

# The Economic Importance of Food and Fiber

## A Spotlight on Hart County, Georgia

Prepared for  
Hart County Cooperative Extension  
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by:

The Center for Agribusiness  
and Economic Development

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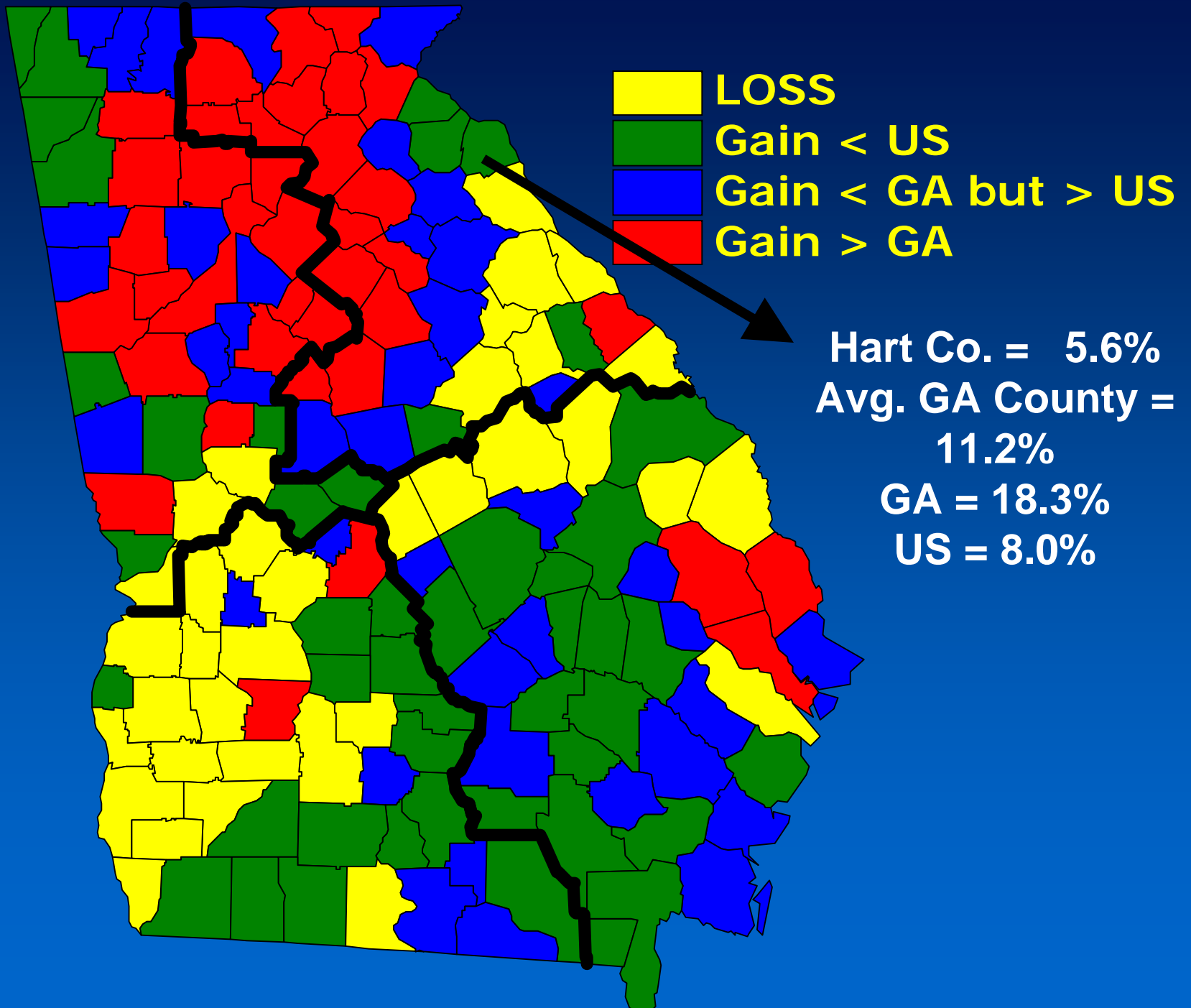
The University of Georgia

# Total Population Hart County

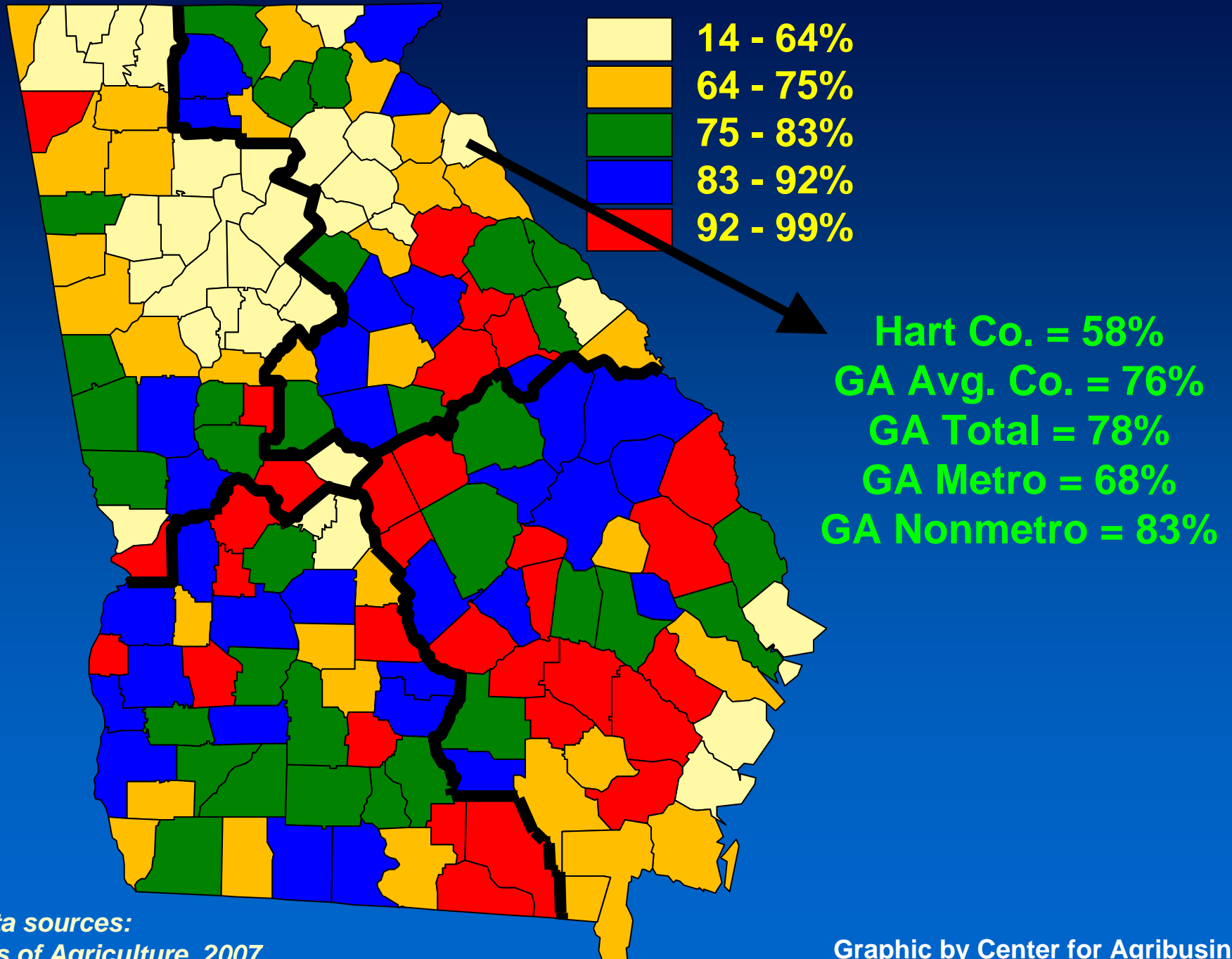


Primary data sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial censuses & estimate;  
CAED (Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development).

