

Crossroads Resource Center

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Tools for Community Self-determination

Martinsville / Henry County region (Virginia & North Carolina) Local Farm & Food Economy

Highlights of a data compilation
by Ken Meter, Crossroads Resource Center (Minneapolis) for

**Harvest Foundation
Virginia Tech Extension
and local partners**
January 13, 2011

*Covers Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Henry, Patrick, & Pittsylvania Counties in Virginia,
and Caswell & Rockingham Counties in North Carolina.*

Martinsville / Henry County region (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2008)

412,965 residents receive \$12.3 billion of income annually. The largest single source of personal income is manufacturing jobs, but manufacturing income has fallen from \$2.1 billion in 2001 to \$1.5 billion in 2008. Government jobs are the second most important source of personal income, at just above \$1 billion. Retail jobs rank third, with \$0.6 billion of personal income.

Although the population has risen 18% over the past 40 years, population for the Martinsville region is rising less rapidly than for either the state of Virginia (69% increase) or for the state of North Carolina (84% increase). Despite these population increases, and a doubling of personal income (in inflation-adjusted dollars), very little planning has been devoted to assuring a secure local food supply.

Issues affecting low-income residents of Martinsville region:

Over 104,000 residents (30%) earn less than 185% of federal poverty guidelines. At this level of income, children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch at school. These lower-income residents spend an estimated \$215 million each year buying food, including \$70 million of SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) and additional WIC coupons. The region's 6,641 farmers receive an average combined total of \$11 million in subsidies (ten-year average, 1999-2008), mostly to raise crops such as corn or soybeans that are sold as commodities, not to feed county residents. *Data from Federal Census of 2000, Bureau of Labor Statistics, & Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

12% of county households (nearly 42,000 residents) earn less than \$10,000 per year.
Source: Federal Census of 2000.

20% of all adults aged 18-64 in the Winston-Salem metro area have no health insurance.
Source: Centers for Disease Control.

Food-related health conditions:

8.7% of Winston-Salem metro residents have been diagnosed with diabetes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control. This is the closest metro area for which data were available.*

Medical costs for treating diabetes in the eight-county Martinsville region are \$239 million per year; and for the Winston-Salem metro area, \$277 million per year. For the state of Virginia, these medical costs total \$4.5 billion, and for North Carolina, they total \$5.3 billion, per year. *Source: American Diabetes Association cost calculator.*

69% of Winston-Salem residents are overweight (40%) or obese (29%).
Source: Centers for Disease Control.

The Martinsville / Henry County Region's farms (Agricultural Census, 2007)

Land:

- 6,642 farms.
- 117 (2%) of these are 1,000 acres or more in size.
- 2,181 (33%) farms are less than 50 acres.
- Average farm size is 157 acres, similar to the state averages of 171 acres for Virginia, and 160 acres for North Carolina.
- The region has 1 million acres of land in farms.
- 258,507 acres of harvested cropland.
- 517 farms (8%) have a total of 11,999 acres of irrigated land.
- Average value of land and buildings per farm is \$574,203. This is less than the state averages of \$720,538 for Virginia and \$656,080 for North Carolina.
- 373 farms raise 27 million pounds of tobacco on 14,581 acres.

Sales:

- \$274 million of crops and livestock sold (2007). This is an increase of 23% over 2002 sales.
- \$97 million of crops sold (36% of sales), about the same as in 2002.
- \$177 million of livestock and products sold (64% of sales).
- 4,491 (68%) of the region's farms sold less than \$10,000 of products in 2007.
- These farms sold a total of \$11 million of commodities, 4% of total sales for the region.
- 432 farms (7%) sold more than \$100,000 of products.
- These larger farms sold \$203 million of commodities, 74% of the region's production.
- 60% of region farms (3,982 of 6,642) reported net losses in 2007.
- The region's farmers collected a combined \$4.6 million of federal commodity support payments in 2007.
- Production expenses rose 32% from 2002 to 2007.
- The region's farmers purchased \$42 million of feed in 2007 — the leading production cost. Hired labor ranked second, at \$33 million. Depreciation charges totaled \$28 million for the region's third-ranked expense item. Livestock purchases totaled \$27 million, while supplies and maintenance costs totaled \$25 million. Fertilizers and lime cost \$23 million. Fuel costs totaled \$21 million. Farmers paid \$14 in interest payments on farm debt, and \$10 million of property taxes.
- Costs of seed have risen since 1996, and fertilizer costs have held steady, even though cash receipts from selling crops have fallen steadily.

