

## **Agricultural Census Communiqué No. 1**

National Bureau of Statistics of China 2002.03.29 14:39:58

### **Communiqué on General Results of the Manual Tabulation for the First National Census of Agriculture in China by the National Agricultural Census Office in China**

#### **No. 1**

#### **Great Success Achieved by the First National Census of Agriculture**

According to the State Council's decision, and with the assistance of Italian Government and FAO, the preparation of the first national census of agriculture was started from 1994, formally conducted in January 1997. Up to now, the works on the stages of preparation, interviewing, quality check and manual tabulation on major indicators have been smoothly completed. Although the large scale data processing work of all census questionnaires is intensely ongoing, the results of Post-Enumeration Survey and the analysis and evaluation of major indicators showed that the performance of the first national census of agriculture are conscientious, sound and high efficient, the data obtained is scientific, believable and valuable, the objective requirement of high standard and high quality is realized, the census has already achieved great success.

#### **I**

The objects of the first national census of agriculture are all types of agricultural holdings, rural households, town and township enterprises, administrative villages, towns and townships. The time reference for point items is January 1, 1997. The time reference for period items is January 1 to December 31, 1996. The census enumeration of 38 items, 687 indicators should be finished within one month. The census is not only with wide range and abundant content, but also with intense time and heavy task, involved governments, sectors and social aspects at all levels. A large amount of sound and effective works were done by agricultural census agencies at all levels under the leadership of the party and government:

1. A complete set of organizational network and working network have been established. All related agencies, e.g. the State Council, the People's Governments at all levels, sectors such as the Legislative Ministry and the People's Liberation Army, established special leading groups and offices of agricultural census, in charge of the organization and implementation of the census respectively.
2. Formulated the Programme for the First National Census of Agriculture. The programme includes methodology, questionnaire explanation of indicators and detailed implementation regulations of the census. All regions have strictly followed this programme.
3. Recruited and trained a qualified census team. According to the requirements raised by the National Agricultural Census Office (NACO), 7.24 million of census working staff were recruited and trained through 140 thousand training courses. The valuable data of the census is just collected by this team which was highly qualified and has strong working ability.
4. Implemented pilot census at all levels and in all kinds of agricultural regions. During March to April 1996, NACO organized a comprehensive pilot census at Zhongshan city of Guangdong Province. Based on experiences obtained from pilot census, the census programme has been revised and improved. After the national pilot census, various pilot censuses were organized by different provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities), prefectures (cities), counties (cities), town and townships. Through the pilot censuses, the census working staff accumulated working experiences, this lay a sound basis for smoothly implementation of the census.
5. Carried out large scale field enumeration work. In January 1997, the field enumeration started at the same time nation wide, which involved more than 7 million census staff members, 214 million rural households, 740 thousand administrative villages, 43 thousand towns and townships, 1400 thousand of town and township enterprises. After the field enumeration, the quality check and mutual check were carried out item by item, questionnaire by questionnaire according to the balance relations and regulations on manual logical check. If any problems were found, reinterview the household, revise the items according to the reality.

6. Organized manual tabulation of main indicators and evaluation of the results. In order to issue the results of the census as soon as possible, NACO selected 68 indicators for manual tabulation, and organized agricultural census offices at all levels to evaluate the results of the manual tabulation.

7. The computer tabulation of the census data is tensely ongoing. For data entry of 214 million questionnaires of rural households, the Optical Character Readers (OCR) techniques were adopted , all of the data processing work is planned to be finished in 1998.

## II

As one of the largest statistical activities of the century, the first national census of agriculture has five basic characteristics:

1. Strong and powerful organization and leadership. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council take agricultural census work seriously, mobilizing in person, hearing reports, giving instructions. The main leaders of the Party Committees and governments at all levels organized the census work in person, during the enumeration there are 1200 thousand person times for which the main leaders went deep into the field enumeration nation wide, of which 240 person times for provincial leaders and above, 6000 person times for prefecture leaders, this shows the characteristics that the census is a government behavior.

2. Wide range publicity. According to incomplete statistics, totally 90 thousand television programmes, 1760 thousand broadcasting programmes, 1080 thousand articles, 36 million slogans. The effective publicity work has dispelled people's worries, win the understanding and cooperation of the farmers with the agricultural census work.

