	"	<i>Lehrer</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>1885</i>
		<i>Giunr.</i>	"	<i>Lehrer</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>1889</i>

Figure 13. The left-hand page of the 1900 census [Minden, Westfalen; Stadtarchiv Minden]

Religion.	Geburts-			Staatsangehörigkeit, wenn nicht Preußen.	Bemerkungen.
	Ort.	Kreis.	Staat.		
<i>331</i>	<i>Minden</i>		<i>Preußen</i>		
<i>6</i>			<i>"</i>		
<i>6</i>			<i>"</i>		
<i>11</i>			<i>"</i>		

Figure 14. The right-hand page of the 1900 census has the town, county, and province of birth. [Minden, Westfalen; Stadtarchiv Minden]

# 1905 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1905:

1. first name
2. last name
3. relationship to head of household
4. marital status
5. male
6. female
7. day of birth
8. month of birth
9. year of birth
10. principal occupation
11. position in employment
12. religion
13. citizenship
14. whether active military
- 15-17 for men 39 to 45 years of age
15. army training
16. navy training
17. no training

Seite 2.

Reisende Nummer.	Namen der anwesenden Personen. (Siehe Anleitung S. 1.) Bei den Einträgen ist folgende Reihenfolge zu beobachten: Haushaltungsvorstand, Ehefrau, Kinder, sonstige Anverwandte, häusliche und gewerbliche Dienstboten, Gewerbsgehilfen, sonstige Wohnungsgenossen, Schlafleute und vorübergehend Anwesende.		Verwandtschaftliche oder sonstige Stellung zum Haushaltungsvorstand. Beispiele sonstiger Stellung: Dienstbote für häusliche oder gewerbliche Verrichtungen, Gewerbsgehilfe oder Lehrling, Mieter ohne eigene Wirtschaft, Rost- und Schlafgänger, Pensionäre, Pfleger, Logiergast.	Familienstand. Angabe ob ledig (b. h. wobei verheiratet noch verheiratet gewesen), verheiratet, Witwe (r), geschieden.	Geschlecht (durch 1 zu bezeichnen.)		Geburtsstag und Geburtsjahr.			Hauptberuf (S. im Hauptberuf (Hauptberuf (Siehe Anleitung S. 1. 4.)
	Vorname.	Familiennamen.			männl. u.	weibl. u.	Tag.	Monat.	Jahr.	
1.	Friedrich	Haubold	Haushaltungsvorstand	verheiratet	1		28.	April	1840	Leineweber
2.	Berta	"	Ehefrau	verheiratet		1	7.	Juni	1844	
3.	Hugo	"	Sohn	ledig	1		5.	Januar	1865	Tuchweber
4.	Anna	"	Tochter	ledig		1	30.	Dezember	1875	
5.	August	"	Bruder	geschieden	1		2.	August	1802	Schlosserei
6.	Marie	Schwabe	Dienstbote	ledig		1	15.	März	1878	Dienstmädchen für
7.	Albert	Zingler	Geselle	ledig	1		3.	Februar	1865	Leineweber
8.	Abraham	Stiebel	Guest auf Besuch	Witwer	1		6.	Juni	1849	Handel mit Wolle etc.
9.	Robert	Kühler	Einquartiert	ledig	1		8.	Mai	1884	Militärdienst
Summe der Anwesenden					6	3				

Beispiele.

1.	Paul Günzler	reg. Schrift von Gbn. Winterhäuser	haufigalshausvorstand	verheiratet	1		2.	August	1830	Regent
2.	Walter	reg. Schrift von Gbn. Winterhäuser	Ehefrau	"		1	28.	Febr.	1845	
3.	Elisabeth	von Horn	"	ledig		1	23.	April	1862	hofb. m.
4.	Augustin	Bänninger	"	ledig		1	16.	Febr.	1837	Stoffhändler
5.	Fräulein	Hilsler	"	ledig		1	29.	Sept.	1864	Bänninger
6.	Präsident	Freier	"	"		1	14.	Sept.	1870	hofb. m.
7.	Margarete	Kuderrater	"	"		1	18.	Sept.	1884	hofb. m.
8.	Zilla	Hellmann	Bedienstete	"		1	6.	Sept.	1882	"
9.	Lina	Kortmann	zu	"		1	30.	Febr.	1882	"
10.	Antonia	Fischer	1 Kind 2	"		1	14.	Febr.	1880	hofb. m.

Figure 15. The 1905 census has both instructions and sample entries. [Staatsarchiv Thüringen, Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, Hofmarschallamt Sondershausen 0820, left-hand page]

Beruf (Hauptberuf) und Stellung im Hauptberuf.		Religions- bekenntnis. Kürzungen: E. für Angehörige der evangelisch-lutherischen Landeskirche des Fürstentums (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 4). K. für römisch- katholisch. L. für israelitisch. Andere Bekenntnisse sind ohne Kürzung an- zugeben.	Staats- angehörigkeit (ob reichsangehörig oder welchem fremden Staate angehörig). Für Angehörige deutscher Staaten ist „D.“ für jede andere Person ist der Staat, welchem die- selbe gegenüber als Staatsbürger oder Unter- tan angehört, anzugeben. (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 7.)	Ob im aktiven Dienste des deutschen Heeres oder der deutschen Marine stehend. Für alle im aktiven Dienste stehenden reichsangehörigen Pfl- ichtpersonen des Heeres und der Marine, mit Einschluß der Mil- itärbeamten und -Kadete und der auf bestimmte Zeit Bewillig- ten, ist außer dem Worte „aktiv“ der Truppenteil, die Kommando- bezeichnung u. s. f. m. anzugeben. (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 8.)	Ob militärisch ausgebildet oder ob nicht militärisch ausgebildet. Für reichsangehörige, landsturm- pflichtige Männer im 20. bis zum vollendeten 45. Lebensjahre (auch der Wehrzeit vom 1. De- zember 1860 bis 31. Dezember 1866 einschließl.) (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 9.) durch Eintragung einer I zu bezeichnen. Militärisch ausgebildet im Heere in d. Marine. Nicht militä- risch aus- gebildet.			
Beruf (Hauptberuf). (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 6.)	Stellung im Hauptberuf (Hauptberuf). (Siehe Anweisung Zf. 4.)	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
	selbständig		E.	D				
			E.	D				
	Fabrikarbeiter		E.	D		I		
			E.	D				
	Geselle		E.	D			I	
	häusliche Arbeiten		K.	D				
	Geselle		E.	D				I
	Hausierer		I	Österreich				
	Musketier		Herrnhuter	D	aktiv, 96. Regiment			
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				
			t	sh				