# Population Change: 2000-2008



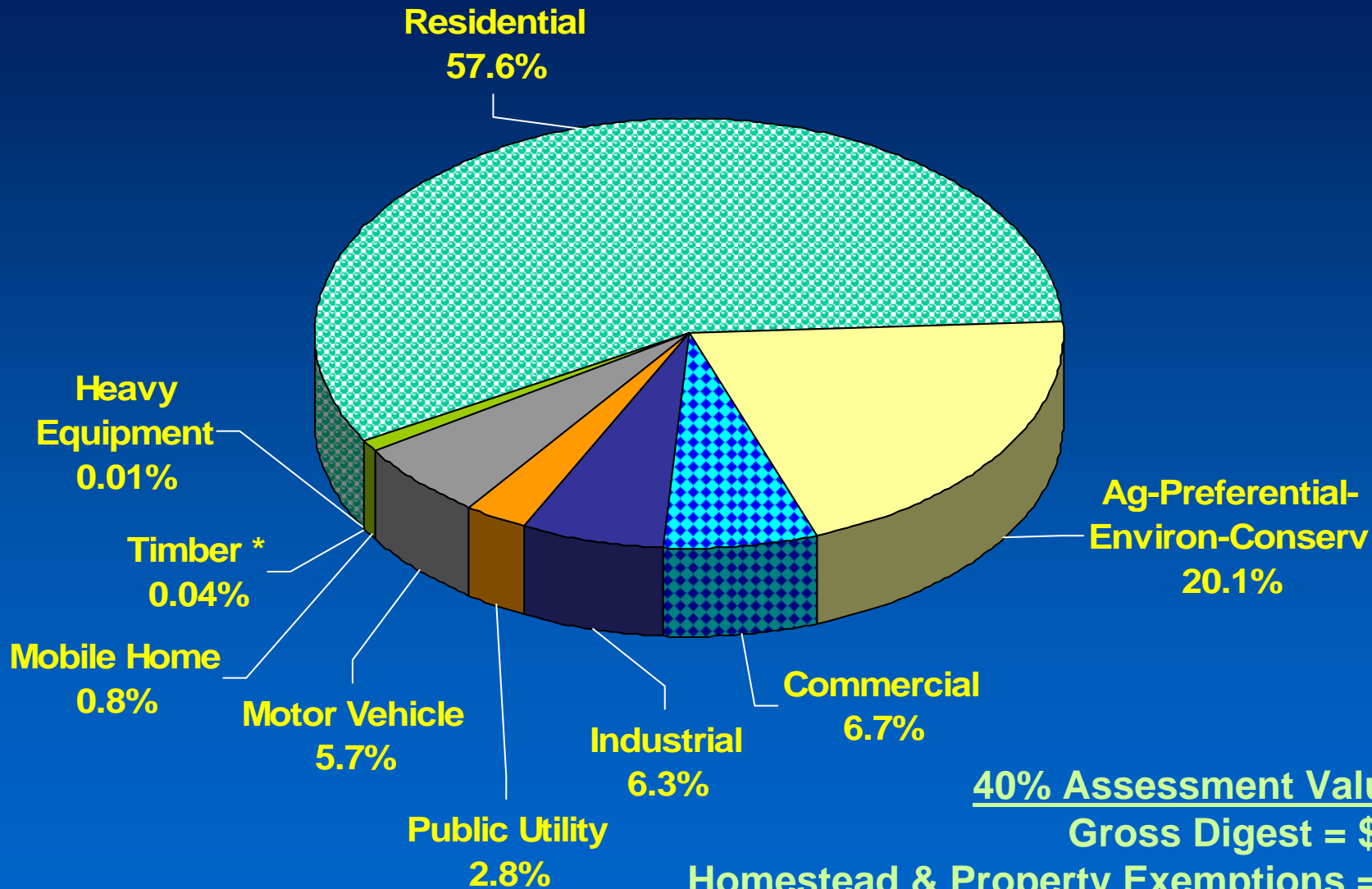
# % of Land in Cropland & Timberland



Primary data sources:  
U.S. Census of Agriculture, 2007  
USDA Forest Service, 2007

Graphic by Center for Agribusiness  
& Economic Development, UGA

# Components of 2008 Property Tax Gross Digest Hart County



40% Assessment Value of Property

Gross Digest = \$1,126,000,711

Homestead & Property Exemptions = \$141,100,665

Net M&O Digest = \$984,900,046

Value of exempt property = \$45,348,374

Primary data source:  
GA Dept. of Revenue

\* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

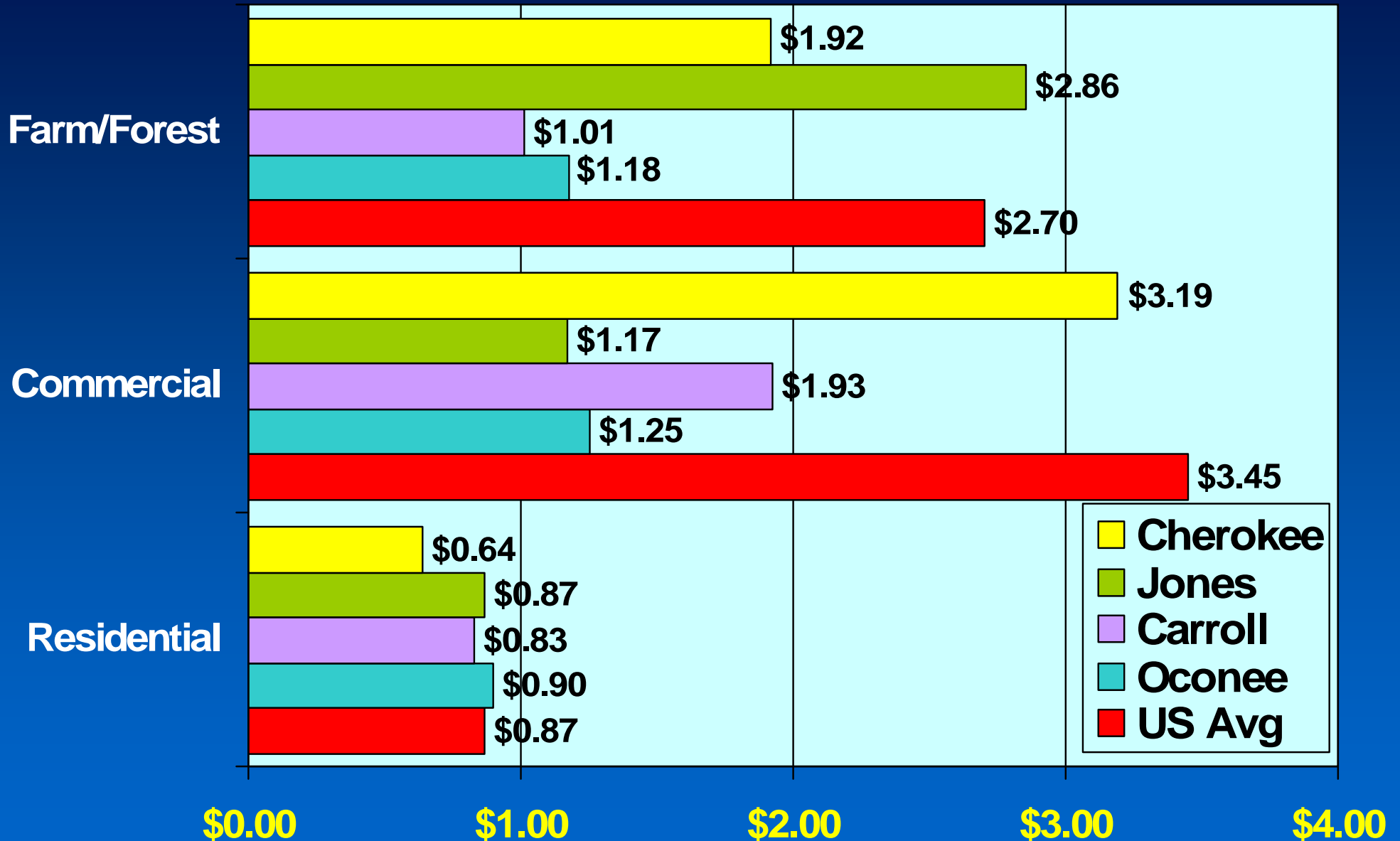
# County Property Tax Digest Comparisons: 2008

