

Economic Importance of and Economic Impacts Associated with Livestock Production in Custer County

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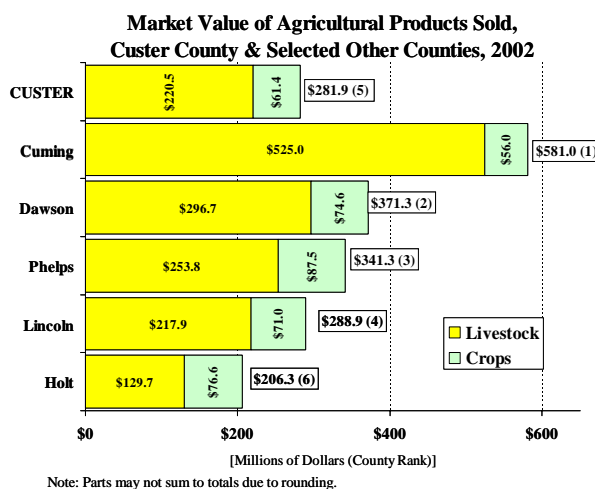
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Executive Summary

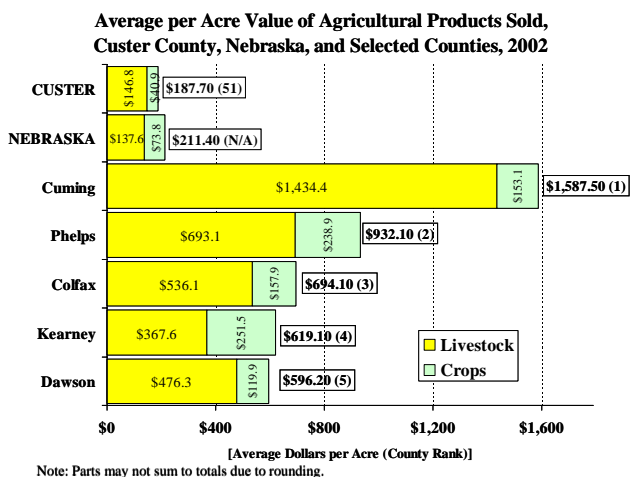
Information provided in this report focuses on the economic importance of the livestock sector in Custer County, Nebraska (Custer County). The first part of the report reviews agriculture data from the *2002 Census of Agriculture*. These data provide information on the importance of agriculture and the livestock sector in Custer County. The second part of the report analyzes the direct, indirect, and total economic impacts associated with livestock operations in Custer County. This analysis utilizes an IMPLAN input-output (I-O) database and model developed specifically for Custer County.

Livestock and Agricultural Production in Custer County, Nebraska

The *2002 Census of Agriculture* provides data showing the importance of agriculture and the livestock sector in Custer County. The data presented in the chart indicate the market value of agricultural products sold in Custer County totaled \$281.9 million in 2002. Considering the per farm value of agricultural products sold, Custer County's average of \$245,368 ranked 25th among Nebraska's 93 counties and was 24.8 percent above the state per farm average of \$196,609.



The average market value of agricultural products sold per acre is shown in the current chart and includes the data for Custer County and for the leading five counties in terms of this measure, along with the Nebraska data. Custer County, with a value of \$187.70, ranks 51st among the Nebraska counties in terms of the market value of agriculture products per acre, with \$146.80 of that amount accounted for by livestock and livestock products. Custer County's per acre average for all agricultural products is 88.8 percent of the state per acre average of \$211.40.



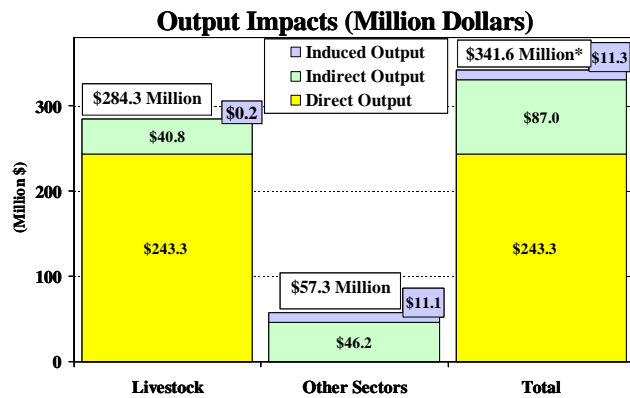
Data provided in this report indicate that livestock and livestock products are a significant source of income for Custer County farmers. The per farm market value of livestock and livestock products sold averaged \$191,950 (78.2 percent of the total market value of all agricultural products sold) for Custer County, ranking the county 17th among the Nebraska counties in terms of this measure. The average Custer County per farm value for livestock and livestock products sold was 50.0 percent above the average per farm value of \$127,959 for Nebraska as a whole.

Economic Impacts Associated with Livestock Production in Custer County, Nebraska

The second part of the report provides an assessment of the positive employment and other economic effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County. The analysis utilizes an IMPLAN input-output (I-O) model developed for Custer County. The major positive employment and other economic effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products are summarized in the continuing portion of the Executive Summary.

