

# Crossroads Resource Center

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## ***Tools for Community Self-determination***

### **Mississippi Delta Local Farm & Food Economy**

*Highlights of a data compilation*  
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for

### **Delta Fresh Food Initiative**

January 31, 2012

*Covers Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, Desoto, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Warren, Washington, & Yazoo Counties in Mississippi.*

### **Mississippi Delta (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2008)**

558,822 residents receive \$16 billion of income annually. Personal income increased 227% from 1969 – 2009, after dollars were adjusted for inflation. The largest source of personal income is transfer payments (from government programs such as pensions), which account for \$4.2 billion of personal income [see below]. Government jobs rank second, with \$2.2 billion. Private sources of income (such as manufacturing, retail or service jobs) tend not to be reported due to confidentiality concerns, so accurate totals for each category are not available for the Delta.

Income earned from transfer payments includes \$1.8 billion of medical benefits; \$1.2 billion of retirement and disability insurance benefits; \$750 million of income maintenance benefits; \$125 million of unemployment insurance; and \$70 million of veteran's benefits.

Government income includes \$1.6 billion earned by state and local government staff and \$422 million of income earned by federal workers. Military personnel earn \$173 million of personal income.

Although population has increased 11% since 1969, there has been only limited public planning to assure a secure and stable food supply.

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<sup>1</sup> Nick Wojciak contributed substantial research to this compilation.

**Issues affecting low-income residents of [region]:**

Over 252,000 residents (47%) 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 \$511 million each year buying food, including \$127 million of SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) and additional WIC coupons. The region's 7,036 farmers receive an annual combined total of \$371 million in subsidies (21-year averages, 1989-2009), mostly to raise crops such as corn, soybeans, rice, or cotton that are sold as commodities, not to feed Delta residents. *Data from Federal Census of 2000, Bureau of Labor Statistics, & Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

14% percent of the region's households (over 73,000 residents) earn less than \$10,000 per year. *Source: Federal Census American Community Survey, 2005-2009.*

26% of all adults aged 18-64 in Mississippi carry no health insurance. This is well above the national average of 18%. *Source: Centers for Disease Control, 2010.*

**Food-related health conditions:**

17% of Mississippi residents reported in 2009 that they eat five or more servings of fruit or vegetables each day. 83% do not. This is a key indicator of health, since proper fruit and vegetable consumption has been connected to better health outcomes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

38% of Mississippi adults reported in 2009 they have at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes three or more days per week. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

12% of Mississippi residents have been diagnosed with diabetes. *Source: Centers for Disease Control, 2010.* Medical costs for treating diabetes and related conditions in the Delta are estimated at \$323 million per year. Costs for the state of Mississippi as a whole total \$1.7 billion. *Source: American Diabetes Association cost calculator.*

68% of Mississippi residents are overweight (34%) or obese (34%). *Source: Centers for Disease Control, 2010.*

**The region's farms (Agricultural Census, 2007)**  
*Agricultural Census data for 2007 were released February 4, 2009*

*The Census of Agriculture defines a "farm" as "an operation that produces, or would normally produce and sell, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products per year."*

*Land:*

- 7,036 farms. This is 17% of Mississippi farms.
- The Mississippi Delta region had 3% more farms in 2007 than in 2002. Some of this may be due to census takers making better contact with small farms.
- 1,222 (17%) of these are 1,000 acres or more in size.
- 1,507 (21%) farms are less than 50 acres.
- Average farm size is 632 acres, significantly more than the state average of 273 acres.
- The region has 4.4 million acres of land in farms.
- This amounts to 39% of the state's farmland.
- Mississippi Delta region holds 2.9 million acres of harvested cropland.
- 1.3 million of these acres are irrigated.
- Average value of land and buildings per farm was \$1.1 million. This was more than the 2007 state average of \$510,000.

*Sales:*

*With the exception of foods sold directly to consumers (see below), farmers typically sell commodities to wholesalers, brokers or manufacturers that require further processing or handling to become consumer items. The word "commodities" is used in this report to mean the crops and livestock sold by farmers through these wholesale channels. The term "products" encompasses commodity sales, direct sales, and any other sales.*

- The region's farmers sold \$1.5 billion of crops and livestock in 2007.
- Farm product sales increased by 55% from 2002 to 2007.
- Over \$1.2 billion of crops were sold (at least 80% of sales). *Note that data for crop sales in Tunica County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total and percentage are incomplete.*
- More than \$224 million of livestock and products were sold (at least 15% of sales). *Note that data for livestock sales in Tunica County were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total and percentage are incomplete.*
- 4,235 (60%) of the region's farms sold less than \$10,000 of products in 2007.
- Total sales from these small farms were at least \$5.6 million. *Note that data for small farms sales in Coahoma, Leflore, Sharkey, and Tunica counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 1,543 (22%) of the region's farms sold more than \$100,000 of products.
- Total sales from these larger farms were \$1.47 billion, 98% of the region's farm product sales.
- 47% of the region's farms (3,306 of 7,036) reported net losses in 2007. This is less than the Mississippi average of 58%.
- 4,421 (63%) of Mississippi Delta region's farmers collected a combined total of \$150 million of federal subsidies in 2007.

