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Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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Fresh Tomato Prices Ease As Supply Recovers

With Florida's tomato crop recovering from the wrath of Hurricane Wilma, shipping-point (a market stage just above the grower level) prices for fresh market tomatoes have moved lower. Shipping-point prices for field-grown mature green tomatoes averaged nearly \$33 per 25 lb carton through mid-January before dropping back to \$16 per carton by mid-month and as low as \$12 per carton by month's end and into mid-February—still above the \$8 to \$10 average for this time of year and a reflection of lower acreage this winter. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the January 2006 national average retail price for field-grown tomatoes was \$2.16 per pound—up 30 percent from a year earlier but below the record-high \$2.47 set in December 2004.

Processors are considering packing 23-percent more tomatoes in 2006 due to smaller international and domestic stocks and stronger wholesale prices for tomato products. In 2005, world production was estimated to be 14 percent below the previous year, with reduced output in all major regions. Production in Italy, second only to the United States in world processing tomato production, declined 17 percent to 5.8 million short tons last year. Contract price offerings by processors for the 2006 crop are also expected to be higher, reflecting increased grower costs for inputs such as fertilizer, fuel, and labor.

Following trade deficits in 2003 and 2004, the U.S. potato sector posted a positive trade balance of \$51 million in 2005. This surplus resulted from net exports of fresh and frozen potatoes, flakes and granules, and preserved/canned potatoes. The only potato products with negative trade balances in 2005 were frozen french fries and potato starch. Although improved in 2005, the U.S. trade position vis-à-vis Canada, the largest U.S. trading partner in potatoes, remained negative due largely to frozen french fry imports.

U.S. sweet potato production declined 2 percent in 2005. In North Carolina, the top producing State, a 6-percent gain in per acre yield was outweighed by reduced acreage, leaving production down 14 percent. While the total value of North Carolina's crop declined 10 percent, sales per acre rose 10 percent due to fewer harvested acres. The total value of the 2005 U.S. sweet potato crop rose 10 percent to a record \$309 million.

The outlook for the 2006 dry bean crop is more uncertain than usual. However, if dry bean prices strengthen vis-a-vis other crops in the coming months, a small increase in acreage is expected. Despite this, production may not rise if per acre yields drop to trend (or below).

U.S. dry pea and lentil growers are again expected to seed more acreage this spring than a year ago. Dry pea acreage should easily exceed the 1943 record high of 825,000 acres.

Contents

Industry Overview
Fresh-Market
Vegetables
Processing
Vegetables
Potatoes
Sweet Potatoes
Dry Edible Beans
Dry Peas & Lentils
Commodity
Highlight: Chile
Peppers
Contacts & Links
Appendix Tables

Web Sites

Veg. & Melons
Potatoes
Tomatoes
Dry Beans
Market News
NASS Statistics
FAS Horticulture
Organics
Transportation

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Industry Overview

Fresh vegetables: The value of production for fresh-market vegetables totaled \$9.8 billion in 2005, up 1 percent from a year earlier. Increases for onions (up 19 percent), leaf lettuce (up 17 percent), and tomatoes (up 14 percent) were driven largely by higher prices. Crop revenues dropped 12 percent to \$4.6 billion in California, which accounted for 47 percent of the national value of fresh-market vegetables, compared with 55 percent a year earlier. Production of fresh vegetables generated \$1.5 billion in crop values in Florida—up 34 percent from 2004 as higher prices outweighed lower output.

Melons: The value of melon production rose 7 percent in 2005 to \$780 million on the strength of higher watermelon prices. Despite a 3 percent larger crop, watermelon grower prices jumped 27 percent to a record-high 10.8 cents per pound, as demand was strong in 2005. As a result, the value of production rose 31 percent to \$410 million—exceeding the previous nominal-dollar record of \$351 million set in 1995. Meanwhile, the value of the cantaloupe (down 7 percent) and honeydew melon (down 25 percent) crops each declined.

Processing vegetables: Largely because of a smaller tomato crop, the value of production for processing vegetables declined 10 percent to \$1.3 billion. The value of the processing-tomato crop fell 14 percent to \$622 million as a 17 percent smaller crop outweighed a 4-percent gain in the average f.o.b. plant door price.

Potatoes: The value of U.S. potato production rose 13 percent to \$2.9 billion—the highest crop value since 2002. With the season-average farm price rising 22 percent to \$6.90 per hundredweight (equal to 69 cents per pound), grower revenue increased across most potato States, reversing 2 years of disappointing returns. Production value increased in each of the top three producing States, Idaho (up 11 percent), Washington (up 16 percent), and Wisconsin (up 20 percent).

Sweet potatoes: The value of the U.S. sweet potato crop reached a record-high (unadjusted for inflation) \$309 million in 2005. The primary driving force was a 12-percent increase in the estimated season-average price to a record 19.6 cents per pound. Crop value in California, the second-leading producing State and the leader in sweet potato crop value, rose 29 percent to \$104 million—also the highest on record.

Dry edible beans: Larger production outweighed a 28-percent reduction in the season-average price (estimated to be \$18.40/cwt) to raise the value of the U.S. dry bean crop 16 percent to \$526 million in 2005. The value of the North Dakota dry bean crop was estimated to be \$136 million—26 percent of the U.S. crop value and 15 percent greater than a year earlier.

Dry peas and lentils: Based on preliminary estimates of season average prices, the value of all U.S. dry pea and lentil production (including small chickpeas) totaled \$139 million in 2005/06—down 3 percent from the record high of 2004/05. Within this total, lentils were valued at \$59 million (down 3 percent), with reduced crop value in Washington and Idaho and record-high production value in North Dakota and Montana, where crop output was much greater than a year earlier.

Mushrooms: The value of the 2004/05 mushroom crop was estimated to be down 1 percent to \$908 million, reflecting lower prices.

Chile Peppers: On a fresh-weight-basis, domestic disappearance of chile peppers averaged 1.7 billion pounds (5.9 pounds per person) during 2003-05—up 38 percent on a per capita basis from 1993-95.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry at a glance, 2003-06

Item	Unit	2003	2004	2005	2006 1/
<i>Area harvested</i>	1,000 ac.	6,538	6,580	7,149	7,628
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	1,928	1,940	1,936	1,955
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,337	1,297	1,286	1,330
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,249	1,167	1,085	1,095
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,347	1,219	1,563	1,550
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	677	957	1,320	1,697
<i>Production</i>	Mil. cw t	1,295	1,355	1,300	1,322
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	Mil. cw t	469	485	473	482
Processing	Mil. cw t	314	356	317	338
Potatoes	Mil. cw t	458	456	421	425
Dry beans	Mil. cw t	22	18	27	26
Other 2/	Mil. cw t	32	41	44	51
<i>Crop value</i>	\$ mil.	15,524	15,533	15,862	16,088
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	9,769	9,701	9,819	10,100
Processing	\$ mil.	1,367	1,473	1,323	1,525
Potatoes	\$ mil.	2,686	2,575	2,903	2,600
Dry beans	\$ mil.	423	453	526	473
Mushrooms	\$ mil.	890	919	908	910
Other 2/	\$ mil.	388	412	434	480
<i>Unit value 3/</i>	\$/cw t	11.99	11.46	12.20	12.17
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$/cw t	20.85	20.02	20.77	20.95
Processing	\$/cw t	4.36	4.14	4.17	4.52
Potatoes	\$/cw t	5.89	5.67	6.90	6.12
Dry beans	\$/cw t	18.40	25.70	18.40	18.35
Other 2/	\$/cw t	12.05	10.15	9.91	9.35
<i>Trade</i>					
<i>Imports</i>	\$ mil.	5,435	6,185	6,578	6,720
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	3,028	3,458	3,667	3,800
Processing	\$ mil.	1,276	1,448	1,587	1,625
Potatoes	\$ mil.	682	764	763	740
Dry beans	\$ mil.	49	65	83	65
Other 4/	\$ mil.	400	449	479	490
<i>Exports</i>	\$ mil.	3,313	3,468	3,832	4,073
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,302	1,364	1,512	1,690
Processing	\$ mil.	798	794	823	825
Potatoes	\$ mil.	646	735	831	835
Dry beans	\$ mil.	157	145	157	173
Other 4/	\$ mil.	410	432	508	550
<i>Per capita use</i>	Pounds	446	447	442	444
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	Pounds	171	174	175	177
Processing	Pounds	121	123	123	124
Potatoes	Pounds	138	135	128	127
Dry beans	Pounds	7	6	6	7
Other 2/	Pounds	10	10	10	10

1/ ERS forecasts. 2/ Other includes sweet potatoes, dry peas, lentils, and mushrooms.

3/ Ratio of total value to total production. 4/ Other includes mushrooms, dry peas, lentils, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seed. All trade data are on a calendar-year basis.

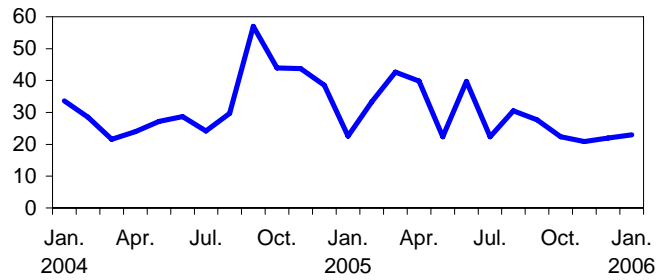
Sources: ERS and National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Figure 1

