

ALABAMA

FRUIT & VEGETABLE STATE PROFILE

STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

- Fruits, Tree Nuts & Berries – Farms: 2,193; Acres: 22,931
- Vegetables, Potatoes & Melons – Farms: 1,603; Acres: 18,352

PRODUCE BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT

- 57 produce shippers, wholesalers and businesses
- 22 farmers markets selling fresh fruits and vegetables
- 30,978 FTE produce industry employment impact from producer to retailer

NEED FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION

- Prevalence of adult obesity: 32.3%; National Rank: 2
- Prevalence of childhood obesity: 17.9%; National Rank: 14
- Prevalence of diabetes: 12.2%; Increase 1995-2010: 139.2%

OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER HEALTH

- 217,549 children participating in school breakfast
- 579,210 children participating in school lunch
- 145,001 participants in the Women, Infants and Children Program
- 805,095 participants in SNAP Program (Formerly Known as Food Stamp Program)

IMPACT OF FEDERAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

- Farm Bill Specialty Crop Block Grants provided \$1,004,670 from 2008-2010 used to fund 34 projects to increase competitiveness and profitability of Alabama producers
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program provides Alabama \$2,763,159 to fund fruit and vegetable snacks in 91 elementary schools this year
- WIC provides Alabama participants an estimated \$13.9 million annually in fruit and vegetable vouchers

Sources

USDA 2007 Agriculture Census; USDA, FNS; USDA, AMS; Blue Book Services; Produce Marketing Association Economic Reach and Impact of the Fresh Produce and Floral Industry; F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens America's Future 2011