

# The Economic Importance of Food and Fiber

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## A Spotlight on Charlton County, Georgia

Prepared for:  
Charlton County Cooperative Extension Service  
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by:  
The Center for Agribusiness and  
Economic Development  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
The University of Georgia

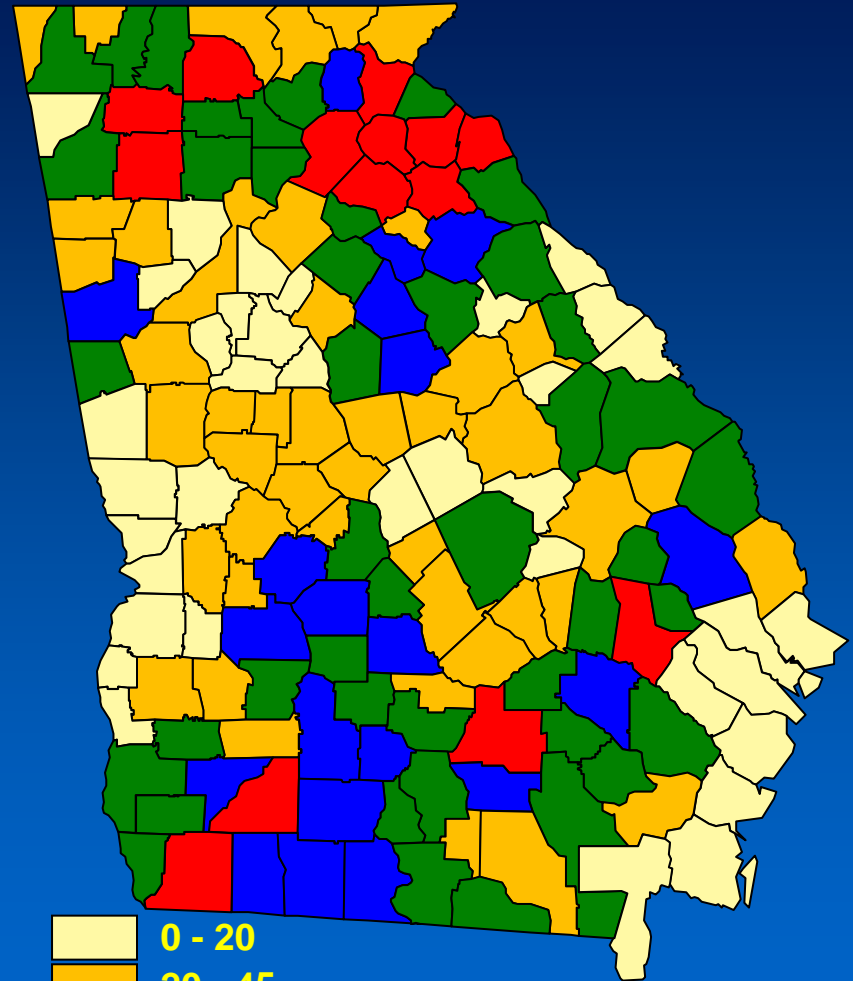
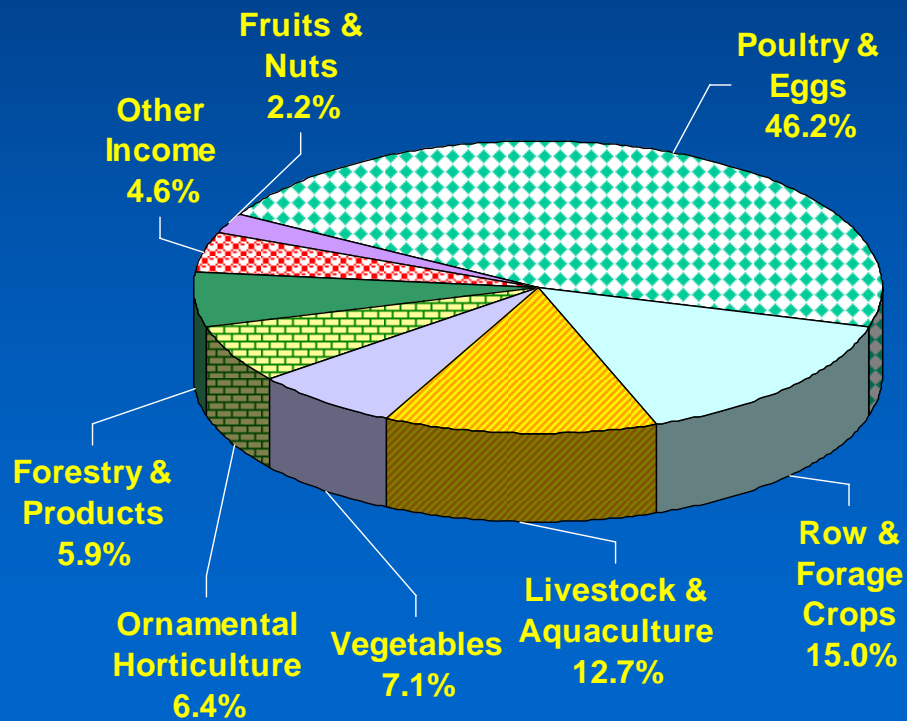
# Agriculture in Georgia

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- Georgia's 2004 Farm Gate Value of agricultural production was \$10.3 billion.
- Total food and fiber production and directly related businesses account for \$52 billion of Georgia's \$556 billion economy.

