

Historical outline

Previous censuses were undertaken in 1950, 1971 and 1981.

Legal basis and organization

The Law of September 7, 1951 organized the "Institute Haïtien d'Statistique e d'Informatique" (Haitian Institute of Statistics and Informatics) and charged it with the organization of the National Statistical System on a decentralized basis. The Institute has the normative role in the system and the responsibility of demographic and social surveys and the sectoral offices have the executive mandate for undertaking sector surveys and censuses. In particular, the Presidential Decree published in the Official Gazette of 23 October 2008, Volume 163 No 97 entrusted the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) the undertaking of the agricultural census 2008/2009. The census was taken with the financial support of the European Union and with technical assistance from FAO. A Central Bureau for General Agricultural Census was established and a steering Committee of Technical Support integrated by the Haitian Institute of Statistics and Informatics, the Food Security National coordinator and the Geo-space centre was formed. 1005 enumerators, 171 controllers, 17 county supervisors and 17 national supervisors were assigned to the exercise during the field work.

Enumeration period

The field work started on March 11th 2009 finalizing at the end of November 2009.

Reference period/date

For flow variables, the agricultural year: March 1st 2008 to February 28th 2009; for stock variables, the day of interview.

Definition of the statistical unit:

An agricultural exploitation or a farm is an economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock therein and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production, regardless of the title of ownership, legal status or size.

Farms were classified in: Individual; De facto society; Society; Agricultural Cooperative; Limited liability society; Government and Religious institution

Geographical coverage

The census covered all the country.

Statistical coverage

Only the farms that attain or exceed a conventional unit, called "business unit", and designated minimum size were enumerated. The threshold was:

4/100 "de carreau (de Surface Agricole Utile (SAU))" (equivalent to 516 square meters) without irrigation

1,5/100 "de carreau de Surface Agricole Utile (SAU))" (equivalent 193.5 square meters) irrigated

5 trees equivalent to mango for trees in usufruct

1 cow (1 ox)

3 goats or sheep (breeding females)

3 pigs (breeding females)

15 hens

5 beehives

5 rabbits (breeding females)

Data items coverage

All items from the WCA 2010 core module plus irrigation, agricultural practices, manpower, livestock, management of holding (including credit), gender.

Frame

The census frame was the cartography prepared in the pre-census phase.

Methodology

Enumerators canvassed the assigned Enumeration Districts identifying all households in it and applying a census questionnaire. Those holdings above the threshold were enumerated.

At the same time, field supervisors surveyed the communes collecting the communal information from referents of the community (religious, cultural, politic leader) or cooperative members, agricultural leader, etc.

The information was collected by means of personal interviews with manual filling of paper questionnaires.

Strong field supervision was applied to ensure quality during the field operations.

Data were manually edited, coded and keypunched.

Post census techniques to check census quality

Manual editing and inconsistency checking was performed at central level. Many inconsistencies were solved by phone communications. Once questionnaires were keypunched, a consistence checking programme was used.

Data Dissemination and Use

Since May 2011, provisional data by Department has been published. In October 2012, final national data were delivered along with a methodological note on the Community Survey. They were also incorporated to the website. An Agricultural Atlas has also been incorporated to the website.

Special features

A community survey was undertaking along with the agricultural census. The community survey covered socio-demographic and geographic aspects of each commune, their agricultural characteristics, state of environment, natural risks, roads, water, energy, services, agro-industries, cultural profile of the commune, main economic activities, employment, social situation and conflicts and development perspectives.

Data source

Publications in the website.

Mailing address / Census contact Points

MARNDR

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Haiti

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Website: <http://www.agriculture.gouv.ht/view/01/?-Recensement-General-de-I,36->