County	% Residential	% Agricultural	% Commercial	% Industrial	% Utility	% Motor Veh	% Mobile Home	% Timber
HART	57.6	20.1	6.7	6.3	2.8	5.7	0.8	0.04
ELBERT	38.9	29.0	13.7	5.6	3.6	7.7	1.1	0.39
MADISON	44.0	34.7	4.6	1.6	5.5	8.1	1.4	0.12
FRANKLIN	32.4	38.2	15.3	3.7	2.3	7.1	1.1	0.03
STEPHENS	57.0	6.4	13.7	11.7	3.5	6.7	1.0	0.02
BANKS	38.1	34.9	12.6	3.1	3.1	7.0	1.2	0.09
Avg. GA Co.	42.3	24.6	12.6	6.9	4.8	7.0	1.0	0.72



# Revenue : Expenditure Ratios

## \$ of Revenue for Each \$ of Expenditure



# Agriculture in Georgia

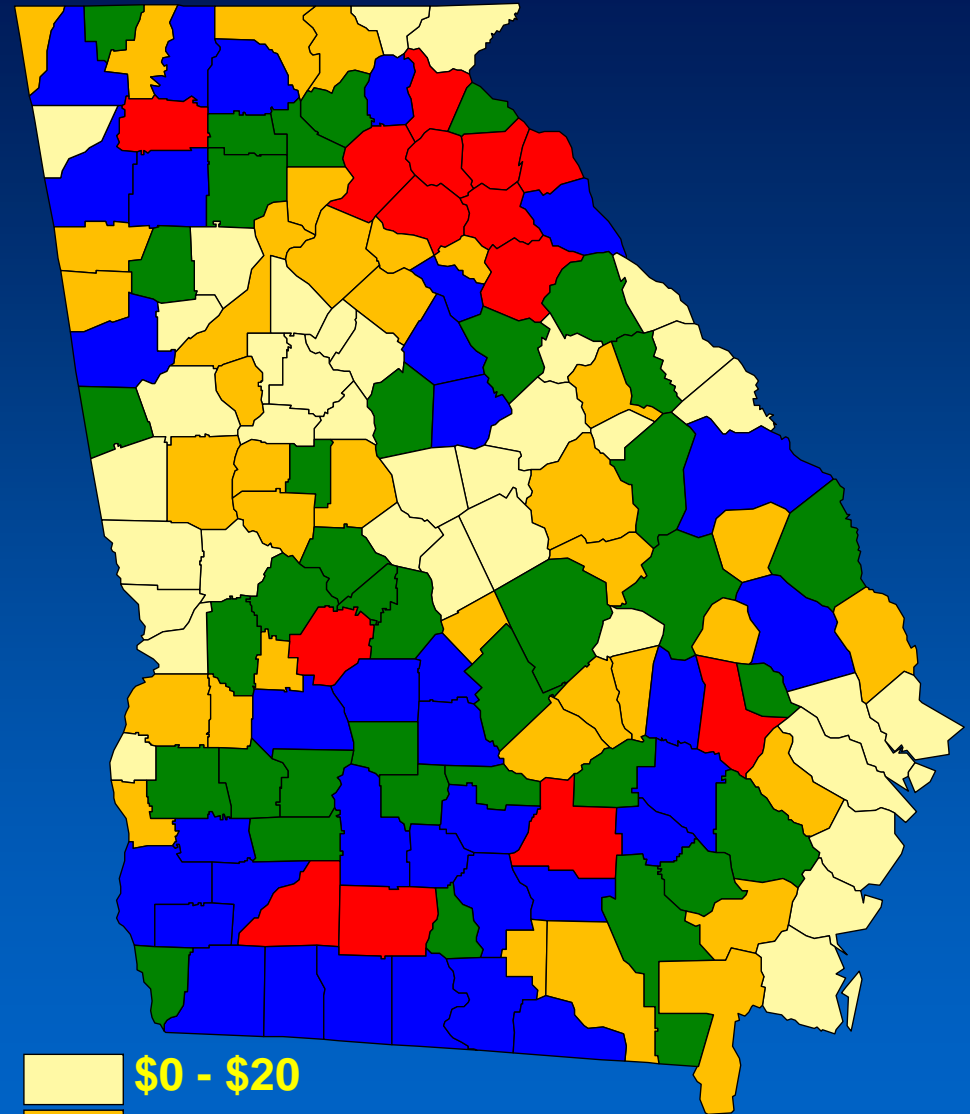
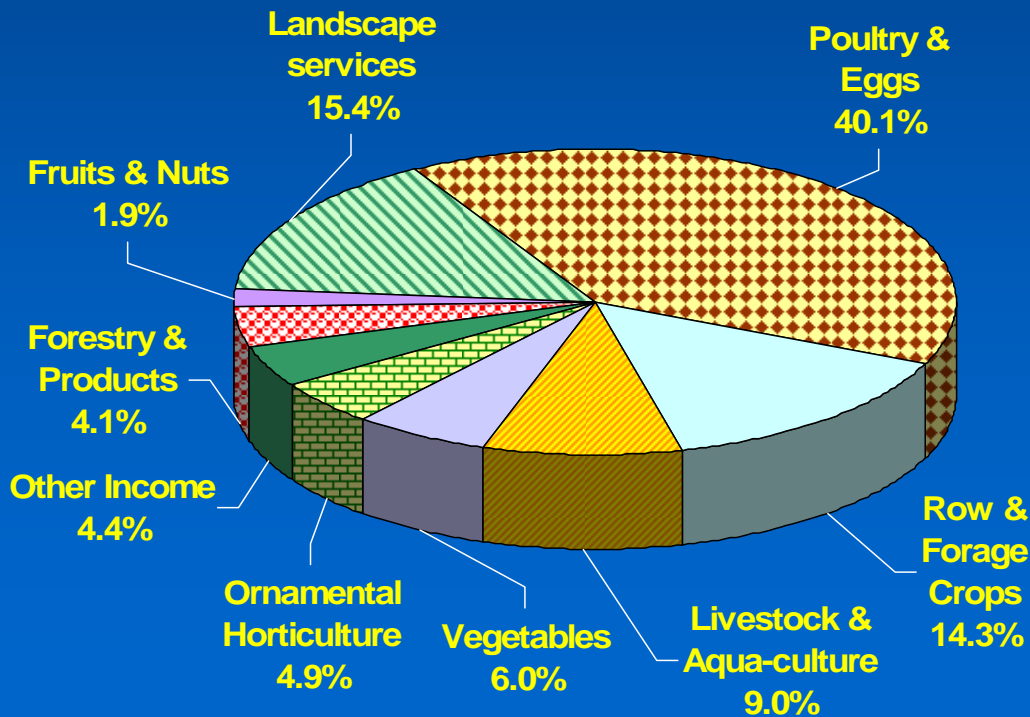
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- Georgia's 2008 Farm Gate Value was \$11.9 billion. Adding the value of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$14 billion.
- Total food and fiber production and directly related businesses account for a \$65 billion *output impact* on Georgia's \$787 billion economy.