3. Scientific working methods and means. In order to fulfill the giant systematic engineering, agricultural census offices at all levels adopted scientific working methods such as system theory, information theory etc. into the census work to ensure all working items connected each other, orderly operated. The OCR techniques is used to process the census data at first time, and the micro database for all rural households, villages, towns and townships, town and township enterprises will be established using advanced modern science and technology.

4. Necessary working conditions. In order to carry out the systematic engineering of the census, governments at all levels actively lay found for agricultural census to ensure the basic needs of the census, in accordance with the Documentation issued by the State Council (State Council's Document [1994] No. 60 ). For the regions which the local finance are poor also gave inclining policies to the agricultural census.

5. A census working team of presenting with all respects and hardworking. The smoothly implementation of the census work cannot be separated from the hardworking of the thousands of enumerators and supervisors. In order to obtain real and reliable data, they were not afraid of fatigue, braved all difficulties, cautious and conscientious, working hard. There were many moving deeds springing up. Some of them contributed their money to the census, some of them protect the census questionnaires at first facing the earthquake, giving up their own belongings. Some of them remain at work when family members were sick. Many of them still at work with sick, some of them contributed their life to the census. Their respect spirit and outstanding work will be written to history together with the abundant achievements of the first national census of agriculture.

## III

Through the first national census of agriculture, we have achieved substantial scientific, reliable and valuable basic data, basically know the basic resources of agriculture and rural economy, further understood the operation situation of rural social economy, mainly presented as following six aspect:

1. Knows the quantity and composition of agricultural and rural holdings;
2. Knows the quantity, quality, industrial and geographic distribution of rural labor engagement;
3. Knows the quantity and quality of main agricultural machinery and equipment;
4. Knows the quantity, quality and composition of cultivated land;

5. Knows rural social environment and infrastructure;

6. Knows the scale and socio-economic situations of towns.

In order to verify the quality of these census data, after the field enumeration, NACO organized post-enumeration survey nation wide in accordance with common international methods, adopting random start point, systematic sampling techniques, selected 201 counties (cities), 870 sub-districts, 40576 rural household. The results of PES shows that the error rate fall in the confident interval. This shows that the quality of field enumeration is high, and the data obtained is accurate and reliable. After PES, all regions carried out a variety of evaluation concerning with the data quality of manual tabulation in accordance with the facts, and reported the evaluation results to the local governments, and asked the opinions of related government agencies. Governments at all levels thought that the census results are realistic and reliable, reflected the actual situation the region.

The important results of the first national census of agriculture have important realistic meanings and deep historic meanings for accelerating the health development of agriculture, countryside, even the whole national economy:

Firstly, China is a large agricultural country, the most important situation is the situation of agriculture, countryside and peasants. Through the census we understand basic information of agricultural and rural economy, filled out the blank of basic data, offered the basic data for the party and government to understand the real situation about agriculture and rural economy, this is needed for policy-making and improvement of our basic national policies and development strategy for agriculture and countryside. It has very important meanings for the rapid and health development of agriculture, countryside, even the whole national economy in next century.

Secondly, The results of the census show that the information collected by current rural statistics is reliable generally, and had the irreplaceable functions in policy-making of the party and government leaders. But for a variety of social and historic reasons, there is no way to ensure the accuracy of some important data. The census obtained accurate basic data on agricultural holdings and cultivated land area, etc., formulated a complete set of basic data reflecting development status of agriculture and rural economy, offered policy-making facts for scientifically monitoring the status of rural economy, and realization degree of three step strategic objectives of the national economy, strengthening government's macro management and macro control, timely adjust the policies on investment and distribution of national economy, helping peasants from poor to rich and well living, ensuring the implementation of "ninth five year" plan and far objectives of the year 2010.

At last, the census of agriculture lay a sound basis for the establishment of a integrated rural statistical system which fit the need of socialist market economic system, satisfy the requirements of new national economic accounts and in accordance with the international standards.

## Agricultural Census **Communique No. 2**

National Bureau of Statistics of China 2002.03.29 15:53:30

### Communique on General Results of the Manual Tabulation for the First National Agricultural Census by the National Agricultural Census Office in China

#### No. 2

#### Number and Structure of Rural Holdings

The first National Agricultural Census conducted a complete enumeration on all rural households, non-agricultural holdings and non-agricultural township and town enterprises. By this census, it is the first time to understand the types and size of the rural households; types and size of non-household agricultural holdings; types and size of non-agricultural township and town enterprises. Now the manual tabulation results on part of related census data are published as follows:

#### 1. Size and structure of rural households

Since the reform adopted in China in 1978, great changes have been taken place in the rural economy. As the adjustment of industrial structure goes on, the structure of rural households also changed quite a lot. The proportion of agricultural households (AHHs) is decreasing and of the non-agricultural households (NAHHs) is increasing. The pure agricultural households takes less proportion and households with population engaged in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities are increasing.