### Top farm products of the Mississippi Delta (2007).

Note: \*\* denotes some sales data has been suppressed.

The data listed below covers 92% of what was produced by the region's farmers in 2007.

Product	\$ millions
Corn	353
Soybeans	350
Cotton and cottonseed**	281
Aquaculture**	173
Rice**	133
Wheat**	62
Cattle and calves**	30
Sorghum**	28

#### Production Expenses:

- Land and building rental was the largest single expense for Mississippi Delta region farms in 2007, totaling \$190 million (13% of production expenses).
- Chemicals purchased were the second most important expense, at \$183 million (13% of production expenses).
- Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners cost farmers \$167 million (12%).
- Seed purchases totaled \$131 million (9%).
- Gasoline, fuels, and oil costs totaled \$120 million (8%).
- Hired farm labor cost farmers \$118 million (8%).
- Supplies, repairs, and maintenance cost farmers \$110 million (8%).
- Farmers charged \$100 million to depreciation (7%).

#### Cattle & Dairy:

- 1,618 farms hold an inventory of 100,000 cattle.
- At least 58,000 cattle were sold by farmers in 2007 for total sales of over \$30 million. *Note that data for number of cattle sold in Quitman and Tunica counties and data for sales of cattle in Bolivar, Carroll, Issaquena, Quitman, Sunflower, and Tunica counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 1,469 farms raise beef cows.
- 3 farms raise milk cows.
- 13 farms produced corn for silage. *Note that data for tons and acreage of corn for silage are not reported due to suppression.*
- 1,282 farms produced 170,000 tons of forage crops (hay, etc.) on 84,000 acres.
- 565 farms sold at least \$4.6 million of forage. *Note that data for forage sales in Bolivar, Coahoma, Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Tunica, Warren, & Yazoo counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

#### Other Livestock & Animal Products:

- 96 farms raise hogs and pigs. *Note that inventory numbers are not included due to data suppression.*
- 69 farms sold hogs and pigs in 2007. *Note that data for number of hogs and pigs sold are not included due to suppression.*

- 47 farms held an inventory of 629 sheep and lambs. *Note that data for inventory of sheep and lambs in Carroll, Humphrey, Leflore, Tallahatchie, and Yazoo counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 121 farms sold over \$147,000 worth of sheep, goats, and lambs in 2007. *Note that data for sales of sheep, goats, and lambs in Bolivar, Coahoma, and Humphreys counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 189 farms held an inventory of more than 5,479 laying hens. *Note that data for inventory of laying hens in Coahoma, and Sunflower counties is suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 6 farms raise broiler chickens.
- 174 farms engage in aquaculture.
- 192 farms raise horses and ponies.

*Grains, Oil Seeds, & Edible Beans:*

- 2,173 farms produced \$945 million of grains, oil seeds, and edible beans and peas.
- This includes 936 farms producing 104 million bushels of corn on 647,000 acres, worth \$353 million.
- This amounts to an average price per bushel of corn of \$3.39. *Note that this price is an annual average for the year, and does not necessarily represent the actual price at which corn was sold.*
- 1,797 farms produced 47 million bushels of soybeans on 1.2 million acres, worth \$350 million.
- This amounts to an average price per bushel of soybeans of \$7.45. *Note that this price is an annual average for the year, and does not necessarily represent the actual price at which soybeans were sold.*
- The total value of corn and soybeans sold amounted to 46% of the region's farm product sales in 2007.
- 790 farms produced 16 million bushels of wheat on 288,000 acres, worth \$62 million.
- This amounts to an average price per bushel of wheat of \$3.88. *Note that this price is an annual average for the year, and does not necessarily represent the actual price at which wheat was sold.*

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

- 122 farms produce vegetables. *Note that data for acreage of vegetables are not included due to data suppression.*
- 12 farms raise potatoes.

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

- 176 farms in the region held at least 5,383 acres of orchards. *Note that data for acreage of orchards in Tunica and Yazoo counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 145 farms sold at least \$4.6 million of fruits, nuts, and berries. *Note that data for sales of fruits, nuts, and berries in 10 of 18 counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*

*Nursery & Greenhouse Plants:*

- 40 farms sold at least \$2.7 million worth of ornamentals in 2007. *Note that data for sales of ornamentals in 9 of 18 counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- This represents a decrease of 11% in the number of farms (from 45) since 2002.
- 12 farms sold Christmas trees.

