

Final Estimates of ARC-CO and PLC Payments for Crop Year 2024

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February 6, 2026

RaFF Policy Brief 2026-2(1)

Recommended citation format: Wongpiyabovorn, O., and Plastina, A. "Final Estimates of ARC-CO and PLC Payments for Crop Year 2024." RaFF Policy Brief 2026-2(1), Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center, University of Missouri, Feb. 6, 2026. Available at raff.missouri.edu.

The goal of this policy brief is to provide estimates of Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Risk (PLC) program payments for all covered commodities for crop year 2024 using final marketing year average prices and county yields.

For crop year 2024, the United States' Farm Service Agency (FSA) started issuing ARC and PLC payments to eligible enrolled base acres in October 2025. As of February 2, 2026, marketing year average (MYA) prices and county yields for crop year 2024 have been finalized for all covered commodities, and program payments are expected to be distributed to farmers. RaFF released the estimates of ARC at the county level (ARC-CO) and PLC payments for wheat, barley, and oats in July 2025, with total estimates of $151 million for wheat, $2.3 million for barley, and $1.5 million for oats (read the full article here). This brief provides an update to those early estimates and presents the final estimates for all other covered commodities.

2024 ARC-CO and PLC Enrolled Base Acres

Across all crops, 161.1 million base acres in the entire nation were enrolled in ARC-CO, while about half of that (80.8 million base acres) were enrolled in PLC. Enrolled base acres for corn, wheat, and soybeans accounted for 38%, 26%, and 22% of the total 241.4 million enrolled base

acres, respectively. Figure 1 shows the total crop-specific enrolled base acres in ARC-CO and PLC for crop year 2024 at the national level. Larger proportions of corn- and soybean-base acres were enrolled in ARC-CO than in PLC: 77% of corn-base acres and 90% of soybean-base acres in ARC-CO. Meanwhile, enrolled base acres for wheat were divided nearly evenly between the two programs, with a slightly greater share enrolled in PLC (51%). Among other commodities, PLC enrolled base acres were higher for barley, canola, peanuts, rice (long grain), rice (short/med grain), rice (temperate japonica), safflower, and seed cotton. In contrast, more base acres were enrolled in ARC-CO than in PLC for the rest of the covered commodities. An overview of the ARC and PLC programs is provided in Appendix I: Policy Background.

The enrolled base acres for each covered commodity by state are shown in Table 1 in the accompanying Excel file. The states with the highest total combined enrolled base acres were Iowa (21.5 million), Kansas (21.1 million), Illinois (20.8 million), and North Dakota (20.4 million), with large corn, soybeans, and wheat base acres. The majority of base acres in these four states—from 56% in Kansas to 92% in Iowa—were enrolled in ARC-CO programs.

Estimated ARC-CO and PLC Payments for Crop Year 2024

As reported in Table 2, the total 2024 ARC-CO and PLC payments for all commodities are projected to reach $2.34 billion, of which 87% would be from ARC-CO program as PLC payments only triggered for three crops (seed cotton, peanuts, and temperate japonica rice). Out of almost $2.04 billion of the total U.S. ARC-CO payments, total ARC-CO payments for corn are projected to account for 54% of the total, followed by soybeans (28%), wheat (8%), grain sorghum (4%) and seed cotton (4%). ARC-CO enrolled base acres of other commodities would collectively receive 2% of the total. For crop year 2024, only seed cotton-, peanuts-, temperate japonica rice-base acres enrolled in PLC would receive program payments at the rate of $0.0266/lb, $0.0065/lb, and $0.0120/lb, respectively. The U.S. total PLC payments would amount to $302.0 million: of which 77% would be for seed cotton, 14% for peanuts, and the rest for temperate japonica rice. Base acres of crambe and rapeseed would receive no ARC-CO and PLC payment this crop year. A detailed description of the methodology applied to generate the above estimates is available in Appendix II: Estimation Methods.

Table 2 summarizes the total program payments by state for each commodity, while the maps in Figure 2 illustrate crop-specific ARC-CO and PLC payments by county. At the state level, Minnesota is projected to receive the largest ARC-CO and PLC payments totaling $491.7 million, ranking first in payments for corn ($343.2 million: 70% of the state total) and soybeans ($138.3 million: 28% of the state total). The high level of assistance reflects challenging growing conditions, as intense flooding across the Upper Midwest caused significant crop damage (Munch, 2025). The state's average corn and soybean yields in 2024 were 6% lower than in 2023, despite national trends showing a 1% increase in corn yields and stable soybean yields (USDA,

2026b). The state's payments would be concentrated in the southern region, which was most severely affected by adverse weather conditions.

