

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE



## Richland County

January 2021

Richland County is located in the far eastern portion of the state, bordering North Dakota to the east. Over 95% of land in Richland County is classified as farm land.

### Overview (2017 Data)

Population	10,913
County Size (acres)	1,333,941
Land in Farms (%)	95.2
Number of Farms	527
Median Farm Size (acres)	1,000
Average Farm Size (acres)	2,410

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 over \$120 million while production expenses were \$92 million. Government payments were 8.5% of farm revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$100,103,000
Government Payments	\$10,227,000
Farm-Related Income	\$10,241,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$92,239,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$28,331,000

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

### Taxation

The market value of all property in Richland County was approximately \$2 billion in 2019. The taxable value assigned by the Montana Department of Revenue was \$56 million. Agricultural Property (as

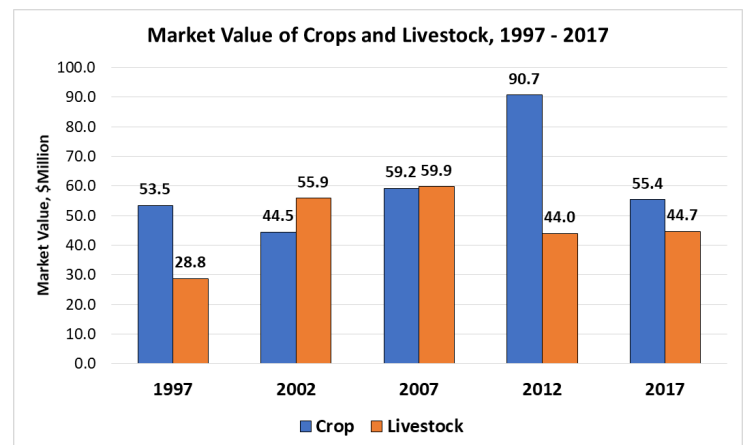
defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 Property) comprised 8% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$2,087,471,183	\$1,213,071,434
Taxable Value of All Property	\$56,658,262	\$46,109,965
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$4,546,955	\$3,764,091
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	8.03%	8.16%

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

### Market Value of Crops and Livestock

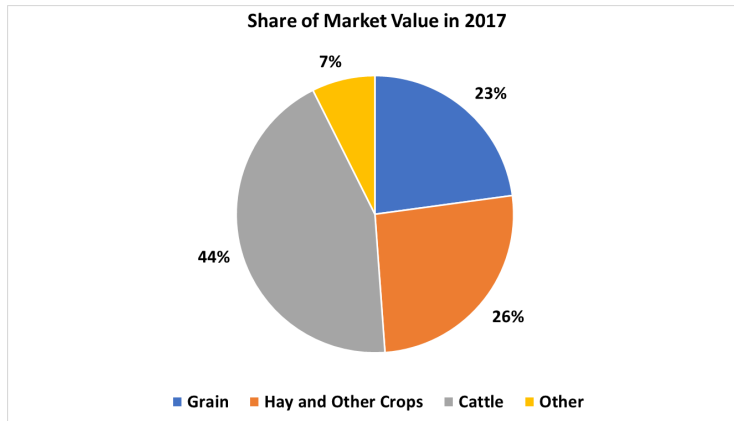
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops increased by 4%, while the market value of livestock increased by 56%, from 1997 to 2017.



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

## Crops and Livestock

Cattle (44%) and hay and other crops (26%) comprised 70% 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 33% to 38%, while the percentage of larger farms, 500 acres or more, decreased from 67% to 62% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	28	5	29	5
10 to 49	43	8	40	7
50 to 179	44	8	45	8
180 to 499	84	16	64	12
500 to 999	61	12	88	16
1,000 or more	267	51	278	51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>100</b>

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 increased from 62% to 65%, while the percentage of the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 38% to 35% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	161	31	144	26
2,500 to 4,999	18	3	13	2
5,000 to 9,999	29	6	32	6
10,000 to 24,999	31	6	41	8
25,000 to 49,999	39	7	46	8
50,000 to 99,999	64	12	61	11
100,000 or more	185	35	207	38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>100</b>

