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## Farm, Rural, and Natural Resource Indicators

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Annual percent change			
						2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Cash receipts (\$ bil.)	215.6	237.3	240.7	239.3	276.4 f	10.1	1.4	-0.6	15.5
Crops	109.9	113.7	115.9	120.0	136.2 f	3.5	1.9	3.5	13.5
Livestock	105.6	123.6	124.9	119.3	140.2 f	17.0	1.1	-4.5	17.5
Direct government payments (\$ bil.)	16.5	13.0	24.4	15.8	13.6 f	-21.2	87.7	-35.2	-13.9
Gross cash income (\$ bil.)	247.8	267.4	281.3	272.5	308.0 f	7.9	5.2	-3.1	13.0
Net cash income (\$ bil.)	70.2	82.2	85.8	67.9	85.9 f	17.1	4.4	-20.9	26.5
Net value added (\$ bil.)	100.0	127.8	121.4	104.4	135.4 f	27.8	-5.0	-14.0	29.7
Farm equity (\$ bil.)	1,203.6	1,401.9	1,612.0	1,724.1	1,954.5 f	16.5	15.0	7.0	13.4
Farm debt-asset ratio	12.7	11.5	10.7	10.7	9.9 f	-9.4	-7.0	0.0	-7.5
Farm household income (\$/farm household)	68,597	81,596	81,420	80,331	86,693 f	18.9	-0.2	-1.3	7.9
Farm household income relative to average U.S. household income (%)	116.1	134.8	128.5	120.7	na	16.1	-4.7	-6.1	na
Nonmetro-metro difference in poverty rate (% points) <sup>1</sup>	2.1	na	2.3	na	na	na	na	na	na
Cropland harvested (million acres)	315	312	312p	na	na	-1.0	0.0	na	na
USDA conservation program expenditures (\$ bil.) <sup>2</sup>	4.3	5.1	na	na	na	18.6	na	na	na

## Food and Fiber Sector Indicators

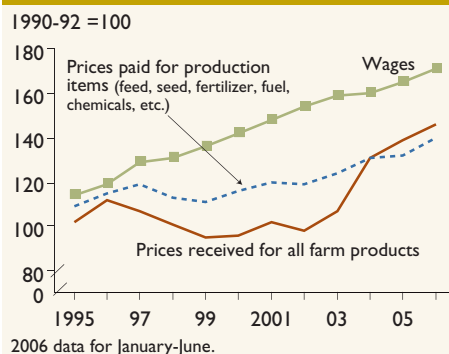
U.S. gross domestic product (\$ bil.)	10,961	11,713	12,456	na	na	6.9	6.3	na	na
Share of GDP in agriculture & related industries (%) <sup>1</sup>	4.8	4.7	4.5	na	na	-2.1	-4.3	na	na
Share of GDP in agriculture (%) <sup>1</sup>	0.8	1.0	0.8	na	na	19.2	-16.3	na	na
Total agricultural imports (\$ bil.) <sup>2</sup>	45.7	52.7	57.7	64.0	70.0	15.3	9.5	10.9	9.4
Total agricultural exports (\$ bil.) <sup>2</sup>	56.0	62.4	62.5	68.7	78.0	11.4	0.2	9.9	13.5
Export share of the volume of U.S. agricultural production (%) <sup>1</sup>	21.1	20.9	20.1 p	na	na	-0.9	-3.8	na	na
CPI for food (1982-84=100)	180.0	186.2	190.7	195.3	202.6 f	3.4	2.4	2.4	3.7
Share of U.S. disposable income spent on food (%)	9.8	9.7	9.8	9.9	na	-1.0	1.0	1.0	na
Share of total food expenditures for at-home consumption (%)	52.0	51.5	51.3	51.1	na	-1.0	-0.4	-0.4	na
Farm-to-retail price spread (1982-84=100)	225.6	232.1	239.2	246.0	na	2.9	3.1	2.8	na
Total USDA food and nutrition assistance spending (\$ bil.) <sup>2</sup>	41.8	46.2	50.9	53.1	na	10.5	10.2	4.3	na

f = Forecast. p = Preliminary. na = Not available. All dollar amounts are in current dollars.

