

El Salvador 1993: Land Tenure study

Technical Information

Country	Year	Sample Size	Weighted/Unweighted
El Salvador	1993	1161	Weighted

The study of 1993 in El Salvador focused on land owners and land tenure issues. It was based on a stratified sample of small land holders with different land tenure status. The total sample size for this sample was of 1,161. The study was meant to clarify issues related to land tenure and land reform in light of the various land reforms put in place in the late 1980s.

The interviews were all personal, conducted in a face-to-face and door-to-door mode targeting adult landholders, mainly in rural areas. The fieldwork was conducted by Danny Carr, Inc. The research was carried out in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin Land Tenure Center.

The sample was stratified by patterns of land tenure, as shown in the following table:

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	21.0 Colectivo	21	1.8	1.8	1.8
	22.0 Individual	146	12.6	12.6	14.4
	23.0 Mixto	34	2.9	2.9	17.3
	30.0 FINATA	81	7.0	7.0	24.3
	41.0 Cross-Section, non-rent	386	33.2	33.2	57.5
	42.0 Renter	384	33.1	33.1	90.6
	50.0 Tenedores	109	9.4	9.4	100.0
	Total	1161	100.0	100.0	

The category called “FINATA,” was comprised of those who were former land renters with right to buy land after the land reform of the 1980s was put into effect. The “tenedor” category was created by the Peace Accords that ended the Civil War in that country. There were individuals living on land without title who were given certain rights by the accords to regularize their control of the land.

The data of this study were presented in the article “Thirty Years of Transformation in the Agrarian Structure of El Salvador: 1961 – 1991” published in the *Latin American Research Review* 30 (3) in 1995, and also in a report: “El Salvador Agriculture Policy Analysis: Land Tenure Study,” co-authored with Willian Thiesenhusen, Malcom Childress and Roberto Vidales. There was a report to USAID/El Salvador, September, 1993, Abt. Associates, Cambridge, MA.