

Broadwater County

January 2021

Broadwater County is a rural sparsely populated county located in central Montana, between the major towns of Bozeman and Helena. Over 61% of land in Broadwater County is classified as farm land.

Overview (2017 Data)

Population	6,085
County Size (acres)	763,110
Land in Farms (%)	61.2
Number of Farms	296
Median Farm Size (acres)	149
Average Farm Size (acres)	1,577

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 1: County Summary
Highlights: 2017

Farm Revenue

Farm revenue (which includes the market value of products sold, government payments, and farm-related income) were \$45 million while production expenses were \$33 million. Government payments accounted for 5.8% of revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$39,688,000
Government Payments	\$2,336,000
Farm-Related Income	\$2,935,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$32,890,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$12,069,000

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Tables 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6: 2017

Taxation

The market value of all property in Broadwater County was approximately \$856 million in 2019.

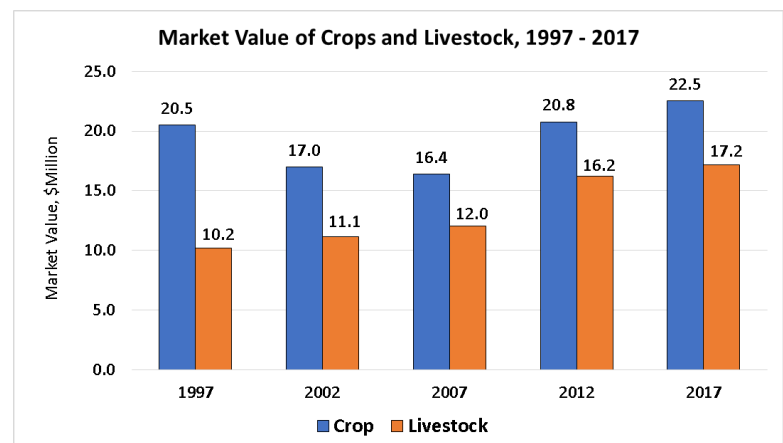
The taxable value assigned by the Montana Department of Revenue was \$17 million. Agricultural Property (as defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 Property) comprised 9% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$856,715,760	\$474,467,647
Taxable Value of All Property	\$17,629,297	\$13,157,599
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$1,631,508	\$1,297,720
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	9%	10%

Source: Montana Dept. of Rev. Montana Taxes by County in [2018](#) and Montana Taxes by County in [2014](#)

Market Value of Crops and Livestock

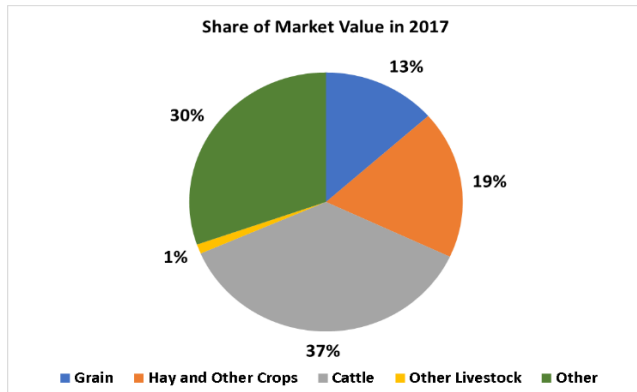
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops increased by 1%, while the market value of livestock increased by nearly 69%, from 1997 to 2017.



Sources: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 1: County Summary Highlights: 2017 and [St. Louis Fed Producer Price Index](#)

Crops and Livestock

Cattle (37%), other crops (30%) comprised 75% of total crop and livestock sales in 2017.



Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 2: County Summary Highlights: 2017

Farm Size by Acres

The percentage of smaller farms, less than 500 acres, increased slightly from 61% to 65%, while the percentage of larger farms, 500 acres or more, decreased from 39% to 36% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	8	3	14	5
10 to 49	67	23	48	17
50 to 179	91	31	72	25
180 to 499	25	8	39	14
500 to 999	17	6	24	8
1,000 or more	88	30	90	31
TOTAL	296	100	287	100

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 1: County Summary Highlights: 2017

Farm Size by Sales

The proportion of total sales from the smallest farms with less than \$100,000 in sales increased from 73% to 77%, while the proportion of total sales from the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 27% to 23% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	119	40	96	33
2,500 to 4,999	14	5	17	6
5,000 to 9,999	22	7	23	8
10,000 to 24,999	25	8	30	10
25,000 to 49,999	22	7	28	10
50,000 to 99,999	26	9	15	5
100,000 or more	68	23	78	27
TOTAL	296	100	287	100

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 1: County Summary Highlights: 2017

Tillage and Land Use

The percentage of farms using no till, reduced tillage, or cover crops increased, while the percentage of farms using intensive tillage decreased from 2012 to 2017.