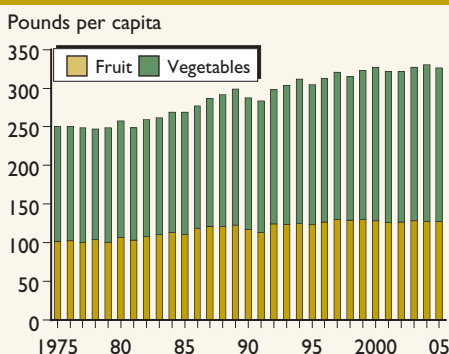
<sup>1</sup> The methodology for computing these measures has changed. These statistics are not comparable to previously published statistics. Sources and computation methodology are available at: [www.ers.usda.gov/amberwaves/indicatorsnotes.htm](http://www.ers.usda.gov/amberwaves/indicatorsnotes.htm)

<sup>2</sup> Based on October-September fiscal years ending with year indicated.

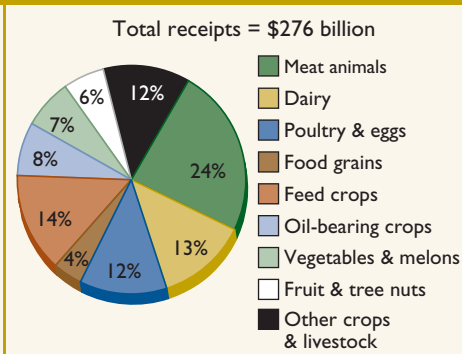
### Prices paid and received by farmers



### Availability of fresh fruit and vegetables has been rising steadily



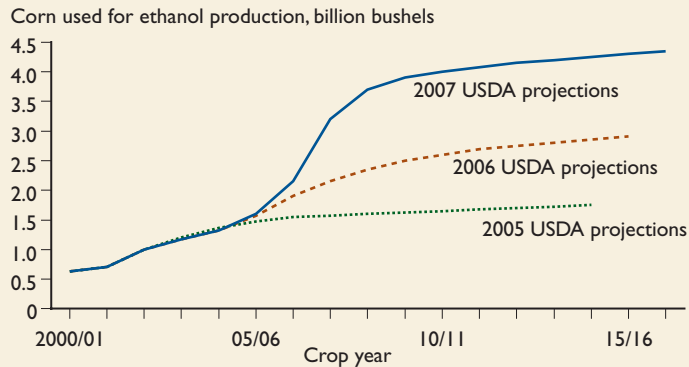
### Cash receipts from farming, 2007 forecast



For more information, see [www.ers.usda.gov/amberwaves/](http://www.ers.usda.gov/amberwaves/)

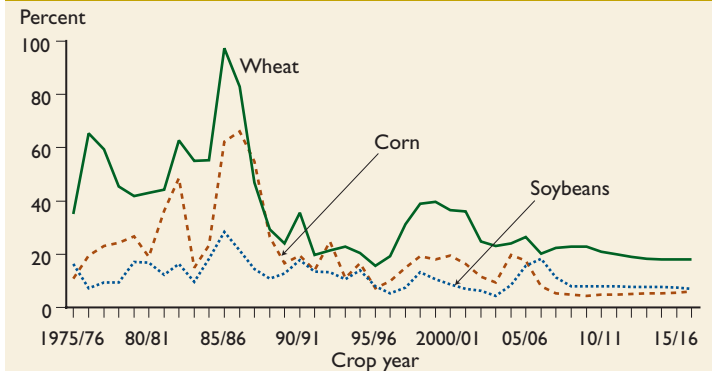
**Markets and Trade**

**High oil prices and Energy Policy Act of 2005 raise corn-based ethanol production**



Sources: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2016, February 2007; USDA Agricultural Baseline Projections to 2015, February 2006; USDA Agricultural Baseline Projections to 2014, February 2005.

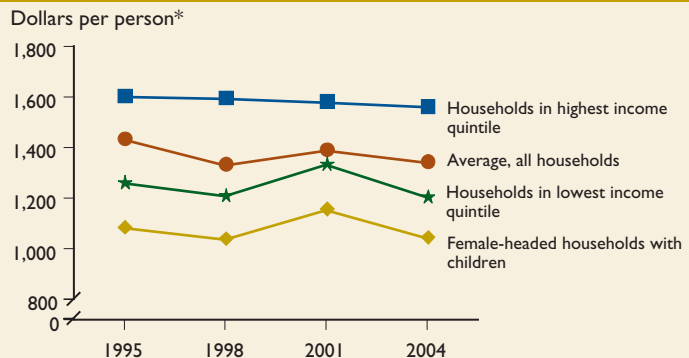
**Stocks-to-use ratios for corn, wheat, and soybeans are projected to remain at historic lows, raising the potential for increased price volatility**



Sources: Historical data, USDA, Economic Research Service; Projections, USDA Agricultural Projections to 2016, February 2007.

