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## Military and civilian losses of the states involved in the First World War

*Gerhard Hirschfield, Gerd Krumeich and Irina Renz (eds)*

Gerhard Hirschfield, Gerd Krumeich and Irina Renz (eds) *Brill's Encyclopedia of the First World War*, Leiden, Brill.

# Military and Civilian Losses of the States involved in the First World War



| States                                | Population (in millions) | Men Fit for Military Duty <sup>a</sup> | Armed Forces      |                   |                          | Military Deaths      |                           |                          | Civilian Deaths  |                    | Comments on Civilian Deaths |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                       |                          |  | deployed          | total             | in % of men fit for duty | total                | in % of deployed soldiers | in % of men fit for duty | total            | in % of population |                             |
| <i>Central Powers</i>                 |                          |  |                   |                   |                          |                      |                           |                          |                  |                    |                             |
| Bulgaria                              | 4.7                      | 1,100,000                              | 600,000           | 600,000 ?         | 55%                      | 88,000               | 15%                       | 8%                       | 300,000          | 6%                 |                             |
| Germany                               | 67.8                     | 16,300,000                             | 13,200,000        | 13,200,000        | 81%                      | 2,037,000 ?          | 15%                       | 12%                      | 700,000 ?        | 1%                 | esp. from hunger            |
| Austria-Hungary                       | 52.6                     | 11,600,000                             | 9,000,000         | 9,000,000         | 78%                      | 1,460,000            | 16%                       | 13%                      | 400,000 ?        | 1%                 | esp. in Poland              |
| Turkey                                | 17.0                     | 5,400,000                              | 1,600,000         | 3,000,000         | 30%                      | 325,000 <sup>c</sup> | 20%                       | 6%                       | 2,000,000        | 12%                | esp. Armenians              |
| <b>Total Central Powers</b>           | <b>142.1</b>             | <b>34,400,000</b>                      | <b>24,400,000</b> | <b>25,800,000</b> | <b>71%</b>               | <b>3,550,000</b>     | <b>15%</b>                | <b>10%</b>               | <b>3,400,000</b> | <b>2%</b>          |                             |
| <i>Entente</i>                        |                          |  |                   |                   |                          |                      |                           |                          |                  |                    |                             |
| Belgium                               | 7.6                      | 1,900,000                              | 292,000           | 292,000           | 15%                      | 38,000               | 13%                       | 2%                       | 50,000           | 1%                 |                             |
| France                                | 39.0                     | 10,000,000                             | 8,100,000         | 8,100,000         | 81%                      | 1,327,000            | 16%                       | 13%                      | 600,000          | 2%                 |                             |
| French colonies                       | 52.7                     | 13,200,000                             | 449,000           | 449,000           | 3%                       | 78,000               | 17%                       | 1%                       | –                |                    |                             |
| Greece                                | 4.9                      | 700,000                                | 230,000           | 355,000           | 33%                      | 25,000               | 11%                       | 4%                       |                  |                    |                             |
| Great Britain & Ireland               | 46.1                     | 11,500,000                             | 6,100,000         | 6,100,000         | 53%                      | 750,000              | 12%                       | 7%                       | 600,000          | 1%                 |                             |
| British colonies                      | 342.2                    | 88,300,000                             | 2,800,000         | 2,800,000         | 3%                       | 180,000              | 6%                        | 0%                       | –                |                    |                             |
| Italy                                 | 36.0                     | 7,800,000                              | 4,300,000         | 5,600,000         | 55%                      | 460,000              | 11%                       | 6%                       | 700,000 ?        | 2%                 |                             |
| Japan                                 | 53.0                     | 13,000,000                             | 30,000            | 800,000           | 0%                       | 1,000                | 3%                        | 0%                       | –                |                    |                             |
| Montenegro                            | 0.2                      | 50,000                                 | 50,000            | 50,000            | 100%                     | 13,000               | 26%                       | 26%                      | ?                |                    |                             |
| Portugal                              | 6.1                      | 1,300,000                              | 100,000           | >100,000          | 8%                       | 7,000                | 7%                        | 1%                       | –                |                    |                             |
| Romania                               | 7.6                      | 1,900,000                              | 750,000           | 750,000           | 39%                      | 250,000              | 33%                       | 13%                      | 300,000 ?        | 4%                 | esp. from hunger            |
| Russia                                | 164.0 <sup>b</sup>       | 40,100,000                             | 15,800,000        | 15,800,000 ?      | 39%                      | 1,800,000 ?          | 11%                       | 4%                       | ?                |                    |                             |
| Serbia                                | 3.1                      | 1,200,000                              | 750,000           | 750,000 ?         | 63%                      | 250,000 ?            | 33%                       | 21%                      | 300,000 ?        | 10%                |                             |
| United States                         | 98.8                     | 25,500,000                             | 2,100,000         | 4,750,000         | 8%                       | 117,000 <sup>d</sup> | 6%                        | 0%                       | –                |                    |                             |
| <b>Total Entente</b>                  | <b>861.3</b>             | <b>216,450,000</b>                     | <b>41,851,000</b> | <b>46,596,000</b> | <b>19%</b>               | <b>5,296,000</b>     | <b>13%</b>                | <b>2%</b>                | <b>2,550,000</b> | <b>0%</b>          |                             |
| <b>Total Entente without colonies</b> | <b>466.4</b>             | <b>114,950,000</b>                     | <b>38,602,000</b> | <b>43,347,000</b> | <b>34%</b>               | <b>5,038,000</b>     | <b>13%</b>                | <b>4%</b>                | <b>2,550,000</b> | <b>1%</b>          |                             |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>1,003.4</b>           | <b>251,450,000</b>                     | <b>66,251,000</b> | <b>72,396,000</b> | <b>26%</b>               | <b>8,846,000</b>     | <b>13%</b>                | <b>4%</b>                | <b>5,950,000</b> | <b>1%</b>          |                             |
| <b>Total without colonies</b>         | <b>661.2</b>             | <b>163,150,000</b>                     | <b>63,451,000</b> | <b>69,596,000</b> | <b>39%</b>               | <b>8,666,000</b>     | <b>14%</b>                | <b>5%</b>                | <b>5,950,000</b> | <b>1%</b>          |                             |

Source: Gerhard Hirschfeld, Gerd Krumeich and Irina Renz (eds), *Brill's Encyclopedia of the First World War*, Volume 2 (Leiden: Brill, 2012).

a = estimated number of men aged 15 to 49 (i.e. under the age of 50) who were 18 at the outbreak of the war or attained that age during the war.

b = without Finland.

c = According to Uralis, the number of fatalities resulting from illness was so high that the actual total losses should be set at 800,000 dead.

d = roughly half of these having been caused by influenza.

? = uncertain or unavailable data, although fatalities must have occurred in significant numbers.