

## Infant Mortality in Germany in the 19th Century

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**Abstract:** Developments in infant mortality in Germany have previously only been documented in a fragmentary fashion for the 19th century as a whole, and only on a small scale for the period prior to 1871. For the first time, this paper lays a solid statistical foundation by reprocessing the figures assembled by the German states of that time. The reconstructed national statistical series (from 1826 onwards) reveals a comparatively high infant mortality, with minor deviations until the turn of the 20th century. The impact of urbanisation and industrialisation is not denied, but an evaluation of the different regional patterns and trends leads to a new weighting. The living and working conditions in the countryside were thus highly determining. The relationship between fertility and infant mortality is assessed differently for the era of the sustained reduction in fertility than for the preceding period. All in all, the prevalent customs and attitudes are regarded as being vital to infants' survival chances. We therefore need to look at attitudes among the educated public and the authorities. Efforts on the part of these groups to bring about change were particularly observed in the South West, where an awareness of the dramatic problem arose comparatively early. Further historic research at the regional level will be needed in order to achieve a final evaluation of these processes.

**Keywords:** Infant mortality · Germany · 19th century · Female labour · Urbanisation · Public intervention

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## 1 Introduction

Since its resurgence in the 1960s, historical demography has always focused strongly on infant mortality. Mortality research absolutely must focus on what happened to small children, given that this made a major contribution towards general developments in life expectancy. Moreover, this provides many different approaches on which further conclusions can be based. There are good reasons today why mortality in the first year of life is regarded as an important indicator of a society's state of development. As early as in the last third of the 19th century, bad chances of survival were no longer accepted as being a matter of course but were increasingly recognised as a social problem, so that the topic was the subject of studies which remain valid to the present day. These studies identified many of the factors that ever since played an important role in the analysis of the circumstances in which infants live, that is hygiene, food, female labour, living conditions and climatic conditions. Studies that were performed in this period are also of significant value since the proximity to the studied circumstances permitted insights to contemporary researchers that can nowadays only be obtained indirectly. Therefore the literature of that time is valuable as a source per se. Around the turn of the 20th century statistical methods were increasingly used, and their developed forms are still dominating research. Largely owing to the use of regression analyses, considerable progress has been made towards further delimitation of quantifiable influencing factors, such as fertility. The reconstruction of time series on infant mortality in the area of the later German *Reich* can help to improve the foundations on which such analyses are based. However, it is not possible to quantify all aspects of the living conditions, so that the limits of the quantifying approach should not be overlooked and the so-called qualitative sources should be kept in mind.

## 2 The state of the research

Out of the large selection of individual contributions that occasionally also appear in edited volumes and special issues of relevant journals (*Bengtsson/Lundh* 1994; *Corsini/Viazzi* 1997; *Gehrmann* 2002), when making an international comparison it is necessary to underline those studies where a statistical evaluation goes hand-in-hand with a precise knowledge of the concrete historic environment. These are naturally case studies on a sufficiently large area from which more general conclusions can be drawn. On the basis of such a study on an Icelandic island, for instance, *Guttormsson* and *Gardarsdottir* (2000) reached the conclusion that health policy, in this case in the shape of improvements in natal care, was already able to lead to a significant reduction in infant mortality around the mid-19th century, even in an area where breastfeeding was not the norm. In a broader perspective, *Edvinsson*, *Gardarsdottir* and *Thorvaldsen* (2008) state that the dissemination of information on infant care and the ability to read and to write also led to the leading position taken up by Denmark, Norway and Sweden in this field. This concurs with assessments made by contemporaries (*Finkelnburg* 1882; *Prinzing* 1899), whilst a link with

real wages, which can also be used as an indicator of food status, is not presumed to exist for infant mortality at least in Scandinavia (*Bengtsson/Lundh* 1994). This means that main authors of both recent and older research are against the presumption which had been prevalent in historical demography for a long time since *McKeown* (1976), namely that the importance of public intervention was somewhat minor, whilst great significance should still be afforded in the 19th century to factors such as food status – in the case of the infants that of the mother (*Floud* 1991). For instance *Spree* (1986), in agreement with *Lee* (1984) – who however also includes women's workloads – also explains the West-East divide which is observable in Germany in the 19th century in this vein. In addition, he also admits that hygienic conditions exert a certain influence, but not healthcare. This approach disregards the fact that the latter might have been inseparable from the hygienic conditions. A different evaluation is therefore reached if one takes a closer look at the regional differences in the Eastern provinces of Prussia. The two factors, which are symptomatically expressed in the unequal successes achieved in the fight against child mortality, are therefore equally important when it comes to a certain West-East divide (*Gehrmann* 2010).

Women's workload proves to be of great importance among the social elements which have been regarded as determining factors for infant mortality since the end of the 19th century. This problem was already present at an early stage in the debate, so that it is also immediately mentioned in brief comments by the Prussian statistics. This is associated with factory work (*Blenck* 1886: LX).<sup>1</sup> Older and more recent demographic research, which moreover concentrates on agriculture, in this context particularly includes the surveys by *Prinzing* (1899), *Grassl* (1910), as well as *Heller* and *Imhof* (1983). Demographers have pointed to the regional differences in the division of tasks in agricultural societies (*Wiegelmann* 1975). As with the question on attitudes, local case studies have provided better access here in recent decades (e.g. *Medick* 1996). The family reconstitution method makes it possible also to include the family context. A certain obstacle however repeatedly emerges from the difficulty that the qualitative sources which are available for interpretation are not on the same level as the family data.

The advantage of the large databases which historical demography has generated on the same basis (*Ortssippenbücher*: village genealogies) for Germany is that they facilitate studies which can focus on both the family environment and broader contexts. Because of its size, the so-called Berlin database (*Imhof* 1990) is suitable for mortality surveys; it formed the basis of the study in which *Kloke* (1997) worked out the causes of infant mortality until the mid-19th century. In a large-scale comparison, the differences in breastfeeding (*Knode* 1968, 1988), that were recognised at an early stage, remain the key to an understanding of the noticeable contrast

<sup>1</sup> "The difference in the ... mortality of children in their first year of life is partly explained by the fact that far fewer among the female population in Mecklenburg-Schwerin work in factories and other commercial facilities than in the Prussian State. [...] With some occupations in which female workers are preferentially employed, [...] the deathbug is already implanted in the children in their mothers' womb."

between Northern and Southern Germany. In her further analysis, she however opposes monocausal declarations, emphasising the differing interaction of individual factors at the microregional level.

Illegitimacy played a limited role in developments overall. *Spree* (1998) quantifies its explanatory value for Germany in greater detail. According to this research, only one-tenth of the increase in overall infant mortality can be attributed to the mortality of children born out of wedlock, this taking place in a period when out-of-wedlock births accounted for a relatively large share among all births. Hence, the inclusion of this factor, which is certainly interesting in other respects, can be neglected here. It also evidently does not explain the difference vis-à-vis the Jewish population (*De-rosas* 2000), albeit this should be reviewed for Germany. In the most recent survey from the school of *Knodel*, *Kintner* (1994) revisits the topic of illegitimacy in her assessments of published statistics, and she also assesses it as being subordinate for explaining infant mortality. However, illegitimacy, together with urbanisation, acted to slow the fall in infant mortality. But, according to Kintner, the greatest influence was exerted by marital fertility; this link was particularly strong around 1900. In addition to more hygienic infant care, accordingly, the smaller number of siblings exerted a positive influence on the chances of survival.

For large-scale patterns, as well as for the difference between towns and country areas, the hypothesis stating that climatic circumstances had an effect on infant mortality should not remain neglected. In the absence of a better explanation, this idea was suggested at the start of the statistical evaluations (*Würzburg* 1887-1888), but it is also supported by more recent time series analysis (*Ekamper et al.* 2010). There is no doubt that seasonal temperature fluctuations, passed on and particularly amplified in the towns by the microclimate in dwellings (*Prinzing* 1899; *Stöckel* 1986) especially affected the mortality of infants who were not breastfed. There is however greater dispute whether this applies not only with regard to the regional differences at a specific time, but also to longer-term developments in the infant mortality rate (according to *Perrenoud* 1991, 1994). With his affirmation, *Perrenoud* (1994) refers to the statistical series on East Frisia and the Saarland from the Berlin database, in which a reduction has been recorded since the 1790s. He traces this back to the fall in the seasonal temperature differences. However, he does not say anything about the opposite problem of the continuous increase in infant mortality in the southern German areas which cannot be brought into line with it. The fact that the general increase or resurgence from the 1840s onwards took place with no recognisable link to the economic development of a region would also favour the influence of meteorological factors. Hypotheses of this kind can be examined using simple statistical series, given that climatic changes exert an influence in the same direction in major geographic connections. If they had been significant, they could therefore be expected to lead to similar changes in mortality in various regions.

