

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The Agricultural Census (AC) 2010 was the first AC to be conducted in Palestine.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The AC was conducted according to the General Statistics Law No. 4 of 2000, which specifies that ACs should be carried out every ten years.

The Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 12/92/09, issued on 26 January 2009, gave the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) the responsibility for implementing the agricultural census, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA).

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The AC was implemented by the PCBS, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Union of Agricultural Work Committees. Joint funding from the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank (WB) and the European Union (EU) was used for this purpose.

Census staff

The number of staff involved in the census operation was 1 159, of which 687 enumerators, 83 supervisors, 97 editors and coders, 103 data entry personnel and 189 others.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: from midnight of 30 September to 1 October 2010, for inventory items, such as on permanent crops, buildings and livestock.

Reference period: the agricultural year (from 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010), for temporary crops, the use of agricultural materials and machinery, etc.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The enumeration period for the AC 2010 was from 2 October to 14 November 2010 in the West Bank, and from 10 January to 20 February 2011 in the Gaza Strip.

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

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

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic unit of agricultural production under single management¹ comprising all livestock kept and all land² used entirely or partially for agricultural production purposes, regardless of legal form, and above a certain threshold (see section 7 below). Common grazing lands and other land not assigned to an agricultural holding were not included in the AC. The AC covered both holdings in the household sector and holdings in the non-household sector.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The census covered both rural and urban areas.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

The following minimum size limits of the holding were applied in the AC 2010:

- for cultivated land: half a dunum (0.05 ha) of cropped land under protective cover or one dunum (0.1 ha) of other cultivated land;
- for livestock: (i) any number of cattle or camels; (ii) at least five head of sheep, goats, or pigs, or a mixture thereof; (iii) at least 50 chickens or other poultry such as turkeys, ducks, or rabbits or a mixture thereof; or (v) at least three beehives.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was adopted to conduct the AC 2010. The census was carried out in a one-off operation, in two enumeration periods (see section 4).

¹ Single management may be exercised by an individual or household, jointly by two or more individuals or households, by a clan or tribe, or by a juridical person such as a corporation, cooperative or government agency.

² The land of the holding may consist of one or more parcels located in one or more separate areas, or in one or more territorial or administrative divisions, provided that the parcels share the same means of production, such as labour, farm buildings, machinery or draught animals.

Frame

The frame of the AC 2010 was established on the basis of the listing of holdings in the household sector, by visiting all households and identifying those that were involved in own-account agricultural activities (using the listing form). The listing was conducted during the census enumeration. The frame of the holdings in the non-household sector was built on the basis of the list provided by the MoA, followed by field visits of the enumerators.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

Complete enumeration was used to cover all agricultural holdings.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection methods

Data collection for the AC 2010 was conducted using face-to-face interviews and paper questionnaires (the PAPI method).

Questionnaire(s)

Two forms were designed for the AC 2010. A listing form was used to list the agricultural holdings in the household sector. The second form was used for the enumeration of the agricultural holdings.

The AC 2010 census questionnaire covered 15 of the 16 core items³ recommended for the WCA 2010 round.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Special data processing programmes were developed and tested to capture the census data. Data entry was done at the premises of the PCBS. Data editing, coding, entry, checking and cleaning were finalized in June 2011 in the West Bank and in August 2011 in the Gaza Strip. The technical team followed up on the data processing, testing its accuracy and quality and comparing it with other data resources; the team also prepared the tables and the report on the final results of the census. The data entry programme was prepared using Oracle and Access. Data analysis was undertaken using SPSS.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

The impact of errors on data quality was minimized, because of the high level of competency and training of the fieldwork team. A quality control system was established for all stages of the census, from the preparatory stage to the data collection, processing and dissemination stages, to ensure the control of fieldwork activities and the overall accuracy of census data. Census supervisors and team leaders in each governorate conducted a re-interviewing of households through random visits to households in the enumeration areas and by filling out parts of the listing and enumeration questionnaires.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The preliminary results were disseminated through the local mass media and the official website of the PCBS in April 2011. The final results were disseminated in December 2011 and are available in the form of printed reports, CD-ROMs and on the website of the PCBS.⁴

13. DATA SOURCES

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. 2011. *Agricultural Census 2010, Final Results - Palestinian Territory*. Ramallah, Palestine. (also available at <https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book1818.pdf>).

14. CONTACT

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³ The exception was the item "Other economic production activities of the holding's enterprise".

⁴ In total, there are 19 final census reports (for Palestine, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the 16 governorates). In addition, five analytical reports were produced. These are all available at: www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_2012/Publications.aspx

PALESTINE – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2010 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	111 310	120 706
Civil persons	111 202	119 751
Juridical persons	108	955

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	111 310	120 706
Holdings operated under one tenure form	103 938	n.a.
Owned or owner-like possession	95 149	n.a.
Rented	4 577	n.a.
Held under traditional form	362	n.a.
Government land	337	n.a.
Not stated	3 513	n.a.
Holdings operated under two or more tenure forms	7 372	n.a.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	111 310	120 706
Up to 0,3 ha	46 982	n.a.
0,3–0,6 ha	23 348	n.a.
0,6–1,0 ha	13 456	n.a.
1,0–2,0 ha	13 763	n.a.
2,0–3,0 ha	5 319	n.a.
3,0–4,0 ha	2 598	n.a.
4,0–5,0 ha	1 531	n.a.
5,0–6,0 ha	1 097	n.a.
6,0–7,0 ha	645	n.a.
7,0–8,0 ha	521	n.a.
8,0 ha and over	2 050	n.a.

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	111 310	120 706
Cultivated land	n.a.	102 928
Cropland	n.a.	95 717
Land temporarily fallow	n.a.	6 816
Wooded land	n.a.	345
Permanent crops (nurseries)	n.a.	50
Uncultivated land	n.a.	17 778
Permanent meadows and pastures	n.a.	16 125
Land under buildings	n.a.	747
Other land	n.a.	906

HOLDINGS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE	
	Number
Total	111 310
1 person	2 245
2–3 persons	16 789
4–5 persons	22 609
6–9 persons	55 302
10 persons and over	14 264
Not stated	1
Not applicable	100

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX	
	Number
Total engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	276 332
Male	181 622
Female	94 710

EMPLOYEES WORKING ON THE HOLDING, BY SEX	
	Number
Total employees	292 032
Male	194 591
Female	97 441
Unpaid family members	276 332
Male	181 622
Female	94 710
Permanent employees	15 700
Male	12 969
Female	2 731

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	n.a.	
Cattle	2 890	33 925
Sheep	21 096	567 236
Goats	10 903	219 364
Equines	n.a.	n.a.
Horses	n.a.	3 632
Mules	n.a.	1 017
Asses (donkeys)	n.a.	16 962
Camels	319	1 521
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Chickens	n.a.	6 251
Broilers	3 054	4 706
Layers	619	1 545
Turkeys	n.a.	167
Insects		
Bees (hives)	2 152	38 216

HOLDINGS, BY MAIN PURPOSE OF PRODUCTION	
	Holdings
Total producing mainly for	111 310
Home consumption	78 815
Sale	30 101
Not stated	2 394

MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT BELONGING TO THE HOLDING	
	Holdings
Four-wheel tractors	5 798
Track-laying tractors	24
Ploughs (machine-powered)	932
Other (machine-powered)	n.a.
Cultivator	1 656
Rotary tiller	459
Grain drill	53
Sprayer	2 138
Combine	59
Miller	7
Milking machine	298
Cream separator	57
Seeder	13
Disk harrows	14
Potatoes planter	5
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