

Liberia - Liberia Agriculture Census 2024 - Community Operations

Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER

LBR_2024_LAC_v01_M_v01_A_ESS

TITLE

Liberia Agriculture Census 2024 - Community Operations

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Liberia	LBR

STUDY TYPE

Agricultural Census [ag/census]

SERIES INFORMATION

The LAC-2024 is an Integrated Census/Survey Modality program conducted in line with the WCA 2020 recommendations. The census also aligned with the objective of the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap. The conduct of the LAC-2024 is expected to be followed by a series of annual modular agriculture surveys, including the 2024 income, labor and productivity (ILP) and the 2025 production methods and environment (PME) surveys. As part of the census operations, community-level information were collected through focus group discussions with community leaders and other knowledgeable persons within the community.

ABSTRACT

The Government of Liberia and its Development Partners recognized agriculture as a pivotal sector in fostering economic growth, reducing poverty, and achieving food security. Since post-war, the Government in collaboration with development partners, has made substantial investments to develop and expand the agriculture sector. Over the years, policymakers and data users in the agriculture sector have experienced significant challenges in obtaining the requisite data needed to monitor and evaluate these interventions and make informed decisions on new interventions. To address these challenges, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) conducted several ad hoc agricultural surveys. While valuable, these surveys have often been limited in scope and unable to provide the comprehensive data needed for effective policymaking and planning. To support the sector more robustly, the government decided to undertake a comprehensive agricultural census.

The Liberia Agriculture Census 2024, the second agricultural census in Liberia since 1971 and the first to be conducted digitally, aimed to collect structural and reliable data on various aspects of the agricultural sector.

The main objectives of the LAC-2024 was to:

- Reduce the existing data gap in Liberia's agriculture sector.
- Provide comprehensive data on the agriculture sector for policy formulation and evaluation of existing programs.
- Enable LISGIS to establish an agriculture master sampling frame for the conduct of future agricultural surveys and research.
- Identify the structural changes in the agriculture sector over time.
- Provide information on crop, livestock, poultry, and aquaculture activities.
- Determine the size, composition, practices and related characteristics of Liberia's agricultural holdings.
- Generate disaggregated agriculture statistics.
- Provide statistics for advocacy in Liberia's agriculture sector.
- Identify agricultural practices and constraints at the community level.

To achieve these objectives, the LAC-2024 was designed to collect structural data at the household, non-household and community levels. The data collected at these three levels provide a wealth of information for understanding the state of agriculture in Liberia. This documentation provides a catalogue of information necessary for understanding how data was

collected at the community level. The documentation also provides useful information for understanding the community anonymized dataset.

KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Agricultural Communities

Scope

NOTES

The Community form focuses on key areas such as agricultural activities, agricultural facilities, agricultural workers, land characteristics, services, and communal resources and events.

KEYWORDS

Keyword
Community Infrastructure
Agricultural Practices
Land Use
Land Ownership
Crop Production
Access to Markets
Livestock Ownership
Farm Equipment
Environmental Challenges
Community Demographics
Agricultural Cooperatives
Rural Development
Infrastructure for Agriculture
Farm Labor and Employment
Agricultural Inputs

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

UNIVERSE

The universe for the Liberia Agriculture Census 2024 community operations is: all communities (localities) in Liberia that are located within an agricultural enumeration area.

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
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Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services	Government of Liberia
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PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Agriculture	Government of Liberia	Collaborator
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	United Nations	Technical assistance
50x2030 Initiative	Global partnership program led by the World Bank (WB), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Technical and financial support for the design, implementation, and analysis of the survey

FUNDING AGENCY/SPONSOR

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Government of Liberia	GoL	Funder
World Bank	WB	Funder

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Focus group interviews were conducted in communities attached to the EAs selected for the sample census of farming households. A sampled community had the same probability of selection and sample weight of the EA to which it was attached. In case a community was linked to many EAs in the sampling frame of EAs, additional adjustment for multiplicity would be performed.

The LAC-2024 community operations engaged 61,600 respondents across 7,193 sampled communities. Nationally, the distribution of respondents shows that males represented 66.1% of the total 61,600 participants, while females accounted for 33.9%.

For more details on the sampling procedure, please see the Liberia Agriculture Census 2024 Community Report.

RESPONSE RATE

100%

WEIGHTING

Census weights were applied to the dataset.

See the Liberia Agriculture Census 2024 Household and Community Reports for detailed information on the procedures for deriving and applying weights.

Data Collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2024-01-22	2024-03-22

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Focus Group [foc]

DATA COLLECTION NOTES

The LAC-2024 data collection at the community level was conducted by 160 team supervisors. The workings of these supervisors were coordinated by 11 regional and 22 national monitors, who routinely visited teams, provided data quality checks, flagged and corrected potential errors and provided in-field training where necessary. A total of 30 data quality assurance officers (one in each county) were deployed to assist team supervisors with technical issues arising from the CAPI Applications. At LISGIS central office, there were 5 monitors, called HQ monitors, who monitored the LAC-2024 dashboard

daily and reported all identified errors and inconsistencies in data captured to regional and national monitors for appropriate actions.