If the presentation of robust statistical series on infant mortality is stressed as a central concern here, this is because only a small quantity of information is available for Germany so far, and some of it is misleading. In the international context, in fact, only *Mitchell* (2007) provides data on Germany in his set of figures for 1750-2005. These have for instance also been included in the GESIS dataset entitled "*Geschich-*

*te der deutschen Bevölkerung seit 1815*".<sup>2</sup> However, when attempting to make a graphical portrayal, it becomes clear that the statistics on which they are based cannot be used as they are. There are leaps at various points in time which can only be explained by the successive broadening of the databasis. *Mitchell* starts with Bavarian figures (from 1836), afterwards Saxony is included (from 1851 onwards), Prussia is not taken on board until 1875. This finding makes clear both the need to take better advantage of and to document the quantitative sources, and the problem of the representativeness of the regional figures from which national series are to be created. Firstly, the older Prussian figures may not be overlooked, and secondly Bavaria was presumably anything but representative. Moreover, the Prussian statistics prior to 1875 have already been used (*Spree* 1998; *Gehrmann* 2000) and are also known in the English literature (*Knodel* 1974). A reconstruction already exists for Baden-Wuerttemberg. However, the sources have not been marked clearly enough as being partial, i.e. in some cases only covering Baden (*Steinki/Pristl/Gröner* 1989).

### 3 Data and data processing

The collection entitled "*Bevölkerung und Wirtschaft 1872-1972*" (*Statistisches Bundesamt* 1972), which is still authoritative for long series on German population history, can only provide figures on infant mortality from 1901 onwards, in line with the information contained in the Statistical Year Books of the German *Reich*. Surveys on infant mortality had previously been exclusively a matter for the Federal States. The *Reich* statistics, established in 1871, did not require them to provide any information on the age of the deceased, but only to make a distinction between live and still births, the latter being defined as "*children born after at least six months' pregnancy who died before or during birth*" (translated by CPoS; *Kaiserliches Statistisches Amt* 1913: 25 – from where the following information was also obtained). The need for a more detailed distinction was formulated as far back as in 1868, but its implementation was largely left up to the individual Statistical Offices. In its annual mortality statistics, the Imperial Statistical Office limited itself to reproducing the information provided to it on the month of death and sex. It was not until the resolution of the *Bundesrat* of 6 December 1900 that an end was put to this unsatisfactory state of affairs with effect from 1901, and a uniform age classification was prescribed for the German *Reich*. Infant mortality was additionally distinguished from 1910 onwards according to the legitimacy of the children and by age in months.

The Imperial *Reich's* federal structure therefore caused gaps in the printed statistics on infant mortality prior to 1901. More than that, it is obvious that no such information was enquired from registry offices of some states, or at least not from the beginning. When the Imperial Statistical Office wished to draw up the first life table for the German *Reich* in the 1880s, it therefore ascertained that "*almost all*

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.histat.gesis.org>

*types and degrees of specialisation customary in statistics were found*” in the individual states (*Kaiserliches Statistisches Amt* 1887: 21; translated by CPoS) but that still no suitable documents could be obtained from some of them. Nonetheless, the life table finally covered 96.8 % of the population of the *Reich* in 1885 and 97.3 % of live births in 1872-80.<sup>3</sup> This allows identifying the annual infant mortality rate from 1872 onwards, given that it can be derived from the materials on the calculation of the life tables. It was not yet possible to include the states Saxony-Coburg-Gotha, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Waldeck, Lippe and Schaumburg-Lippe in the tables for the decades 1881 to 1890 and 1891 to 1900. A representativeness level of 98.99 % in relation to the number of inhabitants in 1900 was however already achieved for 1891/1900 (*Kaiserliches Statistisches Amt* 1913: 29; *Kaiserliches Statistisches Amt* 1910, 2\*). This value must be regarded as the upper limit for the 19th century. In addition to the restrictions that have been mentioned, *Knodel* (1974) had no access to the data from Thuringia, the principality of Luebeck, Birkenfeld and Anhalt for his work, so that his data collection is less complete, although it still remains highly useful as a secondary source in the context of the European Fertility Project.

With the aid of the life table material, it is therefore possible to extend the statistical series from *“Bevölkerung und Wirtschaft”* almost thirty years back. Values are available from 1872 onwards which are so highly representative (> 95 %) that they would not undergo any significant changes if one were to add the few missing data items.

The situation is more complicated for periods further in the past. It is basically irrelevant that the statistics of the population movement prior to 1875 were calculated by the religious communities in almost all German states. In doing so, they were carrying out state tasks and were hence subject to state agencies which sanctioned irregularities and ensured that the provided material was complete. With the establishment of Statistical Offices in the individual states, the collection of demographic information was allocated to a separate branch of the administration, but the foundations remained the same as in what is perhaps best referred to as the protostatistical era. This went back as far as the 17th century in some states. The surveys of early demographic statistics sometimes produce information on infant mortality, such as Prussia under Frederick the Great, whilst in other states, such as the stragglers named above, statistics remained rudimentary to the end or were based on an unsuitable distribution of the age groups. Differentiated information on demographic movements was also already published prior to 1871, and this sometimes still took place retrospectively on the basis of the repositioned documents after the establishment of the *Reich*. In some smaller states, however, neither one nor the other was carried out although the records would have been available. Sometimes

<sup>3</sup> This rate can be improved further by including Hamburg and Bremen. These states were not included in the life tables for 1871/72 to 1880/81 because the high age groups were not adequately attributed. *Würzburg* (1887-1888) was able to ascertain further data on infant mortality 1875-1877, so that only Saxony-Coburg-Gotha is totally excluded from his publication for the Imperial Health Office. At that time, still further material was therefore available in the Central Statistical Authorities of smaller states.

they remain in the archive stocks to this day. However, the corresponding analysis with small states such as Reuß Elder Line (0.1 % of the births of the *Reich*) is not profitable since the data to be collected do not affect the overall values for the area of the subsequent German *Reich*. They can remain the subject of later investigations.

As is customary in historical-demographic statistics, the reference territory for the 1816-1871 period is defined as the German *Reich* within the borders of 1914, but not including Alsace-Lorraine. In statistical terms, this involves 32 territorial units, since Hanover, the Hesse Electorate, Frankfurt, Homburg, Nassau and Schleswig-Holstein-Lauenburg are historically to be separated from Prussia, and the parts of Coburg and Gotha of the state Saxony-Coburg-Gotha had differing statistical systems.<sup>4</sup> It is hence a matter of calculating infant mortality values for this whole which can be used as the German values in an international comparison. Such values will not be contested when they are based on a coverage which is similar to that of the Reichsstatistik from 1872, but they have to be justified, when the representativeness is lower. It must be noted that a simple extrapolation of known values cannot be done a priori, since there is no guarantee that the values of the undocumented areas were similar to the values of the documented parts of Germany. However, the inclusion of the Prussian statistics already makes the situation much more favourable than as portrayed by *Mitchell* (2007). Mortality for Prussia is documented from 1816 onwards, and the state does represent half of the reference territory (50.7 % of births 1841/50). After the annexations which took place in 1866, the values of Prussian infant mortality were very close to the *Reich* values.<sup>5</sup> It will be necessary to investigate whether this was also the case for the preceding period.

Because of the major regional differences, however, the Prussian values or a dataset dominated by them should not be simply extrapolated. It is instead recommended to start by taking small steps and replacing the missing values in individual territories with probable ones. These emerge primarily when comparing the infant mortality values of neighbouring areas at different times. Thus, for Wuerttemberg prior to 1859 the information combined to form longer periods can be reduced to individual years by presuming the same spreads over the years as in Bavaria. For the Grand Duchy of Hesse, for instance, the clear analogies to the Hesse Electorate can be used for supplementation. Secondly, the child mortality rates can also be evaluated assuming that, if the likelihood of survival is identical at ages 2, 5, 10, 14 or 15, the likelihood of survival until the first birthday must also have been highly similar since, by virtue of its considerable magnitude, the latter was a determining

<sup>4</sup> The Schleswig-Holstein values do not always contain Lauenburg, which constitutes a special problem, although it is negligible because of its smallness. The independence of the two Hohenzollern and of two Anhalt states, as well as of a principality of Reuß until a certain time prior to 1866, is also insignificant here, as are territorial changes in Thuringia prior to 1830; this is because there is in any case no early information on infant mortality for any of these areas.

