

## The Total Number of Dead

The exact number of prisoners killed at Neuengamme concentration camp cannot be established because the SS destroyed all files and documents shortly before the end of the war. Through an analysis of the remaining sources, however, historians have managed to draw up a more exact estimate over the last years. The names of around 20,400 people who died in Neuengamme and its satellite camps (including executed prisoners of the Gestapo and the judiciary) until late March 1945 are now known. The number of prisoners killed by late March 1945 is estimated at around 26,800. At least 16,100 prisoners died during the evacuation marches and transports to the reception camps (not counting those who were evacuated to Bergen-Belsen) and in the bombing of the ships carrying concentration camp prisoners in Lübeck Bay. This adds up to a verifiable number of at least 42,900 people, including the executed prisoners of the Gestapo and the judiciary, who lost their lives as prisoners of Neuengamme concentration camp.

The thousands of Neuengamme prisoners who died after having been transferred to other camps, often in a severely weakened state, and the prisoners who died after their liberation as a result of their imprisonment must also be taken into account.