# Production Agriculture: 2004

GA Farm Gate  
Total Value  
\$10.3 Billion



Farm Gate Value  
in Millions of Dollars

# What We Know about Charlton County

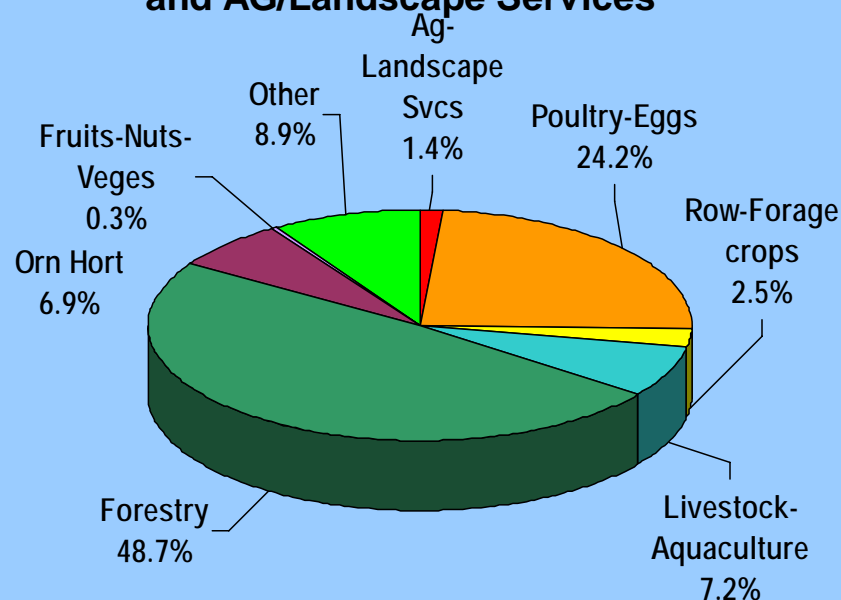
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- Agricultural production in Charlton County generated \$20.3 million in 2004.
- The highest value commodity group was forestry & products, representing 49% of the total agricultural production value.