Texas is projected to receive the second-highest ARC-CO and PLC payments, totaling $214.1 million for crop year 2024. The Lone Star State would be the largest recipient of program payments for seed cotton, which accounts for 35% of the state's total payments ($75.3 million in total: $45.0 million from ARC-CO and $30.3 million from PLC). These payments reflect losses from severe weather-related disasters, particularly widespread drought and extreme heat during the 2024 growing season, which resulted in an estimated $3.5 billion in agricultural losses (Munch, 2025). Additional program payments would be distributed to corn (12% of the state total), grain sorghum (8%), wheat (5%), peanuts (4%), and other crops (less than 1%).

Ranking third and fourth, respectively, Kansas and Iowa would receive total 2024 ARC-CO and PLC payments of $179.4 million and $170.2 million, respectively. In Kansas, payments would be broadly distributed among corn (32% of the state total), grain sorghum (27%), soybeans (24%), and wheat (17%). Kansas is also the top recipient of program payments for grain sorghum, reflecting record-high heat and increased pest pressure during the growing season (Melgares, 2025). Similar to Minnesota, more than 99% of program payments in Iowa would be tied to corn- and soybean-base acres (74% and 26%, respectively), with assistance concentrated in the northwest region, which was impacted by flooding conditions (USDA, 2024b).

The average program payments per enrolled base acre by state and commodity are reported in Table 3. At the national level, the average PLC payment per enrolled base acre would be $74.90 for temperate japonica rice, $41.15 for seed cotton and $18.46 for peanuts. Meanwhile, the average ARC-CO payments per acre would range from $0.35 for safflower to $182.73 for temperate japonica rice. Among major commodities, ARC-CO enrolled base acres would receive an average payment per acre of $15.39 for corn, $18.94 for grain sorghum, $35.51 for seed cotton, $12.15 for soybeans, and $5.23 for wheat.

At the state level, the average program payments per acre for corn range from none to $61.07 in West Virginia. Meanwhile, the three states with the highest total ARC-CO payments for corn, would receive average rates of $45.37 (Minnesota), $9.27 (Iowa), and $16.03 (Nebraska). The relatively low average payment rate in Iowa is due to the concentration of program payments in limited areas of the state that were affected by adverse weather conditions. Similarly, the average payment rates per acre for soybeans in the top three recipient states would be $24.98 (Minnesota), $26.09 (Ohio), and $7.28 (Iowa).

Comparisons with Net Farm Income

Compared with net farm income (NFI) in 2024, published by USDA (2025), total estimated ARC-CO and PLC payments for crop year 2024 would account for 2% of U.S. NFI. Compared with historical

data, the total ARC and PLC payments for crop years 2022 and 2023 accounted for only 0.15% and 0.32% of their respective NFIs. The larger proportion of the program payments to NFI in 2024 is consistent with smaller 2024 crop cash receipts relative to the 2022 and 2023 levels.

At the state level, as the top recipient of total estimated program payments, the total payment to Minnesota would be equivalent to 18% of its 2024 NFI. Meanwhile, the payments to Texas, Kansas, and Iowa are estimated to account for 1%, 4%, and 2%, of their respective NFIs. Washington state would receive total program payments equal to 14% of its NFI in 2024, driven largely by substantial payments for wheat in the eastern part of the state. The payments to other states would range from less than 1% to 6% of their NFIs.

Concluding Comments

Given the final MYA and county yields for crop year 2024, we estimate total ARC and PLC payments would amount to $2.34 billion—$2.04 billion from ARC-CO and $0.30 billion from PLC. The majority of the payments would be distributed to corn and soybeans base acres, especially in the areas affected by severe weather.

In comparison, these estimates are slightly lower than FAPRI (2025)'s projections in September 2025 and Paulson et al. (2025)'s estimates in November 2025. Specifically, FAPRI (2025) projected the national ARC and PLC payments in 2025 (for crop year 2024) to amount to $2.50 billion—$1.92 billion from ARC and $0.59 from PLC, while Paulson et al. (2025)'s estimates reach $2.59 billion—$2.29 billion from ARC-CO and $0.29 billion from PLC.

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Acknowledgements

The development of this Policy Brief was supported by the US Department of Agriculture, Office of the Chief Economist, Award ID 58-0111-23-017. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and should not be construed to represent any official USDA or US Government determination or policy.

