

Farm, Rural, and Natural Resources Indicators

	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	Annual percent change		
							1990-2000	2001-02	2002-03
Cash receipts (\$ billion)	169.5	188.0	193.7	202.8	193.5f	200.5f	1.3	-4.6	3.6
Crops	80.3	100.8	94.1	96.4	97.6f	101.6f	1.6	1.3	4.0
Livestock	89.2	87.2	99.6	106.4	95.9f	98.9f	1.1	-9.9	3.2
Direct government payments (\$ billion)	9.3	7.3	22.9	20.7	13.1f	17.6f	9.4	-36.6	33.7
Gross cash income (\$ billion)	186.9	205.9	230.4	238.5	222.5f	234.9f	2.1	-6.7	5.6
Net cash income (\$ billion)	52.7	52.5	58.4	59.7	46.3f	51.3f	1.0	-22.5	11.0
Net value added (\$ billion)	80.8	74.8	92.1	90.9	76.5f	90.8f	1.3	-15.9	18.7
Farm equity (\$ billion)	702.6	815.0	1,022.3	1,059.0	1,086.6f	1,099.7f	3.8	2.6	1.2
Farm debt-asset ratio	16.4	15.6	15.3	15.4	15.7f	16.0f	-0.7	1.7	2.2
Farm household income (\$/farm household)	38,237	44,392	61,947	64,117 p	62,515 p	65,095 f	4.9	-2.5	4.1
Farm household income as a percentage of U.S. household income (%)	103.1	98.8	108.6	110.2 p	na	na	0.5	na	na
Nonmetro-Metro poverty gap (%)	3.6	2.2	2.6	3.1	na	na	-3.2	na	na
Cropland harvested (million acres)	310	302	312	308 p	na	na	0.1	na	na
USDA Conservation Program Expenditures (\$ bil.) ¹	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.5 q	na	1.3	-5.4	na

Food and Fiber Sector Indicators

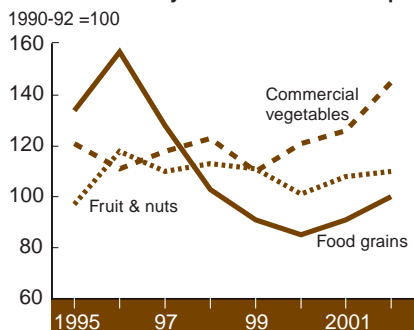
U.S. gross domestic product (\$ billion current) ²	5,803	7,401	9,825	10,082	10,619f	11,206f	5.4	5.3	5.5
Food and fiber share (%)	15.1	14.2	12.6	12.3	na	na	-1.8	na	na
Farm sector share (%)	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.7	na	na	-5.4	na	na
Total agricultural imports (\$ billion) ¹	22.7	29.8	38.9	39.0	41.0	43.0f	5.5	5.1	4.9
Total agricultural exports (\$ billion) ¹	40.3	54.6	50.7	52.7	53.3	57.0f	2.3	1.1	6.9
CPI for food (1982-84=100)	132.4	148.4	167.8	173.1	176.1 p	na	2.4	1.7	na
Personal expenditures on food as a percentage of disposable income (%)	11.6	10.6	10.1	10.2	10.2 p	na	-1.4	0.0	na
Share of total food expenditures for at-home consumption (%)	54.9	53.7	53.1	53.3	52.6 p	na	-0.3	-1.3	na
Farm-to-retail price spread (1982-84=100)	144.5	174.5	210.3	215.4	221.2 p	na	3.8	2.7	na
Total USDA food and nutrition assistance spending (\$ billion) ¹	24.9	37.9	32.6	34.2	37.8	na	2.7	10.6	na

f = Forecast. p = Preliminary. q = 2002 Administration request. na = Not available.