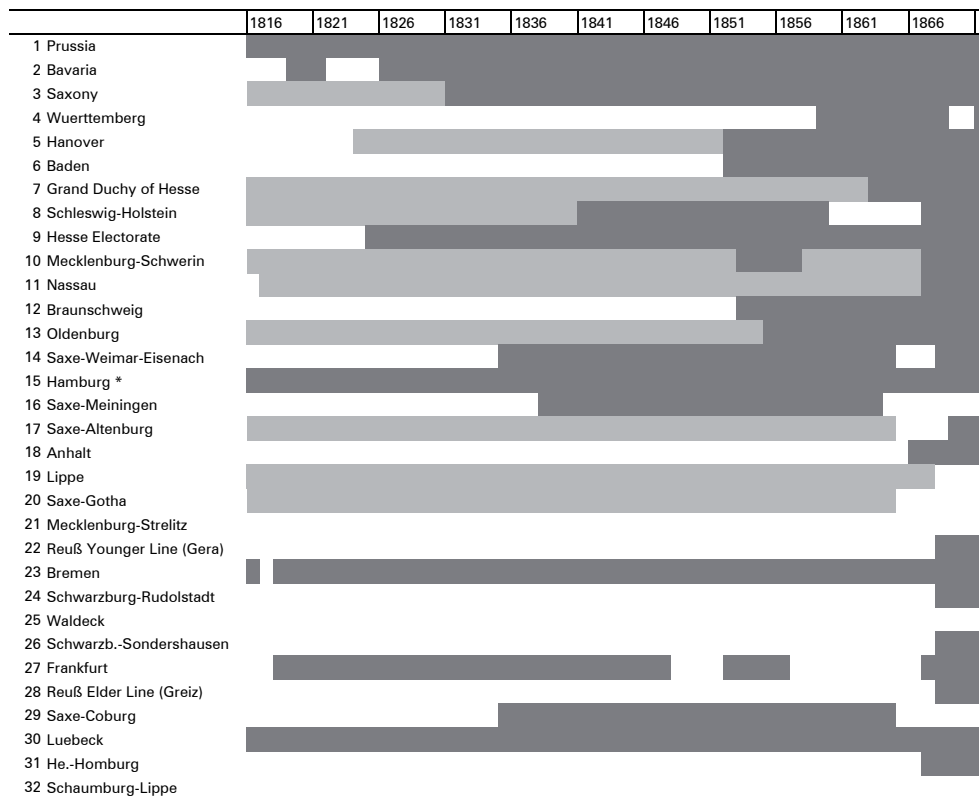
<sup>5</sup> Prussian infant mortality as a mean of the annual values in 1872 to 1901 was 98.5 % of the rate for the Reich as a whole, ranging from 94.2 % to 102.5 %.



factor for all other age groups just named and mortality was subject to less marked structural variations after the first year of life. How this was done in detail can be derived from the methodical remarks in Appendix 1. All the values calculated refer to live births.<sup>6</sup> This principle was retained here although it does not reflect the contemporary understanding which is also expressed in the sources. A brief excursion on the definitions in the sources and on the problem of registration of the stillbirths is hence necessary here.

The statistics of the 19th century generally stated both births and deaths, including stillbirths. The latter were stated separately, but were not always registered

**Fig. 1:** Annual data on infant mortality, 1816-1871



■ Data on child mortality

■ Data on infant mortality

Oldenburg 1871 not incl. the principality of Luebeck and Birkenfeld

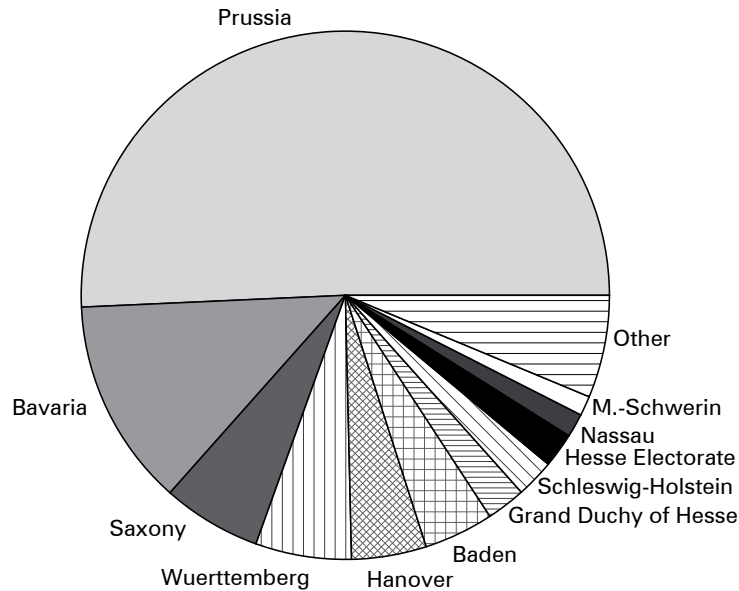
\* Infant mortality without the rural area and Bergedorf

Source: see statistical references.

<sup>6</sup> They do not refer to the civil year in all states. This inaccuracy has to be accepted.



**Fig. 2:** Representativeness of the individual states and territories, 1841/50



Source: Statistik des Deutschen Reichs, N.F. 44, 1892.

correctly. This especially applies to Catholic areas. The apparent stillbirth rate was too low there and the apparent infant mortality rate somewhat too high, because many stillbirths were declared as live births. Only for Mecklenburg-Schwerin does the opposite constellation occur in which many cases could be wrongly evaluated as stillbirths, since the statistics do not contain a special column for children who were born alive, but died before baptism. Because of the methods used by different denominations to distinguish between stillbirths, on the one hand, and live births which died on the day of birth, on the other, a separation factor was also used in historical analysis carried out on the basis of precise information of the birth and death data based on the original material from church records. The presumption underlying this factor is that, at that time, a similar share (roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of the total number of children registered in all places as having died on the day of their birth actually were stillbirths (*Imhof* 1990). An analogous method would also be possible for Mecklenburg. In the interests of an accurate data documentation, the original information on live and stillbirths was not corrected, however.

The graphs (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) show the representativeness of the figures available on infant mortality (Fig. 1, year box marked dark). The eleven largest areas together accounted for 93.7 % of the births of the total reference territory of Germany in 1841/50 (Fig. 2). Gaps in the data of these states hence have a negative impact on the representativeness of the overall values, whilst the remaining 21 territorial units are virtually negligible in statistical terms. Taken individually, they never reached 1 % of the total number of births.

**Tab. 1:** Representativeness of the figures on infant mortality

a	Live births in the dataset per year	
b	Share of a in the number of births in Germany	
	a	b
1819-21	634,538	.648
1826-30	648,163	.654
1831-40	769,176	.715
1841-45	890,203	.753
1846-51	986,559	.818
1852-66	1,195,255	.920
1867-71	1,378,671	.956

Source: see statistical references.

The share of births on which information is available on infant mortality is vital in order to carry out an overall evaluation of the statistical material (Table 1). The reference value used here is based on the figures of the historical statistics of the German *Reich* (Vol. 44) from 1841 onwards, not including Alsace-Lorraine as has already been mentioned,. So far there is no such basis in published form for the period 1816 to 1841, so that own calculations were carried out to determine the total number of births in which estimates have also been included. The procedure employed in the *Reich* statistics has been applied where possible.

## 4 Results

The complex procedure of supplementing missing data does not lead to significantly different results for the 1826-1871 period than the simple addition of the figures from the sources. The difference between the two series is no more than 0.9 percentage points per year, which in relation to the level of infant mortality at that time can be called only a slight deviation (Tab. 2, columns a and b in comparison). It is unlikely that the complete hundred percent values which cannot be ascertained here are significantly different since even unexpected, extreme and individual outliers in individual states with missing data cannot be realistically presumed to be so large that they could exert a sufficient influence on the overall values. This even applies to Wuerttemberg, which is relatively large, and for which the lack of raw data for the years 1869 and 1870 are somewhat disturbing. This creates a tenable basis for estimating the overall development (Table 2).

