



US FOOD & AG INDUSTRIES

Economic Impact in Virginia

● Total Jobs 1,058,631	● Total Wages \$59.41 Billion	● Total Output \$202.83 Billion	● Business Taxes \$26.23 Billion
● Direct Jobs 574,428	● Direct Wages \$22.23 Billion	● Direct Output \$88.08 Billion	● Exports \$2.72 Billion

United States

● Total Jobs 48,732,652	● Total Wages \$3.01 Trillion	● Total Output \$10.42 Trillion	● Business Taxes \$1.35 Trillion
● Direct Jobs 24,299,234	● Direct Wages \$1.08 Trillion	● Direct Output \$4.33 Trillion	● Exports \$177.36 Billion

How Food & Agriculture Power the U.S. Economy

The U.S. food and agriculture sector is one of the nation’s most powerful economic engines. The 2026 Feeding the Economy report shows the industries support nearly 49 million jobs — about one in five American jobs — and generate more than \$10.4 trillion in economic activity, accounting for nearly 20% of total U.S. output.

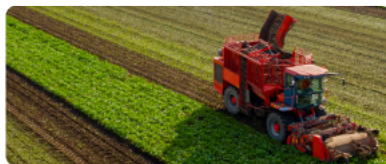
It begins on nearly 2 million farms and ranches that span two out of every five American acres. But agriculture’s economic reach extends far beyond the farm. Nearly 200,000 food manufacturing, processing, and storage facilities employ food scientists, engineers, production workers, logistics specialists, and truck drivers who keep products moving safely and efficiently, ensuring American families have access to reliable, affordable food.

The journey continues through more than 1 million restaurants and foodservice establishments and roughly 200,000 retail food stores, anchoring local economies and driving consumer spending in communities nationwide.

From farm to factory and truck to table, food and agriculture’s impact sustains jobs, powers commerce, and strengthens communities across America.

To measure the total economic impact of the food and ag industries, the analysis includes the direct and indirect economic activity surrounding these industries, capturing both upstream and downstream activity. For example, when a farm equipment retailer hires new employees because farmers are buying more tractors, experts consider the new salaries an indirect impact. Similarly, when a retail associate spends her paycheck, an induced economic impact occurs.





US FOOD & AG INDUSTRIES Economic Impact in Virginia

Direct Economic Impact	Jobs	Wages	Output
Agriculture	41,041	\$396,898,200	\$4,850,510,300
Manufacturing	47,860	\$3,186,197,000	\$26,836,740,800
Wholesaling	22,983	\$2,459,563,700	\$6,775,148,500
On-Premise Retailing	371,407	\$12,490,966,400	\$39,850,701,100
Off-Premise Retailing	91,137	\$3,696,903,700	\$9,766,485,000
Total	574,428	\$22,230,529,000	\$88,079,585,700

Supplier Economic Impact	Jobs	Wages	Output
Agriculture	24,869	\$523,885,100	\$809,662,100
Mining	818	\$104,167,900	\$491,709,500
Construction	2,756	\$238,501,600	\$623,940,800
Manufacturing	13,267	\$1,303,475,200	\$9,701,889,000
Wholesale	21,484	\$2,347,527,600	\$8,266,438,900
Retail	4,005	\$190,369,300	\$535,317,300
Transportation & Communication	50,573	\$3,959,989,400	\$12,765,106,800
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	38,958	\$2,236,236,600	\$11,575,422,500
Business & Personal Services	70,364	\$7,581,584,600	\$14,197,341,200
Travel & Entertainment	7,851	\$385,842,100	\$1,000,775,200
Government	5,324	\$603,595,800	\$1,282,461,700
Other	0	\$0	\$0
Total	240,269	\$19,475,175,200	\$61,250,065,000

Induced Economic Impact	Jobs	Wages	Output
Agriculture	2,001	\$49,063,800	\$82,649,400
Mining	265	\$32,147,600	\$130,496,900
Construction	2,633	\$218,047,900	\$517,025,300
Manufacturing	5,565	\$533,513,100	\$3,511,918,200
Wholesale	7,639	\$925,373,800	\$3,450,522,500
Retail	28,585	\$1,307,307,500	\$3,549,543,800
Transportation & Communication	23,059	\$2,174,988,100	\$7,569,248,700
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	33,754	\$2,258,825,600	\$14,527,933,700
Business & Personal Services	110,017	\$8,595,434,800	\$16,408,120,900
Travel & Entertainment	19,779	\$904,062,000	\$2,378,747,100
Government	3,119	\$360,096,800	\$959,810,000
Other	7,518	\$343,506,800	\$413,341,300
Total	243,934	\$17,702,367,800	\$53,499,357,800

	Jobs	Wages	Output
Total Economic Output	1,058,631	\$59,408,072,000	\$202,829,008,500

Tax Impact	Business Taxes
Federal Taxes	\$14,501,067,700
State Taxes	\$11,730,512,100
Total Taxes	\$26,231,579,800

Exports	Export Value
Customs Value at Point of Shipment	\$2,723,802,300
Total Exports	\$2,723,802,300

2026 Sponsors

American Bakers Association, American Beverage Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, American Frozen Food Institute, American Soybean Association, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Consumer Brands Association, Corn Refiners Association, CropLife America, Edible Oil Producers Association, Farm Credit, The Fertilizer Institute, FMI- The Food Industry Association, Global Cold Chain Alliance, International Dairy Foods Association, International Fresh Produce Association, Meat Institute, National Association of Manufacturers, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, National Association of Wheat Growers, National Corn Growers Association, National Farmers Union, National Grain and Feed Association, National Grocers Association, National Milk Producers Federation, National Oilseed Processors Association, National Pork Producers Council, North American Millers' Association, Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Association, Pet Food Institute, Plant Based Products Council, The Sugar Association, U.S. Dairy Export Council, U.S. Grains & BioProducts Council, United Soybean Board