# Production Agriculture: 2008

Georgia Total  
Agricultural  
Production Value  
\$11.9 Billion



2008 Farm Gate  
Value by County  
in Millions of Dollars

# What We Know about Hart County

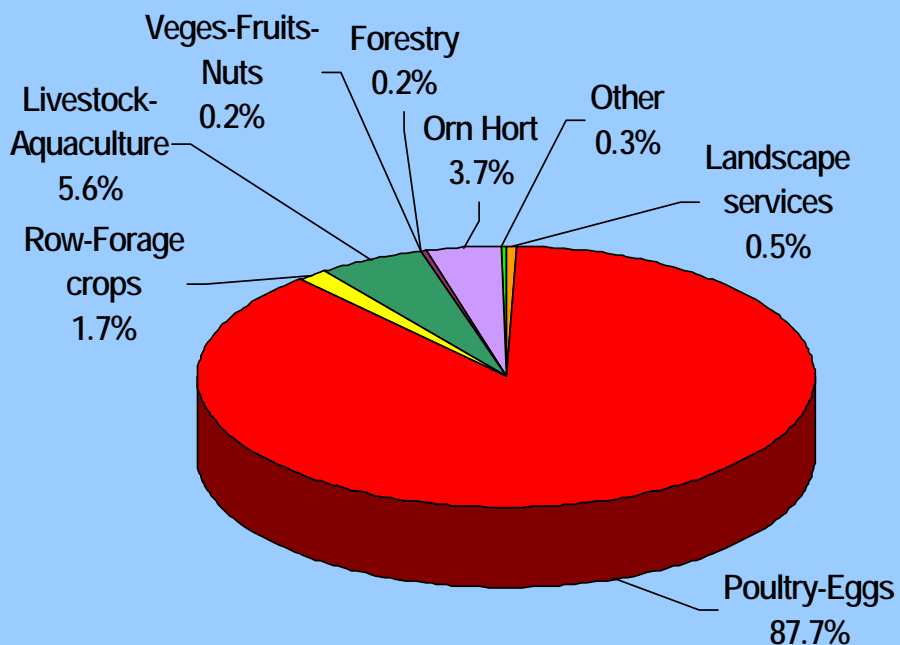
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- 2008 Farm Gate Value in Hart Co. was \$284 million. Adding \$1.5 million of landscape services increased the total agricultural production value to \$285.5 million.
- The highest value commodity group was poultry/eggs, representing 88% of the total agricultural production value.