The first thing to notice is that the picture does not entirely correspond to the expectation expressed at the outset since developments in Prussia cannot be equated to those of the territory as a whole, namely the later German *Reich*. It is evident that the situation in the Southern German states was too different to that in Prussia before a kind of convergence set in following the establishment of the *Reich* which

**Tab. 2:** Infant mortality in Germany, 1826-1914

	a acc. to raw data, 1872-1900		acc. to life tables				
	b incl. calculated additions (constant not incl. Alsace-Lorraine)						
	c acc. to Federal Statistical Office 1972: 107 & 113						
	a	b	a	b		c	
1826	.204	.206	1867	.236	.235	1901	.207
1827	.206	.204	1868	.249	.248	1902	.183
1828	.200	.203	1869	.220	.226	1903	.204
1829	.201	.206	1870	.232	.237	1904	.196
1830	.203	.203	1871	.264	.264	1905	.205
1831	.209	.213	1872	.242	.246	1906	.185
1832	.212	.214	1873	.240	.242	1907	.176
1833	.213	.213	1874	.237	.239	1908	.178
1834	.233	.236	1875	.241	.240	1909	.170
1835	.203	.207	1876	.231		1910	.162
1836	.199	.205	1877	.225		1911	.192
1837	.217	.220	1878	.226		1912	.147
1838	.206	.208	1879	.219		1913	.151
1839	.214	.214	1880	.237		1914	.164
1840	.207	.212	1881	.220			
1841	.210	.215	1882	.224			
1842	.214	.220	1883	.227			
1843	.217	.220	1884	.231			
1844	.190	.195	1885	.223			
1845	.203	.208	1886	.242			
1846	.231	.226	1887	.214			
1847	.223	.220	1888	.215			
1848	.226	.218	1889	.223			
1849	.201	.199	1890	.223			
1850	.214	.208	1891	.216			
1851	.211	.208	1892	.227			
1852	.228	.224	1893	.220			
1853	.215	.213	1894	.209			
1854	.221	.219	1895	.226			
1855	.214	.213	1896	.198			
1856	.205	.204	1897	.218			
1857	.225	.223	1898	.208			
1858	.228	.225	1899	.213			
1859	.234	.231	1900	.225			
1860	.210	.206					
1861	.241	.235					
1862	.228	.223					
1863	.230	.225					
1864	.226	.222					
1865	.255	.251					
1866	.235	.230					

Source: see statistical references.

led to a correspondence of the Prussian and *Reich* data. Such regional particularities play a vital role for Germany; they will be analysed in greater detail later. All in all, after the positive estimates of the 1820s had been superimposed by opposite tendencies, stagnation at a high level was predominant, whilst the situation was particularly critical in the first half of the 1860s until the second half of the 1870s, with a value of 24.5 % in the five-year period 1871/75. The epidemiological environment was extremely unfavourable during this period, this having corresponding effects on infants. The 1871/72 smallpox epidemic in Prussia was symptomatic of this. Other causes of death such as diphtheria and typhus however also occurred extensively in this period (e.g. 1865), but cannot be quantified because of the inadequate death statistics, whilst the cholera epidemic of 1866 astonishingly did not leave a direct trace. Similar side effects of diseases which actually tend to target older children also occurred in England in this period, where scarlet fever was a specific problem (Woods 1994).

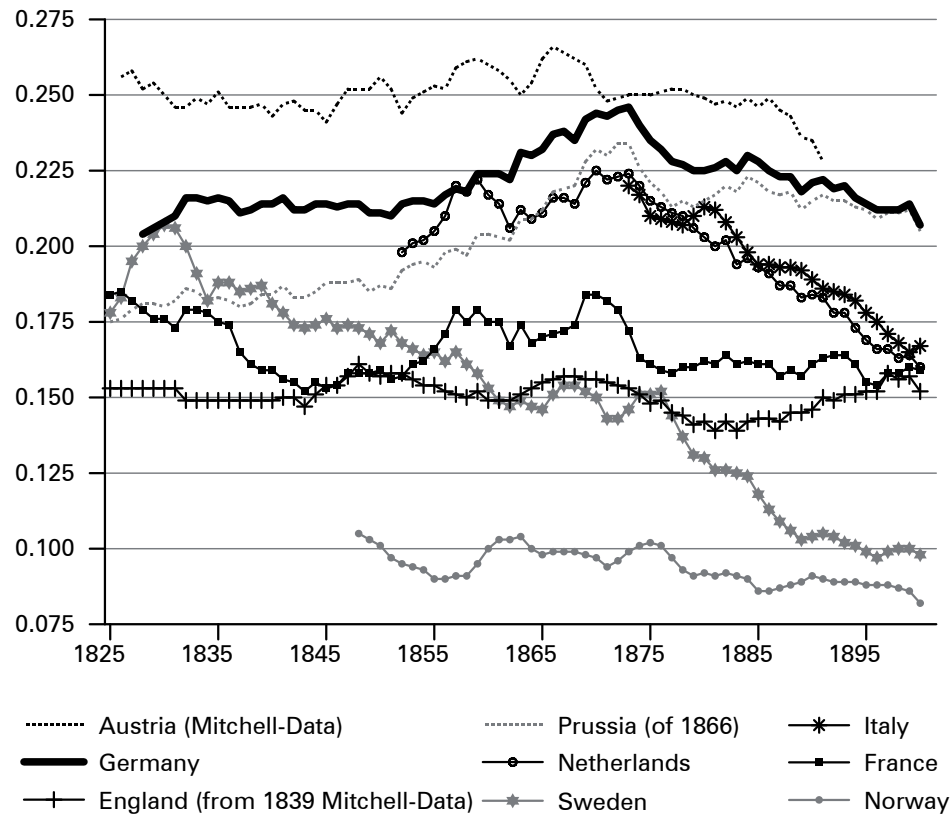
No real change took place even after 1872 in spite of the ebbing of the wave of uncontrolled epidemics which also left their traces in Scandinavia in the decades 1850-1870 (Bengtsson/Lundh 1994). The rising birth rate in the *Gründerzeit* (the "Founder Epoch") after the Franco-German war may have contributed to this. Whilst infant mortality subsequently fell slightly, the decisive mark of an irreversible sinking of around 10 % was however not overstepped until 1901, which was already recognised by Knodel (1974: 162). With its sustainably high values, Germany almost brought up the rear (Fig. 3) among those European states for which longer time series are available, exceeded only by Austria and Russia (Vallin 1989: 38). The divide in comparison to the Western states had tended to widen further towards the end of the 19th century. Was the course of infant mortality in Germany based on a similar pattern which was perhaps delayed, or did it follow a different path?

The comparison shows that there was indeed a model development (Sweden), but otherwise no uniform marching route. Nonetheless, various patterns are revealed, albeit only a representative selection of states is portrayed in Fig. 3 for reasons of clarity:

- a. A continuous drop in infant mortality, starting shortly before the middle of the century: Sweden. Iceland follows, but on the basis of a very much higher level and with stronger outliers. The values in Norway, already starting very low, only fall slightly, and there are discontinuities in Denmark.
- b. Stagnating infant mortality on a moderate level: England. Belgium shows similar characteristics, France ultimately following suit after seeming initially to develop according to the Swedish pattern.
- c. Marked fall in infant mortality in the last third of the 19th century, starting from relatively high values, preceded by an increase: Netherlands. Italy followed a similar pattern – as far as documented by national statistics.

Like Austria, Germany cannot be positioned within this pattern. The fact that the mortality of infants did not reduce was not unusual per se (pattern b). This problem can be linked to industrialisation (Vallin 1989), and is even occasionally generalised for the 19th century (van de Walle 2005). What was unusual was rather the persist-

