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 2022 Ag Snapshots report on Georgia’s agricultural economy is based on the 2020 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 $12.2 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 2020, food and fiber production and related industries represented $69.4 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.1 trillion economy and more than 352,430 jobs in the economy.
Top 10 Georgia Commodities
in order of value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Commodity</th>
<th>Value (millions)</th>
<th>Percentage of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broilers</td>
<td>$3.0 billion</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>$727.8 million</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>$678.0 million</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>$663.4 million</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>$649.8 million</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse</td>
<td>$566.2 million</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>$358.1 million</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blueberries</td>
<td>$304.2 million</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>$297.0 million</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay</td>
<td>$291.2 million</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

69.4 billion dollars & 352,430 jobs to the Georgia economy
2020 TOTAL FARM GATE VALUE

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $12.2 billion
2019 = $13 billion

In 2020, agriculture contributed $69.4 billion in output to Georgia’s $1.1 trillion economy.
Total by Commodity Group

- Poultry & Eggs: 26.7%
- Row & Forage Crops: 19.1%
- Livestock & Aquaculture: 11.4%
- Vegetables: 10.1%
- Ornamental Horticulture: 9.7%
- Fruits & Nuts: 6.0%
- Forestry: 6.6%
- Other: 9.7%
- Agritourism: 0.75%
2020 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>50,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape and horticultural services</td>
<td>36,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry processing</td>
<td>33,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support activities for agriculture and forestry</td>
<td>16,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck transportation</td>
<td>9,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry, forest products and timber tract production</td>
<td>9,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate</td>
<td>9,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial logging</td>
<td>6,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse nursery, and floriculture production</td>
<td>6,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawmills</td>
<td>5,286</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The economic contribution of food and fiber plus related industries adds up to nearly $6,500 per person in Georgia.

Source: Calculations using the U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, 2020 Georgia Population Estimates
POULTRY & EGGS

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $3.26 billion*
2019 = $4.34 billion

contribute...

21.5 billion dollars & 82,202 jobs
to the Georgia economy
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.

Georgia has led the nation in broiler production for decades.

3 out of 4 Georgia counties are involved in poultry and egg production.
ROW & FORAGE CROPS

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $2.3 billion
2019 = $2.6 billion

Over $30,000,000
$10,000,000 - $29,999,999
$3,000,000 - $9,999,999
$1,000,000 - $2,999,999
$0 - $999,999

12.9 billion dollars & 89,507 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 2020, 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. 2020
LIVESTOCK & AQUACULTURE

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.39 billion
2019 = $1.46 billion

contribute...

9.1 billion dollars & 34,477 jobs to the Georgia economy
This category includes commodities ranging from catfish to honey bees.

Raising, boarding, training and breeding horses makes up 17.1% of this group.

Beef and dairy ranked among the top 10 commodities in the 2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.
2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.24 billion
2019 = $1.18 billion

contribute...

2.7 billion dollars & 12,389 jobs to the Georgia economy
Vegetables are the No. 4 ranked commodity group in Georgia.

The number of different vegetable types measured in the 2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.
ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.18 billion
2019 = $1 billion

8.5 billion dollars & 65,988 jobs contributes...

to the Georgia economy
Ornamental horticulture is ranked the No. 5 commodity group in Georgia.

Greenhouse, field nursery and container nursery outputs ranked among the top 20 in Farm Gate Value for agricultural commodities in 2020.
2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $806.26 million
2019 = $836.73 million

over $10,000,000
$5,000,000 - $9,999,999
$3,000,000 - $4,999,999
$1,000,000 - $2,999,999
$0 - $999,999

12.7 billion dollars & 70,262 jobs

contribute...

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

Timber production was the No. 5 ranked individual commodity in the 2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report.

Source: www.gfagrow.org
FRUITS & NUTS

2020 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $732.64 million
2019 = $620.7 million

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

contribute...

2.2 billion dollars & 11,145 jobs
to the Georgia economy
Georgia’s top three: Blueberries, pecans and peaches are also top-ranked crops nationally.
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.
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: 10.6% (4,516)
- 10 to 49 acres: 31.7% (13,444)
- 50 to 179 acres: 31.8% (13,479)
- 180 to 499 acres: 15.3% (6,514)
- 500 to 999 acres: 5.3% (2,233)
- 1,000 acres or more: 3.5% (1,498)
- 2,000 acres or more: 1.8% (1,498)

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)
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)

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

For access to this publication, the complete 2020 Farm Gate Value Report and historic reports, visit:
caed.uga.edu/publications/georgia-agricultural-statistics.html

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