

The Economic Importance of Food and Fiber

The background of the slide is a stylized, colorful illustration of a farm scene. It features a red barn with a white roof, several silos, and a wooden fence in the foreground. The scene is set against a blue sky with white clouds. The overall style is reminiscent of a folk-art or naive painting style.

A Spotlight on Lamar County, Georgia

Prepared for
Lamar County Cooperative Extension

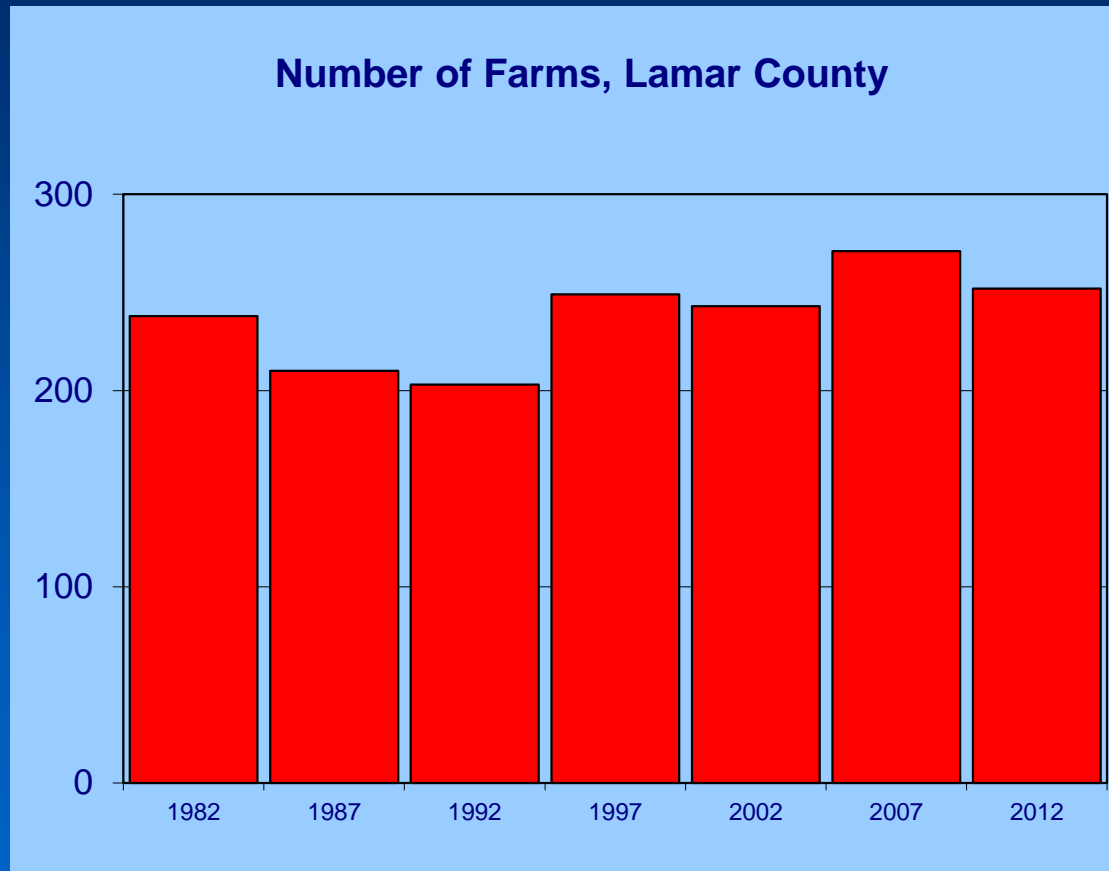
June 2015 by:

The Center for Agribusiness
and Economic Development

College of Agricultural
and Environmental Sciences

The University of Georgia

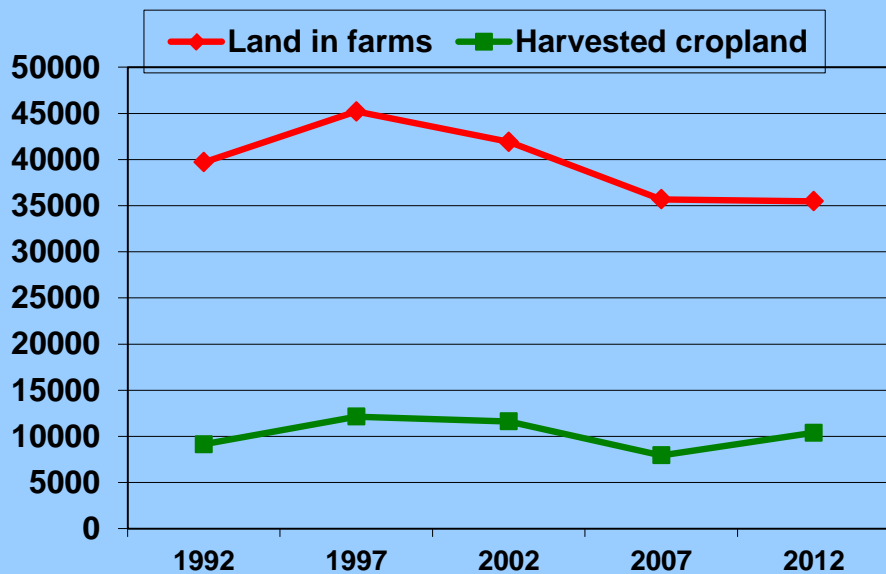
Trends in Lamar County: Number of Farms



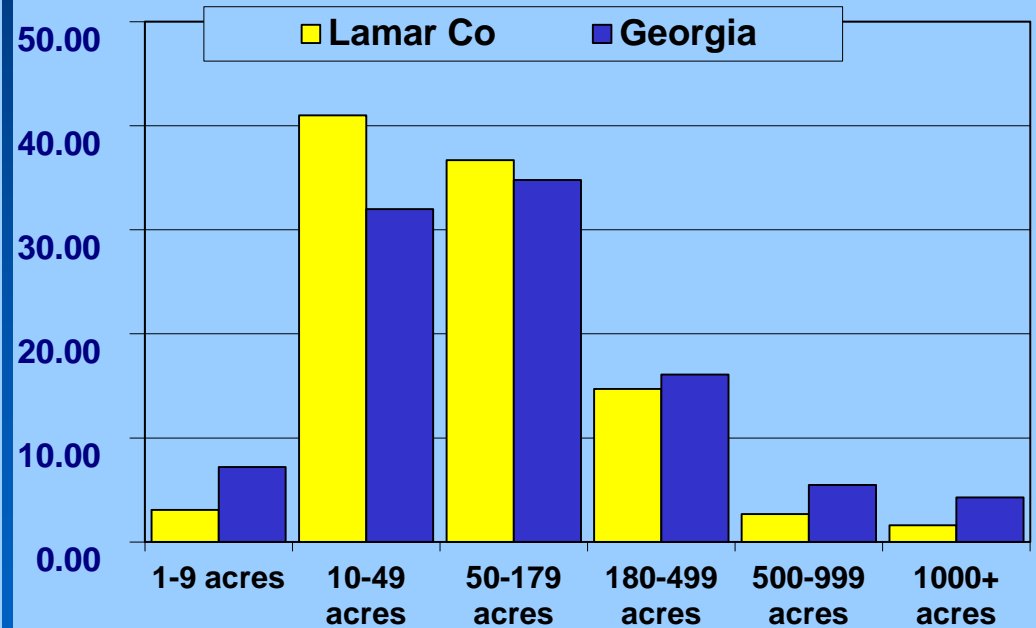
Source: 1978-2012 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

