

Iredell County

LOCAL FARMS AND FOOD PROFILE

DATA FROM 2017 & 2012 USDA CENSUS. MORE INFO AT GO.NCSU.EDU/AGCENSUS

133,346 ACRES OF FARMS

DOWN 12% FROM 2012

126 ACRES AVERAGE SIZE OF FARM

0% FROM 2012

583 ANIMAL FARMS

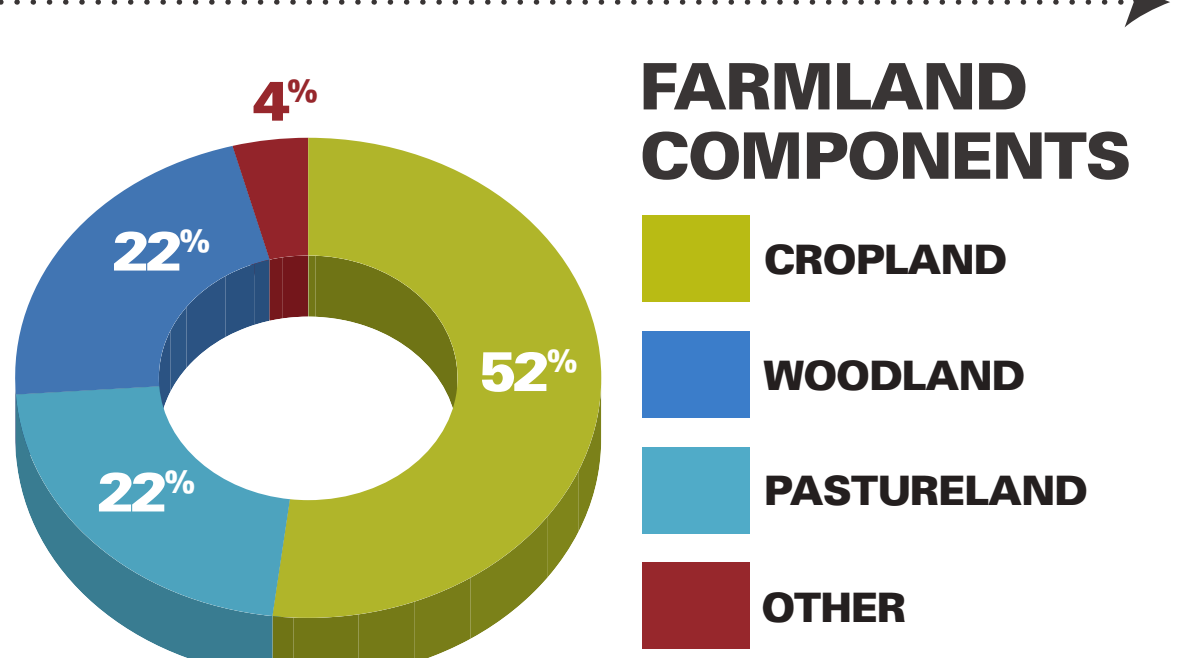
DOWN 26% FROM 2012

\$112,871,000 TOTAL AG PRODUCTS SOLD

DOWN 32% FROM 2012

1,055 FARMS

DOWN 12% FROM 2012



\$93,988,000 VALUE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

DOWN 27% FROM 2012

31 SOD, GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, FLORICULTURE FARMS

DOWN 23% FROM 2012

\$4,261,000 VALUE OF SOD, GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, FLORICULTURE PRODUCTS

