

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE

## Wibaux County



January 2021

Wibaux County is a rural sparsely populated county located in the far eastern portion of the state, bordering North Dakota to the east. Over 90% of land in Wibaux County is classified as farm land.

### Overview (2017 Data)

Population	1,034
County Size (acres)	568,710
Land in Farms (%)	90.6
Number of Farms	137
Median Farm Size (acres)	1,340
Average Farm Size (acres)	3,762

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 \$24 million while production expenses were \$20 million. Government payments were 8.6% of farm revenues.

Market Value of Products Sold	\$18,012,000
Government Payments	\$2,083,000
Farm-Related Income	\$4,037,000
Total Farm Production Expenses	\$20,153,000
Net Cash Farm Income	\$3,979,000

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

### Taxation

The market value of all property in Wibaux County was approximately \$262 billion in 2019. The taxable value assigned by the Montana Department of Revenue was \$16 million. Agricultural Property (as

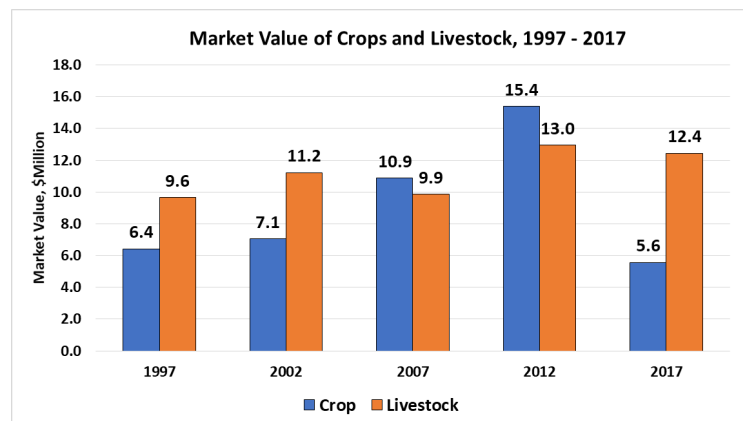
defined by Montana Department of Revenue as Class 3 Property) comprised 7% of the county's taxable value.

Property Tax Summary	2019	2014
Market Value of All Property	\$262,708,621	\$162,589,175
Taxable Value of All Property	\$16,142,705	\$9,643,714
Taxable Value of Agricultural Property	\$1,141,868	\$1,035,271
Ag Taxable Value as % of All Property	7%	11%

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

### Market Value of Crops and Livestock

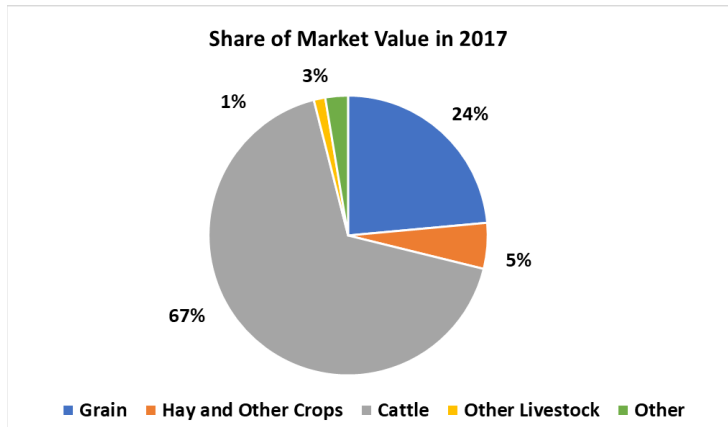
After adjusting for inflation, the market value of crops decreased by 13%, while the market value of livestock increased by 29%, from 1997 to 2017.



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

## Crops and Livestock

Cattle (67%) and grain (24%) comprised 91% 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, decreased from 33% to 31%, while the percentage of larger farms, 500 acres or more, increased from 67% to 69% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Acres	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
1 to 9	4	3	7	4
10 to 49	10	7	6	3
50 to 179	9	7	18	10
180 to 499	19	14	26	15
500 to 999	17	12	23	13
1,000 or more	78	57	92	53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>172</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 55% to 66%, while the percentage of the largest farms with sales of \$100,000 or more decreased from 45% to 34% from 2012 to 2017.