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

## Tillage and Land Use

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

Tillage	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
No tillage	112	21	118	22
Reduced tillage	102	19	90	17
Intensive tillage	85	16	152	28
Cover crops	34	6	35	6
<b>TOTAL FARMS</b>	<b>527</b>		<b>544</b>	

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

## Producer Profile

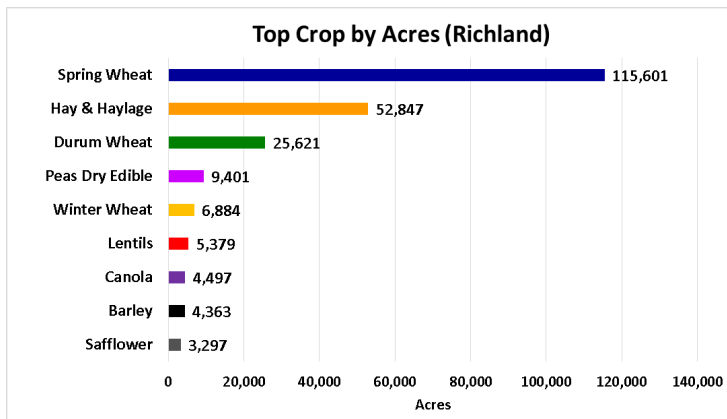
The county producer population was slightly older than the Montana producer population. Thirty-three percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 32% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-four percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 36% were over 65 years of age. Sixty-five percent of producers in the county were males, while 60% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 53% of county producers, while farming was the primary occupation for 50% of Montana producers.

Characteristics	County		State	
	Number of Producers	%	Number of Producers	%
<b>Age</b>				
18 – 25	2	0	570	1
25 to 34	95	10	3,285	7
35 to 44	94	10	5,179	11
45 to 54	120	13	7,309	15
55 to 64	294	32	13,838	29
65 to 74	194	21	11,469	24
75 and older	99	11	5,587	12
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	604	65	28,563	60
Female	326	35	18,673	40
<b>Primary Occupation</b>				
Yes	495	53	23,847	50
No	435	47	24,314	50
<b>TOTAL PRODUCERS</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>48,161</b>	<b>100</b>

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

## Top Crops by Acres

The top crops were spring wheat, hay & haylage, durum wheat, peas dry edible, winter wheat, lentils, canola, barley and safflower.



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

## Top Livestock

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

Livestock	Number of Head
Cattle	63,288
Sheep	4,613
Chicken-Layers	573
Chicken-Broilers	23
Hogs	19

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

## Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 1,007 workers, or 17% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 612 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 301 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 94 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	5,970	
Direct Impact	612	
Indirect Impact	301	0.49
Induced Impact	94	0.15
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>0.65</b>
Agriculture's Share (%)	17	

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

## Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$63.2 million of value-added, or 7% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$852 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$35.1 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$21.4 million was generated by businesses supporting agricultural production and \$6.7 million was generated by other related businesses. Each dollar of value-added in agriculture by a farmer or rancher contributes an additional \$0.80 of value-added in other sectors of the county's economy.

Impact Type	Value-Added (\$1 million)	Impact Multipliers
County GDP*	852.0	
Direct Impact**	35.1	
Indirect Impact**	21.4	0.61
Induced Impact**	6.7	0.19
Total Impact**	63.2	0.80
Agriculture's Share (%)	7	

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](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full_Report/Volume_1,_Chapter_1_State_Level/Montana/mtv1.pdf)
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### Report produced by MSU Extension:

- George Haynes, MSU Extension, Professor and Specialist
- Joel Schumacher, MSU Extension, Associate Specialist
- Jeff Peterson, Economic Impact Analyst, Impacts Montana

### Contact Us:

MSU Extension Economics  
P.O. Box 172800  
Bozeman, MT 5971  
406-994-3511



For more information: [www.montana.edu/agimpact](http://www.montana.edu/agimpact)

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