

## Snapshot of Iredell County's Local Food System

| <b>Production</b>  | <b>County</b>  | <b>North Carolina</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| Farms by size (by gross sales)*  | Small family farms (<\$250k) 88%<br>Large family farms (\$250k-\$499k) 6%<br>Very large family farms (\$500k+) 4%<br>Nonfamily farms 2%          | Small family farms (<\$250k) 85%<br>Large family farms (\$250k-\$499k) 3%<br>Very large family farms (\$500k+) 8%<br>Nonfamily farms 4%       |
| Proportion of principal farmers younger than 35  | 6.2%   | 4.6%  |
| Number of farms  | 1203 (2.4% of NC farms)  | 50,218  |
| Proportion of farms growing fruit & vegetables   | 3.3%   | 7%  |
| Change in farmland acres 2007-2012   | 10.1%  | -0.7%   |
| Proportion of farms reporting positive net income  | 39.1%  | 43.2%   |
| Proportion of farms with direct sales  | 5.2%   | 8.9%  |
| <b>Retail Infrastructure</b>   | <b>County</b>  | <b>North Carolina</b>   |
| Grocery stores/1,000 pop   | 0.19   | 0.19  |
| Full service restaurants/1,000 pop   | 0.87   | 0.75  |
| SNAP-authorized stores   | 132 (2% of SNAP-auth. stores in NC)  | 8,805   |
| Farmers markets  | 3 (1% of NC farmers markets)   | 230   |
| <b>Consumption, Access, and Health</b>   | <b>County</b>  | <b>North Carolina</b>   |
| Proportion of population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption   | 76.9%  | 78.4%   |
| Rates of diabetes and obesity  | Diabetes (8.1%); Obesity (28.2%)   | Diabetes (9.1%); Obesity (27.8%)  |
| Proportion of children eligible for free/reduced price lunch   | 44%  | 56%   |
| <b>Waste Management</b>  | <b>County</b>  | <b>North Carolina</b>   |
| Estimated annual tons of residential food waste, commercial food waste (ICI), and municipal solid food waste (MSW) | Residential: 11241 (1.7% of NC total)<br>ICI: 9504 (1.7% of NC total)<br>MSW: 18569 (1.7% of NC total)   | Residential: 673,362<br>ICI: 569,343<br>MSW: 1,112,308  |
| <b>Equity</b>  | <b>Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill**</b>  | <b>North Carolina</b>   |
| Wages throughout the food system sectors   | <u>Average annual wages:</u><br>farmworkers and laborers (\$22,590);<br>animal slaughter and processing (\$23,140); food prep/service (\$20,830) | <u>Average annual wages:</u><br>farmworkers and laborers (\$20,320); animal slaughter and processing (\$23,750); food prep/service (\$20,130) |

\*"Farms by size" is 2007 Census of agriculture data. Data for 2012 will not be released until December 2014. All other production data uses 2012 Census data.

\*\*Bureau of Labor Statistics Metropolitan Region defined as: Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg, and Union counties in NC, and York County in SC.

For more information on this county's agricultural statistics, visit its [2012 Census of Agriculture profile](#)

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