
CAPE VERDE - Agricultural Census 1988 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The 1988 Agricultural Census is the second undertaken in Cape Verde. It follows the first Agricultural Census of the Republic of Cape Verde which was carried out in 1978-81.

Organization: The census was organized by the Statistics Division of the Studies and Planning Office of the Ministry of Rural Development and Fisheries. Both financial and technical assistance were given through the project FAO/UNDP "Agricultural Statistics", and by the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). Bilateral cooperations were also established with French, Dutch, and Portuguese Governments for the completion of the task. The field staff consisted of 4 technicians, 8 supervisors, and 55 enumerators.

Enumeration period: The census was carried out during the period 1 May - 31 July 1988.

Reference date: All census items refer to the agricultural year 1987-88.

Coverage: During the census all "Zonas Agrícolas" in all islands of the country were investigated and all agricultural holdings whose holder was resident in the investigated zona, were covered. (The zona is the smallest administrative sub-division of the country; each zona is controlled by a Commission of Residents, and consists of an area composed of one or more pieces of land). Not covered by the census were:

- households in the zonas but not practising agriculture;
- households in non agricultural zonas (i.e. urban areas of Praia and Mindelo).

Methods: Four categories of holdings were identified:

- 1) Small holdings producing mainly for home consumption;
- 2) Large commercial holdings;
- 3) Cooperatives;
- 4) Government holdings.

The first category was considered the "traditional sector", while the holdings belonging to categories 2, 3, and 4, were grouped into the "modern sector". Holdings of modern sector were completely enumerated while two groups of traditional sector holdings were identified:

- holdings on the islands of Boa Vista, Brava, Maio, Sal, St.Nicolau, and St.Vicente, which were completely enumerated; and
- holdings on the islands of Fogo, Santiago and Santo Antao, for which a simple random sample was taken: for each agricultural zone 50% of holdings, with holder living in the zone, were drawn by systematic selection.

A pilot survey preceded the census.

Data source: Republica de Cabo Verde - Ministerio do Desenvolvimento Rural e Pescas - Gabinete de Estudos e Planeamento - Recenseamento Agrícola 1988 - Volume I: Dados globais - Janeiro 1990.

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