

Cook Islands - Census of Agriculture and Fisheries, 2011

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Statistics Office (CISO)

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

COK_2011_CAF_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT

The Cook Islands consists of 15 islands with a land area of 237 square kilometres scattered over 2 million square kilometres of the South Pacific Ocean. The islands are split geographically into the Northern Group and the Southern Group. The main island, and seat of Government, is Rarotonga in the Southern Group. It is also the single largest island with a land area of 67 square kilometres and a resident population of 10,572 (CoPD 2011). Other islands in the Southern Group have good transport and communications links and all lie within 150 nautical miles of Rarotonga. The Northern Group, on the other hand, with a combined population of 1,112 persons (CoPD 2011) are not only physically very small but lie some considerable distance from Rarotonga, the furthest being Penrhyn some 737 nautical miles away. Here transport and communications links are much less developed than for the Southern Group making census and survey taking that much more difficult.

The first Census of Agriculture (CoA) in the Cook Islands was conducted in 1988 and the second in 2000. Both censuses were supported technically by FAO. The Cook Islands also has a long history of population census taking at 5-yearly intervals in years ending in 1 and 6. Traditionally the Census of Population and Dwellings (CoPD) has included questions on agricultural activity at the household level, types of crops grown, livestock numbers, farm machinery and involvement in fishing and pearl farming activities.

KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

Scope

NOTES

The scope of the study was agriculture including irrigation, land use and nurseries.

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Agriculture & Rural Development	FAO	
Forests & Forestry	FAO	
Land (policy, resource management)	FAO	
Infrastructure	FAO	
Water	FAO	

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

UNIVERSE

The statistical unit, the holding, was defined as recommended in the WCA 2010. An "agriculturally active household" was defined as a household with a level of agricultural activity that was neither subsistence only, subsistence with cash cropping nor commercial-producer. Along with the holdings in the household sector, commercial agricultural enterprises were also covered in the CAR.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	
Statistics Office (CISO)	

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Food and Agriculture Organization		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 producers

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

COK_2011_CAF_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_v01

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_COK_2011_CAF_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_FAO

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

a. Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used for the CAF 2011. Agriculture-related data were collected through both the CAF and the CPD 2011. There were two separate teams of supervisors and enumerators, one for the CPD and another for the CAF. In each Enumeration Area (EA), the CPD was first conducted and the households engaged in agriculture and fishing activities were identified. The list of households engaged in agriculture and fishing, identified during the CPD, was passed to the CAF team, which then visited these households to complete the CAR. The northern group of islands presented a particular challenge for data collection, because they are sparsely populated and are only accessible by boat. For this reason, the CAF enumeration was conducted simultaneously with the CPD, with the two censuses sharing transport costs.

b. Frame

The CPD and the CAF used the EAs for the allocation of households and work areas. The list of households engaged in agriculture and fishing activities identified during the CPD served as a frame for the CAF 2011. The complete enumeration method was used to conduct the CAF 2011.

Questionnaires

Overview

Five questionnaires were used in the CAF 2011 to capture the information pertaining to agricultural, fishing, and pearl farming activities of the household:

- (i) a household form;
- (ii) a parcel form (for agriculturally active households with a holding area of at least 64 m²);
- (iii) a livestock form;
- (iv) a fishing form; and
- (v) a pearl farming form.

Part 1 – Business details

Part 2 – Land use

Part 3 – Pasture seed production

Part 4 – Hay and silage

Part 5 – Cereal, sugar cane, cotton and other crops

Part 6 – Nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf

Part 7 – Vegetables for seed

Part 8 – Vegetables for sale for human consumption

Part 9 – Grapevines

Part 10 – Fruit trees, nut trees, plantation or berry fruit

Part 11 – Land preparation and maintenance for crops

Part 12 – Land preparation and management for pastures

Part 13 – Ownership and agistment of livestock

Part 14 – Beekeeping

Part 15 – Irrigation and water use

Part 16 – Organic and bio-dynamic certification

Part 17 – Land use in multiple shires

Part 18 – Leased land or sharefarming

Part 19 – Future intentions

Part 20 – Comments and time taken

The questionnaires covered 14 of the 16 core items² recommended by FAO.

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2011-12	2012-01	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Collection Notes

PAPI was used to collect the census data.

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Data Processing

Data Editing

a. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Following the data collection exercise, the census questionnaires were checked, edited, coded and prepared for scanning. Scanning technology for data capture was used in the CISO for the first time for the CPD 2011 and the CAF 2011. The tabulation was done using Microsoft Excel and Access.

b. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

A Post-enumeration Survey (PES) was carried out in selected EAs on Rarotonga and Aitutaki to evaluate some of the key data items. Data from the PES were compared with the data from the CAF and CPD. However, the results of the CAF 2011 and the CPD 2011, insofar as they relate to agricultural activity, are not comparable due to definitional differences.

Data Appraisal

Other forms of Data Appraisal

The census reports were made available to the public through the websites of the MoA and the CISO.