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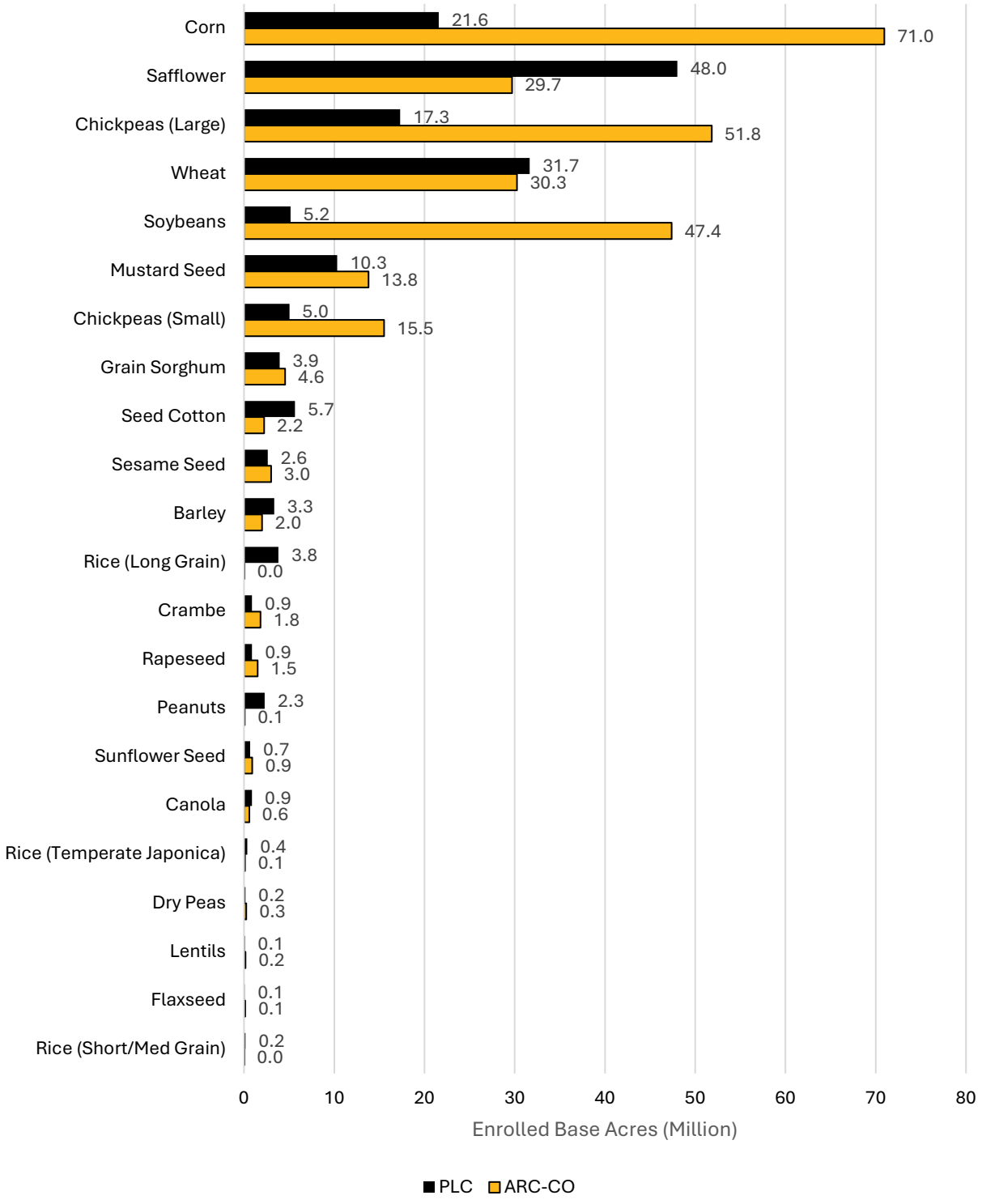
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Tables & Figures

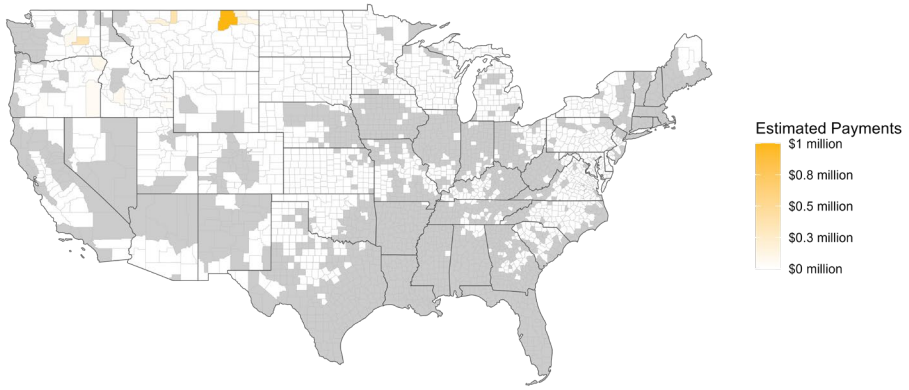
All tables are in an accompanying excel file. Download the file by clicking here.

Figure 1. 2024 ARC-CO and PLC Enrolled Base Acres by Commodity.