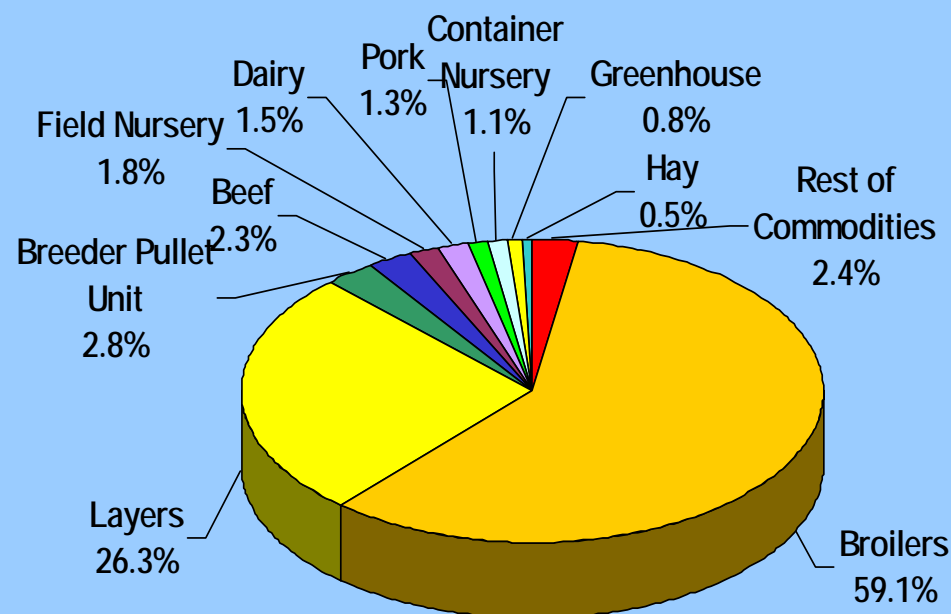
# Hart County

## 2008 Agricultural Production Value

### 2008 Agricultural Production



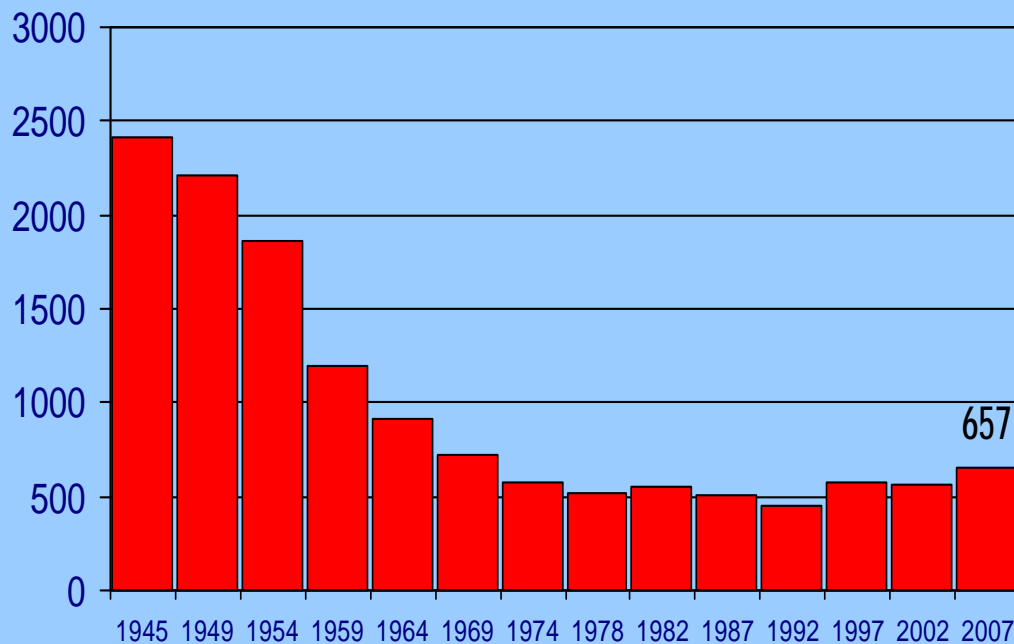
### 2008 Top Farm Gate Commodities



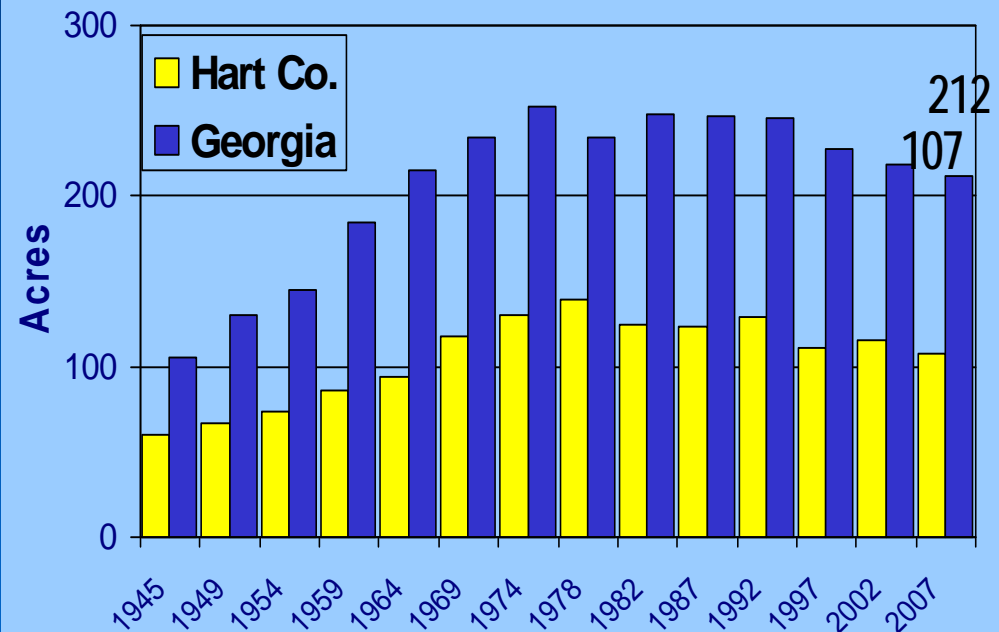
**Total AG Value = \$285.5 million**

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

### Number of Farms, Hart County

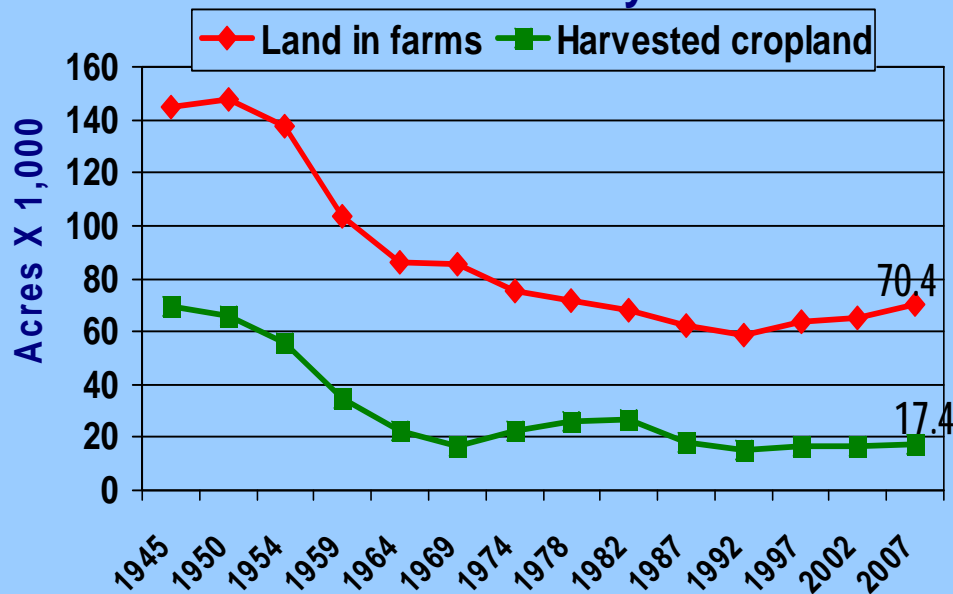


### Average Farm Size

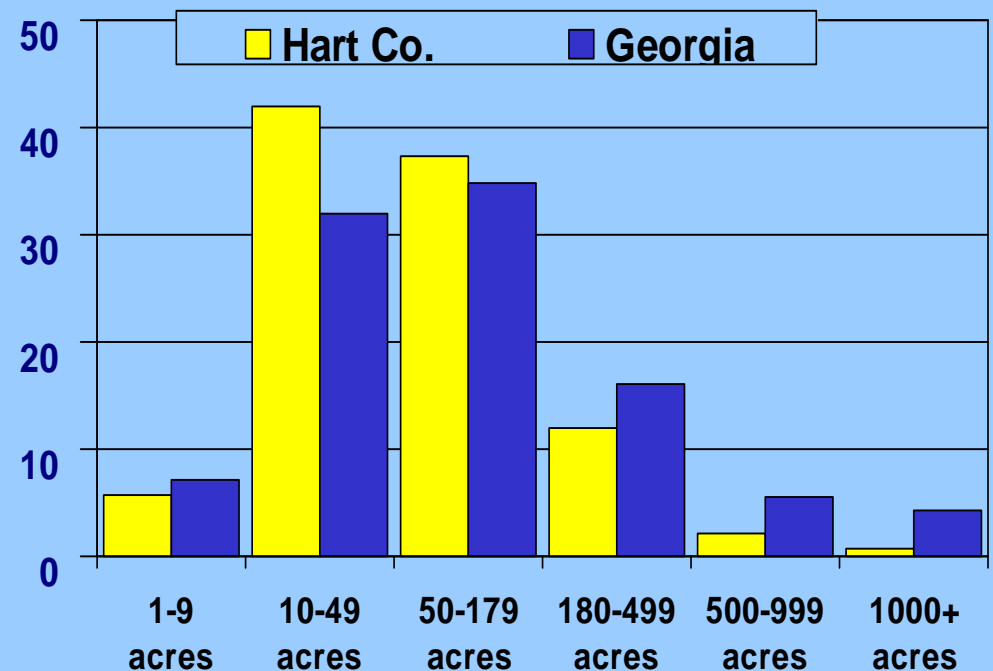


# Trends in Hart County: Land in Farms, Harvested Cropland & Farms by Size

Land in Farms & Harvested Cropland  
Hart County

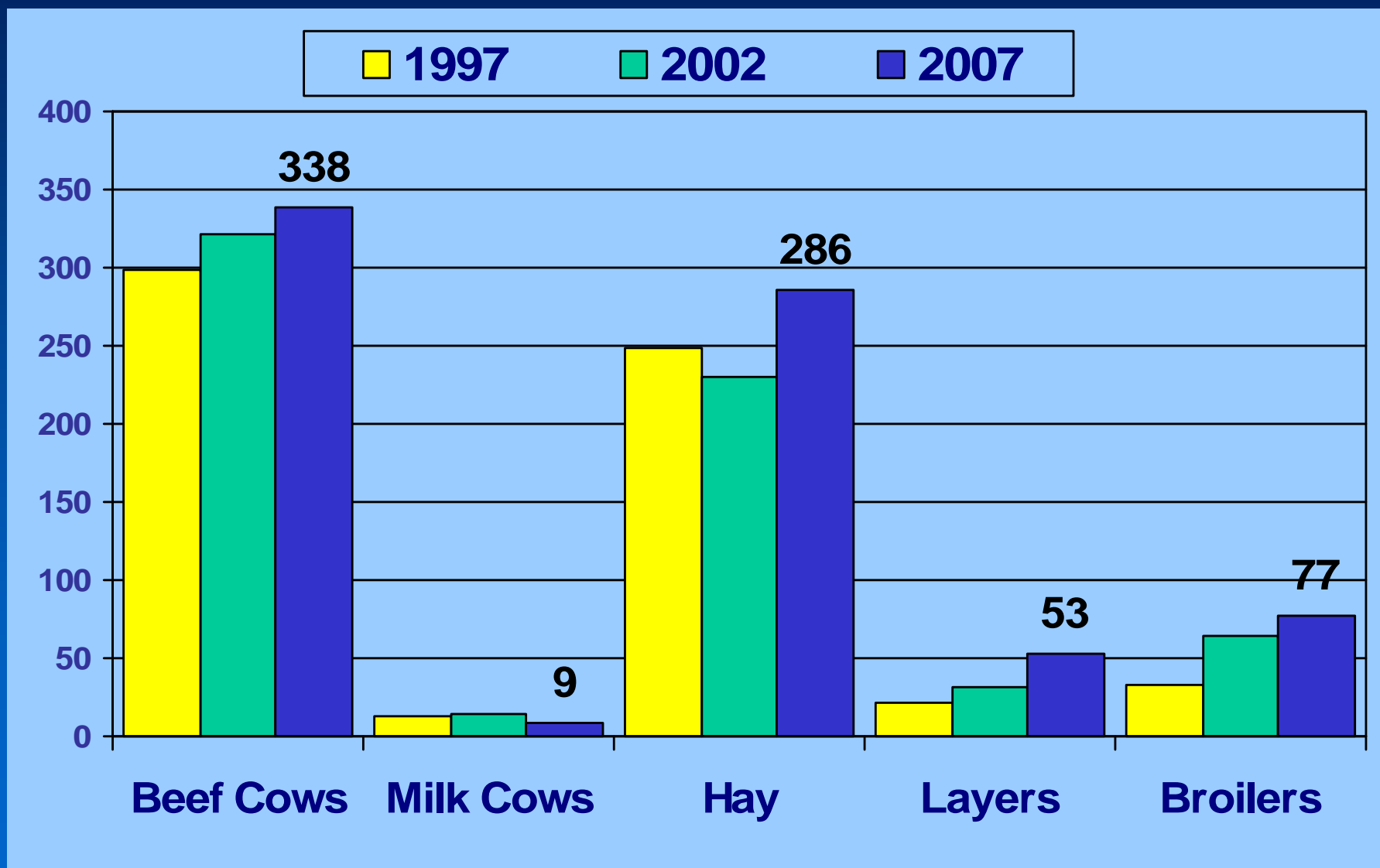


