



MONTANA AGRICULTURAL FACTS 2024



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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April 2025

Montana Facts and Figures

Montana's 2020 population, at 1,084,225, was up 9.6 percent from 2010, according to the United States Census Bureau. Population density, measured in people per square mile, was 7.4 in 2020, third lowest in the United States. Montana's 57.6 million acres of land in farms and ranches ranks second in the nation behind Texas.

Montana Population ¹

Land and Land Utilization

Total, 2020 Census	1,084,225	Montana Total Land Area, Square Miles ¹	145,509.2
People Per Square Mile	7.4	Montana Total Land Area, Acres ¹	93,125,888
		All Land in Farms & Ranches, Acres ²	57,601,320
		Proportion of Land in Farms & Ranches ²	61.9%

¹ 2020 U.S. Population Census.

² 2022 U.S. Census of Agriculture.

Farm Financial Indicators ¹

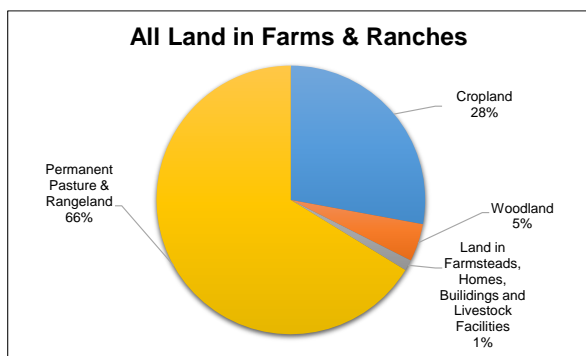
(\$1,000)

Number of Farms & Ranches	23,800	Value of Crop Production ²	\$3,137,458
Average Size of Farm or Ranch	2,412 acres	Value of Animals & Products Production ²	\$2,234,017
Gross Farm Income ²	\$6.79 billion	Farm-Related Income ²	\$1,114,089
Value of Agriculture Sector Production ²	\$6.49 billion	Net Farm Income ²	\$2,169,288

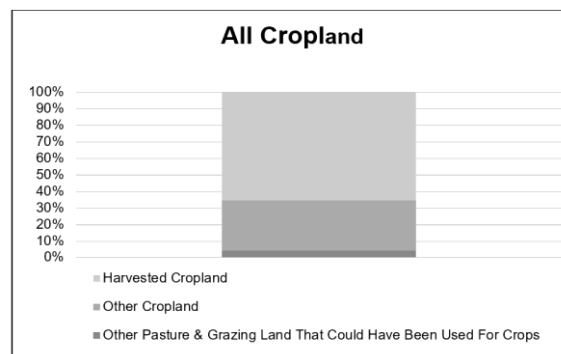
¹ Places with annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more.

² Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Farm Financial Indicators State Rankings, February 6, 2025.

