



## Top 20 Products

Crop/Livestock	Farm Cash Receipts
1 Broilers	875,242,000
2 Cattle and calves	462,978,000
3 Dairy products, Milk	334,844,000
4 Turkeys	296,281,000
5 Greenhouse/Nursery*	295,911,000
6 All Other Animals**	215,000,000
7 Soybeans	208,968,000
8 Corn	170,607,000
9 Hay	116,258,000
10 Tobacco	109,030,000
11 Eggs	89,995,000
12 Apples	48,557,000
13 Cotton Lint	46,687,000
14 Hogs	46,224,000
15 Wheat (Winter)	43,318,000
16 Peanuts	23,711,000
17 Tomatoes	21,969,000
18 Grapes	19,096,000
19 Potatoes	18,974,000
20 Peaches	9,244,000

Source: 2017 USDA ERS data figures rounded to the nearest million dollars

\*Misc. Crops includes Greenhouse/Nursery, roughly 90 percent of the total, plus mushrooms, sunflowers, rye, sorghum, seed crops and other field crops

\*\*All Other Animals includes horses, aquaculture and all other livestock

## Farm Facts

Virginia has 43,225 farms.

Approximately 36 percent of Virginia's primary farm operators are female.

*The typical Virginia farmer is 58.5 years old.*

Farms cover 7.8 million acres.

*Less than 15 cents of every consumer dollar spent on food actually goes to the farmer.\**

Source: 2017 USDA Census of Agriculture

\*Source: USDA ERS



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE AND  
CONSUMER SERVICES

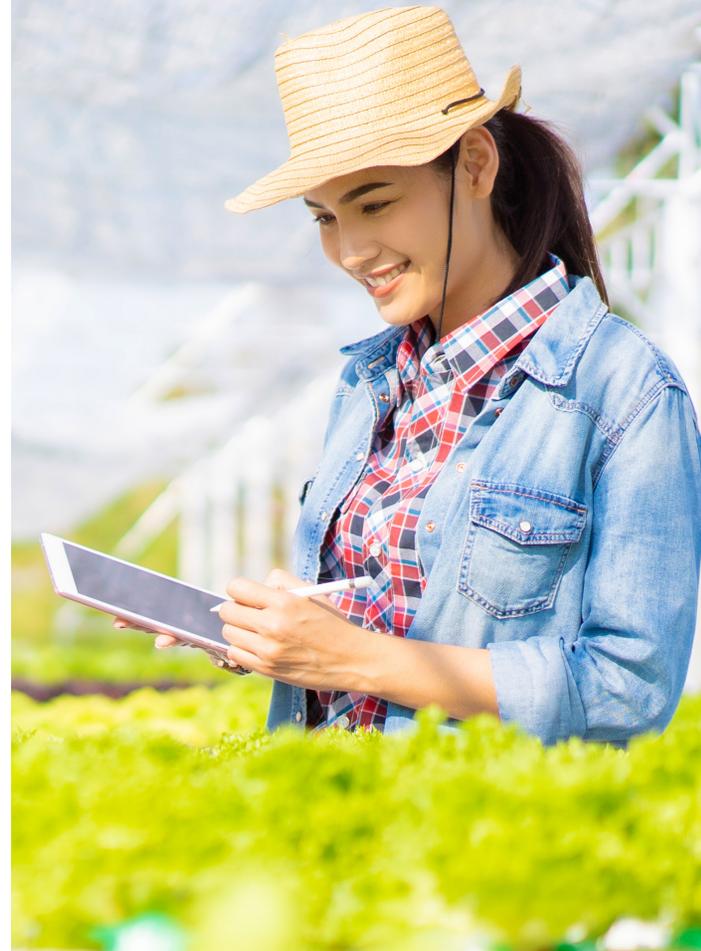
102 Governor St., Richmond Virginia 23219

804.786.7686

[www.vdacs.virginia.gov](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov)

# VAgriculture

2019 - 2020  
Facts and Figures



**A U.S. farm grows enough to feed the farm family plus 165 people around the world. Today's technology will help farmers feed the world's nearly 10 billion people in 2050.**

## Economic Impact of Agriculture in Virginia

Agriculture is Virginia's largest private industry. **It has an economic impact of \$70 billion annually and provides more than 334,000 jobs in the Commonwealth.** The industries of agriculture and forestry together have a total economic impact of \$91 billion and provide more than 442,000 jobs in the Virginia.

Production agriculture employs nearly 54,000 farmers and workers in Virginia and generates approximately \$3.8 billion in total output. In addition, value-added industries that depend on farm commodities employ more than 69,000 workers. When the employment and value-added impact of agriculture and forestry are considered together, they make up 9.5 percent of the Commonwealth's total gross domestic product.

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

Source: The Economic Impact of Virginia's Agriculture and Forest Industries, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia, 2017



## 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 10 among all U.S. states.** These include leaf tobacco, 3rd; apples, 6th; grapes, 8th; peanuts, 9th; fresh market tomatoes, 10th. Livestock rankings based on number of head include turkeys, 6th in the nation, and broilers, 10th.

Source: USDA's 2017 National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and the Economic Research Service (ERS)

In 2017, the Virginia Tech Pamplin College of Business found that Virginia's agritourism industry accounts for \$2.2 billion in economic activity and supports 22,000 jobs.

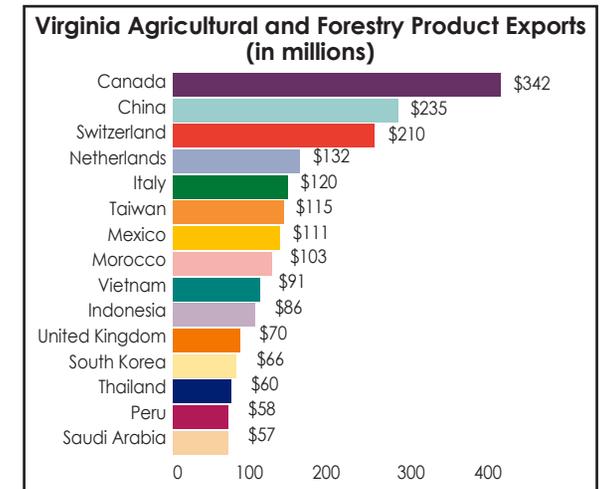


## Virginia Agriculture in the Global Marketplace

**In 2018 agricultural and forestry exports were valued at \$2.97 billion, up from \$2.63 billion in 2017. By volume, they accounted for more than half of containerized exports moving through the Port of Virginia.**

Virginia's top three export markets in 2018 were Canada, China and Switzerland. Canada imported more than \$342 million in agricultural purchases, while China totaled more than \$235 million and Switzerland imported more than \$209 million in 2018.

These countries and many others purchase a variety of Virginia agricultural commodities, wood products, seafood and specialty food and beverage items. Virginia products are promoted in the international marketplace by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services through its Virginia headquarters and a global network of trade representatives in Canada, China, Europe, India, Latin America, the Middle East and Southeast Asia.



Source: Global Trade Information Services Inc.