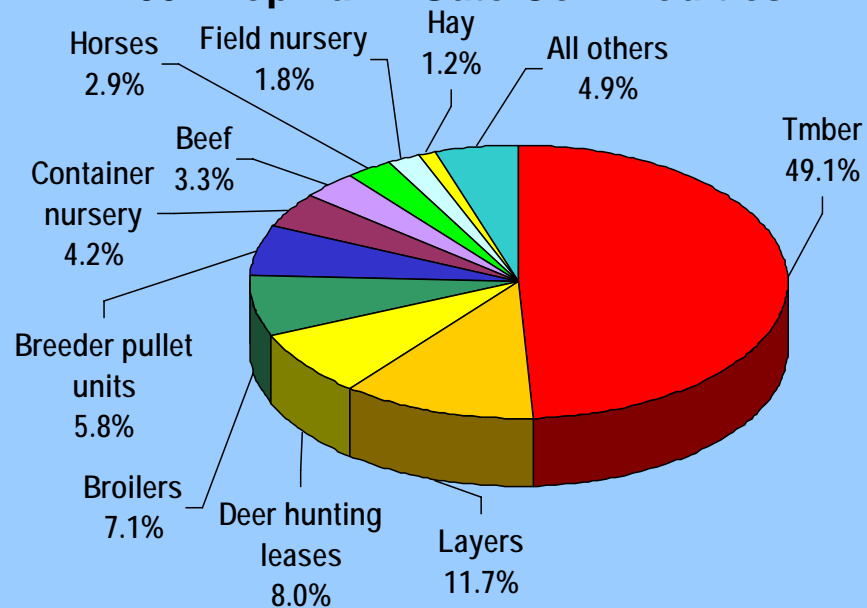
# Charlton County

## 2004 Agricultural Production Value

### 2004 Agricultural Production and AG/Landscape Services



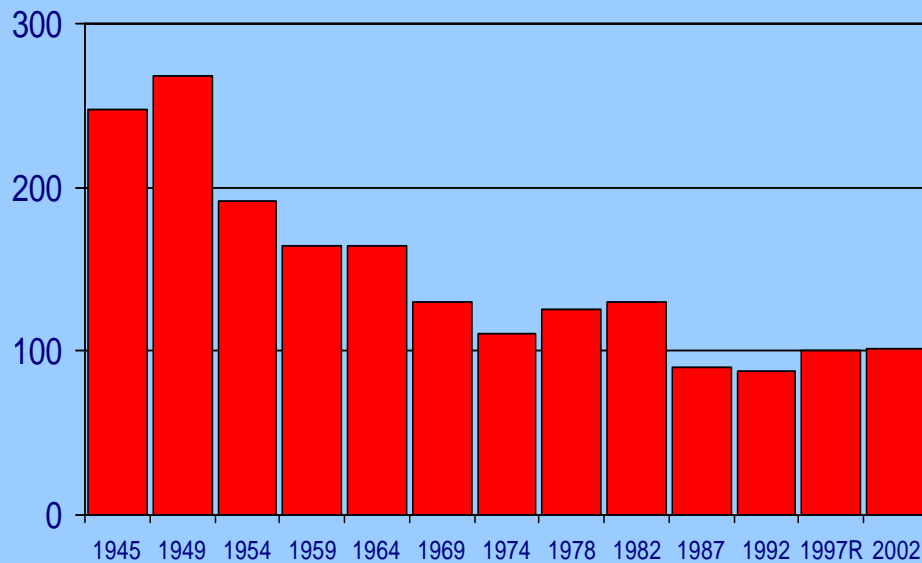
### 2004 Top Farm Gate Commodities



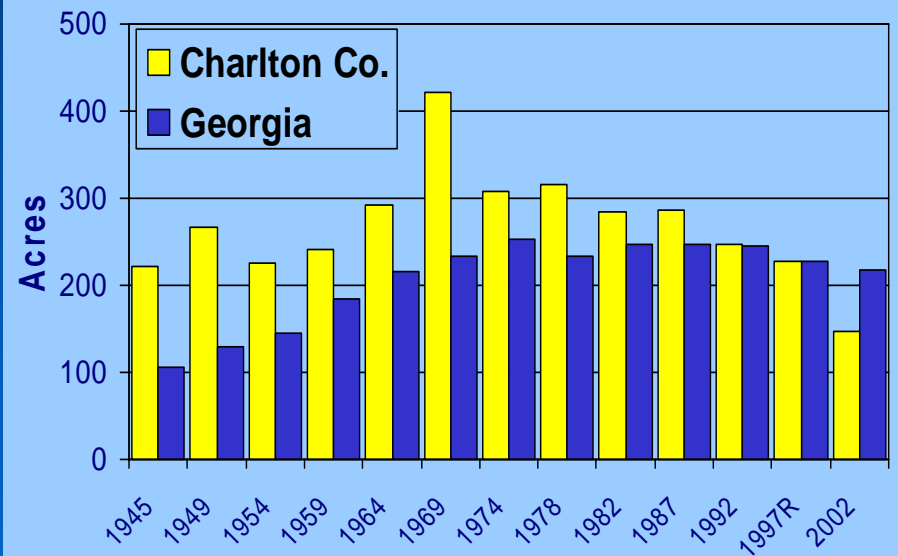
