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 2021 Ag Snapshots report on Georgia’s agricultural economy is based on the 2019 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 over $13 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 2019, food and fiber production and related industries represented $70.1 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.12 trillion economy and more than 359,220 jobs in the economy.
Top 10 Georgia Commodities by Value

- **BROILERS**
  - $4.0 billion
  - 31.0% of total

- **COTTON**
  - $983.6 million
  - 7.6% of total

- **TIMBER**
  - $679.5 million
  - 5.2% of total

- **BEEF**
  - $666.1 million
  - 5.1% of total

- **PEANUTS**
  - $663.0 million
  - 5.1% of total

- **GREENHOUSE**
  - $476.5 million
  - 3.7% of total

- **CORN**
  - $321.4 million
  - 2.5% of total

- **HAY**
  - $306.2 million
  - 2.4% of total

- **DAIRY**
  - $306.0 million
  - 2.4% of total

- **PECANS**
  - $263.4 million
  - 2.0% of total

Food and fiber production plus directly related processing and indirect sectors

*Contributes...*

- **$70.1 billion** to the Georgia economy
- **359,220 jobs**
2019 TOTAL FARM GATE VALUE

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $13 billion
2018 = $13.76 billion

In 2019, agriculture contributed $70.1 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.12 trillion economy.
2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $13 billion

- Poultry & Eggs: 33.4%
- Row & Forage Crops: 20.0%
- Livestock & Aquaculture: 11.3%
- Vegetables: 9.1%
- Ornamental Horticulture: 7.7%
- Forestry & Related Products: 6.4%
- Fruits & Nuts: 4.8%
- Other: 6.5%
- Agritourism: 1.0%
2019 National Commodity Rankings*

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

* Ranking in terms of total production. Data for some states not available due to nondisclosure, which could affect Georgia rankings.
Top 10 Industries Affected in terms of employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDUSTRY</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All other crop farming</td>
<td>47,381</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape and horticultural services</td>
<td>35,056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry processing</td>
<td>34,877</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support activities for agriculture and forestry</td>
<td>16,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry, forest products and timber tract production</td>
<td>9,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck transportation</td>
<td>9,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate</td>
<td>8,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial logging</td>
<td>6,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawmills</td>
<td>6,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-service restaurants</td>
<td>5,908</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The economic contribution of food and fiber plus related industries adds up to over $6,600 per person in Georgia.

Source: Based on calculations using the U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, 2019 Georgia Population Estimates
POULTRY & EGGS

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $4.34 billion*
2018 = $5.71 billion

Contributes...

$22.9 billion
to the Georgia economy

88,010 jobs
3 out of 4 Georgia counties are involved in poultry and egg production.

* Historical bird inventory estimates were based on poultry house numbers. However, in ongoing efforts to evolve and improve data collection, they are now estimated in collaboration with industry partners. This allows the most timely and accurate compilation of information in view of the many changes in the industry (house size and capacity, market weight) and eliminates the difficulty of appropriately determining when a poultry house is no longer active.
ROW & FORAGE CROPS

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $2.6 billion
2018 = $2.23 billion

$12.8 billion

Contributes...

88,210 jobs

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 2019, 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. 2019
2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.46 billion
2018 = $1.41 billion

Contributes...

$8.4 billion to the Georgia economy

33,870 jobs

LIVESTOCK & AQUACULTURE
Raising, boarding, training and breeding horses makes up 16.8% of this group.

Beef and dairy ranked among the top 10 commodities in the 2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

This category includes commodities ranging from catfish to honeybees.
VEGETABLES

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.18 billion
2018 = $1.13 billion

Contributes...

$2.6 billion to the Georgia economy

12,720 jobs
Vegetables are the No. 4 ranked commodity group in the 2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

The number of different vegetable types measured in the 2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

Vegetables: 15.3%
Sweet Corn: 12.3%
Onions: 11.3%
Bell Peppers: 10.8%
Cucumbers: 6.4%
ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1 billion
2018 = $888.72 million

Contributes...

$7.9 billion
to the Georgia economy

62,550 jobs

Contributes...
Ornamental horticulture is ranked the No. 5 commodity group in the 2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

Greenhouse, field nursery and container nursery values ranked among the top 20 among agricultural commodities in 2019.
FORESTRY & PRODUCTS

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $836.73 million
2018 = $788.37 million

Contributes...

$14.1 billion
to the Georgia economy

65,530 jobs
Timber production was the No. 3 ranked individual commodity in the 2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

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

Source: www.gfagrow.org
FRUITS & NUTS

2019 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $620.7 million
2018 = $614.63 million

> $5,000,000
$1,500,000 - $4,999,999
$300,000 - $1,499,999
$50,000 - $299,999
$0 - $49,999

Contributes...

$2.0 billion to the Georgia economy
10,380 jobs
Georgia’s top three: Pecans, blueberries and peaches are also top-ranked crops nationally.
Agriculture- and nature-based activities such as trail riding, camping 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.
Government Payments: 59.3%
Crop Insurance: 17.0%
Ag & Nature-based Tourism: 13.0%
Hunting Leases – Deer: 9.2%
Hunting Leases – Turkey: 1.4%
Georgia Farms by Size

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)
Georgia Farms by Sales Value

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

Visit our website for access to this publication, the complete 2019 Farm Gate Value Report and historic reports:
https://caed.uga.edu/publications/georgia-agricultural-statistics.html