F.o.b. shipping point prices for fresh-market vegetables

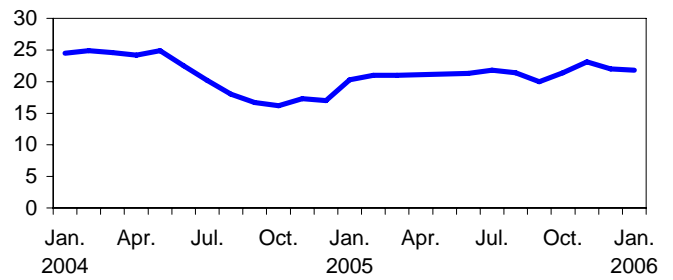
Broccoli

Cents per lb



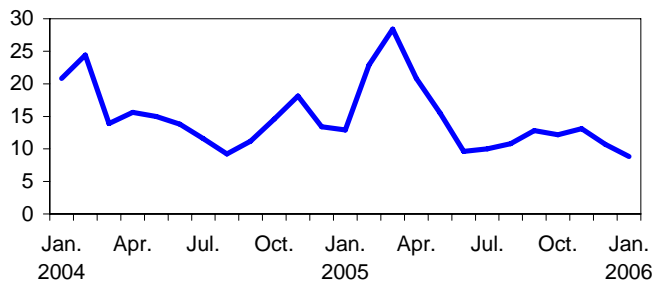
Carrots

Cents per lb



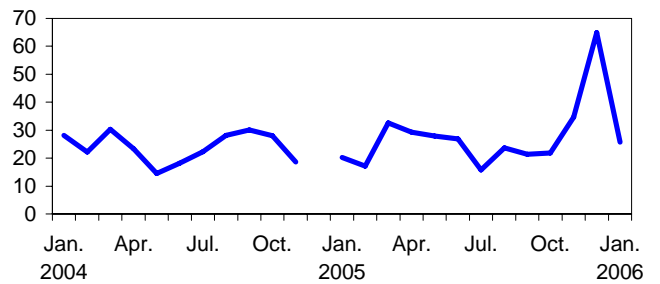
Celery

Cents per lb



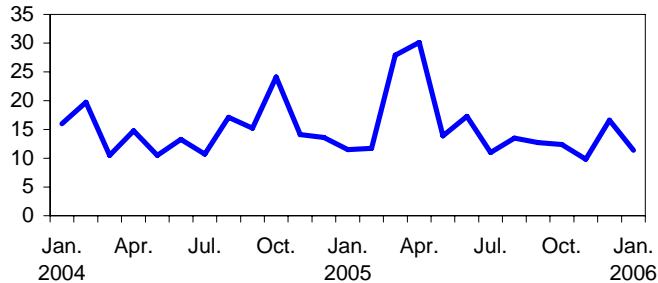
Cucumbers

Cents per lb



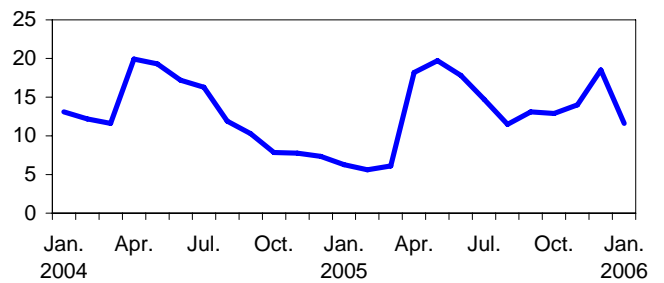
Head lettuce

Cents per lb



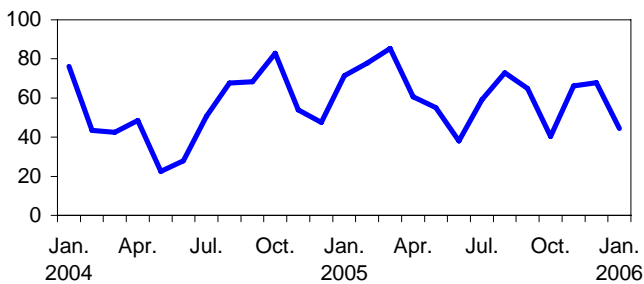
Onions

Cents per lb



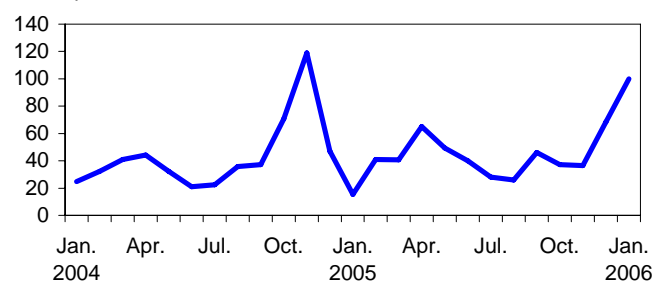
Snap beans

Cents per lb



Tomatoes

Cents per lb



Fresh-Market Vegetables

Tomato Prices Ease As Volume Improves

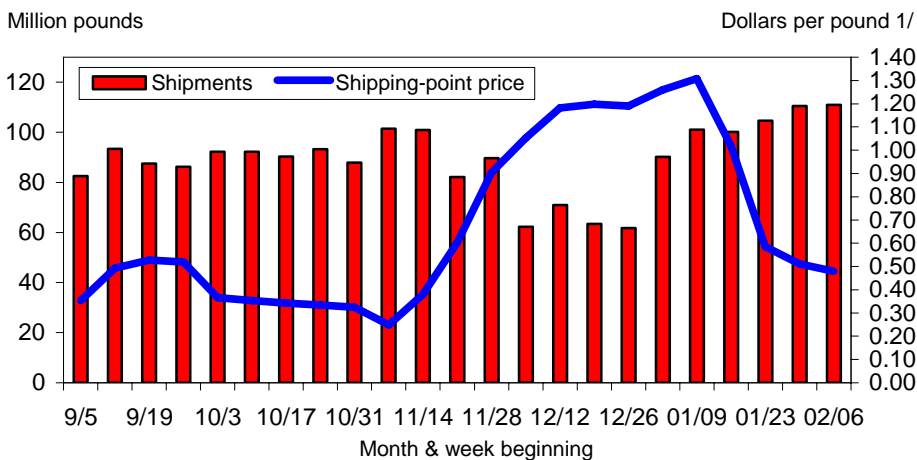
The Florida vegetable industry suffered substantial hurricane damage to crops and infrastructure from Hurricane Wilma on October 24. Following cleanup from Wilma, growers in southern Florida replanted crops such as green beans and squash, and harvest of those crops began in mid-December. However, tomato harvest was further delayed by cool December temperatures, which slowed growth. As a result, market volume from Florida was half that of a year earlier, with market-normal shipments resuming by mid-month in January. Shipping-point prices for field-grown mature green tomatoes averaged nearly \$33 per 25-lb carton through mid-January before dropping back to \$16 per carton by mid-month and \$12 per carton by month's end and into mid-February—still well above the \$8 to \$10 average for this time of year. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the January 2006 national average retail price for field-grown tomatoes was \$2.16 per pound—up 30 percent from a year earlier but below the record high \$2.47 set in December 2004.

A year earlier, markets were besieged by a glut of fresh tomatoes as replanted volume, following the Florida hurricanes, came to market simultaneously, pushing prices to very low (and unprofitable) levels. This year, Florida's winter tomato acreage was reduced 12 percent to 11,000 acres—the lowest in many years. Growers were apparently wary of a repeat of last year's market glut and resulting low market prices. Imports from west Mexico this year also got off to a slow start because crop maturity was delayed by cool weather, with "normal" volume beginning to come in by mid-January.

With strong Florida fresh tomato shipments and imports from Mexico now running above year-earlier levels (especially for roma tomatoes), farm prices have moderated as total shipment volume approached its seasonal average. Lower retail prices are expected to follow by late February as market pipelines (repacker, warehouse, and store inventories) are replenished. Cold temperatures in mid-February, which resulted in freeze damage to Florida's spring-crop sweet corn and snap beans in the Everglades, also slowed growth of winter-crop tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant.

Figure 2

U.S. fresh tomatoes: Weekly shipments & shipping-point price, 2005-06



1/ Based on dollars per 25-pound carton of mature green tomatoes. Volume excludes grape and cherry tomatoes.

Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

Table 2--Fresh-market tomatoes: Share of supply by source, average 2002-04 1/

Season/ month	Supply sources					Total
	California	Florida	Other states 2/	Mexico	Other import 2/	
-- Percent --						
Winter	0.0	42.7	0.0	56.4	0.8	100.0
Jan.	0.0	48.6	0.0	50.2	1.3	100.0
Feb.	0.0	40.8	0.0	58.7	0.5	100.0
Mar.	0.0	37.9	0.0	61.4	0.7	100.0
Spring	4.9	55.8	3.6	29.4	6.2	100.0
Apr.	0.0	54.5	0.0	40.9	4.7	100.0
May	0.0	70.0	0.0	24.0	6.0	100.0
June	16.0	40.8	11.9	23.1	8.2	100.0
Summer	54.2	0.7	21.8	20.6	2.7	100.0
July	54.4	1.5	19.0	23.5	1.6	100.0
Aug.	52.2	0.0	26.3	20.2	1.2	100.0
Sep.	55.9	0.5	20.2	18.0	5.5	100.0
Fall	26.4	43.6	1.0	25.3	3.7	100.0
Oct	57.5	17.5	3.1	17.4	4.5	100.0
Nov	22.5	45.4	0.0	27.2	4.9	100.0
Dec.	1.1	66.0	0.0	30.9	2.1	100.0
Annual	19.3	37.4	6.0	34.0	3.4	100.0

1/ Excludes greenhouse tomatoes and grape, and cherry tomatoes. Includes roma.

2/ Since data are underreported in this category, shares here are smaller than actual.

Source: Based on shipments reported by Market News, AMS, USDA.

The Florida Tomato Committee is conducting an extensive advertising campaign this winter to raise and maintain consumer awareness of Florida tomatoes. The industry fears a repeat of the unusually low grower prices experienced last winter after a sluggish consumer response to the return of low-priced tomatoes left millions of pounds of tomatoes unharvested.

Winter Acreage Increased

This winter (largely January-March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest is expected to rise 2 percent from that of a year earlier. Improving yields in Florida, Mexico, and California has also led to stronger domestic shipments of most vegetables. Acreage for harvest of the 11 selected vegetables rose to 183,900 acres for the 2006 winter season (largely January to March). Reduced acreage in Florida (down 2 percent) and Arizona (down 1 percent) was outweighed by increases in Texas (up 8 percent) and California (up 6 percent). California accounts for about 47 percent of winter vegetable acreage, followed by Arizona (27 percent), Florida (20 percent), and Texas (6 percent). Area for harvest increased the most for carrots and cauliflower. Tomato and sweet corn acreage registered the steepest declines, as Florida growers appear to have been conservative in replanting area damaged by Hurricane Wilma. Winter-season area for harvest accounts for about 10 percent of the annual fresh vegetable and melon harvested area (1.9 million acres in 2005).

This winter, assuming continued favorable weather, shipping-point prices for vegetables and melons will likely average above those of a year earlier as higher

Table 3--Winter-season fresh-market vegetable area 1/

Item	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Change 2005-06
	-- Acres for harvest --					Percent
Snap beans	12,000	11,600	12,000	12,500	13,200	6
Broccoli	25,500	25,500	26,500	26,500	27,500	4
Cabbage	11,600	11,400	12,500	12,600	13,900	10
Carrots	20,300	20,500	21,100	19,500	23,500	21
Cauliflower	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,600	9,000	18
Celery	7,500	7,500	7,700	7,600	7,200	-5
Sweet corn	8,400	7,900	8,400	7,800	7,200	-8
Head lettuce	64,500	63,000	61,500	64,600	63,000	-2
Bell pepper	5,600	5,800	6,100	6,300	6,200	-2
Spinach	2,200	1,700	2,000	2,100	2,200	5
Tomatoes	12,500	12,600	13,000	12,500	11,000	-12
Total	177,600	175,000	178,300	179,600	183,900	2

1/ Selected crops for harvest largely during January-March.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

prices in early and late winter outweigh lower prices during mid-season. With the exception of a few Florida vegetables, mid-season shipping-point prices for most major commodities averaged between \$4 and \$8 per carton (carton weights vary by commodity), reflecting generally good yields in most major growing areas. These are generally considered to be low- to low-average prices. Fresh market prices could also be impacted in mid-March by “bloom drop” for crops like tomatoes and peppers caused by the mid-February Florida freeze. Although plants generally set new blooms in about 2 weeks, temporary supply gaps and short price spikes could arise since dropped blooms represented crops to be marketed about a month later. Given higher prices, some offset to supply gaps could come from increased imports or extended harvest on farms that would normally not make another harvest pass.

Fresh vegetable import volume is expected to increase this winter due largely to average yields in west Mexico and higher prices caused by lower volume for Florida crops such as tomatoes and peppers. Assuming continued above-average winter weather in major population centers (snow and extreme cold tend to reduce demand for vegetables), most fresh vegetable supplies should meet normal demand, leaving winter-quarter shipping-point prices for commercial fresh-market vegetables about a tenth above those of a year earlier.

Spring Onion Acreage Up

This spring, onion growers intend to plant 2 percent more acres than a year earlier. Harvested area could be as much as 8 percent greater than a year earlier if onion growers in Georgia manage to dodge the pest and weather problems that have resulted in increased acreage losses the past few years. In Georgia, growers finished setting the Vidalia onion crop in January, and as of mid-February, the crop was reported to be in favorable condition. With the relatively mild winter to this point, crop growth was reported to be ahead of schedule in Georgia. If weather continues on this path, harvest will also begin early—perhaps during the first part of April. As with other fresh-market vegetable growers, the spring-season onion industry (particularly in Georgia) is concerned about labor availability. Unlike the storage onion crop, virtually all of these tender nonstorage onions rely on hand harvest to minimize damage and maintain maximum quality.

