



Snapshot of Mitchell County's Local Food System

| Production | County | North Carolina |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Number of farms | 286 (0.57% of NC farms) | 50,218 |
| Proportion of farmers farming less than 10 years | 14% | 18.4% |
| Proportion of principal farmers younger than 35 | 3.2% | 7.0% |
| Proportion of farms with direct sales (total direct sales) | 13.3% (\$134,000) | 8.9% (\$31,826,000) |
| Proportion of farms growing fruit & vegetables | 14.7% | 10.9% |
| Change in farmland acres 2007-2012 | -15.2% | -0.7% |
| Proportion of county land in farmland | 14% | 27% |
| Retail Infrastructure | County | North Carolina |
| Grocery stores/1,000 pop | 0.13 | 0.19 |
| Full service restaurants/1,000 pop | 1.02 | 0.75 |
| Farmers markets/1,000 pop (total markets) | 1.30 (2 total markets) | 0.02 (230 total markets) |
| Consumption, Access, and Health | County | North Carolina |
| Proportion of population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption | 74% | 78.4% |
| Rates of diabetes and obesity | Diabetes (9.0%); Obesity (28.7%) | Diabetes (9.1%); Obesity (27.8%) |
| Equity | County | North Carolina |
| Proportion of population below poverty level | 18.7% | 16.8% |
| Proportion of households receiving SNAP | 14% | 13% |
| Proportion of workforce employed in foodservice (average annual salary from foodservice) | 4% (\$12,097) | 7% (\$14,652) |
| Proportion of workforce employed in farming (average annual salary from farming) | 6% (\$9,234) | 2% (\$38,546) |

*N/A - In some cases data are suppressed by agencies to protect individually identifiable information, or because of a lack of conclusive information.

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

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