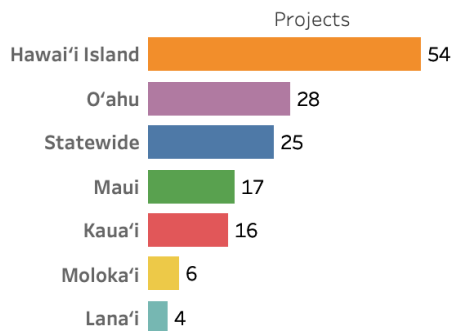




# GROWING ISLAND AGRICULTURE AND CREATING JOBS

Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the agricultural industry has identified over 120 “shovel-ready” projects that will create jobs, boost revenue and grow production. These projects demonstrate the vitality of local agriculture and its potential to contribute to our economic recovery and community resilience. Now is the time to strategically invest in Hawai‘i’s agricultural sector. Public, private and non-profit funders can see project details in this [dashboard](#).

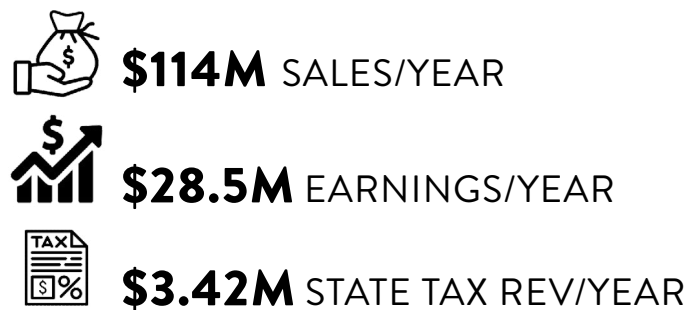


**Shovel ready ag projects will generate \$57 million in additional agricultural revenue each year.** Agricultural investments keep dollars circulating locally. Taking this strong multiplier effect into account, **these investments would generate a substantial annual economy-wide impact.**<sup>1</sup>

## INVESTING TO BUILD A DIVERSE ECONOMY

Sustainable agriculture, natural resource conservation and green energy contribute to our economic, social and environmental resilience. These ag projects will grow our capacity for food production and distribution, meet community feeding demands and address essential infrastructure needs. They will contribute to our statewide economic recovery, while building resilience on each island.

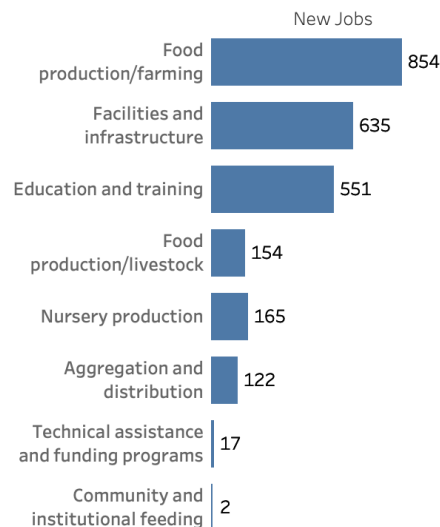
## ECONOMY-WIDE MULTIPLIER EFFECTS



<sup>1</sup> Based on an average sales multiplier of 2.0, earnings multiplier of 0.5, state-tax multiplier of 0.06, and job multiplier of 25. Leung, P., & Loke, M. (2008). Economic Impacts of Improving Hawaii’s Food Self-sufficiency. Economic Issues. <http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/12200>

## **GROWING JOBS**

These ag investments will produce 2,500 new long-term jobs. Innovative ag projects provide employment opportunities from entry-level, short-term manual labor to long-term managerial and entrepreneurial opportunities. As investments that create near term job opportunities also build earning potential, this will yield sustainable workforce opportunities.



Projects were submitted in response to a survey deployed by the Agricultural Response & Recovery Working Group in July 2020. This is not a comprehensive list of all investment opportunities and notably includes very few public sector projects. While some projects are best suited to grant funding, others are debt ready. If you are interested in learning more about a particular project, see the contact details in the [dashboard](#).

*The Agricultural Response & Recovery Working Group is a broad coalition of agricultural stakeholders from across the sector and the state. We first convened in April 2020 in response to the destabilization of the coronavirus pandemic to forge deeper connections between local agriculture, emergency food distribution, and long-term economic planning. Together we have articulated a plan to keep farmers and ranchers afloat, mobilize local food production to address immediate community feeding needs, contribute to Hawai'i's economic recovery, and build lasting food system capacity to grow a more resilient Hawai'i.*

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*Working Group members are participating as individuals with specialized expertise and are not serving as official representatives of their respective organizations.*