

The consequences of the potato disease in the Netherlands 1845-1860: a regional approach

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Figure 1: Estimated yearly human consumption of potatoes in the Netherlands, 1840-1860 (hl.per capita)

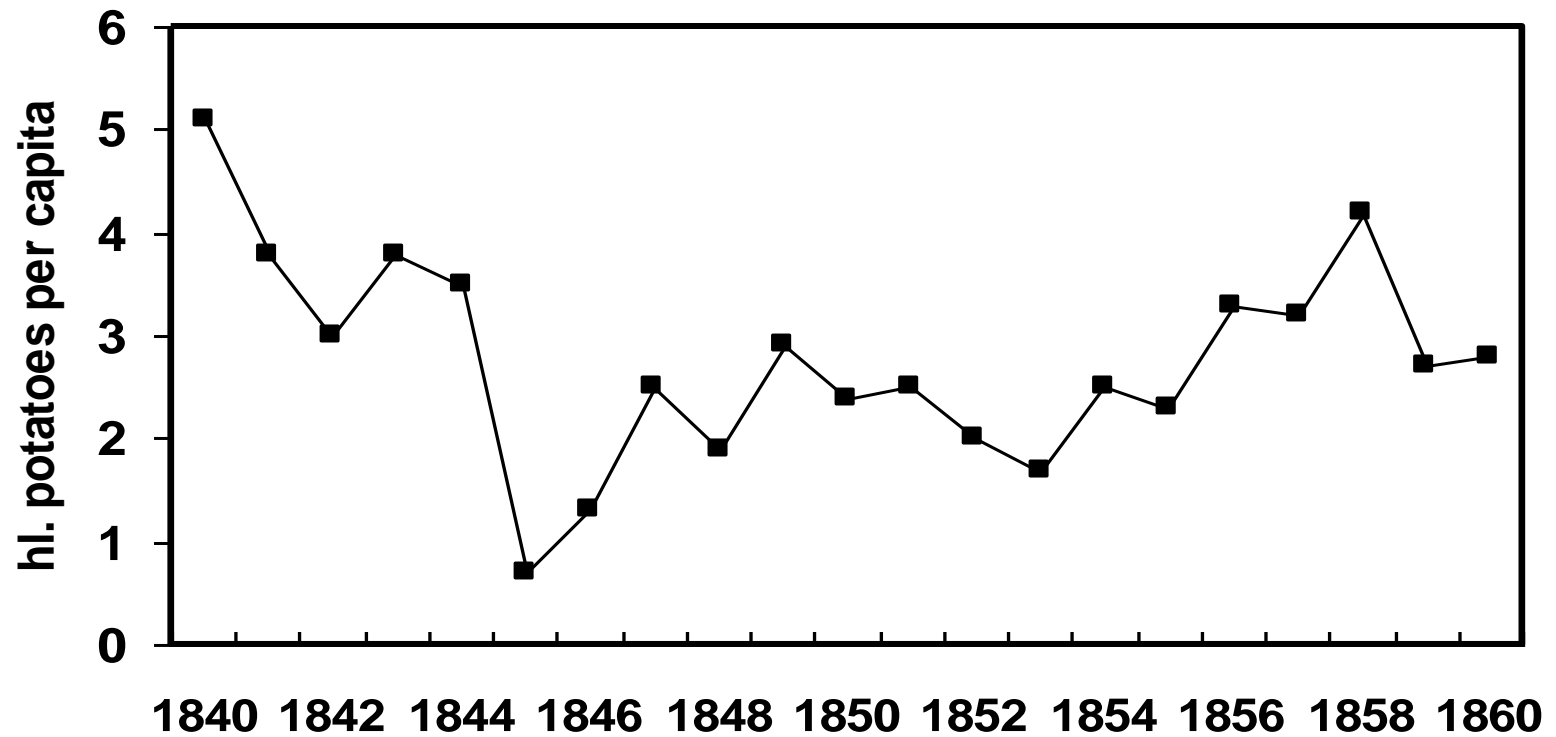


Table 9: Net import figures (a trade deficit is positive) of agricultural products for the Netherlands, 1840-1850 (in 1000 hl. and in numbers).

