# Middle School Career Investigations: Virginia Agriculture and Resources: By the Numbers

## Title

As the largest private industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia, agriculture, food and natural resources have a huge impact on state finances and employment statistics. In this interactivity, click on each of the markers to learn important facts about agriculture and natural resources in Virginia.

## Forestry in Virginia

Virginia has 15.72 million acres of forest land. In this state, forests are growing more timber than is being harvested for wood sources, like paper, lumber, cardboard, and fuel. This ensures Virginia has wood and wood products in the future.

## Economic Impact

Together, agriculture and forestry in Virginia have an economic impact of over $91 billion.

## National Rankings

Virginia ranks 6th in the country for turkey production and 8th in the country for apple, grape, and peanut production.

## Family-Owned Farms

Nearly 90 percent of Virginia farms are owned and operated by individuals or families.

## Number of Farms

There are roughly 44,800 farms in Virginia.

## Geographic Regions

Virginia has five different geographic regions and different types of agriculture and forestry are completed in each one.

## Additional Employment

Industries that depend on farm commodities employ more than 69,000 workers.

## Aquaculture

Virginia is the third largest seafood producer in the country and is the largest seafood producer on the East Coast.