

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

Beginning with 1949, agricultural censuses have been carried out in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1960, 1971 and 1979. The 1991 census of agriculture (CA) was the first carried out in the unified Germany, followed by the CAs conducted in 1999 and 2010. The CA 2010 was conducted together with the SAPM.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal framework of the CA 2010 included:

- the Law on Statistics for Federal Purposes of 22 January 1987 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 462, 565), as amended;
- the Law on Agricultural Statistics of 17 December 2009 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 3886), as amended;
- the Law on Equal Status for Set-Aside and Agriculturally Used Areas of 10 July 1995 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 910), as amended; and
- the EU legislation relevant for implementing the FSS 2010.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The CA in Germany is decentralized. Coordination and the statistical methodology is under the responsibility of the Federal Statistical Office (FSO), with the participation of the statistical offices of the *Länder*.

Census staff

In the CA 2010, the following number of staff were involved (project staff and permanent staff): 39 employees of the FSO and 345 employees of the statistical offices of the *Länder*.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 March 2010, for inventory items, such as livestock.

Reference periods:

- the last 12 months, for manure, renewable energy;
- from March 2009 to February 2010, for labour force and mushrooms;
- the year 2009, for irrigation, animal grazing and other gainful activities;
- year 2010, for legal form, location, land use and crops, organic farming and types of land tenure;
- the three previous years (from 2008 to 2010), for crop rotation, rural development support, etc.; and
- from June 2009 until May 2010 for intercropping.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The CA 2010, including the SAPM, was conducted between January 2010 (posting of the questionnaires) and January 2011 (reminders to late and non-respondents).

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

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production). Forestry enterprises above the established threshold were also covered by the census.

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as “a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and which undertakes agricultural activities listed in Annex I to the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No. 1166/2008 within the economic territory of the European Union, either as its primary or secondary activity”.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The CA 2010 covered the entire country.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

Germany applied the following threshold: (i) 5 ha of UAA; (ii) 0.5 ha of hops or tobacco or of area for fruit-growing; under vines or tree nurseries; or of outdoor vegetable or strawberry cultivation; or (iii) 1 ha of permanent outdoor crops; (iv) 0.3 ha of outdoor flower or ornamental plant cultivation; (v) 0.1 ha of crops under glass or other accessible protective cover or mushrooms; or (vi) ten cattle, 50 pigs, ten breeding sows, 20 sheep, 20 goats, 1 000 poultry.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used in the CA 2010. Some census data were collected directly from administrative registers.

Frame

The statistical farm register served for preparation, execution and processing of the CA. An extensive survey to identify the population (SiP) was conducted in 2009. In addition to the results of the SiP, administrative data were used (such as trade association data) to update the statistical farm register. The frame of the CA 2010 was composed of approximately 300 000 holdings.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The CA 2010 was conducted using complete enumeration. The SAPM was conducted as a sample survey.

Sample design

The SAPM was a sample survey, using a stratified sampling procedure. The sample was a single-stage (stratified) sample with approximately 78 000 holdings in the sample. The Agricultural Statistics Law sets a maximum sample size of 80 000 holdings.

Data collection methods

The respondents completed the questionnaires sent to them via post (mail-out/mail-back and drop-off/pick-up) by the statistical offices of the *Länder* or provided to them online on their own (Computer-assisted Self Interviewing, or CASI); alternatively, they gave the information to interviewers or survey offices by telephone (CATI), if these methods were used for the survey. In addition, the statistical offices of the *Länder* used data from administrative data sources as a source of census data and for validation purposes.

Questionnaire(s)

Four questionnaires were used in the CA and SAPM. The questionnaires covered all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

New technology was used in the CA 2010, such as: (i) the CASI and CATI methods for census data collection; (ii) to collect some census data directly from administrative registers; and (iii) for the online dissemination of census results.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The processing programme AGRA 2010 was used for census data processing. This programme undertakes 727 mandatory error tests, 211 possible error tests and 11 automated corrections. Once the tabulated results are available, a manual control is carried out for factual and mathematical accuracy. This refers to the results within a table and to a comparison of tables. Then, the results are compiled for publication taking, data protection and confidentiality provisions into account.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

The AGRA 2010 processing programme was the main instrument for making edits of completeness and plausibility. After completion of the final CA results, the estimates were matched with those of previous surveys and administrative data. No significant or unexpected differences were noted.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The FSO made the results of the CA 2010 available at the national and regional level (NUTS 1). Initial preliminary results of the CA 2010 were presented at a press conference in January 2011, and were also made available on the FSO website. In addition, the final results were published in the framework of the information activities of the FSO. At the national level, extensive results of the CA were published on the FSO website.