DOWN 21% FROM 2012

518 TOTAL CROP FARMS, INCLUDING NURSERY & GREENHOUSE

UP 7% FROM 2012

\$18,884,000 VALUE OF CROP INCLUDING NURSERY & GREENHOUSE

DOWN 49% FROM 2012

47 FARMS THAT SELL DIRECT TO CONSUMER

DOWN 24% FROM 2012

\$1,868,000 DIRECT TO CONSUMER SALES

UP 140% FROM 2012

111 GRAIN, OILSEED, BEAN, PEA FARMS

DOWN 35% FROM 2012

\$11,238,000 VALUE OF GRAIN, OILSEED, BEAN, PEA PRODUCTS

DOWN 59% FROM 2012

7 FARMS WITH INTERMEDIATED SALES

\$2,872,000 VALUE OF INTERMEDIATED SALES

DOWN 18% FROM 2012

27 FRUIT, NUT & BERRY FARMS

\$455,000 VALUE OF FRUIT, NUT & BERRY

DOWN 18% FROM 2012

36 VEGETABLE, MELON, & POTATO FARMS

\$340,000 VALUE OF VEGETABLE, MELON & POTATO

UP 40% FROM 2012

0% FROM 2012

\$554,000 AGRITOURISM REVENUE

19 AGRITOURISM FARMS

UP 41% FROM 2012

DOWN 51% FROM 2012

553 FEMALE PRODUCERS

1139 MALE PRODUCERS

413 NEW & BEGINNING FARMERS

216 PRODUCERS WITH MILITARY SERVICE

60.3 PRINCIPAL PRODUCER AVERAGE AGE



NC FarmLink



NC Local Food

Agriculture as Economic Development



North Carolina's agricultural industry, including food, fiber and forestry, contributes \$91.9 billion to the state's economy, accounts for more than 17 percent of the state's income, and employs 17 percent of the workforce. *

North Carolina is one of the most diversified agriculture states in the nation. The state's 46,418 farmers grow over 80 different commodities, utilizing 8.4 million of the state's 31 million acres to furnish consumers a dependable and affordable supply of food and fiber. The state ranks eighth nationally in Total Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold. Net income per farm in the state is over \$86,645.

This Local Food and Farms infographic is designed for economic developers, planners, local food advocates, and community members to understand the impact of their county and region to the overall NC agricultural economic impact. The economic indicators provided here can help local governments as they design ways to support agricultural businesses as key components of vibrant and resilient, local and rural economies. Each region in North Carolina presents a unique set of opportunities for sustainable economic growth and entrepreneurship.

Consider one example: When school systems purchase food from local farmers, students benefit from access to healthy fresh produce, farmers benefit from sales into local schools, and the community benefits because these local sales are spent at other local businesses. This type of local business opportunity keeps farms in production, maintaining North Carolina's agricultural asset base both in terms of land and farming know-how. And it keeps dollars spent on food circulating among other local businesses.

As decision makers consider policies, programs and practices to support the agriculture sector there are numerous examples and supporting reports providing guidance:

NCSU / Center for Environmental Farming Systems / NC State Extension Local Food
Local Government Guide to Developing Local Food Economies

<https://cefs.ncsu.edu/food-system-initiatives/local-food-economies/local-government-guide-to-food-economies/>

Food System Initiatives (includes NC case studies)

<https://cefs.ncsu.edu/food-system-initiatives/local-food-economies/>

The NC 10% Campaign Initiative

<https://www.nc10percent.com/>

NC Local Food

<https://localfood.ces.ncsu.edu/>

<https://localfood.ces.ncsu.edu/food-system-supply-chain/>

USDA

The Economics of Local Food Systems: A Toolkit to Guide Community Discussions, Assessments, and Choices

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Toolkit%20Designed%20FINAL%203-22-16.pdf>

For up to date information on this project go to

go.ncsu.edu/agcensus

This material is based upon work supported by NC State Extension [Local Foods Program](#), NC State Extension [FarmLink](#), and the [EmPOWERing Mountain Food Systems Project](#) of the Center for Environmental Farming Systems.



N.C. Cooperative Extension prohibits discrimination and harassment regardless of age, color, disability, family and marital status, gender identity, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation and veteran status. NC State and N.C. A&T State universities, U.S. Department of Agriculture and local governments cooperating.

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full_Report/Volume_1,_Chapter_2_US_State_Level/st99_2_0004_0004.pdf