Table 4--Selected fresh-market vegetable shipments 1/

Item	Annual 2004	December 2005	January		Change previous: 2/	
			2005	2006	Month	Year
		--1,000 cwt--			Percent	
Snap beans	3,051	254	184	308	21	67
Broccoli	8,972	772	937	890	15	-5
Cabbage	13,270	1,200	1,417	1,213	1	-14
Cantaloup	26,113	853	920	774	-9	-16
Carrots	11,525	712	792	790	11	0
Cauliflower	4,927	341	399	397	16	-1
Celery	17,832	1,481	1,560	1,413	-5	-9
Chinese cabbage	1,281	110	121	117	6	-3
Sweet corn	10,627	157	464	297	89	-36
Cucumbers	13,870	977	1,265	1,210	24	-4
Head lettuce	38,150	2,600	2,710	2,754	6	2
Romaine	13,488	1,197	1,216	1,176	-2	-3
Onions, dry bulb	50,538	3,511	4,037	3,571	2	-12
Onions, green	3,389	332	242	349	5	44
Peppers, bell	15,916	975	1,539	1,470	51	-4
Peppers, chile	3,739	399	394	451	13	14
Spinach	975	120	93	128	7	38
Squash	6,732	834	782	770	-8	-2
Tomato, round	31,279	809	3,165	1,999	147	-37
Tomato, roma	10,045	900	1,070	1,216	35	14
Tomato, ghouse 3/	4,933	775	--	682	-12	--
Tomato, cherry 4/	4,035	133	377	370	178	-2
Watermelon	33,703	538	664	692	29	4
Selected total	328,390	19,980	24,348	23,037	15	-5

-- = not available. 1/ All data are preliminary. Includes domestic and imported product. 2/ Change in Jan 2006. 3/ Includes all types of tomatoes produced under cover. 4/ Includes grape tomatoes.

Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

In South Texas, the spring onion crop appears strong and is also running ahead of schedule, with planted area up 4 percent to 17,600 acres. Over the previous 3 years, Texas has accounted for about one-third of the spring onion crop. Acreage this year would mark the State's highest planted area since 1994 (18,700 acres)—reflecting both a stronger onion market this season and the improvement in irrigation water supplies. Like the Vidalia onion crop, grower prices for the Texas spring onion crop are usually the highest or among the highest in the industry. This resulted in farm cash receipts of \$138 million for the crop in 2005—more than half of the \$255 million spring onion crop total.

Production Down, Value Up in 2005

Production of 24 major fresh-market vegetables and melons (excluding potatoes, mushrooms, and pulse crops) declined about 2 percent to 473 million cwt in 2005. Most of the loss in output originated from a smaller dry bulb onion crop (down 9 million cwt), which was responding to lower prices stemming from record large output in 2004. Production was also trimmed by lower yields for bell peppers, garlic, snap beans, and head lettuce. Production was down 2 percent in California, which accounts for 48 percent of annual fresh-market vegetable output. Florida, the second-largest producing State with 9 percent of annual output, saw 2005 output drop 4 percent as hurricane damage limited the fall crop.

Value of production for the 24 top fresh vegetable and melon crops edged up 1 percent to \$9.8 billion in 2005 as higher prices outweighed reduced output. Half of all 2005 fresh-market vegetable and melon crops experienced increased gross

Table 5--Production of selected fresh-market vegetables, 2002-05

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change 2004-05
	-- Million pounds --				Percent
Artichokes 1/	94.3	100.8	82.5	84.0	2
Asparagus 1/	186.8	184.3	206.2	180.4	-13
Snap beans	596.5	569.5	576.9	545.5	-5
Broccoli 1/	1,837.5	1,945.0	1,983.5	1,979.0	0
Cabbage	2,422.7	2,263.9	2,497.3	2,424.6	-3
Carrots	2,586.5	2,711.4	2,663.0	2,655.9	0
Cauliflower 1/	622.0	654.6	642.5	651.0	1
Celery 1/	1,873.7	1,925.6	1,947.9	1,917.8	-2
Sweet corn	2,648.0	2,850.3	2,788.5	2,726.6	-2
Cucumbers	1,093.9	942.5	1,010.1	1,023.2	1
Garlic 1/	565.0	624.1	522.4	464.6	-11
Lettuce, head	6,814.0	6,824.4	6,622.8	6,359.4	-4
Lettuce, leaf	1,341.0	1,349.0	1,479.0	1,540.5	4
Lettuce, romaine	1,856.4	2,270.3	2,315.5	2,372.5	2
Onions, dry bulb 1/	6,984.4	7,336.3	8,300.7	7,376.9	-11
Peppers, bell 1/	1,566.8	1,611.8	1,640.0	1,450.9	-12
Pumpkins 1/	850.9	815.1	1,021.9	1,085.6	6
Spinach	462.5	556.9	626.6	700.1	12
Squash 1/	879.2	768.5	775.6	814.5	5
Tomatoes	3,958.8	3,557.8	3,834.6	3,946.2	3

1/ Includes some processing.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

revenue, while the others had declining receipts. The top crop in terms of production value was fresh tomatoes at \$1.6 billion (up 14 percent), followed by head lettuce at \$991 million (down 11 percent), and dry bulb onions at \$922 million (up 19 percent).

United States Still a Net Importer

In 2005, the United States was again a net importer of fresh-market vegetables and melons. The value of imports rose 6 percent to \$3.7 billion, with the majority of the increase reflecting rising import volume for fresh-market crops such as melons (up 9 percent), garlic (up 23 percent), and greenhouse tomatoes (up 39 percent). Part of the increase in greenhouse tomatoes is due to the addition of a greenhouse tomato import category (HS code) to report data for the period July 15 to August 31. On the outgoing side of trade, exports of fresh vegetables and melons totaled \$1.5 billion last year—up 11 percent from 2004.

Because of proximity to the U.S. market (which minimizes transportation costs), Mexico and Canada remain the top two foreign suppliers of fresh vegetables and melons to the U.S. market. In 2005, Mexico accounted for 67 percent of U.S. fresh-market vegetable and melon import value, while Canada garnered 15 percent of the import market. Rounding out the top five import sources in 2005 were Peru (4 percent), the Netherlands (2 percent), and Guatemala (2 percent), with these nations tending to specialize in certain crops. Fresh-market imports from Peru were largely concentrated in 2 crops, with 78 percent consisting of asparagus and 12 percent of fresh dry bulb onions. About 83 percent of imports from the Netherlands consisted of greenhouse-grown peppers and tomatoes. Guatemala primarily supplied melons (76 percent of value) and sweet peas (17 percent).

Mainland China is by far the world's leading producer of all vegetables, including garlic. U.S. fresh vegetable imports from China have surged since 2000, when China shipped just \$2.1 million (excluding mushrooms). In 2005, fresh-market vegetable imports from China totaled \$56 million—up 31 percent from 2004 and more than double the 2003 total. Although the number of items shipped to the United States has broadened over the past several years, the majority (92 percent) of imports still consists of garlic. China now provides an estimated 40 percent of all fresh-market garlic consumed in the United States, compared with less than 1 percent in 2000. Despite an estimated 30-percent gain in per capita fresh garlic use since the 1990s, the estimated market share of domestic garlic producers has declined from 87 percent in 2000 to 55 percent in 2005.

Table 6--Selected fresh-market vegetable trade volume, 2002-05

Item	January - December				Change
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2004-05
	--1,000 cwt--				Percent
Exports, fresh:					
Onions, dry bulb	6,372	6,790	6,201	6,672	8
Lettuce, head	4,254	4,536	4,747	4,487	-5
Lettuce, other	4,668	4,336	4,838	4,856	0
Broccoli	3,430	3,113	3,151	3,140	0
Tomatoes	3,321	3,142	3,675	3,262	-11
Other	17,277	17,238	16,820	16,811	0
Total	39,322	39,155	39,432	39,228	-1
Imports, fresh:					
Tomatoes, all	18,962	20,711	20,546	20,983	2
Cucumbers	8,457	9,003	9,335	9,549	2
Onions, dry bulb	5,954	6,461	6,892	6,592	-4
Peppers, sweet	5,350	5,416	5,689	6,526	15
Squash *	4,077	4,758	4,948	5,244	6
Other	22,809	23,299	25,084	27,412	9
Total	65,609	69,648	72,495	76,307	5

* Excludes chayote.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 7—U.S. quarterly f.o.b. shipping-point prices, selected vegetables and melons, 2005-06

Commodity	2005				2006				Change
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	First*	Second*	Third*	Fourth*	1st Q 1/
	--- Dollars per 100 lb ---								Percent
Asparagus	95.90	91.20	164.00	175.00	165.00	105.00	175.00	125.00	55.6
Broccoli	32.83	33.97	26.87	21.77	29.00	28.00	31.00	34.00	-37.0
Cantaloup	--	18.45	9.97	13.27	--	18.50	15.00	19.00	-22.0
Carrots	20.77	21.20	21.07	22.17	21.00	21.00	20.00	19.50	26.5
Cauliflower	38.83	34.83	28.53	29.70	31.00	33.25	29.00	36.00	-30.0
Celery	21.40	15.31	11.20	12.00	14.00	16.25	11.50	13.00	-11.0
Sweet corn	25.33	20.73	22.40	28.00	25.00	18.00	21.00	25.00	-16.0
Cucumbers	23.33	28.03	20.30	40.47	26.00	21.00	23.00	22.00	61.7
Lettuce, head	17.03	20.43	12.40	12.94	16.50	17.00	16.00	18.00	-27.0
Onions, dry bulb	6.01	18.57	13.10	15.13	11.50	20.00	13.00	11.00	28.6
Snap beans	78.17	51.27	65.60	58.10	51.00	40.00	61.00	54.00	-17.0
Tomatoes, field	32.33	51.50	33.40	36.90	60.00	37.00	31.00	40.00	-17.0
All vegetables 2/	845	1,019	813	893	930	900	875	870	-11.0

-- = not available. * = ERS forecast. 1/ Change in projected 1st-quarter 2006 over 1st-quarter 2005.

2/ Price index with base period of 1910-14 (the period when the index equaled 100).

Source: Derived from data published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Processing Vegetables

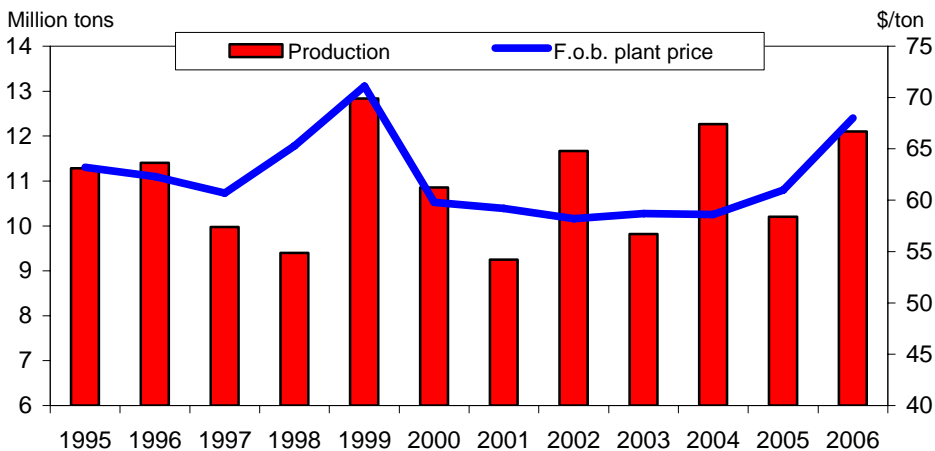
Larger Tomato Crop Expected in 2006

The mid-January early crop intentions report indicated that California tomato processors would likely contract for more tomatoes in 2006. California is the source for about 95 percent of the tomatoes grown nationally for processed products such as sauces, paste, soup, juice, and ketchup. Because of surging input costs, especially for energy-based inputs such as fuel and fertilizer, processors may also enhance contract price offerings by several dollars per ton to help offset increased costs and attract the required tonnage. The early intentions report showed that California's tomato processors intend to contract for 23 percent more processing tomatoes than a year earlier—a total of 11.6 million short tons if they carry through with these early intentions. A trend yield of about 39.6 short tons per acre was assumed, which would be second only to the 2004 California record high of 41.5 tons. A small amount of open market purchases plus production from other States could add an additional 0.6 million tons to U.S. output. In 2005, about 98 percent of the 10.2 million tons of tomatoes processed in the United States were grown under contract.

