

CONNECTICUT

FRUIT & VEGETABLE STATE PROFILE

STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

- Fruits, Tree Nuts & Berries – Farms: 548; Acres: 4,537; Value: \$28,641,000
- Vegetables, Potatoes & Melons – Farms: 735; Acres: 10,290; Value: \$30,230,000

PRODUCE BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT

- 38 produce shippers, wholesalers and businesses
- 34 farmers markets selling fresh fruits and vegetables
- 25,145 FTE produce industry employment impact from producer to retailer

NEED FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION

- Prevalence of adult obesity: 21.8%; National Rank: 49
- Prevalence of childhood obesity: 12.5%; National Rank: 40
- Prevalence of diabetes: 6.9%; Increase 1995-2010: 25.5%

OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER HEALTH

- 71,661 children participating in school breakfast
- 303,655 children participating in school lunch
- 58,108 participants in the Women, Infants and Children Program
- 336,064 participants in SNAP Program (Formerly Known as Food Stamp Program)

IMPACT OF FEDERAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

- Farm Bill Specialty Crop Block Grants provided \$889,163 from 2008-2010 used to fund 23 projects to increase competitiveness and profitability of Connecticut producers
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program provides Connecticut \$2,464,720 to fund fruit and vegetable snacks in 96 elementary schools this year
- WIC provides Connecticut participants an estimated \$5.5 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