**Fig. 3:** Infant mortality in Germany in an international comparison, 1825-1900 (5-years-moving averages)

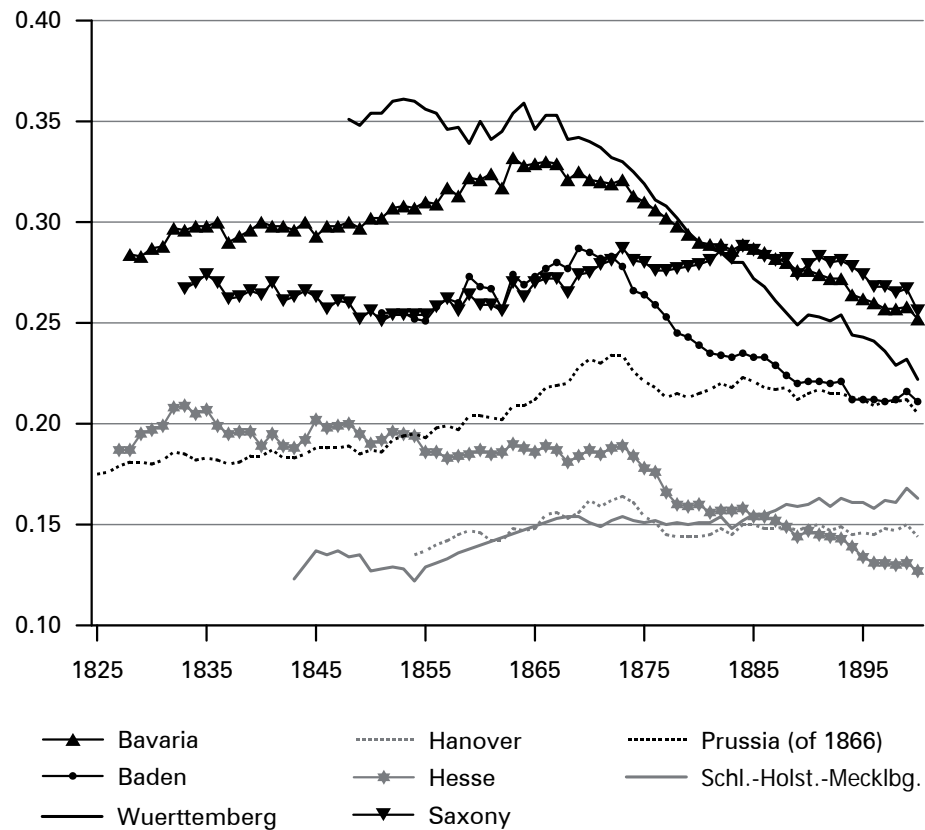


Source: Human Mortality Database, own calculations.

ence of this problem and the widening gap in comparison with the Netherlands (pattern c) for example. Germany was in any case far removed from the Scandinavian situation.

This should however not rule out conditions pertaining in parts of Germany that were similarly favourable to its Northern neighbours. This is already indicated by the so-called Berlin life tables (*Imhof* 1990). This poses the question as to the significance of the regional differences. Were they largely constant, or were there diverging developments? In the latter case, the analysis would also have a heuristic value for the interpretation of the overall course and of the factors influencing them.

The contrasts between the German states which are clearly recognisable in Fig. 4 had been formed at the latest in the second half of the 18th century (*Imhof* 1990), and the general difference between a high Southern German and a low Northern German infant mortality did not disappear at any time in the 19th century. Until the 1860s, the situation in Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Oldenburg (not shown) or Mecklenburg (combined in Fig. 4 with Schleswig-Holstein) was even better than

**Fig. 4:** Infant mortality in the larger German states, 1825-1900 (5-years-moving averages)

Source: see statistical references.

that in Sweden, which is shown as a model above. The common features shown in some of the Northern and Baltic areas hence suggest that one should not exclude natural and climatic factors from the outset, but that one should include population density. On the other hand, there were the Southern German states which were highly heterogeneous per se, but whose figures were negatively influenced by the widespread practice of not breastfeeding. However, progress was made there in the last third of the 19th century, whilst the situation did not improve in the industrial areas of Central Germany. In this period changes not only occurred in the problematic Southern German states, but also in other regions that were better off. If these were hence possible, the fact that they did not occur elsewhere may also indicate why Germany as a whole lagged behind comparable European states when it came to the survival chances of infants.

The following regional patterns can be identified which confirm *Knodel's* observations (1974) on the link between the amount of and progress in infant mortality:

- a. Western and Southern Germany: clearly-recognisable fall in the infant mortality rate, partly from a high and previously even rising level (Bavaria, Wuerttemberg, Baden), and partly from a moderate level (Hesse). There are similarities to the development in infant mortality in the Netherlands and in Italy as far as figures are available. This progress meant that conditions for the survival of infants were ultimately better in Hesse than in Schleswig-Holstein or Mecklenburg.
- b. Central Germany: slight or no improvements. This is shown clearly in Saxony and is to be analysed more closely for Prussia. Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg show a similar pattern, albeit the total infant mortality rate was much lower there. The values in Hanover remained largely unchanged.

Because of its size, Prussia must be looked at more closely. What is interesting here is both the East-West divide and the problem of the attribution of individual regions to the two patterns named. The mentioned difference can be determined from the outset to a certain degree, but no uniform picture emerges overall. For instance, Silesia and the Leipzig Basin area bordering on Saxony to the North already showed high infant mortality in the 1820-34 period, whilst Pomerania, which is further East, apart from the Oder estuary, was equated to the Baltic Sea area further West (*Gehrmann* 2010). The second criterion for an attribution, the course of progress, can be obtained from comparing the periods of 1833/37 (own data collection) and 1875/80 (printed statistics, compiled by *Knodel* 1974) (Table 3).

The values also fell in areas of Prussia in which they had previously been particularly high, and vice versa. This tendency to converge was however initially limited to reducing the extremes, whilst regional differences were not levelled out. On the contrary, they were accentuated when taken as a whole. Apart from the administrative districts of Koeslin and Erfurt, all the Central and Eastern German areas therefore reached higher scales, whilst all the Western German areas apart from Cologne show values below 20 %. The increase in Prussian infant mortality was largely due to the unfavourable development shown in the catchment area of the city of Berlin and in Eastern and Western Prussia. The initially negative effects of urbanisation caused by industrialisation (*Vögele* 1997), which are also recognisable in the data presented here for Hamburg, were therefore certainly present, but quite obviously do not reflect the only social problems which had fatal consequences. It is also likely that an explanation based on the fostering system, which has not been investigated so far, and which affected the surrounding areas starting in the towns, is ineffective. Rather, additional factors appear to have come into play which, when taken together, worsened rather than improved the living conditions of infants.

Such an absence of progress does not have to contradict an increase in the general standard of living, given that the connection between the parents' material security and the survival chances of their children was anything but linear. For instance, it is frequently observed in historical demography that infant mortality was lower among unpropertied agricultural labourers than it was among farmers (*Schlumbohm* 1992; *Bengtsson/Lundh* 1994; *Sponholz* 1995; *Kloke* 1997; *Stephan* 2002), so that the poorer families were better off in this respect than the richer ones. It is however certain on the other hand that the progress made at the turn of the 20th century started in the towns. There, in turn, it firstly became noticeable among civil



**Tab. 3:** Changes in infant mortality rates in central administrative districts

No.	(Knodel 1974: 288)	1833/37	1875/80	± %
1	Ostpreußen	.182	.218	19.6
2	Danzig	.192	.235	22.7
3	Marienwerder	.181	.226	25.1
4	Berlin	.228	.304	33.2
5	Potsdam	.174	.254	46.2
6	Frankfurt / Oder	.166	.220	32.8
7	Stettin-Stralsund	.156	.215	37.5
8	Köslin	.147	.166	13.2
9	Posen	.191	.216	13.3
10	Bromberg	.177	.215	21.7
11	Breslau	.239	.274	14.5
12	Liegnitz	.279	.289	3.7
13	Oppeln	.209	.212	1.6
14	Magdeburg	.172	.219	27.0
15	Merseburg	.201	.214	6.6
16	Erfurt	.162	.186	15.0
24	Münster	.139	.150	7.6
25	Minden	.156	.151	-3.1
26	Arnsberg	.128	.151	18.1
27	Kassel	.207	.164	-20.9
29	Koblenz	.170	.179	5.5
30	Düsseldorf	.140	.166	18.9
31	Köln	.157	.202	28.9
32	Trier	.143	.157	9.4
33	Aachen	.165	.193	16.7
35	Oberbayern	.380	.383	0.8
36	Niederbayern	.337	.348	3.1
37	Pfalz	.177	.179	0.9
38	Oberpfalz	.314	.327	4.2
39	Oberfranken	.214	.192	-10.1
40	Mittelfranken	.293	.286	-2.4
41	Unterfranken	.241	.207	-14.0
42	Schwaben	.400	.383	-4.1
43	Dresden	.257	.267	3.9
44	Leipzig	.262	.266	1.5
45	Zwickau	.278	.303	8.9
66	Lübeck	.184	.178	-3.0
67	Bremen	.151	.171	12.9
68	Hamburg	.164	.219	33.3

Dresden, Leipzig and Zwickau only 1835/37

Source: see statistical references.

servants and self-employed persons (*Vögele* 1997; *Spree* 1980; cf. *Woods* 1994; *Sundin* 1995). All in all, infant mortality did not sustainably fall until the “urban handicap” disappeared, hence paving the way towards the value of 10 %, which at that time could be regarded as optimal.

