

# Total ARC-County & PLC Payments for the 2018 Farm Bill

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With the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act in July 2025, Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) underwent significant enhancements that will take effect when the first payment is made in October of 2026, which will be for the crop harvested in 2025. This payment is the one opportunity farmers have to receive the higher of the calculated ARC-County or PLC payment, regardless of what program they elected in spring of 2025. Because of these enhancements, the ARC-County and PLC programs of the 2018 Farm Bill have essentially been completed and can be analyzed for effectiveness over the course of their 6-year lifespan.

A spreadsheet tool created by K-State Ag Economics allows the user to see ARC-County and PLC payments for **any state, county, crop, and irrigation type**, by year, for the 2018 Farm Bill (2019-2024). These payment rates published by Farm Service Agency were paid on 85% of base acres in each crop, subject to budget sequestration. The new tool is available [HERE](#).

Figure 1 shows an example of the tool's output for Rawlins County, KS non-irrigated corn. In this example, a small PLC payment was made on corn base acres in 2019, when Marketing Year Average (MYA) price fell to \$3.56 per bushel. After 2019, the MYA corn price has been above the Effective Reference Price for PLC, so no other corn payments were triggered for PLC. ARC-County payments for Rawlins County non-irrigated corn base acres were triggered in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2024, making the total payments under the 2018 Farm Bill \$139.90 per acre for ARC-County. This was one of the highest paying counties in the state of Kansas for non-irrigated corn.

The 2018 Farm Bill gave farmers more flexibility to switch between ARC and PLC each year after 2020, in contrast to the 2014 Farm Bill where producers were locked into a 5-year irrevocable decision. In this example for Rawlins County non-irrigated corn base, the profit maximizing option would have been to select ARC-County for 2019 and 2020 (as that was a combined election), ARC-County for 2021, 2022, and 2024, and either program for 2023 as no payments were issued.

Note that 3 out of the 6 years, Rawlins County hit the maximum payment limit for non-irrigated corn in ARC-County, which was 10% of the county's benchmark revenue. This was due to significantly low county yields because of drought conditions. Commodity prices increased dramatically during 2020 and hit historical highs in 2021 and 2022, causing few or no payments to be made in many Kansas counties that did not experience drought conditions.

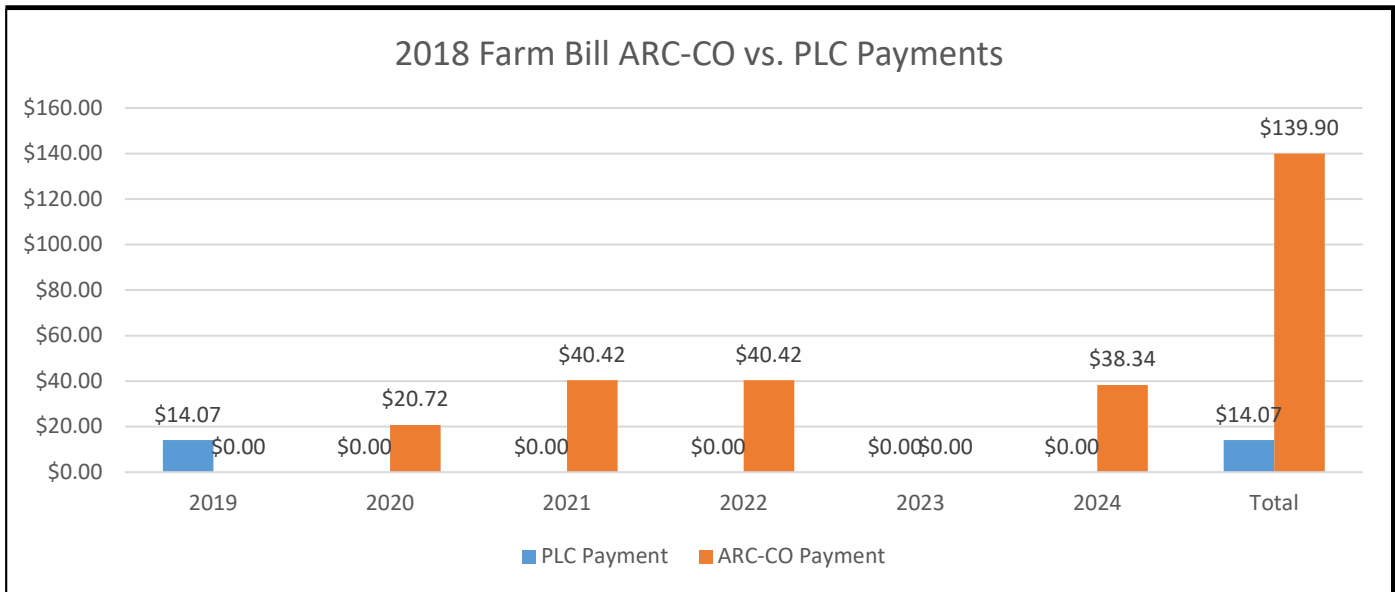


State:	Kansas
County:	Rawlins
Commodity:	Corn
Irrigation Designation:	Nonirrigated
PLC Program Yield:	100.5

*In the Excel Spreadsheet Tool, yellow boxes are dropdown menus to select any State, County, Crop, and Irrigation-type which FSA has published data for. The farm's own PLC program yield can be entered in the green box to make PLC payments farm specific.*