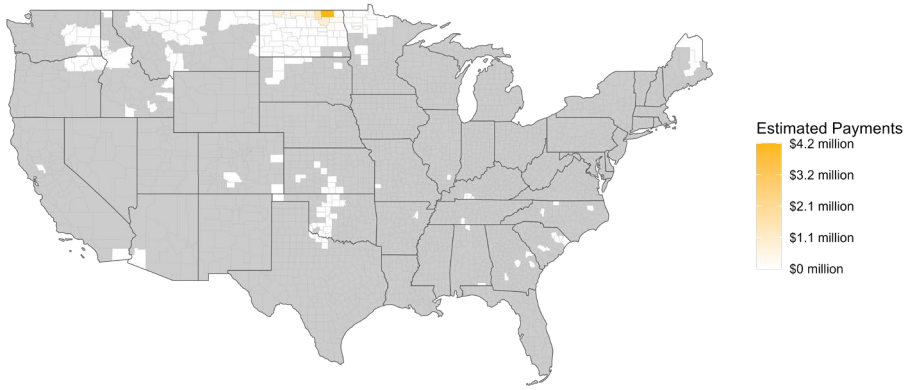


Source: USDA (2026a)

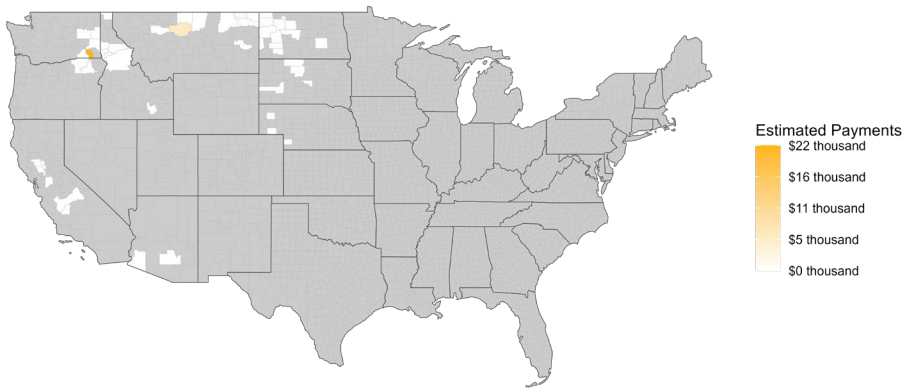
Figure 2. Total Combined ARC-CO and PLC Payments for Crop Year 2024 by Commodity



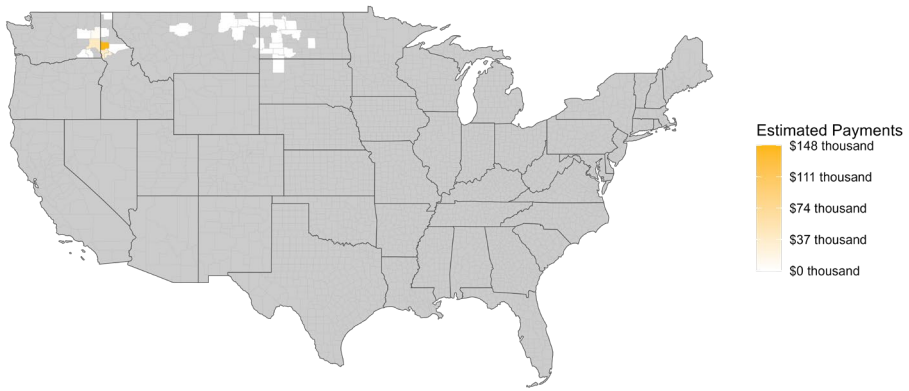
Barley



Canola

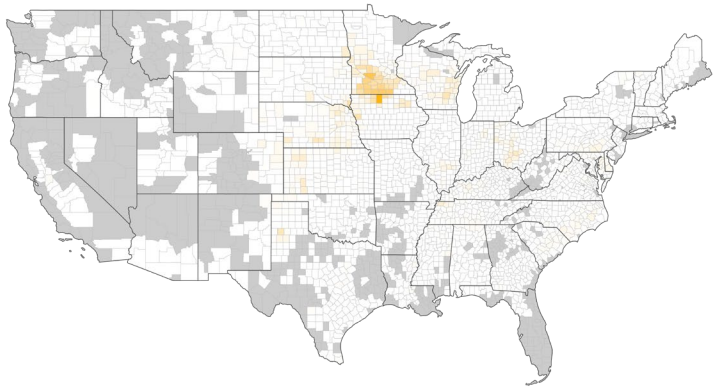


Chickpeas (Large)

