

Virgin Islands Agricultural Census 1987 – Main Results

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes given at the end of the tables.

NUMBER AND AREA OF HOLDINGS CLASSIFIED BY SIZE OF TOTAL AREA OF HOLDINGS		
Holding size classes	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	267	7 197
Under 1.2 ha	80	45
1.2 and under 4 ha	81	185
4 and under 8.1 ha	32	165
8.1 and under 20.2 ha	37	451
20.2 and under 40.5 ha	16	485
40.5 and under 70.8 ha	6	299
70.8 and under 105.2 ha	4	350
105.2 and under 202.3 ha	5	733
202.3 and under 404.7 ha	3	824
404.7 ha and above	3	3 660

LAND TENURE OF HOLDINGS	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	267	7 197
Holdings under one form of tenure	231	3 166
Owned or in ownerlike possession	208	2 739
Rented from others	23	427
Holdings under more than one form of tenure	36	4 031

HOLDERS BY AGE	Number of holders
Total	267
under 25 years	1
25 to 34 years	19
35 to 44 years	34
45 to 54 years	63
55 to 64 years	65
65 years and over	85

HOLDERS BY MAIN TYPE OF ACTIVITY	Number of holders
Total	267
Agricultural work on the holding	159
Work off the holding	108

LAND USE	Area (ha)
Total land	7 197
Agricultural land	6 187
Cropland	768
Harvested cropland	246
Other cropland	522
Land under permanent meadows/pastures	5 419
Wood or forest land	743
All other land	267

TEMPORARY CROPS (on arable land)	Area (ha)
Tomatoes	6
Okra	4
Squash	3
Sweet potatoes	3
Lettuce	3
Green peppers	3
Cucumbers	2
Eggplants	2
Beans, dry edible	2
Maize	1
Onions	1
Yams	1
Cabbages	1
Celery	1
Spinach	1
Taniers	1
Carrots	1

PERMANENT CROPS	Number of holdings reporting	Number of trees
Avocados	137	2 256
Bananas	120	-
Coconut	123	5 204
Grapefruit	49	416
Lemons / Limes	116	1 292
Mangoes	146	3 852
Oranges	57	1 004
Papayas	76	1 287

LIVESTOCK	Number of holdings reporting	Total number of head
Cattle, total	95	5 078
under 1 year	-	961
1 year and over, total	-	4 117
Male	-	488
Female	-	3 629
Pigs, total	62	2 536
under 8 months	56	1 378
8 months and over	58	1 158
Sheep	54	3 134
Goats	93	3 315
Horses	28	224
Chicken	65	5 326

MACHINERY / EQUIPMENT	Number of holdings reporting	Number of units
Tractors	44	76
Trucks	145	174

Virgin Islands Agricultural Census 1987 – Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The United States purchased the Virgin Islands from Denmark in 1917, and conducted a special census that included agriculture the same year. The second census of agriculture in the Islands was carried out in 1930 when the Federal Government incorporated the Islands into the general decennial census programme. In 1964, Virgin Islands of the US were included in the quinquennial agricultural census plan.

Organization: In December 1987, the Commissioner of Agriculture for the US Virgin Islands, and the US Bureau of the Census, signed an agreement for undertaking a census of agriculture: the Bureau of the Census agreed to provide technical assistance at various levels, and the Territorial Government accepted responsibility for recruiting and training local office and field staff and supervising local administrative matters. The Agriculture Division of the Bureau of the Census conducted both Agriculture and Economic Census in the US Virgin Islands. A census office was lent by the Department of Economic Development and Agriculture in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas. The census staff was composed of 1 project manager, 2 crew leaders, 1 office clerk and 6 enumerators.

Enumeration period: The census was carried out July to August 1988, immediately after the economic enumeration closure.

Reference date: The reference dates/periods are: the enumeration day for Inventory data, and the 12 month period between 1 July 1987 and 30 June 1988 for data on Production.

Definitions:

- Farm is any place that had sales of US \$100 or more of agricultural products during the census year.
- Special Farm is a "large holding" having a minimum annual sales of agricultural products of US \$500, or having at least 20 acres (8.1 Ha) of land.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country.

Frame: Lists of households in each Enumeration District (ED) were used on the basis of those already prepared for the 1982 Agriculture Census and the 1980 Census of Population and Housing. A list of probable Special Farms, identified using 1982 Agriculture Census lists and information from the local Department of Agriculture, was also prepared.

Methods: As in the previous censuses of the U.S. Virgin Islands, the direct enumeration procedure was used in 1987 Census of Agriculture. The collection of data, which lasted from July until the middle of August 1988, was carried out in the six Enumeration Districts (EDs) into which the Islands were divided for census purposes. Each ED was clearly delineated on special maps ad hoc prepared. An enumerator was assigned to each ED. The complete enumeration of all agricultural operations in each ED was carried out through direct interview. The enumerators were also given lists of Special Farms located in each ED. As a result of the field operations, a total of 267 farms was enumerated.

Data source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census - 1987 Census of Agriculture - Virgin Islands of the United States - Vol. 1, Part 54 - May 1989.

Mailing address: Data User Services Division, Customer Services, Bureau of the Census, Washington DC 20233; Tel. (301) 763-1113 (General Information).