At the end of 1996, according to the manual tabulation results for the census, the number of rural households engaged in production activities in China was 214.5574 million. According to 40576 rural households selected for the post-enumeration survey, of all the rural households, there was 90.47% being agricultural households, 9.53% non-agricultural households. Of all the rural households, pure agricultural households (PAHHs) took 62.81%, the households mainly engaged in agriculture but also involved in non-agricultural activities (HHANAA) was 30.57%, and the households mainly engaged in non-agriculture but also involved in agricultural activities (HHNAAA) was 6.62%.

From the point of view which divided the country into east, middle and west parts, in the east part there were 87.4091 million rural households engaged in production activities and took 40.74% of the national total; in the middle part 74.2076 million rural households, and 34.59%; in the west part 52.9407 million rural households, and 24.67%. As the economy in the east part developed faster than in the west part, it showed that the proportions of agricultural households, non-agricultural households and households engaged in both were quite unbalanced, the proportion of agricultural households in the east part was much lower than in the middle and west parts (see the table 1).

Table 1: Industrial structure of rural household operation  
in the east, middle and west parts

	Rural households as 100 (%)		Agricultural households as 100 (%)		
	Proportion of AHHs	Proportion of NAHHs	Proportion of PAHHs	Proportion of HHANAA	Proportion of HHNAAA
East part	84.71	15.29	24	90	4.74
Middle part	53	5.47	66.70	28.56	9.86
West part	80	4.20	70.27	26.01	3.72

#### 2. Size and structure of non-household agricultural holdings

Since the reform and the open-door policy were adopted, it has showed the fact that the economy with public ownership is as a principal component and other economic components developed accordingly in the rural areas. As to the non-household agricultural holdings, the leading position taken by the public ownership (state plus collective) did not change. On the pre-condition of maintaining and developing the public economy as a principal component, the individual, private and foreign invested economies were positively promoted in the localities; the adequate scale economy was gradually adopted where with conditions. According to the manual tabulation, at the end of the year 1996, the non-household agricultural holdings in China were 356.4 thousand, of which state owned 36.8 thousand, collective owned 212.7, both took 70% of the total; private and individual holdings were 74.7 thousand, took 20.95%;

foreign invested, Hong kong and Macao invested holdings were 1.3 thousand, took 0.36%; joint holdings were 30.9 thousand, took 8.69%.

From the operational types of view, of all the non-household agricultural holdings in China, mainly engaged in crop planting were 144.1 thousand, livestock and animal husbandry were 35.5 thousand, forestry 113.8 thousand, fisheries 63 thousand. Although the persons employed in all these holdings were less, the operated agricultural land and the raised number of livestock were in large quantity (see table 2).

Table 2: Operational size of non-household agricultural holdings in China

	Number or quantity	Each holding
Persons employed	9750902	27.36
Cultivated land (ha.)	6470438	18.15
Garden-plot area (ha.)	1160911	3.26
Forest area (ha.)	43724421	122.67
Grassland area (ha.)	19536633	54.81
Surface for fisheries and culturing (ha.)	2075217	5.82
Large animals in inventory at the year end	3607188	10.12
Hogs in inventory at the year end	17389671	48.79
Sheep and goats in inventory at the year end	13078328	36.69

If looking at the country in three parts, the number of non-household holdings in the east part was larger in quantity, reached 173.6 thousand and took 48.72% of the national totals; in the middle part were 117.9 thousand, took 33.08%; in the west part were only 64.9 thousand, took 18.20%. In all the parts of the country, the public owned holdings (state plus collective) took a leading position, but the proportion of the private, individual, jointly operated, foreign-invested, Hongkong- and Macao-invested holdings in the east part of China were obviously higher than in the middle and west parts (see table 3).