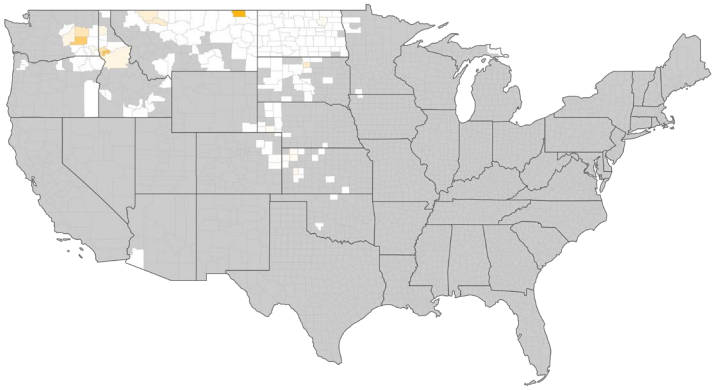


Chickpeas (Small)

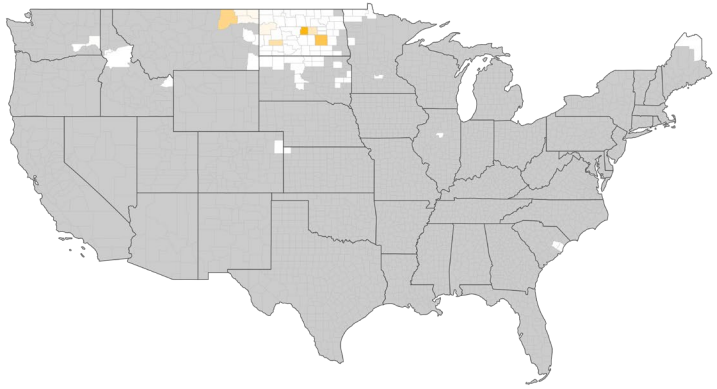
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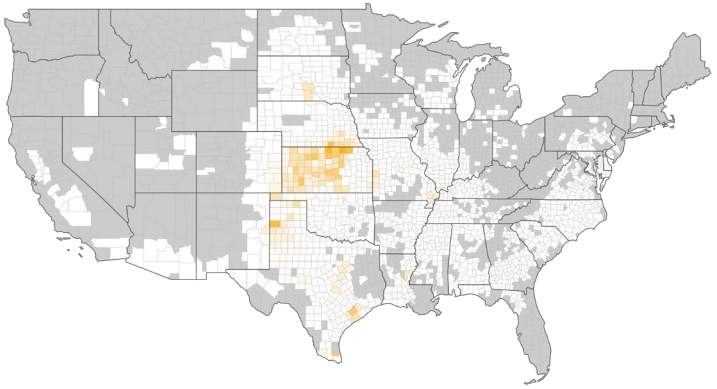
Corn



