

# The Economic Importance of Food and Fiber



**A Spotlight on Jeff Davis County, Georgia**

Prepared for  
Jeff Davis County Cooperative Extension  
October 2014

by:

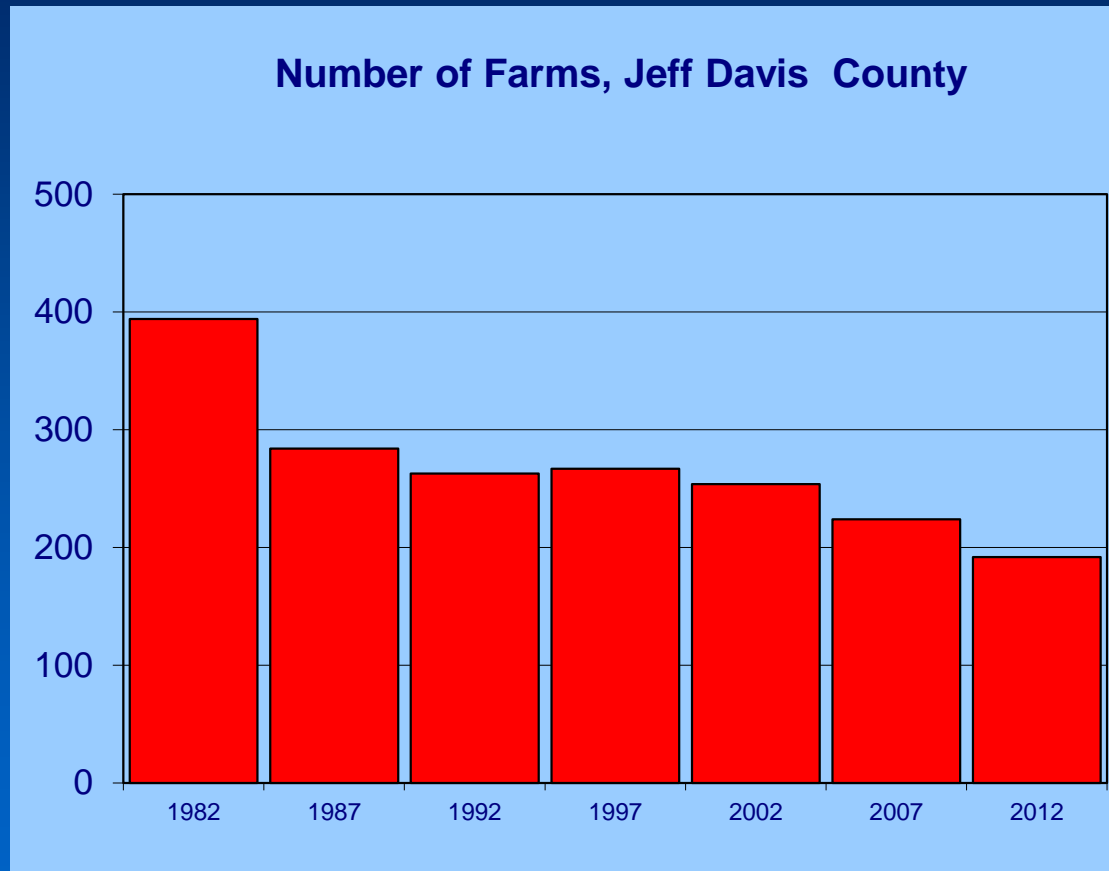
The Center for Agribusiness  
and Economic Development

