

Welcome to Getting on Track: Understanding Financial Performance. In this course you will learn how to analyze the health of your business using financial ratios.

Click the next arrow to start at the beginning of the course or click the Menu link to select a lesson from the Main Menu. We recommend that you view the lessons in order the first time through the course.





Repayment capacity refers to the ability of a borrower to repay term farm debt from farm and non-farm income.

The Farm Financial Standards Council recommends five ratios for measuring repayment capacity: Capital Debt Repayment Capacity, Term Debt and Capital Lease Coverage Ratio, Capital Debt Repayment Margin, Replacement Margin, and Replacement Margin Coverage Ratio.

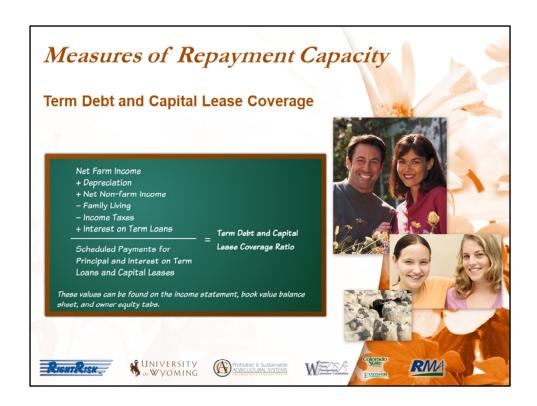
In this lesson, you will learn how to calculate and evaluate the Capital Debt Repayment Capacity and Term Debt and Capital Lease Coverage ratio.



Capital Debt Repayment Capacity is calculated with the formula shown on screen.

These values can be found on the income statement, balance sheet, and family financial records.

The results of this calculation indicate the amount of funds available to cover debt and lease payments or to make alternative investments.



The Term Debt and Capital Lease Coverage ratio is calculated with the formula shown on screen.

These values can be found on the income statement, balance sheet, and family financial records.

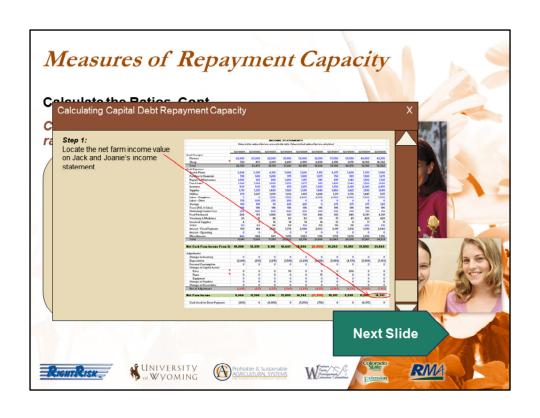
The Term Debt and Capital Lease Coverage ratio measures the ability of the business to cover debt and lease payments, replace assets, or make alternative investments.

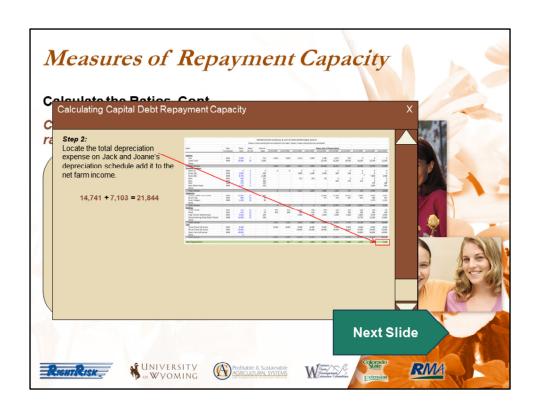


Now, try calculating the ratios. Click on the link to download Jack and Joanie's financial statements. Then, calculate Jack and Joanie's capital debt repayment capacity. Click the calculator icon to access a calculator tool.