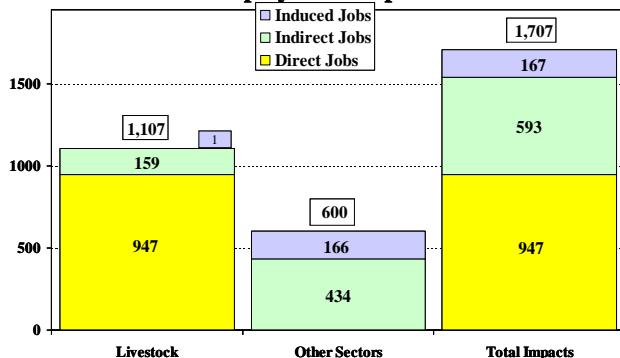
- Total Output Effects: The total value of output directly associated with sales to final demand by the livestock sector in Custer County is estimated to be \$243.3 million. When the secondary output effects (indirect and induced output) are added, the total output effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County are estimated to be \$341.6 million. Of this total, 83.2 percent (\$284.3 million) is accounted for by output (direct, indirect, and induced) produced by the livestock sector and the indirect and induced effects in other sectors represent an additional \$57.3 million of output.

Livestock Sector Economic Impacts in Custer County



*Note: Impact components may not sum to total due to rounding.
Source: Computed from IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County, 2003 data.

Livestock Sector Economic Impacts in Custer County
Employment Impacts

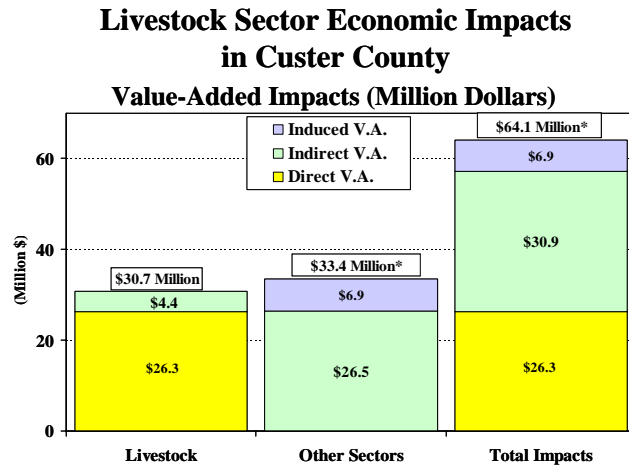


Source: Computed from IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County, 2003 data.

- Employment Effects: There are an estimated 947 individuals employed in the Custer County livestock products sector producing the output dedicated to sales to final demand (\$243.3 million). When the indirect and induced employment effects are included, employment in the livestock sector is estimated to be 1,107 workers (and proprietors). The other secondary employment effects (indirect and induced effects in sectors other than livestock and

livestock products) account for an additional 600 employees that support livestock production. When the indirect and induced effects for all sectors are included, the estimated Custer County employment supporting the production of livestock is estimated to be 1,707 workers.

- Value-Added Effects: The value-added effects associated with livestock production in Custer County provide a good measure of the economic value associated with this sector. Value-added consists of payments to the factors of production within the local economy and includes payments to labor, proprietors' income, other property income, and indirect business taxes. As the information and analysis provided in this report indicate, the total value-added effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County are estimated to be \$64.1 million. Of this amount, \$30.7 million represents value-added in the livestock products sector itself and \$33.4 million is value-added in other economic sectors supporting the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County.



*Note: Impact components may not sum to total due to rounding.
Source: Computed from IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County, 2003 data.

Livestock-Related Impacts Not Analyzed

The analysis discussed in this report considers the backward-linkages associated with livestock production in Custer County. That is, the analysis has considered impacts associated with economic sectors providing inputs to support livestock production. The analysis has not considered the “stemming from” effects, or the economic impacts associated with those industry sectors with forward linkages from the livestock production sector. The obvious sector in this regard would be food processing activities utilizing meat products as an input. Obviously, the food and meat processing industry creates a very substantial amount of additional employment and economic activity in Nebraska and in many Nebraska counties, suggesting the contributions of the livestock industry may be significantly greater than reported in this analysis if these forward-linkages were considered.

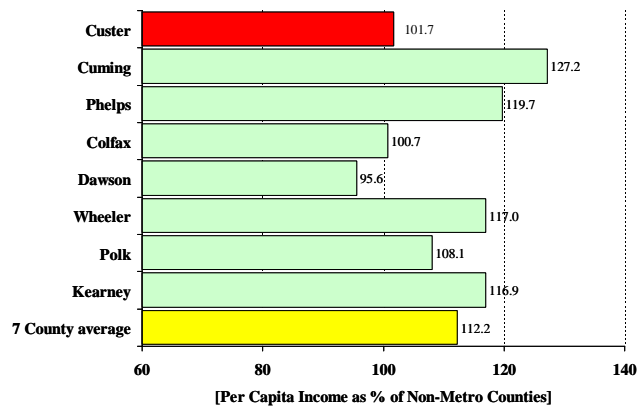
Livestock Production and Economic Well Being

A key question about the importance of the livestock industry concerns its contributions to the economic well being of residents of Custer County and other Nebraska counties where the production of livestock and livestock products may be even more significant as a contributor to the overall level of economic activity. Data presented in this report provide some insights into the relationship between livestock production and economic well being, measured in terms of per capita personal income.

