

## Historical outline

The 2000 Agriculture and Fisheries Census is the fifth conducted in St. Kitts and Nevis. Prior to the 2000 census, censuses were conducted in 1987, 1975, 1961 and 1946.

## Organization

The Planning Unit (PU) of the Ministry of Finance, St. Kitts, in collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture, Land, Housing, Co-operatives and Fisheries of St. Kitts (MAFCLH) and Nevis ((MALHCF), were responsible for the coordination and conduct of the census. The Director of Agriculture, St. Kitts, was designated as the National Census Project Coordinator (NCP). He formed the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) responsible for the management and coordination of the census. Other members of the NCC were the Census Officer, the Deputy Census Officers of St. Kitts and Nevis, the Director of Agriculture and the Business Development Officer of Nevis. Since the management and processing of the 2000 census occurred separately on St. Kitts and Nevis, two Central Processing Units were formed. A Census of Agriculture and Fisheries Steering Committee (CAFSC) was formed, to advise the NCC and approve methodologies and procedures. Technical assistance was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. Nearly 117 enumerators, drawn mainly from the staff of the PU and MAFCLH, worked in St. Kitts under the direction of 22 supervisors, while 31 enumerators and 7 supervisors, from the MALHCF and from the Ministry of Education, worked in Nevis.

## Enumeration period

The census was conducted from 16 May to 9 June 2000 with follow-up visits through the end of July.

## Reference date/period

The reference year for the census was the agricultural year (1 May 1999 to 30 April 2000).

## Definition

The agricultural holding is considered an economic unit of agricultural production satisfying, at the day of enumeration, at least one of the following minimum specifications:

- one head of cattle or one donkey or horse;
- two head of pigs, sheep, goats (or one head of any two);
- A flock of at least 10 fowls or rabbits;
- 10 or more bearings of any tree crops, bananas or plantains or fruit trees;
- 400 square meters of land under vegetables, provision, food or cash crops.

## Coverage

Geographically, the census covered the entire country.

## Frame

Since there was no list of holdings, it was necessary to visit every household to identify the agricultural holdings; separate listing books were prepared for each enumeration district in St. Kitts and Nevis. The heads of household were asked whether anyone in their household would satisfy one or more of the criterion for an agricultural holding and the responses were recorded in the listing books. Lists of large and specialized farms were also prepared by the staff of MAFCLH and MALHCF. These lists were used to confirm that all these holdings were included in the census.

## Method

The agricultural census was designed as a complete enumeration of all agricultural holdings in St. Kitts and Nevis.

## Data source

Agriculture and Fisheries Census 2000, Preliminary Findings, January 2001. Ministry of Lands, Housing and Agriculture, Saint Kitts and Nevis.

## Contact

Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Agriculture, P.O. Box 186, Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis. Tel.: (+1) 854 465 2521(Min); Fax: (+1) 854 465 5202.