Dry Peas

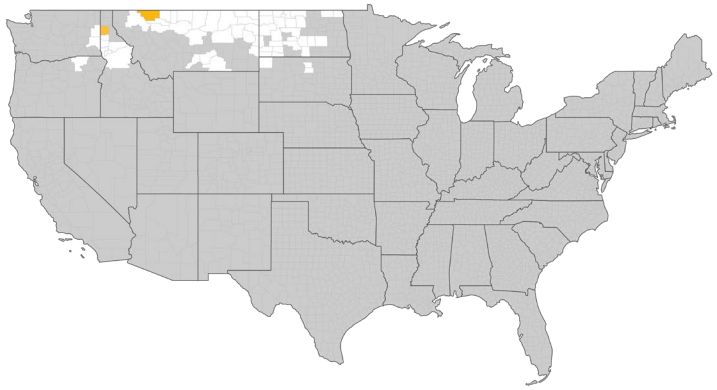


Flaxseed

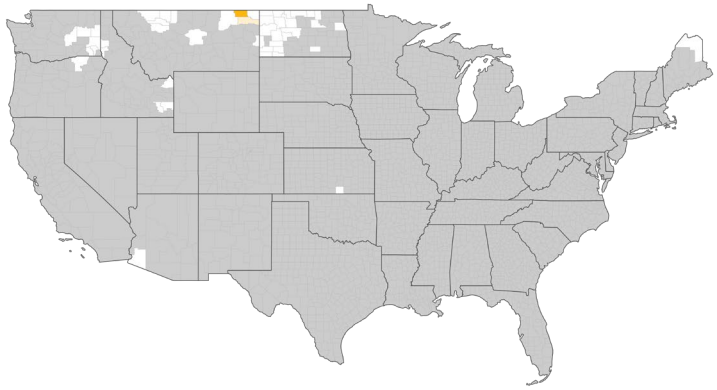


Grain Sorghum

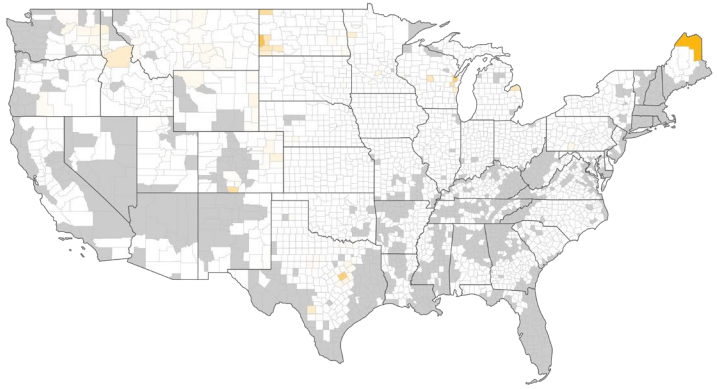
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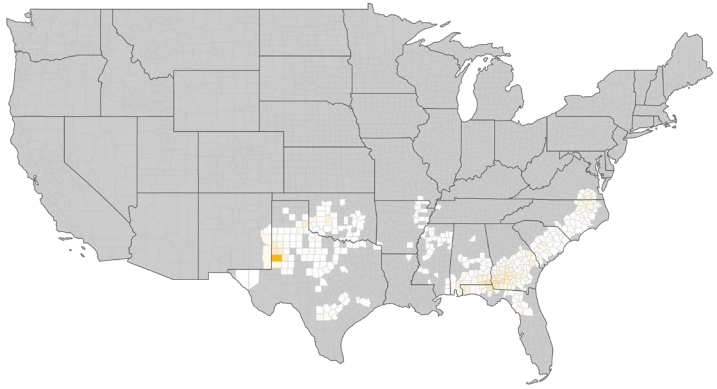
Lentils



Mustard Seed

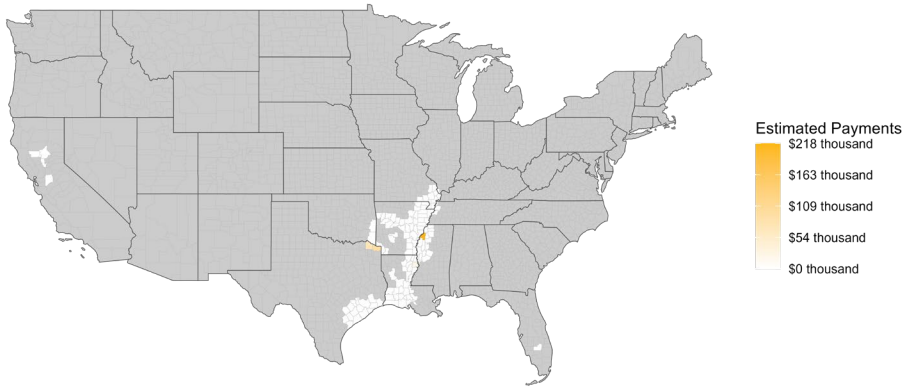


Oats

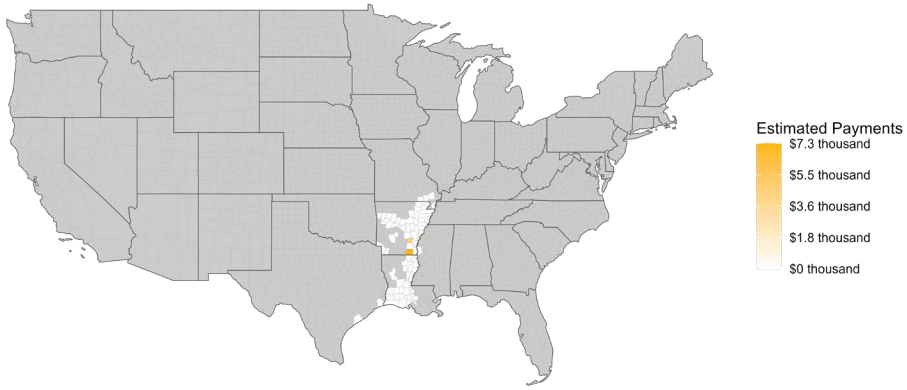


Peanuts

Figure 2. Cont'd



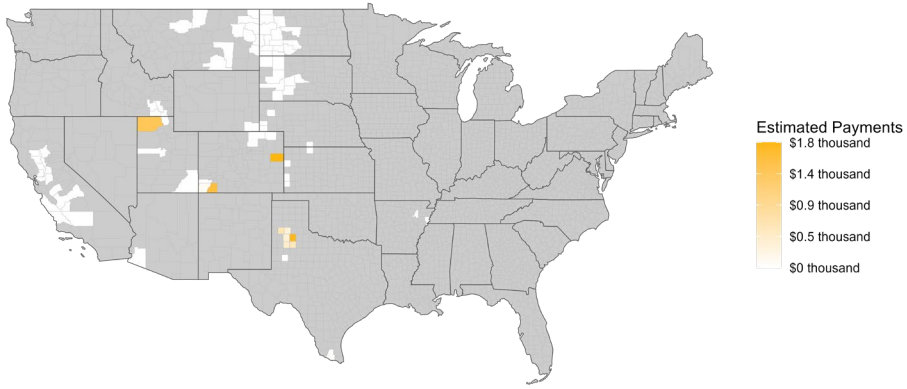
Rice (Long Grain)