Per capita personal income in Cuming County, which is the leading county in Nebraska in terms of the production of livestock and livestock products, was 26.9 percent more than the average per capita personal income for all non-metropolitan, Nebraska counties for the year 2003. For the ten-year period from 1994 to 2003, the average per capita personal income in Cuming County was 27.2 percent more than the average for the non-metropolitan areas of Nebraska. In the case of Custer County, which ranked 39th among the Nebraska counties in terms of livestock and livestock products sold per acre, per capita income for the ten-year period from 1994 to 2003 was \$22,656. This per capita income level was 1.7 percent more than the average per capita income level for all non-metropolitan Nebraska counties for the ten-year review period. Moreover, per capita personal income for Custer County in 2003 was \$28,329, or 7.7 percent above the average per capita income level for all non-metropolitan Nebraska counties.

For the top seven Nebraska livestock counties, in terms of the average value of livestock and livestock products sold per acre, the per capita personal income average in 2003 was 12.7 percent more than for all non-metropolitan counties. In the case of the ten-year average (1994–2003), the per capita personal income average in the leading livestock counties was 12.2 percent more than for all non-metropolitan counties.

Per Capita Personal Income, 10 Year Average*, as a Percent of Non-Metro Average, Custer County & Leading Livestock Counties**

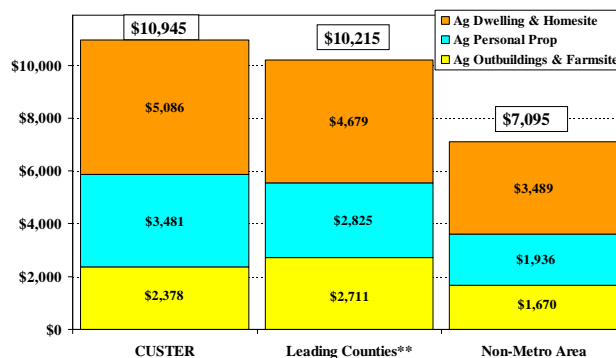


* 10 Year Average (1994-2003).
 **Note: Leading seven Nebraska counties in terms of value of livestock and livestock products produced per acre.

Livestock Production and Property Taxes

Livestock production activity contributes in a significant and positive manner to the tax base and to tax revenues needed to support local schools and other local public services. The per capita assessed valuation of agricultural property (other than agricultural land) was \$10,215 for the leading seven Nebraska livestock counties, 44.0 percent more than the \$7,095 of per capita assessed valuation for all non-metropolitan counties in the state. In the case of Custer County, the per farm assessed valuation of agricultural property (except agricultural land) was \$10,945. This value was 54.3 percent above the per farm assessed value of the same class of property for all non-metropolitan counties.

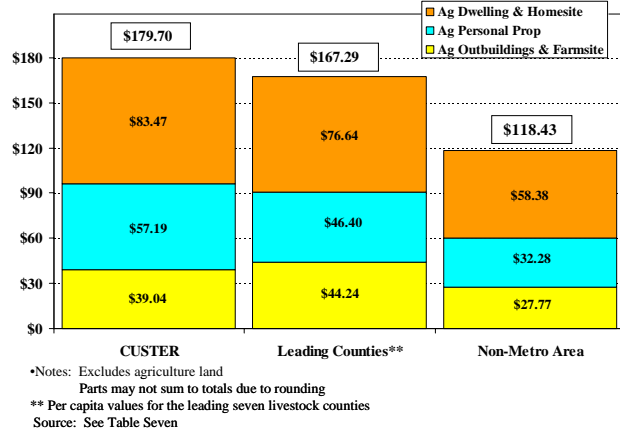
Per Capita Assessed Valuation for the Agriculture Sector*, Custer County, Non-Metro Area and Leading Livestock Counties



* Note: Excludes agriculture land
 ** Per capita values for the leading seven livestock counties
 • Source: See Table Seven

Local tax revenues are also significantly enhanced by the presence of livestock production activity. As this chart illustrates, per capita taxes levied on agricultural property (other than agricultural land) were \$167.29 for the seven leading Nebraska livestock counties. This level of per farm tax revenues was \$48.85, or 41.3 percent more than per capita tax revenues for the same class of agricultural property for all non-metropolitan Nebraska counties. In the case of Custer

**Per Capita Taxes Levied for the Agriculture Sector*,
Custer County, Non-Metro Area and Leading Livestock Counties**



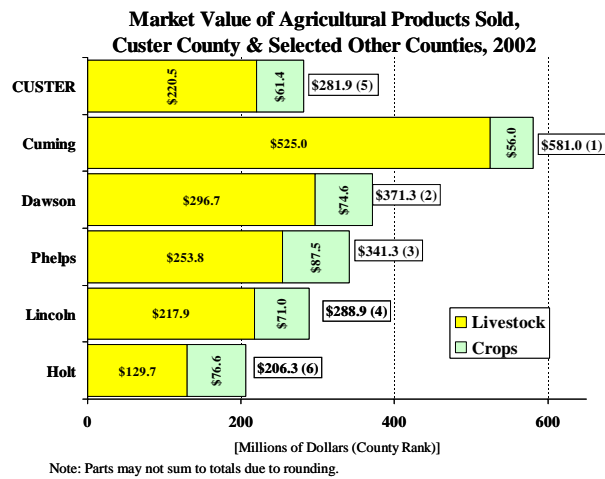
County, the per capita taxes levied on this class of agricultural property were \$179.70, or 51.7 percent above the average per capita tax levies for all non-metropolitan counties.

Economic Importance of and Economic Impacts Associated with Livestock Production in Custer County, Nebraska

Information provided in this report focuses on the importance of the livestock sector to the economy of Custer County, Nebraska (Custer County). The first part of the report reviews agriculture data from the *2002 Census of Agriculture*. These data provide insights into the importance of agriculture and the livestock sector in Custer County. The second part of the report analyzes the secondary economic impacts associated with livestock production in Custer County. This analysis utilizes an IMPLAN input-output (I-O) database and model developed specifically for Custer County.

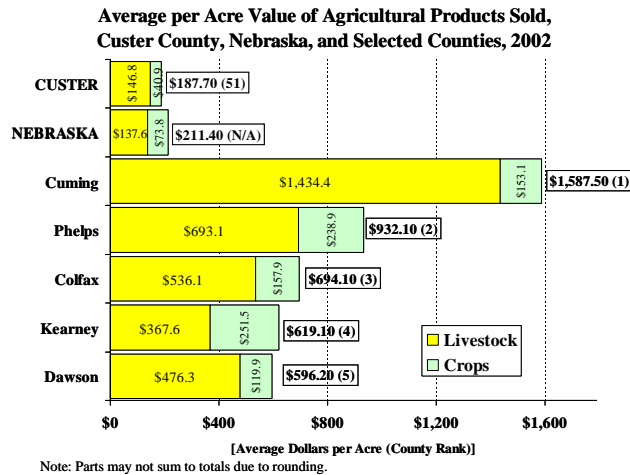
Livestock and Agricultural Production in Custer County, Nebraska

The *2002 Census of Agriculture* provides data showing the importance of agriculture and the livestock sector for Custer County. The data presented in Table One include the data for Custer County, along with data for Nebraska and selected Nebraska counties. The market value of agricultural products sold in Custer County was \$281.9 million in 2002. This level of sales of agricultural products ranked Custer County 5th among the Nebraska counties in terms of this measure. In terms of the per farm value of agricultural products sold, Custer County's average of \$245,368 ranked 25th among the counties and was 24.8 percent above the Nebraska per farm average of \$196,609.



The data reporting the market value of agricultural products sold may be somewhat misleading as these data are affected by the geographic size of the county (number of farms and acres). For example, while Lincoln and Custer counties rank 4th and 5th in terms of the total market value of agricultural products, their high ranking results, in part, from the relatively large size of these counties. When the data are normalized for the size of the county, these counties do not maintain their high rankings. For example, using the average market value of agricultural products sold per acre, Lincoln County ranks 50th among Nebraska's 93 counties.

The average market value of agricultural products sold per acre is shown in the current chart and includes the data for Custer County and for the top five Nebraska counties in terms of this measure, along with the Nebraska data. These data are also shown in Table One. In terms of the market value of agriculture products sold per acre, Custer County with a value of \$187.7 ranks 51st among Nebraska's 93 counties. Custer County's per acre average for all agricultural products is 88.8 percent of the Nebraska per acre average of \$211.40.



Data presented in Table One indicate that livestock and livestock products are important sources of income for Custer County farmers. The per farm market value of livestock and livestock products sold averaged \$191,950 for Custer County, ranking the county 17th among Nebraska's 93 counties in terms of this measure. The market value of livestock products sold in Custer County accounted for 78.2 percent of the total market value of all agricultural products sold, compared to 65.1 percent for Nebraska. The average Custer County per farm value (for livestock and livestock products sold) was 50.0 percent above the average per farm value of \$127,959 for Nebraska.

Table One also provides data reporting the number of farms; land in farms; farm employment; estimated market value of land and buildings; estimated market value of machinery and equipment; and net cash farm income of farm operations for Custer County, selected other Nebraska counties, and Nebraska.

Table One
Agricultural Characteristics, Custer County, Nebraska, and Selected Nebraska Counties, 2002

	CUSTER COUNTY	Nebraska	Buffalo	Colfax	Cuming	Custer	Dawson	Fillmore	Kearney	Morrill	Wheeler	York
Number of farms	1,149	49,355	989	589	904	1,149	718	499	412	443	194	617
% FT Farms ^(a)	76.1	73.0	70.6	75.0	76.0	76.1	74.2	85.6	87.9	70.0	75.8	77.8
Land in farms (Acres)	1,501,959	45,903,116	601,256	244,361	365,994	1,501,959	622,805	363,915	331,283	872,351	338,136	353,762
Average size (Acres)	1,307	930	608	415	405	1,307	867	729	804	1,969	1,743	573
Farm employment^(b)	1,566	60,084	1,196	780	1,251	1,566	1,150	767	657	628	341	778
Average per farm	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.62	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.3
Estimated market value of land and buildings												
Average per farm (\$)	696,003	723,863	787,773	627,679	658,526	696,003	830,919	1,178,604	1,223,182	657,996	899,296	1,103,666
Average per acre (\$)	535	776	1,312	1,629	1,571	535	1,014	1,685	1,447	327	525	2,009
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment												
Average per farm (\$)	104,469	111,776	128,090	121,938	111,129	104,469	137,066	191,054	229,426	104,187	134,128	180,841
Market value of agricultural products sold												
(\$1,000)	281,928	9,703,657	179,004	169,600	580,999	281,928	371,332	128,003	205,090	162,576	146,154	160,833
Average per farm (\$)	245,368	196,609	180,995	287,946	642,698	245,368	517,176	256,519	497,791	366,990	753,372	260,669
Average per acre (\$)	188	211	298	694	1,587	188	596	352	619	186	432	455
Market value of livestock, poultry, and their products												
Per farm (\$)	191,950	127,959	101,782	222,431	580,723	191,950	413,188	97,629	295,583	300,009	695,067	113,810
% Livestock	78.2	65.1	56.2	77.2	90.4	78.2	79.9	38.1	59.4	81.7	92.3	43.7
Net cash farm income of operation												
Average per farm (\$)	21,659	24,820	36,509	19,991	36,148	21,659	40,959	55,786	81,169	35,873	27,473	51,544

^(a)Full-time farms are defined as those where the principal operator has indicated their primary occupation is farming.

^(b)Farm employment estimates for 2003 from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), where farm employment includes farm proprietors and hired labor.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002 *Census of Agriculture*.

Economic Impacts Associated with Livestock Production in Custer County, Nebraska

Information presented in the continuing portion of this report focuses on the economic impacts associated with livestock operations in Custer County. This analysis utilizes an IMPLAN economic input-output (I-O) model developed specifically for Custer County.

From the Custer County I-O model, economic multipliers are derived that quantify the level or magnitude of economic activity necessary to support the production activity of local livestock enterprises. As such, the input-output analysis identifies and quantifies economic linkages associated with the inputs required in order for the livestock sector to produce the level of output it has achieved (backward linkages). The model does not evaluate forward linkages. That is, the model does not provide a measure of additional (downstream) processing made possible by the production of the livestock output, although this is certainly an important factor for Nebraska and for many Nebraska counties.

To provide a basic understanding of the structure and size of the agricultural sector within Custer County, data in Table One provide basic information from the *2002 Census of Agriculture* describing production activity and other parameters for the farm sector.

The IMPLAN database and input-output model provide further insight into the value of production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County. The data in Table Two present estimates of the value of production for the livestock sector reported by the IMPLAN database and I-O model for Custer County for 2003. As the data in Table Two show, the total value of output for livestock and livestock products was reported to be \$284.4 million dollars for 2003 (compared to the \$220.6 million market value of livestock and livestock products sold reported by the *2002 Census of Agriculture*¹).

The data in Table Two also provide a further disaggregation of livestock and livestock products. As reported in Table Two, cattle ranching and farming (which includes cow-calf operations and cattle feeding) was reported to have a value of production of \$272.1 million for the year 2003. Other animal production activities, except cattle and poultry, had an estimated output value of \$12.2 million. No poultry and egg production was reported in Custer County during 2003.

¹ Between 2002 and 2003 the average annual price received by Nebraska farmers for beef cows increased by 23.1 percent (USDA Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. "ALL BEEF CATTLE PRICE" Prices Received By Farmers, Accessed February 2006. Available at: www.nass.usda.gov/ne/nebhist.htm).

Table Two
Agricultural Sector Parameters, Custer County IMPLAN Database, 2003

Industry	Industry Output	Employment	Employee Compensation	Proprietor Income	Property Income	Other Value Added
	(Million \$)	(Number)	(Million \$)	(Million \$)	(Million \$)	(Million \$)
Oilseed farming	10.704	48	0.045	4.193	1.794	0.316
Grain farming	55.664	424	0.973	16.620	10.115	1.360
All other crop farming	19.826	44	1.108	4.629	5.629	0.523
Livestock & Livestock Products	284.366	1107	11.931	1.524	9.228	8.024
Cattle ranching and farming	272.148	983	10.900	1.780	8.236	7.768
Animal production, except cattle and poultry	12.218	124	1.031	-0.256	0.992	0.256

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc., IMPLAN Input-Output Model and database for Custer County (2003 data).

The data presented in Table Two show the most significant livestock sector is the beef-producing sector, accounting for 95.7 percent of the total production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County in 2002. Moreover, the beef-producing sector accounted for 983 of the 1,107 total reported employees in the livestock-producing sector and accounted for 96.8 percent of the value added by the livestock and livestock products sector.

Economic Impact Analysis

The economic linkages and impacts associated with livestock operations in Custer County are analyzed in the balance of this report. The analysis utilizes an input-output model developed for Custer County, for which the livestock producing sectors have been collapsed (aggregated) into one sector (livestock and livestock products). This involves aggregating the two livestock sectors shown in Table Two into one livestock sector. The analysis then focuses on the economic impacts associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County. This analysis involves identifying the multiplier effects associated with this production sector, where the multiplier effects evaluated include the output multiplier, the employment multiplier, and the value-added multiplier.

Each of the multipliers, in turn, consists of three components: the direct effect, the indirect effect, and the induced effect. The output multiplier defines (quantifies) the change in total output for the economy, which is associated with the delivery of an additional unit (dollar) of output of livestock and livestock products to final demand.

The multipliers specified for the livestock sector recognize that changes in output (increases in sales to final demand) by this sector will require additional inputs from other businesses or economic sectors be provided. The industries or economic sectors supplying additional inputs to the livestock sector will find they also must purchase additional inputs in order to expand their output to supply the increased inputs demanded by the livestock enterprises. As the increased demand for goods and services associated with the initial increase in sales to final demand works itself through the sectors of the economy, these effects are collected and termed the indirect effects component of each of the economic multipliers.

The induced component of the economic multipliers follows from the increased personal income (payments to households) in Custer County resulting from the increase in the demand for labor, both with respect to the direct and indirect economic effects. That is, as output is increased by the livestock products sector (direct effect) and in the economic sectors that supply the additional inputs to the livestock sector (indirect effects), these sectors will add labor inputs and increase their payments to labor. The translation of the additional household incomes into additional expenditures for (consumer) goods and services is referred to as the induced effects. The three effects--direct, indirect, and induced--together represent the total economic impacts embodied in the multipliers utilized to measure the economic impacts associated with the subject livestock enterprises.

The estimated direct, indirect, and induced components of the economic multipliers associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County are provided in Table Three. The three economic multipliers for which values are reported include the output, value-added, and employment multipliers. The output multiplier indicates that for each dollar of sales to final demand by the livestock sector in Custer County, there will be an estimated increase in total economic output of \$1.40 for the Custer County economy.

Table Three
Input-Output Multipliers for the Livestock & Livestock Products Sector,
Custer County

Multiplier Component	Total		
	Total Output ^(a)	Value Added ^(b)	Total Employment ^(c)
Direct	1.0000	0.1080	3.8906
Indirect	0.3576	0.1271	2.4366
Induced	0.0464	0.0283	0.6839
Total	1.4040	0.2634	7.0111
Multiplier ^(d)	1.4040	2.4389	1.8021

^(a) Increase in output for each dollar of sales to final demand.

^(b) Change in value added for each dollar of sales to final demand.

^(c) Total jobs created per million dollars of sales to final demand.

^(d) Multiplier values equal the total effects divided by the direct effect.

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc., IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County, 2003 data.

The value-added multiplier estimates there will be total payments to the factors of production of \$0.2634 for each dollar of sales of livestock and livestock products to final demand. This total value-added effect includes the direct effect of \$0.1080 associated with the initial sales of one dollar of output to final demand, \$0.1271 of payment to the factors of production associated with the increase in output (sales) for the intermediate (supplying) sectors, and the induced effect of \$0.0283 related to the increased household demand for goods and services resulting from the increased payment to labor (household income). The value-added multiplier of 2.4389 indicates for each dollar of value-added

in the livestock and livestock products sector, we would expect to see approximately \$1.44 of additional value-added in other sectors of the Custer County economy.

The employment multiplier indicates for each \$1,000,000 of sales to final demand by the livestock and livestock products sector, there will be a total of 7.01 jobs supported, including the direct, indirect, and induced components of the employment multiplier. Moreover, the employment multiplier of 1.8021 indicates that for each 100 workers employed in the livestock and livestock products sector, we would expect to find 80 workers employed in other sectors which support livestock production in Custer County.

Table Four provides a summary of the economic effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County. As the information provided in this table is reviewed, it will be of interest to note the estimated sales to final demand by the livestock sector are presented in the table as the direct effects (output, employment, and value-added). For example, the direct output (value of production) associated with sales of livestock and livestock products to the final demand sector by Custer County livestock producers is estimated to be \$243.3 million. From the Custer County I-O model, we estimate that for the Custer County livestock sector to sell this amount of output to final demand, it would need to produce a total of \$284.4 million of total output, as approximately 16.9 percent (\$41.0 million) of the total output would represent intermediate sales (sales by one producer in the livestock sector to other producers in the same sector).

Table Four
Summary of Output, Employment and Value-Added Effects
Associated with the Livestock Products Sector in Custer County, Nebraska
(Annual Estimates, 2003)

	Livestock Products	Other Economic Sectors	Total Economic Impacts
Output Effects			
Direct Output (Value of Production)	\$243,336,000	\$0	\$243,336,000
Indirect Effects [0.3576 of Direct]	\$40,838,000	\$46,168,000	\$87,005,000
Induced Effects [0.0464 of Direct]	\$192,000	\$11,087,000	\$11,279,000
Total Output Effects	\$284,366,000	\$57,255,000	\$341,620,000
Employment Effects			
Direct Employment (FTE)	947	0	947
Indirect Effects [0.6262 of Direct]	159	434	593
Induced Effects [0.1757 of Direct]	1	166	167
Total Employment (FTE)	1,107	600	1,707
Value-Added Effects			
Direct Value-Added (Payments)	\$26,275,000	\$0	\$26,275,000
Indirect Effects [1.1773 of Direct]	\$4,410,000	\$26,523,000	\$30,933,000
Induced Effects [0.2617 of Direct]	\$21,000	\$6,855,000	\$6,876,000
Total Value-Added Effects	\$30,706,000	\$33,378,000	\$64,084,000

Source: Computed from the IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County (2003 data).

-Output Effects

A review of the data presented in Table Four indicates the total output effects (including the direct, indirect, and induced output) associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County are estimated to be \$341.6 million. Of this total, 83.2 percent (\$284.4 million) is accounted for by output (direct, indirect, and induced) produced by the livestock sector and the indirect and induced effects in other Custer County economic sectors represent an additional \$57.3 million of output.

-Employment Effects

There are an estimated 947 people employed in the livestock products sector to produce the output dedicated to sales to final demand (\$243.3 million); when the indirect and induced effects are included, the estimated employment in the livestock sector increases to 1,107 people. The other secondary employment effects (indirect and induced effects in sectors other than livestock and livestock products), account for an additional 600 jobs and total employment in Custer County supporting the production of livestock and livestock products is estimated to be 1,707 employees.

