

ILLINOIS

FRUIT & VEGETABLE STATE PROFILE

STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

- Fruits, Tree Nuts & Berries – Farms: 1,084; Acres: 6,696; Value: \$10,246,000
- Vegetables, Potatoes & Melons – Farms: 1,377; Acres: 69,584; Value: \$103,914,000

PRODUCE BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT

- 233 produce shippers, wholesalers and businesses
- 98 farmers markets selling fresh fruits and vegetables
- 94,479 FTE produce industry employment impact from producer to retailer

NEED FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION

- Prevalence of adult obesity: 27.7%; National Rank: 23
- Prevalence of childhood obesity: 20.7%; National Rank: 4
- Prevalence of diabetes: 8.4%; Increase 1995-2010: 52.7%

OPPORTUNITY FOR BETTER HEALTH

- 336,675 children participating in school breakfast
- 1,167,636 children participating in school lunch
- 307,278 participants in the Women, Infants and Children Program
- 1,645,722 participants in SNAP Program (Formerly Known as Food Stamp Program)

IMPACT OF FEDERAL FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

- Farm Bill Specialty Crop Block Grants provided \$1,217,955 from 2008-2010 used to fund 68 projects to increase competitiveness and profitability of Illinois producers
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program provides Illinois \$4,756,050 to fund fruit and vegetable snacks in 424 elementary schools this year
- WIC provides Illinois participants an estimated \$29.5 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