13. DATA SOURCES

Eurostat. 2019a. Archive: Agricultural census in Germany. In: European Commission: Eurostat [online]. Luxembourg. [Cited 26 August 2019]. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Archive:Agricultural_census_in_Germany

Eurostat. 2019b. Database, Agriculture, forestry and fisheries. In: European Commission: Eurostat [online]. Luxembourg. [Cited 26 August 2019]. <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

Federal Statistical Office. 2012. Farm Structure Survey 2009/2010 and Survey on agricultural production methods 2009/2010. National Methodological Report. Eurostat. (also available at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/749240/749313/DE_NMR_FSS_2010.pdf/2c8bfc71-da54-41a0-85e0-8de85280c4bd).

14. CONTACT

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GERMANY – CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 2010 – MAIN RESULTS¹

| NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| | Holdings | Area (ha) |
| Total | 299 130 | 18 387 080 |
| Civil persons | 294 070 | 15 272 050 |
| An individual (sole holder holdings) ² | 273 030 | 12 426 390 |
| Two or more individuals (group holdings) | 21 040 | 2 845 660 |
| Juridical persons (legal entities) | 5 060 | 3 115 030 |

| LAND TENURE | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| | Holdings | UAA (ha) |
| Total | 299 130 | 16 704 040 |
| Legal ownership and owner-like possession (owned land) | 270 290 | 6 460 560 |
| Rented from others (land rented) | 221 970 | 9 982 640 |
| Other form of tenure (shared farming or other modes) | 29 160 | 260 850 |

| DISTRIBUTION OF UAA, BY LAND SIZE CLASSES | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| | Holdings | UAA (ha) |
| Total | 299 130 | 16 704 040 |
| Holdings without UAA | 1 410 | |
| Holdings with UAA | 297 730 | 16 704 040 |
| Less than 2 ha | 14 260 | 14 250 |
| 2–4,99 ha | 11 690 | 39 750 |
| 5–9,99 ha | 47 310 | 343 950 |
| 10–19,99 ha | 63 160 | 945 800 |
| 20–29,99 ha | 30 970 | 769 910 |
| 30–49,99 ha | 45 100 | 1 765 110 |
| 50–99,99 ha | 51 620 | 3 628 400 |
| 100 ha and over | 33 620 | 9 196 880 |

| LAND USE | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| | Holdings | Area (ha) |
| Total | 299 130 | 18 387 080 |
| UAA | 297 720 | 16 704 040 |
| Arable land | 229 310 | 11 846 670 |
| Land temporarily fallow | 57 710 | 252 390 |
| Land under permanent crops | 37 820 | 198 760 |
| Permanent meadows and pastures | 239 390 | 4 654 690 |
| Kitchen garden | 22 310 | 3 930 |
| Other land | 245 120 | 1 683 040 |
| Wooded area | 146 110 | 1 369 760 |
| Unutilised agricultural land and other areas | 230 320 | 313 280 |

| MANAGERS BY SEX ³ | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Number | UAA operated (ha) |
| Total | 299 130 | 16 704 040 |
| Male | 273 920 | 15 616 320 |
| Female | 25 220 | 10 87 730 |

| MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX ⁴ | |
|--|----------------|
| | Number |
| Engaged in agricultural activities on the holding | 283 310 |
| Male | 113 850 |
| Female | 169 460 |

| LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| | Number |
| Total | 749 750 |
| Male | 490 660 |
| Female | 259 080 |
| Family labour force | 577 390 |
| Male | 381 240 |
| Female | 196 140 |
| Regular non-family labour force | 172 360 |
| Male | 109 420 |
| Female | 62 940 |

| MANAGERS BY SEX AND AGE ³ | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| | Number |
| Total | 299 130 |
| Male | 273 920 |
| Female | 25 220 |
| Less than 35 years | 21 280 |
| Male | 18 570 |
| Female | 2 710 |
| 35–44 years | 73 420 |
| Male | 66 420 |
| Female | 7 000 |
| 45–54 years | 109 270 |
| Male | 100 760 |
| Female | 8 510 |
| 55–64 years | 79 270 |
| Male | 73 950 |
| Female | 5 320 |
| 65 years and over | 15 900 |
| Male | 14 230 |
| Female | 1 680 |

| LIVESTOCK | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | Holdings | Head |
| Holdings with livestock | 216 100 | |
| Cattle | 144 850 | 12 534 510 |
| Sheep | 22 270 | 2 088 540 |
| Goats | 11 220 | 149 940 |
| Pigs/swine | 60 100 | 27 571 350 |
| Equines (Equidae) | 49 000 | 461 780 |
| Poultry (1 000 head) | n.a. | n.a. |
| Chicken | n.a. | 102 810 |
| Broilers | 4 530 | 67 530 |
| Layers | 56 290 | 35 280 |
| Other poultry | 10 750 | 26 090 |

¹ Data source – Eurostat database, available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/agriculture/data/database>

² The categories in brackets are presented as indicated in the Eurostat database (if different from the WCA 2010).

³ According to Eurostat, managers include holders that manage the holding themselves, and managers that are not holders, including of legal units

⁴ Data are presented without holders.