*Direct & Organic Sales:*

- 152 farms sold at least \$524,000 of food products directly to consumers. This is a 24% increase of number of farms (123 in 2002) selling direct over 2002. *Note that data for 2007 direct sales in Leflore, Sharkey, & Washington counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- This amounts to at least 0.03% of farm product sales, considerably less than the national average of 0.4%. *Note that data for 2007 direct sales in Leflore, Sharkey, & Washington counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this percentage is incomplete.*
- Tallahatchie County leads the region in direct sales, with \$94,000. Sunflower County is a close second, with \$89,000. *Note that these rankings are subject to the fact that data for direct sales were suppressed in Leflore, Sharkey & Washington counties.*
- 14 farms in the region sold organic products — one quarter of the farms in the state of Mississippi that sell organic food products. 7 farms in Washington County sold \$14,000 of organic products, amounting to 3% of Mississippi's organic sales. *Note that organic sales figures were either suppressed in other counties, or other counties had no organic sales.*
- For comparison, 54 farms in Mississippi sold \$539,000 of organic food products.
- 41 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 122 farms produce and sell value-added products.

*Conservation Practices:*

- 1,374 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 500 farms practice rotational or management intensive grazing.
- 52 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

*Other Crops:*

- 607 farms produced 1.1 million bales of cotton on 531,000 acres worth at least \$281 million. *Note that data for sales of cotton in Issaquena and Tunica counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so this total is incomplete.*
- 339 farms produced at least 1.3 billion pounds of rice on more than 182,000 acres, worth over \$133 million. *Note that data for acreage of rice, weight of rice produced, and rice sales in Carroll, Holmes, Issaquena, Sharkey, and Yazoo counties were suppressed by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these totals are incomplete.*
- 18 farms produced peanuts in 2007. 10 farms in Panola, Washington, and Yazoo counties produced 7.5 million pounds of peanuts on 2,216 acres. *Note that data was either suppressed for production of peanuts in other counties, or other counties did not produce peanuts. Sales figures for peanuts were not reported by the USDA.*

**Limited-resource farms and others in the Mississippi Delta region  
(Census of Agriculture, 2007)**

*Note: \*\* denotes sales data has been suppressed.*

<b>Small family farms:</b>	<b>Farms</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Limited-resource	890	13%	121,532	3%
Retirement	1,568	22%	397,898	9%
Residential/lifestyle	2,290	33%	531,996	12%
Farming occupation/lower sales	585	8%	165,424	4%
Farming occupation/higher sales	213	3%	**147,337	3%
<b>Large family farms</b>	305	4%	**359,431	8%
<b>Very large family farms</b>	729	10%	2,144,643	48%
<b>Nonfamily farms</b>	456	6%	568,450	13%
Totals	7,036		4,436,711	

*Definition of terms (Agricultural Census 2007):*

**Limited-resource farms** have market value of agricultural products sold gross sales of less than \$100,000, and total principal operator household income of less than \$20,000.

**Retirement farms** have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$250,000, and a principal operator who reports being retired.

**Residential/lifestyle farms** have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$250,000, and a principal operator who reports his/her primary occupation as other than farming.

**Farming occupation/lower-sales farms** have market value of agricultural products sold of less than \$100,000, and a principal operator who reports farming as his/her primary occupation.

**Farming occupation/higher-sales farms** have market value of agricultural products sold of between \$100,000 and \$249,999, and a principal operator who reports farming as his/her primary occupation.

**Large family farms** have market value of agricultural products sold between \$250,000 and \$499,999.

**Very large family farms** have market value of agricultural products sold of \$500,000 or more.

**Nonfamily farms are farms** organized as nonfamily corporations, as well as farms operated by hired manager.

## **County and State Highlights**

### **Bolivar County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 430 farms, 5 less farms than in 2002.
- Bolivar County has 428,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$183 million of products in 2007.
- \$182 million (99%) of these sales were crops.
- \$1 million (1%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 138 farms (32%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres with 86 (20%) farms.
- 99 farms (23%) are less than 50 acres.
- 101 farms (23%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 203 farms (47%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Bolivar County ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi in crop sales.
- The county ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$144 million.
- Bolivar County ranks first in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 176,000.
- The county ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in the state for acreage of wheat, with 58,000.
- Bolivar County ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of rice, with 50,000.
- The county ranks third in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$35 million.
- Bolivar County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state for acreage of cotton, with 57,000.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of corn for grain, with 47,000.
- Bolivar County ranks seventh in the state for sales of agricultural products.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of fruits, tree nuts, and berries, with \$1.6 million.
- 8 farms sold \$57,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an increase of one farm selling direct (7 in 2002), and a 159% increase in direct sales, over 2002 sales of \$22,000.
- Direct sales were 0.03% of farm product sales, significantly less than the national average of 0.4%.

