

Puerto Rico 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	20 245	348 530
Under 3.9 ha	9 856	14 293
3.9 and under 7.9 ha	3 949	21 325
7.9 and under 19.7 ha	3 387	39 808
19.7 and under 39.3 ha	1 365	36 617
39.3 and under 68.8 ha	741	37 518
68.8 and under 102.2 ha	307	25 367
102.2 ha and above	640	173 602

LEGAL STATUS OF THE HOLDER	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	20 245	348 530
An individual or a household	17 980	256 971
Two or more individuals or households	322	12 097
Corporation	354	23 071
Others	1 589	56 391

LAND TENURE OF HOLDINGS	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	20 245	348 530
Holdings under one form of tenure	17 591	259 165
Owned or in ownerlike possession	15 693	188 459
Rented from others	1 433	47 321
Under other single forms of tenure	465	23 385
Under more than one form of tenure	2 654	89 365

HOLDERS BY AGE	Number of holders
Total	20 245
under 25 years	209
25 to 34 years	1 582
35 to 44 years	3 489
45 to 54 years	4 302
55 to 64 years	4 348
65 years and over	6 315

HOLDERS BY MAIN TYPE OF ACTIVITY	Number of holders
Total	20 245
Agricultural work on the holding	11 435
Work off the holding	8 485
Not reported	325

EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE	Holdings reporting	Number of workers
Hired permanent workers	2 984	13 283

LAND USE	Area (ha)
Total land	348 530
Agricultural land	259 128
Cropland	97 414
Land under crops	68 612
Land temporarily fallow	28 802
Land under permanent meadows/pastures	161 714
Cultivated	90 295
Uncultivated	71 419
Wood or forest land	66 468
All other land	22 934

IRRIGATION	Holdings reporting	Area (ha)
Normally irrigated land	920	14 173

TEMPORARY CROPS (on arable land)	Area (ha)
Sugar cane	17 648
Pigeon peas	2 244
Yams	700
Taniers	602
Cassava	388
Dasheens	357
Rice	352
Sweet potatoes	343
Beans, green	343
Maize	334
Celeriac	246
Beans, edible dry	139
Tobacco	48

PERMANENT CROPS	Area (ha)
Oranges	7 581
Lemons / Limes	2 689
Citrons	206
Grapefruit	4 468
Bananas	6 917
Plantains	6 531
Avocados	5 008
Papayas	1 306
Mangoes	2 528
Coconut	3 408
Passion fruit	1 122
Chironjas	1 054

LIVESTOCK	Number of holdings reporting	Total number of head
Cattle	7 218	293 244
Pigs	4 700	141 031
Sheep	451	8 944
Goats	1 589	22 959
Horses	2 215	9 606
Mules / Asses	24	61
Chickens	-	7 966 972
Rabbits	388	22 589
Beehives (units)	147	3 729

MACHINERY / EQUIPMENT	Number of holdings reporting
Wheel tractors	1 291
Track-laying tractors	301
Milking machines	536
Milk coolers	532
Coffee depulpers	2 253

USE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	Number of holdings reporting use
Storage of crops	2 506
Storage of equipment	1 464

Puerto Rico Agricultural Census 1987 – Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The US Bureau of the Census first included Puerto Rico in the agricultural census programme in 1910 decennial enumeration. It continued to carry out agricultural censuses of the Commonwealth every ten years in conjunction with the decennial population censuses. Puerto Rico was included in the quinquennial agricultural census plan in 1964. In 1982 timing adjustment was established to let agricultural censuses coincide with economic censuses; for this reason collection of data was established on a 5 year cycle, for years ending in 2 and 7.

Organization: The 1987 Census of Agriculture was carried out by an agency of the US Department of Commerce, the US Bureau of the Census; the Agriculture Division, Outlying Areas Branch, was the division of the Bureau of the Census mostly involved in census undertaking. The Bureau established a local office in San Juan; this office and a field enumeration staff carried out the data collection portion of the census (a combined mail/field enumeration), and the agency's headquarters staff provided supervision and technical assistance. The field operation employed 68 crew leaders, 50 quality control enumerators, and 610 enumerators.

Enumeration period: The Governor of Puerto Rico, in accordance with the US Census Bureau, proclaimed July 1987 Agriculture Census Month. The field enumeration lasted from July 1988 to October 1988.

Reference date: The reference dates/periods are: 1 July 1988 for Inventory data, and the 12 months ending 30 June 1988 for data on Production.

Definitions:

- Farm is any place that had sales of US \$500 or more of agricultural products during the 12 months between 1 July 1987 and 30 June 1988; or that had at least 10 cuerdas (3.92 Ha) of land from which US \$100 of agricultural products were sold in the same period.
- Special Farm is a "large holding" having minimum annual sales of agricultural products of US \$10,000 or having at least 49 cuerdas (19.23 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. A list of Special Farms, identified in 1982 Agriculture Census, was also used.

Methods: In predominantly rural EDs, a door-to-door canvas of every household was carried out, except in built-up residential areas identified as clusters; a cluster was any group of 25 or more houses, each on a piece of land of 0.2 Ha or less; in each cluster enumerators spot-checked households to find out which operates a farm, and then visited those households only. In Urbanized EDs, the interviewers visited each place pre-qualified as a farm in their lists and, moreover, they added to the pre-listed farms those newly identified. Special Farms were mailed a census form to be filled in by the farmer; the form was to be held until a field enumerator picked it up during the canvassing operation, or was to be mailed back if the enumerator did not visit the farm. As a result of the field/mail operations, a total of 20,245 farms were enumerated.

Data source: US Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census - 1987 Census of Agriculture - Puerto Rico - Vol.1, Part 52 - July 1989.

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