Trends in Lamar County: Land in Farms, Harvested Cropland & Farms by Size

Land in Farms & Harvested Cropland
Lamar County



Percent of Farms by Size, 2012



Agriculture in Georgia

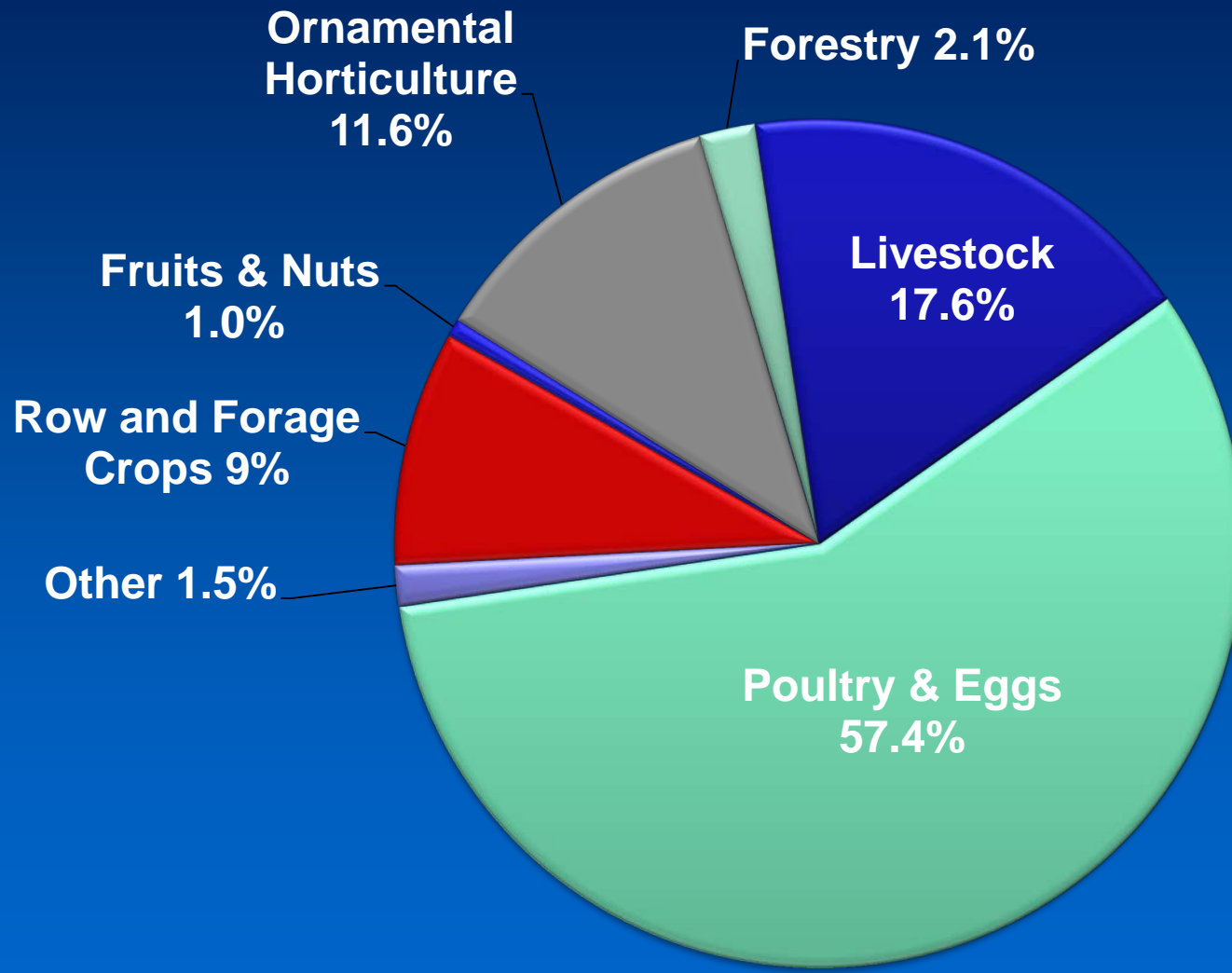
- Georgia's 2013 Farm Gate Value was \$13.59 billion. Adding the value of \$2.1 billion of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$15.1 billion.
- Total food and fiber production and directly related businesses account for a \$72.5 billion *output impact* on Georgia's \$826.6 billion economy.

What We Know about Lamar County

- 2013 Farm Gate Value in Lamar Co. was \$37.1 million. Adding \$5.9 million of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$43 million.
- The highest value commodity group was poultry and eggs, representing 57.4% of the total agricultural production value.