Total AG Value = \$20.3 million

# Trends in Charlton County: Number of Farms & Average Farm Size

Number of Farms, Charlton County



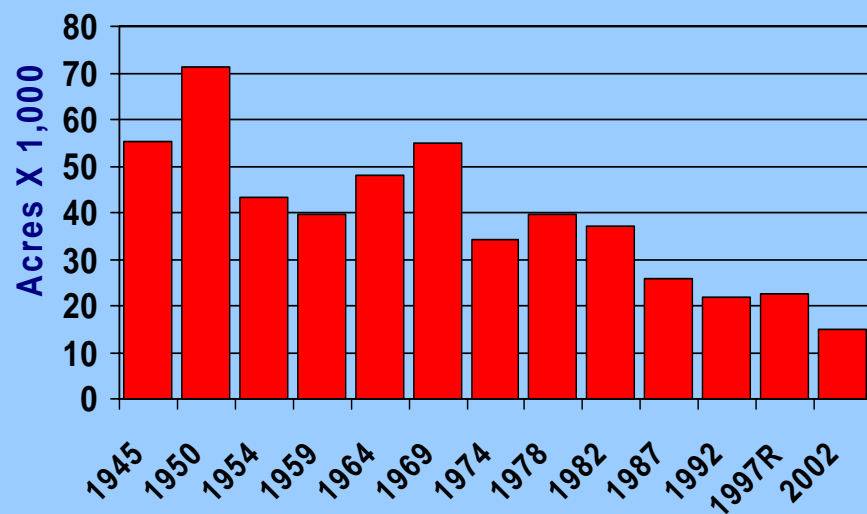
Average Farm Size



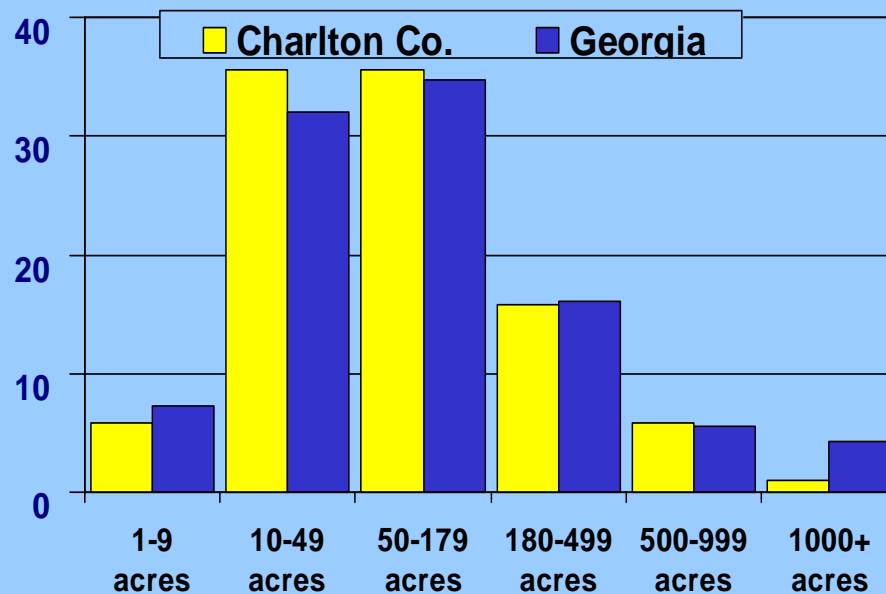
Source: 1945-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