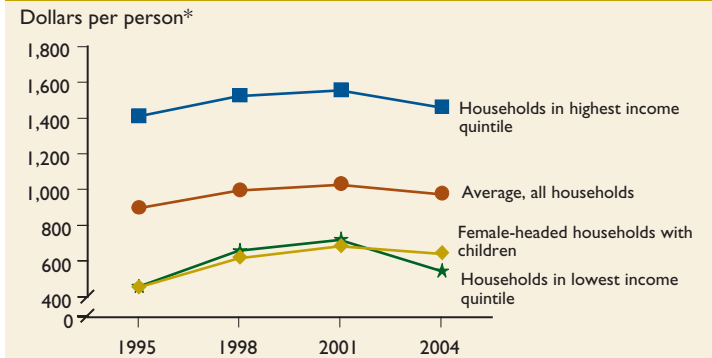
**Diet and Health**

**Female-headed households spend the least on food from grocery stores. . .**



\* Inflation-adjusted 2004 dollars. Source: Analysis by USDA, Economic Research Service of Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Expenditure Survey data.

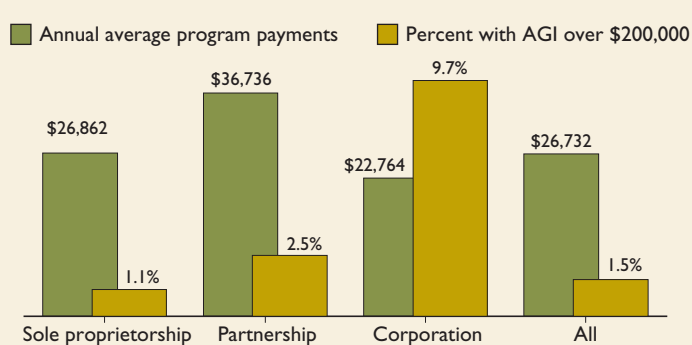
**. . .and about the same as low-income households on eating out**



\* Inflation-adjusted 2004 dollars. Source: Analysis by USDA, Economic Research Service of Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Expenditure Survey data.

**Farms, Firms, and Households**

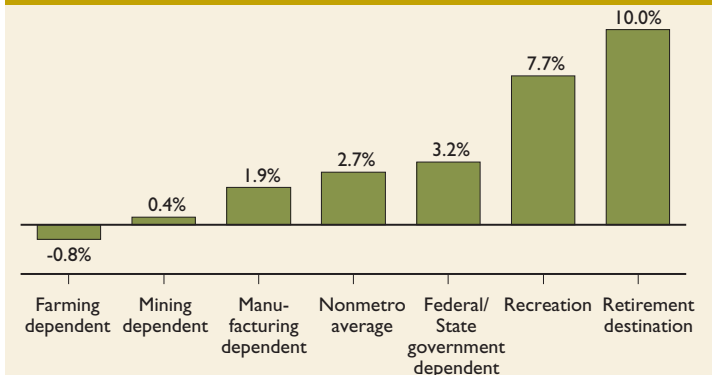
**Share and average program payments for farm operators with adjusted gross income (AGI) over \$200,000 by type of organization, 2004**



Source: Analysis by USDA, Economic Research Service of 2004 Agricultural Resource Management Survey data.

**Rural America**

**Nonmetro population change for selected county types, 2000-06**



Source: 2004 County Typology Codes, USDA, Economic Research Service, and 2006 population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