-Value-Added Effects

The value-added effects associated with the livestock production in Custer County provide a measure of the economic value associated with this sector. Value-added consists of payments to the factors of production within the economy and includes payments to labor, proprietors' income, other property income, and indirect business taxes. As the data in Table Four show, the total value-added effects related to the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County are estimated to be \$64.1 million. Of this amount, \$30.7 million is value-added in the livestock products sector itself and an estimated \$33.4 million is value-added in other economic sectors that results because of the additional economic activity in these other economic sectors required to support the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County.

Table Five provides additional detail describing the economic effects associated with the production of livestock and livestock products in Custer County. The data in the table identify the business or economic sectors that are the primary beneficiaries of the economic activity resulting from livestock production in Custer County. Shown in the table is a list of the economic and business sectors likely to be positively impacted by the production of livestock products. The impacts presented in the table include the predicted output, value-added, and employment impacts for each of the sectors associated with the production and sales to final demand of the output produced by the livestock sector in Custer County.

Table Five
Distribution of Livestock Production Economic Impacts, by Selected Economic Sector^(a),
Custer County Nebraska, 2003

Industry	Total Output	% Total Output	Value Added	Employment	% Total Emp.
Livestock	284,366,000	83.24	30,706,000	1,106.3	64.86
All other crop farming	18,538,000	5.43	11,117,000	40.9	2.40
Wholesale trade	5,013,000	1.47	3,813,000	72.9	4.27
Grain farming	3,418,000	1.00	1,785,000	26.1	1.53
Monetary authorities and depository credit institutions	3,136,000	0.92	2,207,000	18.3	1.07
Owner-occupied dwellings	2,598,000	0.76	2,077,000	0.0	0.00
Truck transportation	2,468,000	0.72	1,034,000	28.9	1.69
Rail transportation	2,430,000	0.71	1,532,000	9.2	0.54
Veterinary services	2,059,000	0.60	872,000	37.9	2.22
Agriculture and forestry support activities	1,988,000	0.58	1,531,000	104.7	6.14
Commercial machinery repair and maintenance	1,637,000	0.48	495,000	24.8	1.45
Hospitals	1,084,000	0.32	454,000	13.0	0.76
Automotive repair and maintenance, except car washes	1,032,000	0.30	416,000	20.4	1.20
Real estate	964,000	0.28	663,000	7.9	0.46
Food services and drinking places	949,000	0.28	350,000	26.4	1.55
Maintenance and repair of nonresidential buildings	895,000	0.26	402,000	10.1	0.59
Offices of physicians, dentists, and other health practitioners	641,000	0.19	496,000	10.6	0.62
Waste management and remediation services	623,000	0.18	128,000	7.7	0.45
Food and beverage stores	574,000	0.17	386,000	12.3	0.72
Telecommunications	524,000	0.15	284,000	1.7	0.10
Other State and local government enterprises	513,000	0.15	149,000	2.9	0.17
Accounting and bookkeeping services	418,000	0.12	178,000	7.9	0.46
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	385,000	0.11	302,000	5.9	0.35
Nursing and residential care facilities	377,000	0.11	248,000	11.0	0.64
Other animal food manufacturing	349,000	0.10	65,000	0.6	0.04
All other	4,641,000	1.36	2,394,000	98.6	5.71
Total	341,620,000	100.00	64,084,000	1,707.0	100.00

^(a) The business or economic sectors impacted by the production of \$243,336,000 of livestock and livestock products for sales to final demand in Custer County (2003).

Source: Computed from the IMPLAN Input-Output Model for Custer County (2003 data).

Livestock Production and Economic Well Being

Data presented in Table Six provide further insight into the importance of livestock production activities as a contributing factor to economic well being for selected livestock production counties. Included in the table are data showing the average per acre value of livestock and livestock products sold for Custer County and for the leading livestock counties, according to this metric. Also included in the table are data showing per capita personal income for the counties, as a percent of per capita personal income for all non-metropolitan counties. The per capita personal income index data are included for two time periods. First the income index data are included for 2003. Also, recognizing the volatility of year-to-year changes in total personal and per capita personal income, especially in rural counties, an average per capita personal income index measure is included for a ten-year period, 1994–2003.

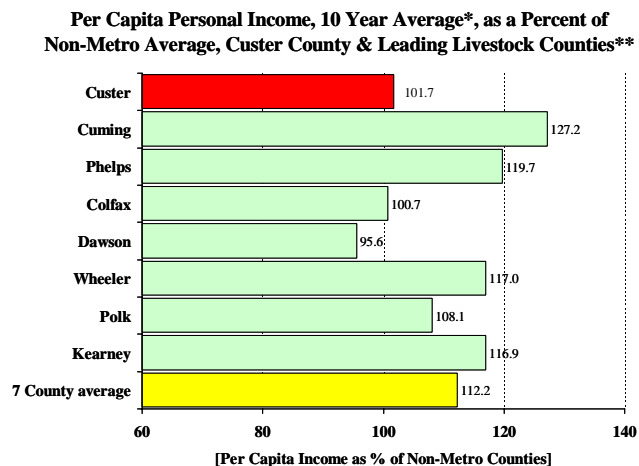
Table Six
Livestock Production and Per Capita Personal Income,
Custer County and Leading Nebraska Livestock Counties