# Trends in Charlton County: Land in Farms & Farms by Size

Land in Farms  
Charlton County



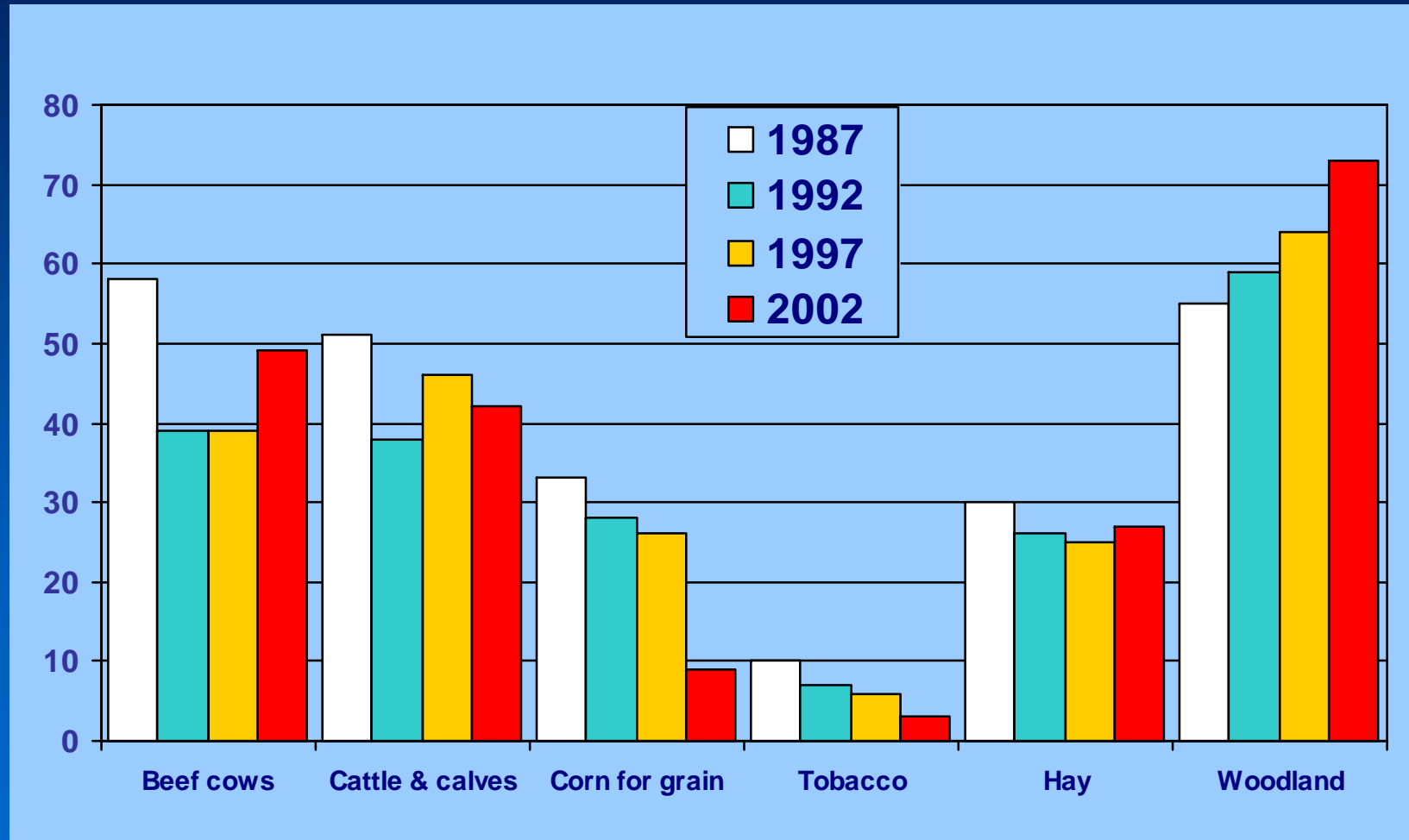
Percent of Farms by Size, 2002



Source: 1945-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

# Trends in Charlton County

## Number of Farms by Commodity

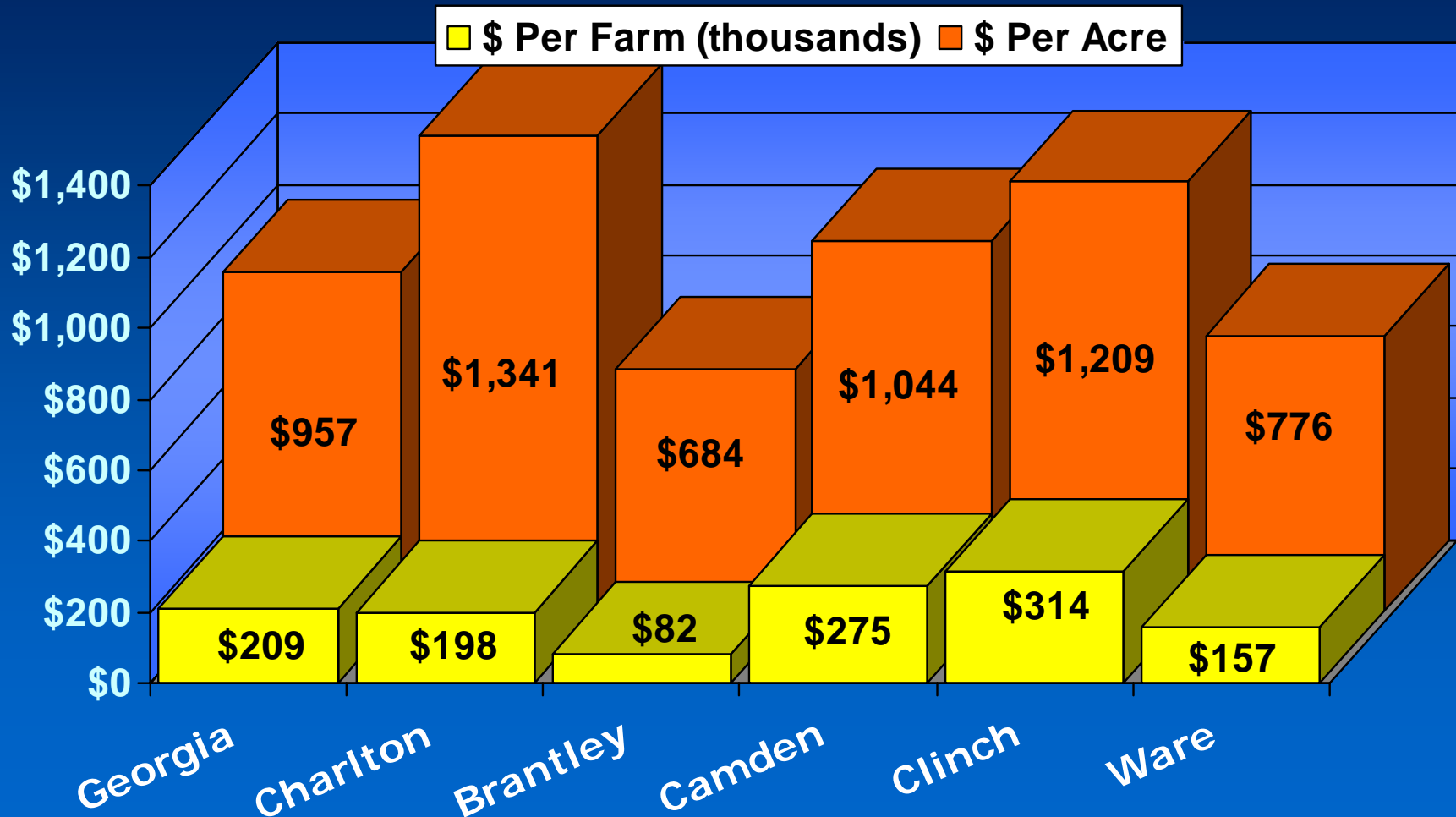


Source: 1987-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture



# How Do We Compare ?

## Georgia, Charlton and Surrounding Counties Farm Gate Value



Sources: [2002 Census of Agriculture](#) and [2004 Farm Gate Value Report](#)

# What We Did

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- The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development performed an analysis of each county's economy, focusing on the role of food and fiber.



