

# ARKANSAS

## *FRUIT & VEGETABLE STATE PROFILE*

### **STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTION**

- Fruits, Tree Nuts & Berries – Farms: 833; Acres: 15,036; Value: \$13,209,000
- Vegetables, Potatoes & Melons – Farms: 804; Acres: 13,919; Value: \$38,145,000

### **PRODUCE BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT**

- 36 produce shippers, wholesalers and businesses
- 21 farmers markets selling fresh fruits and vegetables
- 16,757 FTE produce industry employment impact from producer to retailer

### **NEED FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION**

- Prevalence of adult obesity: 30.6%; National Rank: 9
- Prevalence of childhood obesity: 20.4%; National Rank: 7
- Prevalence of diabetes: 9.8%; Increase 1995-2010: 69.0%

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER HEALTH**

- 157,164 children participating in school breakfast
- 353,466 children participating in school lunch
- 98,963 participants in the Women, Infants and Children Program
- 466,598 participants in SNAP Program (Formerly Known as Food Stamp Program)

### **IMPACT OF FEDERAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAMS**

- Farm Bill Specialty Crop Block Grants provided \$598,054 from 2008-2010 used to fund 26 projects to increase competitiveness and profitability of Arkansas producers
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program provides Arkansas \$2,301,796 to fund fruit and vegetable snacks in 115 elementary schools this year
- WIC provides Arkansas participants an estimated \$9.5 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