

Samoa Agricultural Census 1989 – Main Results

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

NUMBER AND AREA OF HOLDINGS	
Number of holdings	Total area (ha)
11 099	67 375

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS CLASSIFIED BY SIZE OF TOTAL AREA OF HOLDINGS	
Holding size classes	Number of holdings
Total	11 099
Under 0.4 ha	259
0.4 and under 0.8 ha	537
0.8 and under 2 ha	2 216
2 and under 4 ha	3 004
4 and under 8.1 ha	2 834
8.1 and under 20.2 ha	1 724
20.2 and under 40.5 ha	390
40.5 ha and above	135

FRAGMENTATION OF HOLDINGS	
Number of parcels	33 796

LEGAL STATUS OF THE HOLDER	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	11 099	67 375
An individual or a household	11 058	66 922
Two or more individuals or households	40	433
Collective	1	20

AREA OF HOLDINGS BY TENURE OF LAND OPERATED	Area (ha)
Total	67 375
Area owned or in ownerlike possession	2 120
Area rented from others	1 771
Area under tribal or traditional communal tenure	63 484

HOLDERS BY SEX	Total	Male	Female
Number of holders	11 164	10 896	268

HOLDERS BY AGE	Number of holders
Total	11 164
15 to 19 years	130
20 to 39 years	3 881
40 to 59 years	5 669
60 years and over	1 435
Holders of age not stated	49

FARM POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX	Total	Male	Female
Total, household members	135 781	70 827	64 954
Under 15 years	58 470	30 865	27 605
15 to 59 years	67 978	35 582	32 396
60 years and over	9 333	4 380	4 953

LAND USE	Area (ha)
Total land	67 375
Land under crops	52 236
All other land	15 139

TEMPORARY CROPS (on arable land)	Area (ha)
Taro (cocoyam)	14 785
Yams	245
Chinese cabbage	132
Cucumbers	95
Tomatoes	94
Beans, edible dry	80
Pumpkins	65
Cassava	19
Sugar cane	15
Groundnuts	15
Watermelons	11
Eggplants	8
Maize	5

PERMANENT CROPS	Area (ha)
Coconut	23 328
Cocoa	6 569
Bananas	2 279
Breadfruit	1 062
Mangoes	131
Guavas	93
Oranges	70
Pineapples	49
Papaya	47
Passion fruit	40
Lemons	19
Avocados	12
Grapefruits	8
Coffee	8
Limes	8

LIVESTOCK	Total number of head
Cattle	13 431
Pigs	189 813
Goats	1 094
Horses	3 114
Chickens	309 979

MACHINERY / EQUIPMENT	Number of holdings reporting	Units owned by the holder
Tractors	52	76
Rotary tillers	44	48
Dryers	2 231	2 265
Sprayers/Dusters	4 482	4 968
Water pumps	107	112
Electric generators	371	391
Trucks/Pick-ups	1 405	1 817

Samoa Agricultural Census 1989 – Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: Although a survey of food and agriculture was undertaken in Western Samoa in 1950 by the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, the Census of Agriculture carried out in 1989 could be considered the very first to report complete information on many aspects of agriculture in the country.

Organization: The census was a joint undertaking of the Department of Statistics and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries. Authority for the census rested with the Government Statistician. Financial and technical support was given by the UN Development Program, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN through the project "Agriculture Census and Statistics". The field work was carried out by 200 full-time recruited enumerators, supported by 30 officials from the Department of Statistics who also worked as enumerators. Most enumerators were supervised by Agricultural Extension officers, supported by some senior officers from the Department of Statistics and the Department of Agriculture.

Enumeration period: The enumeration period was 1 October to 30 November 1989, extended in some instances to 31 January 1990.

Reference date: The general reference period is calendar year 1 January 1989 - 31 December 1989.

Specific reference dates are:

- for number, area, mode of operation of holdings, crops, use of fertilizers: the calendar year 1989;
- for employment: the month prior to the day of enumeration;
- for livestock: the day of enumeration.

Definition: A household is considered reporting:

· "None or Minor Agricultural Activity" if it manages less than 0.05 Ha of land under garden crops or less than 20 coconuts, bananas or other tree crops.

· A "Major Agricultural Activity" if it manages 0.05 Ha or more of land under garden crops or grows 20 or more coconut, bananas or other tree crops. In this case the household is considered as operating a holding.

Coverage: The census was designed to cover all private households in Western Samoa; (see definition above for level of agricultural activity and minimum size of holding).

Frame: For census purposes, the country was divided into 4 Regions, divided into 43 Districts, reporting 330 villages, reporting, in turn, 862 census blocks. A list of households, in respect to each enumeration block in the country, was prepared; it was based on a refreshed and updated version of the household list for the 1986 Population Census.

Methods: The methodology was a combination of complete count and sample survey; thus, the census was basically a two-part enumeration. In the first part the Household Questionnaire was used, to state the level of agricultural activity of all households and identify those households with none or minor agricultural activity, which were required to complete an abbreviated questionnaire only. In the second part the Holding Questionnaire was used, to investigate the households managing a holding and the characteristics of holdings; 25 percent of all agricultural holdings, as identified in the first part, were covered with selection being made on a quota sampling basis (every fourth holding selected). Lastly, the Parcel Questionnaire was applied to the above mentioned 25 percent of agricultural holdings, to investigate land characteristics. A Pilot Survey preceded the census, and a post-enumeration check (PEC) was conducted during April to May 1990.

Data source: Department of Statistics - Department of Agriculture - Report on the 1989 Census of Agriculture - Western Samoa.

Mailing address: Department of Statistics, P.O. Box 1151, Apia, Western Samoa; Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries and Meteorology, P.O. Box 206, Apia, Western Samoa - Tel. 00685 25210; Fax 00685 25209.