Cattle & Dairy:

- 3,825 ranches and farms hold an inventory of 217,739 cattle.
- 131,579 cattle and calves were sold in 2007, for at least \$81 million of sales. *Data for Henry County have been suppressed to protect confidentiality, so this is an incomplete tally.*
- 178 farms raise at least 18,863 milk cows. *Data for Patrick and Caswell Counties have been suppressed to protect confidentiality, so this is an incomplete tally.*
- 3,966 farms produce 301,961 tons of forage crops (hay, etc.) on 183,189 acres (18% of the region's farmland).
- 269 farms raise at least 286,717 tons of corn for silage on 23,023 acres. *Data for Henry County were suppressed to protect confidentiality.*

Other livestock & animal products:

- 127 farms raise hogs and pigs. *Data covering the number of hogs and pigs are incomplete, due to suppression to protect confidentiality, but list sales of 39,907 hogs and pigs excluding Pittsylvania County.*
- 148 farms hold an inventory of 3,845 sheep and lambs.
- Poultry and egg sales total \$11.6 million.
- 343 farms raise laying hens, with an inventory of 352,262.

Grains and oilseeds:

- 300 farms raise 643,727 bushels of corn on 8,712 acres.
- 238 farms raise at least 489,969 bushels of wheat on 12,067 acres. *Data for Henry County were suppressed to protect confidentiality.*
- 165 farms raise 166,402 bushels of soybeans on 9,643 acres.

Vegetables & Melons (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent vegetable production):

- 343 farms work 2,367 acres to raise vegetables.
- 139 farms raise 298 acres of potatoes.
- 20 farms raise sweet potatoes.
- Vegetable sales totaled at least \$6 million in the region. *Data for Floyd and Henry Counties were suppressed by USDA to protect confidentiality.*

Fruits (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent fruit production):

- The region has 225 farms with a total of 2,169 acres of orchards.
- Fruit and nut sales totaled at least \$6 million in the region. *Data for Henry and Caswell Counties were suppressed by USDA to protect confidentiality.*

Nursery and Greenhouse plants

- 178 farms sell \$27 million of nursery and ornamental crops.
- This is 10% of agricultural sales in the region.

Direct and organic sales:

- 407 farms sell \$2.6 million of food directly to consumers. This is an 18% increase in the number of farms (345 in 2002) selling direct, and a 50% increase of direct sales over \$1.7 million in 2002.
- Direct sales account for 0.9% of total commodity sales, twice the national rate of 0.4%.
- This is similar to the Virginia rate of 1%, and three times the North Carolina rate of 0.3%.

- 24 region farms sold organic foods (at least \$228,000 sales). *Sales data for Franklin, Patrick and Caswell Counties were suppressed by USDA to protect confidentiality.*
- 39 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 332 state farms produce value-added products.

Selected conservation practices:

- 1,319 (20%) farms use conservation methods.
- 1,537 (23%) farms practice rotational management or intensive grazing.
- 36 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

Highlights for Counties and States in the Region

Source: U.S. Census of Agriculture, 2007

Highlights of Carroll County, Virginia (2007)

- 1,001 farms.
- Carroll County has 123,678 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 124 acres.
- \$34.5 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 33% increase over 2002.
- \$8.6 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$25.8 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 420 farms fit into this category.
- 25,564 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- The county ranks 4th in Virginia for sales of vegetables, with \$3.4 million.
- Carroll County ranks 5th in the state for sales of cattle and calves, with \$23.4 million.
- The county ranks 6th in the state for sales of Christmas trees.
- Carroll County ranks 7th in Virginia for fruit and nut sales, with \$2.4 million.
- County farms rank first in the state for acres of pumpkins planted, with 518.
- The county also ranks 5th in the state for acres of vegetables planted, with 1,114.
- Carroll County ranks 8th in Virginia for acres of apples, with 468.