Tillage	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
No tillage	47	16	35	12
Reduced tillage	19	6	18	6
Intensive tillage	35	12	51	18
Cover crops	11	4	8	3
TOTAL FARMS	296		287	

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 41 Land Use Practices

Producer Profile

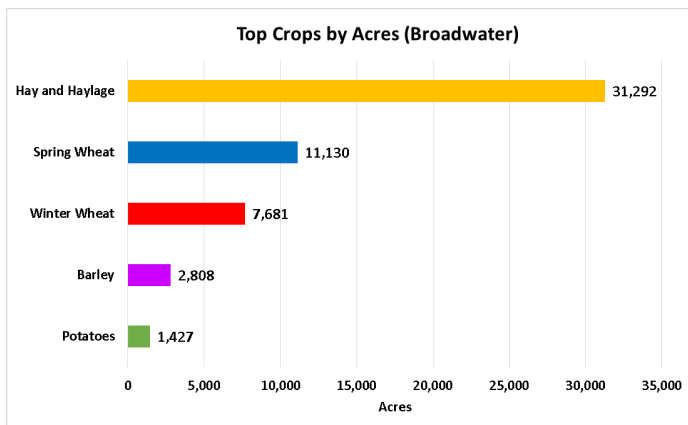
The county producer population was younger than the Montana producer population. Thirty-seven percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 31% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-four percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 36% were over 65 years of age. Fifty-eight percent of producers in the county were males, while 60% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 51% of county producers, while farming was the primary occupation for 50% of Montana producers.

Characteristics	County		State	
	Number of Producers	%	Number of Producers	%
Age				
18 – 25	12	2	570	1
25 to 34	51	10	3,285	7
35 to 44	49	9	5,179	11
45 to 54	88	16	7,309	15
55 to 64	157	29	13,838	29
65 to 74	122	23	11,469	24
75 and older	43	8	5,587	12
Sex				
Male	311	58	28,563	60
Female	223	42	18,673	40
Primary Occupation				
Yes	272	51	23,847	50
No	262	49	24,314	50
TOTAL PRODUCERS	534	100	48,161	100

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 45 Selected Operation and Producer Characteristics

Top Crops by Acres

The top crops were hay and haylage, spring and winter wheat, barley, and potatoes.



Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Table 1: County Summary Highlights: 2017

Top Livestock

The top livestock were cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry (chickens and turkeys).

Livestock	Number of Head
Cattle	23,154
Sheep	2,425
Chickens-Layers	820
Hogs	279
Chicken-Broilers	138
Turkeys	12

Source: [Census of Agriculture](#): Tables 11 (Cattle), 13 (Sheep) and 19 (Poultry)

Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 695 workers, or 27% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 508 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 165 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 22 workers were employed in other related businesses, such as grocery and drugs stores. For every 10 jobs on farms and ranches, 4 additional jobs are generated in the county.

Impact Type	Labor Force	Impact Multipliers
County Labor Force	2,584	
Direct Impact	508	
Indirect Impact	165	0.32
Induced Impact	22	0.04
Total Impact	695	0.37
Agriculture's Share (%)	27	

Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), www.bls.gov/#cntyaa and IMPLAN Estimates

Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$26.6 million of value-added, or 20% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$136 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$17.9 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$7.4 million was generated by businesses supporting agricultural production and \$1.4 million was generated by other related businesses. Each dollar of value-added in agriculture by a farmer or rancher contributes an additional \$0.49 of value-added in other sectors of the county's economy.

Impact Type	Value-Added (\$1 million)	Impact Multipliers
County GDP*	136.0	
Direct Impact**	17.9	
Indirect Impact**	7.4	0.41
Induced Impact**	1.4	0.08
Total Impact**	26.6	0.49
Agriculture's Share (%)	20	

Sources: * [St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank](#), ** IMPLAN Estimates

References

- 2017 Census of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana, State and County Data, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series, part 26 https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full_Report/Volume_1,_Chapter_1_State_Level/Montana/mtv1.pdf

- Dept. of Revenue “Montana Taxes by County in 2014” <https://mtrevenue.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2014-Taxes-by-County.pdf>
- Dept. of Revenue “Montana Taxes by County in 2018” <https://mtrevenue.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2018-Taxes-by-County.pdf>
- St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank (2017). Current dollar gross domestic product by county for Montana, retrieved from <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/release/tables?rid=397&eid=1062609&od=2017-01-01#>
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