

Italy - Agricultural Census, 2010

ISTAT

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

ITA_2010_AC_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT

Six agricultural censuses have been conducted in Italy in the years 1961, 1970, 1982, 1990, 2000 and the latest, to which data here refer, in 2010.

Its objective is:

a) to provide a statistical picture on the structure of the agricultural and livestock system at national, regional and local level.

b) to fulfil the Regulation (EC) n. 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure (FSS) and the survey on agricultural production methods (SAPM) and the Council Regulation (EEC) No 357/79 of 5 February 1979 on statistical surveys of areas under vines.

c) To update and validate the statistical register of the agricultural holdings built up by Istat through the integration of the administrative sources.

The Agricultural Census cover all agricultural holdings whoever is its management, with Utilized Agricultural Area (UAA) or livestock equal or higher than minimum thresholds stated by Istat.

KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

Scope

NOTES

The census scope covered agricultural activities (crop and animal production).

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Agriculture & Rural Development	FAO	
Land (policy, resource management)	FAO	
Livestock	FAO	

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

UNIVERSE

The statistical unit is the agricultural holding, defined as a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single

management and which undertakes the agricultural activities listed in Annex I to the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No. 1166/2008 within the economic territory of the EU, as either its primary or secondary activity. Specific actions have been implemented to include all common lands with UAA2 in the AC 2010.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
ISTAT	

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Agriculture		Technical assistance

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Office of Chief Statistician	OCS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Adoption of metadata for FAM
Census team, Statistics Division	ESS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Metadata producer

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

ITA_2010_AC_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_v01

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_ITA_2010_AC_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_FAO

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Frame:

The pre-census list of agricultural holdings was established based on the integration of administrative and statistical sources that contain information concerning the target population. The AC was conducted using complete enumeration.

Questionnaires

Overview

There was one comprehensive census questionnaire, available either in print form or as an Internet-based electronic version that could be completed online. It was available in four languages (Italian, German, English and Slovenian). The questionnaire was used to collect both farm structure characteristics as well as items related to agricultural production methods. The questionnaire included all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.

Questionnaire sections:

- General company news
- Information for companies with land
- Information for farms with livestock
- Location of land and farms
- Work and related activities (agricultural year 2009 - 2010)
- Other information (agricultural year 2009 - 2010)

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2010-10-25	2011-05-16	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Collection Notes

Data collection has been carried out through two alternative techniques: (i) traditional, face-to-face interviewing (PAPI) method; or (ii) the new, self-interviewing (CAWI) method.

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Data Processing

Data Editing

1. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Manual data entry was used (for paper questionnaires) along with direct data capture (when CAWI was used). Non-sampling errors were identified and treated by an Editing and Imputation System. For detecting outlier values, a special procedure based on the robust technique of Forward Search was implemented, in partnership with the University of Parma and centrally applied by ISTAT. The imputation process used was a combination of the following methodologies: (i) deductive imputation, if the values to impute are uniquely determined by the values assumed by other variables; (ii) rule-based imputation (based on deterministic "if then" rules); (iii) nearest neighbour imputation; (iv) model-based imputation (preferred for the imputation of continuous variables); and (v) interactive imputation. Administrative sources were used for the preparation of the pre-census list, for data control and correction.

2. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

To evaluate the quality of the AC 2010, Istat implemented two PESs ("post-census surveys"): a Coverage Survey (CS) and a Re-Interview Survey (RIS). The CS was designed to obtain reliable estimates of under- or overcount, using another independent list of units existing in a sample of cadastral maps. The RS was carried out through a re-interview of a sample of agricultural holdings already interviewed in the AC to estimate response error due to respondents and/or enumerators. The survey was carried out from May 2011 to January 2012 on a sample of approximately 50 000 holdings, selected with one-stage stratified sample from the census frame. The survey was conducted using CATI.

Data Appraisal

Estimates of Sampling Error

The non-sampling errors has been identified and treated by an Editing and Imputation System (E&IS), preserving as much as possible the collected information. The E&I activities could be grouped in three main stages. The first stage refers to the checks performed at the data gathering phase. The second stage concerns the activities carried out in order to provide the provisional figures. The last stage relates to the procedures aiming to release the final data.

Other forms of Data Appraisal

Preliminary results were disseminated in July 2011 through a press release and 23 tables were made available to users on the Istat website. The final results were released in July 2012. The main dissemination method was the Internet.