
DENMARK - Agricultural Census 1989 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The Kingdom of Denmark has participated in every World Census of Agriculture (WCA) round since 1930. The last participation, to which data here refer, was in 1989.

Organization: The census was organized by Danmarks Statistik which is an independent institution under the supervision of a Board consisting of experts drawn from different sectors of the economy (industry, agriculture, university, labour, etc.), chaired by the National Statistician. The Agricultural Division of the Institution is responsible for the census.

Enumeration period: The census was conducted on 2 June 1989.

Reference date: The time reference for census items was 2 June 1989.

Definition: The enumeration unit is the agricultural holding defined as an economic unit of agricultural production under a single management comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes and consisting of one or more parcels, providing the parcels share the same production means.

- Until 1976 all holdings with at least 0.5 Ha of agricultural area in use or reporting a certain number of livestock were included in the enumeration. Horticultural holdings were counted separately.
- From 1977 horticultural holdings were included in the agricultural census.
- From 1977 to 1982 included in the enumeration were all agricultural and horticultural holdings with at least 0.5 Ha of agricultural land in use or a production value corresponding to the production stemming from 0.5 Ha of barley.
- From 1983 included in the enumeration are the holdings reporting at least 5 Ha of agricultural area in use or, if less, an agricultural production of at least 3000 ERE (ECU).

The raising of the lower limit decided in 1983 eliminated about 8000 small holdings from the definition of holdings, corresponding to 8 % of the total number of holdings, reporting about 1,5% of the total agricultural production. A 20% sample survey of these holdings is conducted every two years as an operation independent of the census of agriculture.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country.

Frame: The Agricultural Division of Danmarks Statistik built up a register of all agricultural farms for statistical purposes.

Methods: Information on agriculture is collected on an annual basis by means of mailed questionnaires.

- Until 1983 a complete enumeration of all holdings was annually conducted.
- From 1984 to 1989 a complete enumeration of all holdings matching the 1983 definition was carried out during odd years, while a 25% sample survey was carried out during even years.
- Since 1990 agricultural enumerations have been conducted in Denmark on a sampling basis only.

Data source: Danmarks Statistik - Landbrugsstatistik 1989 - København 1990.

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