College of Agricultural  
and Environmental Sciences

The University of Georgia

# Trends in Jeff Davis County: Number of Farms

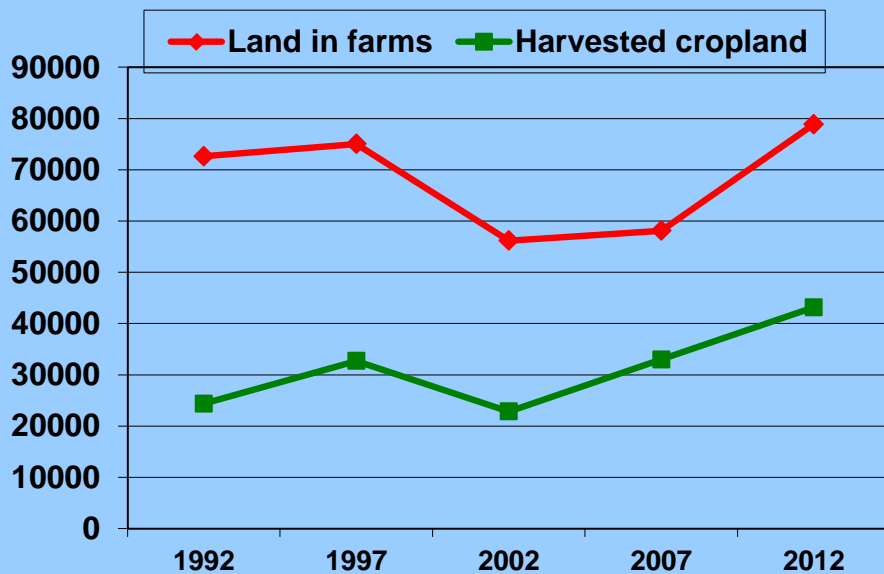
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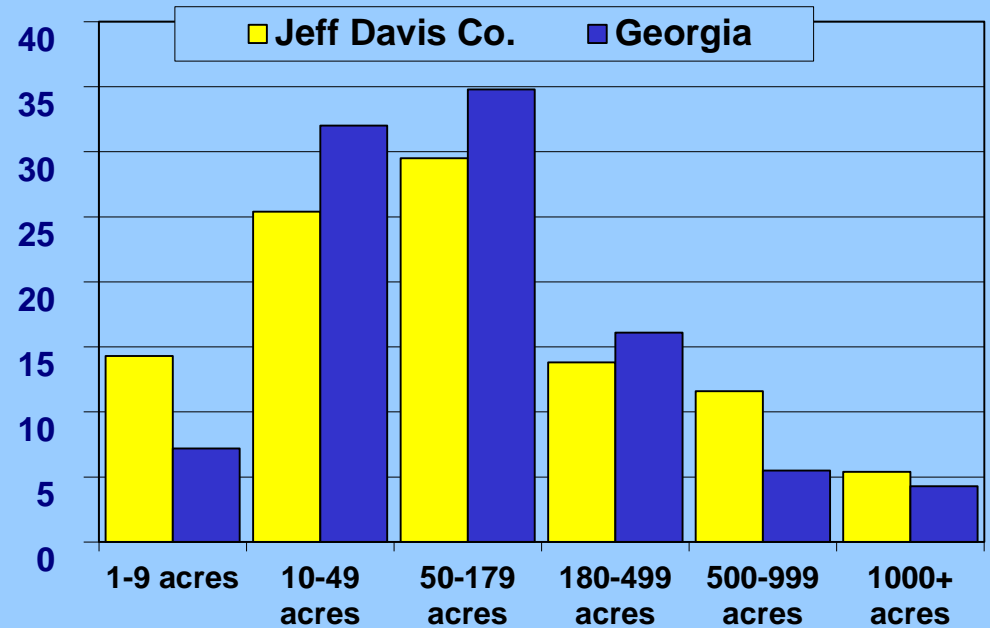
Source: 1978-2012 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

