

FORMER CZECHOSLOVAKIA - Agricultural Census 1990 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: In 1990 the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic participated for the last time in the World Census of Agriculture (WCA) as a federal state formed by the Czech and the Slovak Republics, no more linked by a federative pact. This was the third participation of former Czechoslovakia in WCA in the period following the Second World War, after the agricultural censuses conducted in 1970 and 1980. The publication of the results of the 1990 agricultural census in former Czechoslovakia is expected to be useful for the study of the transition of Czech and Slovak agriculture towards a new system of economic conditions (market economy).

Organization: In former Czechoslovakia, the body responsible for ensuring a uniform system of socio-economic information over the whole state was the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and, in particular, the Division of Statistics of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy. Other bodies in the state information system were the Czech Statistical Office (CSO), the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (SSO), and their regional bodies, the CSO and SSO regional and district departments. CSO and SSO are still operative in Czech and Slovak Republics. The Czech Office of Geology and Cartography and the Slovak Office of Geodesy and Cartography were also involved in census operations.

Reference date: Data on crops refer to the calendar year 1990; data on employment refer to 1 February 1989; data on livestock and machinery refer to 1 January 1991.

Definitions: Agriculture in former Czechoslovakia was characterized by the following sectors:

- State sector, which included the establishments owned by the State: the largest section of centrally managed establishments was subordinate to the Ministry of Agriculture; also organizations managed by other governmental departments were included in this sector.
- Co-operative sector, which included holdings in the co-operative ownership, i.e. farming co-operatives and joint ventures.
- Private plots of co-operative farmers.
- Other agricultural establishments including those of individual farmers.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country. All agricultural holdings with a land area larger than 0.1 Ha were covered.

Frame: The register of the reporting units of the Agricultural Statistics System, and the register of real property were used to define the census frame.

Methods: Data presented here are derived from the following sources:

- Surveys on areas under cultivation;
- Surveys on crop production for 1990;
- Census of persons permanently active in agriculture;
- Census of livestock;
- Record of agricultural units on machinery and equipment.

Data source: Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and Environment Statistics Division of the Federal Statistical Office - Selected Indicators on Agricultural Holdings based on the FAO Programme (World Census 1990).

Mailing address:

- Czech Statistical Office - Sokolovska 142, 186 04 Praha 8 - Czech Republic.
- Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic - Mileticova 3 - 824 67 Bratislava - Slovakia.