Table 3: Structure of economic operation by non-household agricultural holdings in the east, middle and west parts

	East part		Middle part		West part	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	173640	100.00	117917	100.00	64883	100.00
State	11554	6.65	16509	14.00	8777	13.53
Collective	84715	48.79	86330	73.21	41615	64.14
Private	3784	2.18	1151	0.98	1032	1.59
Individual	48163	27.74	10769	9.13	9789	15.09
Jointly operated	24290	13.99	3057	2.59	3629	5.59
Foreign invested	334	0.19	44	0.04	18	0.03
Hongkong, Macao and Taiwan invested	800	0.46	57	0.05	23	0.04

From the provincial point of view, the non-household agricultural holdings operated by foreign businessmen in Fujian, Shandong, Guangdong and Hainan Provinces were 61.11% over the national totals; operated by Hongkong and Macao businessmen were 82.39% over the national totals. The non-household agricultural holdings operated by individuals in Jiangsu and Guangdong Provinces were 47.11% over the national totals.

### 3. Size and structure of the non-agricultural township and town enterprises

The rural township and town enterprises in China hold the principle that the rural collective economy is taken as a principal component, various other economic components develop together. Since 1984, the development of township and town enterprises showed a strong force in the rural economy and a leading component in the national economy. From the manual tabulation results of the census, at the end of 1996, the total number of non-agricultural township and town enterprises in China was 1,396.3 thousand, of which, run by townships and towns were 310.2 thousand, run by villages 511.9 thousand, run by household unions and individual households 574.2 thousand. Rural enterprises run by townships and towns and villages took 58.88% of the national totals. The employees in township and town enterprises were 5296.73 thousand, on average the employees in each enterprise were 37.94.

From industrial point of view, of the total non-agricultural township and town enterprises in the country, the industrial enterprises were largest in quantity, wholesale, retail and trade, construction also took certain proportion, transportation, public service and other tertiary industries were less (see table 4).

Table 4: Industrial types and structure of non-agricultural township and town enterprises in China

	Number	Percentage
Total	1396254	100.00
Industry	1127917	80.78
Construction	88038	6.31
Transportation	23820	1.71
Wholesale, retail and catering service	112152	8.03
Public service and other industries	44327	3.17

Looking at various parts of China, the proportion of non-agricultural township and town enterprises in different areas are quite imbalance-balanced, in the east part, there were 771.2 thousand enterprises and took 55.24% over the national totals; in the middle part, 440.5 thousand and 31.55%; in the west part, 184.5 thousand and only 13.21%. The enterprises with collective ownership organized and run by townships and villages in different areas took the leading position, the proportion of enterprises run by household unions in the east and middle parts was higher and in the west part was lower, the proportion of enterprises run by individual households in the west part was higher than that in the east and middle parts (see table 5).

Table 5: Structure and distribution of non-agricultural township and town enterprises in the east, middle and west parts

	East part		Middle part		West part	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	771232	100.00	440516	100.00	184506	100.00
By townships and towns	162257	21.04	90853	20.62	57036	30.91
By villages	293856	38.10	160425	36.42	57609	31.22
By household unions	101948	13.22	69945	15.88	17441	9.45
By individual households	213171	27.64	119293	27.08	62420	28.41

As to the provinces, the enterprises run by townships and towns and by villages in coastal Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Shandong and Guangdong Provinces were 33.62% and 37.88% respectively over the national total; the enterprises run by household unions in Zhejiang and Hebei Provinces were 27.82%; the enterprises run by individual households in Guangdong and Zhejiang Provinces were 23.85% over the national total.

# Agricultural Census **Communique No. 3**

National Bureau of Statistics of China 2002.03.31 10:26:25

## Communique on General Results of the Manual Tabulation for the First National Agricultural Census by the National Agricultural Census Office in China No.3

### Rural Persons Engaged and Agricultural Machinery

The first National Agricultural Census conducted a complete enumeration on rural persons engaged, rural science and technology personnel and main agricultural machinery. By this census, there is a new understanding of the number, structure and migration among different regions of the national rural persons engaged, rural science and technology personnel and provision of agricultural machinery. Now the manual tabulation results related with this part are published as follows:

#### 1. Rural persons engaged

Since the reform and the open-door policy were adopted, as the rural population increased, rural economy developed in an all-round way and industrial structure adjusted, persons in the rural households engaged in production activities have increased, the proportion of persons engaged in non-agricultural activities has been increased with widespread migration of rural labor force.