	1840/44	1845	1846	1847	1848/50
Wheat	281	239	287	132	53
Rye	851	803	1,703	1,840	1,156
Barley	158	445	295	68	207
Buckwheat	60	172	217	155	181
Oats	-169	-341	-328	-485	-671
Potatoes	-92	247	102	-90	-13
Cattle above 2 year	-20,320	-31,797	-46,685	-59,687	-49,238
Calf	-8,286	-14,136	-13,373	-24,219	-27,536
Sheep	-36,297	-53,671	-108,769	-145,157	-144,825

Source: *Statistisch Jaarboekje voor het koninkrijk der Nederlanden*, 1851, 1853; Terlouw, 'De aardappelziekte', 286; *Statistiek van den handel en de Scheepvaart van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden*, 1846-1850 ('s-Gravenhage 1847-1851). The net import of potatoes for 1845 is an estimate based only on figures for part of the year. Livestock: export figures only.

Table 10: Total consumption of livestock

	1840/44	1845	1846	1847	1848/52
Cattle above 2 years	135,613	146,286	137,335	131,502	132,353
Calf	123,713	112,114	109,666	100,961	96,459
Sheep	140,867	135,126	114,735	88,457	101,343
Pigs	331,965	420,395	318,463	265,171	354,262
Meat per capita (kg)	23.9	23.2	20.1	17.1	22.9

Figure 3: Monthly market prices of rye in Amsterdam and Nijmegen (Gelderland) in guilders per hectoliter