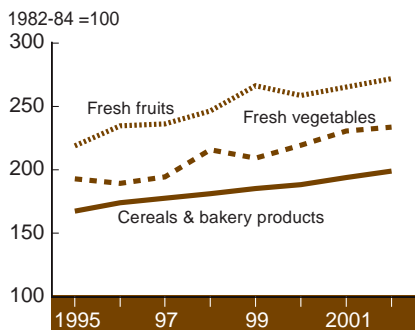
¹ Based on October-September fiscal years ending with year indicated.

² Forecasts for 2002 and 2003 based on August 2002 forecasts from the Office of Management and Budget.

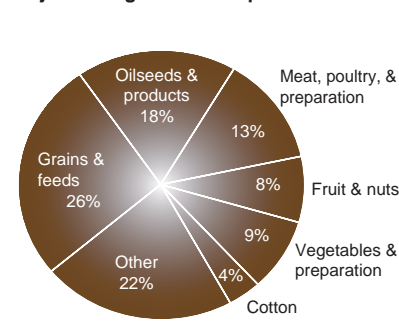
Prices received by farmers: Selected crops



Consumer Price Index: Selected foods



Major U.S. agricultural exports in 2002



For a complete list of data sources and contact persons, see www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves

Behind the Data

Estimating Per Capita Domestic Use of Head Lettuce

- Domestic use of head (largely iceberg) lettuce is a proxy measure for actual consumption. Because annual consumption surveys are prohibitively expensive, indirect estimates of consumption are calculated to capture basic national consumption patterns and trends.
- Per capita (per person) domestic use does not directly measure what individuals eat, but is an estimate of the amount of raw commodity supplied to each person, based on the best available data.
- Analysts rely on domestic use data for such tasks as monitoring the Nation's food supply, studying the nutritional well-being of Americans, interpreting consumption trends among commodity groups, and conducting food demand research.
- Head lettuce includes iceberg, butterhead, Boston, and Bibb lettuces.
- Calculating per capita domestic use for fresh-market vegetables such as head lettuce is straightforward. U.S. imports are added to domestic production to arrive at total supply. U.S. exports are subtracted to yield net domestic use. Domestic use is divided by the July 1 estimate of U.S. population (including military) to arrive at the per-person proxy for consumption.
- Head lettuce accounts for 72 percent of all lettuce produced in the United States. In 2001, U.S. consumers had at their disposal 6.9 billion pounds (24.2 pounds per capita) of head lettuce. This included head lettuce sold in retail stores and various food service outlets such as restaurants and school lunches. It also included various bagged fresh-cut products.
- On average, more than 99 percent of all head lettuce consumed in the United States comes from domestic sources.

U.S. fresh-market head lettuce—Supply, use, and price

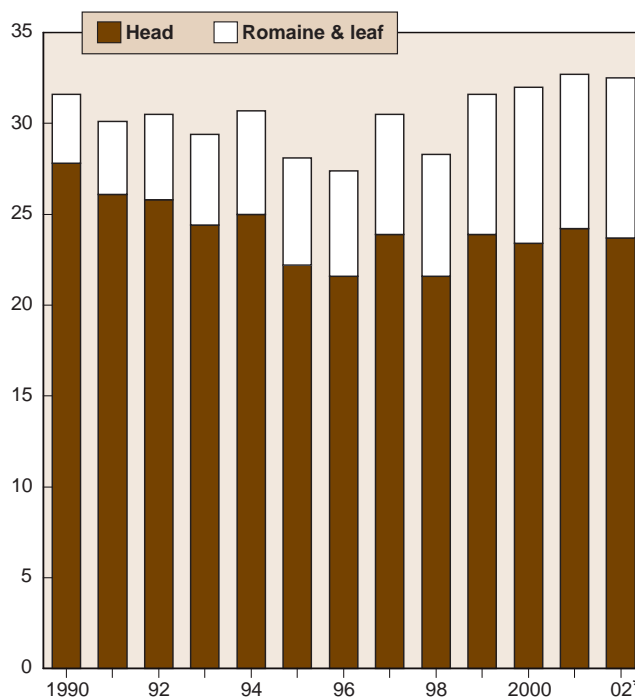
Item	Units	2000	2001	2002f
Harvested area ¹	Acres	184,900	193,600	194,500
Per-acre yield ¹	Cwt	377	375	370
Production ¹	Mil lbs	6,963	7,251	7,200
Imports ²	Mil lbs	32	46	98
Total supply	Mil lbs	6,995	7,297	7,298
Exports ²	Mil lbs	374	379	405
Domestic use	Mil lbs	6,621	6,918	6,893
U.S. population ³	Thou.	282,489	286,362	290,288
Per capita use	Pounds	23.4	24.2	23.7
Season-average price:				
Current dollars ¹	\$/cwt	17.40	17.60	19.00
Constant 1996 dollars ⁴	\$/cwt	16.28	16.08	17.12
Share of supply exported	Percent	5.3	5.2	5.5
Share of use imported	Percent	0.5	0.7	1.4

