

Texas Agricultural Extension Service

Understanding Your Local Economy: Agricultural Economic Activity in Texas Counties

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The total number of dollars agriculture brings into the local economy determines the economic role and impact of agriculture there. This economic activity comes from the sale of agricultural products and government program payments. Data for these items is available for individual counties on an annual basis. Totaling product sales and government payments provides an indication of the magnitude of agricultural economic activity in the county economy.

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As Figure 1 shows, agricultural sales and government payments can vary substantially from year to year. Therefore, an average figure over a period of time, rather than annual estimates, is a better indicator of agricultural economic activity. For example, agriculture brings an average of \$40 million annually into the economy of the county in Figure 1.

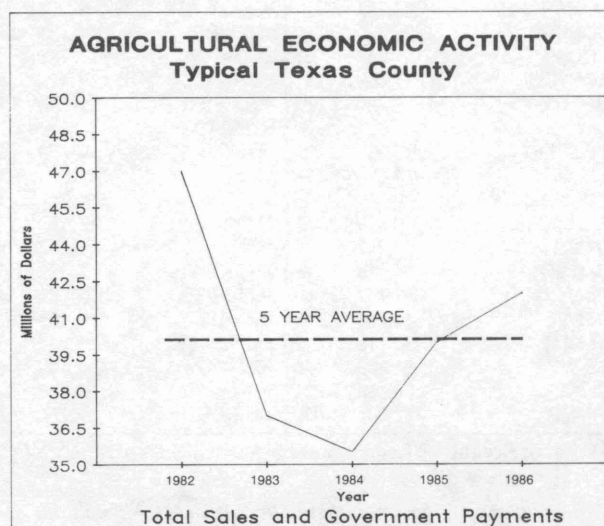
Measures of agricultural economic activity should be adjusted for the size of the local economy to provide a meaningful evaluation of agriculture's local economic role and impact. Forty million dollars, for example may be very significant in a small rural economy but not in a large metropolitan economy. Dimensions of local economic size such as population, employment, income or total dollar inflow can be used for determining significance of agricultural activity.

For example, the population divided into agricultural sales and government payments

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results in the relatively simple adjusted measure of agricultural economic activity per person (per capita). This can be illustrated using figures for the county in Figure 1. If the county population is 500,000, then per capita agricultural economic activity is \$80 ($\$40,000,000 \div 500,000$). But this becomes \$8,000 with a county population of 5,000 indicating a much greater potential role and impact for agriculture in the local economy.

Using the procedure outlined above, total and per capita agricultural economic activity have been calculated for all Texas counties (see table on back). Comparisons can be made between neighboring counties or counties with similar characteristics to develop a better understanding of agriculture's role and impact in the local economy.



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Agricultural Sales and Government Payments*

