Mid-Tier Secondary Schools [*Mittelschulen*] (1911-1939)

Abstract

This table shows the development of the number of schools, classes, pupils and teachers at mid-tier secondary schools [*Mittelschulen*], schools offering a more modern and job-market oriented secondary education above the level of the basic *Volksschule* and below that of the *Gymnasium*, from 1911 to 1939. The number of students in secondary schools decreased significantly overall between 1911 and 1939. The number of teachers and schools also decreased.

After the end of the First World War, the school system in the Weimar Republic was comprehensively reformed. With the “Weimar School Compromise” in 1919 and the Primary School Act of 1920, a school system consisting of a common four-year elementary school and a subsequent division into a three-tier school system was introduced. Secondary schools, which had already been established in the nineteenth century, were upgraded and recognized as a separate type of school. However, the global economic crisis of 1929 meant that the resources available for education became scarcer. This also had an impact on secondary schools.

Source

Middle Schools

Year	Schools [a)]	Classes	Teachers	Students	Students per Class	Students per Teacher	Students per 1,000 Residents [b)]
1911	2,049	--	12,065	354,054	--	29.3	5
1921/22	1,743	12,646	12,855	329,344	26	26.6	5
1926/27	1,550	--	12,195	259,300	--	21.3	4
1930/31	1,472	9,288	11,517	229,671	24.7	19.9	4
1939 [c)]	1,207	8,220	8,797	259,417	31.6	29.5	4

a) Public and private middle schools. Middle schools are institutions that go beyond elementary education but are not considered secondary schools. Their curriculum usually includes instruction in at least one foreign language. It is a nine-year school that begins at the age for compulsory schooling.

b) Population of the Reich at the midpoint of the (previous) year.

c) Based on the borders as of December 31, 1937; school data as of May 25, 1939.

Source of original German text: *Sozialgeschichtliches Arbeitsbuch,* Volume III, *Materialien zur Statistik des Deutschen Reiches 1914–1945*, edited by Dietmar Petzina, Werner Abelshauser, and Anselm Faust. Munich: Verlag C.H. Beck, 1978, p. 166.

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