



2022 Georgia Agricultural Census: Demographics

Jared Daniel and Vanessa Shonkwiler

Producer Numbers					
	2017		2022		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
Total	68,087	-	67,082	-	-1%
Male	44,839	65.9%	43,322	64.6%	-3%
Female	23,248	34.1%	23,760	35.4%	2%
Primary Occupation is Farming	27,062	39.7%	26,974	40.2%	0%
Hispanic	922	1.4%	996	1.5%	8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	211	0.3%	229	0.3%	9%
Asian	461	0.7%	584	0.9%	27%
Black or African American	2,773	4.1%	2,700	4.0%	-3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	30	0.0%	55	0.1%	83%
White	64,202	94.3%	62,985	93.9%	-2%
Multi-Race	410	0.6%	529	0.8%	29%
Military Service, Served	8,835	13.0%	7,339	10.9%	-17%

- On average, producers in Georgia were approximately 58 years old. This age aligns with the generation commonly referred to as “Boomers”.
- Most producers (64%) were aged over 55.
- In 2022, the number of younger producers (less than 25) had increased by 15% compared to 2017.
- This relatively older age characterizing Georgia producers may have implications for succession planning, workforce development, and other aspects of the agricultural industry.

- Between 2017 and 2022, there was a 1% decrease of the total number of Georgia producers. This is largely explained by the decline of male producers (-3%). Conversely, the number of female producers increased by 2%.
- Less than half of Georgia producers (40%) reported that farming is their primary occupation.
- The majority of producers were white (94%), slightly declining number (-2%) compared to the significant increase of Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (+83%), Multi-Race (+29%), and Asian (+27%) producers.
- Among Georgia producers, about 11% had served or were serving in the U.S. military in 2022.

Producers by Age					
	2017		2022		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
Average	57.9	-	59	-	2%
< 25	832	1%	956	1%	15%
25-34	4,272	6%	4,075	6%	-5%
35-44	7,619	11%	7,578	11%	-1%
45-54	13,143	19%	11,151	17%	-15%
55-64	18,071	27%	16,636	25%	-8%
65-74	15,983	23%	16,418	24%	3%
75+	8,167	12%	10,268	15%	26%

Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2017 Census of Agriculture and 2022 Census of Agriculture, calculations made by authors, adjusted to 2022 dollars



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Farms by # of Producers (involved in day-to-day decision making)					
	2017		2022		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
1	20,732	50.2%	16,941	44.7%	-18%
2	17,202	41.6%	16,692	44.0%	-3%
3	2,248	5.4%	2,549	6.7%	13%
4	817	2.0%	1,296	3.4%	59%
5+	323	0.8%	439	1.2%	36%
1 Male	32,909	79.6%	29,714	78.4%	-10%
2 Male	4,030	9.8%	4,321	11.4%	7%
3 Male	685	1.7%	896	2.4%	31%
4 Male	160	0.4%	183	0.5%	14%
5+ Male	69	0.2%	97	0.3%	41%
1 Female	19,609	47.5%	18,666	49.2%	-5%
2 Female	1,206	2.9%	1,765	4.7%	46%
3 Female	214	0.5%	272	0.7%	27%
4 Female	54	0.1%	69	0.2%	28%
5+ Female	28	0.1%	32	0.1%	14%

- More than half of Georgia farms with day-to-day decision making, comprising 88.7%, were typically owned or managed by either one or two producers.
- The number of farms with day-to-day decisions made by a single male, represented 79.6% of all farms in 2017, and had declined by 10% by 2022.
- Operations with female decision-makers constituted 51% of the overall number of farms with day-to-day decision making in Georgia in 2017 and 55% in 2022.
- The number of producers involved in farm decisions decreased by 2% from 2017 to 2022.

- In 2022, beginning producers made up 34% of all producers in Georgia, indicating a 2% rise compared to 2017.
- The primary occupation for the majority of beginning producers (90%) was non-farming related.

New & Beginning Producers (farming <10 yrs)					
	2017		2022		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
Total	22,743	33%	23,085	34%	2%
Primary Occupation is farming	6,333	28%	6,742	10%	6%
Male	13,989	62%	13,916	21%	-1%
Female	8,754	38%	9,169	14%	5%

Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2017 Census of Agriculture and 2022 Census of Agriculture, calculations made by authors, adjusted to 2022 dollars