

149. Silver content of Byzantine coins

Hendy, M.F. and Charles, J.A. (1970) The production techniques, silver content and circulation history of the twelfth-century Byzantine Trachy. *Archaeometry*, 12, 13–21.

The silver content (% Ag) of a number of Byzantine coins discovered in Cyprus was determined. Nine of the coins came from the first coinage of the reign of King Manuel I. Comnenus (1143–1180); there were seven from the second coinage minted several years later and four from the third coinage (later still); another seven were from a fourth coinage. The question arose of whether there were significant differences in the silver content of coins minted early and late in Manuel's reign.

5.9	6.9	4.9	5.3
6.8	9.0	5.5	5.6
6.4	6.6	4.6	5.5
7.0	8.1	4.5	5.1
6.6	9.3		6.2
7.7	9.2		5.8
7.2	8.6		5.8
6.9			
6.2			