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### Farm, Rural, and Natural Resource Indicators

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Annual percent change		
							2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Cash receipts (\$ billion)	192.1	200.1	195.0	216.6	241.2	239.0f	11.1	11.4	-0.9
Crops	92.5	93.3	101.0	111.0	117.8	114.1f	9.9	6.1	-3.1
Livestock	99.6	106.7	94.0	105.6	123.5	124.9f	12.3	17.0	1.1
Direct government payments (\$ billion)	22.9	20.7	11.2	17.2	13.3	23.0f	53.6	-22.7	72.9
Gross cash income (\$ billion)	228.7	235.6	221.0	249.5	271.7	279.5f	12.9	8.9	2.9
Net cash income (\$ billion)	56.7	60.1	49.5	71.6	85.5	82.8f	44.6	19.4	-3.2
Net value added (\$ billion)	91.9	95.0	78.6	101.2	125.9	119.3f	28.8	24.4	-5.2
Farm equity (\$ billion)	1,025.6	1,070.2	1,110.7	1,180.8	1,293.9	1,376.9f	6.3	9.6	6.4
Farm debt-asset ratio	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.4	13.8	13.4f	-2.7	-4.2	-2.9
Farm household income (\$/farm household)	61,947	64,117	65,761	68,597	81,480p	83,461f	4.3	18.8	2.4
Farm household income relative to average U.S. household income (%)	108.6	110.2	113.7	116.1	134.6p	na	2.1	15.9	na
Nonmetro-metro difference in poverty rate (% points)	2.6	3.1	2.6	2.1	na	na	-19.2	na	na
Cropland harvested (million acres)	314	311	307	315	312	312p	2.6	-1.0	0.0
USDA conservation program expenditures (\$ bil.) <sup>1</sup>	3.3	3.7	4.2	4.3	5.1	na	2.4	18.6	na

### Food and Fiber Sector Indicators

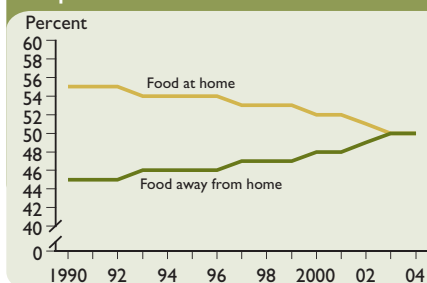
U.S. gross domestic product (\$ billion) <sup>2</sup>	9,817	10,128	10,470	10,971	11,734	na	4.8	7.0	na
Food and fiber share (%)	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	6.0	na	2.2	3.3	na
Farm sector share (%)	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0	na	14.3	19.2	na
Total agricultural imports (\$ billion) <sup>1</sup>	38.9	39.0	41.0	45.7	52.7	57.7	11.5	15.3	9.5
Total agricultural exports (\$ billion) <sup>1</sup>	50.7	52.7	53.3	56.2	62.4	62.4	5.4	11.0	0.0
Export share of the volume of U.S. agricultural production (%)	17.6	17.6	16.7	17.9	16.3	na	7.2	-8.9	na
CPI for food (1982-84=100)	167.9	173.1	176.2	180.0	186.2	190.7	2.2	3.4	2.4
Share of U.S. disposable income spent on food (%)	9.8	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.5	na	-1.1	1.1	na
Share of total food expenditures for at-home consumption (%)	51.7	51.7	50.8	50.3	49.7	na	-1.0	-1.2	na
Farm-to-retail price spread (1982-84=100)	210.3	215.4	221.2	225.6	232.9	na	2.0	3.2	na
Total USDA food and nutrition assistance spending (\$ billion) <sup>1</sup>	32.6	34.2	38.0	41.8	46.2	50.9	10.0	10.5	10.2

f = Forecast. p = Preliminary. na = Not available.

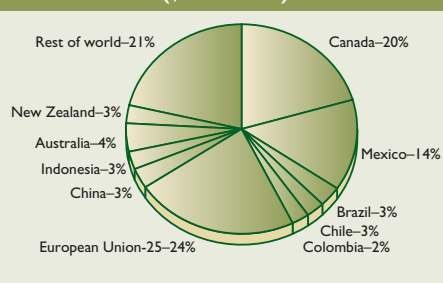
<sup>1</sup> Based on October-September fiscal years ending with year indicated.