##### a. Number and industrial structure of rural persons engaged

The manual tabulation results of the national agricultural census shows: at the end of the year 1996, the national rural persons engaged was 560855.8 thousand. Based on the total number of rural households engaged in production activities, i.e., 214557.4 thousand, persons engaged per household were 2.61; of which, persons engaged in agriculture were 424411.9 thousand, and took 75.67%; persons engaged in non-agriculture were 136443.9 thousand and took 24.33%.

From the point of view which divided the country into three parts, the rural persons engaged in the east part were 224260.2 thousand and took 39.99% of the national total. The rural persons engaged in the middle part were 194344.5 thousand and took 34.65% of the national total. The rural persons engaged in the west part were 142251.1 thousand and took 25.36% of the national total. As the economy in the east part developed faster than in the middle and west parts, it showed that the proportion of persons engaged in non-agriculture in the east part was higher than in the middle and west parts.

Table 1: Industrial structure of rural persons engaged in the east, middle and west parts of China

	Persons engaged in agriculture (thousand)	Proportion to total persons engaged	Persons engaged in non-agriculture (thousand)	Proportion to total persons engaged
East part	149141.3	66.50	75118.9	33.50
Middle part	155246.1	79.88	39098.4	29.12
West part	120024.5	84.38	22226.6	15.62

##### b. Structure of sex and working age of rural persons engaged

Based on the information from the 40576 rural households randomly selected for the Post-Enumeration Survey in China, the rural persons engaged within the working ages took 88.89% of the total rural persons engaged, of which males were 47.33% and females 41.56%; the rural persons engaged under and over the working ages took 11.11% of the total rural persons engaged, of which, under the working ages (15 years old and under) were 1.25%, and over the working ages (males 60 years old and over and females 55 years old and over) were 9.86%. The persons out of the working ages were mainly engaged in assisting agricultural production.

##### c. Working places and flow of rural persons engaged

The working places of the present rural persons engaged were mainly the local communities, but the persons leaving their own townships and working within their counties, provinces and out of their own provinces took a certain percentage. The issue of rural employment was no longer restricted in the agriculture and rural areas. According to the manual tabulation results, of the national rural persons engaged, the persons engaged in their own townships were 488629.8 thousand, and took 87.12% of the total rural persons engaged; the persons engaged out of their own townships were 72226 thousand and took 12.88%; of which, persons leaving their own townships and working within their counties were 27354 thousand, persons working within their provinces were 21237 thousand, persons working out of their own provinces were 23635 thousand.

As to the different parts of the country, as the rural economy was comparatively developed in the east part, the number of rural persons working out of their own townships was large and the proportion of migrated persons was high; the number of migrated rural persons in the middle and west parts was small and the proportion of migrated persons was low (see table 2).

Table 2: Proportion of persons working within and out of their own townships (towns) in the east, middle and west parts

	Persons working in their own townships (thousand)	Proportion to total persons engaged (%)	Persons working out of their own townships (thousand)	Proportion to total persons engaged
East part	190215.4	84.82	34044.8	15.18
Middle part	170906.2	87.94	23438.3	12.06
West part	127508.2	89.64	14742.9	10.36

## 2. Agricultural science and technology personnel

With the development of the undertakings of prospering agriculture based on science and technology, an army of agricultural science and technology personnel and professionals has been created and trained in the rural areas. They made a due contribution to the sustainable and stable growth of agriculture. Based on the manual tabulation results, at the end of the year 1996, the total farm science and technology personnel in China was 2717 thousand and took 0.64% of the total persons working in agriculture, of which, in crop planting there were 204 thousand, in animal husbandry 382 thousand, in forestry 163 thousand, in fisheries 127 thousand. The farm professionals were 2410 thousand, on average there were 3.2 persons in each village board, of which, agricultural machinery operators were 858 thousand, water controllers were 552 thousand, electricity controllers were 1000 thousand.

In order to improve the level of science and technology, farmers actively attended various training courses. In the year of 1996, 22458 thousand farmers had been trained in agricultural technology, and accounted for 5.3% of the total persons engaged in agricultural activities. Of which, persons experienced technology training in crop planting were 12038 thousand, in fruit plantation and horticulture were 3595 thousand, in livestock and animal husbandry were 3127 thousand, in forestry 1134 thousand, in fisheries and culturing 513 thousand, and in agricultural machinery 2051 thousand.

