

Estimation of literacy of the inhabitants of the Province of Cracow¹, 1563-1565

Social category	N	% of able to write
Wealthy nobility ²	40	78
Middle nobility ³	251	47
Poor nobility ⁴	245	22
Nobility holding offices	147	91
Unclassified nobility	116	91
Total nobility	799	57
Burghers	43	91
Peasants	18	22
Clergy	34	94
Women	58	26

The data was based on tax statements presented in a written form and signed according to the bills of Sejm in the years 1563-65. Those documents concerned mostly nobility and the elites of the burghers and the peasantry.

Based: A. Wyczański, Oświata a pozycja społeczna w Polsce XVI stulecia. Próba oceny umiejętności pisania szlachty województwa krakowskiego w drugiej połowie XVI w., In: Społeczeństwo staropolskie, A. Wyczański (ed), vol. 1, Warsaw 1976, pp. 46-47.

¹ 5 out of 7 sub-regions (Powiats) Powiat: Sądecki, Lelowski, Śląski, Księski, Krakowski (Proszowski)

² Tax more than 10 złp.

³ Tax 1-10 złp.

⁴ Tax belowe 1 złp.