Processors are considering packing a larger tomato crop in 2006 due to smaller international and domestic stocks (with limited availability of open market paste) and stronger wholesale prices for tomato products. In 2005, world production was estimated to be 14 percent below the previous year, with reduced output in all major regions. Production in Italy, second only to the United States in world processing-tomato production, declined 17 percent to 5.8 million short tons last year.

It appears that U.S. domestic tomato product demand remains strong, with industry estimates of disappearance running at more than 1 million tons per month on a fresh-weight equivalent basis. According to preliminary ERS estimates, per capita use of processing tomatoes during calendar year 2005 likely increased for the fourth consecutive year following the low reached in 2001. Given continued strength in the domestic economy, use of processed tomato products is expected to remain relatively strong in 2006.

Figure 3
U.S. processing tomatoes: Production & F.o.b. plant price



Source: NASS, USDA, except 2005 forecast by ERS.

Table 8--Processing vegetables: Consumer and producer price indexes

Item	2006	2005		Change previous:	
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Month	Year
	-- Index --			-- Percent --	
Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)					
Processed fruits and vegetables	121.8	120.3	117.9	1.2	3.3
Canned vegetables	124.8	124.4	119.3	0.3	4.6
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	179.4	177.5	177.0	1.1	1.4
Dry beans, peas, lentils	117.2	116.6	115.2	0.5	1.7
Olives, pickles, relishes	115.7	110.2	110.0	5.0	5.2
Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)					
Canned vegetables and juices	137.8	138.2	135.7	-0.3	1.5
Pickles and products	187.4	186.7	182.5	0.4	2.7
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	130.1	130.8	128.3	-0.5	1.4
Canned dry beans	131.6	131.1	123.7	0.4	6.4
Vegetable juices 1/	113.6	113.6	110.4	0.0	2.9
Frozen vegetables	138.6	137.8	137.3	0.6	0.9
Frozen vegetable combinations	105.4	105.3	104.8	0.1	0.6
Dried/dehy. fruit & vegetables	155.1	154.3	145.6	0.5	6.5

1/ Index base year is 1987.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor.

On a calendar-year basis, 2005 export volume for processed tomato products fell 1 percent to 3.0 billion pounds (fresh-equivalent basis). Reduced production, rising product prices during the second-half of the year, and strong domestic demand likely led to the slight drop in exports from the 2004 record-high. Because processed tomato supplies were lower, exports accounted for nearly 8 percent of supplies in 2005, up from 7 percent in 2004 and 6 percent in 2000. Although export volume increased for tomato sauces (up 4 percent) and ketchup (up 5 percent), it was lower for tomato paste (down 7 percent) and tomato juice (down 26 percent). Although volume was down, higher product prices pushed the value of tomato product exports up 5 percent to \$286 million. Among the top three foreign markets, the value of shipments to Canada increased 11 percent to \$150 million, fell less than 1 percent to Mexico (\$38 million), and increased 24 percent to Japan (\$25 million). Exports to Japan were the largest since 2000, but remain well below the 1995 peak of \$36 million.

With the smaller crop in 2005 leading to improved prices for tomato products during the last half of 2005, import volume (on a fresh-equivalent basis) increased 2 percent to 1.3 billion pounds. Import value rose 7 percent to \$138 million, led by Turkey (up 138 percent), Chile (117 percent), and Israel (103 percent).

Economic Growth Continues To Support Demand

Moderate economic growth and low unemployment will continue to underpin food demand in both the retail and foodservice industries in 2006. According to preliminary data from the Census Bureau, retail sales at grocery stores increased 4 percent to \$467 billion in 2005, with similar increases expected in 2006. Over the last decade, the supermarket industry has been slowly bolstering performance and gaining a foothold in the "away from home" food market by offering home meal replacements and take-away food items like rotisserie chicken, salad bars, etc. The favorable economy may have benefited the foodservice industry even more than it has grocery stores, with preliminary Census data indicating food service sales at eating and drinking establishments increasing 7 percent in 2005 to \$407 billion. The National Restaurant Association is projecting industry sales to rise about 5 percent in 2006.

Smaller Processing-Vegetable Crop in 2005

Production of the major vegetables used for processing declined 11 percent to 15.8 million short tons in 2005. All major processing crops registered reduced output with the exception of sweet corn and broccoli/cauliflower. Production of sweet corn used for canned products increased 17 percent due to record-high yields and increased acreage (up 9 percent). Sweet corn yields were strong in several States last year, including record highs in Minnesota and Oregon and near records in Washington and Wisconsin. Unlike sweet corn, weather conditions were not as favorable for tomatoes, snap beans, and green peas, which each experienced reduced yields in 2005.

The value of production for processing vegetables fell 10 percent to \$1.3 billion. As with production, the top two crops in terms of farm value were tomatoes (\$622 million) and sweet corn (\$217 million). California (\$613 million), Minnesota (\$115 million), Wisconsin (\$99 million), and Washington (\$87 million) remained the top four States for all processing crops.

Table 9--Production of selected processing vegetables, 2002-05

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change
					2004-05 2/ Percent
1,000 short tons					
Canning:					
Tomatoes	11,670.8	9,819.7	12,266.4	10,200.1	-17
Sweet corn	1,428.0	1,556.3	1,458.3	1,707.5	17
Snap beans	534.7	503.5	574.0	581.8	1
Green peas	137.7	209.1	138.6	150.1	8
Cucumbers	619.3	648.4	591.4	570.7	-3
Spinach	10.0	12.2	10.8	8.9	-18
Subtotal	14,400.5	12,749.2	15,039.5	13,219.1	-12
Freezing:					
Sweet corn	1,639.7	1,709.7	1,509.9	1,466.7	-3
Snap beans	259.0	224.2	261.9	240.0	-8
Green peas	212.2	258.6	259.0	228.7	-12
Spinach	96.2	107.9	119.4	88.0	-26
Subtotal	2,207.0	2,300.4	2,150.3	2,023.4	-6
Selected total	16,607.6	15,049.6	17,189.7	15,242.5	-11

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 10--Value of processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	January - December				Change
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2004-05 Percent
--Million dollars--					
Imports:					
Canned	606	643	733	803	10
Frozen	347	398	455	493	9
Dehydrated 2/	236	235	261	291	12
Exports:					
Canned	512	521	530	536	1
Frozen	160	154	147	160	9
Dehydrated 2/	126	124	117	128	9

1/ Excludes potatoes and mushrooms. 2/ Includes dried.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Potatoes

Upward Yield Trend Poses Challenge in Face of Weak Demand

The 8-percent cut in U.S. potato production in 2005, combined with the resulting 21-percent average price increase are expected to reduce Americans' per capita consumption of potatoes by about 10 percent to 122 pounds from 135 in 2004. Fewer imports (down 5 percent) and more exports (up 13 percent) account in part for the estimated 9-percent drop in domestic use of potatoes in 2005. Given that U.S. population grows by 1 percent a year, it is apparent that demand for potatoes in 2005 is weaker. The declining trend in per capita consumption that began in 2003 has been a concern for U.S. potato growers who reacted by collectively removing 7 percent of planted area (71,100 acres) from production in 2005.

Weak domestic demand for potatoes is also evident in a 3 percent decline from a year earlier in 2005 potato shipments. Shipments of tablestock potatoes fell nearly 2 million hundredweight (cwt), or 6 percent. Smaller shipments further reflect the

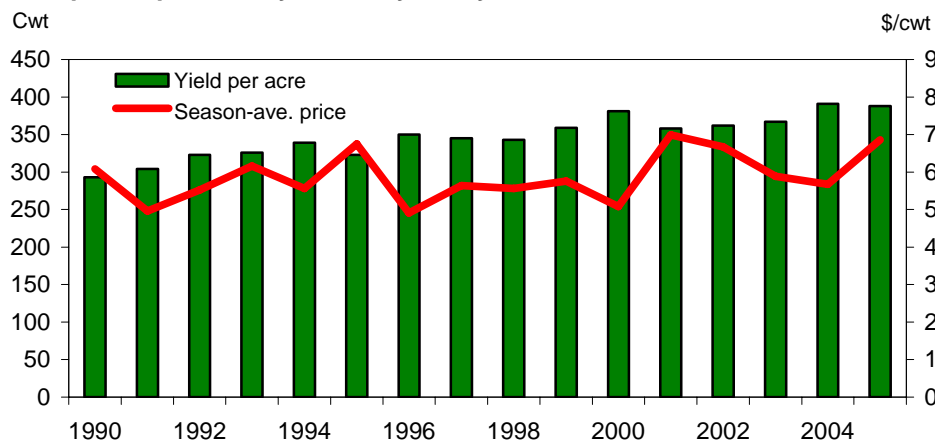
Table 11--Domestic utilization of potatoes as a share of production sold

Category	1990	1995	2000	2002	2004
-- Percent --					
Table stock	32.5	30.5	30.0	31.3	32.5
Processing	60.4	62.4	61.9	62.3	61.7
Frozen french fries	29.5	31.5	31.6	29.6	30.3
Other frozen	6.5	6.6	5.8	6.9	5.7
Chips	12.1	11.5	11.3	12.2	12.7
Dehydrated	10.6	11.0	11.7	12.2	11.6
Canned	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.2
Starch and other	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2
Other sales	7.1	7.1	8.1	6.4	5.8
Seed	6.3	6.3	5.0	5.7	5.4
Feed	0.9	0.8	3.1	0.7	0.5

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Figure 4

U.S. potato prices vary inversely with yield



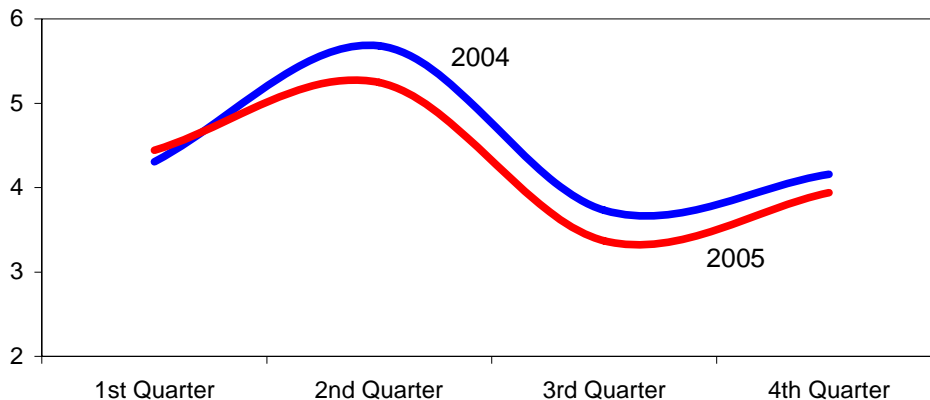
1/ Season-average prices are not adjusted for inflation.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Figure 5

Quarterly shipments of potatoes, including net imports, are down in 2005

Bil. lbs



Source: "Market News," Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

effort of farm cooperatives in producer States to lower production by reducing planted acreage. The rationale behind this effort is to better manage sluggish consumer demand and steadily rising per-acre yields, both of which can contribute to burdensome stocks and lower potato prices. That is, given lower acreage, higher yields and prices effectively eliminate any downside risk with respect to farm revenue despite lower production.

From 1990 to 2005, U.S. potato yields have grown by an average 6.3 cwt, or 1.8 percent per year. In fact, since 1950, average yield increased 4.5 cwt per acre, or 1.7 percent annually. This upward trend in yield can indeed be relied on by farmers to support their planted area reductions in view of stagnant or flat consumer demand for potatoes. However, total U.S. potato disappearance, including imports, has not kept pace with population growth of 1.1 percent on average over the past decade. Indeed, domestic disappearance of potatoes grew by only 0.6 percent on average per year between 1991 and 2005, about half the rate of U.S. population growth. Even if demand stabilizes so that growth in U.S. potato disappearance at least equals annual population growth, planted acreage must decline about 1 percent annually to offset the 1-percent difference between average yield growth and population growth.

