TENNESSEE AGRI-INDUSTRY BRIEF: 
CORN PRODUCTION FACT SHEET

Jamey Menard, Research Leader
Agri-Industry Modeling & Analysis Group (AIM-AG)
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

BACKGROUND

Corn is widely grown in Tennessee. County-level harvested corn acreage, production and yields for 2022 are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, respectively. U.S. state-level marketing year average corn grain prices from September 1 to August 31 are indicated in Figure 4. For Tennessee in 2022, the state-level marketing year average price was $6.65/bushel (USDA/NASS, 2023a).
Figure 1. County-Level Corn Harvested Acres in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a

Figure 2. County-Level Corn Production in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a

Figure 3. County-Level Corn Yields in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a
ECONOMICS

CASH RECEIPTS

For Tennessee’s agricultural producers in 2022, corn cash receipts at $678.3 million ranked fourth behind soybeans ($1,094.7 million), broilers ($972.6 million), and cattle and calves ($687.0 million). Compared to other states for 2022, Tennessee ranked 19th in cash receipts from corn (USDA/ERS, 2023).

MULTIPLIER EFFECTS

Accounting for all corn farming for the state, and including multiplier effects, the industry in 2022 contributed an estimated $1.3 billion in economic activity. This economic activity was comprised of an estimated 10,920 individuals working part- or full-time in industries that support
corn farming, with a labor income of $272.5 million.\textsuperscript{1} The 2022 economic activity and employment multipliers were 1.94 and 1.58, respectively. If corn farming increased total industry output (economic activity) by $1 million, the state’s economy would increase by an estimated $0.94 million overall, and for each job supported in the same industry, an estimated 0.58 jobs would be supported in other industries. Flour and wet corn milling in 2022 contributed an estimated $2.3 billion in economic activity and was comprised of 6,647 employees with a labor income of $357.1 million (IMPLAN Group, LLC, 2022).

**TRADE**

Bulk agricultural trade for Tennessee’s corn production in 2022 totaled $31,000. Hong Kong was Tennessee’s largest trading partners for corn grain (USDA/FAS, 2023).\textsuperscript{2}

**CORN PRODUCTION**

Tennessee’s planted and harvested corn acreages from 2012 to 2022 are displayed in Figure 5. The average total planted and harvested acreages were 881,818 and 824,545 acres, respectively. Tennessee corn production for that same time frame is displayed in Figure 6. Average production was 127.1 million bushels. From 2012 to 2022, Tennessee corn yields averaged 155.1 bushels per acre (Figure 7), with the marketing year average price at $4.70 per bushel (Figure 8). Compared to other states for 2022, Tennessee ranked 18\textsuperscript{th} and 17\textsuperscript{th} for planted and harvested acreages, respectively. The state ranked 32\textsuperscript{nd} in yields and 18\textsuperscript{th} in corn production for that time frame (USDA/NASS, 2023b). For 2022, Tennessee average corn yield was 130 bushels per acre, 45 bushels per acre below trend line yield, due to a severe drought in west and middle Tennessee.

\textsuperscript{1}Calculations based on IMPLAN’s 2022 direct value of production of $690.1 million, which includes on-farm consumption and is net of inventory changes. IMPLAN’s grain farming corresponds to NAICS codes 111130, 111140, 111150, 111191 and 111199—establishments primarily engaged in raising small grains (wheat), corn and sorghum (US Census Bureau, 2023).

\textsuperscript{2}USDA/FAS state export data limitations for agricultural shipments: 1) origin of movement is not necessarily the transportation origin (inland state intermediaries shipping agricultural commodities down the Mississippi River to the port in New Orleans may report Louisiana as the state of origin of movement, resulting in understating exports from agricultural states and overstating exports for others); and 2) consolidated shipments will reflect the state of origin where consolidated (USDA/FAS, 2023).
Figure 5. Tennessee Planted/Harvested Corn Acres, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)

Figure 6. Tennessee Corn Production, 2013-2023
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)
Figure 7. Tennessee Corn Yields, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023c)

Figure 8. Tennessee Marketing Year Average Corn Prices Received, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023c)
CORN PRODUCTION SUGGESTED READING

FIELD CROP BUDGETS:
- Current Weekly Crop Comments and Market Highlights Information. Available at arec.tennessee.edu/extension/crop-economics.

CROP ECONOMICS:

REFERENCES

IMPLAN Group LLC, IMPLAN System (2022 data and Cloud Platform V. 7.0 software), 16905 Northcross Dr., Suite 120, Huntersville, NC 28078. Available at implan.com.