Rice (Med/Short Grain)

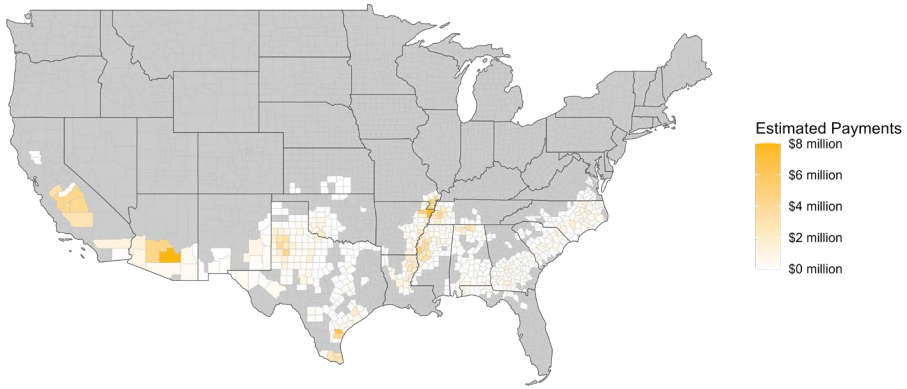


Rice (Temperate Japonica)

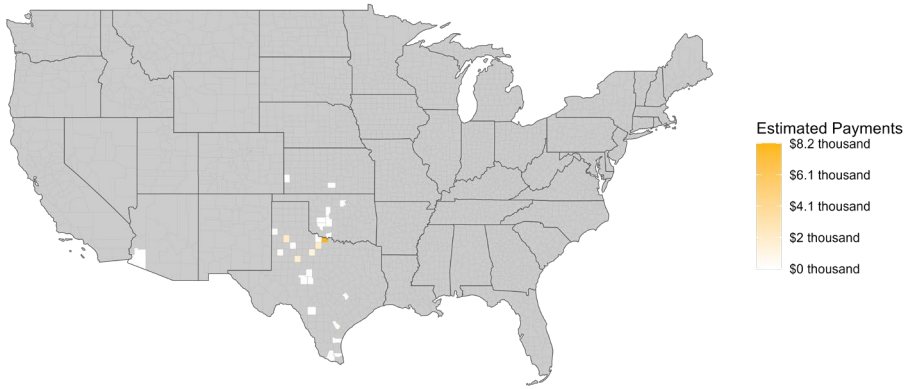


Safflower

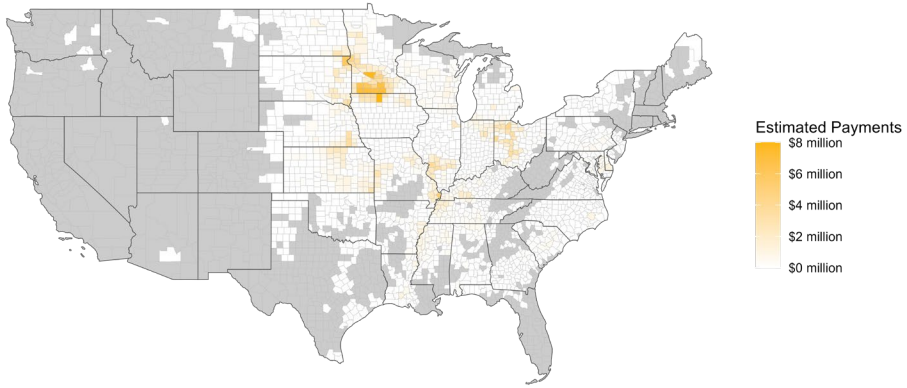
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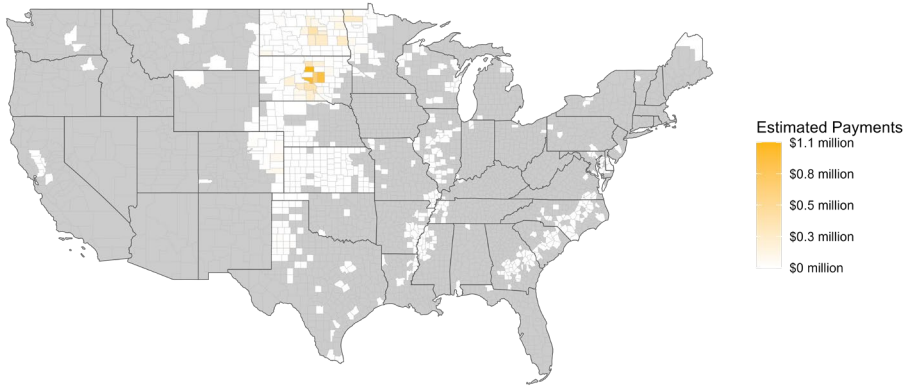
Seed Cotton