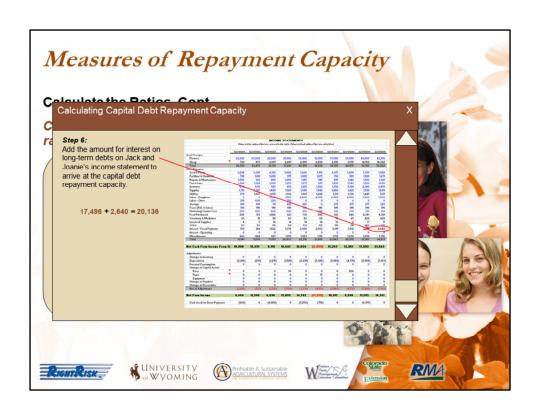
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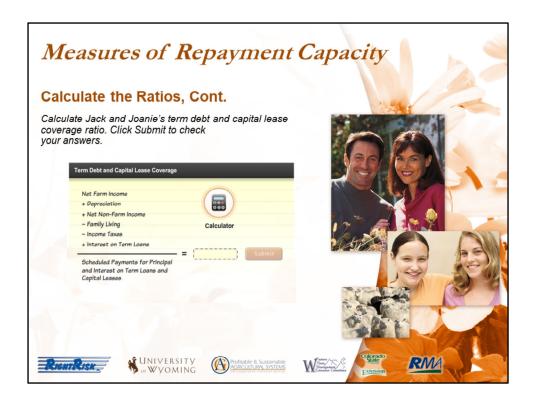










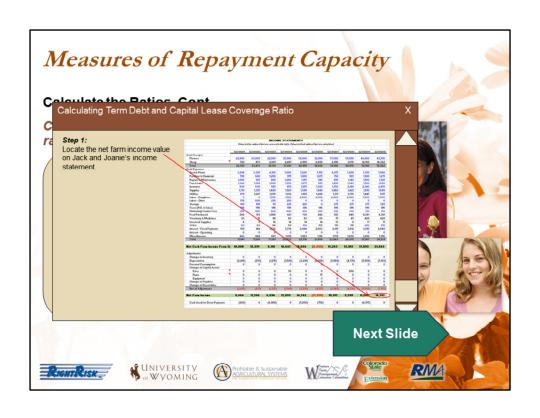


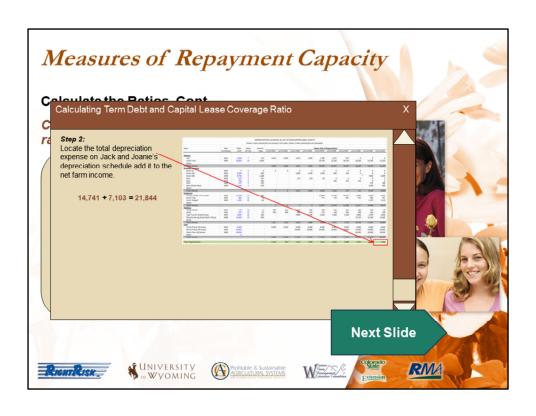
Now, try calculating Jack and Joanie's term debt and capital lease coverage ratio using information from the income statement, book value balance sheet, and family financial records for example year 10.

Click the calculator icon to access a calculator tool.

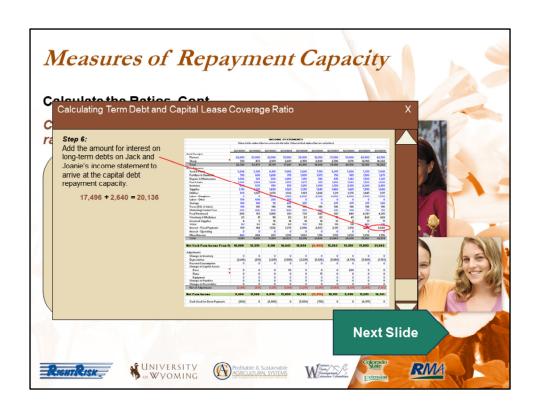
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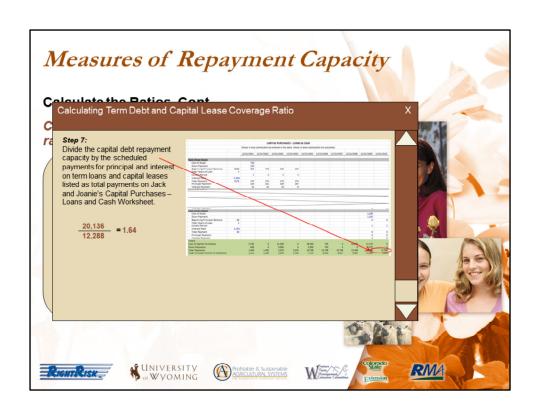