The data collection was carried out from January to March 2024, covering all counties in Liberia. Teams of enumerators conducted interviews using tablets with CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing) software. The process included household interviews, community group discussions, and observational methods. Data collection faced challenges such as difficult terrain and poor internet connectivity, which caused delays in data synchronization. Despite these challenges, supervision and regular quality checks ensured data reliability.

Questionnaires

QUESTIONNAIRES

The LAC-2024 employed three questionnaires: the Household Questionnaire, the Community Questionnaire and the Non-Household Questionnaire. These three questionnaires were based on the 50x2030 Initiative standard model questionnaires. The Liberia Agriculture Census Technical Working Group (LAC-TWG), comprising technical staff from LISGIS, Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), National Fishery and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), Cooperative Development Agency (CDA) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) worked with technicians from the 50x2030 Initiative to adapt the questionnaires to Liberia's context and realities. Suggestions and inputs were solicited from various stakeholders representing government ministries, commissions and agencies (MACs), nongovernmental and international organizations as well as academic institutions involved with agriculture issues. All questionnaires were finalized in English. Some questions in the questionnaires were translated into simple Liberian English, for the purpose of easy administration.

The community questionnaire include the following sections:

- 1-respondents characteristics;
- 2- production and processing activities in the community;
- 3- land characteristics and irrigation in the community;
- 4- markets to sell agriculture products;
- 5- access to agricultural inputs, services and credits in the community;
- 6- social cohesion;
- 7- difficulties in agricultural activities;
- 8- livestock and Poultry Production;
- 9- environment;
- 10- disasters and Shocks;
- 11- community infrastructure and transportation;
- 12- community organizations;
- 13- community resource management;
- 14- land prices and credit;
- 15- community key events;
- 16- labor and producer prices.

Data Processing

DATA EDITING

The data was edited using CSpro programs, version 7.7.3. The appropriate edit rules were established by programmers and subject matter specialists at LISGIS and MOA.

In few cases, manual editing techniques were applied to recode responses generated from "Other specify" options. The SPSS software was used for this purpose.

Access policy

CONTACTS

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CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality of respondents is guaranteed by the National Statistics and Geo-Information Act of Liberia, enacted 2004 and the United Nations Fundamental Principles on Official Statistics, specifically principle six. Before being granted access to the dataset, all users have to formally agree: 1. To make no copies of any files or portions of files to which s/he is granted access except those authorized by LISGIS. 2. Not to use any technique in an attempt to learn the identity of any person, household, non-household or community not identified on public use data files. 3. To hold in strictest confidence the identification of any establishment or individual that may be inadvertently revealed in any documents or discussion, or analysis. Such inadvertent identification revealed in her/his analysis will be immediately brought to the attention of the data depositor.

ACCESS CONDITIONS

The dataset has been anonymized and is available as a Public Use Dataset. It is accessible to all for statistical and research purposes only, under the following terms and conditions:

1. The data and other materials will not be redistributed or sold to other individuals, institutions, or organizations without the written agreement of LISGIS.
2. The data will be used for statistical and scientific research purposes only. They will be used solely for reporting of aggregated information, and not for investigation of specific individuals or organizations.
3. No attempt will be made to re-identify respondents, and no use will be made of the identity of any person or establishment discovered inadvertently. Any such discovery would immediately be reported to LISGIS.
4. No attempt will be made to produce links among datasets provided by LISGIS, or among data from LISGIS and other datasets that could identify individuals or organizations.
5. Any books, articles, conference papers, theses, dissertations, reports, or other publications that employ data obtained from LISGIS will cite the source of data in accordance with the Citation Requirement provided with each dataset.
6. An electronic copy of all reports and publications based on the requested data will be sent to LISGIS.

The original collectors of the data, LISGIS, MOA, and the relevant funding agencies bear no responsibility for use of the data or for interpretations or inferences based upon such uses.

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services. Liberia Agriculture Census 2024(LAC-2024) , Ref. LBR-LAC-2024_v01. Dataset downloaded from <https://lisgis.gov.lr/> or microdata.lisgislr.org

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DISCLAIMER

The user of the data acknowledges that the authorized distributor of the data (i.e., LISGIS), MOA and the relevant funding agency bear no responsibility for use of the data or for interpretations or inferences based upon such uses.

Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_LBR_2024_LAC-COM_v01_M_v01_A_ESS_FAO

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services	LISGIS	Government of the Republic of Liberia	Documentation of the study
Ministry of Agriculture	MOA	Government of the Republic of Liberia	Documentation of the study
Statistics Division	ESS	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Technical assistance / Metadata adapted for FAM

Data Dictionary

Data file	Cases	Variables
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