Land in Farms & Ranches: Utilization as a Percentage of Total



Source: 2022 Census of Agriculture



Montana Annual Crop Summary: 2023 & 2024

Crops	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	Yield per Acre	Production	Season Average Price ¹	Value of Production ¹	U.S. Total Production
	(1,000)	(1,000)		(1,000)	(dollars)	(\$1,000)	(1,000)
Winter Wheat (bu) 2023	1,850.0	1,680.0	51.0	85,680	6.40	548,352	1,242,368
..... 2024	1,950.0	1,830.0	50.0	91,500	5.55	507,825	1,348,930
Durum Wheat (bu) 2023	705.0	675.0	31.0	20,925	9.38	196,277	59,329
..... 2024	710.0	860.0	23.0	19,780	7.00	138,460	80,051
Spring Wheat (bu) 2023	2,700.0	2,630	30.0	78,900	7.27	573,603	502,245
..... 2024	2,450.0	2,340	26.0	60,840	6.25	380,250	542,320
All Wheat (bu) 2023	5,255.0	4,985.0	37.2	185,505	7.02	1,318,232	1,803,942
..... 2024	5,280.0	5,030.0	34.2	172,120	5.85	1,026,535	1,971,301
Barley (bu) 2023	1,190.0	1,030.0	49.0	50,470	6.96	351,271	186,127
..... 2024	900.0	710.0	51.0	36,210	6.00	217,260	143,836
Oats (bu) 2023	65.0	22.0	37.0	814	4.13	3,362	57,045
..... 2024	60.0	25.0	33.0	825	4.00	3,300	67,793
Corn for Grain (bu) ² 2023	135.0	68.0	129.0	8,772	5.16	45,264	15,340,520
..... 2024	130.0	79.0	85.0	6,715	5.00	33,575	14,866,744
Corn for Silage (tons) 2023	--	62.0	23.0	1,426	--	--	129,854
..... 2024	--	37.0	20.0	740	--	--	123,093
Sugarbeets (tons) 2023	23.8	23.3	31.6	736	59.00	43,424	35,884
..... 2024	24.6	24.3	32.3	785	--	--	35,278
Alfalfa Hay (tons) ³ 2023	--	1,650.0	2.10	3,465	181.00	627,165	49,769
..... 2024	--	1,500.0	2.15	3,225	139.00	448,275	48,840
Other Hay (tons) ³ 2023	--	1,050.0	1.75	1,838	165.00	303,270	68,819
..... 2024	--	1,060.0	1.50	1,590	133.00	211,470	72,622
All Hay (tons) ³ 2023	--	2,700.0	1.96	5,303	177.00	930,435	118,588
..... 2024	--	2,560.0	1.88	4,815	138.00	659,745	122,462
Chickpeas (cwt) 2023	173.0	163.7	1,210.0	1,977	37.20	71,641	4,660
..... 2024	220.0	212.8	960.0	2,051	35.70	67,811	5,632
Lentils (cwt) 2023	390.0	374.0	1,080.0	4,039	38.00	153,482	5,697
..... 2024	720.0	690.0	900.0	6,210	36.50	226,665	9,049
Dry Edible Peas (cwt) 2023	580.0	570.0	1,740.0	9,918	14.30	141,827	17,947
..... 2024	590.0	570.0	1,430.0	8,151	13.50	110,039	16,679
Canola (lbs) 2023	165.0	160.0	1,420.0	227,200	20.40	46,349	4,157,420
..... 2024	215.0	203.0	1,030.0	209,090	17.80	37,218	4,834,030
Flaxseed (bu) 2023	68.0	57.0	14.0	798	13.30	10,613	2,961
..... 2024	56.0	50.0	7.0	350	11.70	4,095	2,420
Safflower (lbs) 2023	47.0	46.0	760.0	34,960	35.40	12,376	130,570
..... 2024	26.0	23.0	770.0	17,710	24.50	4,339	129,585

-- Not Available

¹ 2023 Season Average Price and Value of Production are preliminary.

² Planted for all purposes.

³ Price of baled hay.

Selected Montana Livestock: 2024 & 2025

Item	January 1, 2024	January 1, 2025	Percent of Previous Year
All Cattle & Calves..... (head)	2,130,000	2,160,000	101%
Cows & Heifers That Have Calved..... (head)	1,250,000	1,260,000	101%
Beef Cows..... (head)	1,241,000	1,251,500	101%
Milk Cows..... (head)	9,000	8,500	94%
Heifers 500 Pounds & Over			
For Beef Cow Replacement..... (head)	305,000	305,000	100%
For Milk Cow Replacement..... (head)	4,000	4,000	100%
Other Heifers..... (head)	186,000	201,000	108%
Steers 500 Pounds & Over..... (head)	210,000	220,000	105%
Bulls 500 Pounds & Over..... (head)	90,000	95,000	106%
Calves Less Than 500 Pounds..... (head)	85,000	75,000	88%
Cattle On Feed..... (head)	41,000	NA	NA%
Calf Crop ¹ (head)	1,240,000	1,250,000	101%
Item	January 1, 2024	January 1, 2025	Percent of Previous Year
All Sheep & Lambs..... (head)	180,000	185,000	103%
Breeding Sheep..... (head)	149,000	151,000	101%
Ewes..... (head)	114,000	112,000	98%
Rams..... (head)	5,000	6,000	120%
Replacement Lambs..... (head)	30,000	33,000	110%
Market Sheep & Lambs..... (head)	31,000	34,000	110%
Sheep..... (head)	2,000	2,000	100%
Lambs..... (head)	29,000	32,000	110%
Lamb Crop ¹ (head)	144,000	142,000	99%
Wool Production ¹ (lbs)	1,380,000	1,370,000	99%
Number of Sheep Shorn ¹ (head)	160,000	160,000	100%
Average Pounds per Fleece ¹ (lbs)	8.6	8.6	100%

¹ Results are from one year before column header.