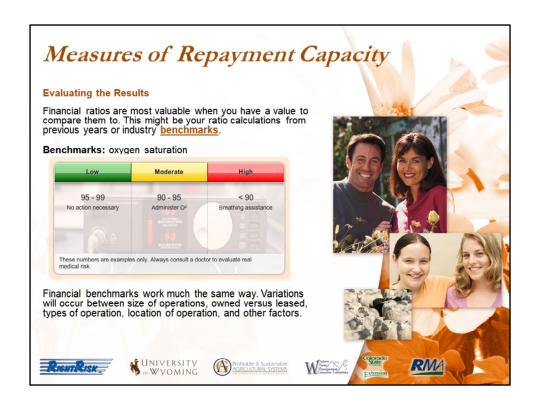








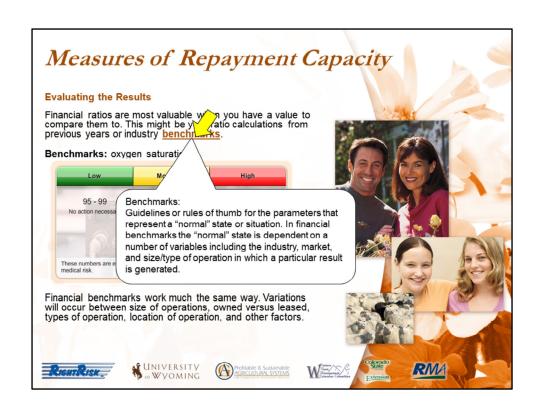


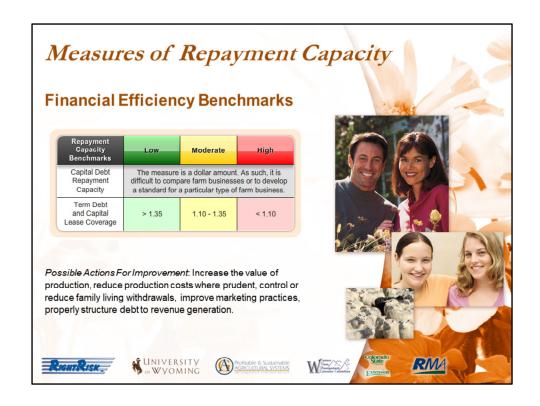


Financial ratios are most valuable when you have something to compare them to. This might be ratio calculations from previous years or industry benchmarks.

Benchmarks are guidelines or general rules of thumb related to a specific industry. For instance, a normal oxygen saturation level is between 95-99 percent. However, the level can vary with age, general health, and other variables. Thus, there is no single oxygen saturation percentage that can be considered normal. The benchmark range simply allows a doctor to interpret the measurement and to decide if further action is required.

Financial benchmarks work much the same way.





Some benchmarks for financial efficiency ratio values are shown on screen.

The benchmarks are meant to be only a guideline for comparison purposes.

The correlated benchmarks are presented in terms of green, yellow, and red lights. A green light represents a financial strength with low risk. A yellow light corresponds to moderate risk, and a red light means weakness and high risk. A green light doesn't guarantee success, nor does a red light imply failure. A weakness in one area may be overcome by strengths in other areas.

Each farm operator should establish specific benchmarks for their specific farm operation.



Check what you have learned about measures of repayment capacity by answering the questions on screen. Click Submit to check your answers.