Highlights of Floyd County, Virginia (2007)

- 864 farms.
- Floyd County has 128,872 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 149 acres.
- \$43 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 32% increase over 2002.
- \$18.7 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$24.6 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 384 farms fit into this category.
- 27,590 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- The county ranks 2nd in Virginia for sales of Christmas trees, with \$974,000.
- \$15.6 million of crop sales involved ornamental and nursery products.
- Floyd County ranks first in Virginia for acres devoted to nursery stock, with 1,994.
- However, county farms rank only 5th in the state for sales of nursery stock.
- The county also ranks first in the state for acres of rye planted, with 900.
- \$20.6 million of livestock sales involved cattle and calves.
- The county ranks sixth in Virginia for sales of cattle and calves.

Highlights of Franklin County, Virginia (2007)

- 1,043 farms.
- Franklin County has 166,592 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 160 acres.
- \$53.9 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 48% increase over 2002.
- \$7.0 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$46.9 million, to rank as 7th largest county in Virginia.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 464 farms fit into this category.
- 36,227 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops, to rank 8th in the state.
- The county ranks 2nd in Virginia for sales of dairy products, with \$36 million.
- Franklin County ranks 2nd in the state for acres devoted to corn silage, with 12,419.
- The county ranks 6th in Virginia for tobacco sales, with \$2.6 million.
- Franklin county ranks 6th in the state for acres of tobacco, with 785.
- The county ranks 7th in the state for inventory of cattle, with 47,863.
- Franklin County farms sold \$10 million of cattle and calves.
- The county is the eighth most important producer of Christmas trees in Virginia.

Highlights of Henry County, Virginia (2007)

- 340 farms.
- Henry County has 50,779 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 149 acres.
- \$10.9 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 144% increase over 2002.
- \$1.2 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$9.7 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 152 farms fit into this category.
- 9,241 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- The county ranks 2nd in Virginia for aquaculture.

Highlights of Patrick County, Virginia (2007)

- 613 farms.
- Patrick County has 80,027 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 131 acres.
- \$15.9 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 5% increase over 2002.
- \$7.5 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$8.4 million.
- Patrick County farms sold \$4.6 million of cattle and calves.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 267 farms fit into this category.
- 14,949 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- Patrick County ranks sixth in Virginia for acres devoted to apples, with 598.
- County farms ranked eighth in the state for acres of vegetables, with 388.
- The county ranks 9th in Virginia for sales of forage, with \$1.9 million of sales.
- The county also ranks 9th in the state for fruit and nut sales, with \$1.9 million.

Highlights of Pittsylvania County, Virginia (2007)

- 1,356 farms.
- Pittsylvania County has 274,289 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 202 acres.
- \$62.6 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 15% increase over 2002.
- Pittsylvania County ranks 9th in Virginia for sales of farm commodities.
- \$23.4 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$39.2 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 616 farms fit into this category.
- 47,008 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops, for a ranking of 4th in Virginia.
- The county ranks 1st in Virginia for sales of tobacco, with \$18.7 million.
- Pittsylvania County also ranks first in the state for acreage devoted to tobacco, with 6,375.
- The county ranks 4th in Virginia for sales of dairy products, with \$19 million.
- County farms sold \$15.6 million of cattle and calves.
- Pittsylvania County farms ranked 6th in the state for acreage of corn silage, with 4,803.
- The county also ranks 6th in Virginia for its inventory of 50,236 cattle and calves.
- County farms hold an inventory of 60,687 pullets, to rank 8th in Virginia.

