Agriculture works hard for Dodge County every day. Family-owned farms, food processors and agriculture-related businesses generate thousands of jobs and millions of dollars of economic activity while contributing to local income and tax revenues.

Agriculture provides jobs for 9,855 Dodge County residents.

Agriculture accounts for $2.9 billion in economic activity.

Agriculture contributes $761 million to the county’s total income.

Agriculture pays $37.1 million in taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

How important is agriculture?

Value & Economic Impact

85.7% Individuals or families

2.4% Non-family corporations and other

4.2% Family-owned corporations

7.7% Family partnerships

Other economic data from:
USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture
For more information, contact:
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University of Wisconsin-Extension
Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection

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University of Wisconsin-Extension is part of the local and statewide network of organizations and agencies that support Wisconsin’s $88.3 billion agriculture industry. A recent statewide survey of nearly 1,000 agricultural service providers from throughout Wisconsin found that UW-Extension helps enhance economic impact by improving agribusiness services to farmers, increasing agribusiness or farm profitability, expanding agribusiness networks, and helping to reduce agribusiness or farm environmental impacts.
Agriculture provides 20% of Dodge County’s jobs

Dodge County agriculture provides 9,855 jobs, or about 19 percent, of the county’s workforce of 49,743. Production jobs include farm owners and managers and farm employees. Agricultural service jobs include veterinarians, crop and livestock consultants, feed, fuel and other crop input suppliers, farm machinery dealers, barn builders and agricultural lenders, to name a few. Processing jobs include those employed in food processing and other value-added industries that support food processors. Every job in agriculture generates an additional 0.99 jobs in the county.

Agriculture contributes about $761 million to county income

Dodge County agriculture accounts for $760.9 million, or 21.7 percent, of the county’s total income. This includes wages, salaries, benefits and profits of farmers and workers in agriculture-related businesses. Every dollar of agricultural income generates an additional $1.12 of county income.

Agriculture pumps $2.86 billion into local economy

Dodge County agriculture generates $2.86 billion in economic activity, about 34 percent, of the county's total economic activity. Every dollar of sales from agricultural products generates an additional $0.44 of economic activity in other parts of the county’s economy.

Here’s how agriculture stimulates economic activity:

- The direct effect of agriculture equals $1.99 billion and includes the sale of farm products and value-added products.
- Purchases of agricultural and food-processing inputs, services and equipment add another $692 million in economic activity. For example, this includes business-to-business purchases of fuel, seed, fertilizer, feed and farm machinery, as well as veterinary services, crop and livestock consultants and equipment leasing.
- This business-to-business activity then generates another $181 million in economic activity when people who work in agriculture-related businesses spend their earnings in the local economy.

Agriculture pays over $37 million in taxes

Economic activity associated with Dodge County farms and agriculture-related businesses generates $37.1 million in local and state taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to support local schools. If it did, the number would increase dramatically.

Table 1. Taxes paid by agriculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales tax</td>
<td>$8.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax</td>
<td>$11.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property tax</td>
<td>$10.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$6.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37.1 million</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Dodge County’s top commodities (sales by dollar value, 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Grain</td>
<td>$154.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Milk</td>
<td>$149.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Cattle &amp; calves</td>
<td>$40.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Vegetables</td>
<td>$8.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hogs &amp; pigs</td>
<td>$7.3 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dairy and grain production are key Dodge County industries

Grain production is the largest part of Dodge County’s agriculture in terms of on-farm value. In 2012, the market value of corn, soybeans and other grain crops, was $154.5 million, or 41 percent of the total market value of all agricultural products sold in the county. There are almost 135,000 acres of corn grown for grain and over 66,000 acres of soybeans raised in Dodge County. Dairy is an important part of Dodge County’s agriculture. In 2012, the market value of the on-farm production and sale of milk accounted for $149.2 million.

- At the county level, each dairy cow generates $4,421 in on-farm sales to producers.
- On-farm milk production accounts for 918 jobs, and dairy processing accounts for 3,870 jobs.