### **Carroll County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 581 farms, a 4% increase over 2002.
- Carroll County has 190,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$19.9 million of products in 2007.
- \$14.1 million (71%) of these sales were crops.
- \$5.7 million (29%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 230 farms (40%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 137 (24%) farms.
- 43 farms (7%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 114 farms (20%) are less than 50 acres.
- 428 farms (74%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 35 farms (6%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- 8 farms sold \$26,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a decrease of six farms selling direct (14 in 2002), and a 55% decrease in direct sales, since 2002 sales of \$58,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**Coahoma County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 261 farms, 6 more farms than in 2002.
- Coahoma County has 303,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$129 million of products in 2007.
- \$120 million (93%) of these sales were crops.
- \$9 million (7%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 91 farms (35%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 54 (21%) farms.
- 51 farms (20%) are less than 50 acres.
- 91 farms (35%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 113 farms (43%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Coahoma County ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$48 million.
- The county ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of cotton, with 81,000.
- Coahoma County ranks third in the state for acreage of wheat, with 30,000.
- The county ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the state for crop sales.
- Coahoma County ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$70 million.
- The county ranks fifth in Mississippi for inventory of bee colonies, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*.
- Coahoma County ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 87,000.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of rice, with 12,000.
- Coahoma County ranks eighth in Mississippi for aquaculture sales, with \$8.2 million.
- The county ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grain, with 40,000.
- Coahoma County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state for sales of fruits, tree nuts, and berries, with \$1.2 million.
- 6 farms sold \$74,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an increase of three farms selling direct (3 in 2002), and a 3,600% increase in direct sales, over 2002 sales of \$2,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**DeSoto County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 490 farms, 23% less than in 2002.
- DeSoto County has 142,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$30 million of products in 2007.
- \$26 million (87%) of these sales were crops.
- \$4 million (13%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres with 176 farms (36%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 146 (30%) farms.
- 41 farms (8%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 230 farms (47%) are less than 50 acres.
- 371 farms (76%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 41 farms (8%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- DeSoto County ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for inventory of bee colonies, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for inventory of quail, with 12,000.
- DeSoto County ranks tenth in the state for acreage of wheat, with 13,000.

- 28 farms sold \$39,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 24% decrease in the number of farms selling direct (37 in 2002), and a 29% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$55,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**Holmes County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 556 farms, an 8% increase over 2002.
- Holmes County has 228,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$48 million of products in 2007.
- \$45 million (94%) of these sales were crops.
- \$3 million (6%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 192 farms (35%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 147 (26%) farms.
- 54 farms (10%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 121 farms (22%) are less than 50 acres.
- 431 farms (78%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 52 farms (9%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Holmes County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grain, with 35,000.
- The county ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$16 million.
- Holmes County ranks tenth in the state for acreage of cotton, with 27,000.
- 7 farms sold \$4,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a three-farm increase in farms selling direct (4 in 2002), and a 20% decrease in direct sales, from 2002 sales of \$5,000.
- Direct sales were 0.01% of farm product sales, significantly less than the national average of 0.4%.

**Humphreys County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 213 farms, 26% less than in 2002.
- Humphreys County has 195,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$101.1 million of products in 2007.
- \$62.2 million (62%) of these sales were crops.
- \$38.9 million (38%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 64 farms (30%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 40 (19%) farms.
- 46 farms (22%) are less than 50 acres.
- 58 farms (27%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 101 farms (47%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Humphreys County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mississippi and 5<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. for aquaculture sales, with \$39 million.
- The county ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of vegetables, with \$3.3 million.
- Humphreys County ranks eighth in the state for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$19 million.
- The county ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of cotton, with 35,000.
- Humphreys County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of soybeans, with 60,000.
- The county ranks ninth in Mississippi for acreage of wheat, with 14,000.
- Humphreys County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state for crop sales.
- The county ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of rice, with 4,520.

- 4 farms sold \$1,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a three-farm increase in farms selling direct (1 in 2002) (*Sales data were not reported for Humphreys County in 2002*).
- Direct sales were 0.001% of farm product sales, significantly less the national average of 0.4%.

**Issaquena County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 104 farms, 13 more farms than in 2002.
- Issaquena County has 121,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$30.3 million of products in 2007.
- \$29.6 million (98%) of these sales were crops.
- \$700,000 (2%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 31 farms (30%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 22 (21%) farms.
- 22 farms (21%) are less than 50 acres.
- 50 farms (48%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 36 farms (35%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Corn, soybeans, and cotton were the major crops produced in Issaquena County, *but sales data for each of these products were suppressed by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*.
- No farms reported selling food directly to consumers in either 2007 or 2002.

