Agriculture and Agribusiness
NORTH CAROLINA’S NUMBER ONE INDUSTRY

Agriculture and agribusiness – food, fiber, and forestry – account for one-sixth of the state’s income and employment. Over 16 percent, or $95.9 billion of the $592 billion gross state product, is contributed by food, fiber, and forestry industries. These industries account for over 789,000 of the state’s 4.5 million employees. The following are the value-added incomes derived from the state’s agricultural and agribusiness sector in 2019.

**Total Income**

Agriculture/Food Industries
- total income: $81.7B
- share of N.C. income: 13.8%

Natural Fiber Industries
- total income: $4.4B
- share of N.C. income: 0.7%

Forestry Industries
- total income: $9.8B
- share of N.C. income: 1.7%

Agriculture:
Food, Fiber and Forestry Industries
- total income: $95.9B
- share of N.C. income: 16.2%

**Agriculture and Agribusiness Employment**

789,000, or 17.5 percent of North Carolina’s 4.5 million employees work in agriculture and agribusiness.

**Value-Added Income**

The figures reflect value-added income for 2019. At the farm level, value-added is sales. At the manufacturing, wholesale and retail levels, value-added does not include the value of non-North Carolina produced inputs, and value-added avoids the multiple counting of a product used several times in the production chain.

**Fiber Industries**
- including natural fiber-based manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing
- Manufacturing: $0.8B
  - Including textile mill and apparel production
- Wholesaling: $1.4B
  - Including apparel, piece goods and notions
- Retailing: $2.2B
  - Including apparel and accessory stores
- **Category Total**: $4.4B

**Forestry Industries**
- including farm production and the manufacture of furniture, lumber, wood and paper products
- Farming: $0.3B
  - Including total income from farm and commercial forestry
- Manufacturing: $5.3B
  - Including wood products and paper products
- Wholesaling: $3.3B
  - Including lumber, paper and furniture
- Retailing: $1.2B
  - Including furniture
- **Category Total**: $9.8B

**Agriculture and Food Industries**
- including farming, manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing firms
- Farming: $16.6B
  - Including crops, livestock, aquaculture, ornamentals and turf
- Manufacturing: $33.4B
  - Including food and tobacco products and agricultural chemicals
- Wholesaling: $8.6B
  - Including food, tobacco, farm supplies and products
- Retailing: $23.1B
  - Including food stores and restaurants
- **Category Total**: $81.7B

All figures expressed in billions of dollars (B).