Percent of Farms by Size, 2007



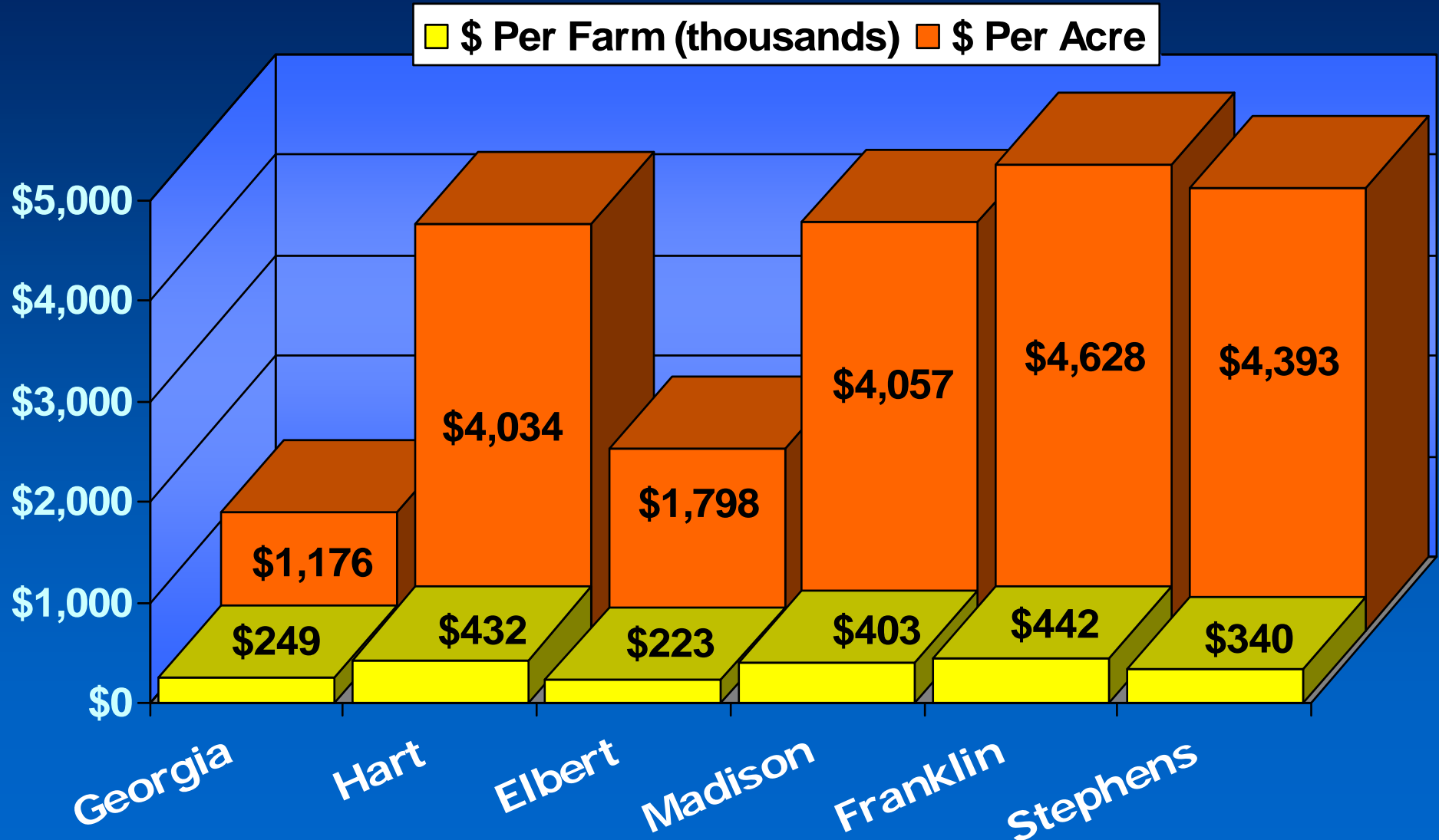
# Trends in Hart County

## Number of Farms by Commodity



# How Do We Compare ?

## Georgia, Hart and Surrounding Counties Farm Gate Value





# What We Did

## County Economy Modeled

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

# Hart County Economy

## Agriculture *OUTPUT*

	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
Agriculture	285.524	21.7
Mining	11.581	0.9
Construction	62.414	4.7
Manufacturing	455.014	34.6
Trans-Utilities-Info	99.444	7.6
Trade	95.761	7.3
Finance-Ins-RE	89.715	6.8
Services	147.551	11.2
Govt + non NAICS	69.846	5.3

