

Directory of statistical services of international organisations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

<p>Brief description of the organisation¹</p>	<p>Established in 1945, The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO's goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. With 195 members - 194 countries and the European Union, FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide.</p> <p>FAO's statistical system consists of the Statistics Division, together with statistics units embedded in technical departments and statisticians deployed in decentralized offices. The Statistics Division has a coordinating role as well as responsibility for agrifood systems data. In its coordinating role, the Division ensures stronger governance of FAO's statistical system; fosters consistency of FAO's Statistical programme with the Strategic Framework; ensures statistical excellence through the implementation of statistical standards and quality assurance mechanisms; and positions FAO's presence in statistical discussions at global level. In its data collection and disseminating role, the Statistics Division collects, analyzes and disseminates agrifood systems data from member countries, generating statistics and accompanying briefs in FAOSTAT, RuLIS and other relevant platforms. It also works directly with countries to develop national statistical strategies, strengthen institutional and technical capacities and improve statistical systems, and develops and promotes international food and agricultural statistical standards, as well as methods and tools for collecting, analyzing and disseminating data.</p> <p>Many other units maintain their own technical databases and are involved in statistical analysis with a thematic focus. For example, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division is responsible for fisheries statistics; the Forestry Division for forestry statistics, while the Animal Production and Health Division and Plant Production and Protection Division are responsible for animal and plant genetic resource statistics respectively. The Land and Water Division collects and disseminates statistics on land and water and is the lead unit for geo-spatial data, whereas data on nutrition, gender and trade are compiled by the Food and Nutrition Division, the Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division, and the Markets and Trade Division respectively. The Digital FAO and Agro-Informatics Division provides IT architecture for data and statistics and the digital enabling tools for FAO's strategic technical initiatives. Some of the major statistical databases maintained by these other units include FishStat, AQUASTAT, AMIS, DAD-IS and WIEWS For a complete catalogue of FAO statistical databases please visit https://www.fao.org/statistics/en</p>
<p>Mission²</p>	<p>To promote the development, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and timely statistics to monitor progress in agricultural production, hunger reduction and food security and to advocate for their use for evidence-based decision making.</p>
<p>Fields of Activity/ structure</p> <p><i>Statistics</i></p>	<p>Fields of activity: The Organization's fields of activity have grown over the years to cover not only key food and agricultural statistics, but also economic, environmental and rural indicators, SDG indicators, geospatial data, nutrition data, and agrifood systems data more broadly.</p> <p>Structure: The FAO's statistical system operates under the oversight of the Chief Statistician, and it consists of a statistics division, statistics units embedded in technical departments and a Data Lab for Statistical Innovation.</p> <p>FAO also has three statutory bodies on statistics, composed of senior statistics officials from member countries, which meet every two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ African Commission on Agricultural Statistics (AFCAS) ✓ Asia and Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics (APCAS)

¹ Description of the statistics section/department in the organization

² Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

	<p>✓ Latin American and the Caribbean Commission for Agricultural Statistics (LACCAS)</p> <p>Their role is to review the state of food and agricultural statistics in their respective region, to advise Members on the development and standardization of agricultural statistics within the general framework of FAO's work and to convene the study groups or other Subsidiary Bodies of national experts required for this purpose.</p>
Mandate	Under the Constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Article I (Functions of the Organization) paragraph 1 foresees that "The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture". Article XVI further explains that "In this Constitution, the term 'agriculture' and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products."
Statistical work programme	Data and statistics are integral both to FAO's long-term global goals and key technical functions, as well as to achieving its current Strategic Framework and priority programmes. For example, data is one of four cross-cutting/cross-section "accelerators" that FAO applies to all its programmatic interventions under its current Strategic Framework to accelerate impact while minimizing trade-offs.
Number of staff <i>Total / Statistical division</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Total for FAO: 3010 staff · Statistics Division: 53 staff at HQs, and 5 statisticians outposted in the regional offices and 3 statisticians outposted in sub-regional offices and 17 statistical staff in other Divisions and Offices mentioned above. <p>*The numbers presented here only include fixed-term and continuous contracts. They do not take into account project posts, temporary contracts and consultants.</p>
Flagship Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAO Statistical Yearbook ▪ The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) ▪ The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) ▪ FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics Yearbook ▪ Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) ▪ The State of the World's Forests (SOFO) ▪ The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) ▪ The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO) ▪ The Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security ▪ Tracking progress on food and agriculture-related SDG indicators ▪ World Programme for the Census of Agriculture (WCA)
Website	https://www.fao.org/statistics/en

CCSA Contacts:

José A. Rosero Moncayo (Phd)
Chief Statistician
Director of the Statistics Division
Tel. +39 06 570 54151
Email : Chief-Statistician@fao.org

Piero Conforti
Deputy Director of the Statistics Division
Tel. +39 06 570 53664
Email: Piero.Conforti@fao.org

Valérie Bizier
Senior Statistician, Statistics Governance and Quality Assurance
Statistics Division
Tel : +39 06 570 54983
Email: valerie.bizier@fao.org