# What We Asked

## County Economy Modeled

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- How much of a county's total current economic output comes from food and fiber production and directly related processing? (A Snapshot of the Economy)
- What is the total (direct and indirect) *Impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?

# Charlton County Economy

## Production Agriculture-OUTPUT

	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
Agriculture	20.252	7.6
Construction	6.781	2.6
Manufacturing	95.669	36.1
Transp/Utilities/Info	11.740	4.4
Trade	19.469	7.3
Fin/Ins/Real Est	10.582	4.0
Services	56.131	21.2
Government	44.526	16.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$265.2 million</b>	<b>--</b>

# Charlton County Economy

## Production Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses

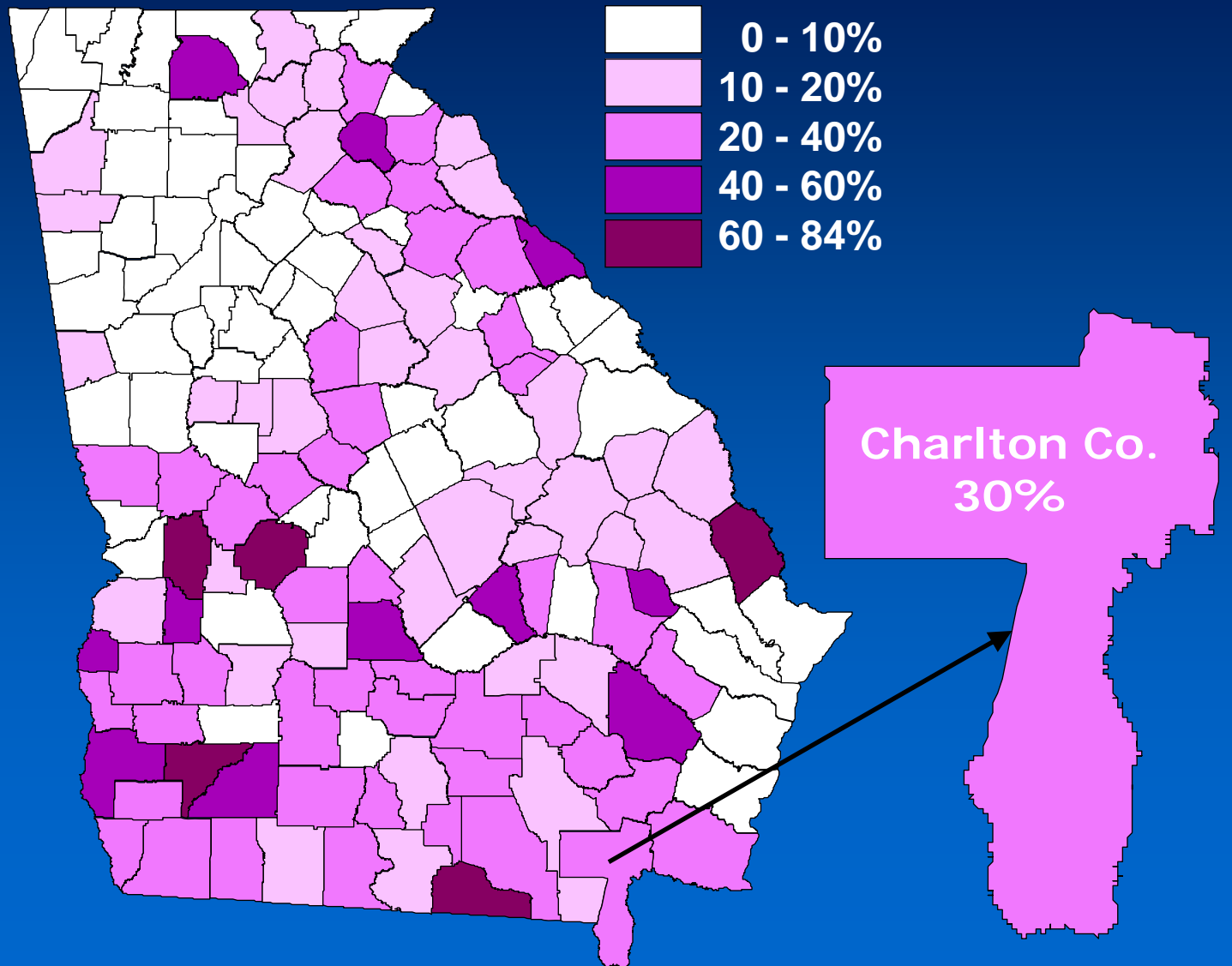
	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
<i>Agriculture + Direct</i>	<b>79.470</b>	<b>30.0</b>
Construction	<b>6.781</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Manufacturing	<b>36.452</b>	<b>13.7</b>
Trans/Info/Util	<b>11.740</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Trade	<b>19.469</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Finance/Ins/RE	<b>10.582</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Services	<b>56.131</b>	<b>21.2</b>
Government	<b>44.526</b>	<b>16.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$265.2 million</b>	<b>--</b>

# An Economic Snapshot of Charlton County

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- How much of Charlton County's total economic output comes from food and fiber production?
- AG value alone of \$20.3 million, consisting of Farm Gate Value and landscape services, comprises 7.6% of the county's economy.
- AG plus directly related businesses (ex. logging/sawmills, farm equipment mfg., etc.) comprise 30% of the county's economy.

