

Agriculture Works for Arkansas

Ashley County

Quick Facts from the Division of Agriculture

Approximate Land Area	589,536	acres
Average Size of Farms	497	acres
Number of Farms	336	
Land in Farms	166,907	acres
Cropland Harvested ¹	127,888	acres
Timber ²	380,152	acres

1. 2005 Cropland Harvested, National Agricultural Statistics Services, USDA

2. 2005 Forest Inventory and Analysis, USDA Forest Service

All other information from 2002 Census of Agriculture

Major Crops, Livestock & Timber

Crops	Acreage	Production	Units
Rice	17,300	1,032,000	Cwt
Cotton	56,500	127,400	Bales
Soybeans	35,000	1,254,000	Bu
Livestock	Inventory	No. Sold	
Cattle & Calves	4,545	1,892	
Hogs & Pigs	291	125	

Sources: Crop data for 2005 are from the Arkansas Agricultural Statistics Service;
Livestock data are from the 2002 Census of Agriculture

Timber

Total³

Timber Removed 1,040,351 Tons

3. Computed from 1997 Severance Tax Data, Department of Finance and Administration

Agricultural Employment

Jobs

Farm, Forestry & Fish Production.....	961
Agricultural Services	258
Processing of Agriculture, Forestry & Fish Products	2,890
New Farm Structures	3
Total (All Industries)	11,382

Source: Computed from the Arkansas 2003 IMPLAN Database, Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

Agricultural Value Added

In millions of dollars

Farm, Forestry & Fish Production..... \$	55.7
Agricultural Services	5.2
Processing of Agriculture, Forestry & Fish Products	288.7
New Farm Structures	0.2
Total (All Industries)	686.0

Source: Computed from the Arkansas 2003 IMPLAN Database, Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

Farm Revenue

In millions of dollars

All crops	\$ 71.0
All livestock	11.2
Other farm income	17.8
Timber ⁴ (delivered value)	48.8

4. Estimates (1997-2000 average) provided by Dr. Frank Roth, from DFA and Timber-Mart South data. Other information from 2004 REIS database, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Agriculture in Arkansas

Agriculture is a vital and growing component of the state's economy. Facts include:

- Nearly 287,000 Arkansas workers, or 20 percent of the state's jobs, were employed as a result of agricultural production and processing.
- These workers received \$8.9 billion wages and salaries – about 19 percent of the state's total employee income.
- The total value added as a result of agricultural production and processing in the state was approximately \$15.3 billion, or roughly 20 percent of all the value added in the state.
- Arkansas ranks No. 1 in the U.S. in rice production.
- In 2005, Arkansas farmers harvested 7.5 million acres of crops.

Source: Economic Impact of the Agricultural Sector on the Arkansas Economy, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service