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. Almost 17 percent, or nearly $84 billion of the $495 billion gross state product is contributed by food, fiber and forestry industries. These industries account for 686,000 of the state’s 4.2 million employees. The following are the value-added incomes derived from the state’s agricultural and agribusiness sector in 2015.

**Total Income**

Agriculture/Food Industries
- total income: $70.2B
- share of N.C. income: 14.2%

Natural Fiber Industries
- total income: $4.1B
- share of N.C. income: 0.8%

Forestry Industries
- total income: $9.4B
- share of N.C. income: 1.9%

Agriculture: Food, Fiber and Forestry Industries
- total income: $83.7B
- share of N.C. income: 16.9%

**Total N.C. Income for 2015**
- Gross State Product: $495B

**Agriculture and Agribusiness Employment**

686,200, or 16 percent of North Carolina’s 4.2 million employees work in agriculture.

**Value-Added Income**

The figures reflect value-added income for 2015. 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).