**Leflore County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 296 farms, a nine-farm increase over 2002.
- Leflore County has 315,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$162 million of products in 2007.
- \$114 million (71%) of these sales were crops.
- \$48 million (29%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 92 farms (31%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 71 (24%) farms.
- 26 farms (9%) are less than 50 acres.
- 117 farms (40%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 122 farms (41%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Leflore County ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$37 million.
- The county ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U.S. for aquaculture sales, with \$47 million.
- Leflore County ranks second in the state for acreage of cotton, with 64,000.
- The county ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$77 million.
- Leflore County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grain, with 60,000.
- The county ranks fifth in Mississippi for crop sales.
- Leflore County ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 87,000.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of rice, with 10,000.
- Leflore County ranks tenth in Mississippi for sales of agricultural products.
- One farm sold food directly to consumers, the same as in 2002. *Note that direct sales figures for 2002 and 2007 were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

**Panola County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 767 farms, a 6% increase over 2002.
- Panola County has 270,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$42.7 million of products in 2007.
- \$31.3 million (73%) of these sales were crops.
- \$11.4 million (27%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 307 farms (40%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 213 (28%) farms.
- 62 farms (8%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 125 farms (16%) are less than 50 acres.
- 607 farms (79%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 48 farms (6%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Panola County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mississippi for sales of cattle and calves, with \$11 million.
- The county ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of wheat, with 14,000.
- 13 farms sold \$35,000 of food directly to consumers. There was no change in the number of farms since 2002, and a 22% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$45,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**Quitman County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 349 farms, 44% more than in 2002.
- Quitman County has 220,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$52 million of products in 2007.
- \$50 million (96%) of these sales were crops.
- \$2 million (4%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 116 farms (33%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 72 (21%) farms.
- 67 farms (19%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 50 farms (14%) are less than 50 acres.
- 216 farms (62%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 82 farms (23%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Quitman County ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of sorghum, with 18,000.
- The county ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of rice, with 12,000.
- Quitman County ranks sixth in the state for inventory of bee colonies, but *inventory figures were not reported by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of wheat, with 18,000.
- Quitman County ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of soybeans, with 73,000.
- The county ranks tenth in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$42 million.
- No farms sold directly to consumers in 2007. This is a decrease of three farms selling direct (3 in 2002), and a \$1,000 decrease in direct sales from 2002.

**Sharkey County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 114 farms, 13 more farms than in 2002.
- Sharkey County has 180,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$74 million of products in 2007.
- \$70 million (95%) of these sales were crops.

- \$4 million (5%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 51 farms (45%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 18 (16%) farms.
- 13 farms (11%) are less than 50 acres.
- 43 farms (38%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 59 farms (52%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Sharkey County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of peanuts, but *acreage figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed with \$21 million.
- Sharkey County ranks fifth in the state for acreage of corn for grain, with 52,000.
- The county ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the state for crop sales.
- Sharkey County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$47 million.
- The county ranks ninth in Mississippi for acreage of cotton, with 27,000.
- Sharkey County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 56,000.
- 2 farms sold food directly to consumers. This is an increase of 2 farms selling direct (none in 2002). *Note that 2007 direct sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

#### **Sunflower County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 370 farms, an 8% increase over 2002.
- Sunflower County has 378,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$190 million of products in 2007.
- \$141 million (74%) of these sales were crops.
- \$49 million (26%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 106 farms (29%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 92 (25%) farms.
- 66 farms (18%) are less than 50 acres.
- 125 farms (34%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 166 farms (45%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi, and 1<sup>st</sup> in the U.S., for aquaculture sales, with \$48 million.
- The county ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of sorghum, with 33,000.
- Sunflower County ranks second in the state for crop sales.
- The county ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state for sales of gains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$118 million.
- Sunflower County ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of rice, with 32,000.
- The county ranks third in the Mississippi for acreage of soybeans, with 125,000.
- Sunflower County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state for acreage of corn for grain, with 66,000.
- The county ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the state for sales of vegetables, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Sunflower County ranks fifth in Mississippi for sales of agricultural products.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of cotton, with 36,000.
- Sunflower County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the state for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$18 million.
- 9 farms sold \$89,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a six-farm increase in farms selling direct (3 in 2002). *Note that 2002 direct sales figures were not released by that USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Direct sales were 0.05% of farm product sales, one-eighth the national average of 0.4%.

