

Surry County

LOCAL FARMS AND FOOD PROFILE

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

UP 20% FROM 2012

152,452
ACRES OF FARMS

UP 42% FROM 2012

143
ACRES AVERAGE SIZE OF FARM

632
ANIMAL FARMS

DOWN 8% FROM 2012

UP 16% FROM 2012

\$230,105,000
TOTAL AG PRODUCTS SOLD

1,064 FARMS

DOWN 15% FROM 2012

FARMLAND COMPONENTS

- CROPLAND 48%
- WOODLAND 29%
- PASTURELAND 18%
- OTHER 5%

\$180,712,000
VALUE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

UP 18% FROM 2012

47
SOD, GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, FLORICULTURE FARMS

DOWN 18% FROM 2012

\$7,331,000
VALUE OF SOD, GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, FLORICULTURE PRODUCTS

UP 36% FROM 2012

538
TOTAL CROP FARMS, INCLUDING NURSERY & GREENHOUSE

DOWN 5% FROM 2012

\$49,393,000
VALUE OF CROP INCLUDING NURSERY & GREENHOUSE

UP 8% FROM 2012

61 FARMS THAT SELL DIRECT TO CONSUMER

DOWN 38% FROM 2012

\$621,000
DIRECT TO CONSUMER SALES

UP 10% FROM 2012

137
GRAIN, OILSEED, BEAN, PEA FARMS

DOWN 18% FROM 2012

\$13,520,000
VALUE OF GRAIN, OILSEED, BEAN, PEA PRODUCTS

DOWN 35% FROM 2012

14 FARMS WITH INTERMEDIATED SALES

\$84,000
VALUE OF INTERMEDIATED SALES

*2012 data not collected by US AG Census

47
FRUIT, NUT & BERRY FARMS

DOWN 40% FROM 2012

VALUE OF FRUIT, NUT & BERRY
* Insufficient Data

35
VEGETABLE, MELON, & POTATO FARMS

DOWN 29% FROM 2012

\$4,476,000
VALUE OF VEGETABLE, MELON & POTATO

AGRITOURISM REVENUE
* Insufficient Data

DOWN 44% FROM 2012

14 AGRITOURISM FARMS

517
FEMALE PRODUCERS

1206
MALE PRODUCERS

346
NEW & BEGINNING FARMERS

213
PRODUCERS WITH MILITARY SERVICE

59.2
PRINCIPAL PRODUCER AVERAGE AGE

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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.



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