

Snapshot of Union County's Local Food System

Production	County	South Carolina
Farms by size (by gross sales)*	Small family farms (<\$250k) 99% Large family farms (\$250k-\$499k) 0% Very large family farms (\$500k+) 1% Nonfamily farms 0%	Small family farms (<\$250k) 92% Large family farms (\$250k-\$499k) 1% Very large family farms (\$500k+) 3% Nonfamily farms 3%
Proportion of principal farmers younger than 35	4.5%	4.3%
Number of farms	264 (1.0% of SC farms)	25,266
Proportion of farms growing fruit & vegetables	5.3%	7.9%
Change in farmland acres 2007-2012	4.0%	+1.7%
Proportion of farms reporting positive net income	36.0%	37.7%
Proportion of farms with direct sales	6.4%	6.3%
Retail Infrastructure	County	South Carolina
Grocery stores/1,000 pop	0.28	0.19
Full service restaurants/1,000 pop	0.58	0.77
SNAP-authorized stores	38 (0.7% of SNAP-auth. stores in SC)	5,146
Farmers markets	1 (0.8% of SC farmers markets)	121
Consumption, Access, and Health	County	South Carolina
Proportion of population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption	86.6%	80.9%
Rates of diabetes and obesity	Diabetes (12.4%); Obesity (36%)	Diabetes (10.5%); Obesity (31.5%)
Proportion of children eligible for free/reduced price lunch	65.8%	54.5%
Waste Management	County	South Carolina
Tons of food waste recycled	0.0	274,594
Equity	Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill**	South Carolina
Wages throughout the food system sectors	<u>Average annual wages:</u> farmworkers and laborers (\$22,592); animal slaughter and processing (\$23,142); food prep/service (\$20,832)	<u>Average annual wages:</u> farmworkers and laborers (\$19,840); animal slaughter and processing (\$23,620); food prep/service (\$19,610)

*"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](#)

Copyright© 2013 ASAP (Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project)