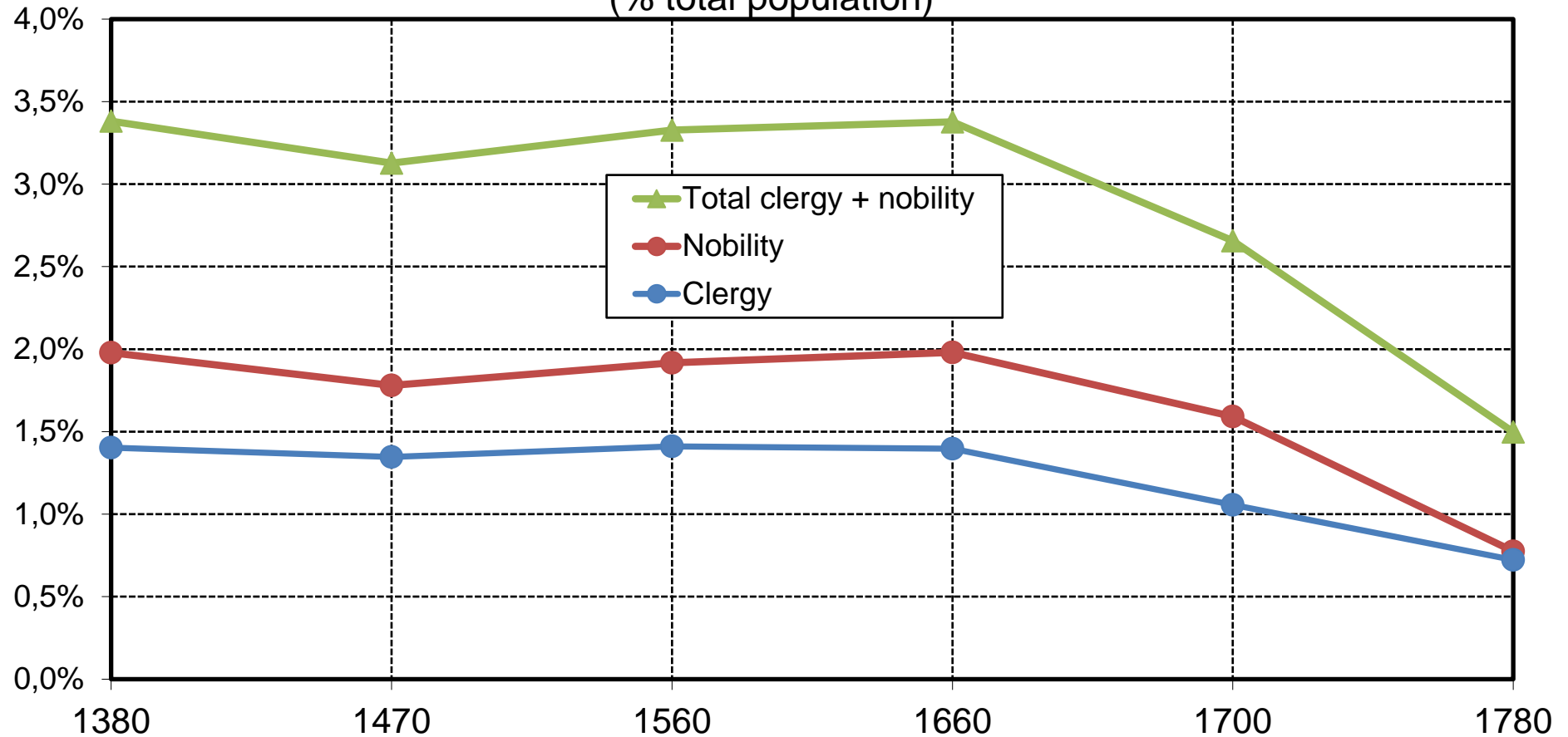


**Figure 2.1. Population shares in French ternary society (1380-1780)**  
(% total population)



**Interpretation.** In 1780, the nobility and the clergy accounted respectively for 0,8% and 0,7% of total French population, or a total of 1,5% for the two dominant orders and 98,5% for the third estate; in 1660, the nobility and the clergy accounted respectively for 2,0% and 1,4% of total population, or a total of 3,4% for the two dominant orders and 96,6% for the third estate. These proportions remained fairly stable between 1380 and 1660, followed by a sharp drop between 1660 and 1780. Sources and series: see [piketty.pse.ens.fr/ideology](http://piketty.pse.ens.fr/ideology).