Figure 16. The abbreviations are E. (Evangelisch) and D. (Deutschland). [Staatsarchiv Thüringen, Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, Hofmarschallamt Sondershausen 0820, right-hand page]

# 1910 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1910:

1. relation to head of household
2. gender
3. marital status
4. birth date
5. occupation and employment
6. whether on active military duty
7. religion
8. citizenship

No.	Vorname	Nachname	Stand	Geburts?			Geburtsort	Religion	Staatsangeh.
				Tag	Monat	Jahr			
32	Lauy	Klaus	Herrn	16.	Juni	1872	Neustadt	evgl.	
"	"	Garry	Gewerkschaft	9.	Febr.	1896	Schleusingen	"	"
"	"	Komm	Vierstufsch.	24.	Febr.	1897	"	"	"
407	Kauff	Kurt	Handwerker	8.	Nov.	1882	"	"	"
408	Obereimer	Felix	Kommis	25.	April	1872	Leppstedt	evgl.	"
409	Woh	Anton	"	19.	Mai	1890	Neustadt	evgl.	"
410	Griebel	Ludwig	Vermittler	11.	April	1890	Freiburg	"	"
411	Hein	Richard	Herrn	20.	Febr.	1881	Hildburghausen	"	"
"	"	Otto	Herrn	18.	April	1879	Schilfa	"	"
"	"	Alf	Herrn	12.	Okt.	1890	Schleusingen	"	"

Figure 17. A common way to save paper and writing in a census book: only the last page of this 1910 census book has the column headings. [Schleusingen, Sachsen-Meiningen; Kreisarchiv Hildburghausen]

# 1916 German Empire Census

The following are the topics of the questions included in the census for 1916:

1. given name
2. surname
3. status or relationship to head of household
4. gender
5. birth date
6. marital status
7. citizenship
8. employment
9. employer or employee on July 31, 1914
10. type of business at place of employment on July 31, 1914
11. current occupation
12. current position at place of employment
13. current type of business at place of employment
14. if born before December 1, 1899 active military status
15. if born before December 1, 1899 reserve military status
16. status if military invalid
17. status if prisoner of war

## aller in der Nacht vom 30. November zum 1. Dezember 1916 in der Wohnung

		Anwesende Personen							wurde Person		
		Reihenfolge der Einträge: Haushaltungsvorstand, Ehefrau, Kinder, andere Anverwandte, Besuch, Gewerbegehilfen, häusliche, gewerbliche, landwirtschaftliche Diensthboten, Zimmerabmieter, Schlafgänger und sonstige Wohnungsgenossen.									
Anwesende Nummer	Vorname	Familienname	Stellung im Haushalt oder Verwandtschaft zum Haushaltungsvorstande (Haushaltungsvorstand, Ehefrau, Kinder, andere Anverwandte, Besuch, Gewerbegehilfen usw.) (vgl. die Erläuterung zu Spalte 3)	Geschlecht durch 1 zu bezeichnen		Geburts-		Familiensstand ledig = l., verheiratet = verh., verwitwet = verw., geschieden = g.	Staatsangehörigkeit, welchem Bundesstaate oder welchem fremden Staate angehörig	Geburtsort	
				männlich	weiblich	Tag und Monat	Jahr				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
Beispiel zur Ausfüllung.	1.	Karl	Meier	Haushaltungsvorstand	1	—	5. Februar	1859	verh.	Preußen	Möbel
	2.	Frida	Meier	Ehefrau	—	1	10. Juni	1866	verh.	Preußen	
	3.	Heinrich	Meier	Sohn	1	—	11. Mai	1891	l.	Preußen	Chemie
	4.	Helene	Meier	Tochter	—	1	17. Dezemb.	1894	l.	Preußen	
	5.	Ida	Fröhlich	Besuch	—	1	21. Juli	1911	l.	Österreich	
	6.	Johannes	Krause	Aftermieter	1	—	26. August	1889	l.	Bayern	Klein
	7.	Hermann	Schulze	Schlafbursche	1	—	12. Oktober	1881	verw.	Sachsen	Spinn
	8.	Ivan	Ceraski	zur Arbeit zugewiesen	1	—	34 Jahre alt		verh.	Rußland	Seef.
	1.	Johann	Wagner	Sohn	1	—	7. April	1887	verh.	Preußen	Lehrer
	2.	Anna	Wagner	Ehefrau	—	1	28. Juli	1897	verh.	Preußen	
	3.	Pauline	Wagner	Tochter	—	1	30. März	1916	ledig	Preußen	

Figure 18. The left-hand page of the 1916 census used in Sachsen-Provinz

