

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first Census of Agriculture (CA) in Jamaica was undertaken, together with the Census of Population and Housing, in 1943. The second CA was carried out in 1961, while the third was conducted in 1968/1969, and represented the first participation of Jamaica in the FAO World Census of Agriculture Programme. Subsequently, agricultural censuses were undertaken in 1978/1979 and 1996. The metadata presented here refers to the sixth CA conducted in Jamaica in 2007.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The CA 2007 was taken under the provisions of the Statistics Act (Amended).¹ In accordance with Section 4 of the Act, Agricultural Order 2007 was approved by the House of Representatives on 22 January 2007, authorizing the taking of a CA in Jamaica between 19 February and 31 December 2007. Under Section 6 of the Act, the CA 2007 Regulations were elaborated by the Minister of Finance and Planning, on 22 January 2007, outlining the conditions under which the CA was to be conducted.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

According with the Statistics Act, the Director General of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) is responsible for taking all censuses in Jamaica (Art. 3c of the Statistics Act, 1984). Census planning was organized through a joint consultative committee comprising representatives from STATIN, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority, the University of West Indies and the Planning Institute of Jamaica. The census was executed mainly by the staff of the STATIN.

Census staff

The field staff comprised 600 temporary workers, serving as area managers, supervisors and interviewers.²

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference days:

- 16 February 2007, for items related to livestock;
- the day of enumeration for holding and holder identification, total area, number of parcels, land use and tenure, size of holder's household, etc.

Reference period: the reference year (calendar year 2006), for items on income, crops, labour, use of machinery, main marketing problems, agricultural practices and facilities, and irrigation, etc.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The census was launched on 20 February 2007 and finished by mid-August of the same year.³

5. SCOPE OF THE CENSUS AND DEFINITION OF THE STATISTICAL UNIT

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production). Items were also collected related to oyster, shrimp and lobster farming (aquaculture from marine environment).

The **statistical unit** is the agricultural holding, defined as all the lands being utilized in full or in part for agricultural purposes, and is located in a single parish. It may consist of one parcel of land or of several parcels. A farm may comprise land in crops or may be animals only. Where it comprises several parcels, all parcels must be located within the same parish to be considered a single farm. Where there are animals only, and no land is dedicated to their rearing, these are referred to as landless farms. In terms of size, a holding or farm is any agricultural enterprise with a minimum of at least one of the cut-off limits described below (see section 7).

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The census covered farming activities in all non-urban areas and a few selected urban areas. All parishes with the exception of Kingston were included.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLDS AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

Holdings with activity over at least one of the following cut-off limits were enumerated:

- one "square chain" (approximately 400 m², or 0.04 ha) of cultivation (crops including flowers whether in a greenhouse/shade house or not);
- 12 bearing economic trees (citrus, mangoes, breadfruit, etc.);

¹ Ch. 368, Law 34 of 1995; Act 3 of 1984; Act 11 of 2003.

² STATIN's senior field supervisors and zone supervisors acted as assistant area managers and provided guidance on the use of maps and the resolution of mapping queries. The country was divided into seven areas, each coordinated by an area manager, and in 3 198 Enumeration Districts, of which 2 950 were finally canvassed.

³ Enumeration took place through visits to all households in these areas, each household being identified either as a farm or non-farm household. A questionnaire was then administered for every farm identified in each household. The total number of enumeration districts identified for coverage was 3 198 of which 160 were classified as urban. All parishes, with the exception of Kingston, were included. Each household in the prescribed areas was to be visited and basic information collected with regard. A listing schedule was designed for this purpose, on which was identified the name and address of the head of the household, the number of persons in each household by gender, the number of individuals of 14 years and over, the number of persons who operate farms, the names of these persons and the number of farms which they operate. A census questionnaire was then completed for each farm identified.

- two head of cattle;
- two pigs or five goats or five sheep;
- 50 poultry (any combination) including ducks, turkeys etc.;
- six beehives; or
- one fish (including ornamental) or shrimp pond of any size.

