

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first Agricultural Census (AC) was carried out in Jordan in 1953, followed by ACs conducted in 1965, 1975, 1983 and 1997. The AC 2007, to which the metadata review and data presented in this publication refer, was the sixth AC to be conducted in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal basis for the AC is provided by the General Statistics Law No. 12 of 2012. According to this law, the Department of Statistics of Jordan (DOS)¹ is authorized “to collect statistical information and data from respondents”. According to the law, censuses of agriculture (as well as other censuses) should be conducted at most once every ten years, on the dates set by the Council of Ministers.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The responsibility for conducting the AC 2007 was assigned to the DOS. The AC Preparatory Committee, Technical Committee and Higher Ministerial Committee in relation to census activities were established. In addition, during the preparatory stage, a Media Committee was established to raise awareness among the public and data users on the scope and objectives of the census. FAO provided technical support for the implementation of the AC 2007. The census was funded from the national budget.

Census staff

The total number of census staff comprised approximately 700 employees, of which 379 were enumerators.²

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 August 2006, for the location of the holding and its parcels, demographic data, machinery and equipment used on the holding, number of livestock, etc.

Reference period: the agricultural year (from 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2007), for land use and cropped area, labour force, irrigation, agricultural fertilizers and pesticides, etc.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The field data collection was conducted from 1 June to 30 September 2007.

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

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crops and livestock production).

The **statistical unit** in the AC 2007 was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic unit for agricultural production under one management that includes all existing animals and all land, used in whole or in part for agricultural production purposes, regardless of ownership or legal form.³

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The census covered the entire country, both rural and urban areas.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

Only the holdings exceeding the following thresholds were covered by the AC 2007: a holder who owns 1 *dunum* (0.1 ha) or more of agricultural land; or any protected area; more than ten head of sheep, or ten goats, or both; one or more female cattle; one camel or more; five beehives or more; 30 or more domestic poultry; or an organized farm (such as cattle and poultry farms).

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was applied for conducting the AC 2007.

¹ The DOS was founded in 1949 and, soon after, the first General Statistics Law (No. 24 of 1950 and subsequent amendments) has been issued. The second relevant law was the Provisional General Statistical Law No. 8 of 2003, to regulate its work as an institution specialized in statistical work and to define its functions and responsibilities as the only governmental agency authorized to collect information and statistical data. The third and latest statistical act to be issued was General Statistics Law No. 12 of 2012 (see <http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/laws-and-instructions/>).

² These were: (i) 6 coordinators; (ii) 22 inspectors/supervisors; (iii) 42 employees as support technicians; (iv) 60 observers; (v) 379 enumerators; (vi) 140 drivers; (vii) 12 liaison officers from the Ministry of Agriculture; (viii) 10 employees in the operating room; (ix) 19 employees administrative support services; (x) 10 information technology employees, etc.

³ The same holding could be managed by one person or a household, two or more persons or two households. A clan or a tribe may run the management, or the holding may be managed by a legal entity, such as a company, a cooperative association or a government agency. The holding land may consist of one or more parts, situated in one locality, provided that all parts of the holding participate in the same means of production, such as labour, agricultural buildings, agricultural machinery and towing animals.

Frame

The information collected in the Population Census 2004 with regard to the households engaged in agricultural activities was used as a frame for the holdings in the household sector in the AC 2007. For organized farms, the Ministry of Agriculture provided the list for the frame.

Complete or/and sample enumeration methods

Complete enumeration was applied for the AC 2007.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection methods

The census enumeration was performed through visits to all households, to identify units that fulfil the threshold criteria applied to define the agricultural holding. Data were collected from the agricultural holdings identified during the preliminary visit. Data collection was undertaken using Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) devices.

Questionnaire(s)

A single questionnaire was used for data collection. The AC 2007 covered 13 of the 16 core items⁴ recommended by the 2010 WCA.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

PDA's were used for census data collection (the CAPI method). Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Census data were collected using the CAPI method with PDA's. On a daily basis, the Technical Support Team of the DOS transferred the data from the PDA's to computers in the counting centres, and then transferred them electronically to the DOS census database. The data backup was done on CD-ROMs, as well as on hard disks, to ensure preservation. The data received from the counting centres was edited under the supervision of specialized technical personnel from the Census Administration.⁵

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

Quality check was carried out at the end of the field data collection. The questionnaire contained some of the main items of the census questionnaire.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

Final results were published in September 2008. In order to facilitate users' access to AC results, the census data were disseminated through printed publication, CD-ROMs, and the DOS' website.

