

TONGA - Agricultural Census 2001 - Main Results

Number of Households		
	Number	
Total surveyed	15 738	—
Non-agricultural	4797	—
Minor-agriculture	839	—
Agriculturally active	10 102	—
Subsistence only	5964	—
Subsistence with cash cropping	3896	—
Commercial crop producer	242	—

Number of holdings		
	Number of holdings	Agricultural area (ha)
Total	10 328	27 096
Subsistence only	6 013	—
Subsistence and cash cropping	4 061	—
Cash cropping only	254	—

Number of parcels by size of parcels		
	Number of parcels	
Total	15 084	—
Less than 0.4 ha	2 709	—
0.4 and under 4.0 ha	11 998	—
4.0 and under 8.0 ha	276	—
8.0 and under 20.2 ha	74	—
20.2 and under 40.5 ha	11	—
40.5 ha and over	16	—

Legal Status (Method of Operation)		
	Number of holdings	Agricultural area (ha)
Total	10 328	27 096
Individuals / households	10 295	26 843
Jointly by Individuals / households	21	—
Institutions	12	253

Land tenure of parcels operated by individuals / households		
	Number of parcels	Agricultural area (ha)
Total	15 084	26 843
Owned	4 244	11 452
Rented from others	1 075	2 366
Used for free by permission of owner	9723	12 992
Under other forms of tenure	42	33

Land use		
	Number of parcels	Area (ha)
Total land	15 084	27 097
Productive land	15 045	27 008
Agricultural land	14 930	26 652
Cropland	14 837	26 233
Arable land	13 386	22 774
Permanent crops	1 176	2 623
Fallow land	275	836
Permanent meadows & pastures	93	419
Wood or forest land	115	356
Unproductive land (All other land)	39	89

Employment in agriculture			
		Number of workers	
Total workers (15 years and over)		13 593	—
Male		13 144	—
Female		449	—
of which:			
Household member		12 949	—
Non-household member		644	—

Temporary crops			
		Area harvested (ha)	
Cassava (manioc)		1168	—
Common Taro		887	—
Futuna (American) Taro		728	—
Kape		286	—
Kava Tonga		286	—
Squash		1420	—
Sweet potatoes		291	—
Yams		945	—

Permanent crops			
		Area harvested (ha)	
Vanilla		106	—

Livestock			
		Households reporting	Head/Units
Cattle		2 311	10 354
Pigs		11 594	113 580
Horses		1 640	3 255
Goats		805	2 741
Chickens		7 729	177 829
Ducks		126	1 119

Machinery			
		Number of units	
Tractors		574	—
Rotary hoes		68	—
Copra dryers		40	—
Knapsack sprayers		1 325	—
Mist blowers		819	—
Weed eaters		312	—
Chainsaws		471	—
Irrigation pumps		32	—
Electric Generators		82	—

Holdings by use of fertilizers/pesticides			
		Holdings reporting use	
Organic fertilizers		610	—
Inorganic fertilizers		1 125	—
Insecticides		1 301	—
Herbicides		1315	—

TONGA – Agricultural Census 2001 – Explanatory Notes

Historical outline:

The first Census of Agriculture of Kingdom of Tonga was conducted in 1985. A number of *ad hoc* agricultural surveys focusing on land use, production and consumption of crops, livestock, fish and important crops like coconut, were undertaken before the second Census of Agriculture of the Tonga, to which data here reported refer, was conducted in 2001.

Organization:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) was entrusted with the responsibility to lead the implementation of the agricultural census project with the assistance of the Statistics Department (SD). The Census was conducted under the National Statistics Act 1978 which provides for obligation of the citizens to provide information, confidentiality of information provided and the duties of the census staff. A National Agriculture Census Committee was constituted to guide and supervise the entire census exercise. Technical and financial assistance for undertaking the census was provided by the FAO of the UN.

Enumeration period:

The enumeration was carried out during 3 October to 15 December 2001 concurrently in all the islands.

Reference period:

The general reference was the 12 months period before the enumeration, i.e. October 2000 to September 2001. For specific items “date of enumeration” or “last week” was also used. For agricultural income and loan the reference period of “last 5 years” was used.

Definitions:

Agricultural Holding is an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form or size. The holding's land may consist of one or more separate parcels, provided the parcels share the same means of production. Households engaged in minor agricultural activity, i.e. operating less than 0.125 acre (= 506 sq. mt. approximately) or less than 10 trees were NOT reckoned as agricultural holder.

Parcel is any piece of land entirely surrounded by other land, water, road or forest etc. not forming part of the holding.

Parcel Plot is a part or whole of a parcel on which a specific crop or crop mixture is cultivated.

Coverage:

The census covered all households who normally live in Tonga and were present during the period of enumeration. Households that were abroad at the time of the census taking, but returned after the period of the census taking, together with those permanently living in other countries were excluded.

Frame:

The household lists used for 1996 Census of Population and revised during the 2000-01 Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES) were used as the starting point. The enumerators were provided by the Statistics Department with these lists and with the enumeration area maps for updating, before actual census data collection.

Methods:

For the purpose of AC 2001 the country was divided into 5 Divisions, 23 Districts and 169 Villages which were further divided into Enumeration Blocks. To be able to establish the structure of agriculture at village level, the census methodology adopted was to undertake a **complete count** of all agricultural holdings and parcels. A Pilot Census was conducted before the main census to perfect the procedures. Enumerator and Supervisor Manuals were also prepared. Three questionnaires were used to collect information, viz.

1. A Household Form, to determine the level of agricultural activities in the households.
2. A Holding Form, to determine the characteristics of the agricultural holdings.
3. A Parcel Form, to determine the composition of the holding in terms of plots, land tenure and crops planted and harvested on each parcel.

A Post Enumeration Survey (PES) was carried also out on sample basis immediately after the main census to evaluate accuracy of data collected. Actual measurement of areas was undertaken during PES.

Data source:

Report on the Agricultural Census 2001 and its Methodologies, prepared as part of the FAO Technical Cooperation Project TCP/TON/0165 (A).

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