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## American Relief Act of 2025: Economic Assistance for North Dakota Crop Producers

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### CAPTS White Paper 2025-01 & RaFF Policy Brief 2025-02(2)

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***This white paper/policy brief provides preliminary estimates of the economic assistance payments for North Dakota crop producers approved by U.S. Congress on December 20, 2024, as part of the American Relief Act of 2025.***

On December 20, 2024, the U.S. Congress approved the American Relief Act 2025, ensuring the federal government is funded through March 14, 2025. The legislation also extends the 2018 Farm Bill until September 2025, allocating \$10 billion in economic assistance for crop producers.

Congress mandates the Secretary of Agriculture to provide economic assistance payment to crop producers within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act. The financial assistance to each person or legal entity by commodity is calculated as the economic assistance per acre multiplied by the number of eligible acres in each crop. The economic aid per acre in **Table 1** is determined as the highest of: (a) 26% of the economic loss in each eligible crop, and (b) a minimum payment rate equivalent to 8% of the product of the commodity statutory reference price times the national average Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payment yield.

The economic loss from each crop is determined as the difference between the 2024 expected cost of production per acre published by the USDA Economic Research Service and the 2024 expected gross return per acre. The latter is the product of the projected 2024/25 marketing year farm price from the latest World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report times the 2015-2024 national average crop yield. For crops without projected marketing year prices available in the WASDE, similar projected marketing year average prices are used from the USDA Farm Service Agency.

**Table 1. Economic Assistance by Eligible Crop**

Eligible Crops	Unit	Projected Avg. Farm Price MY 2024/25	National Avg. Harvested Yield 2015-2024	Expected Gross Returns	Expected Cost of Production	Expected Economic Loss	Economic Assistance Rate	Reference Price	PLC Yield	Minimum Payment Rate	Final Payment Rate
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j) = higher of (f) and (i)
		\$/Unit	Unit/acre	\$/acre	\$/acre	\$/acre	\$/acre	\$/Unit	Unit/acre	\$/acre	\$/acre
<b>Barley</b>	bushel	6.60	73.35	484.11	472.01	0.00	0.00	4.95	54.96	21.76	21.76
<b>Corn</b>	bushel	4.10	174.54	715.61	879.10	163.49	42.51	3.70	143.07	42.35	42.51
<b>Cotton<sup>1</sup></b>	lb	0.66	846.9	558.95	894.56	\$35.61	87.26	0.37	1,827.89	53.67	87.26
<b>Oats</b>	bushel	3.40	66.41	225.79	524.48	298.69	77.66	2.40	52.11	10.01	77.66
<b>Peanuts</b>	lbs	0.267	3,891.10	1,031.14	1,184.95	153.81	39.99	0.27	3,565.54	76.30	76.30
<b>Rice<sup>2</sup></b>	cwt	15.60	75.34	1,175.24	1,314.84	139.60	36.30	14.00	62.07	69.52	69.52
<b>Sorghum<sup>3</sup></b>	bushel	4.10	66.68	273.39	437.14	163.75	42.58	3.95	63.83	20.17	42.58
<b>Soybeans</b>	bushel	10.20	50.18	511.84	625.29	113.45	29.50	8.40	40.87	27.46	29.50
<b>Wheat</b>	bushel	5.60	48.24	270.14	388.19	118.05	30.69	5.50	41.79	18.39	30.69

Note.

<sup>1</sup> Cotton: extra-long and upland.

<sup>2</sup> Rice: long- and medium-grain (excluding temperate japonica until final rules become available).

<sup>3</sup> Sorghum: grain sorghum.

Sources.

(a) <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/arc-plc/program-data#:~:text=Market%20Year%20Average%20Prices> (Last accessed: December 28, 2024)

(b) <https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov>

(c) = (a) × (b)

(d) <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/commodity-costs-and-returns/commodity-costs-and-returns/#Cost-of-Production%20Forecasts>

(e) = (d) - (c)

(f) = (e) × 26%

(g) <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/documents/2024-erp>

(h) <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/arc-plc/program-data>

(i) = (g) × (h) × 8%

(j) = higher of (f) and (i)

Eligible acres are determined as all planted acres for harvest, grazing, haying, silage, or other similar purposes for the 2024 crop year, plus 50% of prevented planted acres in 2024. In this white paper/policy brief, we use planted acres (including failed acres) and prevented planted acres published by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) on December 2, 2024, to calculate eligible acres by county.

If less than 75% of the average gross income of the person or legal entity for the 2020, 2021, and 2022 tax years is derived from farming, ranching, or silviculture activities, total economic assistance payments are capped at \$125,000. Otherwise, total economic assistance payments are capped at \$250,000. These payment limitations are separate from annual payment limitations under any other program. In this article, and due to the aggregated nature of the FSA data, we exclude global payment limitations from our analysis.

## Eligible Acres

The projections presented in this section rely on the following intermediate calculations:

- Column (b) in **Table 1** is calculated using harvested yields in marketing years 2015/16 through 2024/25 (using the December estimates for 2024/25) published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). For cotton, upland cotton yields are used to compare both prices consistently. ELS cotton is assumed to get a payment equal to upland cotton.
- For rice, the following types were excluded from all calculations: temperate japonica, cultivated, native, and short grain. All acres in other types of rice are assumed to receive a payment based on the all-rice price, all-rice yield, and all-rice cost of production. An all-rice PLC yield (weighted average of types, excluding temperate japonica) and the long grain or medium/short grain statutory reference price are used for the minimum payment.
- For corn, only the following types were included in the acreage calculation: yellow, white, grain-free forage, purple, blue, red, waxy, high amylase, and amylose. The following types were excluded from the calculation: sweet, bicolor; sweet, white; sweet, yellow/golden early or late; tropical; popcorn, strawberry popcorn; ornamental/ calico/ indigenous; corn nuts.
- For sorghum, only grain sorghum for all intended uses was included in the acreage calculation. The following sorghum types were excluded from the calculation: hybrid; hybrid standard plant FR, GR, or SU; sweet; Almus; Sudex; cane; and hybrid interplanting forage.
- Both upland and extra-long staple cotton types were included in the acreage calculation for cotton.
- For all crops, total eligible acres by county and crop were calculated as the direct summation of planted irrigated and non-irrigated acres (including failed acres), plus 50% of the sum of prevented plant irrigated and non-irrigated acres.
- Payment yields associated with the PLC program are calculated using the file titled “Program Year 2024 Average PLC Yield by County,” available from the USDA’s FSA 2024 Program Data website. The national average is calculated as the average of the PLC yields by county weighted by the total enrolled base acres (across the PLC and both Agricultural Risk Coverage programs). The Secretary may make a slightly different calculation (for example, using total base acres instead of enrolled base acres), so the final number could be other than that used here.

**Table 2** reports the eligible acres per crop for each county in North Dakota. Soybeans, wheat, and corn account for 37%, 36%, and 23% of all eligible acres, respectively.

**Table 2. Eligible Acres by Crop in North Dakota**

County	Barley	Corn	Oats	Peanuts	Sorghum	Soybeans	Wheat	Subtotal
Adams	3,909	51,215	2,508	-	5	15,524	125,946	199,107
Barnes	10,440	202,413	1,134	0.04	78	332,481	67,187	613,732
Benson	14,467	58,129	2,454	-	-	164,407	131,157	370,614
Billings	3,121	5,228	4,018	-	97	-	30,928	43,391
Bottineau	12,529	45,591	15,818	-	80	200,129	261,614	535,762
Bowman	8,115	33,219	6,579	-	2,701	2,442	108,602	161,659
Burke	4,135	4,430	6,335	-	-	25,243	160,666	200,809
Burleigh	4,637	81,536	4,235	-	-	131,414	79,570	301,392
Cass	6,373	344,736	1,117	-	35	403,425	82,121	837,806
Cavalier	14,096	11,414	469	-	-	162,630	318,445	507,054
Dickey	2,194	183,448	1,710	-	51	192,514	9,983	389,899
Divide	5,423	4,780	4,704	-	-	25,474	215,495	255,876
Dunn	9,984	31,828	12,537	-	-	2,221	144,671	201,241
Eddy	2,580	55,901	2,613	-	-	99,099	27,371	187,565
Emmons	6,377	151,393	7,784	-	104	147,425	65,943	379,026
Foster	1,638	95,547	822	-	-	151,833	28,717	278,557
Golden Valley	2,687	15,696	2,348	-	280	-	67,702	88,714
Grand Forks	7,488	143,001	874	-	-	182,968	118,935	453,267
Grant	5,987	83,153	12,555	-	621	42,412	107,046	251,774
Griggs	7,145	63,747	976	-	-	132,703	58,268	262,839
Hettinger	5,436	59,403	2,239	-	43	13,461	283,226	363,807
Kidder	3,745	56,374	11,206	-	38	114,398	44,609	230,371
LaMoure	1,955	206,427	1,457	-	-	310,447	24,008	544,294
Logan	2,995	66,050	4,854	-	-	118,402	33,464	225,765
McHenry	8,177	86,025	17,078	-	-	171,717	108,886	391,883
McIntosh	3,479	71,548	2,930	-	-	145,507	47,082	270,546
McKenzie	14,122	12,628	12,196	-	-	11,352	162,599	212,897
McLean	7,383	95,907	4,256	-	-	190,509	276,353	574,407
Mercer	8,029	36,588	5,955	-	-	30,936	67,143	148,650
Morton	10,780	68,818	16,391	-	81	71,481	136,718	304,269
Mountrail	11,700	7,889	6,118	-	-	61,185	224,198	311,090
Nelson	8,176	39,961	1,206	-	-	140,254	110,555	300,153
Oliver	2,945	31,969	6,461	-	-	38,237	56,232	135,844
Pembina	3,988	38,537	546	-	-	123,388	199,971	366,430
Pierce	9,702	30,594	5,002	-	-	125,858	128,580	299,736
Ramsey	33,098	55,780	722	-	-	139,868	137,327	366,795
Ransom	1,199	127,482	2,374	-	-	141,902	24,868	297,825
Renville	5,286	42,306	7,219	-	-	122,938	191,124	368,873
Richland	210	288,360	1,374	-	-	296,030	47,646	633,621
Rolette	4,997	13,241	6,219	-	-	74,716	121,563	220,737
Sargent	247	160,807	418	-	-	181,549	8,159	351,180

County	Barley	Corn	Oats	Peanuts	Sorghum	Soybeans	Wheat	Subtotal
Sheridan	2,450	33,381	2,624	-	-	114,699	85,796	238,949
Sioux	2,677	29,955	2,996	-	682	15,740	21,808	73,858
Slope	3,631	20,817	2,079	-	-	3,794	112,497	142,817
Stark	5,225	52,431	9,545	-	-	4,509	238,642	310,353
Steele	5,377	95,960	179	-	-	159,080	46,031	306,627
Stutsman	3,756	219,422	4,194	-	-	424,566	69,447	721,385
Towner	13,896	21,602	627	-	-	141,580	187,001	364,706
Trails	6,828	125,746	1,902	-	-	182,491	93,470	410,437
Walsh	7,543	63,508	4,306	-	-	120,309	195,023	390,689
Ward	6,662	60,951	5,258	-	-	189,767	310,824	573,462
Wells	5,361	134,135	1,093	-	-	231,695	116,867	489,151
Williams	9,179	8,996	4,711	-	68	23,770	350,024	396,748
<b>State Total</b>	<b>353,561</b>	<b>4,130,005</b>	<b>247,323</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>4,963</b>	<b>6,650,478</b>	<b>6,472,109</b>	<b>17,858,438</b>
<b>% of State Total</b>	<b>1.98%</b>	<b>23.13%</b>	<b>1.38%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.03%</b>	<b>37.24%</b>	<b>36.24%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Note. Eligible acres are calculated as the direct sum of planted acres, failed acres, and 50% of prevented planted acres, as reported by FSA on December 2, 2024.

### Projected Economic Assistance

Table 3 shows the projected economic assistance based on the final payment rates reported in Table 1 and the eligible acres reported in Table 2. Total assistance across the selected commodities in North Dakota is projected at \$597 million, with approximately 66% of the assistance going to wheat and soybeans and 29% to corn producers. The following 10 counties (listed in decreasing order of projected payments) account for 34% of all the projected assistance for the state: Cass, Stutsman, Richland, Barnes, LaMoure, McLean, Ward, Bottineau, Wells, and Cavalier.

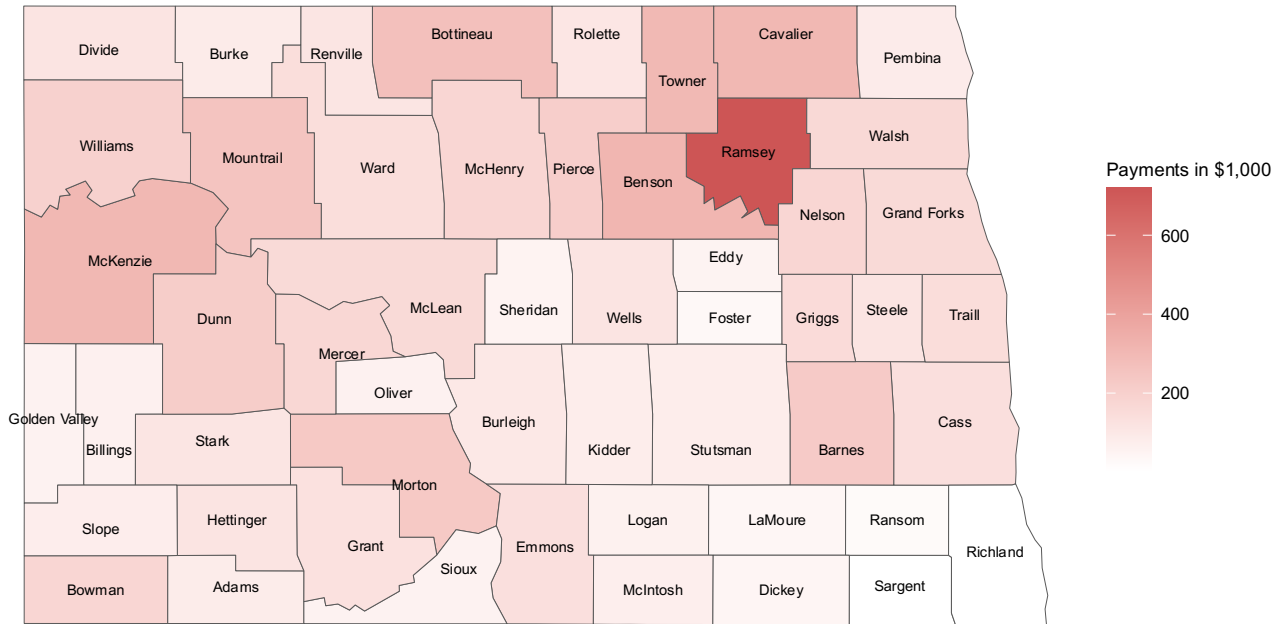
**Table 3. Economic Assistance by Crop and County in North Dakota, in \$1,000**

County	Barley	Corn	Oats	Peanuts	Sorghum	Soybeans	Wheat	Subtotal
Adams	85.07	2,176.97	194.74	-	0.22	457.92	3,865.54	6,780.47
Barnes	227.21	8,603.85	88.07	0.003	3.30	9,807.53	2,062.09	20,792.05
Benson	314.86	2,470.86	190.61	-	-	4,849.67	4,025.46	11,851.46
Billings	67.93	222.21	312.02	-	4.11	-	949.25	1,555.51
Bottineau	272.69	1,937.91	1,228.41	-	3.39	5,903.42	8,029.46	17,375.27
Bowman	176.61	1,412.03	510.95	-	114.99	72.04	3,333.20	5,619.83
Burke	90.00	188.30	491.94	-	-	744.63	4,931.15	6,446.02
Burleigh	100.93	3,465.79	328.89	-	-	3,876.45	2,442.16	10,214.23
Cass	138.69	14,653.49	86.75	-	1.47	11,900.24	2,520.45	29,301.09
Cavalier	306.78	485.15	36.43	-	-	4,797.26	9,773.71	15,399.34
Dickey	47.75	7,797.69	132.78	-	2.18	5,678.79	306.39	13,965.57
Divide	118.03	203.16	365.30	-	-	751.44	6,613.95	8,051.89
Dunn	217.29	1,352.88	973.60	-	-	65.52	4,440.23	7,049.52
Eddy	56.16	2,376.15	202.91	-	-	2,923.24	840.08	6,398.53
Emmons	138.80	6,435.18	604.48	-	4.44	4,348.74	2,023.91	13,555.55
Foster	35.66	4,061.34	63.83	-	-	4,478.77	881.40	9,520.99

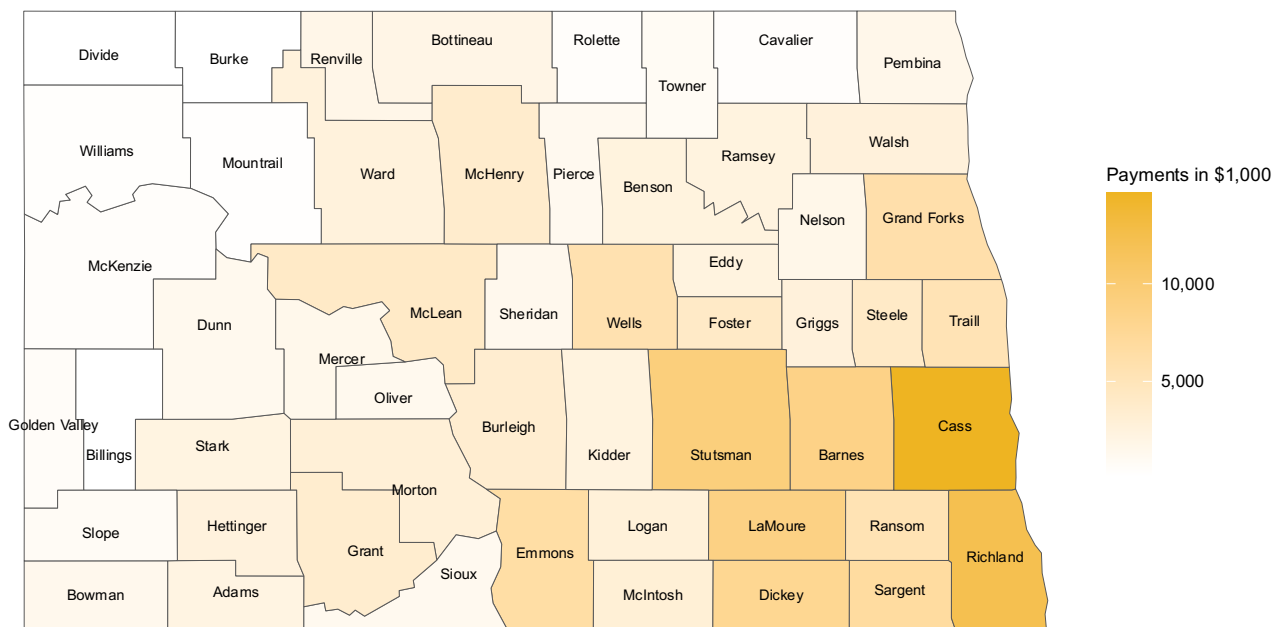
County	Barley	Corn	Oats	Peanuts	Sorghum	Soybeans	Wheat	Subtotal
Golden Valley	58.49	667.18	182.37	-	11.92	-	2,077.92	2,997.87
Grand Forks	162.98	6,078.47	67.86	-	-	5,397.20	3,650.36	15,356.88
Grant	130.30	3,534.54	974.98	-	26.43	1,251.07	3,285.46	9,202.77
Griggs	155.50	2,709.67	75.81	-	-	3,914.47	1,788.36	8,643.81
Hettinger	118.30	2,525.01	173.84	-	1.84	397.06	8,692.76	11,908.81
Kidder	81.51	2,396.27	870.27	-	1.63	3,374.51	1,369.14	8,093.33
LaMoure	42.55	8,774.46	113.16	-	-	9,157.57	736.85	18,824.59
Logan	65.18	2,807.55	376.93	-	-	3,492.63	1,027.09	7,769.38
McHenry	177.96	3,656.61	1,326.27	-	-	5,065.32	3,341.92	13,568.09
McIntosh	75.73	3,041.23	227.57	-	-	4,292.17	1,445.03	9,081.72
McKenzie	307.36	536.78	947.09	-	-	334.87	4,990.47	7,116.57
McLean	160.68	4,076.65	330.48	-	-	5,619.64	8,481.81	18,669.26
Mercer	174.74	1,555.20	462.44	-	-	912.55	2,060.75	5,165.69
Morton	234.62	2,925.22	1,272.86	-	3.45	2,108.54	4,196.15	10,740.84
Mountrail	254.65	335.34	475.09	-	-	1,804.84	6,881.09	9,751.00
Nelson	177.94	1,698.58	93.69	-	-	4,137.22	3,393.16	9,500.60
Oliver	64.10	1,358.88	501.71	-	-	1,127.92	1,725.88	4,778.50
Pembina	86.80	1,638.05	42.40	-	-	3,639.70	6,137.50	11,544.45
Pierce	211.15	1,300.44	388.45	-	-	3,712.56	3,946.37	9,558.97
Ramsey	720.35	2,371.00	56.04	-	-	4,125.82	4,214.85	11,488.06
Ransom	26.09	5,418.81	184.40	-	-	4,185.83	763.24	10,578.37
Renville	115.05	1,798.26	560.64	-	-	3,626.43	5,865.97	11,966.35
Richland	4.57	12,257.15	106.71	-	-	8,732.31	1,462.35	22,563.10
Rolette	108.76	562.83	482.98	-	-	2,203.99	3,731.00	7,089.56
Sargent	5.37	6,835.32	32.47	-	-	5,355.34	250.43	12,478.92
Sheridan	53.32	1,418.91	203.74	-	-	3,383.39	2,633.24	7,692.59
Sioux	58.27	1,273.28	232.69	-	29.03	464.29	669.34	2,726.90
Slope	79.03	884.85	161.42	-	-	111.91	3,452.74	4,689.95
Stark	113.72	2,228.66	741.25	-	-	133.02	7,324.40	10,541.04
Steele	117.02	4,078.92	13.91	-	-	4,692.54	1,412.79	10,315.18
Stutsman	81.75	9,326.84	325.70	-	-	12,523.85	2,131.47	24,389.61
Towner	302.43	918.24	48.68	-	-	4,176.33	5,739.43	11,185.10
Traill	148.61	5,344.99	147.69	-	-	5,383.14	2,868.78	13,893.20
Walsh	164.16	2,699.51	334.43	-	-	3,548.87	5,985.64	12,732.61
Ward	144.99	2,590.82	408.30	-	-	5,597.75	9,539.81	18,281.66
Wells	116.68	5,701.60	84.86	-	-	6,834.56	3,586.87	16,324.57
Williams	199.77	382.38	365.84	-	2.90	701.18	10,742.91	12,394.98
<b>State Total</b>	<b>7,694.96</b>	<b>175,551.46</b>	<b>19,206.72</b>	<b>0.003</b>	<b>211.30</b>	<b>196,176.06</b>	<b>198,641.70</b>	<b>597,482.20</b>
<b>% of State Total</b>	<b>1.29%</b>	<b>29.38%</b>	<b>3.21%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.04%</b>	<b>32.83%</b>	<b>33.25%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### Geographical Distribution of Economic Assistance in North Dakota

By design, the economic assistance will flow more intensely to counties with more planted or prevented planted acres in 2024. **Figures 1 to 7** reflect the projected payments by county in North Dakota for each commodity. **Figure 8** shows the projected total assistance by county for the selected commodities: barley, corn, oats, peanuts, grain sorghum, soybeans, and wheat.



**Figure 1. Projected Economic Assistance to Barley Producers by County in North Dakota**



**Figure 2. Projected Economic Assistance to Corn Producers by County in North Dakota**

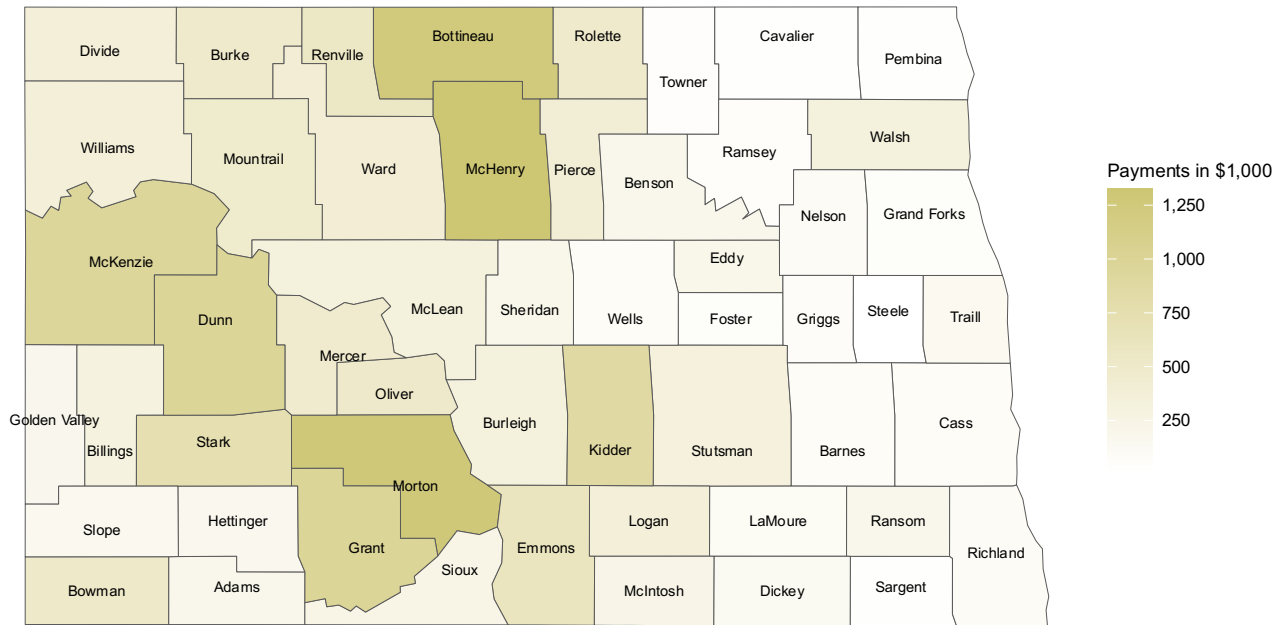


Figure 3. Projected Economic Assistance to Oats Producers by County in North Dakota

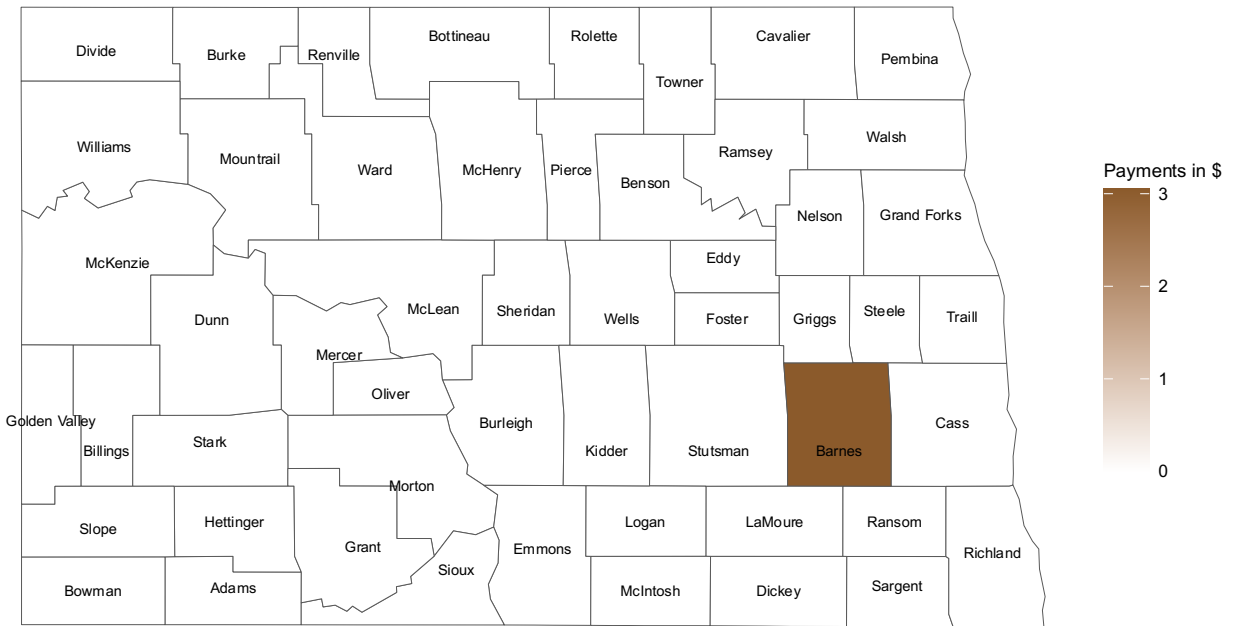


Figure 4. Projected Economic Assistance to Peanuts Producers by County in North Dakota