In agricultural undertakings in rural areas there were a number of persons engaged in science and technology work. In the year of 1996, of the persons working in the various agricultural undertakings, there were 613 thousand persons with at least primary technical titles. This technical force played a main role in prospering agriculture based on science and technology.

## 3. Main agricultural machinery

The level of agricultural mechanization in the country has been promoted. Based on the manual tabulation results, at the end of 1996, the total number of five kinds of main agricultural machinery in rural areas in China (large-sized tractors, small-sized tractors, combines, motored threshers and agricultural transportation vehicles) was 24696.1 thousand sets. On average there were 44.03 sets owned by a thousand persons engaged. According to the types of the main agricultural machinery, large-sized tractors were 677.8 thousand sets, small-sized tractors 11795 thousand sets, combines 113.4 thousand sets, motored threshers 7521.5 sets, and agricultural transportation vehicles 4588.4 sets.

If looking at the different parts of the country, in the east part with less per capita possession of cultivated land, large amount of wet land and small size of parcels, there was a large number of small-sized agricultural machinery and implements equipped at a higher level. There was 12702.7 thousand sets of five main agricultural machines in this rural part. In the middle part with more per capita possession of cultivated land, large amount of dry land and large size of parcels, there was a large number of large- and small-sized agricultural machinery and implements

equipped at a medium level. There was 9307.2 thousand sets of five kinds of main agricultural machines in this rural part. In the west part with mountain areas and slower development in rural economy compared with the east and middle parts, there was a small number of agricultural machinery and implements equipped at a lower level. There was 2686.2 thousand sets of five kinds of main agricultural machinery in this rural part (see table 3).

Table 3: Possession of five kinds of main agricultural machinery in the east, middle and west parts of China

	East part	Middle part	West part
Large-sized tractors (thousand)	264.0	288.7	125.1
Small-sized tractors (thousand)	5038.8	5178.8	1577.4
Combines (thousand)	66.7	35.8	10.9
Motored threshers (thousand)	4978.1	2060.9	482.5
Agricultural transportation vehicles (thousand)	2355.1	1743.0	490.3

## Agricultural Census **Communique No. 4**

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### Communique on General Results of the Manual Tabulation for the First National Agricultural Census by the National Agricultural Census Office in China

#### No. 4

#### Rural Town Districts and Their Socio-Economic Conditions

The first National Agricultural Census conducted a complete enumeration on all the rural towns. By this census, the size of town districts and their socio-economic conditions of all rural towns in China have been obtained a clear idea. Now the manual tabulation results related with this part are published as follows:

##### 1. Size of town districts

Since the reform and open-door policy were adopted, the rural small towns have been developed rapidly, with the decrease of the township number and increase of town number. The town districts showed a certain size as the rural urbanization was improved. According to the manual tabulation results, at the end of the year 1996, there were 16124 rural towns (excluding the towns where the town halls are located), and accounted for 37.4% of the total number of townships and towns; by each of the town districts, the average area covered was 2.42 square kilometers, the average total population was 4520, of which non-agricultural population was 2072; the proportion of non-agricultural to the total population was 45.8%.

From the point of view which divided the country into three parts, the development of rural small towns in the east part was faster than in the middle and west parts. According to the manual tabulation results, the number of towns in the east, middle and west parts of China were 7478, 4873 and 3773, and took 54.5%, 33.7% and 25.3% over the total number of townships and towns in these three parts respectively; in terms of the area covered, total population and the percentage of the non-agricultural population, it showed a decreasing trend accordingly (see table 1).

Table 1: Area covered and Population by Town Districts

	Area covered by town districts (square kilometer)		Total population in the town districts (person)		of which: non-agricultural population (person)	
	Total	Each town	Total	Each town	Total	Each town
National total	38978	2.42	72881766	4520	33401692	2072
East part	19318	2.58	37461698	5010	16302048	2180
Middle part	13231	2.72	23113762	4743	11067975	2271
West part	6428	1.70	12306306	3262	6031669	1599

##### 2. Number and structure of enterprises in the town districts

The condition of the town districts was an important factor to define the socio-economic scale of the town districts. According to the manual tabulation results, at the end of 1996, on average there were 33.4 enterprises in each of the town districts, with 1246 persons engaged in each of the enterprises. The persons engaged in the enterprises over the total population in the town districts were 27.6% and over the non-agricultural population were over 60%. In view of the different parts of China, number of enterprises and persons engaged of the town districts in the east part were significantly higher than in the middle and west parts (see table 2).

