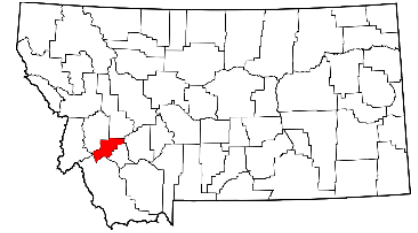


ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE

Deer Lodge County



January 2021

Deer Lodge County is a rural county located in the western part of the state between the large towns of Butte and Missoula. Over 15% of land in Deer Lodge County is classified as farm land.

Overview (2017 Data)

Population	9,131
County Size (acres)	471,477
Land in Farms (%)	15.7
Number of Farms	77
Median Farm Size (acres)	180
Average Farm Size (acres)	962

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 nearly \$7 million while production expenses were slightly over \$5 million. Government payments were 2.5% of farm revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$6,487,000
Government Payments	\$169,000
Farm-Related Income	\$206,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$5,228,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$1,634,000

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

Taxation

The market value of all property in Deer Lodge County was approximately \$892 million in 2019. The taxable value assigned by the Montana Department

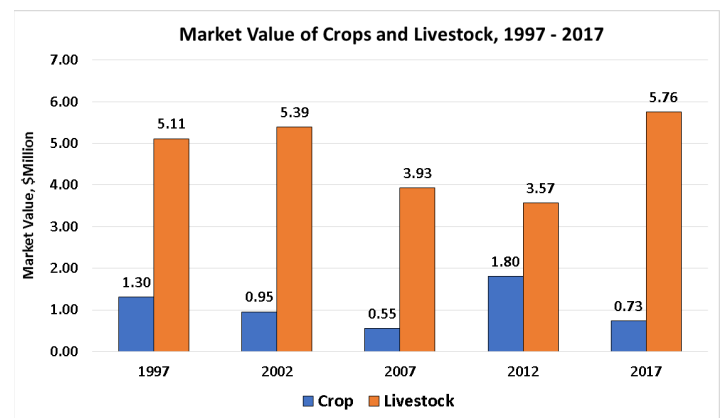
of Revenue was \$21 million. Agricultural Property (as defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 property) comprised 2.5% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$892,770,496	\$570,996,244
Taxable Value of All Property	\$21,446,643	\$18,277,051
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$542,284	\$545,342
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	2.53%	2.98%

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

Market Value of Crops and Livestock

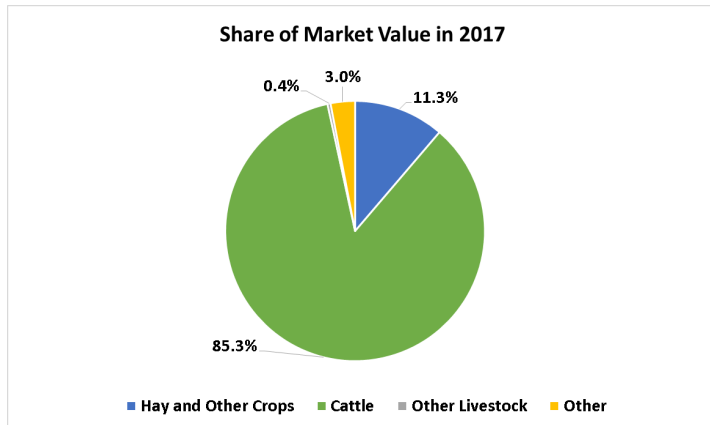
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops decreased by 44%, while the market value of livestock increased by 13%, from 1997 to 2017.



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

Crops and Livestock

Cattle (85%) and hay and other crops (11%) comprised 96% 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 from 68% to 73%, while the percentage of larger farms, 500 acres or more, decreased from 32% to 27% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	3	4	8	9
10 to 49	9	12	21	23
50 to 179	26	34	17	18
180 to 499	18	23	17	18
500 to 999	4	5	13	14
1,000 or more	17	22	17	18
TOTAL	77	100	93	100

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

Farm Size by Sales

The percentage of the smallest farms with less than \$100,000 in sales decreased from 86% to 83%, while the percentage of the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more increased from 14% to 17% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	35	45	51	55
2,500 to 4,999	7	9	5	5
5,000 to 9,999	0	0	4	4
10,000 to 24,999	10	13	6	6
25,000 to 49,999	5	6	8	9
50,000 to 99,999	3	4	5	5
100,000 or more	17	22	14	15
TOTAL	77	100	93	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	2	3	0	0
Reduced tillage	3	4	0	0
Intensive tillage	4	5	10	11
Cover crops	5	6	5	5
TOTAL FARMS	77		93	

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

Producer Profile

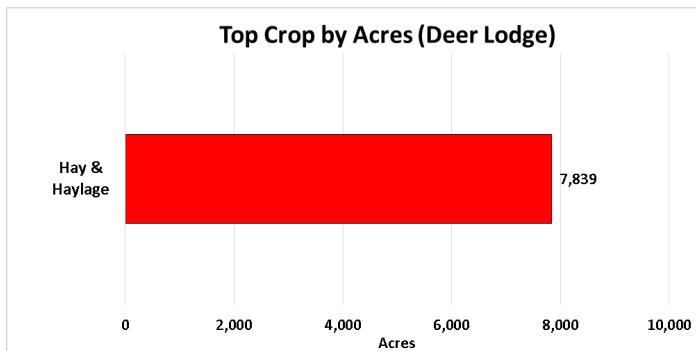
The county producer population was older than the Montana producer population. Twenty-three percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 46% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-four percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 36% were over 65 years of age. Fifty-eight percent of producers in the county were males, while 60% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 33% 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	0	0	1	0
25 to 34	3	2	16	3
35 to 44	13	10	44	9
45 to 54	15	11	83	16
55 to 64	38	29	146	28
65 to 74	47	36	128	25
75 and older	14	11	95	19
Sex				
Male	77	58	28,563	60
Female	55	42	18,673	40
Primary Occupation				
Yes	43	33	23,847	50
No	89	67	24,314	50
TOTAL PRODUCERS	132	100	48,161	100

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

Top Crop by Acres

The top crop by acre was hay and haylage.



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

Top Livestock

The top livestock were cattle, sheep, and poultry (chickens-layers).

Livestock	Number of Head
Cattle	7,361
Sheep	242
Chickens-Layers	29

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

Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 150 workers, or 3% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 91 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 55 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 4 workers were employed in other related businesses, such as grocery and drugs stores. For every 10 jobs on farms and ranches, 7 additional jobs are generated in the county.

Impact Type	Labor Force	Impact Multipliers
County Labor Force	5,134	
Direct Impact	91	
Indirect Impact	55	0.60
Induced Impact	4	0.04
Total Impact	150	0.65
Agriculture's Share (%)	3	

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

Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$4.5 million of value-added, or 2% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$284 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$2.7 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$1.5 million was generated by businesses supporting agricultural production and \$0.2 million was generated by other related businesses. Each dollar of value-added in agriculture by a farmer or rancher contributes an additional \$0.63 of value-added in other sectors of the county's economy.

Impact Type	Value-Added (\$1 million)	Impact Multipliers
County GDP*	284.0	
Direct Impact**	2.7	
Indirect Impact**	1.5	0.55
Induced Impact**	0.2	0.08
Total Impact**	4.5	0.63
Agriculture's Share (%)	2	

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

References

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