# Trends in Jeff Davis County: Land in Farms, Harvested Cropland & Farms by Size

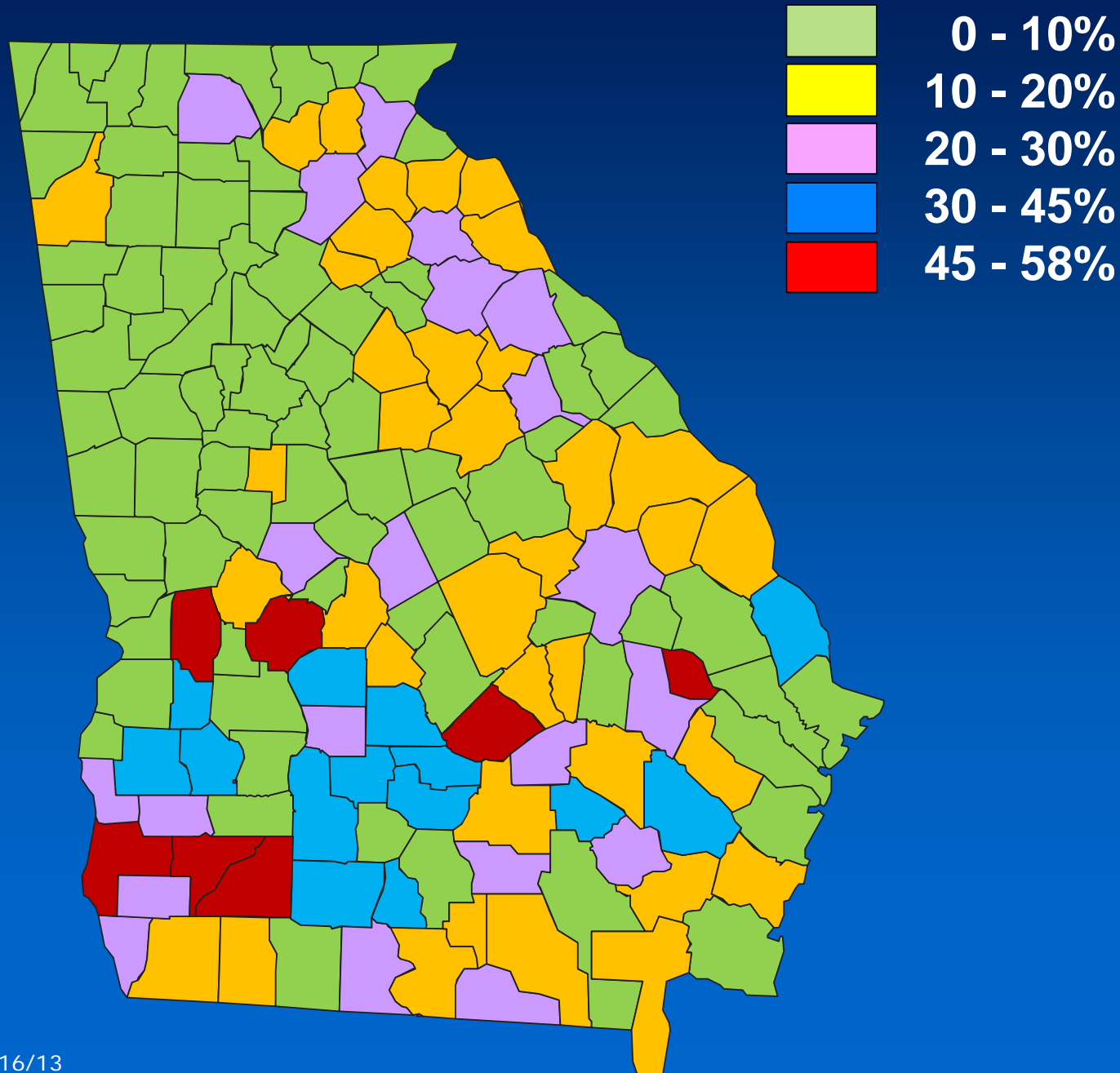
Land in Farms & Harvested Cropland  
Jeff Davis County



Percent of Farms by Size, 2012



# Food and Fiber Production Plus Directly Related Sectors as % of Total Economic Output



# Agriculture in Georgia

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- Georgia's 2012 Farm Gate Value was \$13.88 billion. Adding the value of \$2.1 billion of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$15.1 billion.
- Total food and fiber production and directly related businesses account for a \$76.9 billion *output impact* on Georgia's \$809.9 billion economy.