County/ Nebraska	Livestock & Livestock Products Per Acre		Per Capita Income (% of Non-Metro Counties)	
	Value (\$)	County Rank	2003	10 Yr Avg. (1994-2003)
Custer	146.80	39	107.7	101.7
NEBRASKA	137.60	N/A	114.8	115.5
Cuming	1,434.40	1	126.9	127.2
Phelps	693.10	2	115.3	119.7
Colfax	536.10	3	100.8	100.7
Dawson	476.30	4	89.9	95.6
Wheeler	398.80	5	136.4	117.0
Polk	374.70	6	106.1	108.1
Kearney	367.60	7	113.5	116.9
Average for Top Seven Livestock Counties			112.7	112.2

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *2002 Census of Agriculture*, and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), County Personal Income, 1994-2003.

As the data shown in Table Six and the accompanying chart indicate, per capita personal income for 2003 in Cuming County, the leading county in Nebraska in terms of the production of livestock and livestock products, was 26.9 percent more than the average per capita personal income for all non-metropolitan counties. For the ten-year period from 1994 to 2003, the average per capita personal income in Cuming County was 27.2 percent more than the average for the non-metropolitan areas of Nebraska. In the case of Custer County, which ranked 39th among the Nebraska counties in terms of livestock sold per acre, average per capita income for the ten-year period, from 1994 to 2003, was \$22,656. This per capita income level was 1.7 percent above the average per capita income level for all non-metropolitan counties for the 1994–2003 period. Moreover, per capita personal income for Custer County in 2003 was \$28,329, or 7.7 percent above the average per capita income level for all non-metropolitan counties.

The data presented in the table and the accompanying chart also show that, for the top seven livestock counties, per capita personal income in 2003 was 12.7 percent more than for all non-metropolitan counties. In the case of the ten-year average, per capita personal income in the leading livestock counties was 12.2 percent more than for all non-metropolitan counties.



* 10 Year Average (1994-2003).

**Note: Leading seven Nebraska counties in terms of value of livestock and livestock products produced per acre.

Livestock Production and Property Taxes

As the data presented in Table Seven show, livestock production activity contributes in a significant and positive manner to the tax base and to tax revenues needed to support local schools and other local public services. Part A of the table indicates the per capita assessed valuation of agricultural property (other than agricultural land) was \$10,215 for the leading seven livestock counties, 44.0 percent more than the \$10,945 of per capita assessed valuation for all non-metropolitan counties in the state. In the case of Custer County, the per capita assessed valuation of agricultural property (except agricultural land) was \$10,945. This value was 54.3 percent above the per capita assessed value of the same class of property for all non-metropolitan counties.

Table Seven
Agricultural Property Valuation and Taxes Levied Per Capita, Custer County,
Non-Metropolitan Nebraska, and Leading Nebraska Livestock Counties

Part A -- Per Capita Assessed Valuation				
County/ Nebraska	Ag. Outbuildings & Farmsite	Ag. Personal Property	Ag. Dwelling & Homesite	Total Ag. Property Except Ag. Land
CUSTER	\$2,378	\$3,481	\$5,086	\$10,945
Non-Metro Area*	1,670	1,936	3,489	7,095
Cuming	4,554	3,537	5,147	13,238
Phelps	3,050	3,745	4,198	10,994
Colfax	2,760	1,804	4,646	9,209
Dawson	905	1,792	2,650	5,347
Wheeler	26,226	9,043	8,350	43,618
Polk	3,753	3,793	8,367	15,913
Kearney	2,387	4,266	8,645	15,298
Average for Top 7 Livestock Counties	\$2,711	\$2,825	\$4,679	\$10,215

Part B -- Per Capita Taxes Levied				
County/ Nebraska	Ag. Outbuildings & Farmsite	Ag. Personal Property	Ag. Dwelling & Homesite	Total Ag. Property Except Ag. Land
CUSTER	\$39.04	\$57.19	\$83.47	\$179.70
Non-Metro Area*	27.77	32.28	58.38	118.43
Cuming	74.85	58.08	84.27	217.20
Phelps	49.34	60.79	68.07	178.20
Colfax	47.32	30.92	79.34	157.58
Dawson	15.06	30.09	43.67	88.81
Wheeler	412.94	141.75	130.72	685.41
Polk	56.58	57.14	126.20	239.92
Kearney	39.79	71.75	145.92	257.47
Average for Top 7 Livestock Counties	\$44.24	\$46.40	\$76.64	\$167.29

* Non-Metro Area includes Nebraska except Cass, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, and Washington counties.

Source: Special tabulation provided by the Nebraska Department of Property Assessment & Taxation

Part B of Table Seven also illustrates that local tax revenues are also significantly enhanced by the presence of livestock production activity. These data show the per capita taxes levied on agricultural property (other than agricultural land) were \$167.29 for the seven leading livestock counties. This level of per farm tax revenues was \$48.85, or 41.3 percent more than per capita tax revenues for the same class of agricultural property for all non-metropolitan counties. In the case of Custer County, per capita taxes levied on this class of agricultural property were \$179.70, or 51.7 percent above the average per farm tax levies for all non-metropolitan areas.

If further information about this analysis is desired or if the reader has questions about any aspect of this report, please contact:

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