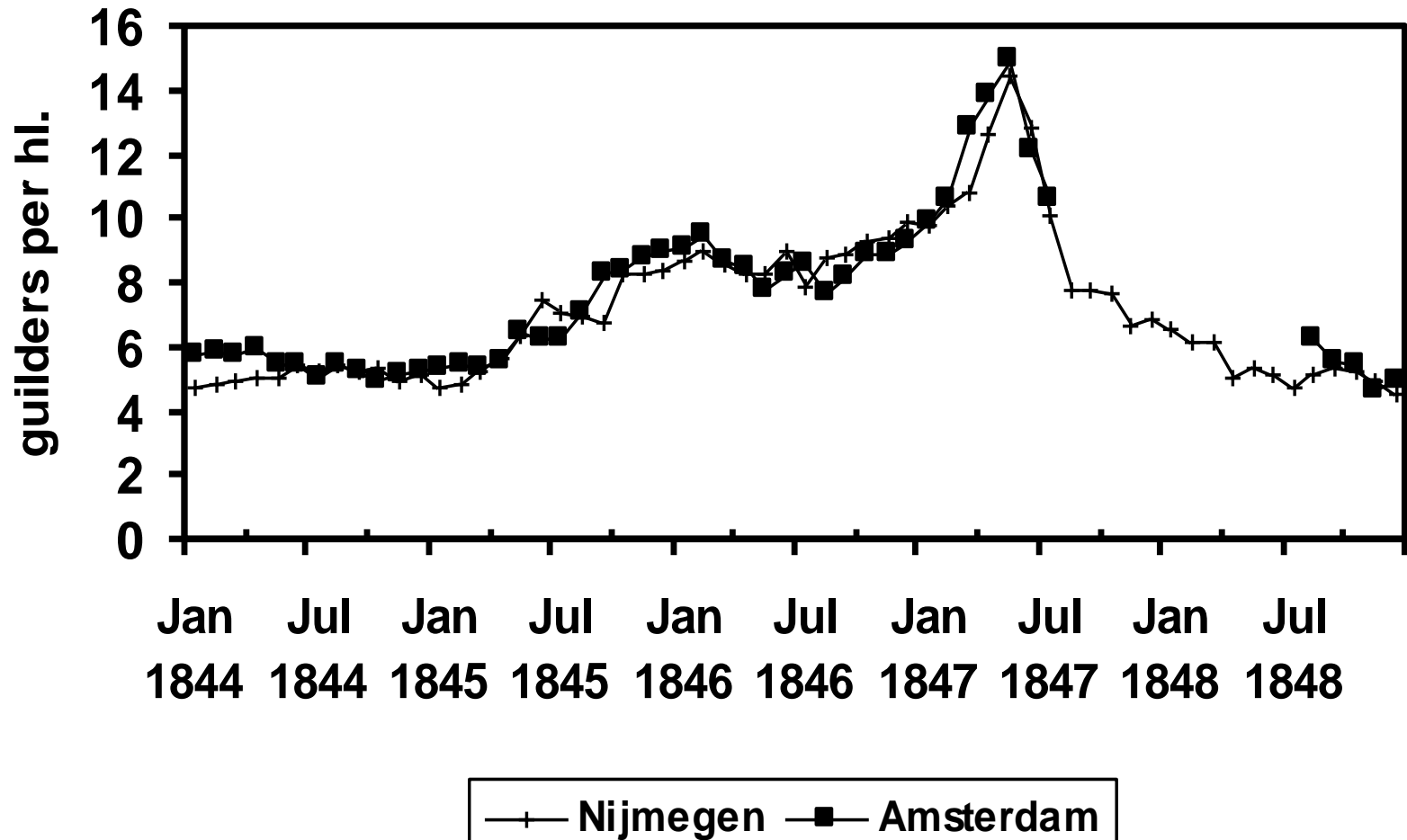


Figure 3: The development of the percentage undersized conscripts in the Netherlands, 1842-1860

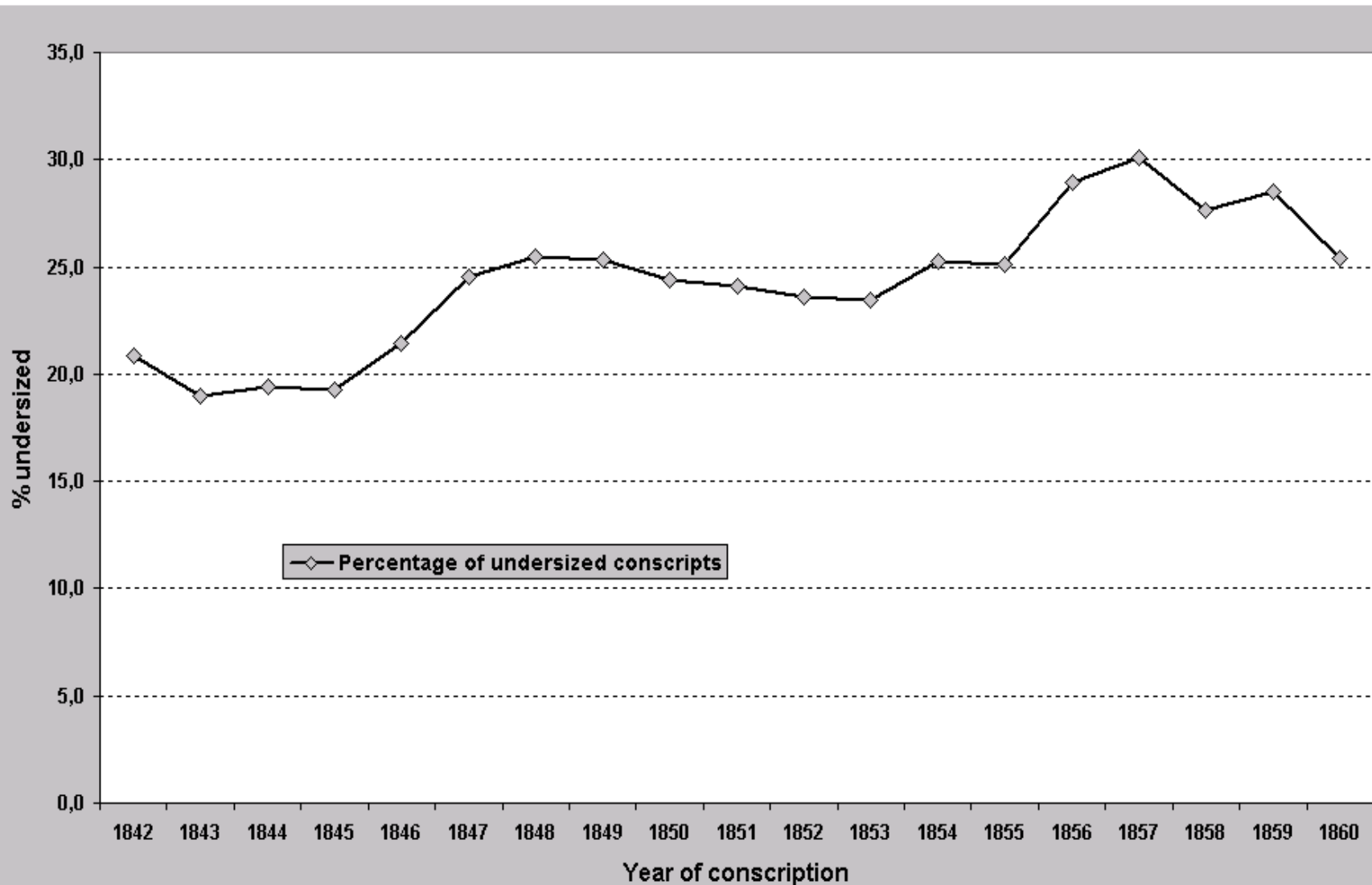


Figure 4: Daily consumption of potatoes and average height of conscripts in Leiden, 1840-1850.