The contention of potato cooperatives and member growers that acreage reduction is a last resort to address stagnant demand is supported by the premise that the elasticity (responsiveness) of potato production to price change is less than proportional, or less than 1. That is, a 1-percent decline in price is expected to lower production by less than 1 percent. From 1990 to 2005, the price elasticity of U.S. potato production averaged 0.6, which suggests that a 1-percent reduction in price generates a 0.6 percent decline in production (in the next crop year). Conversely, the reciprocal of the elasticity, or the flexibility of prices with respect to a change in production, equals -2.2 on average. Thus, a 10-percent decline in potato production implies that prices are expected to rise by more than 20 percent. Indeed, the 8-percent decline in 2005's potato crop is projected to result in a 21-percent average price gain.

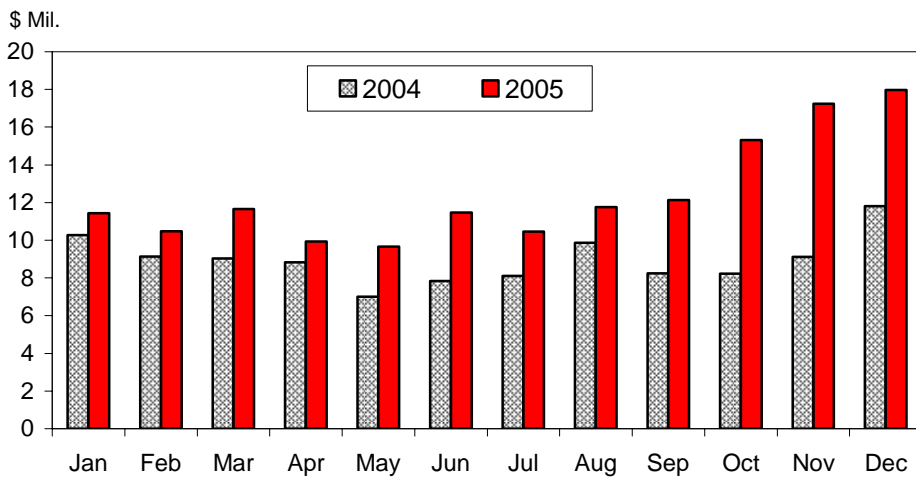
Stocks and Imports Reflect Lower Domestic Use

Commensurate with lower domestic potato production and consumption, U.S. stocks of fresh potatoes and frozen potato products were down in both December 2005 and January 2006. Year-to-date domestic use of the 2005 fall crop is likewise lower, by 8 percent from a year earlier. Although year-end stocks in cold storage were up slightly for frozen french fries, they were more than offset by 11-percent fewer stocks of other frozen potato products. Nevertheless, 2005 imports of frozen potatoes other than french fries increased 20 million pounds from a year earlier. Another important indicator of weak domestic demand for potatoes is a 5-percent reduction in import volume of all potato products in 2005, led by 13-percent fewer frozen french fries from Canada. Of course, the 5-percent higher import unit prices are partly responsible for the drop.

Since most U.S. imports of potatoes are shipped from Canada, the 18-percent decline in 2005 Canadian potato production is partly reflected in reduced exports to the United States. The slowdown in U.S. import demand coincided with a 13-percent increase in U.S. export value, with the result that the 2004 trade deficit in potatoes became a trade surplus in 2005. Total U.S. potato exports in 2005 amounted to \$838 million, up from \$742 million in 2004. Export volume kept pace as well. Potato imports, however, declined less than 1 percent, to \$787 million.

Following trade deficits in 2003 and 2004, the U.S. potato sector posted a positive trade balance of \$51 million in 2005. This surplus resulted from net exports of fresh potatoes, potato chips, flakes and granules, and preserved/canned potatoes. The only potato products with negative trade balances in 2005 were frozen french fries and potato starch. Largely because of french fries, the U.S. trade position vis-à-vis Canada, the largest U.S. trading partner in potatoes, remained negative at \$392 million, but is down 22 percent from 2004's record-high \$503 million. The U.S. still has a trade surplus of \$443 million with the rest of the world, including Japan, Mexico, and China.

Figure 6
U.S. potato exports to Mexico are up sharply in value



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

Sweet Potatoes

Reduced Production Sharply Lifts Prices

Higher prices for sweet potatoes were reported for 2005, an average 12-percent gain from 2004. Although prices in smaller producer States were down by double-digit rates, prices in California, Louisiana, Mississippi, and North Carolina were all up. These four major States accounted for a combined 95 percent of U.S. sweet potato production in 2005. The preliminary 2005 season average price per hundredweight (cwt) was estimated to be nominal dollar record-high of \$19.60—more than \$2 per cwt above the average for the 2004 crop. Given that total sweet potato production was 2 percent lower in 2005, the resulting 12-percent price gain indicates that prices of sweet potatoes are highly flexible in response to a less-than-proportional change in production.

Total sweet potato shipments in 2005 from North Carolina and Louisiana were 5 percent higher than a year earlier, reflecting improved crop movement before the holidays. This seasonal increase in sales followed a period of sluggish shipments prior to the traditional holiday demand push. As a result of the increased crop movement, shipping-point prices in Louisiana began to rise in October. Although the average price of sweet potatoes in North Carolina increased 4 percent from \$13.50 per cwt in 2004 to \$14 in 2005, shipping-point prices fell in Eastern North Carolina, the State's prime growing area, as reflected in table 12 below. Shipments from that area increased 15 percent in the past marketing year—making up for a decline two years ago—and are moving at a similar strong pace this year.

In 2005, import demand for sweet potatoes was piqued by lower import unit values, which resulted in larger import volumes. Import volumes were up 23 percent for the period July 2004-June 2005, and up 10 percent through November. Import unit values were 31 cents per pound on average in 2005—5 cents lower than in 2004.

U.S. Production Value Up Even as North Carolina's Down

Fewer acres, combined with higher yields and prices, and lower production, pushed average sales per acre to more than \$3,500, a 15-percent boost from 2004. Thus, the States that increased production benefited the most in the form of higher sales revenue per acre. In North Carolina, despite 6 percent larger yields per acre, production dropped about 14 percent as a result of 19 percent fewer harvested acres.

Table 12--U.S. wholesale price indexes for sweet potatoes

Category	Calendar years					Change 2004-05 Percent
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
	-- Index, 1982=100 --					
First	197.6	188.2	195.6	--	119.1	--
Second	201.7	190.9	210.1	--	115.5	--
Third	214.3	184.4	326.1	126.2	119.1	-5.6
Fourth	194.9	192.9	259.1	124.2	109.8	-11.6
Annual 1/	202.1	189.1	247.7	125.2	115.9	-7.4

1/ Not seasonally-adjusted. Unweighted averages.

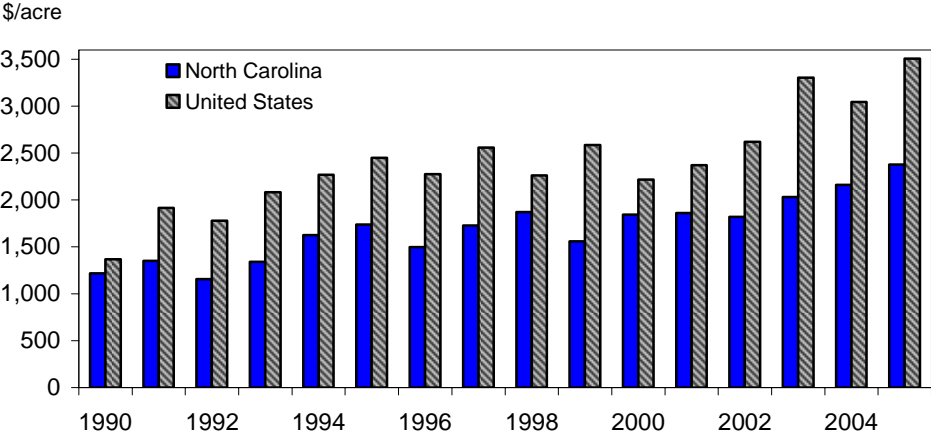
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, USDC.

While the total value of North Carolina’s production was 10 percent lower, sales per acre were 10 percent higher due to fewer harvested acres. The total value of U.S. sweet potato production in 2005 was more than \$309 million, up 10 percent from 2004. This amounts to nearly a dollar of farm value per capita for sweet potatoes in 2005. This was 7 cents more than in 2004 and more than twice that of 1990.

Higher production, but lower prices received by sweet potato farmers in 2004, led to the converse in 2005—lower production but with higher prices. This sequence of events is predictable to the extent that the dynamic elasticity of production in response to price change is less than one. That is, a percentage decline in prices in the preceding year is expected to result in lower production in the following year, albeit at less than 1-percent change. Indeed, U.S. sweet potato production declined 2 percent in 2005 in response to the 9-percent drop in 2004’s average price. Between 1990 and 2005, the elasticity of production supply with respect to price averaged 0.4. Conversely, this attests to the high flexibility of sweet potato prices in response to an opposite but smaller (unlagged) change in production, not unlike that of potatoes.

U.S. exports of sweet potatoes were up 13 percent in 2005 as shipments to Canada, the largest export market, jumped 15 percent. The export share of production volume was a record 5 percent in 2005, up from 4 percent in 2004. Lower import unit values resulted in a smaller total import value in 2005 even as import volume rose. Thus, net exports increased to a positive \$21.8 million, an 18-percent boost.

Figure 7
Sweet potatoes: Average sales per acre are rising



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Dry Beans

Modest Change in Acreage Expected in 2006

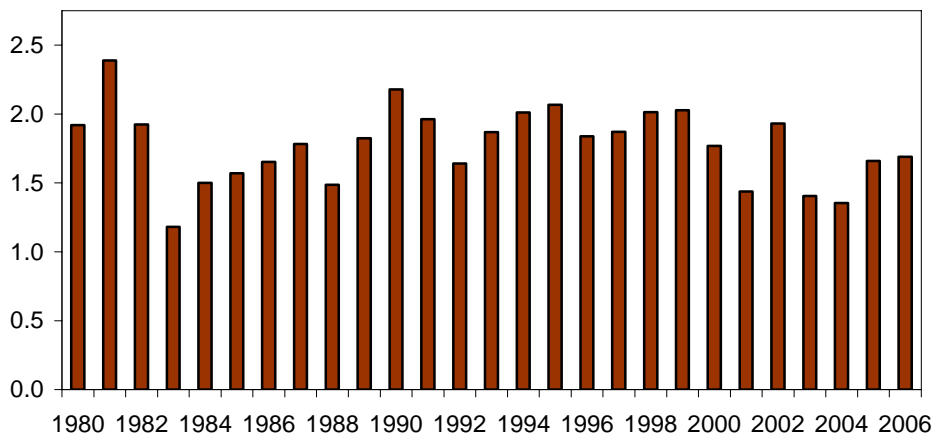
In early February, the U.S. dry edible bean market appeared to be fluctuating between an expectation of no change in planted area this spring or moving as much as 5 percent higher. Given relative market prices in early February, the area planted to dry edible beans would be expected to remain near year-earlier levels in 2006 as projected changes in acreage among the various bean classes would be largely offsetting. However, if grower bids strengthen over the next several months or prices for competing crops weaken, the potential exists for a modest increase in seeded area over last year's 1.66 million acres.

Arguing for increased acreage is a combination of lower input costs for dry beans, moderately attractive prices for dry bean classes like black, navy, garbanzo, and kidney, the fading influence of low-carb diets, and lower prices for important competing crops such as corn, soybeans, and barley. On the other side of the argument sit relatively low dry bean prices for major dry bean classes such as pinto and Great Northern and generally higher dry bean stocks stemming from last year's larger crop. As usual, the supply response to price changes (relative returns) will vary among bean classes, but the majority of bean classes are expected to experience an increase in plantings in 2006. Early analysis suggests a moderate increase in acreage is possible for black beans, light and dark red kidney beans, garbanzo beans, large limas, navy beans, and blackeye beans. However, unless significant export volume materializes this spring, acreage declines are expected for pinto and Great Northern beans, which could offset gains in other classes. The first survey-based examination of 2005 row crop area (including dry beans) will be available on March 31 when USDA/NASS releases the *Prospective Plantings* report.