**Tallahatchie County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 488 farms, 17% more than in 2002.
- Tallahatchie County has 316,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$81.5 million of products in 2007.
- \$79.9 million (98%) of these sales were crops.
- \$1.6 million (2%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 171 farms (35%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 118 (24%) farms.
- 78 farms (16%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 71 farms (15%) are less than 50 acres.
- 308 farms (63%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 91 farms (19%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Tallahatchie County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of soybeans, with 105,000.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for crop sales.
- Tallahatchie County ranks sixth in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$68 million.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of wheat, with 23,000.
- Tallahatchie County ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grain, with 44,000.
- The county ranks seventh in Mississippi for inventory of bee colonies, but *inventory figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Tallahatchie County ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of rice, with 8,619.
- 13 farms sold \$94,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an 11-farm increase in farms selling direct (2 in 2002). *Note that 2002 direct sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**Tate County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 622 farms, a 6% decrease since 2002.
- Tate County has 157,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$30 million of products in 2007.
- \$19 million (63%) of these sales were crops.
- \$11 million (37%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 224 farms (36%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres with 148 (24%) farms.
- 27 farms (4%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 185 farms (30%) are less than 50 acres.
- 447 farms (72%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 46 farms (7%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Tate County ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of ornamentals, with \$2.2 million.
- The county ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of sheep, goats, and their products, with \$77,000.
- Tate County ranks seventh in the state for sales of cattle and calves, with \$9 million.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the state for inventory of cattle and calves, with 23,000.
- Tate County ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the state for milk sales, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

- 21 farms sold \$20,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a 62% increase in the number of farms selling direct (13 in 2002), and an 83% decrease in direct sales from 2002 sales of \$121,000.
- Direct sales were 0.1% of farm product sales, one quarter the national average of 0.4%.

**Tunica County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 103 farms, a 5 farm increase over 2002.
- Tunica County has 201,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$79 million of products in 2007.
- Soybeans, cotton, wheat, rice, and corn were the primary crops sold by Tunica county farms, and cattle were the primary livestock, but *crop and livestock sales for Tunica County were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 48 farms (47%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 21 (20%) farms.
- 5 farms (5%) are less than 50 acres.
- 34 farms (33%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 60 farms (58%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Tunica County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of rice, with 21,000.
- The county ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of wheat, with 23,000.
- Tunica County ranks sixth in the state for sales of cotton and cottonseed, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.* Tunica County has 20 cotton farms.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of soybeans, with 76,000.
- Tunica County ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of cotton, with 35,000.
- The county ranks eighth in Mississippi for crop sales.
- Tunica County ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the state for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$50,000.
- The county ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in the state for aquaculture sales, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- No farms sold food directly to consumers in either 2007 or 2002.

**Warren County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 278 farms, a three-farm decrease since 2002.
- Warren County has 112,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$14.5 million of products in 2007.
- \$13.1 million (90%) of these sales were crops.
- \$1.4 million (10%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 10 to 49 acres with 86 farms (31%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 73 (26%) farms.
- 33 farms (12%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 94 farms (34%) are less than 50 acres.
- 207 farms (74%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 27 farms (10%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- 14 farms sold \$40,000 of food directly to consumers. This is an 8 farm increase farms selling direct (6 in 2002), and a 21% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$33,000.
- Direct sales were 0.3% of farm product sales, more than half the national average of 0.4%.

**Washington County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 346 farms, an increase of 13 farms over 2002.
- Washington County has 333,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$159 million of products in 2007.
- \$140 million (88%) of these sales were crops.
- \$19 million (12%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 1,000 acres or more with 112 farms (32%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 50 to 179 acres with 68 (20%) farms.
- 74 farms (21%) are less than 50 acres.
- 115 farms (33%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 161 farms (47%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Washington County ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of soybeans, with 131,000.
- The county ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grains, with 75,000.
- Washington County ranks second in the state for acreage of wheat, with 32,000.
- The county ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state for crop sales.
- Washington County ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$117 million.
- The county ranks third in Mississippi for acreage of rice, with 23,000.
- Washington County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the state for acreage of cotton, with 41,000.
- The county ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the state for aquaculture sales, with \$18 million.
- Washington County ranks seventh in Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$21 million.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of Christmas trees, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- 13 farms sold food directly to consumers. This is an increase of six farms selling direct (7 in 2002). *Note that 2002 and 2007 direct sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

**Yazoo County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 668 farms, 18% more than in 2002.
- Yazoo County has 356,000 acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$93 million of products in 2007.
- \$79 million (85%) of these sales were crops.
- \$14 million (15%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 227 farms (34%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 180 to 499 acres with 170 (25%) farms.
- 84 farms (13%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 115 farms (17%) are less than 50 acres.
- 486 farms (73%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 100 farms (15%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Yazoo County ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for sales of Christmas trees, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississippi for acreage of corn for grain, with 84,000.
- Yazoo County ranks second in the state for sales of forage crops, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- The county ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state for inventory of bee colonies, but *inventory numbers were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

- Yazoo County ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the Mississippi for sales of cotton and cottonseed, with \$23 million.
- The county ranks fifth in Mississippi for acreage of cotton, with 41,000.
- Yazoo County ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the state for aquaculture sales, with \$10 million.
- The county ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the state for crop sales.
- Yazoo County ranks seventh in Mississippi for sales of grains, oilseeds, and dry beans and peas, with \$51 million.
- The County ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in Mississippi for sales of vegetables, but *sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- 5 farms sold \$45,000 of food directly to consumers. This is a decrease of four farms selling direct (9 in 2002), and a 400% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$9,000.
- Direct sales were 0.05% of farm product sales, one-eighth the national average of 0.4%.