# Food and Fiber Production, Processing and Direct Manufacturing as % of Total Output



# What is the Impact?

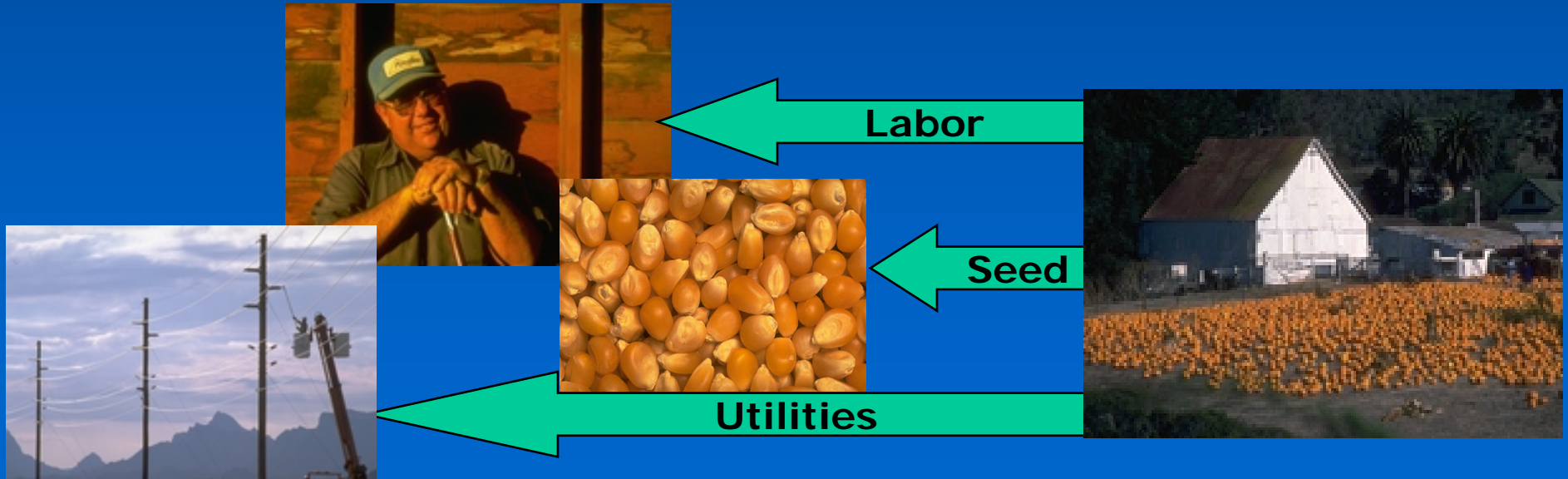
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- What is the total (direct and indirect) *impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?
- This scenario illustrates how other industries are affected by the presence of food and fiber in the county. The indirect impacts measure output created due to food and fiber production and processing in the county.



# What Impact Means: A Brief Explanation

- The *impact* numbers capture the ripple effects that food and fiber create in the county's economy. Many other sectors rely in part on the existence of food and fiber for sales.



# Charlton County

## Production Agriculture *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ (millions)	Indirect \$ (millions)
Agriculture	20.252	3.514
Construction	0	0.024
Manufacturing	0	0.069
Trans/Info/Util	0	0.580
Trade	0	0.626
Fin/Ins/Real Est	0	0.374
Services	0	0.662
Government	0	0.699
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26.8 million – 10.1% of total economy</b>	

# Charlton County

## Agriculture and Directly Related Businesses *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ (millions)	Indirect \$ (millions)
Agriculture + Direct	20.252	3.514
Construction	0.000	0.069
Manufacturing	59.218	20.411
Trans/Info/Util	0.000	2.116
Trade	0.000	2.425
Fin / Ins / Real Est	0.000	1.400
Services	0.000	2.517
Government	0.000	2.449
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$114.4 million – 43% of total economy</b>	

# Charlton County

## Production Agriculture + Directly Related Industries Employment *IMPACT*

	Direct	Indirect
Agriculture + Direct	444	40
Construction	0	0
Manufacturing	0	1
Trans/Info/Util	306	99
Trade	0	16
Fin/Ins/Real Est	0	39
Services	0	17
Government	0	62
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>1,027</b>	

# What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation

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- Direct impact is \$79.5 million. This includes food and fiber production, processing and directly-related manufacturing.
- Indirect impact from the *Trade* sector is \$2.4 million. This captures the effects of farmers (direct source) buying supplies (seed, fertilizer, work boots) from local stores. These stores must increase their output to meet farmer demand.