Farm Size by Sales	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
Less than 2,500	27	20	35	20
2,500 to 4,999	3	2	3	2
5,000 to 9,999	10	7	5	3
10,000 to 24,999	15	11	22	13
25,000 to 49,999	8	6	14	8
50,000 to 99,999	27	20	16	9
100,000 or more	47	34	77	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100</b>

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

## Tillage and Land Use

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

Tillage	2017		2012	
	Number of Farms	%	Number of Farms	%
No tillage	35	26	60	35
Reduced tillage	12	9	25	15
Intensive tillage	6	4	31	18
Cover crops	9	7	3	2
<b>TOTAL FARMS</b>	<b>137</b>		<b>172</b>	

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

## Producer Profile

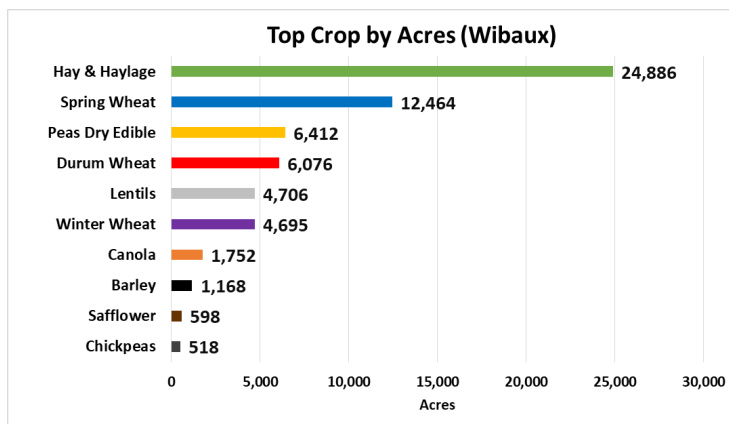
The county producer population was younger than the Montana producer population. Thirty-eight percent of county producers were under 55 years of age, while 35% were over 65 years of age. Thirty-four percent of the Montana producer population were under 55, while 36% were over 65 years of age. Seventy-one percent of producers in the county were males, while 60% of Montana producers were males. Farming was the primary occupation for 55% 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	3	1	570	1
25 to 34	10	5	3,285	7
35 to 44	27	13	5,179	11
45 to 54	41	19	7,309	15
55 to 64	51	24	13,838	29
65 to 74	51	24	11,469	24
75 and older	23	11	5,587	12
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	149	71	28,563	60
Female	62	29	18,673	40
<b>Primary Occupation</b>				
Yes	115	55	23,847	50
No	96	45	24,314	50
<b>TOTAL PRODUCERS</b>	<b>211</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 hay and haylage, spring wheat, peas dry edible, durum wheat, lentils, winter wheat, canola, barley, safflower and chickpeas.



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

## Top Livestock

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

Livestock	Number of Head
Cattle	21,050
Sheep	1,630
Chickens-Layers	254

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

## Employment Impact

Agricultural production employed 171 workers, or 35% of the county's labor force. According to IMPLAN, economic impact model, 123 of the workers were directly employed in production agriculture. An additional 45 workers were employed in businesses supporting agricultural production, such as feed and fertilizer dealers, and another 3 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	482	
Direct Impact	123	
Indirect Impact	45	0.37
Induced Impact	3	0.02
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>0.39</b>
Agriculture's Share (%)	35	

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

## Value Added Impacts

Farms and ranches generated \$8.7 million of value-added, or 13% of the county's total gross domestic product of \$65 million in 2017. According to IMPLAN, \$5.8 million was directly contributed by farmers and ranchers. An additional \$2.7 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 \$0.50 of value-added in other sectors of the county's economy.

Impact Type	Value-Added (\$1 million)	Impact Multipliers
County GDP*	65.0	
Direct Impact**	5.8	
Indirect Impact**	2.7	0.46
Induced Impact**	02	0.04
Total Impact**	8.7	0.50
Agriculture's Share (%)	13	

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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