<sup>2</sup> GDP data released July 29, 2005, and agricultural output data released December 15, 2005, by U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

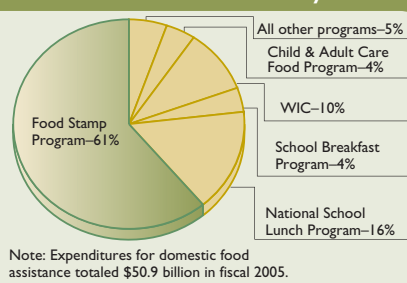
In 2004, the share of U.S. food expenditures on food away from home surpassed the share on food at home



Top 10 sources of U.S. agricultural imports, fiscal year 2005 (\$57.7 billion)



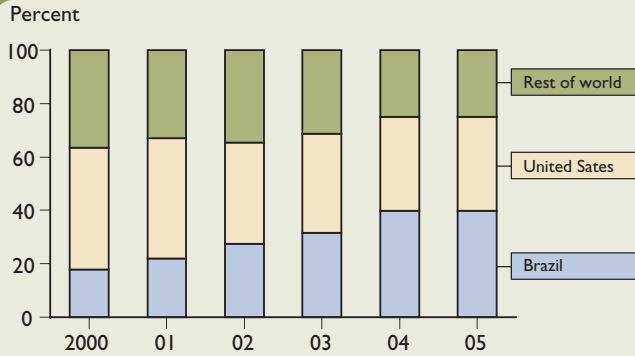
Food stamps accounted for 61 percent of total USDA expenditures for domestic food assistance in fiscal year 2005



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

**Markets and Trade**

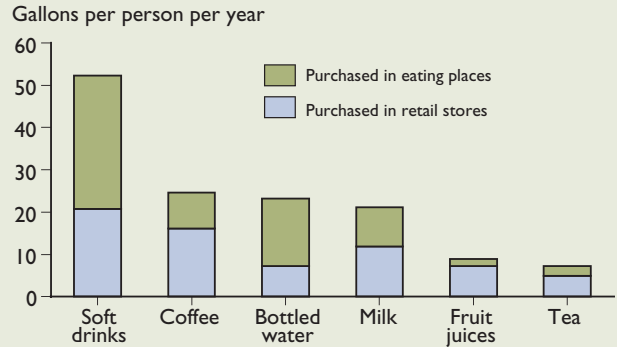
**Brazil's share of world broiler exports rises dramatically**



Source: USDA, *Agricultural Baseline Projections to 2015*, [www.ers.usda.gov/publications/oce061/](http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/oce061/).

**Diet and Health**

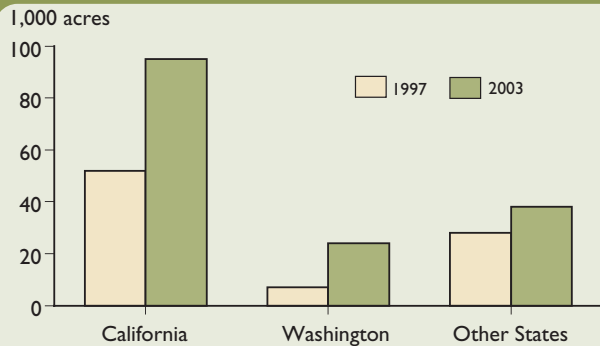
**In 2004, more soft drinks and bottled water were purchased in eating places than in retail stores**



Source: Calculated by USDA, Economic Research Service using ACNielsen Homescan data and ERS data.

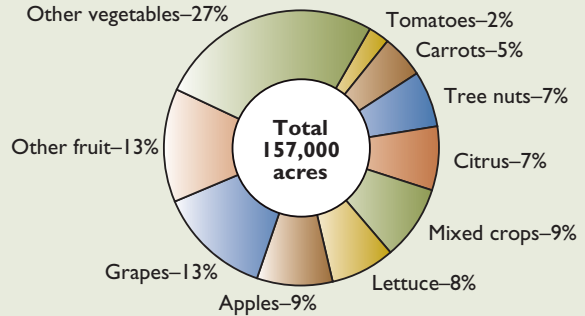
**Farms, Firms, and Households**

**California and Washington are top States in certified organic fruits and vegetables**



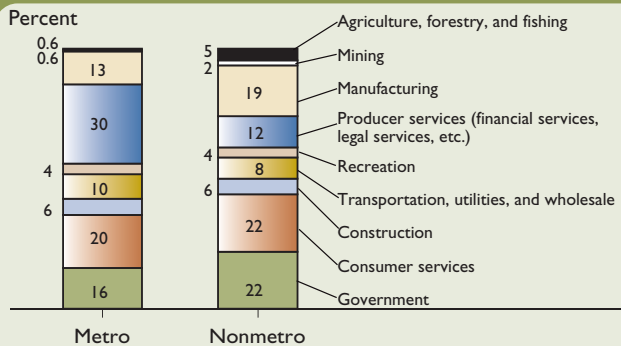
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations based on information from USDA-accredited organic certification agencies.

