

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE



## Toole County

January 2021

Toole County is a rural sparsely populated county located in the northern portion of the state bordering Canada. Over 89% of land in Toole County is classified as farm land.

### Overview (2017 Data)

Population	4,853
County Size (acres)	1,225,610
Land in Farms (%)	89.3
Number of Farms	362
Median Farm Size (acres)	1,800
Average Farm Size (acres)	3,025

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

### Farm Revenue

Farm revenues (which includes the market value of products sold, government payments, and farm-related income) were \$105 million while production expenses were \$78 million. Government payments were 11% of farm revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$84,182,000
Government Payments	\$11,549,000
Farm-Related Income	\$9,452,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$78,022,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$27,161,000

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

### Taxation

The market value of all property in Toole County was approximately \$1 billion in 2019. The taxable value assigned by the Montana Department of Revenue

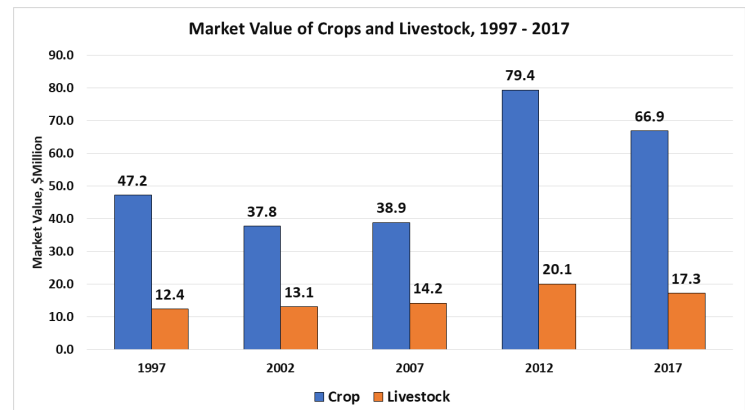
was \$22 million. Agricultural Property (as defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 Property) comprised 23% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$1,000,844,390	\$1,051,434,277
Taxable Value of All Property	\$22,777,933	\$21,356,815
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$5,092,712	\$4,292,173
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	23%	20%

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

### Market Value of Crops and Livestock

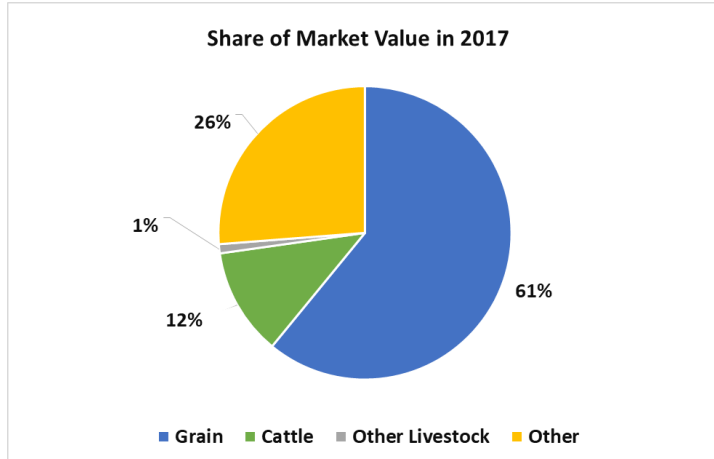
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops increased by 42%, while the market value of livestock increased by 39%, from 1997 to 2017.



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

## Crops and Livestock

Grain (61%) and cattle (12%) comprised 73% 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, and larger farms, 500 acres or more, was unchanged from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	5	1	9	2
10 to 49	11	3	13	3
50 to 179	31	9	30	7
180 to 499	44	12	52	12
500 to 999	44	12	61	14
1,000 or more	227	63	258	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>423</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 54% to 58%, while the percentage of the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 46% to 42% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	115	32	133	31
2,500 to 4,999	9	2	4	1
5,000 to 9,999	4	1	10	2
10,000 to 24,999	17	5	25	6
25,000 to 49,999	32	9	31	7
50,000 to 99,999	34	9	25	6
100,000 or more	151	42	195	46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>423</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 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	178	49	204	48
Reduced tillage	52	14	61	14
Intensive tillage	28	8	58	14
Cover crops	33	9	7	2
<b>TOTAL FARMS</b>	<b>362</b>		<b>423</b>	

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

## Producer Profile

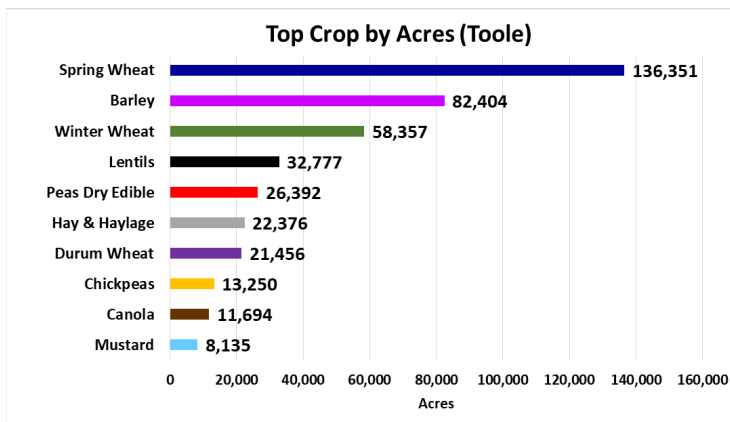
The county producer population was older than the Montana producer population. Thirty-two percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 32% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-two percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 32% were over 65 years of age. Sixty percent of producers in the county were males, while 64% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 62% 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	21	4	570	1
25 to 34	56	9	3,285	7
35 to 44	38	6	5,179	11
45 to 54	78	13	7,309	15
55 to 64	208	35	13,838	29
65 to 74	122	20	11,469	24
75 and older	73	12	5,587	12
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	382	64	28,563	60
Female	217	36	18,673	40
<b>Primary Occupation</b>				
Yes	374	62	23,847	50
No	225	38	24,314	50
<b>TOTAL PRODUCERS</b>	<b>599</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, barley, winter wheat, lentils, peas dry edible, hay & haylage, durum wheat, chickpeas, canola, and mustard.



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

## Top Livestock

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

Livestock	Number of Head
Chicken-Layers	26,229
Cattle	18,245
Sheep	2,364

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

## Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 763 workers, or 36% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 456 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 237 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 70 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	2,149	
Direct Impact	456	
Indirect Impact	237	0.52
Induced Impact	70	0.15
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>0.67</b>
Agriculture's Share (%)	36	

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

## Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$36.3 million of value-added, or 14% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$258 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$14.4 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$17 million was generated by businesses supporting agricultural production and \$4.9 million was generated by other related businesses. Each dollar of value-added in agriculture by a farmer or rancher contributes an additional \$1.52 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**	14.4	
Indirect Impact**	17.0	1.18
Induced Impact**	4.9	0.34
Total Impact**	36.3	1.52
Agriculture's Share (%)	14	

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>
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