f=ERS forecast.

¹Source is NASS, USDA. ²Source is Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. ³July 1 estimate, including military population overseas. Source: Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. ⁴Deflated by the GDP implicit price deflator, 1996=100.

U.S. lettuce, all: Per capita use

Lbs/person

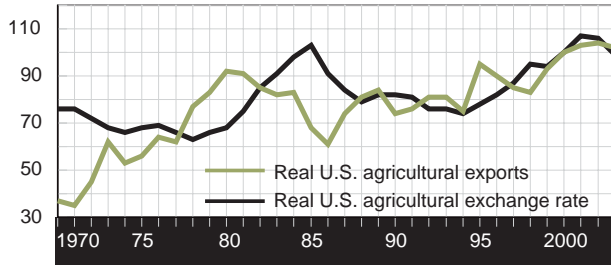


* 2002 is forecast.

Markets and Trade

Real U.S. agricultural exports are sensitive to changes in real dollar exchange rates

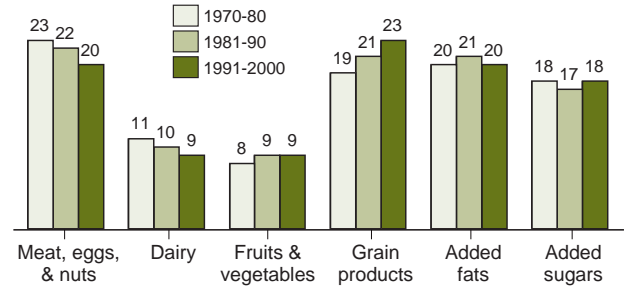
Index values, 2000 = 100



Note: 2002 numbers are estimates based on data through September 2002.
Source: ERS Agricultural Exchange Rate Data Set.

Diet and Health

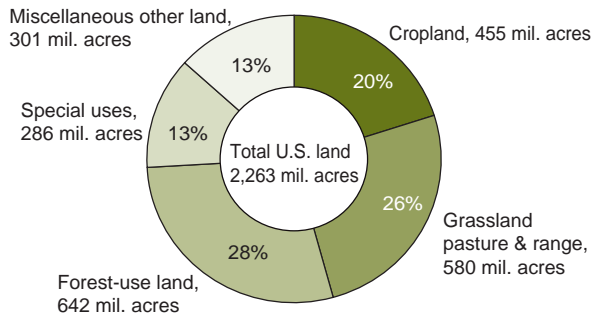
Percent of calories available from the U.S. food supply adjusted for spoilage and waste, by food group



Source: *A Dietary Assessment of the U.S. Food Supply: Comparing Per Capita Food Consumption with Food Guide Pyramid Serving Recommendations*. AER-772. December 1998. ERS, USDA.

