The University of Georgia Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development’s focus on Georgia’s agricultural industry
Agriculture, a driving force for local economies across Georgia, has long shaped the state’s history. The 2023 Ag Snapshots report on Georgia’s agricultural economy is based on the 2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report, an annual, county-level economic valuation for all food and fiber production in the state. Together these commodities directly represent a value of nearly $14.7 billion to the Georgia economy.

Beyond their farm gate values, these commodities form a foundation for our diverse agricultural supply chain, providing key resources to many sectors and adding value within the economy. Ag Snapshots provides the output and jobs supported by food and fiber production, which include the directly related industries along the supply chain – the total economic contribution – to highlight the importance of the agricultural economy to Georgia. In 2021, food and fiber production and related industries represented $73.2 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.2 trillion economy and more than 340,827 jobs.
Top 10 Georgia Commodities in order of value

- Broilers: $4.2 billion, 28.7% of total
- Cotton: $1.0 billion, 6.8% of total
- Peanuts: $776.7 million, 5.3% of total
- Timber: $660.6 million, 4.5% of total
- Beef: $658.6 million, 4.5% of total
- Greenhouse: $635.9 million, 4.3% of total
- Eggs: $635.1 million, 4.3% of total
- Corn: $509.1 million, 3.5% of total
- Pecans: $383.8 million, 2.6% of total
- Blueberries: $348.7 million, 2.4% of total

Food and fiber production plus directly related processing and indirect sectors contributes...

73.2 billion dollars & 340,827 jobs
to the Georgia economy
2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $14.7 billion
2020 = $12.2 billion

In 2021, agriculture and related industries contributed $73.2 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.2 trillion economy.
Total by Commodity Group

- **Poultry & Eggs**: 33.6%
- **Row & Forage Crops**: 19.8%
- **Livestock & Aquaculture**: 9.6%
- **Vegetables**: 9.1%
- **Ornamental Horticulture**: 8.4%
- **Fruits & Nuts**: 6.2%
- **Forestry**: 5.8%
- **Other**: 6.7%
- **Agritourism**: 0.6%
2021 NATIONAL COMMODITY RANKINGS*

**GEORGIA #1**
COMMODITY
Broilers
Peanuts
Pecans, Utilized

**GEORGIA #2**
COMMODITY
Cotton Lint
Cotton Seed
Watermelon

**GEORGIA #3**
COMMODITY
Blueberries
Cantaloupe
Peaches


*Ranking in terms of total production*
## Top 10 Indirect Industries Supported
in terms of employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Truck transportation</td>
<td>7,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Real estate</td>
<td>5,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Other nondurable goods wholesalers</td>
<td>4,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Employment services</td>
<td>3,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Management of companies and enterprises</td>
<td>3,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Grocery and related product wholesalers</td>
<td>2,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Other durable goods wholesalers</td>
<td>2,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Couriers and messengers</td>
<td>1,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Services to buildings</td>
<td>1,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Warehousing and storage</td>
<td>1,462</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The economic contribution of food and fiber plus related industries adds up to nearly $6,775 per person in Georgia.

Source: Calculations using the U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, 2021 Georgia Population Estimates
POULTRY & EGGS

2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $4.94 billion
2020 = $3.26 billion

Contribute...

23.4 billion dollars & 81,776 jobs
to the Georgia economy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broilers</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatching Egg Production</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Egg Production</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeder-Pullet Unit</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quail and misc.</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Georgia has led the nation in broiler production for decades.

Nearly 3 out of 4 Georgia counties are involved in poultry and egg production.
2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $2.92 billion
2020 = $2.34 billion

13.5 billion dollars & 81,380 jobs contribute...

to the Georgia economy
Cotton ranks No. 1 in production value among row and forage crops in Georgia and No. 2 in the nation.

In 2021, Georgia produced more than one half of the nation’s peanuts.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, Quick Stats, Peanut Production Measured in lbs. 2021
2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.40 billion
2020 = $1.39 billion

over $15,000,000
$10,000,000 - $14,999,999
$6,000,000 - $9,999,999
$3,000,000 - $5,999,999
$0 - $2,999,999

contribute...