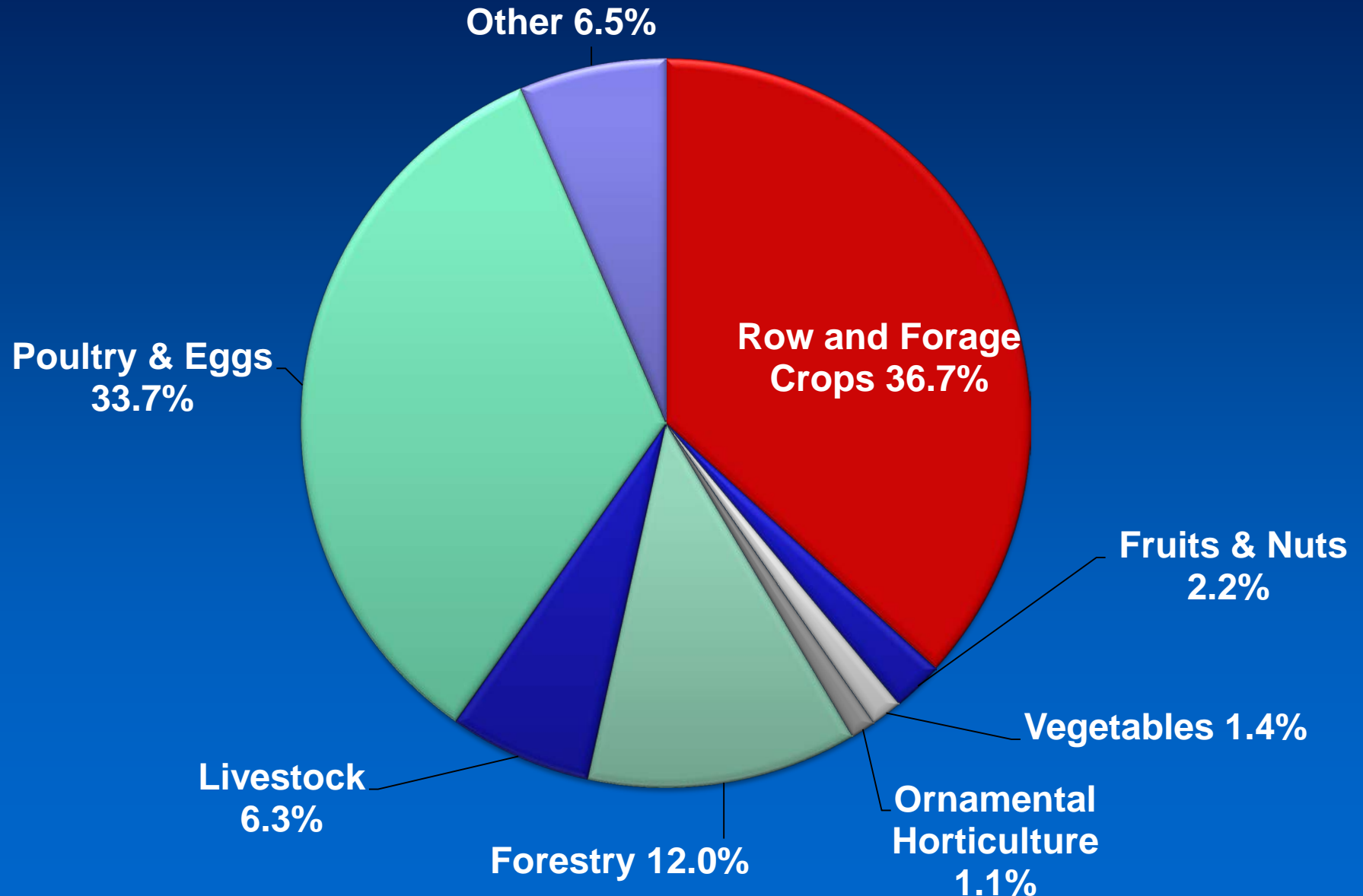
# What We Know about Jeff Davis County

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- 2012 Farm Gate Value in Jeff Davis Co. was \$91.5 million. Adding \$1.6 million of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$93.2\* million.
- The highest value commodity group was row and forage crops, representing 36.7% of the total agricultural production value.