Holdings below the threshold were enumerated by means of the listing form.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

Although a modular approach was planned for conducting the CA 2007, only one census module was implemented by the country, due to budget and time constraints.

Frame

A listing of households was designed through enumerators' visits to households. In addition, the lists of farms with 20 ha or more, based on the previous agricultural census, were scrutinized and updated.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The AC was conducted using complete enumeration.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection method(s)

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Questionnaire(s)

One questionnaire was used in the CA 2007. The census questionnaire covered 13 items from the 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.⁴

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Data were manually entered and coded. Editing of primary data was done through inconsistency checking routines. External data were used for the validation of census results.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

No information on census data quality was provided in the census reports available.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The census results were disseminated through reports with preliminary and final census results and through institution's website.

13. DATA SOURCES

Statistical Institute of Jamaica. Census of Agriculture 2007. In: *Statistical Institute of Jamaica* [online]. Kingston, Jamaica. [Cited 13 August 2019]. <http://statinja.gov.jm/agricensus.aspx>

14. CONTACT

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⁴ The following items were not covered: (i) "Presence of aquaculture on the holding", (ii). "Presence of forest and other woodland on the holding" and (iii) "Other economic production activities of the holding's enterprise".

JAMAICA – CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 2007 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	228 683	325 810
Civil persons	210 853	n.a.
Juridical persons	17 830	n.a.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	228 683	325 810
Holdings without land	28 070	
Holdings with land	200 613	325 810
Less than 1 ha	151 929	47 712
1–5 ha	43 731	86 011
5–10 ha	2 922	19 721
10–25 ha	1 283	19 166
25–50 ha	338	11 896
50–100 ha	170	11 742
100–200 ha	100	13 707
200 ha and over	140	115 854

LAND USE ¹		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	228 683	325 810
Active farmland	n.a.	202 727
Cropland	n.a.	154 524
Permanent meadows and pastures	n.a.	48 203
Inactive farmland	n.a.	114 048
Ruin and fallow	n.a.	80 560
Woodland and other land on farms	n.a.	33 488
Other land	n.a.	9 035

HOLDERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR, BY AGE	
	Number
Total	210 853
Under 25 years	12 356
25–34 years	31 890
35–44 years	46 898
45–54 years	43 846
55–64 years	31 557
65–74 years	23 914
75 years and over	14 123
Not reported	6 269

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Holdings with livestock	n.a.	
Cattle	n.a.	94 964
Sheep	454	7 255
Goats	60 315	482 345
Pigs	32 865	223 954
Equines	5 980	9 363
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Layers	3 288	766
Broilers	29 761	6 009
Other poultry	4 802	108
Insects		
Bees (hives)	578	11 895

TEMPORARY CROPS HARVESTED		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	n.a.	n.a.
Cereals	n.a.	n.a.
Corn	16 824	1 577
Vegetables and melons	n.a.	n.a.
Cabbages	15 649	1 917
Carrots	15 614	2 265
Pumpkin	23 413	2 782
Watermelons	3 150	722
Tomatoes	17 260	1 995
Other vegetables	25 731	3 147
Root/tuber crops	n.a.	n.a.
Cocoyam	18 718	1 560
Irish potatoes	3 344	605
Sweet potatoes	28 348	3 436
Cassava	18 100	2 750
Dasheen	17 466	1 790
Yams	95 940	17 345
Spice and aromatic crops	n.a.	n.a.
Hot pepper	11 685	1 380
Sweet pepper	15 939	1 705
Other spice crops	n.a.	1 014
Leguminous crops	n.a.	n.a.
Red peas	8 607	735
Gungo peas	15 969	1 957
Peanuts	4 563	1 477
Sugar crops	n.a.	n.a.
Sugar cane	33 183	58 273
Other temporary crops	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Data are presented according to national land use classes.