The Ohio State University’s Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics

*The mission of the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics is to generate and disseminate knowledge through application of economic and business principles to society’s challenges.*

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**The Impact of the Agricultural and Food Production Cluster to Athens County**

Total **Value Added**: $84,474,724 representing **4.57%** of the county’s economy.

Total **Employment**: 1,643 representing **5.86%** of the county total.

Total **Labor Income**: $35,146,700 representing **3.18%** of the county total.

**Value Added; Percent of County Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sum of Agricultural Production</th>
<th>Sum of Food Processing</th>
<th>Sum of Wholesale/Retail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10.8 million; 0.59%</td>
<td>$37.5 million; 2.03%</td>
<td>$36.2 million; 1.96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Agricultural and Food Employment; Percent of County Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural Production</th>
<th>Food Processing</th>
<th>Wholesale/Retail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>687; 2.45%</td>
<td>188; 0.67%</td>
<td>768; 2.74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Labor Income Contributed; Percent of County Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural Production</th>
<th>Food Processing</th>
<th>Wholesale/Retail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$4.9 million; 0.44%</td>
<td>$8.4 million; 0.76%</td>
<td>$21.9 million; 1.98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxes on Production and Imports**: $23,565,570

**Top Agricultural Production Sectors:**
Mics. Crops including Hay Production and Farm Inputs, Equipment and Professional Services

Data for these calculations were obtained from IMPLAN and included in *The Economic Contribution of Agricultural and Food Production to the Ohio Economy* report (DiCarolis et al, 2017).
Ohio’s agricultural and food production cluster plus restaurants and bars accounts for $1 in every $13 of Ohio’s Gross State Product (GSP) and 1 in 8 jobs in Ohio.

The agricultural and food production cluster employed 402,874 Ohioans in 2015 and contributed $33 billion in value added directly to Ohio’s GSP.

The agriculture and food production cluster contributed an additional $20 billion to Ohio’s economy through the purchases of additional inputs.

The total contribution of the cluster to Ohio’s economy in 2015 was $53 billion (a multiplier of 1.6 for every dollar of value-added in the agriculture and food production cluster).

Since 1944, efficiency gains have led to decreases in employment of the following sectors:

- 24%-Ohio Farm Input Sector
- 38%- Agricultural Production
- 17%- Food Processing
- 47%- Food Wholesaling/Retailing

There has been strong growth in the farming and wholesaling/retailing sectors against decreasing employment, decreasing commodity prices, and decreasing relative contributions of these sectors to GSP.