Resources and Environment

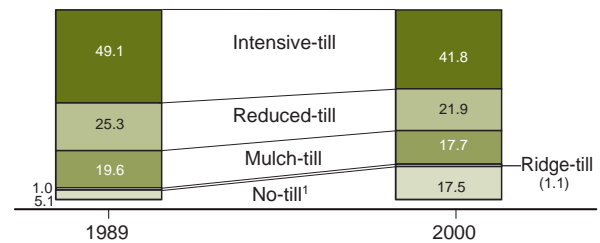
Cropland use accounted for one-fifth of total U.S. land in 1997



Source: *Major Uses of Land in the United States, 1997*. SB-973. ERS, USDA

U.S. cropland tillage has shifted toward soil-conserving no-till during the last decade

Percent of planted cropland



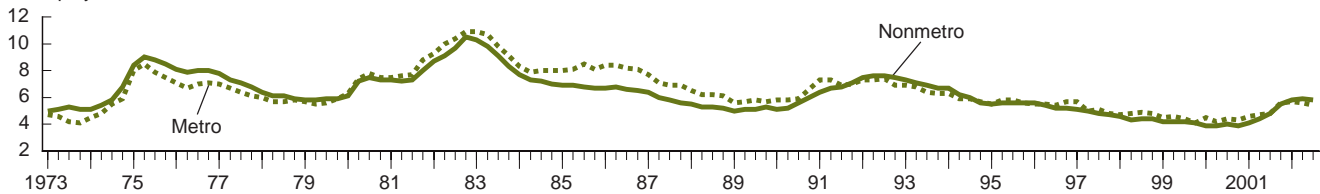
¹No-till planting leaves the soil undisturbed from harvest to planting, except for nutrient injection. Weed control is primarily with herbicides.

Source: Conservation Technology Information Center & AREI, Chapter 4.2 Soil Management and Conservation. ERS,USDA.