Highlights for the State of Virginia (2007)

- 47,383 farms.
- Virginia has 8.1 million acres of farmland.
- Average farm size is 171 acres.
- Total sales of farm commodities totaled \$2.9 billion, a 23% increase over 2002.
- \$858 million of farm sales (30%) came from selling crops.
- \$2.0 billion of farm sales (70%) came from selling livestock and products.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 17,400 farms fit into this category.
- The next most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 15,000 farms.
- Ranks 30th in the nation in farm product sales.
- Ranks 5th in U.S. for sales of tobacco.
- Ranks 6th in nation for inventory of turkeys (6.3 million).
- Ranks 7th in U.S. for sales of horses (\$46.8 million).
- Ranks 9th in nation for aquaculture sales (\$53 million).
- 2,855 Virginia farms earned \$29 million selling products directly to consumers, \$12 million (72%) more than in 2002, when 2,513 farms sold \$17 million of products directly.
- Direct sales account for 1% of all farm commodity sales, more than double the national average of 0.4%.
- Direct food sales from farms account for more sales than the state's xxth-largest crop, xx.
- 311 farms devoted 13,502 acres to organic production. This included 6,907 acres of harvested cropland, 5,042 acres of pastureland, and 6,585 acres on 241 farms undergoing organic conversion.
- 266 of these organic farms sold \$14.6 million of organic products, including \$3.5 million of crops (this may include ornamental and greenhouse crops), \$241,000 of livestock and poultry, and \$10.9 million of products from livestock and poultry (such as milk or eggs).
- 335 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 2,058 state farms produce value-added products.
- 10,883 (23%) farms use conservation methods.

- 11,618 (25%) farms practice rotational management or intensive grazing.
- 392 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

Highlights of Caswell County, North Carolina (2007)

- 562 farms.
- Caswell County has 102,299 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 182 acres.
- \$20.7 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 14% decrease since 2002.
- \$9.3 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$11.4 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 238 farms fit into this category.
- 9,463 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- Caswell County farms sold \$5.4 million of poultry and eggs.
- County farms sold \$4.6 million of cattle and calves.

Highlights of Rockingham County, North Carolina (2007)

- 863 farms.
- Rockingham County has 117,113 acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 136 acres.
- \$31.9 million of farm products sold in 2007, a 12% increase over 2002.
- \$21.5 million of these sales were crops.
- Livestock sales totaled \$10.4 million.
- The most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres. 353 farms fit into this category.
- 13,147 acres of county land were devoted to producing forage crops.
- The county ranks 7th in North Carolina for sales of horses, with \$640,000.
- Rockingham County farms sold \$12.6 million of tobacco.
- County farms sold \$5.4 million of nursery and ornamental plants.

Highlights for the State of North Carolina (2007)

- 52,913 farms.
- North Carolina has 8.4 million acres of farmland.
- Average farm is 160 acres.
- Total sales of farm commodities totaled \$10.3 billion, a 48% increase over 2002.
- North Carolina ranks as the 8th-largest farm state in the U.S. by sales.
- \$2.6 billion of farm sales (25%) came from selling crops.
- \$7.7 billion of farm sales (75%) came from selling livestock and products.
- Ranks 6th in nation for sales of livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 20,000 farms.
- The next most prevalent farm size was 50-179 acres, with 17,000.
- Ranks 1st in the nation for sales of tobacco, with \$549 million.
- Ranks 2nd in U.S. for sales of cattle and calves with \$4.1 billion.
- Ranks 2nd in nation for sales of hogs with \$3.1 billion.
- Ranks 2nd in U.S. for sales of Christmas trees.
- Ranks 2nd in U.S. for inventory of turkeys (17.9 million).
- Ranks 2nd in nation for inventory of hogs (10.1 million).