Sesame Seed

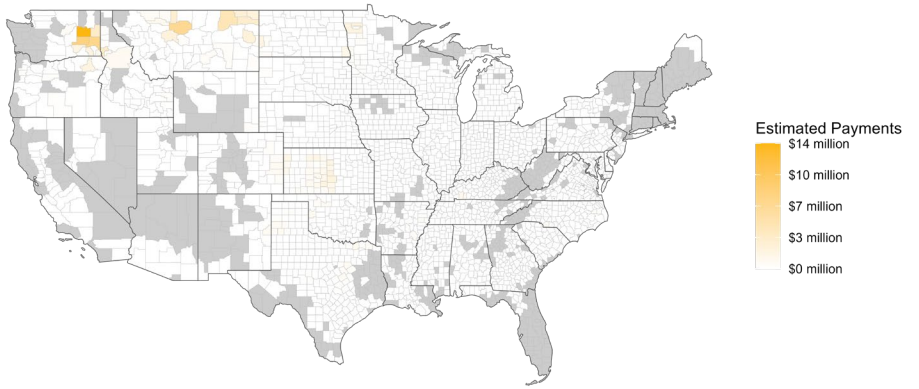


Soybeans



Sunflower Seed

Figure 2. Cont'd



Wheat

Appendix I: Policy Background

The Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) programs provide financial support to U.S. crop producers to help safeguard against significant declines in prices or revenue. While PLC offers price protection, ARC offers shallow loss revenue protection. ARC is offered at the individual farm level (ARC-IC) and at the county level (ARC-CO). ARC and PLC are available for barley, chickpeas, canola, corn, crambe, dry peas, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, rice, safflower, seed cotton, sesame seed, soybeans, sunflower, and wheat.

For each farm and covered commodity, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assigns a fixed number of crop-base acres and a fixed PLC yield based on its history of crop production. Each year, operators can choose between (1) enrolling crop-base acres in PLC or ARC-CO; and (2) enrolling all crop-base acres on the farm in ARC-IC. For example, a farm can have corn-base acres participating in ARC-CO and soybean-base acres participating in PLC. However, if ARC-IC is elected for a farm, then all crop-base acres in that farm must participate in it, and that farm can participate in neither of the other two programs. Another alternative is to not enroll the farm in ARC or PLC.

PLC payments are triggered when the marketing year average (MYA) price for a covered commodity falls below its effective reference (ER) price, and they are proportional to the farm-specific PLC yield. PLC payments do not depend on the actual area planted to a covered commodity or the realized yield. ARC-CO payments are triggered when the annual county revenue for a covered commodity falls below its revenue guarantee. ARC-CO payments do not depend on the actual area planted to a covered commodity or the individual farm yield, but on the number of base acres enrolled in ARC-CO and the average county yield. ARC-IC payments are triggered when the annual farm revenue falls below a farm-specific revenue guarantee.

Appendix II: Estimation Methods

As of February 2, 2026, information on final MYA prices and actual county yields for all covered commodities for the 2024 crop year are available from FSA (USDA, 2026a), in addition to total enrolled acres by program and commodity, and average PLC yields by county. For each commodity, we calculate county-level PLC payment rates per enrolled base acre for crop year 2024 based on final MYA prices and county average PLC yields. Furthermore, ARC-CO payment rates per enrolled base acre are computed with actual 2024 county yields and MYA prices.

Since FSA does not publish disaggregated data on irrigated and non-irrigated ARC-CO base acres by county, our calculations rely on crop-specific irrigated and total crop acreage from the 2022 Census of Agriculture (USDA, 2024) to generate the ratio of irrigated acres to total cropland acres for each county. For counties where these ratios are unavailable, we apply crop-specific national ratios of irrigated enrolled base acres, calculated using FSA (USDA, 2026a) data. These irrigation ratios are used only in those counties for which FSA reports irrigated and non-irrigated yields separately.

It should be noted that due to undisclosed data of enrolled base acres for some counties and assumptions of irrigated enrolled base acres, the estimation may not equal to the actual total payments.