

# Northern Mariana Islands - Census of Agriculture 2018

**United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Agricultural Statistics  
Service (NASS)**

Report generated on: April 20, 2026

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## Identification

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### SURVEY ID NUMBER

MNP\_2018\_CA\_v01\_M\_v01\_A\_ESS

### TITLE

Census of Agriculture 2018

### COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Northern Mariana Islands	MNP

### STUDY TYPE

Agricultural Census [ag/census]

### SERIES INFORMATION

The first Censuses of Agriculture (CA) in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands was conducted in 1970, in conjunction with the decennial population census. This practice was continued in 1980 and 1990. In 1998, the agricultural census was conducted separately from the population census for the first time by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). CA 2002 and CA 2007 were the fifth and sixth in the series respectively. These censuses were synchronized with the quinquennial programme of agricultural censuses followed in the United States of America. CA 2018 also follows the programme on the same five-year cycle used for the main agriculture census of the United States of America and was the seventh agricultural census.

### ABSTRACT

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands' agricultural production and the only source of consistent, comparable data at the island level. Census statistics are used to measure agricultural production and to identify trends in an ever-changing agricultural sector. The census includes data on the structure of agricultural land, crops and livestock, farm characteristics, as well as production expenses, value of agricultural products, use of technology, and aquaculture.

### KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

### UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Agricultural holdings

## Scope

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### NOTES

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

The questionnaire collected data on:

1. Land in agriculture
2. Root crops
3. Vegetables and melons
4. Fruits, nuts, and nursery crops
5. Land use
6. Irrigation
7. Livestock
8. Poultry
9. Aquaculture
10. Value of sales
11. Production expenses
12. Equipment

### KEYWORDS

Keyword
Structure of agriculture
Land use
Crops
Livestock and poultry
Aquaculture
Agricultural equipment

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The Census of Agriculture 2018 covered the entire territory of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

### UNIVERSE

The statistical unit was the farm, defined as any place from which USD 1000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the calendar year 2018. The farm definition is the same definition used for the rest of the United States of America. According to the census definition, a farm is essentially an operating unit, not an ownership tract. Therefore, all land operated or managed by one person or partnership represents one farm. In the case of tenants, the land assigned to each tenant is considered a separate farm, even though the landlord may consider the entire landholding to be one unit rather than several separate units.

## Producers and sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

### PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Department of Commerce (DC)	Office of the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands	Recruitment and training of local officers and field staff, and supervision of local administrative matters

## Sampling

### SAMPLING PROCEDURE

The frame of the Census of Agriculture 2018 consisted of a list of farm operators compiled by the Department of Commerce of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

The census was a complete enumeration of all farms from the frame which met the cut-off threshold. Namely, it included all holdings that produced and sold agricultural products worth USD 1000 or more, or that would have normally sold this amount during the 2018 calendar year.

## Data collection

### DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2019-04	2019-06

**DATA COLLECTION MODE**

Face-to-face paper [f2f]

**DATA COLLECTION NOTES**

Data for the Census of Agriculture 2018 was collected via face-to-face interviews through pen and paper personal interviews (PAPI). The census operation employed one project manager, one crew leader/supervisor, and eight enumerators, who received special training in accordance with instructions prepared by NASS. The training included practice in interviewing and filling out the report form plus detailed discussion of the enumerator's instructions.

**\*\*QUALITY ASSURANCE\*\***

Quality checks included strict field supervision, clerical screening for farm activity, follow-up on non-respondents, keying and transmission of completed report forms, computerized editing of inconsistent and missing data, review and correction of individual records identified by the computer edit, review and correction of tabulated data, and electronic data processing.

An independent quality control process occurred after the initial keying where ten percent of the captured data was keyed a second time. If differences existed between the first keyed value and the second, an adjudicator handled resolution. The decision of the adjudicator was used to grade the performance of the keyers, who were required to maintain a certain accuracy level or receive additional training. The measured error rate for the entire survey was 0.39 percent.

In the Census of Agriculture 2018, efforts were initiated to measure the error associated with adjustments for farm operations that were on the list of farm producers but did not respond to the census report form. The error measurement was derived from the standard error of estimates at island level, where appropriate, and was expressed as a coefficient of variation at the island level. Every estimate has a corresponding coefficient of variation published with it and they are also displayed in the Quick Stats database.

## Questionnaires

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**QUESTIONNAIRES**

A single questionnaire (report form) was used for the Census of Agriculture 2018. The questionnaire covered 15 out of the 23 essential items recommended in the WCA 2020.

## Data Processing

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**DATA EDITING**

NASS undertook the data processing activities. Each report form was reviewed and coded prior to data entry. Reports for individuals or establishments not meeting the census farm definition were excluded. The remaining report forms were examined for accuracy, consistency and completeness.

After all report forms had been reviewed and coded, the data were keyed and subjected to a thorough computer edit. The corrected data were then tabulated by the computer and reviewed by analysts. Prior to publication, tabulated totals were reviewed by analysts to identify inconsistencies and potential coverage problems and trend discrepancies.

## Access policy

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**CONTACTS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>URL</b>
Department of Commerce (DC)	Office of the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands	info@commerce.gov.mp	<a href="#">Link</a>
National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)	nass@nass.usda.gov	<a href="#">Link</a>

**ACCESS CONDITIONS**

Access and use information is set by National Agricultural Statistics Service, Department of Agriculture: <https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/quick-stats-agricultural-database>.

## Metadata production

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DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI\_MNP\_2018\_CA\_v01\_M\_v01\_A\_ESS\_FAO

### PRODUCERS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Role</b>
Department of Commerce	DC	Office of the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands	Metadata producer
National Agricultural Statistics Service	NASS	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Metadata producer
Statistics Division	ESS	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Metadata adapted for FAM

## Data Dictionary

Data file	Cases	Variables
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