County	(\$1000) Total	\$ Per Capita	County	(\$1000) Total	\$ Per Capita	County	(\$1000) Total	\$ Per Capita	County	(\$1000) Total	\$ Per Capita
ANDERSON	28,921	635	DONLEY	59,161	14,248	KAUFMAN	23,095	497	REAL	3,582	1,299
ANDREWS	10,671	673	DUVAL	32,166	2,413	KENDALL	8,449	649	RED RIVER	20,752	1,317
ANGELINA	14,942	218	EASTLAND	21,521	1,032	KENEDY	4,171	7,666	REEVES	70,878	4,344
ARANSAS	951	55	ECTOR	3,330	25	KENT	8,778	7,579	REFUGIO	22,665	2,537
ARCHER	37,751	4,858	EDWARDS	11,095	5,223	KERR	8,932	273	ROBERTS	25,862	24,001
ARMSTRONG	28,046	14,761	ELLIS	50,255	727	KIMBLE	8,218	1,928	ROBERTSON	42,355	2,687
ATASCOSA	42,823	1,548	EL PASO	70,204	130	KING	8,155	20,387	ROCKWALL	4,180	221
AUSTIN	34,006	1,677	ERATH	98,394	4,022	KINNEY	8,994	3,780	RUNNELS	37,627	3,034
BAILEY	107,259	12,891	FALLS	45,093	2,497	KLEBERG	58,737	1,700	RUSK	12,829	298
BANDERA	3,403	409	FANNIN	35,403	1,441	KNOX	30,753	5,531	SABINE	8,552	893
BASTROP	18,454	585	FAYETTE	35,868	1,760	LAMAR	34,026	768	SAN AUGUSTINE	18,135	2,036
BAYLOR	32,348	6,486	FISHER	33,525	5,769	LAMB	238,724	13,645	SAN JACINTO	1,796	137
BEE	21,687	791	FLOYD	109,928	11,965	LAMPASAS	11,486	866	SAN PATRICIO	84,051	1,361
BELL	35,224	207	FOARD	15,300	7,928	LA SALLE	14,946	2,570	SAN SABA	18,834	3,253
BEXAR	70,305	63	FORT BEND	101,515	574	LAVACA	40,498	2,194	SCHLEICHER	13,808	4,352
BLANCO	13,259	2,497	FRANKLIN	23,682	3,279	LEE	16,311	1,199	SCURRY	21,095	1,062
BORDEN	13,450	14,212	FREESTONE	15,208	916	LEON	20,094	1,708	SHACKELFORD	11,043	2,745
BOSQUE	23,211	1,656	FRIO	71,554	4,961	LIBERTY	25,495	478	SHELBY	74,947	3,139
BOWIE	33,652	425	GAINES	121,921	8,508	LIMESTONE	26,857	1,283	SHERMAN	215,118	67,733
BRAZORIA	51,790	280	GALVESTON	6,174	29	LIPSCOMB	27,251	6,775	SMITH	48,209	331
BRAZOS	38,963	330	GARZA	20,021	3,577	LIVE OAK	20,119	2,080	SOMERVELL	2,017	447
BREWSTER	9,024	1,127	GILLESPIE	30,559	2,021	LLANO	13,294	1,146	STARR	69,122	2,081
BRISCOE	21,895	9,364	GLASSCOCK	19,513	15,795	LOVING	833	8,334	STEPHENS	6,613	618
BROOKS	5,928	657	GOLIAD	19,677	3,495	LUBBOCK	156,004	702	STERLING	7,117	4,590
BROWN	26,082	746	GONZALES	144,490	7,719	LYNN	58,697	7,364	STONEWALL	12,174	5,057
BURLESON	23,977	1,614	GRAY	94,511	3,468	MCCULLOCH	16,234	1,807	SUTTON	10,709	1,946
BURNET	12,379	579	GRAYSON	33,318	350	MCLENNAN	71,015	390	SWISHER	222,495	24,553
CALDWELL	31,680	1,179	GREGG	2,301	21	MCMULLEN	5,859	6,580	TARRANT	30,834	31
CALHOUN	15,987	740	GRIMES	26,698	1,522	MADISON	37,853	3,176	TAYLOR	81,618	667
CALLAHAN	10,139	825	GUADALUPE	30,298	573	MARION	1,449	138	TERRELL	9,647	6,346
CAMERON	123,168	502	HALE	187,258	4,977	MARTIN	33,230	6,235	TERRY	64,624	4,228
CAMP	79,977	7,920	HALL	25,184	5,034	MASON	33,203	9,223	THROCKMORTON	16,896	7,574
CARSON	68,503	9,744	HAMILTON	21,923	2,726	MATAGORDA	82,965	2,119	TITUS	16,593	724
CASS	13,341	435	HANSFORD	285,409	44,324	MAVERICK	53,838	1,492	TOM GREEN	70,676	741
CASTRO	285,707	27,357	HARDEMAN	22,445	3,457	MEDINA	41,406	1,680	TRAVIS	21,571	43
CHAMBERS	25,948	1,335	HARDIN	2,327	54	MENARD	16,678	7,114	TRINITY	3,793	340
CHEROKEE	48,635	1,231	HARRIS	62,413	23	MIDLAND	14,232	136	TYLER	2,738	155
CHILDRESS	17,601	2,629	HARRISON	10,723	188	MILAM	44,059	1,878	UPSHER	29,661	927
CLAY	36,472	3,722	HARTLEY	115,333	32,443	MILLS	22,346	4,900	UPTON	8,171	1,497
COCHRAN	60,327	12,697	HASKELL	38,594	5,174	MITCHELL	20,391	2,180	UVALDE	46,929	1,952
COKE	10,814	3,041	HAYS	9,933	196	MONTAGUE	21,364	1,156	VAL VERDE	19,437	492
COLEMAN	21,644	2,059	HEMPHILL	45,571	7,841	MONTGOMERY	5,870	38	VAN ZANDT	44,303	1,235
COLLIN	53,184	292	HENDERSON	30,836	616	MOORE	233,501	13,395	VICTORIA	29,204	391
COLLINGSWORTH	23,452	5,537	HIDALGO	359,177	1,055	MORRIS	7,074	476	WALKER	10,653	213
COLORADO	57,482	2,873	HILL	46,213	1,724	MOTLEY	15,085	8,331	WALLER	25,149	1,096
COMAL	3,506	81	HOCKLEY	77,069	3,127	NACOGDOCHES	117,025	2,343	WARD	1,473	93
COMANCHE	74,729	5,737	HOOD	16,274	696	NAVARRO	26,814	698	WASHINGTON	28,308	1,138
CONCHO	20,020	6,897	HOPKINS	108,151	3,869	NEWTON	1,681	126	WEBB	28,535	245
COOKE	35,766	1,235	HOUSTON	21,625	934	NOLAN	31,112	1,733	WHARTON	127,015	3,074
CORYELL	17,059	291	HOWARD	25,179	688	NUECES	74,740	254	WHEELER	52,471	6,994
COTTLE	19,420	7,062	HUDSPETH	23,588	8,848	OCHILTREE	90,229	8,270	WICHITA	24,222	192
CRANE	681	134	HUNT	23,012	365	OLDHAM	67,426	27,564	WILBARGER	39,239	2,344
CROCKETT	15,997	3,292	HUTCHINSON	44,479	1,551	ORANGE	1,606	19	WILLACY	67,233	3,579
CROSBY	53,016	6,199	IRION	6,924	3,785	PALO PINTO	9,391	357	WILLIAMSON	56,954	586
CULBERSON	8,346	2,416	JACK	10,364	1,354	PANOLA	31,132	1,399	WILSON	50,235	2,745
DALLAM	146,989	22,155	JACKSON	52,168	3,815	PARKER	43,533	817	WINKLER	675	62
DALLAS	21,312	12	JASPER	5,237	164	PARMER	387,621	35,364	WISE	40,059	1,296
DAWSON	64,015	3,878	JEFF DAVIS	6,297	3,722	PECOS	24,114	1,404	WOOD	30,443	1,115
DEAF SMITH	657,747	32,303	JEFFERSON	27,581	108	POLK	2,679	94	YOAKUM	32,327	3,512
DELTA	10,700	2,216	JIM HOGG	7,208	1,319	POTTER	40,034	377	YOUNG	19,500	999
DENTON	36,818	212	JIM WELLS	30,243	762	PRESIDIO	18,251	3,269	ZAPATA	5,635	698
DE WITT	31,235	1,549	JOHNSON	47,140	575	RAINS	12,719	2,261	ZAVALA	62,175	5,133
DICKENS	18,159	5,697	JONES	38,988	2,149	RANDALL	214,218	2,548			
DIMMIT	23,084	1,939	KARNES	17,794	1,311	REAGAN	12,301	2,518			

*Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce Annual Average.

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