

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first agricultural census (AC) in Georgia was conducted in 2004. The AC 2014 was the second AC, conducted in conjunction with the 2014 General Population Census (GPC).¹

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal basis of the AC 2014 included:

- the Law on Official Statistics, adopted by the Parliament on 11 December 2009, which is the key piece of legislation regulating all phases of a census, from the methodological and organizational works to data processing and publication and dissemination of the final results.
- the Programme for the 2014 General Population Census of Georgia, approved by the Government Commission for Census Coordination on 8 May 2014.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat) was the body responsible for conducting the AC and the GPC 2014. A specific Government Census Commission was set up according to Article 21 of the Law on Official Statistics.

Geostat received technical assistance for the AC 2014 from FAO and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Census staff

More than 12 000 persons participated in the joint field data collection. The field staff included fieldwork coordinators, regional coordinators, municipal supervisors, sector supervisors, instructor-coordinators and enumerators (about 10 000 people).

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 October 2014, for inventory items such as land area operated, by land use categories and livestock numbers.

Reference period: the 12 months preceding the reference day of the AC (from 1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014), for flow items, such as use of agricultural products and the machinery used on the holding.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The data collection was carried out in two phases:

- First phase: data collection for holdings in the household sector, which was carried out together with the GPC from 5 November to 19 November 2014.
- Second phase: data collection for holdings in the non-household sector (legal entities and municipalities), which was carried out from 2 March to 20 March 2015.²

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

The **census scope** covered agricultural (crop and livestock production) activities. Data on communal grazing land for all municipalities were also collected in the AC 2014.

The main **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic unit engaged in agricultural production under single management without regard to size and legal status. An economic unit that operates agricultural land or permanent crop trees, but that during the reference year has no agricultural production, is also considered an agricultural holding. As the AC 2014 data collection for the agricultural holdings in the household sector was carried out jointly with the GPC, the common statistical unit was the agricultural production household. Two types of agricultural holdings were distinguished: family holdings and agricultural enterprises.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The census covered both rural and urban areas of the country, excluding the territories outside the control of the Government of Georgia – the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic and Tskhinvali region.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

No thresholds or other exclusions were applied in the AC 2014.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The AC 2014 was carried out using the classical approach, in two phases (see section 4).

¹ Four different censuses were carried out in the framework of the GPC 2014: (i) the Census of Dwellings, (ii) the Census of the Population, (iii) the Census of Emigrants, and (iv) the Census of Agriculture (household sector).

² The reference date and period used for the units from the non-household sector (during the second phase) were the same as those used for the holdings enumerated in the first phase of data collection.

Frame

In 2013, Geostat conducted preliminary fieldwork to establish the list of dwellings and households existing in Georgia. The information received from the preliminary fieldwork was used to update and finalize the census frame for data collection. For agricultural enterprises, to ensure full coverage of the list of potential agricultural enterprises, all existing reliable sources in the country were used.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The AC 2014 was a complete enumeration of the agricultural holdings.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection method(s)

For the household sector, the information was collected through face-to-face (door-to-door) interviews using paper questionnaires (PAPI method). For the non-household sector, data collection was done by self-interviewing using an online questionnaire (the computer-Assisted Web interviewing method or CAWI).

Questionnaire(s)

One questionnaire was used for the AC 2014 data collection, in both paper and electronic format. The AC 2014 questionnaire covered 15 of the 16 core items³ recommended for the WCA 2010 round.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

The CAWI method was used to collect information from legal entities (agricultural enterprises and municipalities). Geographic Information System (GIS) maps were used to support the field operations. Census results were disseminated and are accessible online. Geostat implemented a microdata archiving system to save the census data.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

For several months after the census enumeration, approximately 300 people worked on the digitalization of census data. They were permanently supervised by IT and other technical staff. In parallel, digitized questionnaires were compared with paper questionnaires by editors. Finally, data were cleaned by the appropriate division at the central office of Geostat. The data cleaning process used several methods. Data relating to large holdings were verified by telephone calls. In addition, different reliable sources (registers) were used to fill in missing data. Furthermore, donor imputation was used to fill in the missing values. For tabulation, a special software was prepared by Geostat. Geostat implemented a microdata archiving system to save the census data.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

Geostat conducted a PES to assess the quality of the AC. During the fieldwork, Geostat used a six-level control system, which involved the following categories of census staff: field work coordinator, regional coordinator, municipal supervisor, sector supervisor, instructor-coordinator and enumerator.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The census results (including press releases, leaflets, tables with census results and census publications) were disseminated through the Geostat website,⁴ including via interactive maps.⁵ Printed census publications and leaflets were provided to government and private organizations, and other stakeholders throughout the country. Geostat conducted several presentations and meetings with main users.