In addition to urbanisation, and connected to this migration and population density, still another demographic condition is to be observed, namely fertility. The causality which was identified early and appears plausible according to which a fall in infant mortality had to be preceded by a drop in fertility (*van de Walle* 1986; *Preston* 1978) cannot be upheld for Germany. Rather, there was a connection with the drop in fertility which is insoluble, or which rather has yet only been insufficiently solved by analysis.

Prior to the transformation in fertility behaviour, there was not yet a positive correlation between the two events at least in Prussia. The gross reproduction rate which can be estimated relatively reliably because of the age distribution of deaths and the natural growth rates, did not increase there parallel to infant mortality, but fell until after the middle of the century. This also applied to Potsdam administrative district, where the greatest increase in infant mortality was registered. Particularly informative is the inclusion of natality when observing developments in Hesse, since this region serves here as an example of an early fall in infant mortality from a level that was already moderate, and hence can be regarded as a German counterpart to Sweden. The birth rate in Hesse in the 1850s was relatively low, and this was probably also linked to emigration. Then it initially increased, but subsequently fell once more. Whilst no unambiguous correspondence with a movement in infant mortality can yet be registered for the first fertility reduction, if it was real at all and not simply a result of the age structure,<sup>7</sup> such a reduction is clearly revealed in the second half of the 1870s. Thus, it can be concluded that a changed interaction between infant mortality and fertility behaviour only came about in a new historic context, and was perhaps unable to do so until such a change had taken place.

## 5 Discussion

Hopefully, the results presented here will provide an impetus for further studies of the topic of infant mortality in historic Germany. Regardless of the more exact analyses of certain connections that have to be carried out in the future, the presented overview of the main international and interregional differences already enables one to comment on individual hypotheses of the research.

The climatic hypothesis, which met with both approval but also disagreement at an early date (*Krull* 1874), proved to be relatively unhelpful for our analysis. There is no denying that it can help to explain short-term fluctuations, and perhaps also

<sup>7</sup> The mortality statistics of the Hesse Electorate provide age distributions for deaths. The age groups are however relatively broad, so that model life tables have to be used in order to then estimate the gross reproduction rate.

favourable periods such as the 1820s. However, it can no longer be regarded as a decisive factor for the main part of the period surveyed. This already emerges from a synopsis of the data series presented here, since they were not subject to manifestly parallel influences.

However, the approaches which are based on social factors can generally be agreed with. They necessarily focus on the workload of women, even if it cannot always be quantified or made amenable to measure in another form (*Vallin* 1989). The differences in this area, however, cannot be simply ascribed to an East-West divide, as happens with *Lee* (1984) referring to agricultural property ownership. This is contradicted by the example of Eastern Pomerania with its extremely good survival chances, and farmers in Mecklenburg were also not better off than elsewhere in the areas to the East of the Elbe. There therefore remains some analysis to be done and concretisation to be carried out. Especially the distribution of tasks in the countryside has to be analysed. Furthermore, the indications of *Wiegelmann* (1975), mentioned above, should be explored, since they suggest that the position of the Baltic area was more favourable in this respect from the Middle Ages onwards. The contemporary literature also offers some source material on this topic.

The first provisional answer to the question of why Germany had such a high infant mortality and why it was so difficult to limit it for a long time, must therefore be that the latter was by no means unusual in industrialised states with a high degree of urbanisation. Additionally, however, the conditions in the area of the German *Reich*, when taken as a whole, were much worse than elsewhere. Unfavourable regional developments already occurred prior to 1815 when it came to breastfeeding and infant care which were due at least as much to attitudes as to social conditions. The forces of population pressure and population regulation may have been just as effective in the background. These regional differences, which have become constants, were now supplemented by new ones. They express a worsening in living conditions of infants. Such a development was observed both in the towns and in the countryside, in particular in the central provinces of Prussia. The term “women’s workloads” is the key to this development.

It is equally important here to point out that the findings support some known or somewhat neglected observations made by contemporaries and historical demographers. For instance, it may be regarded as certain that the reduction in fertility was accompanied by a drop in infant mortality (*Knodel* 1974; *Kintner* 1994), albeit one event was not the chronological consequence of the other. One can therefore conclude that both events were determined by a change in attitudes. Where this was expressed in a corresponding health policy, it did not remain hidden (*Prinzing* 1899; *Vögele* 2010). The observations discussed so far however tend to refer to the 20th century rather than to the 19th, which is the one we are interested in here. However, there were already unmistakeable reductions in infant mortality which have been characterised above as the Western and Southern German pattern. They are reminiscent of the reduction which took place several decades before (*Gehrmann* 2002), also regionally-limited, in which a change in breastfeeding and infant care is manifest. The fact that this event has been virtually disregarded in the research carried out so far may have been caused by the fact that it still took place in the context of

the old demographic circumstances, and not in the process of transition, which received greater attention. Lessons could certainly also be drawn from patterns which occurred earlier for the interpretation of subsequent changes – or their delay.

There has for quite some time no longer been a shortage of medical insight in the field of infant care (*Rau* 1840; *Fischer* 1965), and the very low infant mortality among the Jewish population of Prussia is only one example of certain population groups in which the optimal 10 % mark was certainly already a realistic orientation (*Wappäus* 1859: 215). It is obvious that from a certain time onwards the attempts were intensified to engage in popular education, as can also be demonstrated for Sweden. For instance, *Krull* (1874: 144) quotes a paper which appeared at a time when the high child mortality in Wuerttemberg finally began to fall (*“Die Kindersterblichkeit in Wuerttemberg: Eine Mahnung an das Volk, 1868”*). These had been preceded by detailed research carried out by the *Physikate* (local public health offices) that had been ordered by the medical board in 1858. In this context, the education of women already appeared to them as the key to combating infant mortality, in its effects that were defined in early infant mortality (*Finkelburg* 1882). The degree to which new knowledge could be implemented primarily depended on the attitudes, and then on the social circumstances. The discussion of the question of what this meant in concrete terms in 19th century Germany, and what conclusions can be drawn from this in terms of continuity and change in society, is still underway.

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### Appendix 1: Estimating and calculating missing infant mortality rates

1. Retroactive extension: If both the infant mortality rate and child mortality rates are available for a later period, this ratio can be transferred to an earlier section of the 19th century for which the child mortality rate is known. This method is however only used here by way of exception since epidemic years had a stronger impact on the child mortality rate than on the infant mortality rate.
2. Conclusion by analogy that values are taken on from areas which are not too far apart and in which at other times the infant mortality rate, or the child mortality rate in general, were very similar.
3. The following detailed estimates were carried out for the missing infant mortality rates:
  - a. Saxony: 1826-1831 calculated from the child mortality rate,
  - b. Hesse: Homburg, Grand Duchy of Hesse, Nassau and Waldeck, values as Kurhessen,
  - c. Frankfurt: years 1847-50 in which there are gaps, as Hamburg,
  - d. Wuerttemberg: calculated from the Bavarian values (factor 1.172 – corresponds both to the 1818/21 ratio (1.18) and to the 1847/56 ratio (1.17))
  - e. Hanover and Braunschweig: infant mortality rate to 1851 and 1852, respectively, derived from  ${}_2q_0$  for Lippe (factor 0.75, as in the East Frisian life table 1820-1859),
  - f. Lippe and Schaumburg-Lippe: from 1852 as Hanover,
  - g. Mecklenburg-Schwerin: for 1826-52 as Ratzeburg (partial *Land* of Mecklenburg-Strelitz), for 1858-66 as Hanover,
  - h. Mecklenburg-Strelitz: as Mecklenburg-Schwerin,
  - i. Schleswig-Holstein: for 1826-40 as Ratzeburg, for 1860-66 as Hanover,
  - j. Oldenburg: until 1854 as Schleswig-Holstein (i.e. prior to 1841 as Ratzeburg)
  - k. Baden: for 1826-1851 as Saxony since the infant mortality rates are almost identical in 1852-63 (0.259/0.262),
  - l. Anhalt: as Prussia,
  - m. Altenburg: apart from 1826-30 (derived there from  ${}_2q_0$ ) as Saxony,
  - n. Reuß Elder line: as Altenburg,
  - o. Coburg: as Altenburg (until 1834 and 1865-67), then as Reuß Younger line (1868-71),
  - p. Reuß Elder line: as Coburg,
  - q. Gotha: from 1838 as Meiningen,
  - r. Meiningen, Weimar: before 1838 and 1835, respectively, the values derived from  ${}_2q_0$  values for Gotha; Meiningen 1868-71 as Weimar; 1865-67 as Kurhessen,
  - s. Schwarzburg: as Meiningen.