# Jeff Davis County

## 2012 Agricultural Production Value



# What We Did

## County Economy Modeled

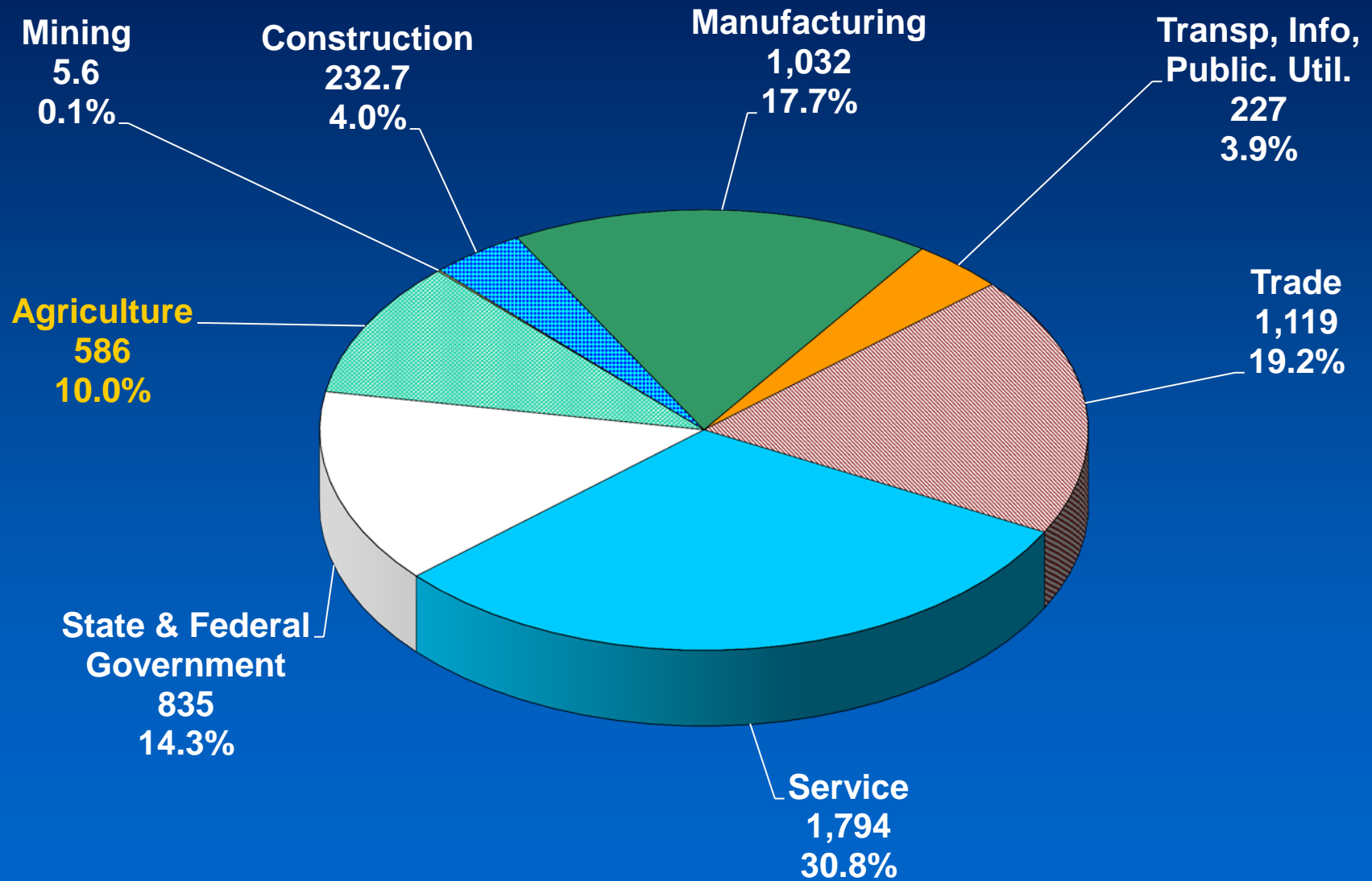
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- The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development performed an analysis of the county's economy, focusing on the role of food and fiber.
- How much of the county's total current economic output comes from food and fiber production and directly related processing? (A Snapshot of the Economy)
- What is the total (direct and indirect) *Impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?



