

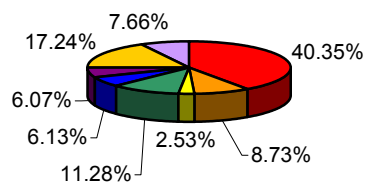
The Economic Importance of Agriculture Series

This brochure is part of a series of publications from the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development. The goal of these brochures is to inform Georgians of the essential role agriculture plays in the economy. Other brochures in the series include:

- * *Row and Forage Crops*
- * *Poultry and Eggs*
- * *Forestry and Related Products*
- * *Fruits and Nuts*
- * *Vegetables*
- * *Ornamental Horticulture*
- * *Livestock*

2000 Farm Gate Value

- Poultry/Eggs
- Forestry and Products
- Fruits/Nuts
- Livestock
- Ornamental Horticulture
- Other income
- Row/Forage Crops
- Vegetables



The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development is a unit of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, combining the missions of research and extension.

The table below shows how agriculture impacts each sector in the Georgia economy.

	Direct*	Indirect*
Agriculture	\$27.241	\$0
Mining	\$0	\$0.013
Construction	\$0	\$0.363
Manufacturing	\$0	\$1.399
Utilities	\$0	\$1.959
Trade	\$0	\$2.769
Finance	\$0	\$1.848
Services	\$0	\$2.864
Government	\$0	\$0.214
Other	\$0	\$0.015
Total	\$38.685	
*billions		

The Cooperative Extension Service offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force.

Gale Buchanan, Dean and Director

Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development

John C. McKissick, Coordinator
202 Lumpkin House
Athens Georgia 30602-7509

Phone: 706-542-0760
Fax: 706-542-8934
Email: caed@agecon.uga.edu
www.agecon.uga.edu/~caed

Economic Importance of Food and Fiber Production and Processing in Georgia



Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development

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

Brochure Series 01-01

Georgia's Food and Fiber Industry

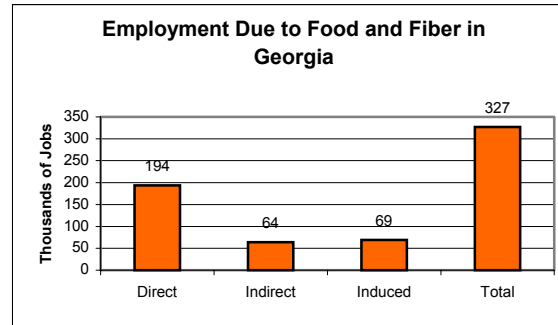
Food and fiber production and processing is a key component of Georgia's economy. Agriculture shaped Georgia's history and will continue to be a driving force. One notable aspect of the food and fiber industry in Georgia is variety. Georgia farmers produce a wide range of commodities, from traditional items such as cotton, peanuts, and beef cows to more non-traditional commodities such as quail and meat goats. Processors have located in Georgia to take advantage of these abundant crops. Types of processors in Georgia include fresh vegetable packers, cotton gins, and meat packers. Each of these farms and firms provides jobs and income for Georgians, particularly in rural areas.

FACTS ABOUT FOOD AND FIBER IN GA:

- Total farm gate value of production in 2000 was \$8.3 billion.
- Adding processing value makes the food and fiber industry worth about \$30 billion in Georgia.
- There are over 50,000 farms in Georgia. The average farm size is 224 acres (Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service)
- The top five commodities in Georgia (by farm gate value) are: Broilers, Forestry, Cotton, Peanuts and Beef.
- Georgia leads the nation in Peanut, Pecan and Broiler production.

EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

- ⇒ Food and fiber producers and processors employ more than 194,000 workers in Georgia.
- ⇒ Spin-off industries (those relying on the food and fiber industry) employ an additional 133,000 people.
- ⇒ Direct employment includes all people working directly in the food and fiber production and processing sector, including farmers and meat processors.



- ⇒ Indirect employment includes those people who provide supplies and inputs to food and fiber, such as grain elevators and processing equipment suppliers.
- ⇒ Induced employment are the folks employed due to employees spending wages, for example, grocery store clerks.
- ⇒ In total, over 320,000 jobs are created because of food and fiber in Georgia.

STUDY METHODOLOGY

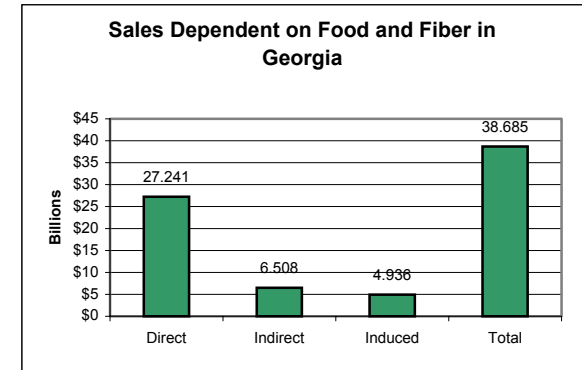
- ⇒ This study used an input-output model called IMPLAN to determine the effects of the food and fiber industry on Georgia.

⇒ Data used came from IMPLAN as well as from the 2000 Farm Gate Value Report. Production includes all eight major sectors included in this series. Processing includes all industries which rely directly on the production of agricultural products in the state for their livelihood.



INCOME IMPACT

- ⇒ Food and fiber producers and processors produce sales in excess of \$27 billion (direct).
- ⇒ These sales, in turn, generate additional sales in the local economy, causing another \$11 billion worth of economic output (indirect and induced).
- ⇒ In sum, the food and fiber industry provides a total of \$38.7 billion in economic activity to the state of Georgia.



- ⇒ The map below shows the role food and fiber plays in each county. Darker counties have higher percentages of food and fiber production and processing in the county.

Economic Impact of Food and Fiber by County