Highlights of Martinsville / Henry County Region Local Food Economy (Virginia and North Carolina)
Ken Meter, Crossroads Resource Center — January, 2011

- Ranks 4th in U.S. for inventory of pullets (7.1 million).
- Ranks 5th in nation for inventory of broiler chickens (150 million).
- Ranks 5th in U.S. for acres of cotton (526,060).
- Ranks 7th in nation for sales of nursery and ornamental plants (\$573 million).
- Ranks 9th in U.S. for inventory of laying hens (12.3 million).
- 3,712 North Carolina farms earned \$29 million selling products directly to consumers, \$12 million (69%) more than in 2002, when 3,054 farms sold \$17 million of products directly.
- Direct sales account for 0.3% of the commodities sold by North Carolina farmers, just less than the national average of 0.4%.
- Direct food sales from farms account for more sales than the state's xxth-largest crop, xx.
- 418 farms devote 7,711 acres to organic production. This includes 3,021 acres of harvested cropland, 3,377 acres of pastureland, and 7,775 acres on 376 farms undergoing organic conversion.
- 383 of these organic farms sold \$7.3 million of organic products, including \$4.9 million of crops (this may include ornamental and greenhouse crops), \$733,000 of livestock and poultry, and \$1.6 million of products from livestock and poultry (such as milk or eggs).
- 413 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 1,429 state farms produce value-added products.
- 12,540 (24%) farms use conservation methods.
- 9,576 farms practice rotational management or intensive grazing.
- 467 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

Top 25 products sold by Virginia farmers, 2009

(Source: USDA Economic Research Service)

(See chart on next page)

	\$millions
1 Broilers	550
2 Cattle and calves	288
3 Dairy products	264
4 Nursery & Ornamentals	261
5 Turkeys	215
6 Soybeans	184
7 Corn	118
8 Tobacco	81
9 Wheat	70
10 Chicken eggs	69
11 Tomatoes	63
12 Hay	55
13 Hogs	50
14 Cotton	34
15 Apples	30
16 Potatoes	24
17 Grapes	13
18 Peanuts	11
19 Barley	10
20 Peaches	6
21 Sheep and lambs	4
22 Corn, sweet	3
23 Farm chickens	2

Note: aquaculture and snap beans are also listed as among the top 25 farm products in Virginia, but sales figures were suppressed by USDA to protect confidentiality.

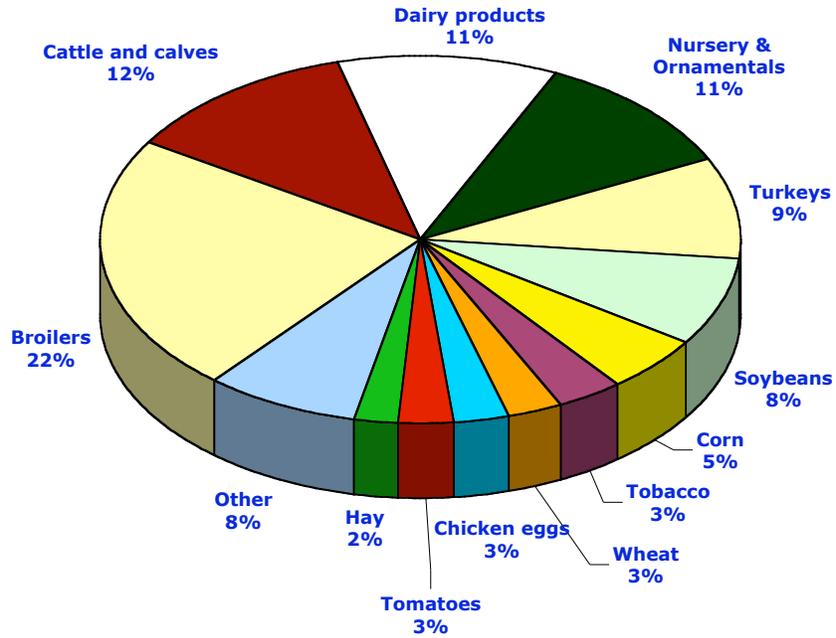
Note also that if direct sales from farmers to consumers counted as a single commodity, these \$29 million of sales would count as the 16th largest product of Virginia farms, just less than apples.