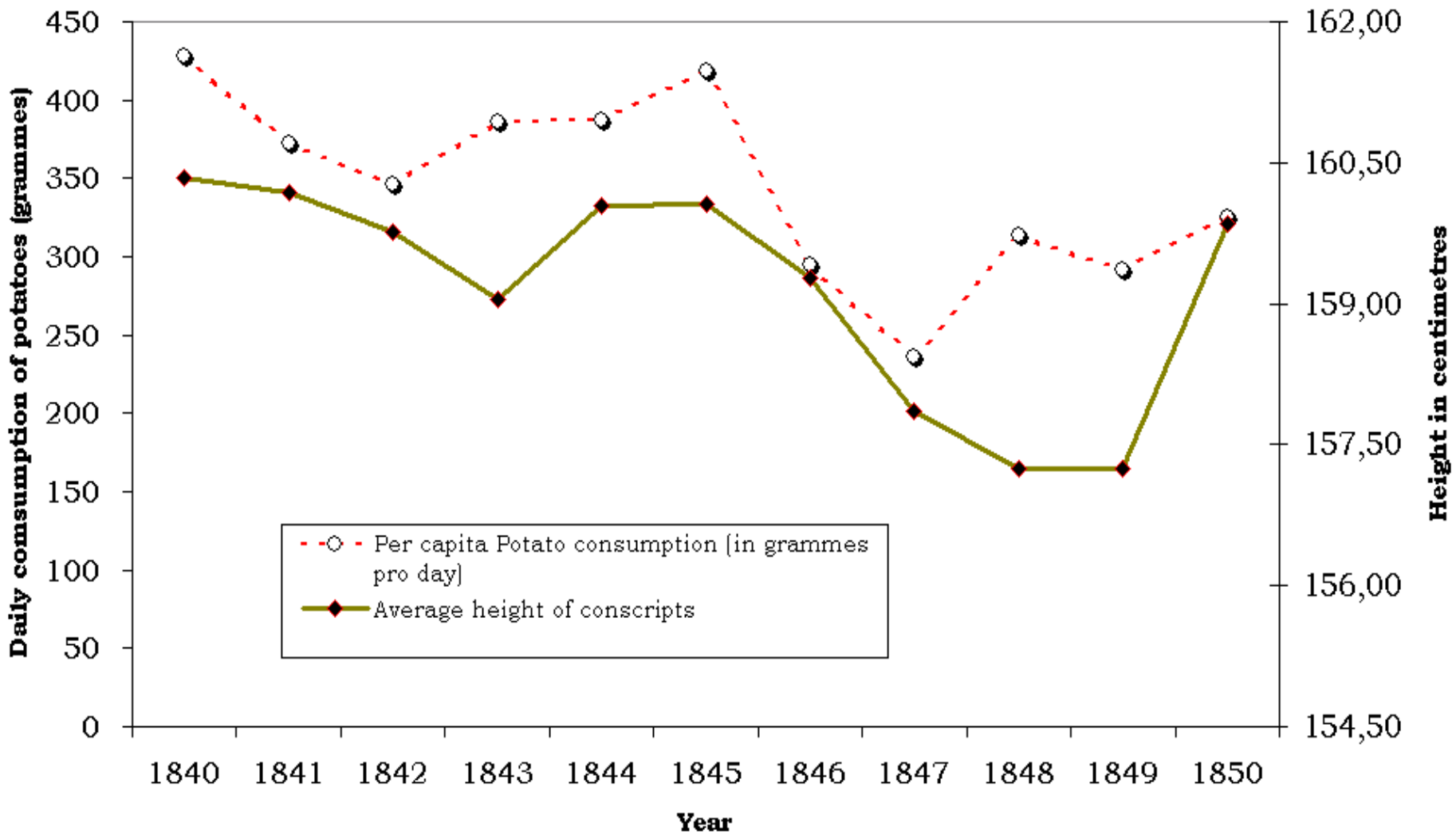


Figure 5: Average heights of sons of farmers and sons of labourers in Drenthe, 1840-1861.

