



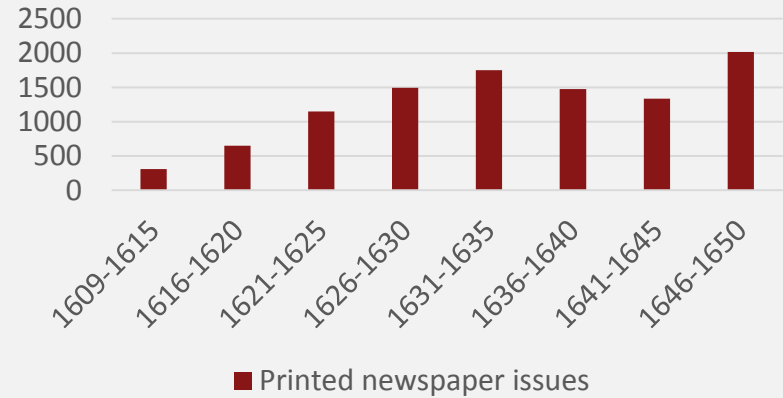
Printing German Newspapers, 1609–1650. Statistical Findings



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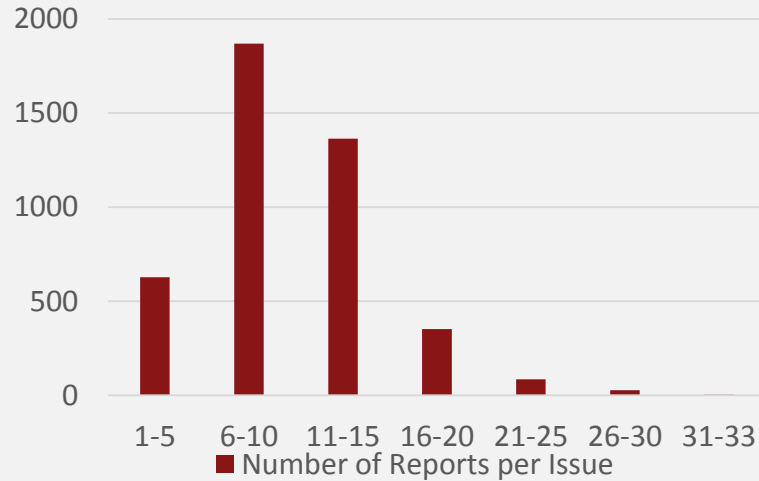
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The Printing of Newspapers

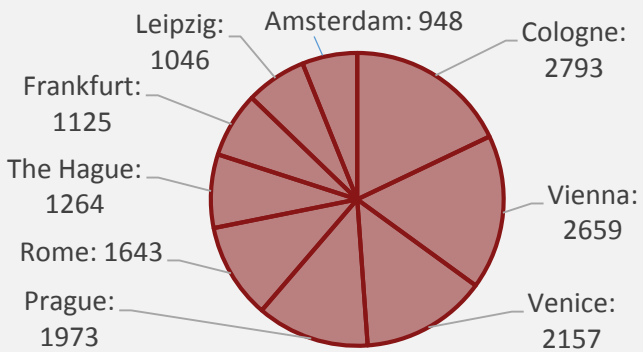


After the advent of the newspaper in Strasbourg in 1605, printed serials were established in a variety of larger and smaller towns in the Empire relatively quickly. The number of papers published rose steadily, despite falling back in the later years of the Thirty Years War.

Distribution of Number of Reports

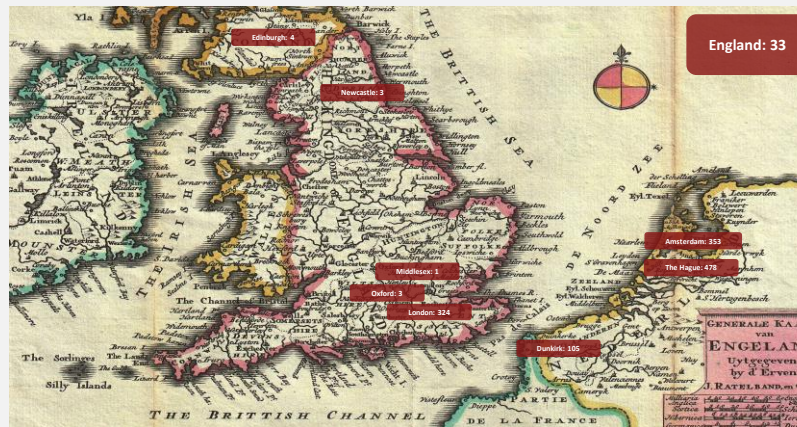


Distribution of Places of Correspondence



Each issue contained a number of reports (on average between 6 and 15), drawn from different centres of news gathering (described here as 'places of correspondence'). The pie chart shows the importance of the economic and political centres of Cologne, Vienna and Venice in the business of news exchange, and the predominant East to West flow of news reports.

Case Study: News from Britain



The 'dateline' given with a news report did not necessarily coincide with the location from which news was first reported. This case study of news from Britain shows that only less than 1/3 of all British news reports (368) appeared under the headline of a British town or 'From England'; most British news (1118 reports) reached the continent via Dutch towns.

Case Study: Franconia



The two largest cities in Franconia were Nuremberg and Würzburg, both important centres of commerce, and, in the case of Nuremberg, a critical part of the nexus of Protestant Free cities. In the 1630s Franconia was also a major theatre of warfare. Of more than 1,100 news reports emanating from this region 716 refer to a specific town and 393 report, more generically, 'From Franconia'.

Notes and Sources

The figures represent the first stage of inspecting the German press between 1609 and 1650. The number of inspected issues as of May 2014 is 4,325 (of 10,214 known issues), representing 43.3% of the total.