The Illinois Farmers Market Association in cooperation with the Illinois Specialty Growers Association and other partner organizations are sought out input from Illinois Farmers Market Vendors on the economic impact that farmers markets have on the Illinois economy. The following is a summary of survey results, tabulated as of March 31, 2020.

**Survey responses (as of March 31, 2020)**

**89**

**QUESTION 1:** How many markets did you sell at as a vendor during the 2019 season?
QUESTION 2:
What product(s) do you sell at Illinois farmers markets? (Check all that apply.)

- Fruits & Vegetables: 25.3%
- Value Added Products: 19.2%
- Artisan Goods: 19.2%
- Baked Goods: 15.1%
- Eggs: 5.5%
- Meat: 6.2%
- Honey: 2.1%
- Other: 3.4%

QUESTION 3:
What was your 2019 business' gross income from all farmers markets where you are a vendor in Illinois?

- Total reported among 79 survey participants that answered this question: $2,203,582
- Average annual sales reported among the 79 survey participants that answered this question: $27,893
QUESTION 4:

What would be the impact on your business if there were no farmers markets in Illinois in 2020?

A FEW ANSWERS FROM THIS OPEN ENDED ANSWERS:

- I will lose my main source of income
- I would lose a connection with my community and up to 15% of my revenue.
- I will be out of business.
- It would be a big loss.
- Total loss.
- Would be losing a lot of revenue.
- Farmers markets are my only source of income...besides social security.
- We would have to shut down our business.
- It would be a big loss.
- Not having enough for utilities payment.
- I will be completely out of business, real estate taxes not paid, owed the bank money from home equity loan. Losing my land. And I could not plant crops due to rain. I have a tractor and farming tools. Scratch my head. We need to be farming food locally.
- Big. It would have a huge impact on our business.
- I couldn't run my baking business without participating in local farmers markets. It would prevent me from operating my baking business.
- It would be a huge impact, because that's where we got our start and found customers to sell our product. We also supported the farmers.
- I'm not sure that we would be able to be in business. Even after opening a permanent location, without the traffic and exposure of the market we would not currently have enough revenue to keep our store open.
- I would not have a business. I would have to close and figure out how to liquidate my farm.
- We do all of our sales through farmers markets. We would probably have to cease operations without access to farmers markets.