**State of Mississippi highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 41,959 farms, a 1% decrease since 2002.
- Mississippi has 11 million acres of land in farms.
- Farmers sold \$4.88 billion of products in 2007.
- \$1.67 billion (34%) of these sales were crops.
- \$3.21 billion (66%) of these sales were livestock.
- The most prevalent farm size is 50 to 179 acres with 16,519 farms (39%) in this category.
- The next most prevalent is 10 to 49 acres with 10,234 (24%) farms.
- 2,244 farms (5%) are 1,000 acres or more.
- 12,290 farms (29%) are less than 50 acres.
- 29,893 farms (71%) sold less than \$10,000 in farm products.
- 4,546 farms (11%) sold more than \$100,000 in farm products.
- Mississippi ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in the U.S. for aquaculture sales, with \$238 million.
- The state ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. for acreage of cotton, with 656,000.
- Mississippi ranks fourth in the country for inventory of broilers, with 151 million.
- The state ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the country for cotton and cottonseed sales, with \$363 million.
- Mississippi ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. for sales of poultry and eggs, with \$2.4 billion
- The state ranks eighth in the U.S. for sales of Christmas trees, with \$8 million.
- 1,229 farms sold \$9.7 million of food directly to consumers. This is a slight increase in the number of farms selling direct (1,192 in 2002), and a 29% increase in direct sales over 2002 sales of \$7,506.
- Direct sales were 0.2% of farm product sales, one half of the national average of 0.4%.
- If direct food sales made up a single commodity, the value of these sales would outrank the state's 16<sup>th</sup>-most important product, blueberries.
- Statewide vegetable sales totaled \$82 million.
- 83 farms farm organically, with a total of 462 acres of harvested cropland, and 1,386 acres of pastureland.
- 1,892 acres on 97 farms are undergoing organic conversion. This may increase organic acreage as much as 83% within the next three years.
- 54 farms in Mississippi sold \$539,000 of organic food products, \$30,000 of livestock and poultry. *Crop sales and livestock and poultry product (such as milk and eggs) sales figures were not released by the USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality.*
- 191 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 1,163 farms produce value-added products.
- 4,606 farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 5,632 farms practice rotational management of intensive grazing.
- 243 farms generate energy or electricity on the farms.

**Mississippi's top farm products in 2009 (Economic Research Service)**

*See chart on next page.*

	<b>\$ millions</b>
1 Broilers	2,297
2 Soybeans	774
3 Corn	368
4 Cotton	226
5 Aquaculture	224
6 Rice	215
7 Cattle and calves	188
8 Chicken eggs	180
9 Hogs	80
10 Sweet potatoes	57
11 Dairy products	41
12 Greenhouse/nursery	38
13 Hay	24
14 Wheat	23
15 Peanuts	11
16 Blueberries	9
17 Farm chickens	5
18 Watermelons	5
19 Pecans	3
20 Sorghum grain	3
21 Honey	2

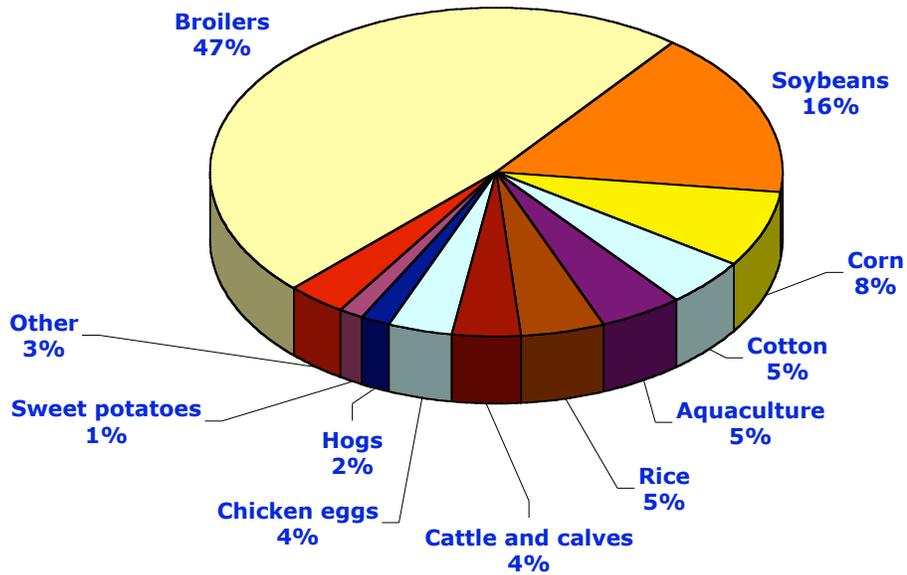
*Note: wool and turkeys were also listed among Mississippi's top 25 products, but sales figures for these products were not released by ERS, in an effort to protect confidentiality.*

Note also that at \$9.7 million, direct sales from farmers to consumers amounted to more than the value of the 16<sup>th</sup>-ranking product, blueberries.