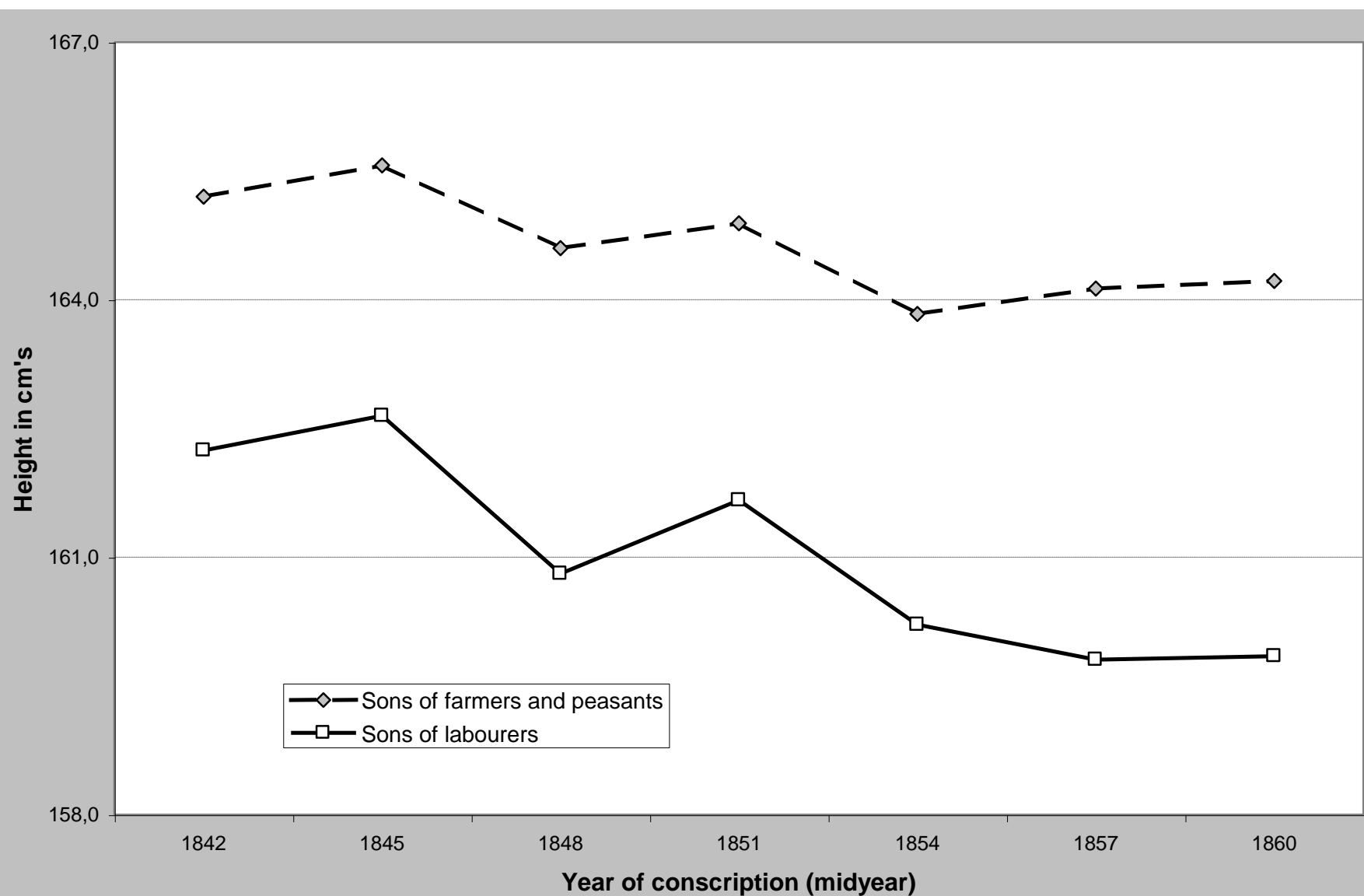
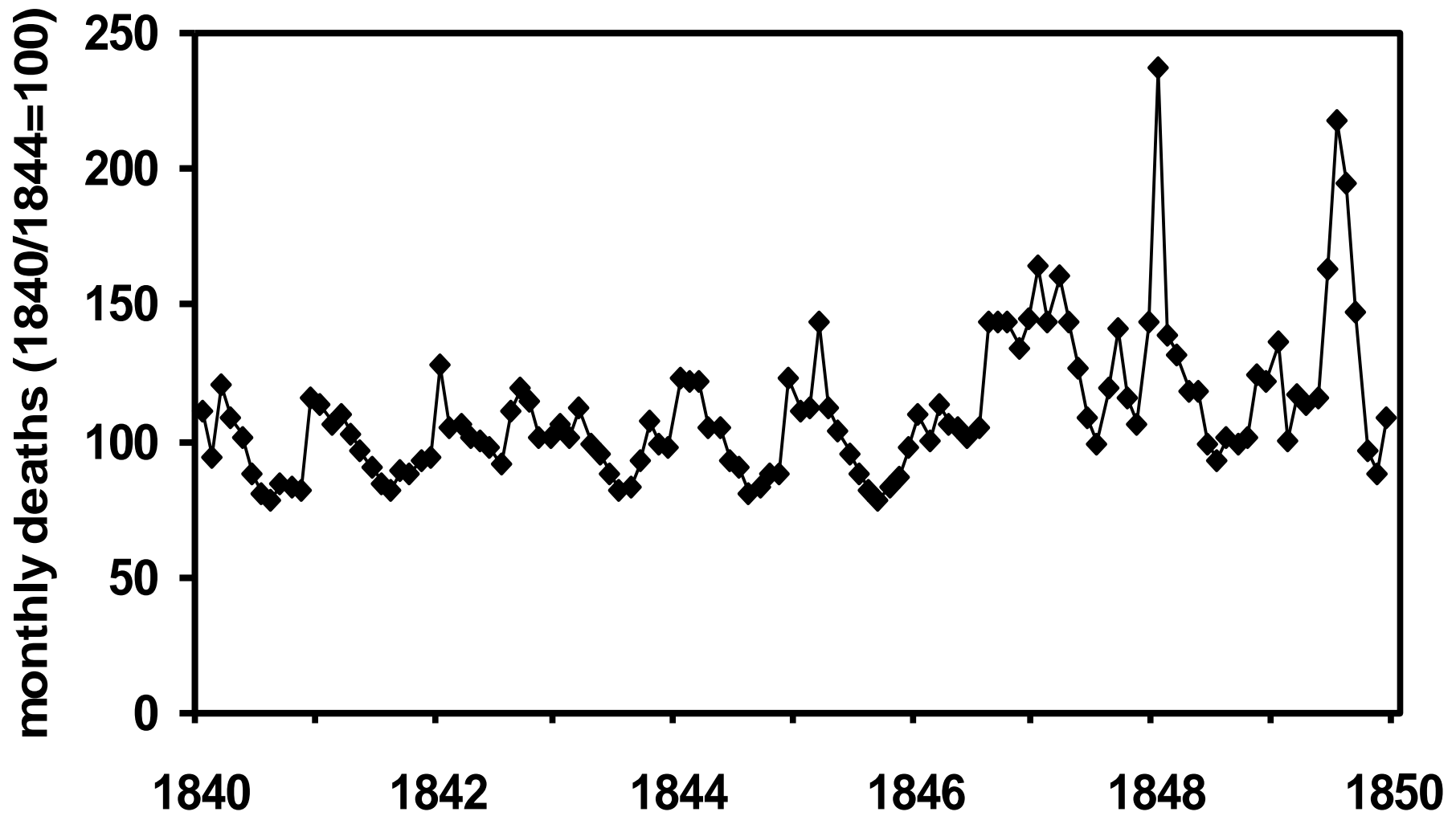


Figure 6: Monthly development of the number of deaths in the Netherlands, 1840-1849 (1840/1844 = 100).



Ranking of the development of several welfare measures during the potato blight in the Dutch province (1 is most negative, 11 is most positive).

	Potato produc- tion	Bread consum- ption	Height	Pau- pers	Morta- lity	Ave- rage position	Riots in 1847
North Holland	11	6	5	5	2	8.1	
South Holland	8	8	-	3	6	6.5	
Groningen	1	2	6	6	4	4.5	*
Friesland	2	5	-	2	3	3.1	*
Zeeland	5	10	2	7	5	6.1	
Utrecht	9	4	1	9	7	7.6	
Drenthe	3	3	4	11	1	4.8	
Overijssel	6	7	-	10	8	7.9	*
Gelderland	4	1	-	8	10	5.0	*
North Brabant	7	9	3	1	9	6.3	
South Limburg	10	-	7	4	11	9.0	