Rural America

Nonmetro and metro unemployment rates move together

Unemployment rate

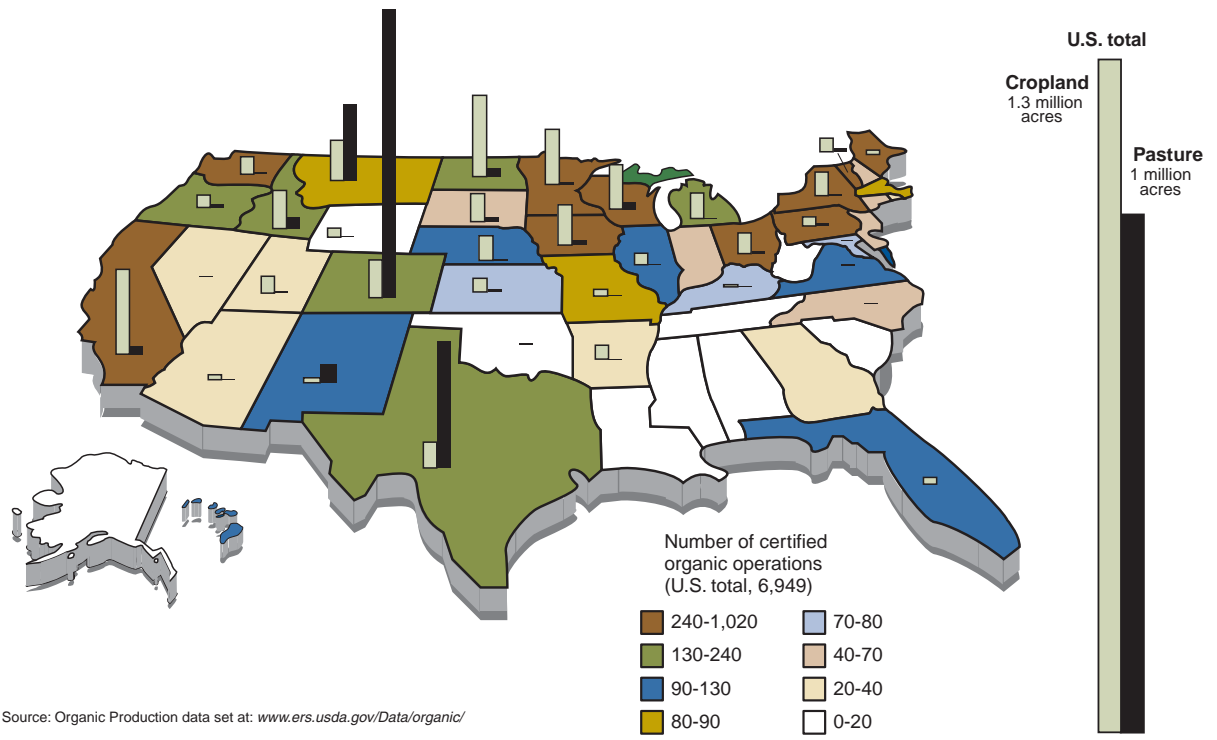


Note: Beginning 3rd quarter 1983 the metro-nonmetro definition is based on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) June 1983 definition of Metropolitan areas. Beginning 1st quarter 1994 the metro-nonmetro definition is based on the OMB June 1993 definition of Metropolitan areas. For more information on the current definitions of metro and nonmetro areas, see <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/Rurality/WhatsRural/>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics data seasonally adjusted by ERS.

On the Map

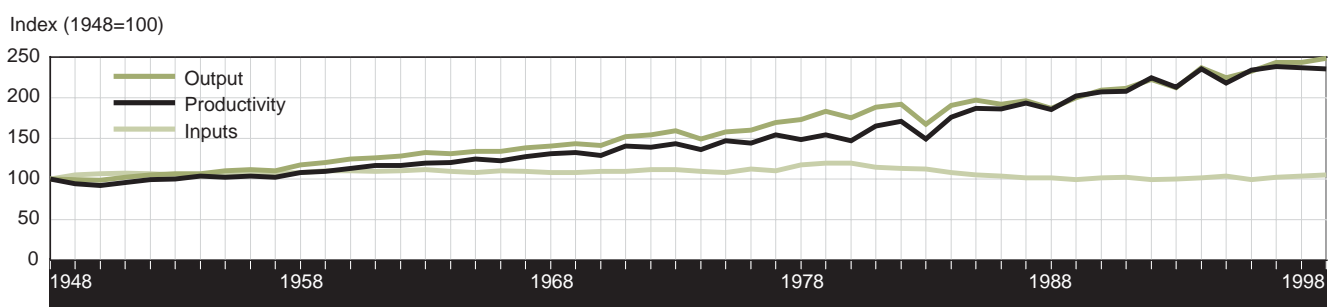
Certified organic acreage and operations, 2001. Farmers in 48 States dedicated 2.3 million acres of cropland and pasture to organic production systems in 2001. Over 1.3 million acres were used for growing crops. USDA lifted restrictions on organic meat labeling in the late 1990s, and by 2001, most of the States were raising certified organic livestock. While adoption of organic farming systems showed strong gains between 1992 and 2001 and the adoption rate remains high, the overall adoption level is still low—only about 0.3 percent of all U.S. cropland and 0.2 percent of all U.S. pasture was certified organic in 2001.



Source: Organic Production data set at: www.ers.usda.gov/Data/organic/

In the Long Run

Productivity continues to be the engine of growth in agriculture. The dominant source of economic growth for the aggregate economy has usually been growth in inputs to production. Agriculture turns out to be one of the few exceptions: productivity growth dominates input growth. Output growth equals the sum of contributions of the factors of production (capital, land, labor, intermediate inputs) and growth in productivity. Agricultural productivity growth averaged 1.68 percent from 1948 to 1999. However, the net contribution of all inputs to growth in output was less than one-tenth of one percentage point per year. Thus, growth in total factor productivity has been responsible for almost all of agriculture's output growth since World War II, an impressive record.



Source: Agricultural productivity in the United States data set at www.ers.usda.gov/data/agproductivity/