**Mississippi's top farm products in 2009 (Economic Research Service)**

*See table on previous page*

**Top Farm Products in Mississippi, 2009**



*Source: USDA Economic Research Service*

**Balance of Cash Receipts and Production Costs (BEA):**

Mississippi Delta farmers sell \$1.62 billion of food commodities per year (1989-2009 average), spending \$1.75 billion to raise them, for an average loss of \$130 million each year. *Note that these sales figures compiled by the BEA may differ from cash receipts recorded by the USDA Agriculture Census (above).*

Overall, farm producers have spent \$2.7 billion more producing crops and livestock than they have earned by selling these commodities from 1989 to 2009. Farm production costs exceeded cash receipts for 15 years of that 21-year period. Moreover, 47% of the region's farms and ranches reported a net loss in 2007 (Ag Census). Mississippi Delta farmers and ranchers earned \$163 million less by selling farm products in 2009 than they earned in 1969 (in 2009 dollars).

Farmers and ranchers earn another \$133 million per year of farm-related income — primarily custom work, and rental income (21-year average for 1989-2009). Federal farm support payments are an important source of revenue, averaging \$371 million per year for the entire region for the same years — of course this only helps those farmers who grow specific commodities that are supported.

**The region's consumers:**

*See also information covering low-income food consumption and food-related health conditions, page 1-2 above.*

Mississippi Delta consumers spend \$1.3 billion buying food each year, including \$778 million for home use. An estimated \$1.2 billion of this food is sourced outside the region. Only \$524,000 of food products (0.03% of farm cash receipts and 0.04% of the Delta consumer market) are sold by farmers directly to consumers.

Estimated change in net assets (that is, assets minus liabilities) for all region households combined was a loss of \$764 million in 2008 alone (BLS). This places additional pressure on Delta consumers trying to buy food.

**Farm and food economy summary:**

Farmers lose \$130 million each year producing food commodities, and spend \$900 million buying inputs sourced outside of the region, for a total loss of \$1 billion to the region. Those farmers who have access to commodity programs receive \$371 million per year in federal supports, but this still represents a net loss of \$ 630 million for the Delta region.

Meanwhile, consumers spend \$1.2 billion buying food from outside. Thus, total loss to the region is \$1.8 billion of potential wealth *each year*. This loss amounts to more than the value of all food commodities raised in the region.

## **Consumer Markets for Food**

### **Mississippi Delta: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Delta residents purchase \$1.3 billion of food each year, including \$778 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 185
Fruits & vegetables	130
Cereals and bakery products	105
Dairy products	82
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	276

If Mississippi Delta residents purchased 15% of their food for home use directly from Delta farmers, this would generate \$117 million of new farm income for the Delta.

### **Greenville: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Greenville residents purchase \$130 million of food each year, including \$76 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 18
Fruits & vegetables	13
Cereals and bakery products	10
Dairy products	8
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	27

### **Vicksburg: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Vicksburg residents purchase \$114 million of food each year, including \$67 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 16
Fruits & vegetables	11
Cereals and bakery products	9
Dairy products	7
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	24

**Metro Jackson: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Metro Jackson residents purchase \$4 billion of food each year, including \$2.4 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 561
Fruits & vegetables	393
Cereals and bakery products	317
Dairy products	248
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	836

**Metro Memphis: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Metro Memphis residents purchase \$4.8 billion of food each year, including \$2.8 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 669
Fruits & vegetables	469
Cereals and bakery products	378
Dairy products	296
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	996

**State of Mississippi: markets for food eaten at home (2009):**

Mississippi residents purchase \$7 billion of food each year, including \$4 billion to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 979
Fruits & vegetables	686
Cereals and bakery products	554
Dairy products	433
“Other,” incl. Sweets, fats, & oils	1,458

**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>

**For more information:**

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

<http://www.crcworks.org/locales.html>

To read the original *Finding Food in Farm Country* study from Southeast Minnesota (written for the 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 get a brief list of essential food facts, many of which are cited in the presentation above,

<http://www.crcworks.org/foodmarkets.pdf>

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

<http://www.crcworks.org/econ.html>

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