



Snapshot of Watauga County's Local Food System

Production	County	North Carolina
Number of farms	609 (1.2% of NC farms)	50,218
Proportion of farmers farming less than 10 years	14.6%	18.4%
Proportion of principal farmers younger than 35	5.6%	7.0%
Proportion of farms with direct sales (total direct sales)	10.0% (\$189,000)	8.9% (\$31,826,000)
Proportion of farms growing fruit & vegetables	13.5%	10.9%
Change in farmland acres 2007-2012	21.8%	-0.7%
Proportion of county land in farmland	28%	27%
Retail Infrastructure	County	North Carolina
Grocery stores/1,000 pop	0.22	0.19
Full service restaurants/1,000 pop	1.50	0.75
Farmers markets/1,000 pop (total markets)	0.76 (4 total markets)	0.02 (230 total markets)
Consumption, Access, and Health	County	North Carolina
Proportion of population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption	68%	78.4%
Rates of diabetes and obesity	Diabetes (8.8%); Obesity (24.9%)	Diabetes (9.1%); Obesity (27.8%)
Equity	County	North Carolina
Proportion of population below poverty level	28.8%	16.8%
Proportion of households receiving SNAP	7%	13%
Proportion of workforce employed in foodservice (average annual salary from foodservice)	11% (\$12,904)	7% (\$14,652)
Proportion of workforce employed in farming (average annual salary from farming)	3% (\$-372)	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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