

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences

\$91.8

BILLION

Agriculture and Agribusiness, including the farming, processing, wholesaling and retailing of food, natural fiber and forestry products, accounted for \$91.8 billion of value added to the North Carolina economy.¹

THAT'S 17.1 CENTS
OF EVERY DOLLAR.

1. Value-added is the sum of the returns to factors of production in the state and includes employee compensation, proprietary income, other property-type income, and indirect business taxes.

Source: *Agriculture and Agribusiness in North Carolina*, Dr. Michael L. Walden, NC State University, May 2019. Data are for 2017.

Job sector	Value in billions	% of NC jobs	Total jobs
Processing	\$37.5	3.4	147,965
Retailing	\$24.1	11.6	508,932
Farming ¹	\$17.8	0.8	28,024
Wholesaling	\$12.4	1.2	42,801
TOTAL	\$91.8	17	727,722

1. Farming includes crops, livestock, aquaculture, ornamentals, turf and forestry products.

AG PROVIDES
728,000 JOBS.

THAT'S 17% OF
ALL JOBS IN NC.

Source: *Agriculture and Agribusiness in North Carolina*, Dr. Michael L. Walden, NC State University, May 2019. Data are for 2017.

SNAPSHOT OF NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE

47,800 farms

8.1 million acres

\$11.4 billion in gross cash income

\$3.6 billion in agricultural exports

7th in U.S. livestock cash receipts

8th in U.S. agricultural cash receipts

9th in total U.S. GDP

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, N.C. Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Data are for 2017. Cash receipts at farmgate.

SHARE OF AG SECTOR

1.3 times greater
than the entire Southeast

3.0 times greater
than Virginia

2.0 times greater
than South Carolina

2.2 times greater
than Tennessee

1.7 times greater
than Florida

1.3 times greater
than Georgia

NC COUNTS ON AGRICULTURE

The farm agriculture sector's share of North Carolina's economy is larger than many neighboring states in the Southeast.

The Southeast includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Regional data, using price-adjusted quantities; data are for 2018.

TOP VALUE- ADDED SECTOR

Agriculture and Agribusiness	\$92 billion
Other manufacturing ¹	\$60 billion
Real estate	\$55 billion
Financial services	\$46 billion
Education and health care	\$43 billion
Other wholesale and retail trade ¹	\$24 billion

1. After subtracting manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade activities related to agriculture and agribusiness

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; *Agriculture and Agribusiness in North Carolina* by Dr. Michael L. Walden, NC State University. May 2019. Data are for 2017.

TOP JOB SECTORS

NC State is a leading ag educator, contributing directly to the state's two largest job sectors

Agriculture and Agribusiness	728,000
Education and health care	946,000
Other manufacturing ¹	323,000
Financial services	236,000
Other wholesale and retail trade ¹	142,000
Real estate	45,000

1. After subtracting manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade activities related to agriculture and agribusiness

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; *Agriculture and Agribusiness in North Carolina* by Dr. Michael L. Walden, NC State University. May 2019. Data are for 2017.

Farm Sector	Dollar Multiplier	Jobs Multiplier
Beef cattle	2.24	11.2
Cotton	2.02	12.0
Dairy	2.32	8.3
Fruit	2.40	24.8
Grains	19.12	11.8
Greenhouses and nurseries	1.95	15.2
Oilseeds	2.05	7.7
Poultry and eggs	2.65	5.7
Timber	1.7	20.8
Tobacco	2.22	14.1
Tree nuts	2.44	17.5
Vegetables and melons	2.07	13.5
Other animal production	1.71	14.5
Other crops	2.46	24.7

A TOTAL CONTRIBUTION

Through its linkages to other economic sectors, changes in farm-level agriculture production can have much larger total impacts on the state economy.

Dollar multiplier is the total new spending in the state per \$1 of additional product output using North Carolina inputs (value-added).

Jobs multiplier is the total new employment in the state per \$1 million of additional product output using North Carolina inputs.

