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 employees. Over 17 percent, or over $91.8 billion of the $538 billion gross state product is contributed by food, fiber and forestry industries. These industries account for 728,000 of the state’s 4.4 million employees. The following are the value-added incomes derived from the state’s agricultural and agribusiness sector in 2017.

**Total Income**
- Agriculture/Food Industries
  - total income $77.8B
  - share of N.C. income 14.5%
- Natural Fiber Industries
  - total income $4.8B
  - share of N.C. income 0.9%
- Forestry Industries
  - total income $9.2B
  - share of N.C. income 1.7%
- Agriculture:
  - Food, Fiber and Forestry Industries
    - total income $91.8B
    - share of N.C. income 17.1%
- **Total N.C. Income for 2017 Gross State Product $538B**

**Agriculture and Agribusiness Employment**

728,000, or 17 percent of North Carolina’s 4.4 million employees work in agriculture.

**Value-Added Income**

The figures reflect value-added income for 2017. At the farm level, value-added is sales. At the manufacturing, wholesale and retail levels, value-added is sales minus the cost of non-labor inputs. 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.

*All figures expressed in billions of dollars (B).*