Market Year Average Prices Received by Montana Producers: 2020-2024 ¹

Item	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 ²
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
All Wheat..... (bu)	5.24	8.84	9.24	7.02	5.85
Winter Wheat..... (bu)	5.05	7.66	8.86	6.40	5.55
Spring Wheat..... (bu)	5.30	8.89	9.03	7.27	6.25
Durum Wheat..... (bu)	5.78	13.50	11.20	9.38	7.00
Barley..... (bu)	4.40	6.27	4.93	6.96	6.00
Oats..... (bu)	3.12	3.98	(D)	4.13	4.00
Alfalfa Hay..... (tons)	132.00	228.00	242.00	181.00	139.00
Milk, All..... (cwt)	18.60	18.10	25.30	21.20	--
Wool..... (lbs)	2.20	2.20	2.25	2.00	2.05

-- Not Available

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Crops are season average prices for each crop's respective marketing year. Other prices are averages weighted by monthly sales.

² Preliminary

Rank & Quantity Produced: Selected Commodities – Montana, Leading State, & United States: 2024

Commodity	Unit	Montana		Leading State		United States
		Rank	Production	State	Production	
Field Crops						
Barley.....	(1,000 bu)	2	36,210	Idaho	55,590	143,836
Lentils.....	(1,000 cwt)	1	6,210	Montana	6,210	9,049
Dry Edible Peas.....	(1,000 cwt)	1	8,151	Montana	8,151	16,679
Chickpeas.....	(1,000 cwt)	1	2,051	Montana	2,051	5,632
Small Chickpeas.....	(1,000 cwt)	3	426	Washington	502	1,665
Large Chickpeas.....	(1,000 cwt)	1	1,625	Montana	1,625	3,967
Canola.....	(1,000 lbs)	4	209,090	North Dakota	3,922,000	4,834,030
Corn, Grain.....	(1,000 bu)	37	6,715	Iowa	2,626,950	14,866,744
Corn, Silage.....	(1,000 tons)	28	740	Wisconsin	14,600	123,093
Flaxseed.....	(1,000 bu)	2	350	North Dakota	2,070	2,420
Hay, All.....	(1,000 tons)	7	4,815	Texas	11,960	122,462
Hay, Alfalfa.....	(1,000 tons)	4	3,225	Idaho	3,854	49,840
Hay, Other.....	(1,000 tons)	14	1,590	Texas	11,520	72,622
Oats.....	(1,000 bu)	19	825	North Dakota	13,230	67,793
Safflower.....	(1,000 lbs)	2	17,710	California	75,000	129,585
Sugarbeets.....	(1,000 tons)	8	785	Minnesota	11,818	35,278
Wheat, All.....	(1,000 bu)	3	172,120	North Dakota	367,695	1,971,301
Wheat, Other Spring.....	(1,000 bu)	3	60,840	North Dakota	309,750	542,320
Wheat, Durum.....	(1,000 bu)	2	19,780	North Dakota	51,465	80,051
Wheat, Winter.....	(1,000 bu)	4	91,500	Kansas	307,450	1,348,930
Livestock ¹						
All Cattle & Calves.....	(1,000 head)	12	2,160	Texas	12,200	86,662
All Cows ²	(1,000 head)	9	1,260	Texas	4,750	37,213
Calf Crop.....	(1,000 head)	9	1,250	Texas	4,350	33,530
Beef Cows ²	(1,000 head)	6	1,252	Texas	4,075	27,864
Milk Cows ²	(1,000 head)	29	9	California	1,710	9,349
Milk Production ³	(mil lbs)	37	210	California	40,902	226,364
All Chickens (Excl Broilers).....	(1,000 head)	33	1,588	Iowa	57,188	513,594
All Layers.....	(1,000 head)	32	1,166	Iowa	46,313	376,893
Egg Production ^{3,4}	(mil eggs)	32	3,392	Iowa	13,438	109,526.0
Honey Production ³	(1,000 lbs)	4	9,690	North Dakota	38,325	138,571
All Sheep & Lambs.....	(1,000 head)	8	185	Texas	670	5,050
Breeding Sheep & Lambs.....	(1000 head)	8	151	Texas	520	3,680
Lamb Crop.....	(1,000 head)	7	142	Texas	340	3,040
Market Sheep & Lambs.....	(1,000 head)	10	34	California	235	1,370
Wool Production.....	(1,000 lbs)	7	1,370	California	2,400	22,480
Miscellaneous						
Farms.....	(number)	31	23,800	Texas	231,000	1,880,000
Land in Farms.....	(1,000 acres)	2	57,400	Texas	125,000	876,460
Average Size of Farm.....	(acres)	2	2,412	Wyoming	2,743	466

¹ Inventory January 1, 2005 for cattle and sheep; December 1, 2024 for hogs and chickens.

² Cows and heifers that have calved.

³ 2023 data; 2024 data unavailable at the time of publication.

⁴ Egg production for the marketing Year December 1, 2023-November 30, 2024.