13. DATA SOURCES

FAO. 2017. Regional Roundtable on the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020 (WCA 2020). 3–7 April 2017, Budapest, Hungary. In: *World Programme for the Census of Agriculture* [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 4 September 2019]. <http://www.fao.org/world-census-agriculture/events/wca2020budapest/en/>

Geostat. 2015. *Agricultural Census in Georgia 2014*. Tbilisi, Georgia. (also available at http://census.ge/files/results/agriculture/Agricultural_Census_2014.pdf).

14. CONTACT

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³ The following item was not covered: "Other economic production activities of the holding's enterprise".

⁴ The census results are available at <http://census.ge/en/results/agro-census>

⁵ These are available at <http://gis.geostat.ge/geomap/agricultureen.html#8/42.334/43.380>

GEORGIA – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2014 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	642 209	842 289
Holdings without land	414	
Holdings with land	641 795	842 289
Civil persons	639 567	727 925
Juridical persons	2 228	114 364

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total holdings with land	641 795	842 289
Owned land	641 003	734 825
Rented land	16 407	107 464

LAND FRAGMENTATION		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total holdings with land	641 795	842 289
1 parcel	297 716	137 588
2–3 parcels	247 926	331 446
4–5 parcels	72 568	207 076
6–9 parcels	21 309	101 013
10 parcels and over	2 276	65 165

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	642 209	842 289
Holdings without land	414	
Holdings with land	641 795	842 289
Less than 0.1 ha	115 902	5 547
0.1–0.19 ha	67 338	9 029
0.20–0.49 ha	132 729	41 174
0.5–0.99 ha	152 921	104 645
1–1.99 ha	129 989	161 283
2–2.99 ha	22 238	22 674
3–3.99 ha	7 835	58 703
4–4.99 ha	3 490	51 094
5–9.99 ha	5 099	30 199
10–19.99 ha	1 743	118 356
20–49.99 ha	1 011	25 835
50–99.99 ha	546	15 030
100–199.99 ha	434	32 310
200–499.99 ha	393	37 546
500 ha and over	127	128 863

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total with land	641 795	842 289
Agricultural land	568 152	778 909
Arable land	527 683	365 707
Land under temporary crops	471 911	254 345
Land under temporary meadows and pastures	10 470	7 379
Land temporarily fallow	155 421	103 984
Land under permanent crops	272 046	109 567
Permanent meadows and pastures	82 799	303 634
Greenhouses	7 450	699
Non-agricultural land	612 372	62 681

HOLDINGS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE	
	Number
Total	639 963
1 person	100 782
2–3 persons	244 459
4–5 persons	193 744
6–9 persons	97 391
10 persons and over	3 587

HOLDERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR, BY SEX		
	Number	Area operated (ha)
Total	639 963	727 925
Male	441 787	574 781
Female	198 176	153 144

HOLDERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR, BY SEX AND AGE	
	Number
Total	639 963
Male	441 787
Female	198 176
Under 25 years	6 171
Male	4 741
Female	1 430
25–34 years	31 919
Male	26 140
Female	5 779
35–44 years	74 008
Male	60 168
Female	13 840
45–54 years	139 109
Male	108 940
Female	30 169
55–64 years	164 471
Male	117 570
Female	46 901
65 years and over	224 285
Male	124 228
Female	100 057

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX	
	Number
Total	2 238 095
Male	1 099 762
Female	1 138 333

HOLDINGS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR BY MAIN PURPOSE OF PRODUCTION		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	639 963	727 925
Producing mainly for	626 058	719 673
Home consumption	492 154	310 667
Sale	133 904	409 006
No agricultural production	13 905	8 251

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	412 395	
Cattle	271 118	989 386
Buffaloes	6 007	16 024
Sheep	19 962	943 998
Goats	6 868	45 330
Pigs/swine	93 914	213 087
Equines	25 081	34 689
Horses	20 525	28 112
Asses (donkeys) and mules	5 519	6 577
Poultry (1 000 head)	364 916	8 216
Chickens	358 618	7 564
Other poultry	94 188	652
Other animals	n.a.	
Rabbits	7 722	42 206
Insects		
Bees (hives)	14 074	163 859