Lamar County

2013 Farm Gate Production Value



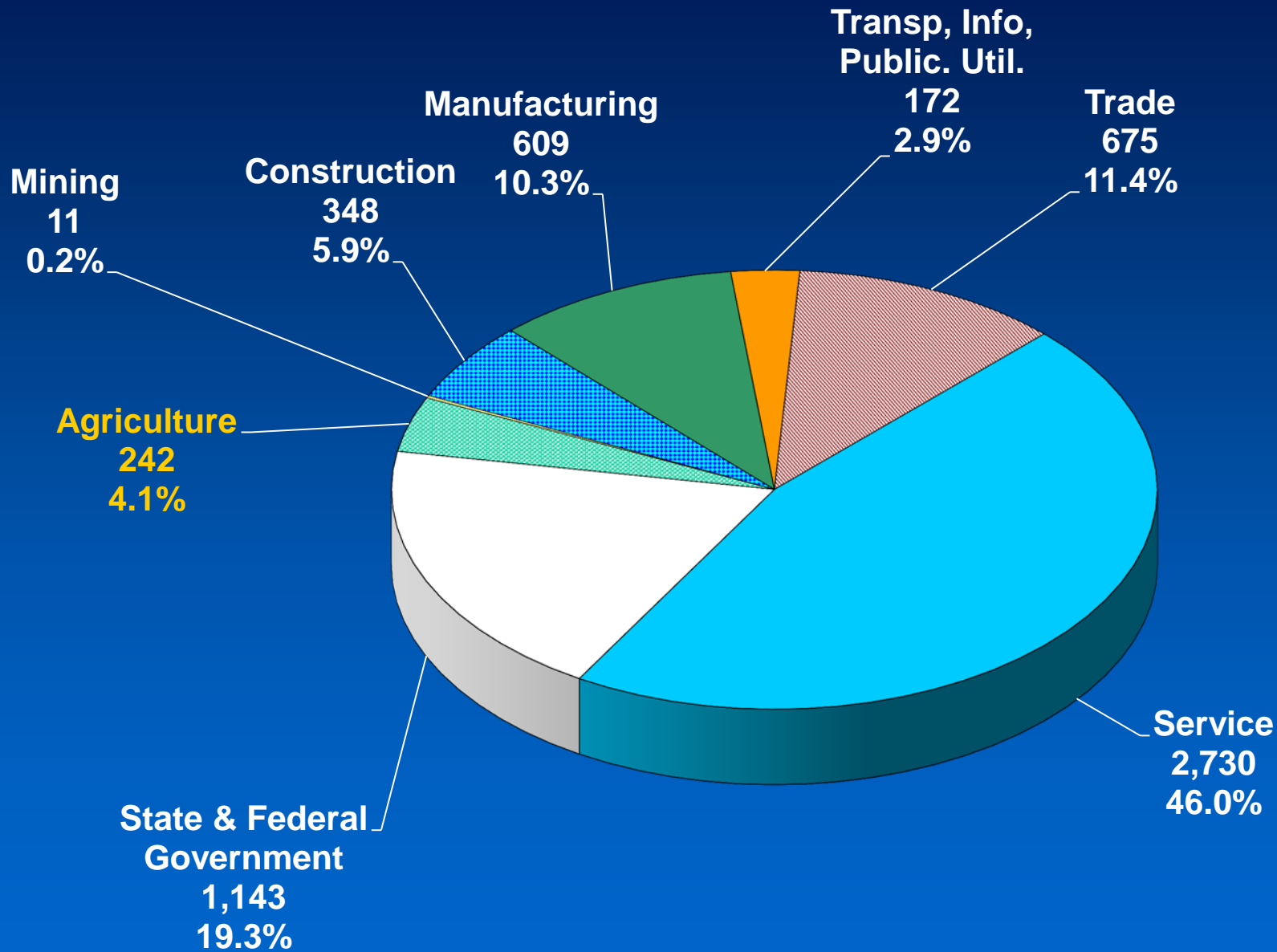
Examining the Contribution

County Economy Modeled

- 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) *Economic Contribution* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?

Lamar County Employment

Total Jobs = 5,928



An Economic Snapshot of Lamar County

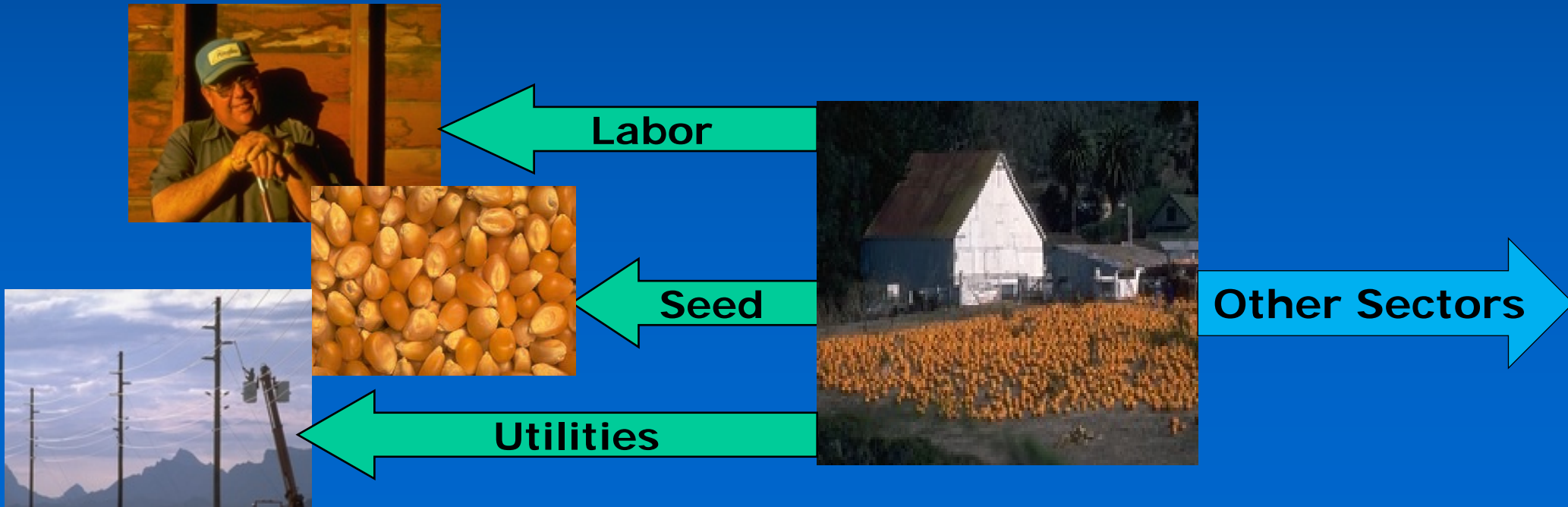
- How much of Lamar County's total economic output comes from food and fiber production?
- AG value alone of \$43 million consisting of Farm Gate Value and landscape services comprises 5.3% of the county's economy.
- AG plus directly related businesses (ex. Ag Support Services, Processing, etc.) comprise 19.2% of the county's economy.