Source: IMPLAN for North Carolina. Data are for 2017.

TOP 10 PRODUCER

Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture *NASS 2018 Annual Report*
and NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

NC IS A TOP 10 PRODUCER IN 25 COMMODITIES

- #1** in sweet potatoes and flue-cured tobacco
- #2** in poultry and eggs, turkeys, hogs, poinsettia, food-sized trout and Christmas trees
- #3** in fresh market cucumbers
- #4** in broilers
- #5** in bell peppers, food sized catfish, burley tobacco, peanuts
- #6** in blueberries, cantaloupe, watermelon
- #7** in pumpkins, squash, upland cotton
- #8** in apples, cabbage, grapes, tomatoes

EXPORT LEADER

NORTH CAROLINA IS A LEADING U.S. EXPORTER

- #1 in tobacco, \$504 million
- #1 in poultry, \$561 million
- #3 in pork, \$721 million
- #8 oilseed products, \$70 million
- #9 in other plant products, \$445 million
- #11 in hides and skins, \$56 million

Sources: USDA Economic Research Service; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (Global Agricultural Trade System), 2017.

THE NATURAL STATE

There are nearly 19 million acres of forest land, or approximately 60% of state's total land base.

North Carolina ranks 2nd in the South for saw-log production and provides jobs for 6,500 foresters and loggers.

Forestry farming and logging cash receipts

\$482 million

Sources: U.S. Forest Service, IMPLAN for North Carolina.
Data are for 2017.

AQUACULTURE IS SWIMMING AHEAD

The 2013 Census of Aquaculture indicates that North Carolina ranks in the top 15 states for the following commodities by value.

Commodity	Value	Rank
Trout	\$6,896,000	2
Catfish	\$4,378,000	5
Crustaceans	\$334,000	7
Food fish	\$23,443,000	8
Sport fish	\$452,000	9
Mollusks	\$337,000	13

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 2013 Census of Aquaculture.

BY THE NUMBERS

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture *NASS 2018 Annual Report*, N.C. Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, IMPLAN for North Carolina, N.C. Dept. of Commerce. Data are for 2017.

TOP CROP SECTOR SALES VALUES

Tobacco	\$688 million
Floriculture/Nursery	\$657 million
Soybeans	\$608 million
Corn	\$495 million
Sweet Potatoes	\$367 million
Cotton	\$201 million
Wheat	\$88 million
Peanuts	\$79 million
Blueberries	\$54 million
Hay	\$58 million

CROP FARM SECTOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NC

Jobs	11,705
Cash receipts	\$3.7 billion

TOP LIVESTOCK SECTOR SALES VALUES

Chickens (broilers)	\$3.6 billion
Hogs and pigs	\$2.3 billion
Turkeys	\$739 million
Eggs	\$460 million
Cattle and calves	\$294 million

LIVESTOCK FARM SECTOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NC

Jobs	8,534
Cash receipts	\$7.745 billion

COMMODITY	PRODUCTION
Apples	98 million pounds
Bell peppers	621,000 hundred weight
Blueberries	25.3 million pounds
Broilers	830 million head
Christmas Trees	4 million cut
Flue-cured Tobacco	359 million pounds
Burley Tobacco	1 million pounds
Fresh market Cabbage	700,000 hundred weight
Catfish	4.5 million pounds
Fresh market Cucumbers	1,680,000 hundred weight
Hogs and Pigs	9.3 million head
Melons	2.0 million hundred weight
Peanuts	480 million pounds
Sod	7,021 acres
Squash	223,000 hundred weight
Fresh market Strawberries	149,000 hundred weight
Sweet Potatoes	196,900,000 hundred weight
Fresh market Tomatoes	957,000 hundred weight
Turkeys	33 million head
Upland cotton	.7 million bales

Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture *NASS 2017-2018 Annual Report*

This guide was produced September 2019.
All information deemed accurate at that time.

Like to know more? Please contact:

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NC STATE

EXTENSION