Total County Economic Output = \$1.3 billion

# Hart County Economy

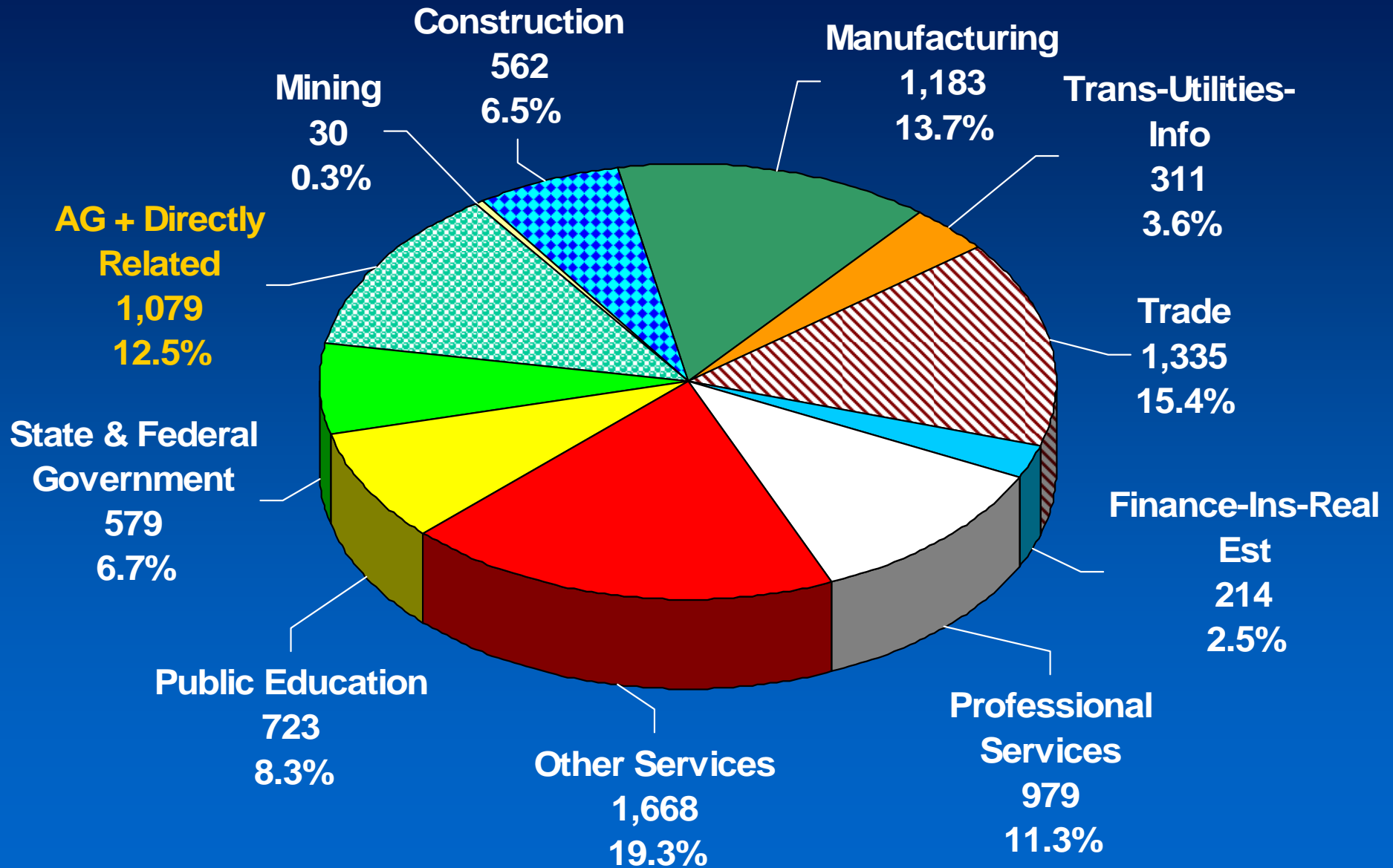
## Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses *OUTPUT*

	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
Agriculture + Direct	364.499	27.7
Mining	11.581	0.9
Construction	62.414	4.7
Manufacturing	376.038	28.6
Trans-Utilities-Info	99.444	7.6
Trade	95.761	7.3
Finance-Ins-Real Est	89.715	6.8
Services	147.551	11.2
Govt + non NAICS	69.846	5.3

Total County Economic Output = \$1.3 billion

# Hart County Employment

Total Jobs = 8,664

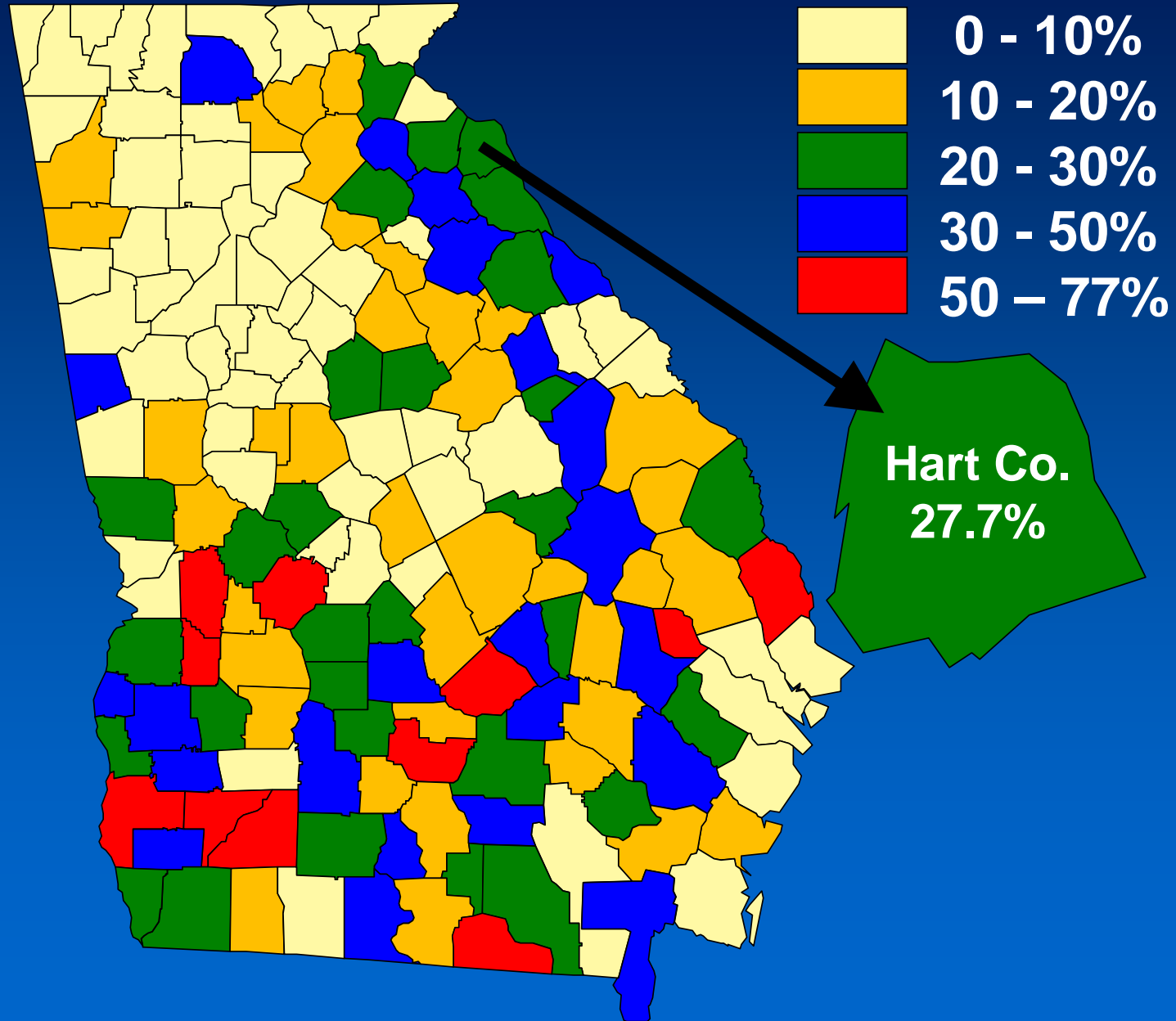


# An Economic Snapshot of Hart County

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- How much of Hart County's total economic output comes from food and fiber production?
- AG value alone of \$285.5 million consisting of Farm Gate Value and landscape services comprises 21.7% of the county's economy.
- AG plus directly related businesses (ex. animal slaughtering, logging, sawmills, etc.) comprise 27.7% of the county's economy.

