

## What?

### NC Agromedicine Institute

The **NC Agromedicine Institute** is a University of North Carolina inter-institutional organization whose main goal includes **identifying** and **addressing** the health and safety risks of farmers, foresters, fishermen, their families and communities in North Carolina.

The **NC Cooperative Extension** offices in each county across the state help *foster communication* of University led research between **residents of rural North Carolina** and health care organizations.



### Fast Facts about NC Agriculture:

Farmland makes up **8.4 million acres** of the state's land.

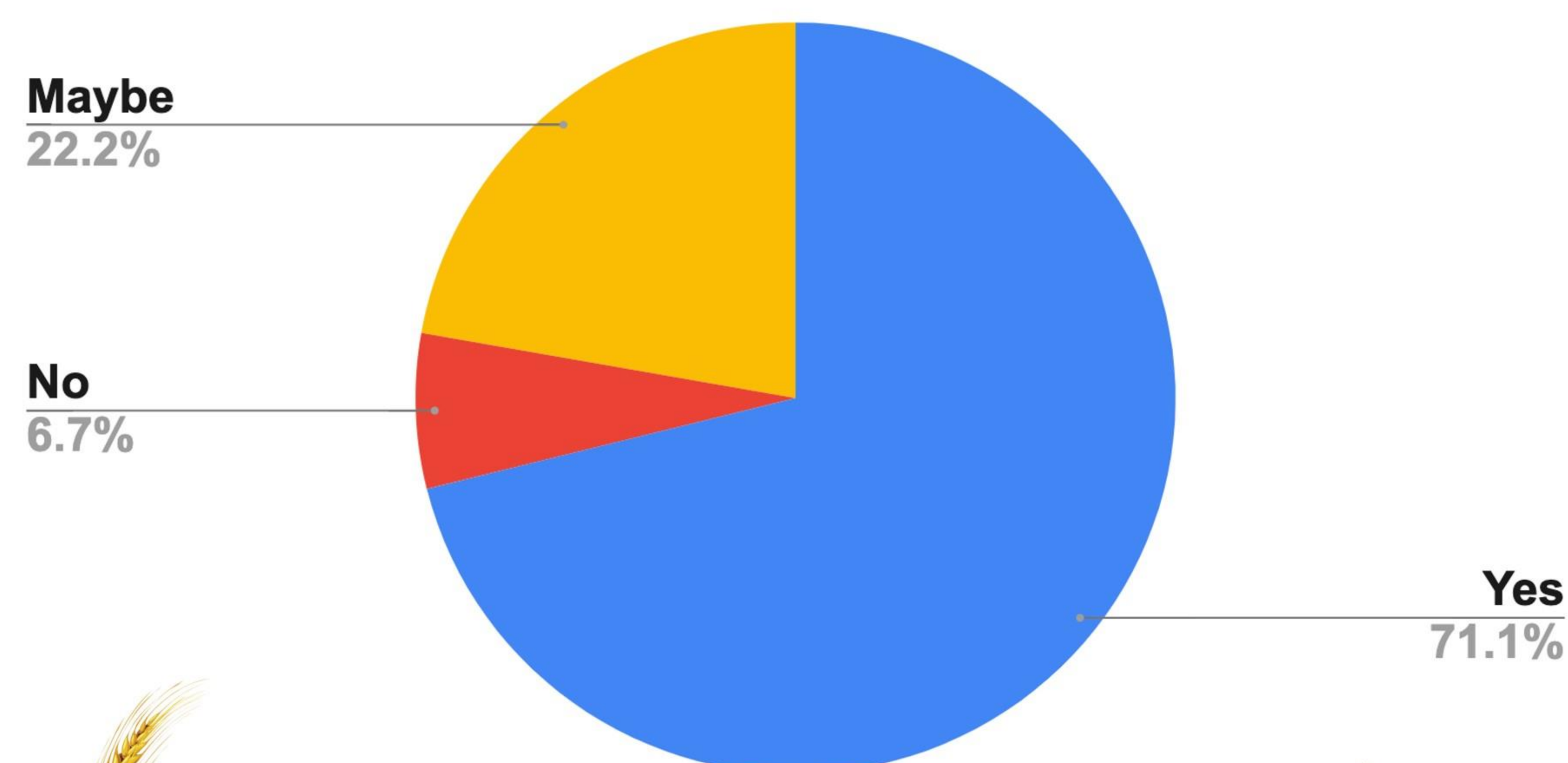
Agriculture provide jobs for **4.4 million North Carolinians**.

## So What?

### How do Brody students feel about rural health issues?

Medical students at the Brody School of Medicine **may lack foundational knowledge** in rural and agricultural health issues. With one of Brody's missions being to "**improve the health status of eastern North Carolina's residents**", it is crucial that the student body understands the population it plans to serve.

**BSOM Students (M1-M4) asked: Would supplemental rural and agricultural health education opportunities be valuable to your medical school learning experience / future career as a physician?**



(Out of the 57 students who responded)

Survey results (July 2022) **preliminarily** indicate that a student-led rural health initiative and Agromedicine group would be beneficial to medical education.

Thank you to Bridget Gallagher, M3 SLDT Scholar, Robin Tutor, MPH, and Dr. Tom Irons, MD, for their support, guidance and mentorship.

## Now What?

Need for a Rural Health education and advocacy group within our school

The longitudinal purpose of this project is to establish a Rural and Agricultural Health Education and Advocacy Group within the Brody School of Medicine.



Through farm tours, unique presentations from the community and incorporation of rural health education into student learning this project aims to:

**Create a space** for students to become more familiar with farmers and their work environments.

**Improve student knowledge** of relevant agriculture related health issues.

**Advocate** for the improvement of health outcomes in rural residents.