

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first general agricultural census (AC) in Lithuania was conducted in 1930. The second AC in independent Lithuania was conducted in 2003. The third AC, to which the metadata review and data presented here relate, was carried out in 2010, after Lithuania's accession to the EU. The AC 2010 was carried out together with the SAPM.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal basis for the AC 2010 was provided by:

- the Law on Statistics of the Republic of Lithuania (Official Gazette, 1999, No. VIII-1511);
- the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No. 516 of 27 May 2009 on the Agricultural Census 2010 of the Republic of Lithuania (Official Gazette, 2009, No. 67-2700);
- Orders of the Director General of Statistics Lithuania; and
- the EU legislation relevant for implementing the FSS (2010).

Institutional framework and international collaboration

Statistics Lithuania is the government agency with the legal authority and responsibility for statistical surveys, including the methodological, technical and organizational preparation of the agricultural census.

Census staff

More than 1 300 census staff were engaged in the AC 2010: 479 specialists worked in municipalities (ward offices) and about 850 interviewers investigated agricultural holdings and small farms.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 June 2010, for livestock, buildings, machinery and other inventory items.

Reference periods:

- the 12 preceding months (from 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010), for labour, agricultural production methods, irrigation, etc.;
- the year 2010, for land use and crops; and
- the last three years (2008–2010), for rural development support.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

Data collection was conducted from May to August 2010 (for more details see section 8 below, "Data collection methods").

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

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

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 EU, as either its primary or secondary activity.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The AC 2010 covered the entire country.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

In line with EU Regulation (EC) No. 1166/2008, the minimum threshold of at least 1 ha of utilized agricultural land was applied. For agricultural holdings that operate less than 1 ha of utilized agricultural land, a threshold for the income obtained from agricultural production sales was considered; such income should be not less than LTL 5 000 per year or approximately EUR 1 448. Small farms with less than 1 ha of utilized agricultural land and income less than LTL 5 000 per year (under the threshold) were also surveyed (only for national purposes).

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

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

Frame

Prior to the AC 2010, lists of respondents by municipality were prepared using the following statistical and administrative sources: the Integrated Administration and Control System Register, the Livestock Register, and the AC 2003 database updated with data from other statistical surveys. The quality of the list was checked and some corrections were made by a specialist in municipalities.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The AC and the SAPM 2010 were conducted using complete enumeration.

Sample design

Not applicable.

Data collection method(s)

Data collection started with an e-Census in May–June 2010 (CAWI method). Farmers who came to a ward office to declare crops through the IACS were surveyed by a census specialist (CAPI method). Farmers that did not respond during the e-Census, and did not declare crops, were interviewed from 19 July until 31 August 2010, using paper questionnaires (PAPI method). Small farms were interviewed from 1 June 2010 until 16 July 2010, using paper questionnaires (PAPI method). Agricultural enterprises had to fill in the electronic questionnaire themselves and send it directly to Statistics Lithuania using the electronic statistical reporting portal. Administrative data were also used in the AC, as a source of census data and for validation purposes.

Questionnaire(s)

Two questionnaires were used in the AC 2010: (i) the main questionnaire, for enterprises and family farms that met the EU minimum thresholds for agricultural activity, with two annexes (the annex had to be filled in if the land and/or the livestock of the holding were in different municipalities and the annex on farm buildings and machinery); and (ii) the Small Units Questionnaire, for very small farms that were below the minimum thresholds.

The AC 2010 covered all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In the AC 2010, Lithuania used CAWI and CAPI methods for census data capture. In addition, some census data were collected directly from administrative registers. Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The statistical data collected in the municipalities (ward offices) were submitted to Statistics Lithuania for data processing. ABBYY Form Filler 2.5 software was used for entering statistical data into laptop computers and to fill in the web questionnaire. A special programme created using Oracle software was used for statistical data processing at Statistics Lithuania. SAS was used to link statistical data from several sources according to the selected criterion and for the calculation of derived statistical indicators. The results were transferred into Microsoft Excel worksheet tables. Data on organic farming, taken from the Organic Farming Register, were loaded directly onto the database.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

There were 317 different logical and arithmetic controls for the main questionnaire and 26 for the small unit questionnaire. The final data check was performed using administrative sources and agricultural statistics surveys (crop production, livestock survey, etc.).