Even if seeded area were to rise in 2006, this may not translate into an increase in dry bean production. In fact, assuming average weather or below, a small (3-5 percent) increase in planted acreage would still likely result in a reduction in overall dry bean output this fall. This would be due to changes in two factors: acreage

Figure 8
U.S. dry beans: Acres planted, 1980-2006

Million acres



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 13--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2005-2006

Commodity	2005		2006		Chg. prev. year:	
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb. 1/	Jan.	Feb.
	--- Cents per pound ---				--- Percent ---	
All dry beans	27.20	27.80	17.50	--	-35.7	--
Pinto (ND/MN)	32.00	31.00	13.38	13.50	-58.2	-56.5
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	26.00	26.00	18.50	18.50	-28.8	-28.8
Great Northern (NE/WY)	17.50	17.50	16.00	16.00	-8.6	-8.6
Black (MI)	18.88	20.63	21.50	21.50	13.9	4.2
Light-red kidney (MI)	27.50	27.50	21.88	22.00	-20.4	-20.0
Dark-red kidney (MN/WI)	28.50	27.75	20.50	20.50	-28.1	-26.1
Small red (ID/WA)	22.50	22.50	19.50	19.50	-13.3	-13.3
Baby lima (CA)	39.13	39.63	35.00	35.00	-10.6	-11.7
Large lima (CA)	42.00	42.00	45.00	45.00	7.1	7.1
Blackeye (CA)	28.50	28.50	40.00	40.00	40.4	40.4
Pink (ID/WA)	22.50	22.50	19.50	19.50	-13.3	-13.3
Garbanzo (ID/WA)	29.38	29.50	--	--	--	--

-- = not available. 1/ Partial month estimate.

Source: *Bean Market News*, AMS, USDA except "all dry bean" price from NASS, USDA.

abandonment and lower yields. Last fall's favorable weather allowed a greater share of seeded area to be harvested (94 percent) than both the freeze-affected 2004 crop (90 percent) and the long-term average (92 percent for 1986-2005). For 2006, acreage abandonment running at the average of the past 3 years (about 7 percent) becomes a small drag on production compared with a year earlier.

The second potentially mitigating factor on output is per acre yield. Assuming average weather this summer and fall, yields are not likely to equal or exceed those of 2005, which were above the 30-year trend. Even if trend yields were to occur this fall (the 1976-2005 trend yield for 2006 would be 17.1 cwt), per acre productivity would still not match the performance of 2005 (17.4 cwt). For comparison, the 5-year (2001-05) national average yield per harvested acre is 16.4 cwt. Taken together, these factors seem to point to a potential 2006 U.S. dry bean crop of 25 to 27 million cwt—down slightly from 27.2 million cwt of 2005.

Grower Prices Soften

Reflecting improved supplies, dealer prices and grower bids have been running below those of a year earlier for most dry bean classes. The U.S. aggregate grower price for all dry beans averaged 28 percent below a year earlier during the initial 5 months of the marketing year (September 2005 through January 2006). With the exception of black, large lima, and blackeye beans, the grower price for every major dry bean class averaged below that of a year earlier during September to January.

During this time, dealer (wholesale) prices for several of the major classes changed as follows:

- Pintos (CO), \$23.59—down 35 percent from a year earlier;
- Navy (MI), \$24.10—down 24 percent;
- Great Northern (NE), \$24.26—down 4 percent;
- Black (MI), \$26.78—down 2 percent;
- Light red kidney (MI), \$28.40—down 23 percent;
- Dark red kidney (MN), \$26.51—down 26 percent;
- Baby lima (CA), \$36.84—down 11 percent;
- Blackeye beans (CA), \$37.33—up 24 percent.

In the year, ahead, total production is expected to be at or slightly below that of a year ago, largely because of reduced pinto bean output. However, output is expected to be slightly to moderately higher for many other bean classes, which could raise stocks and pressure both grower and dealer prices. In turn, increased availability and lower prices could give a boost to export demand.

Exports Up 46 Percent

During the first 4 months of the 2005/06 marketing year (September-December), dry bean export volume increased 46 percent from the lows of a year earlier and 11 percent from 2 years earlier. Aside from dark red kidney beans, export volume was improved for every major bean class (table 14). This was the strongest September – December export volume since 2000. The leading export destinations were Mexico (27 percent of total volume), Canada (13 percent), and the United Kingdom (12 percent). The value of exports during the first 4 months of the marketing year rose 37 percent to \$70 million due to greater volume as the average unit value (export price) for all dry beans fell 7 percent from a year ago to about 27 cents per pound.

Shipments to Mexico advanced 89 percent as movement of pintos more than tripled, shipments of miscellaneous kidney beans more than doubled, and black bean volume rose 19 percent. Exports to Canada about doubled on the strength of increased navy bean (up 192 percent) and chickpea volume (up 43 percent). Exports of large lima beans to Canada were also strong, totaling over 3 million pounds during Sep-Dec 2005, compared with 615,475 pounds during the entire 2004/05 season. Exports to the United Kingdom (UK) rose 52 percent during the first 4 months of 2005/06 as navy bean shipments jumped 192 percent, accounting for 71 percent of all dry bean volume sent to the UK.

During September to December 2005, U.S. dry bean import volume dropped 13 percent from a year earlier. Volume from Canada (down 15 percent) and Mexico (down 54 percent) declined, while imports from China rose 35 percent to 13 million pounds. One third of imports from China consisted of black gram beans (also known as urd or urad), which are used in Indian dishes and also to make urad flour. Imports of black beans accounted for another 25 percent of volume from China.

Table 14--U.S. dry beans: Crop year export volume to date

Item	Crop year 2004/05	September - December			Change 2004-05 Percent
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	
		1,000 cwt			
Pinto	1,188	633	427	769	80
Navy	1,005	341	460	552	20
Black	605	474	203	235	16
Great Northern	370	256	180	194	8
Light red kidney	56	25	19	55	186
Dark red kidney	166	94	81	72	-11
Small red	137	79	29	45	55
Garbanzo	227	37	94	178	88
Baby lima	131	76	63	92	46
Large lima	128	28	59	64	9
Blackeyes	56	12	13	16	25
Cranberry	45	56	17	39	134
Other	564	258	146	312	114
Total	4,679	2,368	1,791	2,623	46

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Dry Peas and Lentils

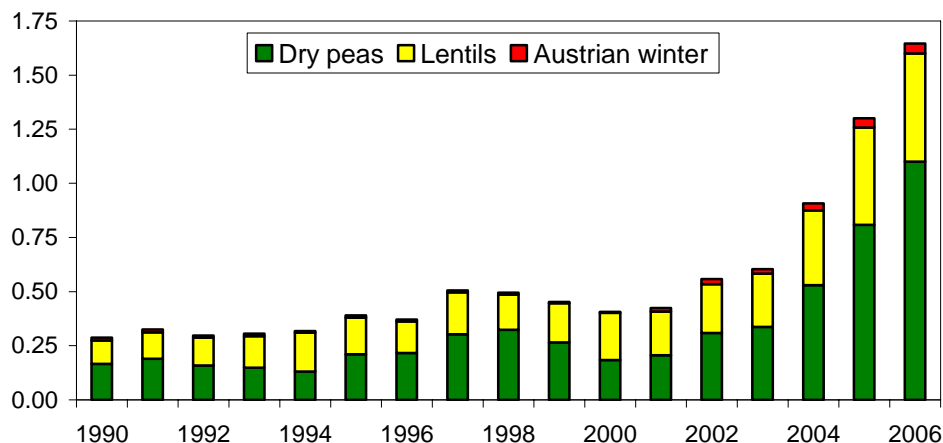
Acreage Expansion Expected To Continue in 2006

U.S. dry pea and lentil growers are again expected to seed more acreage this spring than a year ago. Area devoted to dry peas and lentils remains on a strong upward trend in the United States, especially in North Dakota and Montana, where much of this year's expansion is again expected to occur. It appears likely that U.S. area seeded to dry edible peas (largely green and yellow peas) will surpass 1 million acres in 2006—exceeding last year's 808,000 acres and the 1943 record high of 825,000 acres. Although growing more slowly, area planted to lentils may also exceed last year's record high of 450,000 acres by about a tenth. With attractive loan rates, estimated market and government returns above variable costs for 2006 continue to favor lentils and dry peas over alternative crops such as wheat, particularly durum. Thus, subject to rotational limits and seed availability, growers may choose to plant dry peas and lentils over crops such as wheat in 2006. The first USDA release indicating 2006 acreage for dry peas and lentils will be released in the July 12 *Crop Production* report.

Figure 9

U.S. dry peas and lentils: Acres planted, 1990-2006

Million acres



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 15--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Production by class, 2001-2005

Item	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change 2004-05
						Percent
			--1,000 cwt--			
Dry peas	3,763	4,727	5,202	11,419	14,003	22.6
Austrian winter peas	103	183	174	291	307	5.5
Chickpeas, all	1,612	861	417	593	1,071	80.6
Small	--	--	60	76	149	96.1
Large	--	--	357	517	922	78.3
Lentils	2,898	2,571	2,442	4,182	5,163	23.5
Total	8,376	8,342	8,235	16,485	20,544	24.6
Wrinkled seed peas	640	599	673	899	755	-16.0

-- = not available.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 16--Idaho/Washington dry peas and lentils: Monthly prices by class, 2005-2006

Commodity	2005		2006		Chg. prev. year:	
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb. 1/	Nov.	Dec.
	--- Cents per pound ---				--- Percent ---	
<i>Dealer prices:</i>						
Green peas, whole	10.31	10.69	8.29	8.75	-19.6	-18.1
Yellow peas, whole	9.69	9.69	8.00	8.00	-17.4	-17.4
Green peas, split	13.31	13.16	10.88	11.38	-18.3	-13.5
Yellow peas, split	12.25	12.44	10.81	11.00	-11.8	-11.6
Lentils, brewer	19.31	18.75	15.56	15.25	-19.4	-18.7
Lentils, pardina	19.44	18.53	16.75	16.75	-13.8	-9.6
Austrian winter peas	15.06	14.56	--	--	--	--
<i>Grower prices:</i>						
Green peas, whole	6.72	6.91	5.13	5.44	-23.7	-21.3
Yellow peas, whole	6.03	6.00	4.75	4.94	-21.2	-17.7
Lentils, brewer	14.50	14.19	10.38	10.38	-28.4	-26.8
Lentils, pardina	14.31	14.09	12.38	12.38	-13.5	-12.1
Austrian winter peas	9.88	9.38	--	6.75	--	--

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for February 2006 are partial-month averages.

Source: Adapted from weekly data provided by the *Bean Market News*, AMS, USDA.

Crop Value Down in 2005/06

Based on preliminary estimates of season average prices, the value of all U.S. dry pea and lentil production totaled \$139 million in 2005/06—down 3 percent from the record high of 2004/05. Crop value for all dry peas (dry peas, Austrian winter peas, wrinkled seed peas, and small chickpeas) fell 4 percent to \$80 million as sharply higher production was outweighed by lower prices. The value of lentil output declined 3 percent to \$59 million as lower prices outweighed larger output. Season-average lentil prices declined 19 percent to \$11.70/cwt in 2005/06—compared with an average of \$15.80/cwt over the previous 2 years.

July-December Export Volume Surges

U.S. export volume (including food aid) of all dry peas and lentils (excluding seed) jumped 145 percent during the first 6 months (July-December) of the 2005/06 crop marketing year to 6.98 million cwt. All dry pea and lentil exports increased during the first half of the marketing year except split pea exports, which declined 18 percent. Chickpea export volume jumped 75 percent as a larger U.S. crop, lower supplies in Canada, and the weaker dollar aided exporters. With large supplies, lower prices, and drought in Spain, whole yellow pea (up 218 percent) and whole green pea (up 36 percent) exports also increased.