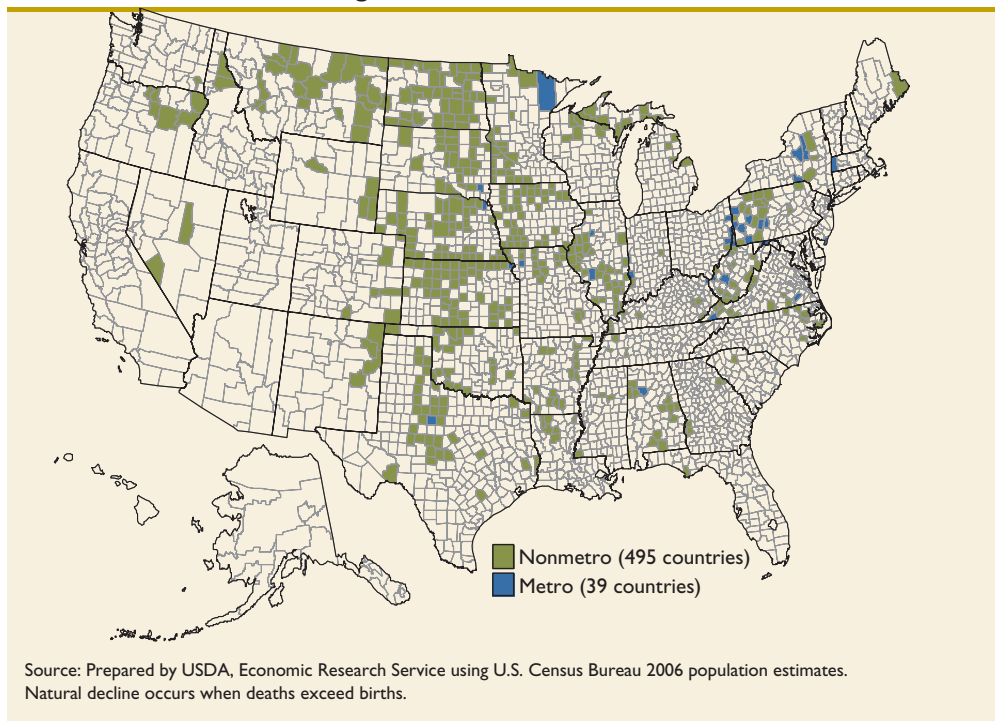
## On the Map

### Many Counties Have Both Outmigration and Natural Decline

In many Farm Belt counties, losses in farm-related jobs have not been offset by new types of jobs, resulting in a well-known trend of population loss. What is less known is that nearly 500 nonmetro counties with recent population outmigration also have more deaths than births—known as natural decline—and thus are losing people from two sources. Natural decline stems both from dwindling family size and prolonged outmigration of young adults, resulting in high average age. This phenomenon has spread somewhat into the lower South and is now common in parts of Appalachia, where it also affects many diminished metro industrial areas. The condition, which did not arise overnight, poses difficult development challenges.

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### Counties with both net outmigration and natural decline, 2000-06



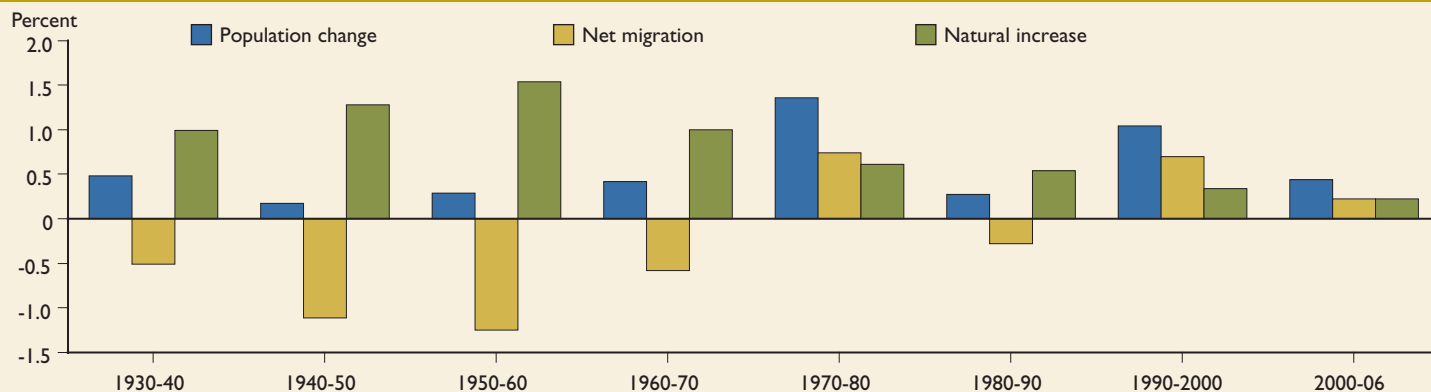
## In the Long Run

### Pace and Sources of Nonmetro Population Growth Changing

The pace and components of nonmetro population change have varied widely over the past eight decades. Before the 1970s, nonmetro population declined heavily from outmigration, but these losses were offset by strong natural increase (surplus of births over deaths). Since the dramatic revival of nonmetro growth in the 1970s, nonmetro counties have had a net influx of people in each decade, except for the rural economic crisis years of the 1980s. Natural increase has diminished in each decade since the baby boom years of the 1950s. The current nonmetro population growth rate is modest and for the first time is comprised equally of net immigration and natural increase.

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### Nonmetro demographic trends, 1930-2006



Source: Kenneth M. Johnson, Loyola University-Chicago, and USDA, Economic Research Service, using data from the U.S. Census Bureau.