**Appendix 2: Live births in the larger states and Hanseatic cities, 1819-1900**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Prussia (of 1866)	Bavaria	Saxony	Wuerttem- berg	Hanover	Baden	Grand Duchy of Hesse	Schleswig- Holstein	Hesse- Kassel	Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	Nassau - Wiesbaden	Hamburg/ Bremen
1819	477,455	147,492										4,694
1820	469,174	143,710										4,809
1821	488,401	144,540		1812-1822: 534,740								4,777
1822	486,606											4,988
1823	482,717											5,080
1824	488,483											5,173
1825	506,083								21,002			4,803
1826	507,776	135,839							21,256			4,625
1827	474,045	136,061							19,972			5,308
1828	482,580	136,573							20,528			5,408
1829	478,599	132,234							20,577			5,617
1830	480,210	137,763							21,490			5,485
1831	473,304	138,313	57,798						20,514			5,033
1832	464,968	138,033	57,507						21,428			5,829
1833	518,181	142,847	60,028						23,641			6,153
1834	536,235	147,714	60,367						24,529			6,387
1835	513,162	151,089	63,068						25,687			5,892
1836	529,677	149,299	62,406						24,373			5,398
1837	536,754	145,418	61,613						23,782			5,828
1838	545,166	143,974	63,394						25,054			6,087
1839	553,287	149,185	64,488						24,448			6,116
1840	565,145	149,909	65,247						25,405			6,064
1841	568,751	151,490	66,836					25,149	25,328			6,419
1842	599,643	156,643	71,441					25,989	26,355			7,096
1843	581,152	153,412	64,880					25,711	24,764			7,018
1844	598,757	142,986	67,653					26,145	25,352			7,562

## Appendix 2 continuation

	1 Prussia (of 1866)	2 Bavaria	3 Saxony	4 Wuerttem- berg	5 Hanover	6 Baden	7 Grand Duchy of Hesse	8 Schleswig- Holstein	9 Hesse- Kassel	10 Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	11 Nassau - Wiesbaden	12 Hamburg/ Bremen
1845	622,757	156,853	73,923					26,520	25,783			7,895
1846	602,409	155,202	73,703					26,784	25,317			7,869
1847	561,392	147,516	70,442	1846/47-				25,232	22,179			7,396
1848	554,620	142,791	69,051	1855/56:				25,907	24,009			7,700
1849	664,923	162,111	78,367	645,119				27,260	27,184			7,539
1850	663,081	157,068	78,330					26,810	26,313			7,091
1851	651,073	157,789	79,048					26,422	25,979			8,143
1852	647,168	150,667	76,720		56,414	43,724		30,033	23,574			7,865
1853	633,018	145,290	78,486		56,889	42,840		27,824	23,209	16,516		7,942
1854	622,917	149,779	77,170		54,995	40,728		28,193	22,536	16,691		7,780
1855	593,511	138,341	70,503		55,454	38,119		30,258	20,491	16,587		7,866
1856	601,005	149,594	77,211		56,659	43,906		30,267	21,737	16,659		7,803
1857	674,784	155,363	84,126		58,549	45,004		31,113	22,935	16,578		8,471
1858	699,354	156,235	86,030		60,567	45,167		31,479	24,384			8,645
1859	715,635	160,379	87,194	66,443	62,179	47,977		31,842	25,481			8,619
1860	699,403	160,103	88,555	64,820	60,433	46,540			24,143			9,150
1861	692,989	157,707	86,727	64,865	60,847	47,067			23,783			8,760
1862	692,395	161,593	89,036	65,723	57,896	47,506			23,514			9,222
1863	745,226	171,452	94,230	69,052	63,419	50,726	29,123		24,825			9,506
1864	758,983	177,971	94,293	71,391	62,854	53,135	30,037		26,304			10,093
1865	761,298	177,695	96,372	71,833	62,595	53,665	30,083		26,263			10,398
1866	765,316	179,690	99,573	73,754	64,000	55,452	29,474		26,977			10,912
1867	743,737	181,369	94,014	72,867	62,259	53,275	28,526	31,299	26,546	18,027	20,606	11,530
1868	746,920	181,743	98,218	73,492	61,279	53,117	28,714	31,169	27,399	17,815	20,716	12,162
1869	774,609	185,171	100,512		62,913	55,459	30,736	30,979	28,684	18,525	21,702	12,795
1870	792,287	194,494	103,915		63,286	56,934	31,621	31,806	28,587	18,501	22,310	12,638
1871	696,994	177,290	95,856	74,389	60,805	52,654	28,894	29,097	25,143	17,348	19,859	13,800
1872	835,215	194,805	109,303	79,845	64,822	58,715	32,125	34,543	27,802	18,183	22,463	17,568
1873	835,180	201,791	114,269	81,790	69,613	58,704	32,490	34,441	28,794	18,175	23,127	18,463
1874	854,107	204,089	118,543	81,620	68,482	58,899	33,142	33,487	29,457	18,344	23,856	19,807

Appendix 2 continuation

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Prussia (of 1866)	Bavaria	Saxony	Wuerttem- berg	Hanover	Baden	Grand Duchy of Hesse	Schleswig- Holstein	Hesse- Kassel	Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	Nassau - Wiesbaden	Hamburg/ Bremen
1875	876,572	209,013	120,038	85,132	69,443	60,716	34,121	34,586	30,775	18,557	24,385	20,556
1876	888,442	215,282	126,361	85,894	71,133	61,041	33,842	37,494	30,784	18,817	25,217	21,834
1877	883,314	213,050	124,907	84,187	71,040	59,949	33,290	37,701	30,788	18,703	24,909	21,946
1878	870,336	208,472	123,045	81,123	69,807	58,626	32,685	37,295	29,569	18,225	24,275	22,140
1879	889,216	207,954	125,449	80,914	70,271	57,539	32,377	37,663	29,610	18,920	24,382	22,432
1880	870,844	202,668	123,372	78,363	68,917	55,833	31,185	36,544	28,626	18,076	23,646	22,708
1881	856,341	204,141	124,951	76,803	67,976	55,442	30,976	36,268	28,229	17,839	23,750	22,717
1882	878,132	202,206	126,656	75,609	69,456	54,509	30,471	36,986	27,739	17,753	23,244	23,066
1883	874,195	197,033	127,274	72,763	68,483	52,935	29,883	36,460	26,782	17,224	22,594	22,876
1884	891,239	204,328	132,524	73,582	70,646	53,709	30,466	37,362	28,233	17,675	23,370	23,113
1885	905,557	199,690	132,852	71,766	71,096	52,574	29,917	37,286	27,422		23,040	22,985
1886	914,606	199,901	136,531	71,476	71,335	53,273	30,554	37,281	26,921	17,656	24,155	23,237
1887	923,649	199,732	137,366	70,304	71,937	52,865	30,204	37,986	27,143	17,723	24,280	23,414
1888	928,066	196,794	140,191	68,681	73,432	52,255	30,192	38,489	26,957	17,731	24,274	24,362
1889	930,824	199,242	142,639	68,036	72,666	52,990	30,729	38,931	27,165	17,557	24,918	26,222
1890	928,959	195,047	140,514	66,780	73,016	51,706	30,000	39,092	26,589	17,084	24,502	27,155
1891	967,253	205,453	147,480	70,121	75,431	55,305	32,016	41,167	27,734	17,416	26,578	28,571
1892	938,696	203,449	142,527	69,407	74,324	54,858	31,565	40,974	26,776	16,767	25,733	28,527
1893	979,762	210,039	146,158	70,732	78,873	55,622	32,724	42,175	28,318	17,635	27,122	29,339
1894	970,285	206,395	145,661	69,123	77,322	54,291	31,965	42,042	26,711	17,493	26,684	29,105
1895	990,603	208,876	146,160	71,156	79,217	56,652	32,921	43,034	27,486	17,833	27,587	28,758
1896	1,004,929	215,652	152,217	72,510	80,722	57,863	33,675	43,604	27,853	17,565	28,176	29,771
1897	1,010,757	216,207	153,663	71,501	82,323	58,918	34,148	43,699	28,027	17,592	29,054	29,554
1898	1,033,439	219,279	156,962	73,177	83,801	60,483	35,301	44,225	28,119	18,095	29,776	29,932
1899	1,039,901	224,164	158,579	73,810	83,327	62,288	35,912	43,602	28,435	17,436	30,189	29,171
1900	1,048,042	226,213	158,563	74,293	83,373	63,482	36,975	44,185	28,772	17,095	31,347	29,053