# What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation (continued)

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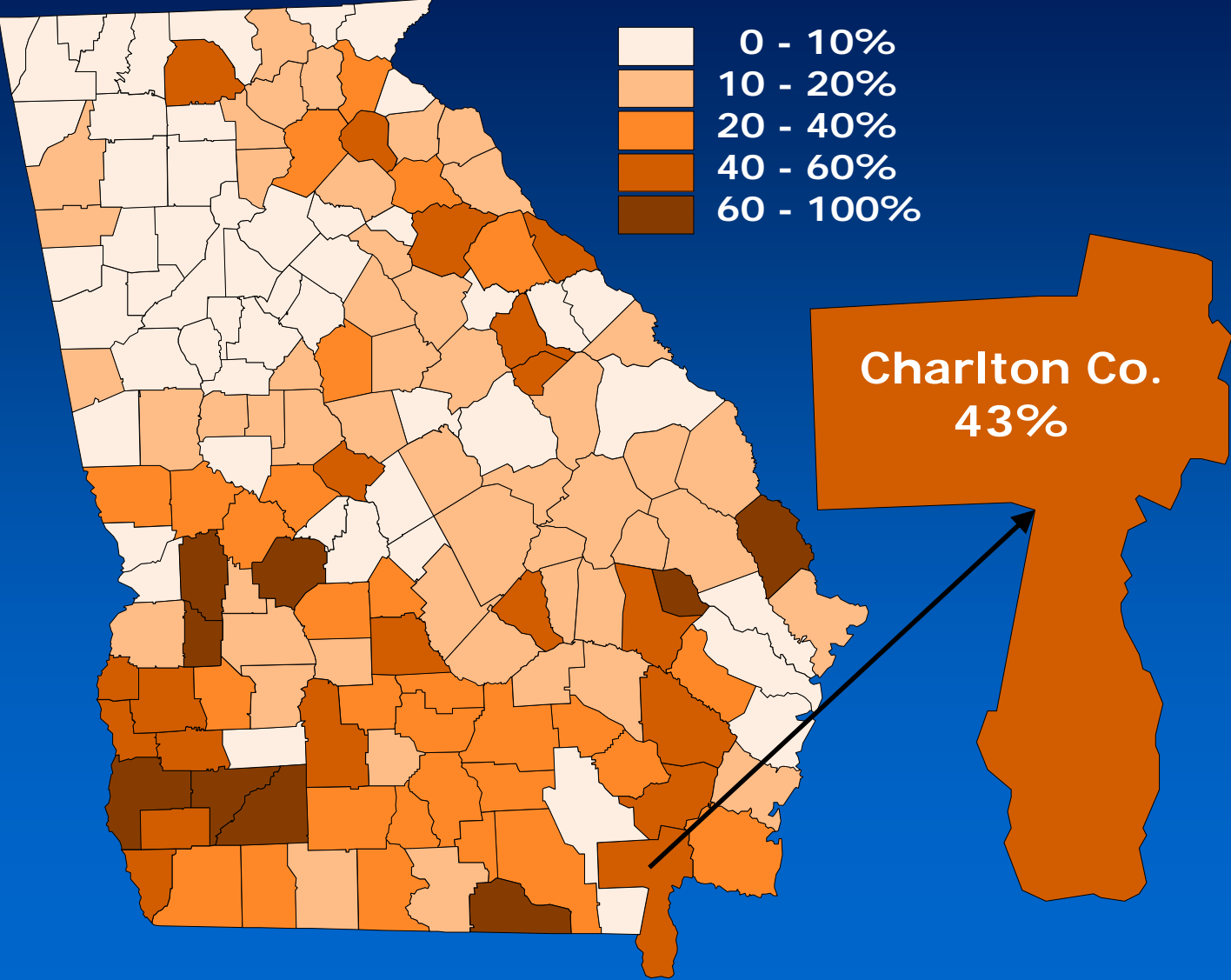
- As local stores increase their output, they may demand more stock from local wholesalers (also in the *Trade* sector). Local wholesalers demand more from local manufacturers, thus increasing activity in the *Manufacturing* sector.
- Local stores also hire employees to assist farmers. They take home wages and buy groceries at the local store which increases demand there.

# Charlton County Food and Fiber Impact Conclusions

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- The total impact of food and fiber production, processing and direct manufacturing is \$114.4 million.
- The total output is \$265.2 million.
- Thus, food and fiber (directly and indirectly) account for 43% of the total output.

# Food and Fiber Production, Processing and Direct Manufacturing Impact as % of Total Output





# Contact Information

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Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development

*“Adding Value to Georgia's Agricultural Economy  
Through Research and Extension“*

*To learn more about your county, go to:  
<http://www.caed.uga.edu/>  
...click on “Georgia Statistics System”*

**Special County Area Report  
#05-12A  
August, 2005**