Top products sold by Virginia farmers, 2009

(Source: USDA Economic Research Service)

(See table on previous page)

Top farm products of Virginia, 2009



Top 25 products sold by North Carolina farmers, 2009

(Source: USDA Economic Research Service)

(See chart on next page)

	\$ millions
1 Broilers	2,430
2 Hogs	1,878
3 Nursery / Ornamentals	813
4 Tobacco	746
5 Soybeans	557
6 Turkeys	523
7 Chicken eggs	349
8 Corn	328
9 Cattle and calves	214
10 Cotton	213
11 Sweet potatoes	176
12 Wheat	163
13 Dairy products	133
14 Peanuts	67
15 Hay	52
16 Blueberries	51
17 Potatoes	35
18 Tomatoes	35
19 Aquaculture	29
20 Cucumbers	25
21 Strawberries	20
22 Cabbage	17
23 Apples	16
24 Watermelons	15
25 Corn, sweet	15

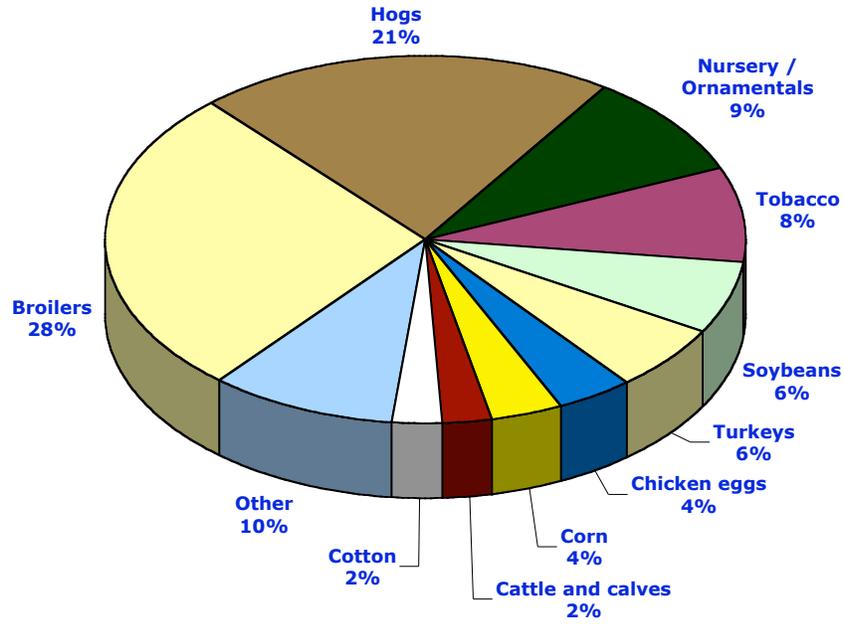
Note that if direct sales from farmers to consumers counted as a single commodity, these \$29 million of sales would count as the 19th largest product of North Carolina farms, along with aquaculture.

Top products sold by North Carolina farmers, 2009

(Source: USDA Economic Research Service)

(See table on previous page)

Top farm products in North Carolina, 2009



Balance of Cash Receipts and Production Costs (BEA):

Martinsville / Henry County Region ranchers and farmers sell \$293 million of food commodities per year (1999-2008 average), spending \$328 million to raise them, for an average loss of \$35 million each year. In fact, 1997 was the last year in which the region's farmers earned a surplus by selling commodities. Cash receipts have declined since 1975, primarily due to a loss of crop income. Production expenses increased so much in 2008 that the region's farmers suffered a \$60 million loss in that one year — the worst year for the region in 40 years, while most of U.S. agriculture was having its best year since 1974.

60% of the region's farms and ranches reported a net loss to the Census of Agriculture in 2007. The region's farmers and ranchers earned \$156 million less by selling commodities in 2008 than they earned in 1969 (in 2008 dollars).

