

SPAIN - Agricultural Census 1989 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The first census of agriculture in Spain was carried out in 1962, in observance of the 1957 General Census Law prescribing a nationwide agricultural census to be taken every ten years. The second and the third General Censuses of Agriculture were taken in 1972 and 1982 respectively, while the fourth was conducted in 1989 instead of 1992, to meet the European Economic Community (EEC) regulations concerning agricultural surveys. Data included in the Report on the 1990 World Census of Agriculture were extracted from current statistics.

Organization: The National Institute of Statistics, a central body within the framework of the Presidency of the Government, is in charge of the higher administration of all statistical activities in Spain. However, a large proportion of agricultural statistics is delegated to the Technical Secretariat of the Ministry of Agriculture which, in turn, has a Statistical Service responsible for the practical execution of statistical work. At the province level, statistical work is assigned to the Ministry of Agriculture's Province Offices, Study and Statistics Branch. These offices collect base data for processing statistics and make the studies needed for improvement.

Enumeration period: The fourth General Census of Agriculture was conducted on 30 September 1989.

Reference date: Data on holding, holder, livestock and machinery refer to the day of enumeration; all other data, including those on employment, refer to the agricultural year 1 October 1988 - 30 September 1989.

Definitions: There are two types of agricultural holdings: with land or without land.

- Holdings with land are those reporting a total area of at least 0.1 Ha.
- Holdings without land are those with less than 0.1 Ha of total area, whether located in rural or urban areas, but having at least one of the following:
 - 1 head of cattle;
 - 2 horses, asses, mules or pigs;
 - 6 sheep or goats;
 - 50 chickens or other poultry;
 - 30 female rabbits;
 - 10 beehives.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country, i.e. the 50 mainland provinces, the insular provinces of Canary and Balearic Islands, and the towns of Ceuta and Melilla.

Frame: A list of agricultural holdings in each municipality, updated by the National Institute of Statistics, was used as frame.

Methods: The 50 provinces into which the country is administratively divided, consisting, in turn, of about 8650 municipal districts, were grouped in terms of agriculture within 11 regions. Complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out; data were collected through direct interview by approximately 9000 interviewers.

Data source: Instituto Nacional de Estadística - Censo Agrario 1989 - Tomo I - Resultados Nacionales - Madrid, 1991.

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