What is the Economic Contribution?

- What is the total (direct and indirect) *contribution* 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 contribution measures output created due to food and fiber production and processing in the county.

What Economic Contribution Means: A Brief Explanation

- The *contribution* 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.
- Further, agricultural commodities are sold to other sectors as the inputs to production.



Lamar County

Agriculture *Contribution*

Sector	Direct	Total
Ag + Landscape	42,931,475	42,931,475
Mining	0	4,242
Utilities	0	449,159
Construction	0	300,633
Manufacturing	0	179,119
Wholesale Trade	0	398,668
Retail trade	0	786,925
Transportation & Warehousing	0	392,404
Information	0	141,016
Finance & insurance	0	739,295
Real estate & rental	0	2,377,437
Professional- scientific & tech services	0	512,105
Management of companies	0	48,704
Administrative & waste services	0	221,597
Educational svcs	0	78,031
Health & social services	0	492,763
Arts-entertainment & recreation	0	49,118
Accommodation & food services	0	522,773
Other services	0	358,086
Government & non NAICS	0	35,313
TOTAL	42,931,475	51,018,865

**Total
Contribution
of Production
AG = \$51 million
6.3% of total
economy**

Lamar County

Production Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses Contribution

Sector	Direct	Total
Ag + Related	156,250,186	156,250,186
Mining	0	17,738
Utilities	0	2,925,674
Construction	0	1,459,674
Manufacturing	0	326,555
Wholesale Trade	0	2,636,421
Retail trade	0	1,700,524
Transportation & Warehousing	0	4,275,895
Information	0	512,406
Finance & insurance	0	2,266,196
Real estate & rental	0	4,923,543
Professional- scientific & tech services	0	2,046,762
Management of companies	0	1,430,851
Administrative & waste services	0	973,046
Educational svcs	0	149,358
Health & social services	0	987,706
Arts- entertainment & recreation	0	116,389
Accommodation & food services	0	1,354,714
Other services	0	1,023,628
Government & non NAICS	0	168,962
Total	156,250,186	185,546,229

**Total
Contribution
of AG +
Related =
\$185.5 million
22.9% of total
economy**

Lamar County

Production Agriculture + Directly Related Industries Employment *Contribution*

Sector	Direct	Total
Ag + Related	539	539
Mining	0	0
Utilities	0	3
Construction	0	11
Manufacturing	0	1
Wholesale Trade	0	13
Retail trade	0	25
Transportation & Warehousing	0	30
Information	0	2
Finance & insurance	0	16
Real estate & rental	0	12
Professional- scientific & tech services	0	37
Management of companies	0	10
Administrative & waste services	0	20
Educational svcs	0	5
Health & social services	0	20
Arts- entertainment & recreation	0	2
Accommodation & food services	0	27
Other services	0	19
Government & non NAICS	0	2
Total	539	793

Total
Contribution
of AG + Related
Employment =
793

Accounts for
13.4% of
employment

What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation

- *Direct contribution* is \$156.3 million. This includes food and fiber production, processing and directly related manufacturing.
- *Total contribution* includes related sectors and sums to \$185.5 million. This includes the captured 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)

- 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.

Lamar County Food and Fiber Conclusions

- The total *economic contribution* of food and fiber production, processing and direct manufacturing is **\$185.5** million.
- The total county *output* is \$811.7 billion.
- Thus, food and fiber (directly and indirectly) account for 22.9% 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

