Coordinates: 50°39'N 8°22'E

Lahn-Dill-Kreis

Lahn-Dill is a *Kreis* (district) in the west of <u>Hesse</u>, <u>Germany</u>. Neighboring districts are <u>Siegen-Wittgenstein</u>, <u>Marburg-Biedenkopf</u>, <u>Gießen</u>, <u>Wetteraukreis</u>, <u>Hochtaunuskreis</u>, <u>Limburg-Weilburg</u>, <u>Westerwaldkreis</u>.

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History

The southern district belonged to the Princes of Solms-Braunfels and the Free Imperial City of Wetzlar. The latter had to give up its imperial freedom in 1803 as a result of the Imperial Deputation, then as the county of Wetzlar, in favor of the newly created Grand Duchy of Frankfurt of the prince primate (in the old empire Reichserzkanzler) Karl Theodor von Dalberg. The former Solmsian territories came to the Duchy of Nassau in 1806 and in 1815 also to Prussia in an exchange. In 1816, the Prussian districts of Wetzlar and Braunfels were created, which were united in 1822 to form the district of Wetzlar. The district belonged to the Prussian Rhine Province as an exclave until 1932. Since the Middle Ages, the northern part of the district belonged to the principality of Nassau-Dillenburg, which was part of the French-occupied Grand Duchy of Berg between 1806 and 1813, and to the principality of Nassau-Orianen between 1813 and 1815, which was absorbed into the Duchy of Nassau in 1816. This formed the two offices of Herborn and Dillenburg. After the Prussian annexation of the Duchy of Nassau in September 1866, both offices were united to form the Dillkreis.

After World War II, the entire district area as it is today became part of the state of Hesse. In the course of the territorial reform in Hesse, the Lahn-Dill district was formed on January 1, 1977. The new district consisted of



the entire area of the dissolved Dillkreis with the cities of Dillenburg, <u>Haiger</u> and <u>Herborn</u> as well as the municipalities of <u>Breitscheid</u>, <u>Dietzhölztal</u>, <u>Driedorf</u>, Eschenburg, Greifenstein, Mittenaar, Siegbach and Sinn

Website

http://www.lahn-dillkreis.de

the largest part of the dissolved district of Giessen with the towns of Allendorf (Lumda), Grünberg, Hungen, Laubach, Lich, Linden and Staufenberg as well as the municipalities of Buseck, Fernwald, Langgöns, Lollar, Pohlheim, Rabenau and Reiskirchen

part of the dissolved administrative district of Wetzlar with the towns of <u>Braunfels</u> and <u>Leun</u> and the municipalities of <u>Aßlar</u>, <u>Biebertal</u>, <u>Bischoffen</u> (formerly Biedenkopf administrative district), <u>Ehringshausen</u>, Hohenahr, Hüttenberg, Schöffengrund, Solms and Waldsolms.

The new district had an area of 1695 km² and included a total of 36 municipalities. The seat of the district administration became the simultaneously formed district-free city "Lahn". This was created by uniting the district-free city of Giessen with the city of Wetzlar, 13 other municipalities from the district of Wetzlar and the municipality of Heuchelheim from the district of Giessen.

Due to strong protests, mainly from the people of Wetzlar, the territorial reform was partially reversed. Effective August 1, 1979, the city of Lahn was dissolved again and the Lahn-Dill district was reorganized:

The restored city of Wetzlar and the newly formed municipality of Lahnau were incorporated into the Lahn-Dill district.

The municipality of Biebertal as well as all municipalities belonging to the district of Giessen until 1976 left the Lahn-Dill district and came to the newly established district of Giessen.

Since then, the Lahn-Dill district has comprised 23 towns and municipalities on an area of 1066.5 km².

Geography

The main rivers of the district are the <u>Lahn</u> and the <u>Dill</u>, which also gave it the name. It is mountain landscape with the <u>Westerwald</u> in the west, the <u>Taunus</u> in the south, the <u>Lahn-Dill-Bergland</u> in the east and the <u>Rothaargebirge</u> of the <u>Sauerland</u> in the north. The highest elevation with 671 m is near Rittershausen (part of Dietzhölztal), the lowest with 135 is in the Lahn valley in Biskirchen (part of the town of Leun).

Coat of arms

The coat of arms shows the <u>imperial eagle</u> in the top, a sign for the imperial city Wetzlar. The bottom part - taken from the arms of the previous Dillkreis - shows the lion of <u>Nassau</u> and the horn of the princes of <u>Orange-Nassau</u>, which later became the <u>Dutch</u> royal family. <u>Dillenburg</u> was the capital of the county of Nassau and later of Nassau-Orange.

Towns and municipalities



| 1. <u>Aßlar</u> | 1. Bischoffen | 9. <u>Hüttenberg</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2. Braunfels | 2. Breitscheid | 10. <u>Lahnau</u> |
| 3. Dillenburg | 3. <u>Dietzhölztal</u> | 11. Mittenaar |
| 4. <u>Haiger</u> | 4. Driedorf | 12. Schöffengrund |
| 5. <u>Herborn</u> | 5. Ehringshausen | 13. Siegbach |
| 6. <u>Leun</u> | 6. Eschenburg | 14. <u>Sinn</u> |
| 7. Solms | 7. Greifenstein | 15. Waldsolms |
| 8. Wetzlar | 8. Hohenahr | |

References

1. "Bevölkerung in Hessen am 31.12.2020 nach Gemeinden" (https://statistik.hessen.de/sites/statistik.hessen.de/files/BevGem_Gemeinden_2020_23062021.xlsx). Hessisches Statistisches Landesamt (in German). June 2021.

External links

- Official website (http://www.lahn-dill-kreis.de) (German)
- Official Online-Community (https://web.archive.org/web/20070929073308/http://www.lahn-di II-community.de/) (German)

This page was last edited on 26 June 2021, at 12:51 (UTC).

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