# Jeff Davis County Employment

Total Jobs = 5,831



# An Economic Snapshot of Jeff Davis County

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- How much of Jeff Davis County's total economic output comes from food and fiber production?
- AG value alone of \$93.2 million consisting of Farm Gate Value and landscape services comprises 12.6% of the county's economy.
- AG plus directly related businesses (ex. Ag Support Services, Processing, etc.) comprise 34.4% of the county's economy.

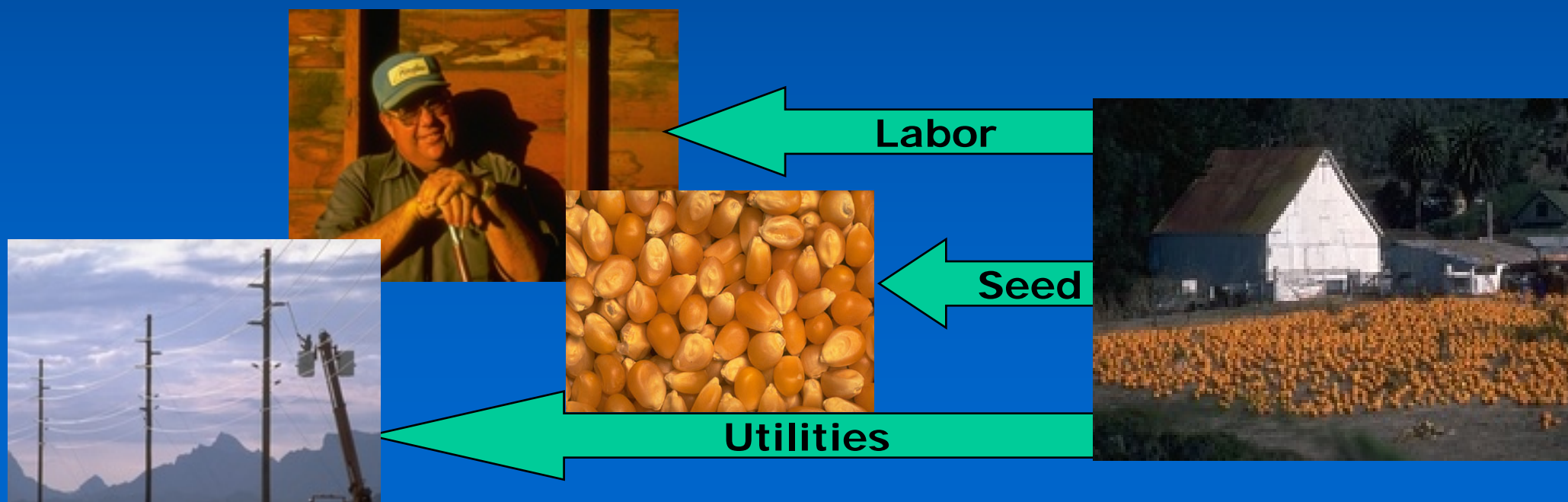
# What is the Impact?