9.2 billion dollars & 32,094 jobs
to the Georgia economy
Beef Cows | 35.1%
Dairy | 21.6%
Horses | 12.7%
Beef Stockers | 6.3%
Beef Cattle | 5.5%

Beef cows ranked among the top five commodities in the 2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

This category includes commodities ranging from catfish to honey bees.

Raising, boarding, training and breeding horses makes up 12.7% of this group.
VEGETABLES

2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.34 billion
2020 = $1.24 billion

Contribute...

2.8 billion dollars & 12,322 jobs

to the Georgia economy
### Vegetables

#### Ranked Commodity Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Onions</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watermelon</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet Corn</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell Peppers</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Vegetables are the No. 4 ranked commodity group in Georgia.
- The number of different vegetable types measured in the 2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report is 33.
ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.24 billion
2020 = $1.18 billion

contributes...

9.3 billion dollars & 65,915 jobs
to the Georgia economy
Ornamental horticulture is ranked the No. 5 commodity group in Georgia.

Landscape and horticultural services make up a large portion of the economic contribution for this group.
FRUITS & NUTS

2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $912.08 million
2020 = $732.64 million

contribute...

2.5 billion dollars & 12,135 jobs

to the Georgia economy
Georgia’s top three: Pecans, blueberries and peaches are also top-ranked crops nationally.
2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $858.21 million
2020 = $806.26 million

Forestry & Products contribute...

13.5 billion dollars & 58,842 jobs to the Georgia economy
Timber was the No. 4 ranked individual commodity in the 2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

Georgia is consistently ranked the top forestry state in the nation.

Source: www.gfagrow.org
AGRITOURISM & HUNTING LEASES

2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $216.75 million
2020 = $200.73 million

Agriculture- and nature-based activities such as camping, trail riding and corn mazes make Georgia a popular destination for tourists. Millions of residents and nonresidents enjoy outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and wildlife-watching.
Hunting Leases – Deer
47.3%

Ag & Nature– based Tourism
44.0%

Hunting Leases – Turkey
7.9%

Hunting Leases – Duck
0.8%
NUMBER OF FARMS BY COUNTY

380 to 867
279 to 379
195 to 278
118 to 194
12 to 117
Georgia Farms by Size

- 1 to 9 acres: 31.8% (13,479)
- 10 to 49 acres: 15.3% (6,514)
- 50 to 179 acres: 10.6% (4,516)
- 180 to 499 acres: 31.7% (13,444)
- 500 to 999 acres: 5.3% (2,233)
- 1,000 acres or more: 3.5% (1,498)
- 2,000 acres or more: 1.8% (755)

Georgia Farms by Sales Value

- Less than $2,500: 9.9% (4,216)
- $2,500 to $4,999: 11.3% (4,789)
- $5,000 to $9,999: 10.6% (4,492)
- $10,000 to $24,999: 5.5% (2,335)
- $25,000 to $49,999: 3.5% (1,498)
- $50,000 to $99,999: 5.38% (2,257)
- $100,000 to $499,999: 43.8% (18,594)
- $500,000 or more: 10% (4,258)

GEORGIA FARM STATISTICS

Number of farms statewide • 42,439
Land in farms • 9,953,730 acres
Average farm size • 235 acres
Harvested cropland • 3,628,707 acres
Market value of agricultural products sold • $9.57 billion
Total farm production expenses • $7.1 billion

FARMERS, PRIMARY PRODUCERS
(formerly called principal operators)
Worked 200+ days off farm • 37.3% (15,838)
Average age of primary producer • 59.8 years
Female • 22.9% (9,717)
Black • 4.4% (1,878)
Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin • 1.2% (525)

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Ag Snapshots are a brief focus on Georgia’s agricultural industry and are based on the Georgia Farm Gate Value Report. Publication date and data presented may differ.

The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
www.caed.uga.edu

Visit our website for access to this publication, a map of county level impacts, the complete 2021 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report and historic reports:
caed.uga.edu/publications/georgia-agricultural-statistics.html

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