Table 2: Number of enterprises and persons engaged in the town districts

	Number of enterprises		Persons engaged in enterprises	
	Total	Each town	Total	Each town
National total	538512	33.4	20092248	1246
East part	293627	39.3	12596223	1684
Middle part	163768	33.6	4725567	970
West part	81117	21.5	2770458	734

In view of the economic types of enterprises, the state, collective and private enterprises played an crucial role in the economic development of rural small towns. According to the manual tabulation results, number of the state, collective and private enterprises over the total number of enterprises was 91.1%, their persons engaged over the total persons engaged in the enterprises were 88% (see table 3).

Table 3: Economic types of enterprises in the town districts

	Number of enterprises	Proportion (%)	Persons engaged	Proportion (%)
State	39958	7.4	4285709	21.3
Collective	199871	37.1	11331649	56.4
Private	250734	46.6	2170150	10.8
Jointly operated	37785	7.0	909926	4.5
Foreign invested	3000	0.6	438380	2.2
Hongkong, Macao and Taiwan invested	7164	1.3	956434	4.8

In view of the industrial structure of enterprises, industry and construction took a large proportion, which absorbed a big amount of labor force; transportation, wholesale, retail, trade and other tertiary industry were only a small percentage. According to the manual tabulation results, the enterprises engaged in industry and construction in the town districts were 49.2% of the total number of enterprises, persons engaged were 84.3% of the total persons engaged in all the enterprises (see table 4).

Table 4: Composition of industries of enterprises in the town districts

	Number of enterprises	Proportion (%)	Persons engaged	Proportion (%)
Industry	242324	45.0	14242024	70.9
Construction	22661	4.2	2690123	13.4
Transportation	38519	7.1	420577	2.1
Wholesale, retail and catering service	176542	32.8	1822622	9.1
Other industries	58466	10.9	916902	4.6

### 3. Number and structure of markets in the rural towns

Since the reform and open-door policy were adopted, the rural market and trade developed quite quickly with the development of commercial economy. According to the manual tabulation results, at the end of 1996, under the jurisdiction of rural towns, there were 30850 fairs and markets with fixed places, directly managed by towns, approved by the industrial and business departments, of which: general markets were 20917 and accounted for 67.8%, special markets 9933 and 32.2%; on average there were 1.91 fairs and markets in each of the towns, of which: general markets were 1.30, special markets 0.62.

In view of the different parts of China, total number and average of the fairs and markets, general markets and special markets in the east and middle parts were higher than in the west part (see table 5).

Table 5: Number and structure of fairs and markets in the rural towns in the east, middle and west Parts

	Fairs and market		General market		Special market	
	Total	Each town	Total	Each town	Total	Each town
East part	13793	1.84	9459	1.26	4334	0.58
Middle part	10364	2.13	6763	1.39	3601	0.74
West part	6693	1.77	4695	1.24	1998	0.53

## Agricultural Census **Communique No. 5**

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### Communique on General Results of the Manual Tabulation for the First National Agricultural Census by the National Agricultural Census Office in China

#### No. 5

#### Total Amount of Cultivated Land Area and Its Structure

The census on agricultural land area is one of the most important contents in the First National Agricultural Census of China. Based on the raw data from the national Land Detailed Survey (LDS), this census obtained the information on cultivated land area by the Land Change Survey (LCS). NLDS and LCS was organized and implemented by the state responsible departments with concentration of professional staff members in localities and by use of aerial photos and large-scale topographic charts combined with the open field survey. Through this census, the total amount of agricultural land area and its structure, including the national cultivated land, were clarified. Here is the manual tabulation results from the census on the cultivated land published as follows:

#### (1) The total amount of cultivated land area

The cultivated land area for planting agricultural crops in China includes new land reclamation, fallow and shifting fallow land, shifting cultivated land both for grass and crops; land mainly for planting crops, scattered with fruit trees, mulberry trees and other trees; river banks and sea beaches cultivated and planted for more than three years. In the cultivated land, there are also included the ditches, canals, paths and field banks with the width of less than 1.0 meter in South China and 2.0 meters in North China. The tabulated results show that on the day of October 31, 1996, the national cultivated land area was 130 million hectares (1.951 billion mu). Looking at the different parts of China, the cultivated land area was less in the eastern and western parts and took 28.4 % respectively. It took 43.2 % of the cultivated land in the middle part (see table 1).