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- What is the total (direct and indirect) *impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?
- This scenario illustrates how other industries are affected by the presence of food and fiber in the county. The indirect impacts measure output created due to food and fiber production and processing in the county.

# What Impact Means: A Brief Explanation

- The *impact* numbers capture the ripple effects that food and fiber create in the county's economy. Many other sectors rely in part on the existence of food and fiber for sales.



# Jeff Davis County

## Agriculture *IMPACT*

	Direct \$	Total \$
Ag & Landscape	\$93,172,934	\$93,172,934
Mining	0	\$41,662
Utilities	0	\$861,188
Construction	0	\$383,092
Manufacturing	0	\$241,633
Trade	0	\$4,396,594
Transp. & Warehousing	0	\$970,041
Information	0	\$111,161
Finance & Insurance	0	\$3,588,861
Real estate & rental	0	\$3,554,476
Services	0	\$2,406,934
Arts- entertainment & recreation	0	\$85,362
Government & Other	0	\$1,121,274
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93,172,934</b>	<b>\$110,935,210</b>

**Total Impact of Production AG = \$110.9 million**  
**15.0% of total economy**

# Jeff Davis County

## Production Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses *IMPACT*

	Direct \$	Total \$
Ag & Landscape	\$119,268,460	\$119,268,460
Mining	0	\$103,357
Utilities	0	\$2,914,210
Construction	0	\$1,123,503
Manufacturing - Ag Related	\$135,676,672	\$135,676,672
Manufacturing - Non-Ag	0	\$516,494
Trade	0	\$15,124,636
Transp. & Warehousing	0	\$4,455,694
Information	0	\$434,950
Finance & Insurance	0	\$6,596,278
Real estate & rental	0	\$9,409,276
Services	0	\$8,472,540
Arts- entertainment & recreation	0	256,623
Government & Other	0	5,257,872
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$254,945,132</b>	<b>\$309,610,563</b>

**Total Impact of Production AG + Directly Related = \$309.6 million  
41.8% of total economy**

# Jeff Davis County

## Production Agriculture + Directly Related Industries Employment *IMPACT*

	Direct \$	Total \$
Ag & Landscape	708	708
Mining	0	0.6
Utilities	0	4.1
Construction	0	17.5
Manufacturing - Ag Related	527	527
Manufacturing - Non-Ag	0	3.2
Trade	0	139
Transp. & Warehousing	0	32
Information	0	2
Finance & Insurance	0	25
Real estate & rental	0	9
Services	0	147
Arts- entertainment & recreation	0	5
Government & Other	0	82

Total Employment Impact Accounts for 1,701 jobs  
29.2% of total jobs

# What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation

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- *Direct* impact is \$254.9 million. This includes food and fiber production, processing and directly related manufacturing.
- *Indirect* impact from related sectors is \$54.7 million. This captures the effects of farmers (direct source) buying supplies (seed, fertilizer, work boots) from local stores. These stores must increase their output to meet farmer demand.



# What These Numbers Mean:

## A Brief Explanation (continued)

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- As local stores increase their output, they may demand more stock from local wholesalers (also in the Trade sector). Local wholesalers demand more from local manufacturers, thus increasing activity in the Manufacturing sector.
- Local stores also hire employees to assist farmers. They take home wages and buy groceries at the local store which increases demand there.

# Jeff Davis County Food and Fiber

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## Impact Conclusions

- The total *impact* of food and fiber production, processing and direct manufacturing is \$309.6 million.
- The total county *output* is \$741.3 million.
- Thus, food and fiber (directly and indirectly) account for 41.8% of the total county output, considering the multiplier effects.

# Contact Information

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*“Adding Value to Georgia's Agricultural Economy  
Through Research and Extension“*

*To learn more about your county, go to:*

*<http://www.caed.uga.edu/>*

*...click on “Resources”, then  
“Georgia Statistics System”*

**Ag Profile Report  
#14-13A**