## Appendix 3: Infant deaths in the larger states and Hanseatic cities, 1819-1900

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Prussia (of 1866)	Bavaria	Saxony	Wuerttem- berg	Hanover	Baden	Grand Duchy of Hesse	Schleswig- Holstein	Hesse- Kassel	Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	Nassau - Wiesbaden	Hamburg/ Bremen
1819	83,066	39,366										746
1820	74,623	39,374										804
1821	76,530	39,856		1812-1822: 185,420								769
1822	84,748											728
1823	81,639											703
1824	81,363											862
1825	85,385								3,713			777
1826	93,259	38,478							3,772			835
1827	88,019	37,906							3,926			842
1828	85,511	38,716							4,091			835
1829	85,439	37,857							3,782			965
1830	86,579	39,766							3,816			1,043
1831	87,303	38,125	14,299						4,444			1,008
1832	84,156	41,677	14,892						4,398			976
1833	95,724	41,271	16,738						5,012			945
1834	106,732	48,988	18,210						5,598			1,086
1835	89,988	42,913	15,519						4,707			910
1836	88,666	42,536	16,549						4,821			906
1837	101,354	43,761	16,994						5,107			1,043
1838	97,342	42,745	16,489						4,266			1,164
1839	105,109	42,567	17,012						5,059			1,123
1840	101,181	44,830	16,435						4,831			1,071
1841	104,237	45,429	18,629					2,982	4,989			1,399
1842	112,136	49,790	18,965					3,116	4,771			1,467
1843	114,186	43,979	18,870					2,925	4,985			1,317
1844	100,363	40,979	14,892					3,019	4,512			1,386

Appendix 3 continuation

	1 Prussia (of 1866)	2 Bavaria	3 Saxony	4 Wuerttem- berg	5 Hanover	6 Baden	7 Grand Duchy of Hesse	8 Schleswig- Holstein	9 Hesse- Kassel	10 Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	11 Nassau - Wiesbaden	12 Hamburg/ Bremen
1845	111,425	45,398	19,178					3,593	4,700			1,399
1846	117,723	49,396	21,621					3,560	5,495			1,513
1847	112,118	42,158	17,536	1846/47-				3,492	5,156			1,380
1848	108,676	44,536	18,117	1855/56:				3,124	4,328			1,376
1849	112,962	46,149	18,835	218,035				3,241	4,983			1,436
1850	120,372	46,712	20,068					3,374	4,961			1,361
1851	115,529	48,046	19,858					4,002	4,977			1,328
1852	133,714	47,067	20,599		7,906	11,983		3,432	4,847			1,537
1853	120,833	45,166	18,676		7,517	10,049		3,349	4,440	2,066		1,362
1854	125,960	46,320	19,686		7,699	11,524		3,282	4,521	2,413		1,313
1855	114,975	41,655	17,960		7,156	8,929		3,396	3,769	2,228		1,382
1856	109,381	44,921	19,592		7,476	10,181		3,351	4,046	2,263		1,437
1857	134,056	50,895	22,605		8,881	12,239		4,435	3,892	2,992		1,781
1858	148,511	47,847	22,214		9,014	12,091		3,807	4,665			1,510
1859	148,503	56,378	23,794	21,542	9,188	14,518		4,151	4,749			1,827
1860	130,244	44,440	20,201	23,123	8,611	10,627			4,460			1,797
1861	148,097	54,652	25,458	20,146	8,808	13,844			4,583			1,656
1862	137,615	52,585	21,635	26,382	8,413	11,628			4,282			1,671
1863	156,754	54,852	24,417	21,582	8,360	13,368	5,749		4,438			1,771
1864	151,186	56,551	24,186	24,537	9,116	13,549	6,085		4,983			2,069
1865	168,374	62,374	28,730	28,890	10,916	16,904	6,626		5,500			2,476
1866	163,526	58,386	25,757	24,825	8,929	14,750	6,011		4,833			2,328
1867	161,461	60,105	25,875	24,545	9,341	14,224	5,587		4,631	2,598		2,242
1868	177,662	59,318	26,526	25,475	10,234	14,979	6,034	5,613	5,277	3,031	3,421	2,590
1869	160,501	57,923	25,923		9,441	15,085	6,349	4,691	5,194	2,312	3,634	2,666
1870	176,753	60,192	27,188		9,914	17,023	6,824	4,388	5,126	3,050	3,877	2,821
1871	175,910	60,748	29,358	25,382	9,583	16,481	6,580	4,747	4,890	2,480	3,827	3,538
1872	199,249	61,588	30,264	26,029	11,590	15,148	6,091	4,963	5,228	3,004	3,643	3,681
1873	191,595	64,014	33,123	27,154	10,712	15,850	6,328	5,222	5,245	2,573	3,896	4,201
1874	193,442	63,592	31,780	26,020	11,235	16,079	6,693	4,921	5,822	2,888	4,005	4,597



## Appendix 3 continuation

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Prussia (of 1866)	Bavaria	Saxony	Wuerttem- berg	Hanover	Baden	Grand Duchy of Hesse	Schleswig- Holstein	Hesse- Kassel	Mecklen- burg- Schwerin	Nassau - Wiesbaden	Hamburg/ Bremen
1875	194,137	66,624	35,329	28,102	11,459	16,879	7,118	5,481	5,657	3,282	4,318	4,596
1876	191,314	65,266	34,852	27,271	10,148	15,199	6,515	5,558	5,138	2,708	4,241	4,682
1877	185,375	64,013	34,030	25,147	10,114	15,047	6,481	5,398	4,910	2,777	3,761	4,684
1878	186,719	61,768	33,271	23,485	9,950	14,246	6,134	5,389	5,057	2,959	3,829	5,021
1879	182,513	60,671	33,628	24,533	9,455	13,924	5,605	5,442	4,345	2,613	3,807	4,561
1880	198,381	60,192	36,676	23,540	10,783	13,400	5,855	5,909	4,485	3,303	3,780	4,848
1881	178,593	57,983	34,939	21,827	9,632	13,362	5,716	5,390	4,527	2,467	3,651	4,681
1882	191,783	56,966	35,328	20,656	9,912	12,374	5,389	5,289	4,570	2,791	3,658	4,840
1883	194,540	57,681	35,936	20,039	10,130	11,805	5,359	5,288	4,076	2,737	3,197	4,793
1884	199,445	58,951	38,702	21,471	10,815	12,729	5,457	5,756	4,242	2,866	3,733	5,421
1885	194,073	56,875	36,935	19,815	9,885	12,565	5,551	5,202	4,322		3,678	5,351
1886	215,877	58,954	41,815	20,199	11,854	13,372	5,770	6,059	4,416	3,102	3,803	6,676
1887	192,578	54,816	37,063	16,514	10,178	11,260	5,242	6,031	3,941	2,900	3,588	6,251
1888	192,191	55,114	37,399	17,472	10,443	11,757	5,551	5,834	4,084	2,565	3,711	5,522
1889	201,708	55,095	40,421	17,356	10,984	11,446	5,116	6,618	3,865	3,004	3,687	6,204
1890	205,178	53,378	39,822	16,435	10,633	11,220	5,725	5,965	3,741	2,637	3,688	5,768
1891	202,470	56,340	39,245	17,951	11,684	12,775	5,256	6,838	3,850	2,611	3,610	6,284
1892	207,632	55,714	42,426	17,789	11,105	11,959	5,688	6,723	4,365	2,813	3,927	8,727
1893	212,234	56,461	41,926	17,669	11,555	12,292	5,833	6,775	4,022	2,994	4,051	5,704
1894	199,613	55,015	38,483	16,887	10,561	11,455	5,137	6,397	3,587	2,716	3,560	4,983
1895	219,783	57,878	42,587	18,757	12,351	12,803	5,670	7,338	3,695	3,217	3,971	5,668
1896	202,389	50,094	37,711	15,060	10,880	10,670	5,265	6,532	3,442	2,726	3,599	5,148
1897	216,548	56,996	43,273	17,789	12,725	12,812	5,766	7,167	3,820	2,862	4,203	5,455
1898	209,021	56,785	39,830	17,745	11,807	13,497	6,108	6,710	3,619	2,488	4,372	5,645
1899	221,763	56,366	41,816	15,936	12,879	12,718	5,639	7,546	3,779	3,191	4,196	5,514
1900	234,170	62,937	44,385	18,679	12,636	14,535	6,346	7,332	3,758	3,021	4,654	5,456

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