**U.S. certified organic fruit and vegetable acreage, 2003**



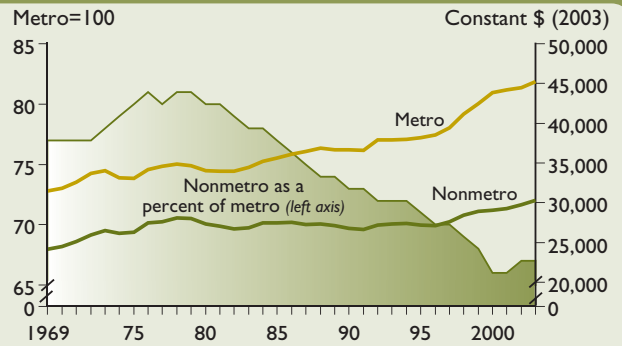
**Rural America**

**Nonmetro areas have a low share in the rapidly growing producer services sector**



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, based on Regional Economic Information System data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

**Nonmetro earnings per job have risen, but not in pace with metro earnings**



### On The Map

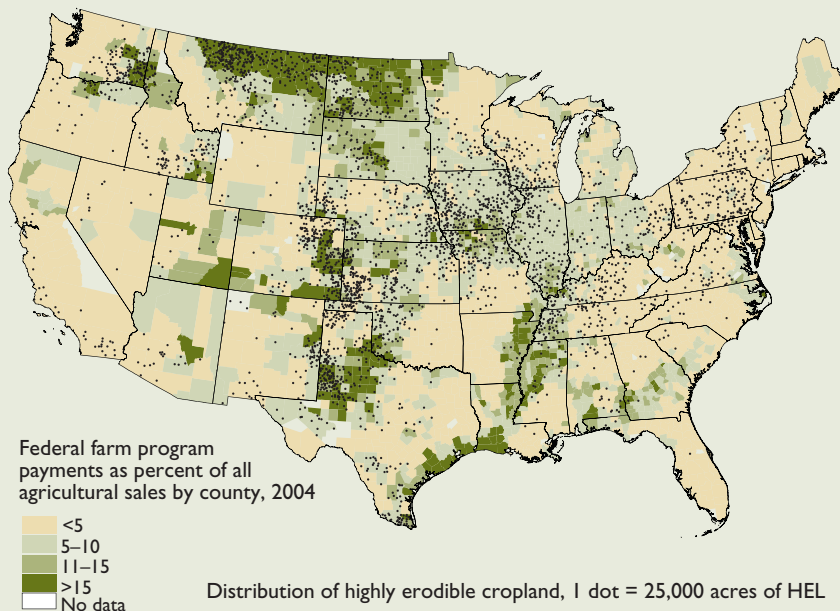
#### Most farms with highly erodible cropland receive Federal farm program payments

##### Conservation compliance effectiveness depends on where the money goes

USDA's Conservation Compliance Program was designed to ensure that Federal farm programs did not encourage crop production on highly erodible land (HEL) in the absence of measures to protect against soil erosion. Under this program, farmers who grow crops on HEL must apply an approved soil conservation system or risk losing eligibility for Federal income support, conservation, and other payments.

The effectiveness of conservation compliance in enhancing soil conservation depends, in part, on the extent to which farms that crop HEL also receive Federal farm program payments. Overall, 86 percent of all cropland and about 83 percent of highly erodible cropland is located on farms that receive farm program payments.

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Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service's National Resources Inventory, the Commodity Credit Corporation, and the Census of Agriculture.

### In the Long Run

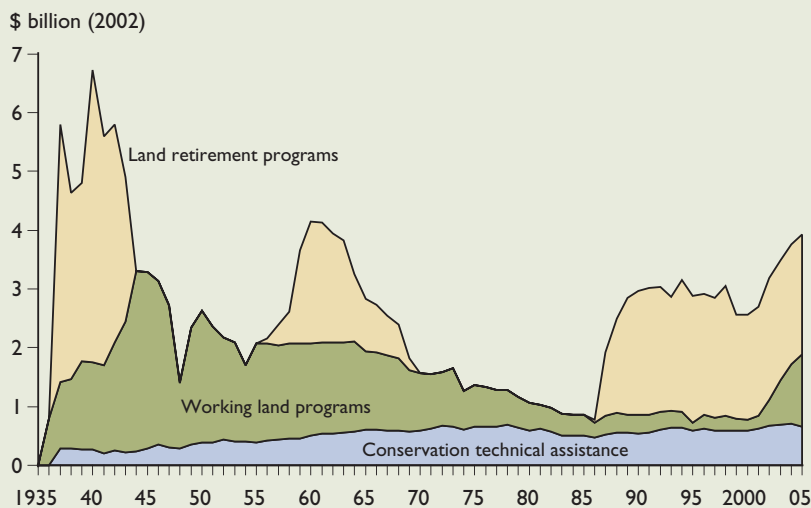
#### USDA expenditures on major agricultural conservation programs, 1935-2005

##### USDA conservation spending on working agricultural lands bucks long-term trend

For over 70 years, USDA has provided financial assistance to help farmers implement conservation practices on working agricultural lands or on lands temporarily retired from production. Farmers have also received technical assistance for the purpose of helping to ensure that conservation plans are effectively designed and implemented.

As measured in constant (2002) dollars, Federal conservation assistance has fluctuated widely over the period. Peaks have typically been associated with large-scale land retirement in the Agricultural Conservation (1936-1943), Soil Bank (1956-1972), and Conservation Reserve (1986-present) Programs. Beginning in 2002, however, the major increase in conservation assistance was directed to programs that help farmers defray conservation costs on working agricultural lands.

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Source: Prepared by USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA's Office of Budget and Program Analysis and other sources of historical data.