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

A press release with the first census results was published in December 2010. Another press release, on the main preliminary results of the AC 2010 and Excel files with preliminary results, were published in February 2011. The provisional results of the AC 2010 were delivered to Eurostat.

Three publications on final census results were published. The first publication (with results at country level) was published in July 2012; the second publication (by county and municipality) was released in September 2012 and the third publication (by ward) in December 2012.

13. DATA SOURCES

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

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

Statistics Lithuania. 2012. *Farm Structure Survey 2009/2010 and Survey on agricultural production methods 2009/2010*. National Methodological Report. Lithuania, Eurostat. (also available at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/749240/749313/LT_NMR_FSS_2010.pdf).

14. CONTACT

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LITHUANIA – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2010 – MAIN RESULTS¹

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	199 910	3 003 620
Civil persons	199 270	2 622 610
An individual (sole holder holdings) ²	199 240	2 620 940
Two or more individuals (group holdings)	30	1 670
Juridical persons (legal entities)	650	381 010

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	199 910	2 742 560
Legal ownership and owner-like possession (owned land)	187 570	1 406 610
Rented from others (land rented)	61 110	1 273 390
Other form of tenure (shared farming or other modes)	4 510	62 560

DISTRIBUTION OF UAA, BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	199 910	2 742 560
Holdings without UAA	260	
Holdings with UAA	199 650	2 742 560
Less than 2 ha	32 310	46 590
2–4,99 ha	84 830	266 010
5–9,99 ha	39 900	276 810
10–19,99 ha	21 470	296 010
20–29,99 ha	6 640	160 600
30–49,99 ha	5 870	228 090
50–99,99 ha	4 830	328 410
100 ha and over	3 800	1 140 040

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	199 910	3 003 620
UAA	199 650	2 742 560
Arable land	183 800	2 115 130
Land temporarily fallow	31 980	118 780
Land under permanent crops	92 720	21 550
Permanent meadows and pastures	127 440	605 870
Other land	168 670	261 070
Wooded area	34 370	151 250
Unutilised agricultural land and other areas	165 160	109 810

MANAGERS BY SEX ³		
	Number	UAA operated (ha)
Total	199 910	2 742 560
Male	104 550	1 985 090
Female	95 360	757 470

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX ⁴	
	Number
Total engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	141 500
Male	62 990
Female	78 510

LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING	
	Number
Total	366 090
Male	181 670
Female	184 420
Family labour force	338 170
Male	164 690
Female	173 490
Regular non-family labour force	27 920
Male	16 990
Female	10 930

MANAGERS BY SEX AND AGE ³	
	Number
Total	199 910
Male	104 550
Female	95 360
Less than 35 years	11 710
Male	7 540
Female	4 170
35–44 years	32 150
Male	18 800
Female	13 350
45–54 years	48 930
Male	28 840
Female	20 090
55–64 years	37 680
Male	20 220
Female	17 470
65 years and over	69 440
Male	29 160
Female	40 280

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	129 630	
Cattle	93 050	739 090
Sheep	4 320	64 530
Goats	6 110	16 760
Pigs/swine	62 710	860 280
Equines (Equidae)	19 110	28 750
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Broilers	13 190	5 140
Laying hens	79 960	3 080
Others	10 760	380
Other animals		
Rabbits (breeding females)	8 600	32 010
Other	1 240	
Insects		
Bees (hives)	8 490	92 470

METHODS OF IRRIGATION		
	Holdings	Irrigable area (ha)
Total holdings with irrigable area	200	2 520
Holdings with irrigated area⁵	120	1 530
Surface	60	n.a.
Sprinkler	40	n.a.
Localized irrigation (drop irrigation)	60	n.a.

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.

⁵ Excluding kitchen garden and area under glass.