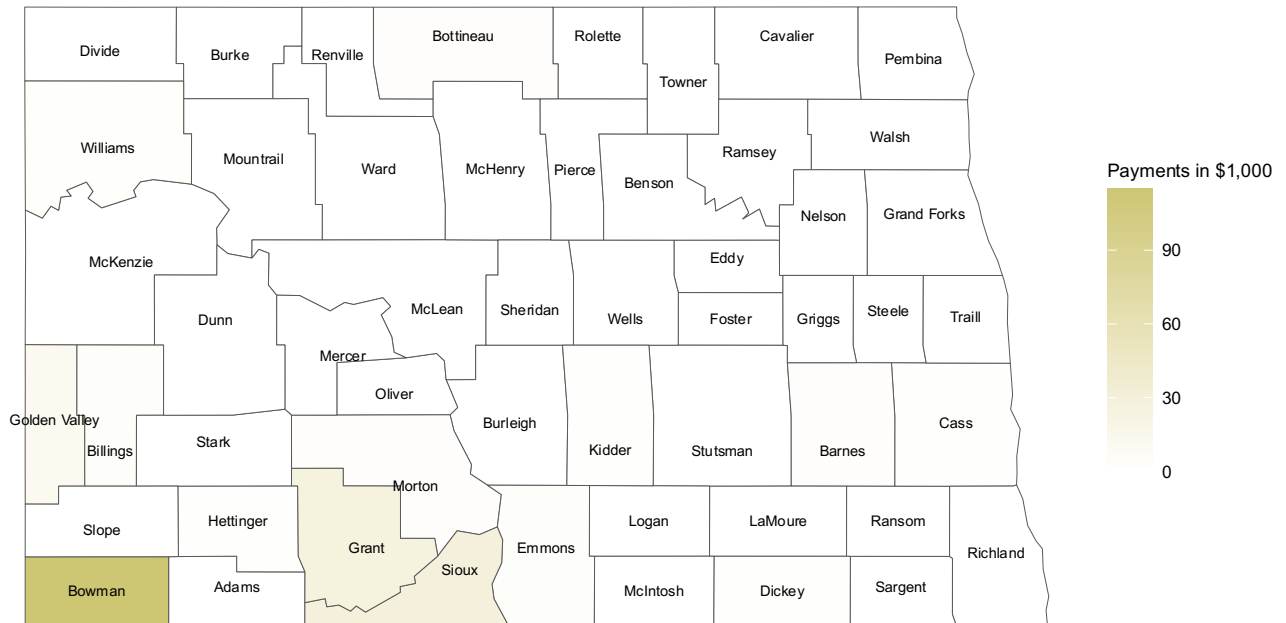


Figure 5. Projected Economic Assistance to Sorghum Producers by County in North Dakota

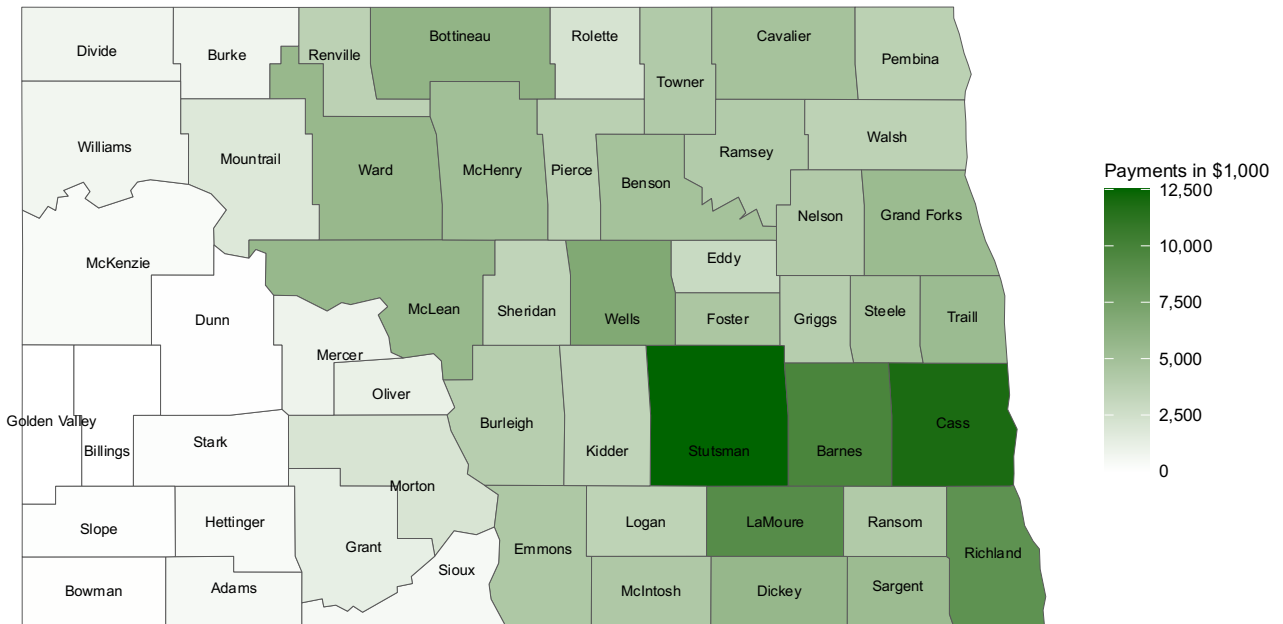
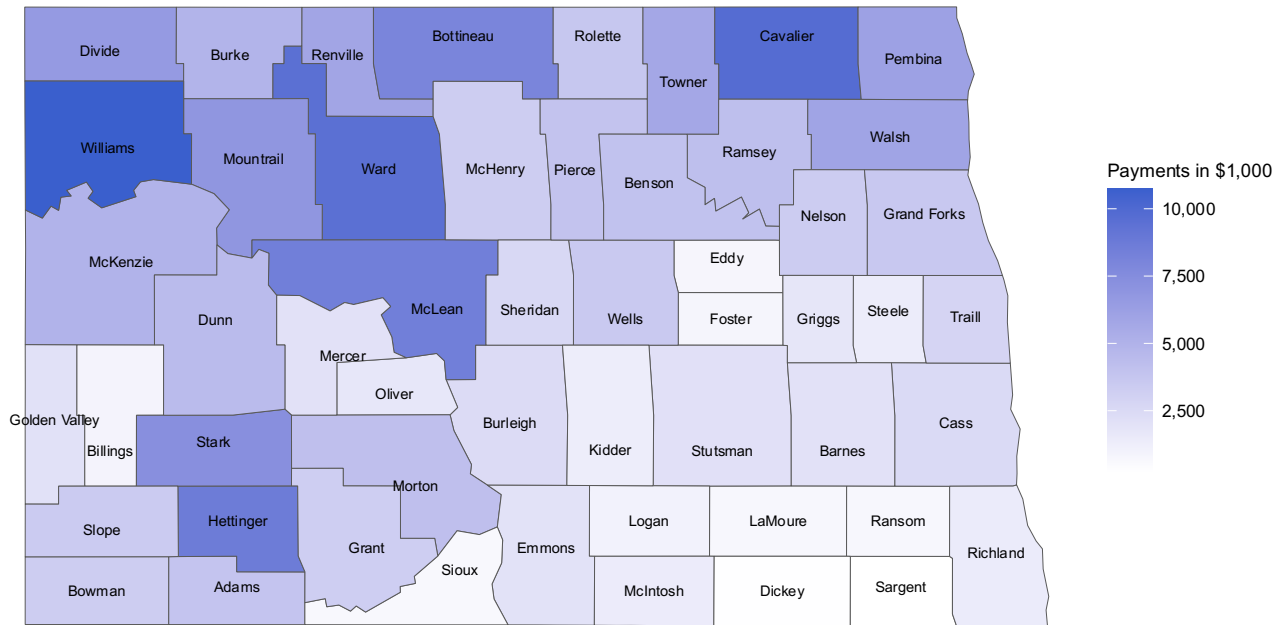
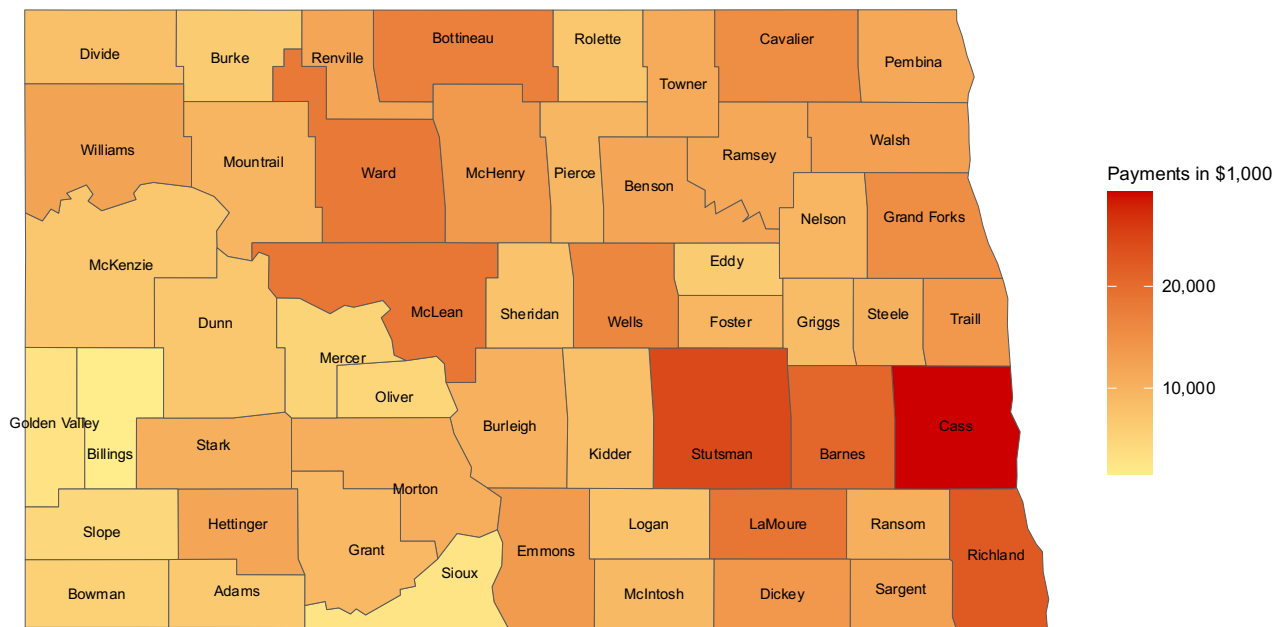


Figure 6. Projected Economic Assistance to Soybeans Producers by County in North Dakota



**Figure 7. Projected Economic Assistance to Wheat Producers by County in North Dakota**



**Figure 8. Total Projected Economic Assistance to Selected Crop Producers by County**

*Note.* The crops included in the analysis are barley, corn, oats, peanuts, grain sorghum, soybeans, and wheat.

**Disclaimer**

Many provisions in the legislative text allow or require the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture in determining certain of the relevant variables (prices, costs, yields, etc.). It is possible that the USDA will interpret the provisions of the Act differently than the authors of this report during enactment for calculating actual payments. This could result in different payment calculations than the ones presented in this article.

**Legislative Text**

H.R.10545. American Relief Act, 2025 (12.20.24).

<https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20241216/ARA%2012.20.pdf>

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