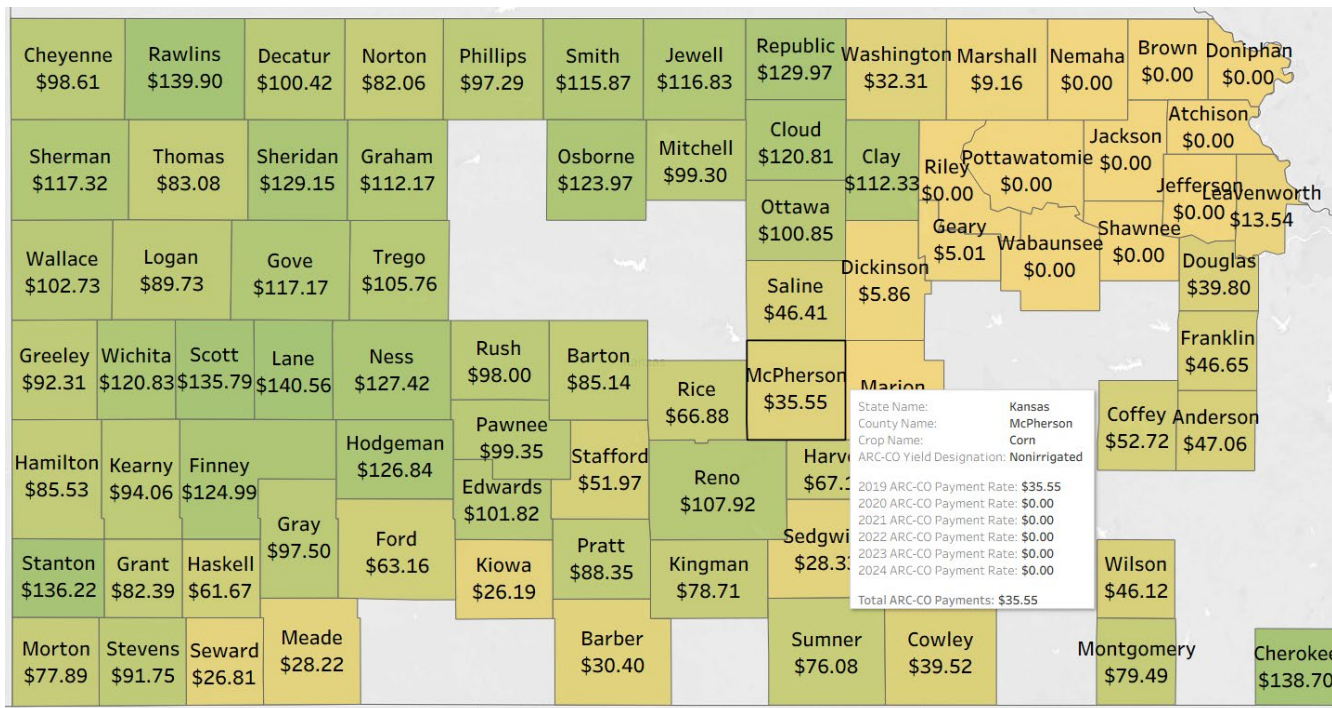
**Figure 1 ARC-County and PLC Payment information for Rawlins County, KS Non-Irrigated Corn**

Production Year	PLC Payment	ARC-CO Payment	Effective Reference Price	Olympic Average Price	Actual Marketing Year Price	Olympic Average Yield	Actual County Yield	Benchmark Revenue	Actual Revenue
2019	\$14.07	\$0.00	\$3.70	\$3.70	\$3.56	85.34	106.62	\$315.76	\$379.57
2020	\$0.00	\$20.72	\$3.70	\$3.70	\$4.53	101.28	66.57	\$374.74	\$301.56
2021	\$0.00	\$40.42	\$3.70	\$3.70	\$6.00	109.23	48.39	\$404.15	\$290.34
2022	\$0.00	\$40.42	\$3.70	\$3.70	\$6.54	109.23	7.19	\$404.15	\$47.02
2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.70	\$3.98	\$4.55	97.63	84.58	\$388.57	\$384.84
2024	\$0.00	\$38.34	\$4.01	\$4.85	\$4.24	79.06	51.90	\$383.44	\$220.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14.07</b>	<b>\$139.90</b>							



To compare total ARC-County payments for the 2018 Farm Bill by crop and irrigation-type across states and counties, interactive maps and be found [HERE for Kansas](#) and [HERE for the national map](#) (zoom features will need to be used). By using the interactive map format, the user can hover their cursor over their county to get detailed information, as shown in Figure 2. Note that some counties have separate non-irrigated and irrigated ARC-County guarantees and some are combined as the “All” selection. If the county is not displayed, it is because it does not have the irrigation designation the user has selected.

**Figure 2 Total 2018 Farm Bill ARC-County Payments, KS Non-Irrigated Corn**



In short, the 2018 Farm Bill farm programs have made relatively little cumulative payments for the 2019-2024 crop years because of high commodity prices and favorable growing conditions for much of the country. Many counties and crops have not yet triggered any ARC-County payments during the life of the 2018 Farm Bill, such as non-irrigated corn in northeast Kansas, as shown in the map above. However, if commodity prices remain at low levels seen currently, these programs will like trigger significant payments for the 2025 crop year, which will be paid in October of 2026. The enhancements of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act also will begin with this payment and offer better risk protection for producers than ARC-County and PLC have in the past.

For more information about this publication and others, visit [AgManager.info](http://AgManager.info).  
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