Table 1 Distribution of Cultivated Land in the Eastern, Middle and Western Parts

	Cultivated Area 1. Hectare (thousand)	2. Mu (thousand)	Proportion to the National Total (%)
Eastern Part	36955.1505	554327.2583	28.4
Middle Part	56118.8895	841783.3432	43.2
Western Part	36964.4523	554466.7846	28.4

There were 6.071 million hectares of slope cultivated area with or over 25 degrees in the national cultivated land area. From the view of different parts of China, the slope cultivated land over 25 degrees was mainly in the western part (see table 2). According to some related regulations, the slope cultivated land over 25 degrees must be gradually withdraw from cultivation for forestation and livestock raising as planned, in order to improve the ecological environment.

Table 2 The Slope Cultivated Land over 25 Degrees in the Eastern, Middle and Western Parts

	Cultivated Area 1. Hectare (thousand)	2. Mu (thousand)	Proportion to the National Total (%)
Eastern Part	389,7265	5845.8924	6.4
Middle Part	1040.1520	15602.2801	17.1
Western Part	4641.6142	69624.2125	76.5

#### (2) Quality and Operation Structure of the Cultivated Land

From the preliminary census results, the cultivated land with poor quality accounted for certain proportion in China. Only the slope cultivated land with over 25 degrees took 4.7 % of the total cultivated land area. The slope cultivated land with over 25 degrees in Shaanxi, Guizhou, Yunnan and Sichuan Provinces took 25.9 %, 21.8 %, 12.6 % and 11.8 % of the total cultivated land area in these provinces respectively.

Of the cultivated land area, the cultivated land without irrigation facilities was much more than that with irrigation facilities, taken 60.2 % and 39.8 % respectively. In view of the different parts of China, proportion of cultivated land area with irrigation facilities in the eastern part was larger, and the area without irrigation facilities in the middle part was also larger (see table 3).

Table 3 Proportion of Cultivated Land with and without Irrigation Facilities in the Eastern, Middle and Western Parts

	Proportion of Cultivated Land with Irrigation Facilities (%)	Proportion of Cultivated Land without Irrigation Facilities (%)
Eastern Part	41.2	20.0
Middle Part	35.7	48.1
Western Part	23.1	31.9

If looking at the operational structure, the cultivated land was mainly contracted and operated by farm households. 95.03% of national cultivated land was operated by farm households, the others operated by state, collective and other units.

### (3) Strict Preservation of Cultivated Land - a Long-term Task

The work on the LDS, started in 1984, was finished in 1995. The LCS was conducted in 1996 on the changes after the LDS. In the above-mentioned land area surveys, the internationally standard measurement - hectare and nationally standard measurement - shi mu were used and replaced the commonly used "traditional mu" with different standards in the measurement of cultivated land area in different areas. The definition and scope of the cultivated land were also standardized, the area of field banks, paths and ditches with the width of one meter less in the South China and two meters in the North China in the plain areas were included. The census figures on national cultivated land area was 35 million hectares (526 million mu) more than the annual reports from the current statistics, due to the standardization of the measurements and statistical scopes. The actual cultivated and cropping area was not increased and the productivity of cultivated land was not changed.

According to the census results, the per capita possession of the cultivated land area was 0.107 hectare (1.61 mu) in China, as much as less than half of that in the world. The per capita possession of the cultivated land area is less than that of other countries with much population and less land, such as India (0.178 hectare). The census results also showed that the arable land from the backstopping resources usable in China was less, approximately 13600 thousand hectares (around 204 million mu). If using 60 % as reclamation rate, the possible land reclamation is 8260 thousand hectares (122 million mu), and of which 80 % is scattered in the remote areas such as northwest, southwest and northeast parts of China, with poor natural conditions. Therefore, the basic conditions in China do not change, such as large amount of population, less per capita cultivated land and insufficient backstopping resources of cultivated land. "Very much treasuring and rationally using each inch of land and preserving cultivated land practically" is the basic national policy which must be maintained in China for a long period.

Eastern Part: Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Liaoning, Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Fujian, Shandong, Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan.

Middle Part: Shanxi, Inner Mongolia, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Anhui, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei, Hunan.

Western Part: Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Tibet, Shaanxi, Gansu, Qinghai, Ningxia and Xinjiang.