

France's Three Estates

First Estate

Second Estate

Taille — taxes

Third Estate

The Three Estates in Pre-Revolutionary France

1.5%

0.5%

10%

98%

25%

65%

Population

Land ownership

100%

Taxation

First Estate: Clergy

Second Estate: Nobility

Third Estate: Commoners

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTIONS

Posters of the Three Estates, like the one shown here, were displayed in France in the late 1700s.

1. **Explaining** Which estate is being crushed by taxes in the image on this poster?
2. **Analyzing** Which estate contained the majority of people in France? How could the situation shown in the poster lead to revolution?