Lentil exports were up 194 percent to 217 million pounds during July-Dec 2005. Although the marketing year is only half over, lentil exports are fast approaching the 2002/03 record high of 233 million pounds. The leading destinations have been Ethiopia, Spain, and the United Arab Emirates. Food aid shipments to Ethiopia totaled 93 million pounds through December—accounting for 43 percent of all overseas movement. Sales to Spain were up 14 percent from a year earlier, accounting for 13 percent of 2005/06 volume to date. With large domestic supplies, lower prices, and a more favorable exchange rate, overseas movement of U.S. dry peas and lentils is expected to remain strong in the coming months.

Table 17--U.S. dry peas & lentils: Trade volume by class, July-December 1/

Item	Crop year 2004/05	July - December			Change 2004-05 Percent
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	
--1,000 cwt--					
<i>Exports:</i>					
Green peas	2,450.5	714.1	1,017.9	1,386.8	36
Yellow peas	1,353.1	256.6	333.4	1,058.9	218
Split peas	218.6	47.9	111.3	91.5	-18
Austrian winter	10.4	8.6	5.7	13.5	136
Misc. dry peas	621.3	114.2	517.9	2,050.9	296
Chickpeas, all	220.2	66.3	120.5	210.8	75
Lentils, all	1,797.9	793.2	738.8	2,171.5	194
Total	6,671.8	2,001.0	2,845.5	6,983.8	145
<i>Imports:</i>					
Green peas	98.0	109.4	61.6	108.5	76
Yellow peas	118.4	34.5	23.9	47.2	97
Split peas	293.1	128.6	160.0	136.2	-15
Austrian winter	1.6	0.5	0.9	1.4	47
Misc. dry peas	104.8	30.7	38.4	67.6	76
Chickpeas, all	241.4	100.2	140.1	101.6	-27
Lentils, all	178.6	89.9	93.7	124.6	33
Total	1,035.9	493.8	518.6	587.1	13

1/ Excludes planting seed.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Price Support Activity

Through February 14, with lentil posted prices remaining below the loan rate all season, there were 2,355 requests for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) covering 3.06 million cwt of the 2005 crop. With an average payment rate of \$1.64 per cwt, the value of these LDPs was \$5.01 million. Thus far, North Dakota has accounted for 38 percent of the 2005-crop lentil LDP volume, followed by Washington (25 percent), Montana (24 percent), and Idaho (13 percent). Nonrecourse loan activity was also strong for 2005-crop lentils, with 272 loans made on a total of 1.09 million cwt (valued at \$12.8 million) as of February 14. Montana accounted for 72 percent of loan volume, followed by North Dakota with 25 percent.

For dry peas, posted prices have also remained below loan rates during the entire season. As a result (like last year), growers appear to be well on their way to requesting LDPs for virtually the entire crop (819,490 cwt was placed under loan instead of opting for LDPs). Requested loan deficiency payments for 2005-crop dry peas have totaled \$33.05 million on a volume of 13.97 million cwt. The quantity for which LDPs and nonrecourse loans were received has nearly equaled USDA-NASS production estimates for dry peas, wrinkled seed peas, and Austrian peas. It is likely volume will eventually exceed those estimates since LDPs are available for miscellaneous dry pea crops not estimated by USDA-NASS and because USDA-NASS production estimates only cover the major producing States, excluding thousands of acres scattered across a number of States. For example, about \$1.9 million in dry pea LDPs or nonrecourse loans have been made in South Dakota, a State not included in the USDA/NASS dry pea and lentil estimates program.

Small chickpea (desi and small-sieve kabuli) 2005-crop LDPs totaled \$291,571 through February 14. No nonrecourse loans had been made to this point. Demand for chickpeas is good, and prices are rising and may exceed the loan rate this spring.

Commodity Highlight: Chile Peppers

The U.S. produces 4 percent of the world's sweet and pungent (chile) peppers, ranking sixth behind China, Mexico, Turkey, Indonesia, and Spain. 1/ Output of all peppers in China has been rising steadily over the past decade, moving from one-third of world output in 1993-95 to one-half of production during 2003-05. During this time, output of sweet and pungent peppers more than doubled in Mexico, reflecting duty-free export opportunities (afforded by NAFTA) to expanding markets in Canada and the United States.

Chile peppers, which can range from very pungent (hot) to relatively mild, likely originated in South America and were brought to Europe by Columbus. Like tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant, and tobacco, chile peppers are part of the nightshade (solanaceous) family. Chile peppers and sweet (bell) peppers are related in that most cultivated chile peppers and bell peppers belong to the species called *Capsicum annuum*. Although the fruit of the chile pepper is considered a vegetable, in botanical circles chile peppers are deemed berries. 2/

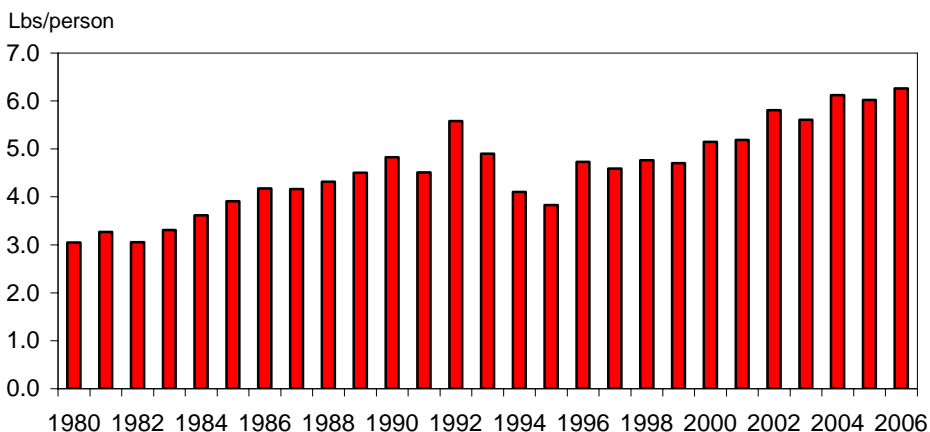
Over the last decade, U.S. disappearance (use) of chile peppers has increased by 38 percent, moving from an annual average fresh-weight equivalent of 4.3 pounds per person during 1993-95 to 5.9 pounds during 2003-05. On a fresh-weight basis, consumers in the United States now use more chile peppers than many traditional vegetables, including asparagus (1.3 pounds), cauliflower (2.1 pounds), and green peas (3.3 pounds). The trend in chile consumption remains positive this decade, with average use during the first 6 years of the 2000s just below the growth experienced during the 1990s (when use rose 25 percent from the 1980s). Chile peppers were one of the fastest growing specialty produce items of the late 1980s and early 1990s and remain popular today. This is an illustration of the changing American diet, the quest for alternative flavors and coloring agents, and the growing influence of a diverse immigrant population.

Chile Is Grown in 49 States

According to the Census of Agriculture, 4,748 farms harvested chile peppers from 42,666 acres in 2002. This was up from 2,087 farms and 27,990 acres in 1987, with most of the gain in acreage occurring during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Figure 10

U.S. chile peppers: Per capita disappearance, 1980-2006



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

1/ FAOStat database (1/2006), Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations.

2/ Bosland, Paul. "Capsicums: Innovative Uses of an Ancient Crop." Chapter in "Progress In New Crops." Edited by Jules Janick. ASHS Press. 1996.

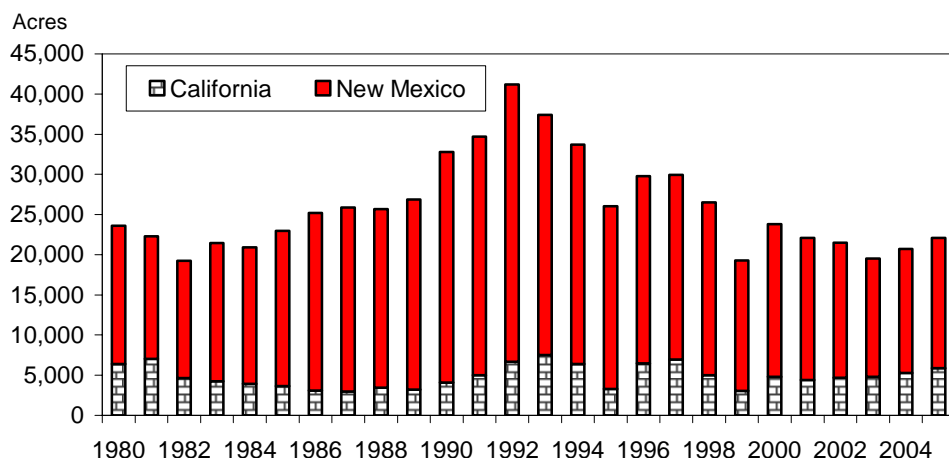
Chile? What's In a Name?

Confusion over terminology began with Columbus, who gave peppers their name thinking that they were the black peppercorns of the Indies. The genus for peppers, *Capsicum*, includes both sweet varieties, commonly called bell peppers, and hot varieties usually known as chile peppers. As for spelling, in the industry, chile generally means the hot pepper, chili refers to the spicy meat and bean dish, and chilli is the ground spice containing chiles.

Another confusion is mistaking a whole species or type of chile pepper for a single cultivar. The five domesticated species in the pepper genus, *C. annuum*, *C. frutescens*, *C. chinense*, *C. pubescens*, and *C. baccatum*, contain dozens of pod types and hundreds of cultivars. Except for the tabasco chile pepper in the *C. frutescens* species and the habanero and Scotch Bonnet in *C. chinense*, most chile peppers fall into the *C. annuum* species.

Figure 11

U.S. chile peppers: Harvested area in New Mexico and California



Sources: From 1980-1999, New Mexico Agricultural Statistics Service and California County Agricultural Commissioners. After 1999, NASS, USDA.

National chile pepper harvested area has drifted lower since peaking in 1992 at 50,851 acres. Like sweet bell peppers, a small volume of chile peppers is also produced in greenhouses.

In 2002, every State except Alaska reported having at least one farm growing chile peppers. While 54 percent of all chile acreage is harvested for processing (canning, drying/dehydrating, freezing) in the United States, only 7 percent of farms with chile peppers harvest for processing. New Mexico accounts for 50 percent of all chile acreage devoted to processing, followed by California (16 percent), Texas (13 percent), and Arizona (6 percent). By inference, the leading fresh-market States are New Mexico with 25 percent of fresh-market area and California with 20 percent. Florida, Texas, and Georgia follow--each with about 7 percent of fresh-market chile area.

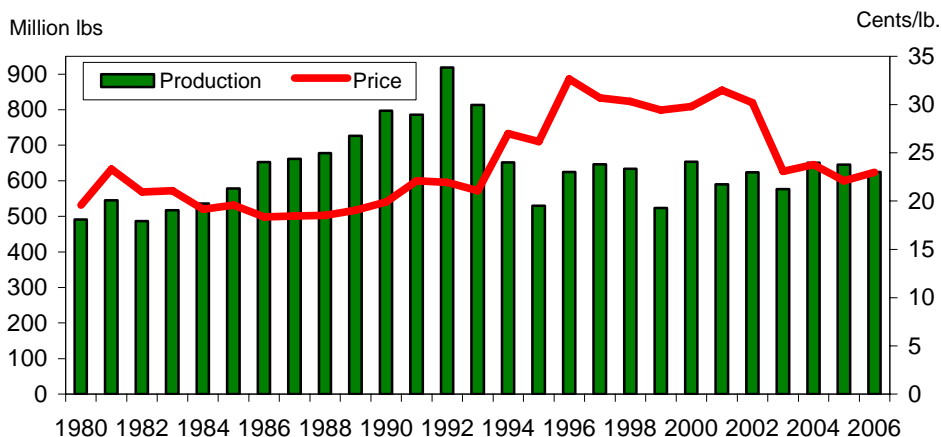
From 2001 to 2005, farm cash receipts for chile peppers averaged \$113 million, with New Mexico accounting for about 41 percent. The national chile pepper crop value is estimated by ERS to be undercounted by 30 percent, since only the top 4 States (NM, CA, AZ, TX) in terms of acreage are included in the annual NASS production and value survey. The retail (consumer) value of chile peppers is not reported but estimates based on farm-retail value margins for bell peppers suggest it may exceed \$500 million.

