



## Sheridan County

January 2021

Sheridan County is a rural county located in the farthest northeastern corner of the state, bordering Canada to the north and North Dakota to the east. Over 99% of land in Sheridan County is classified as farm land.

### Overview (2017 Data)

Population	3,424
County Size (acres)	1,072,513
Land in Farms	99.2%
Number of Farms	458
Median Farm Size (acres)	1,369
Average Farm Size (acres)	2,323

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 \$109 million while production expenses were nearly \$87 million. Government payments were 10.7% of farm revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$70,570,000
Government Payments	\$11,702,000
Farm-Related Income	\$26,840,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$86,837,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$22,275,000

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

### Taxation

The market value of all property in Sheridan County was approximately \$695 million in 2019. The taxable

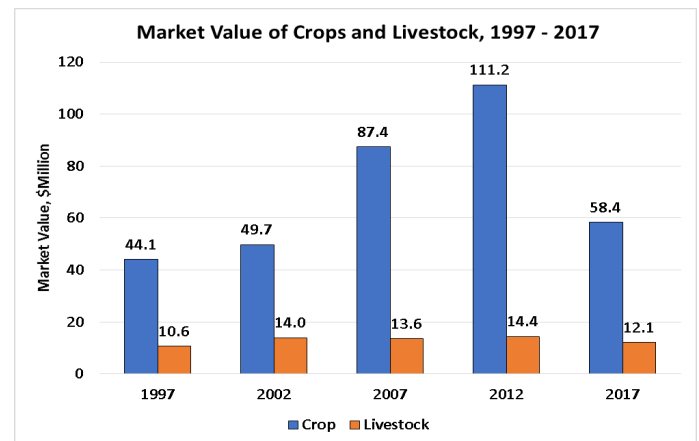
value assigned by the Montana Department of Revenue was \$15 million. Agricultural Property (as defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 Property) comprised 34% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$695,201,387	\$468,151,980
Taxable Value of All Property	\$14,819,335	\$15,783,155
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$5,031,175	\$3,772,481
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	34%	24%

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

### Market Value of Crops and Livestock

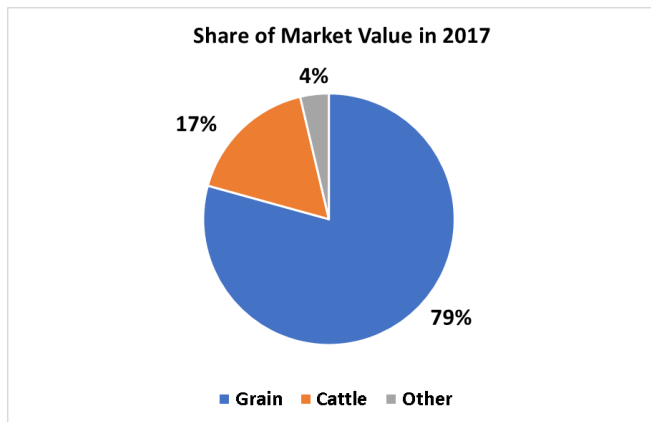
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops increased by 33%, while the market value of livestock increased by 14%, from 1997 to 2017.



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

## Crops and Livestock

Grain (79%) and cattle (17%) 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 slightly from 32% to 33%, while the percentage of larger farms, 500 acres or more, decreased from 68% to 67% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	14	3	3	1
10 to 49	7	2	9	2
50 to 179	54	12	57	11
180 to 499	78	17	102	19
500 to 999	49	11	70	13
1,000 or more	256	56	286	54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>527</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 56% to 60%, while the percentage of the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 44% to 40% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	121	26	168	32
2,500 to 4,999	10	2	10	2
5,000 to 9,999	18	4	21	4
10,000 to 24,999	39	9	11	2
25,000 to 49,999	35	8	44	8
50,000 to 99,999	54	12	39	7
100,000 or more	181	40	234	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100</b>

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

## Tillage and Land Use

The percentage of farms using no till or reduced tillage 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	190	41	205	39
Reduced tillage	96	21	100	19
Intensive tillage	16	3	64	12
Cover crops	13	3	30	6
<b>TOTAL FARMS</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>100</b>

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

## Producer Profile

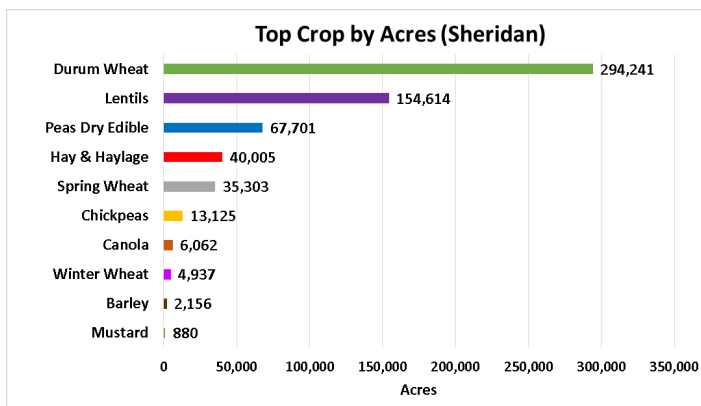
The county producer population was slightly younger than the Montana producer population. Thirty-nine percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 35% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-four percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 36% were over 65 years of age. Seventy percent of producers in the county were males, while 60% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 69% 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	9	1	570	1
25 to 34	55	8	3,285	7
35 to 44	93	13	5,179	11
45 to 54	122	17	7,309	15
55 to 64	179	25	13,838	29
65 to 74	146	21	11,469	24
75 and older	101	14	5,587	12
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	493	70	28,563	60
Female	215	30	18,673	40
<b>Primary Occupation</b>				
Yes	492	69	23,847	50
No	216	31	24,314	50
<b>TOTAL PRODUCERS</b>	<b>708</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 durum wheat, lentils, peas dry edible, hay & haylage, spring wheat, chickpeas, canola, winter wheat, barley and mustard.



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

## Top Livestock

The top livestock were cattle, sheep, and chickens.

Livestock	Number of Head
Cattle	17,651
Sheep	469
Chicken-Layers	93

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

## Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 491 workers, or 26% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 297 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 137 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 57 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	1,862	
Direct Impact	297	
Indirect Impact	137	0.46
Induced Impact	57	0.19
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>0.65</b>
Agriculture's Share (%)	26	

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

## Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$24.5 million of value-added, or 10% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$258 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$11.8 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$9.4 million was generated by businesses supporting agricultural production and \$3.3 million was generated by other related businesses. Each dollar of value-added in agriculture by a farmer or rancher contributes an additional \$1.08 of value-added in other sectors of the county's economy.

Impact Type	Value-Added (\$1 million)	Impact Multipliers
County GDP*	258.0	
Direct Impact**	11.8	
Indirect Impact**	9.4	0.80
Induced Impact**	3.3	0.28
Total Impact**	24.5	1.08
Agriculture's Share (%)	10	

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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- St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank (2020). Producer price index for all commodities, St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, retrieved from <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/PPIACO>
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (2017), Montana labor force, retrieved from <https://bls.gov/lau/#cntyaa>

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