Farmers and ranchers earn another \$52 million per year of farm-related income — primarily custom work, and rental income (ten-year average for 1999-2008). Federal farm support payments are relatively small, averaging \$12 million per year for the entire region for the years 1999-2008. This, of course, is not enough to compensate growers for the losses farmers suffer in production, and only aids those farms raising commodity crops.

The region's consumers:

Martinsville / Henry County Region consumers spend \$1 billion buying food each year, including \$577 million for home use. Most of this food is produced outside the region. Only \$2.6 million of food products (0.8% of farm cash receipts and 0.3% of the region's consumer market) are sold by farmers directly to consumers.

Estimated change in net assets for all region households combined was a loss of \$176 million in 2008 alone (BLS).

Farm and food economy summary:

Farmers lose \$35 million each year producing food commodities, while spending \$140 million buying inputs from external suppliers, for a total loss of \$175 million to the region.

Meanwhile, consumers spend at least \$900 million buying food from outside. Thus, total loss to the region is \$1.17 billion of potential wealth *each year*. This loss amounts to more than four times the value of all food commodities raised in the region.

Estimated Household markets for food

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey (2008).

Martinsville / Henry County Region: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 139
Fruits & vegetables	96
Cereals and bakery products	78
Dairy products	65
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	199

If Martinsville region consumers purchased 15% of their food directly from the region’s farmers, this would create \$90 million of farm income in the region.

Roanoke Metro Area: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 31.6
Fruits & vegetables	21.7
Cereals and bakery products	17.7
Dairy products	14.7
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	45.3

Roanoke residents spend \$229 million each year buying food, including \$131 million to eat at home.

Charlottesville Metro Area: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 45.8
Fruits & vegetables	31.5
Cereals and bakery products	25.7
Dairy products	21.3
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	65.6

Charlottesville residents spend \$332 million each year buying food, including \$190 million to eat at home.

Winston-Salem Metro Area: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 162
Fruits & vegetables	111
Cereals and bakery products	91
Dairy products	75
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	232

Winston-Salem residents spend \$1.1 billion each year buying food, including \$671 million to eat at home.

Raleigh-Durham Metro Area: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 571
Fruits & vegetables	393
Cereals and bakery products	320
Dairy products	266
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	817

Raleigh-Durham residents spend \$4.1 billion each year buying food, including \$2.4 billion to eat at home.

State of Virginia: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 2,629
Fruits & vegetables	1,808
Cereals and bakery products	1,472
Dairy products	1,222
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	3,764

Virginia residents spend \$19 billion each year buying food, including \$11 billion to eat at home.

State of North Carolina: markets for food eaten at home (2008):

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 3,118
Fruits & vegetables	2,145
Cereals and bakery products	1,746
Dairy products	1,450
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	4,464

North Carolina residents spend \$22 billion each year buying food, including \$13 billion to eat at home.

Key data sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis data on farm production balance

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/>

Food consumption estimates from Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>

U.S. Census of Agriculture

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/>

USDA/Economic Research Service food consumption data:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/foodconsumption/>

USDA/ Economic Research Service farm income data:

<http://ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmIncome/finfidmu.htm>

Centers for Disease Control: Behavior Risk Factors Surveillance System

BRFSS <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss-smart/>

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Big Cities Health Inventory <http://www.naccho.org/>

For more information:

To see results from *Finding Food in Farm Country* studies in other counties of the U.S.

<http://www.crcworks.org/?submit=rural>

To read the original *Finding Food in Farm Country* study from Southeast Minnesota (written by Ken Meter and Jon Rosales for the Community Design Center and the Southeast Minnesota Experiment in Rural Cooperation): <http://www.crcworks.org/ff.pdf>

To view a PowerPoint presented in March, 2008, by Ken Meter at Rep. Collin Peterson's (D-MN) Minnesota agricultural forum, called the "Home Grown Economy":

<http://www.crcworks.org/crcppts/petersonKM08.pdf>

To link to further analysis of farm and food economies in the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/?submit=farm>

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