

Virginia's Top 20 Agricultural Commodities

Crop/Livestock	Farm Cash Receipts
1. Broilers	\$649,000,000
2. Cattle/Calves	\$434,000,000
3. Milk	\$358,000,000
4. Turkeys	\$324,000,000
5. Soybeans	\$302,000,000
6. Greenhouse/Nursery	\$272,000,000
7. Corn, Grain	\$212,000,000
8. Hay	\$123,000,000
9. Wheat (Winter)	\$109,000,000
10. Tobacco (Unprocessed Leaf)	\$109,000,000
11. Eggs	\$91,000,000
12. Cotton Lint	\$69,000,000
13. Tomatoes (Fresh Market)	\$62,000,000
14. Hogs	\$55,000,000
15. Apples	\$54,000,000
16. Peanuts	\$24,000,000
17. Potatoes (Summer)	\$15,000,000
18. Cottonseed	\$12,000,000
19. Barley	\$12,000,000
20. Grapes	\$11,000,000

Source: 2012 National Agricultural Statistics Service data; figures rounded to the nearest million dollars.

Current statistics do not exist on farm cash receipts for Virginia horses, but a 2010 study prepared by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia found that the horse industry in Virginia has an annual economic impact of \$1.2 billion. The industry generated more than 16,000 jobs that year and nearly 1,200 horse events generated \$25 million in revenue.



Virginia Farm Facts

Virginia has more than 46,000 farms.

*The typical Virginia farmer is 59.5 years old.
Thirty-six percent of farmers are 65 years
of age or older.*

The average farm size is 181 acres.

*Farms cover 8.3 million acres, or 33 percent
of Virginia's total land area of 25.3 million acres.*

*Approximately 17 percent of Virginia's
primary farm operators are female.*

*The market value of Virginia agriculture products
sold in 2012 was \$3.75 billion.*

*Nearly 90 percent of Virginia farms are owned
and operated by individuals or families.*

*In the 1960s one farmer supplied food for
25.8 persons in the U.S. and abroad. Today, one
farmer supplies food for 155 people in
the U.S. and abroad.*

*Less than 16¢ of every consumer dollar spent on
food actually goes to the farmer.*

Source: 2012 USDA census and survey data from NASS and the Economic Research Service



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VA 2014 Agriculture

facts and figures

*Virginia's
Number 1 Industry
Contributing \$52 Billion
Annually to the
Commonwealth*



Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Economic Impact of Agriculture in Virginia

Agriculture is Virginia's largest industry by far, with nothing else coming a close second. **The industry has an economic impact of \$52 billion annually and provides nearly 311,000 jobs in the Commonwealth.**

The industries of agriculture and forestry together have a total economic impact of \$70 billion and provide more than 400,000 jobs in the Commonwealth. Every job in agriculture and forestry supports 1.6 jobs elsewhere in Virginia's economy.



According to a 2013 economic impact study, production agriculture employs nearly 55,000 farmers and workers in Virginia and generates approximately \$3.3 billion in total output.



In addition, value-added industries, those that depend on farm commodities, employ more than 67,000 workers. When the employment and value-added impact of agriculture and forestry are considered together, they make up 8.1 percent of the state's total gross domestic product.

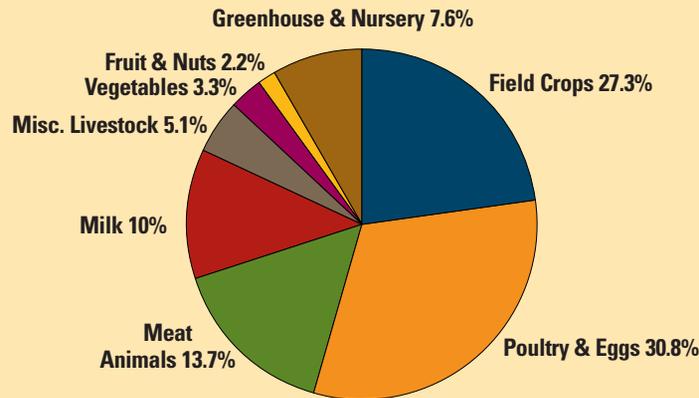
In addition to its tangible benefits such as farm cash receipts and jobs, agriculture provides many intangible benefits. These include recreation, tourism, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, flood mitigation, improved water quality and soil stabilization.



Diversity of Virginia Agriculture

Virginia's agricultural production is one of the most diverse in the nation. **Many Virginia commodities and products rank in the top 15 among all U.S. states.** These include fresh market tomatoes, 3rd; leaf tobacco, 4th; apples 6th; grapes 7th; broilers, 12th; cotton, peanuts and poultry and eggs, 14th. Livestock rankings based on number of head include turkeys, 5th and broilers, 10th in the nation.

The exceptional diversity of Virginia agriculture is reflected in this chart showing the distribution of farm cash receipts for the state's many and varied commodities.



Source: 2012 National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) data

Virginia Agriculture in the Global Marketplace

In 2013, Virginia set yet another record for agriculture and forestry exports with a total value of \$2.85 billion. This represents an 8 percent increase over the record of \$2.61 billion in 2012.

Virginia's top three export markets in 2013 were China, followed by Canada and Switzerland. Exports to China totaled more than \$580 million in 2013. Canada holds the second spot with exports of nearly \$259 million. Switzerland replaced Morocco as the third top export market with approximately \$190 million in goods purchased.

These countries and many others are purchasing a variety of Virginia agricultural commodities, wood products, seafood, and specialty food and beverage items. These items and others are promoted in the international marketplace by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in Richmond and from a global network of trade offices and representatives in Hong Kong, China, India, Russia, Canada, Mexico, Cost Rica and the United Kingdom.

Virginia's Top Agricultural Export Markets (in millions)



The foreign markets purchasing Virginia's agricultural exports represent a diverse portfolio of established and emerging economies.

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc.