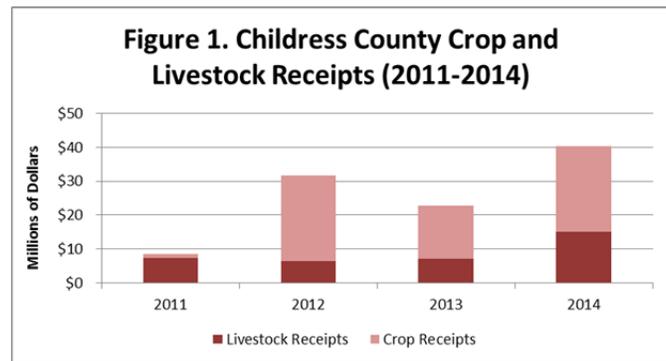


AT A GLANCE

- Childress County's agricultural value exceeded \$40.3 million in 2014 (Figure 1).
- Childress County from 2011-2014 averaged \$26.3 million in total agricultural receipts, generating county and statewide impacts of \$34.2 million and \$51.1 million, respectively (Table 1).
- The county was hard-hit by the 2011 drought, with cotton sales dropping by 96% and wheat sales dropping 99% from 2010 levels.
- The 611 agricultural-related employees account for 34.3% of all private-sector employment.
- This analysis does not include the impact of agriculturally related public sector employees or the 383 farm and ranch operators.

## The Impact of Agribusiness CHILDRESS COUNTY 2015

Childress County's 696-square-mile land area consists of 301,742 acres in permanent pasture and another 142,055 acres in cropland. Crop production is an important part of the local economy, generating \$16.9 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period. With mostly dryland production, the county has average annual sales of \$12.9 million and \$3.1 million in cotton and wheat, respectively (Table 1). Crop production dropped dramatically with the 2011 drought but rebounded in subsequent years (Figure 1).



Childress County pasture land is utilized for cow-calf and stocker operations, contributing \$9.0 million in added cash receipts annually (Table 1). In 2012, the county had an inventory of 11,700 head of cattle, including 7,400 cows and heifers that calved and 4,300 stockers and fed cattle, according to the 2012 Census of Agriculture. The county also had limited receipts from goat production.

Table 1. Average Annual Agricultural Cash Receipts, Childress County, 2011-2014.

	Value (\$1,000,000)	State Rank	County Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)	State Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)
<b>Crops:</b>				
Corn	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Wheat	\$3.1	60	\$4.5	\$7.2
Cotton	\$12.9	50	\$16.8	\$23.5
Sorghum	\$0.2	128	\$0.3	\$0.5
Ensilage	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Hay	\$0.4	191	\$0.5	\$0.8
Other Crops	\$0.3	178	\$0.4	\$0.5
<b>Total Crop Receipts</b>	<b>\$16.9</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>\$22.5</b>	<b>\$32.4</b>
<b>Livestock and Livestock Products:</b>				
Fed Beef - Value Added	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Cow-calf and Stockers	\$9.0	173	\$11.5	\$17.8
Hogs	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Dairy	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Other	\$0.0	207	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Total L &amp; LP</b>	<b>\$9.0</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>\$11.5</b>	<b>\$17.8</b>
<b>Other Ag-Related</b>	<b>\$0.5</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>\$0.2</b>	<b>\$0.9</b>
<b>Total Agricultural Receipts**</b>	<b>\$26.3</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>\$34.2</b>	<b>\$51.1</b>

\* Does not include impacts of forward-linkages through the processing sectors.

\*\* Rounding of numbers may affect totals and prevent some commodities with low receipts from appearing in the table.

Of course, the direct value of agricultural production is not the only benefit to the local economy. Many production expenses are paid to local suppliers. Farmers and ranchers also spend part of their wages and profits in the county - eating at local restaurants and buying groceries, clothing, etc. In turn, the employees of these businesses purchase supplies and spend wages at local businesses. Money is multiplied as it circulates through the economy. The original \$26.3 million in cash



receipts from farm and ranch production leads to a total county-level economic output contribution of \$34.2 million. Some money does leave the region as people and businesses purchase goods and services outside the county or state. These leakages reduce the overall economic contribution of

<b>Table 2. Childress County Ag-Related Employment</b>		
	<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>Annual Payroll \$1,000,000</b>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>\$9.20</b>
<b>Farm and Ranch</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>\$1.65</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>\$10.85</b>

agricultural production. However, a good deal of the money that is spent outside Childress County is still spent in Texas, so the farm-level production leads to a larger state-level output of \$51.1 million.

Agribusinesses take many forms including: manufacturing, retail trade and food service, wholesale trade, agricultural services and transportation. A total of 438 people were employed in Childress

\*Employment estimates do not include ag-related public sector/government employees

County agribusinesses during 2013, with an associated payroll of \$9.2 million, according to the 2013 Texas County Business Patterns publication (Table 2). In addition, 173 people were either employed full- or part-time on local farms and ranches, earning \$1.7 million annually (2012 Census of Agriculture). It should be noted that the impact of agriculture on the Childress County economy is underestimated, since the economic contributions of public sector employees working in agriculture and the 383 farm and ranch operators are not considered in this analysis.



*(AgEco-FS-5: Dr. Rebekka Dudensing, Ruoxi Lu and Jonathan Ellison, College Station; Dr. Steve Amosson, Kay Ledbetter and Michelle Jones, Amarillo; Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Canyon; and Zeb Petty, Childress County. Revised August 2015)*