# Food and Fiber Production and Directly Related Manufacturing as % of Total Output



# What is the Impact?

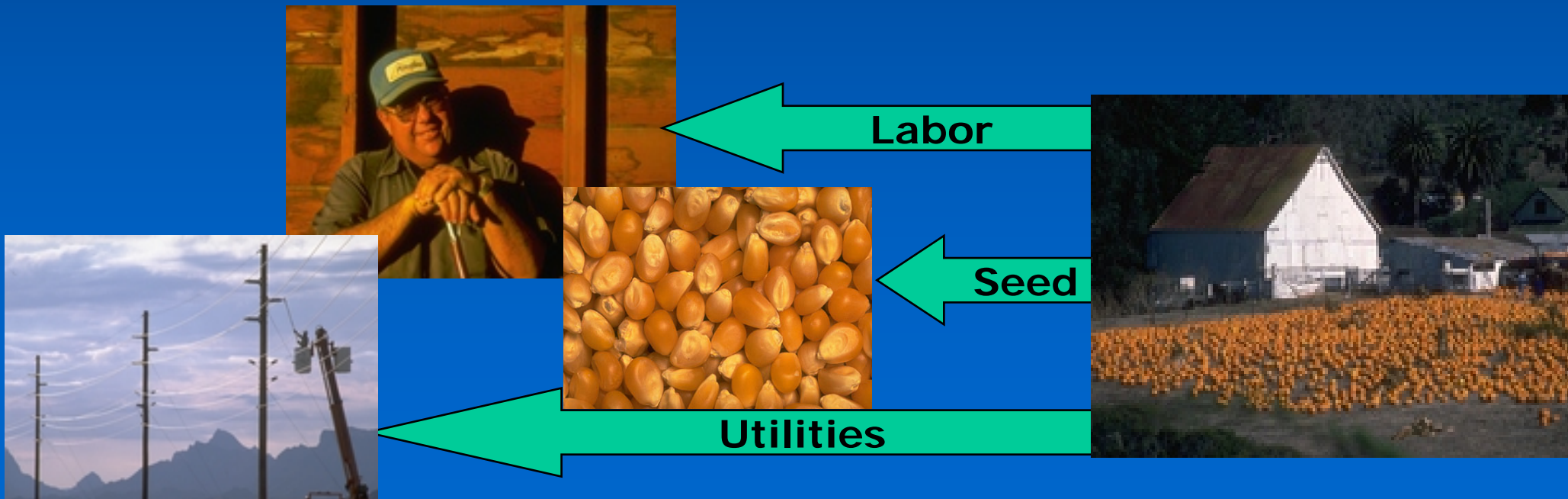
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- What is the total (direct and indirect) *impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?
- This scenario illustrates how other industries are affected by the presence of food and fiber in the county. The indirect impacts measure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



# Hart County

## Agriculture *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ Millions	Indirect \$ Millions
Agriculture	285.524	0
Mining	0	0.0001
Construction	0	0.831
Manufacturing	0	0.081
Trans-Utilities-Info	0	7.424
Trade	0	8.810
Finance-Ins-Real Est	0	6.214
Services	0	6.020
Govt + non NAICS	0	1.055
Total	285.524	30.436

Total Impact of Production AG = \$316 million  
24% of total economy

# Hart County

## Production Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ Millions	Indirect \$ Millions
Agriculture + Direct	364.499	0
Mining	0	0.0001
Construction	0	1.041
Manufacturing	0	0.124
Trans-Utilities-Info	0	10.054
Trade	0	11.507
Finance-Ins-Real Est	0	8.077
Services	0	8.571
Govt + non NAICS	0	1.420
Total	364.499	40.795

Total Impact of AG + Directly Related = \$405.3 million  
30.8% of total economy

# Hart County

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

	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
Agriculture + Direct	<b>1,079</b>	<b>0</b>
Mining	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Construction	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>
Manufacturing	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Trans-Utilities-Info	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>
Trade	<b>0</b>	<b>117</b>
Finance-Ins-Real Est	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>
Services	<b>0</b>	<b>145</b>
Govt + non NAICS	<b>1,079</b>	<b>337</b>

**Total Impact of AG + Directly Related Employment = 1,416 Jobs  
16.3% of total employment**

# What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation

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- *Direct* impact is \$365 million. This includes food and fiber production, processing and directly related manufacturing.
- *Indirect* impact from the Trade sector is \$11.5 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.

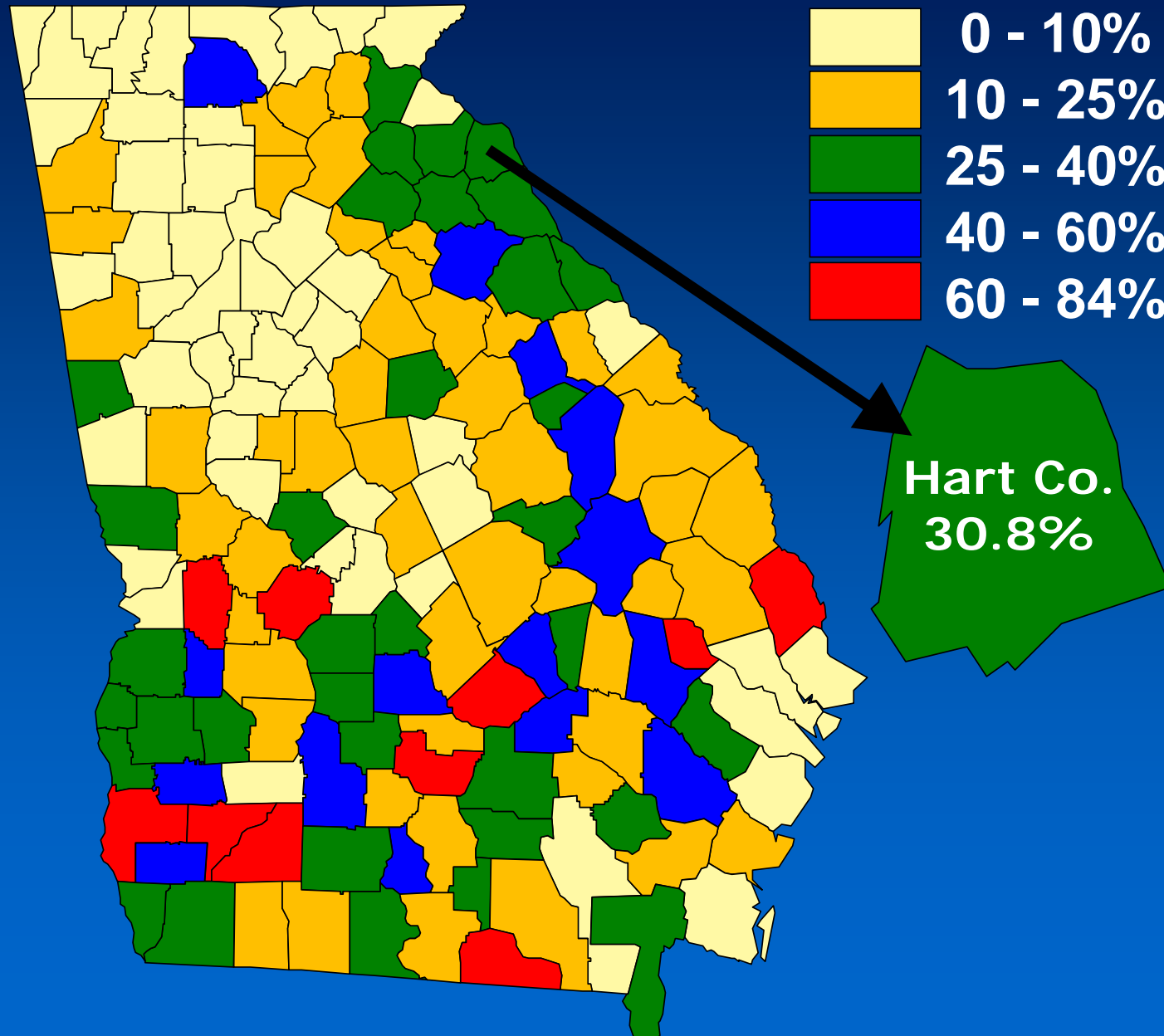
# Hart County Food and Fiber Impact Conclusions

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- The total *impact* of food and fiber production, processing and direct manufacturing is \$405.3 million.
- The total county *output* is \$1.3 billion.
- Thus, food and fiber (directly and indirectly) account for 30.8% of the total county output.



# Food and Fiber Production and Directly Related 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**

**#10-03A**

**January, 2010**