13. DATA SOURCES

Department of Statistics (DOS). 2019a. Agricultural Census 2007. In: *DOS* [online]. Amman, Jordan. [Cited 5 September 2019]. <http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/products/agricultural-census2007/>

Department of Statistics (DOS). 2019b. Agricultural Census. In: *DOS* [online]. Amman, Jordan. [Cited 5 September 2019]. <http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/censuses/agriculture-census/>

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

⁵ Technical personnel from the census administration prepared the data tabulation plan during the preparatory stage, after approving the questionnaire in its final form. The information technology (IT) directorate was provided with the plan to design the programmes for extracting the results. These programmes were tested on the pre-test questionnaire. After completion of all electronic preparation processes, extraction of the tables commenced. The personnel concerned edited the output tables in terms of the consistency and logicality of results, and to enable carrying out the necessary comparisons. The tables were also checked in relation to form and language, prior to approval in their final form.

JORDAN – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2007 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	80 152	261 508
Individual	72 508	198 731
Two or more individuals	2 673	8 764
Governmental	117	5 965
Company	191	16 014
Partners	2 904	16 463
More than one legal status	1 715	14 563
Other	44	1 008

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	80 152	261 508
Holdings operated under one tenure form	78 211	239 662
Owned	76 166	216 978
Rented	1 973	22 568
Other form of tenure	72	116
Holdings operated under two or more tenure forms	1 941	21 846

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	80 152	261 508
Holdings without land	1 626	
Holdings with land	78 526	261 508
Less than 0,2 ha	19 264	1 130
0,2–0,5 ha	14 925	4 423
0,5–1 ha	11 350	7 519
1–2 ha	11 905	15 462
2–3 ha	5 617	13 104
3–4 ha	5 582	18 234
4–5 ha	2 160	9 225
5–10 ha	3 969	25 995
10–20 ha	1 779	22 877
20–50 ha	1 147	32 872
50–100 ha	517	33 221
100–200 ha	202	25 358
200 ha and over	109	52 088

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	80 152	261 508
Agricultural land	n.a.	225 348
Arable land	n.a.	142 958
Land under temporary crops	n.a.	99 485
Land under temporary meadows	n.a.	269
Land temporarily fallow	n.a.	43 204
Land under permanent crops	n.a.	81 305
Permanent meadows and pastures	n.a.	1 085
Forest	n.a.	1 241
Nurseries	n.a.	242
Other land	n.a.	34 677

HOLDERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR, BY AGE	
	Number
Total	79 226
18–25 years	1 183
26–34 years	5 702
35–44 years	15 731
45–54 years	18 419
55–64 years	16 967
65 years and over	14 930
Unspecified age group	6 294

HOLDINGS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE	
	Number
Total	79 226
1 person	2 023
2–3 persons	9 169
4–5 persons	14 918
6–9 persons	34 787
10 persons and over	6 663
Unspecified	11 666

LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING	
	Number
Total	129 822
Male	121 344
Female	8 478
Family labour	109 034
Male	100 850
Female	8 184
Hired permanent labour	20 788
Male	20 494
Female	294

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	42 837	
Cattle	4 005	88 215
Sheep	11 407	2 496 227
Goats	12 299	559 600
Equines	n.a.	11 776
Horses	n.a.	2 182
Mules	n.a.	389
Asses	n.a.	9 205
Camels	834	7 987
Poultry (1 000 head)	14 309	319
Chickens	9 415	172
Ducks	370	5
Geese	392	3
Turkeys	461	3
Others	3 671	137
Other animals	n.a.	
Rabbits	817	10 332
Insects		
Bees (hives)	470	16 475

HOLDINGS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR BY MAIN PURPOSE OF PRODUCTION		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total producing for	80 152	261 508
Home consumption	n.a.	39 708
Sale	n.a.	189 792
Home consumption and sale	n.a.	32 008