New Mexico Is Top Chile Producer

According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, chile peppers were harvested on 282 farms in New Mexico. In fact, the largest concentration of chile acreage in the United States is in southern New Mexico, centered largely in the Hatch valley and outside the city of Las Cruces. The counties of Luna, Dona Ana, and Hidalgo account for about three-quarters of the State's chile acreage. According to the 2002 census, New Mexico harvests 39 percent of all chile pepper acreage in the United States, with 71 percent of its area earmarked for processing. Grower receipts from the sale of chile peppers averaged \$46 million annually during 2002-04, accounting for 8 percent of the State's crop cash receipts.

Figure 12

U.S. chile peppers: Production and average grower price, 1990-2005 1/



1/ Prices not adjusted for inflation. Those prior to 2000 are based on New Mexico prices.
 Source: ERS estimates based on available State data and NASS estimates.

California also has substantial chile pepper acreage, with 5,210 acres harvested on about 396 farms. Chile production is disbursed widely within the State, with about one-third in Monterey county and substantial area in both Ventura and Santa Clara counties. Production for the fresh market is dominant, accounting for about three-fourths of output. California chile pepper cash receipts averaged \$45 million annually during 2002-04, boosted by fresh market sales, which have much higher unit values than product for processing.

Arizona chile pepper area totaled 4,955 acres and was produced on 58 farms, according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Most of the production (about 81 percent) takes place in the southeastern county of Cochise and is largely grown for processing. The farm value of the Arizona chile pepper crop averaged about \$8 million annually during 2002-04.

Texas (459 farms and 4,350 acres) and Florida (77 farms and 1,460 acres) are also important chile pepper States. While two-thirds of the Texas crop is processed, virtually all Florida chiles are shipped into the fresh market. In 2004, Florida shipped more than 27 million pounds of chile peppers, with most volume moving during the spring and fall seasons.

Chile Peppers Are Hot

Chile peppers can be processed into a variety of food and industrial products. A versatile crop, when chiles are consumed in dried forms, they are considered (and used as) a spice. However, chiles are consumed not only as a food or a spice; they also have other interesting and important uses. Some of these uses (described below) are derived from a unique compound found in chile plants called capsaicin (chemical name *trans-8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonenamide*). This substance is the source of the sometimes memorable burning sensation that usually occurs after biting into a chile pepper. Pepper pungency is rated in terms of "Scoville heat units." At the bottom of the list is the bell pepper, which has no capsaicin and is rated at zero on the Scoville heat unit scale of pungency. The popular Jalapeno pepper ranges from 2,000 to 25,000 units and Tabasco peppers (*Capsicum*

frutescens) range between 60,000 to 80,000 units. The Habenero and Scotch Bonnet chile peppers (both *Capsicum chinense* species) are considered to be among the hottest in the world and are rated as high as 1 million Scoville units. The best antidote to capsaicin's heat is said to be milk, since a protein in milk helps to douse the peppery fire.

As in sweet (bell) peppers, red and green chiles come from the same plant but are picked at different stages of maturity (red is the mature stage). For most major varieties (although not all), chile in the red stage is not as pungent (hot) as when green. Green chile is used primarily fresh or for canning and less commonly for freezing. Red chiles are primarily used in salsas, for dehydrating, or as a dried whole product with small quantities frozen, sold fresh, or used decoratively. Some fresh red chile peppers are dried and used to make strings and wreath-like good luck charms called ristras. In the southwestern U.S. and into Mexico, it is considered a good omen to hang a ristra on your front door. Ristras are also popular as tourist souvenirs in New Mexico.

Chile peppers are also used to produce food coloring agents, ornamental strings and wreaths, and have been closely studied for their pain-killing and germicidal properties. Dyes made from red chile peppers are natural and safe food coloring agents used in many products, including salad dressings, meat products, cosmetics, and clothing. Capsaicin creams and salves derived from chile pepper extracts are used for relief of pain known as neuralgia, and are also effective for temporary relief of pain from osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.

Americans have been consuming chile peppers in a myriad of salsas, hot sauces, Southwestern-style foods such as enchiladas, tamales, huevos rancheros, and many other chile-enhanced vegetable entrees. In addition to adding zest and flavor to various dishes, chile peppers can be very nutritious, with strong vitamin C content in fresh peppers, good vitamin A (especially in dried red peppers), and various antioxidant properties.

In processing for canning or freezing, chile peppers are first peeled (using a blanching steam) because the peel is not digestible by humans. According to the Pickle Packers International, there are a variety of pungent pickled pepper products such as fiery jalapeños, hot green and red cherry peppers, mildly hot pepperoncini, and golden pickled banana peppers. Cayenne peppers are small, pungent chile peppers that are ground to a fine powder to produce a seasoning known as red pepper. Chili powder is made from mildly hot varieties. Paprika, which means pepper in Hungarian, is a red pepper spice produced from any one of a variety of bright-red, mild peppers. As a spice, paprika can be mild or hot, depending on the manufacturer. Paprika is also widely used as a food coloring agent in processed meats, soups, cheeses, and other foods.

Chile Imports Expanding

Trade in chile peppers centers around fresh and dried spice products. Although dried/dehydrated pepper exports have been rising in recent years, fresh-market pepper exports are not broken down by sweet and pungent types. ERS estimates suggest chile pepper exports are relatively small compared with imports, with about 7 percent of total U.S. chile pepper supply exported. Meanwhile, trade data (expressed on a fresh-equivalent basis) indicate that imports accounted for 72

Table 18--U.S. chile pepper import value, 2002-05 1/

Item	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change
					2004-05 Percent
-- Million dollars --					
<i>Fresh market:</i>	167.7	208.7	226.5	236.6	4
Mexico	166.9	197.0	213.0	234.6	10
Canada	0.1	9.8	11.1	0.4	-96
Others	0.6	1.9	2.5	1.6	-37
<i>Dried/dehydrated: 2/</i>	79.6	76.7	84.5	81.3	-4
Mexico	28.3	25.2	19.5	25.2	29
India	18.5	16.6	22.8	20.1	-12
China	14.4	16.1	20.7	17.8	-14
Others	18.4	18.8	21.4	18.2	-15
<i>Canned: 3/</i>	11.6	13.2	14.7	19.1	30
Mexico	6.3	6.3	6.8	9.0	33
Turkey	0.6	1.2	2.6	3.6	38
Peru	0.2	0.3	1.2	2.5	104
Others	4.5	5.4	4.1	3.9	-4

1/ U.S. customs value. 2/ Excludes paprika powder. 3/ Excludes pimientos.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

percent of domestic supply during 2003-05. Because of rising domestic import demand for both fresh-market and manufacturing (food and other) uses, import penetration has steadily increased over the past two decades, with the share of domestic use coming from imports moving up to current levels from 37 percent during 1983-85 and 44 percent during 1993-05.

Compared with vegetables such as bell peppers and tomatoes, seasonal variation in chile pepper imports is relatively small, reflecting consistent monthly domestic demand. On average over the past 5 years, there was a slight dip in chile import volume during the spring, likely reflecting peak pepper production in Florida. Fresh chile pepper imports tend to be strongest during the summer months prior to harvest in major producing States such as New Mexico.

Imports have helped meet the accelerating demand for chile peppers. The U.S. imported 425 million pounds of fresh chile peppers in 2005, about 82 percent more than a decade earlier. Also, dried and dehydrated chile pepper spice imports more than doubled during this period and were valued at over \$81 million (excluding paprika).

Mexico, one of the largest consumers and producers of chile peppers in the world, provides 99 percent of U.S. fresh-market chile imports. Most of Mexico's chile pepper production is in the northwestern coastal plain states of Sinaloa and Sonora where much of the export-oriented vegetable production is located. Chihuahua, an irrigated producing region bordering New Mexico and Texas, is also a source of chile peppers shipped to the United States.

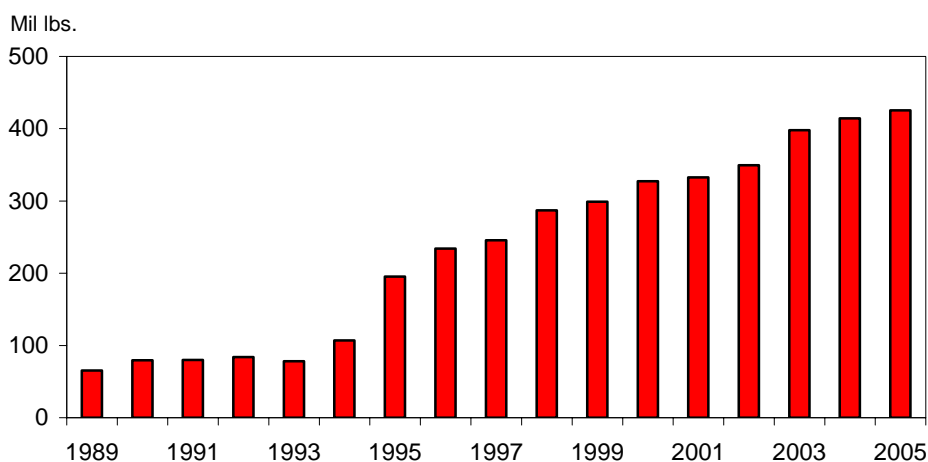
Although Mexico is also the leading source for imported chile pepper spices, accounting for \$25 million of the total in 2005, other areas of the world are important. India and China are also important sources for dried and dehydrated chile pepper products. In terms of customs import value, the top five sources of

dried chile pepper spices in 2005 were Mexico (31 percent), India (25 percent), China (22 percent), Peru (7 percent), and Chile (3 percent). In 2004, India was the top source in terms of dried/dehydrated chile spice valued at \$23 million.

The U.S. also imported \$19 million in canned chile peppers, led by Mexico (47 percent), Turkey (19 percent), and Peru (13 percent). Although paprika is not generally considered a chile pepper product since it is usually extracted from mild peppers such as the pimiento, about \$7 million in extracted oleresins (essential oils and resinoids) from paprika were imported in 2005, with most coming from India (77 percent) and Spain (15 percent).

Figure 13

Fresh-market chile peppers: U.S. import volume, 1989-2005



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

Table 19--U.S. chile peppers, all uses: Estimated supply, disappearance, and price

Year	Supply			Utilization			Season-avg. price		
	Production 1/	Imports 2/	Total	Exports 2/	Domestic 3/	Per capita use 4/	Current dollars 1/	Constant dollars 5/	
	-- Million pounds, fresh-w eight --						Pounds	-- \$/cwt --	
1985	578.7	361.5	940.2	7.7	932.5	3.91	7.03	10.09	
1990	797.5	463.7	1,261.2	52.8	1,208.4	4.83	7.16	8.77	
2000	653.9	910.4	1,564.3	109.4	1,454.9	5.15	29.80	29.80	
2001	589.9	1,029.6	1,619.5	137.6	1,481.9	5.19	31.50	30.76	
2002	624.4	1,177.1	1,801.5	127.2	1,674.3	5.81	30.20	29.01	
2003	576.8	1,196.9	1,773.7	140.1	1,633.6	5.61	23.10	21.79	
2004	651.1	1,276.5	1,927.6	129.7	1,797.9	6.12	23.80	22.00	
2005 f	645.8	1,249.9	1,895.7	112.3	1,783.4	6.02	22.10	20.04	
2006 f	625.0	1,377.0	2,002.0	129.0	1,873.0	6.26	--	--	

-- = Not available. f = ERS forecast. 1/ Source: ERS based on NASS, USDA data. 2/ Converted to a fresh-w eight (w et) basis by ERS from data provided by the Bureau of the Census, USDC. Trade includes fresh, canned, and dried/dehydrated products. Excludes paprika and pimientos. 3/ Domestic disappearance for all uses, including shrink and loss. 4/ Expressed on a fresh-w eight equivalent basis. To convert to dry-w eight, divide by 8. 5/ Constant dollar prices calculated using the GDP deflator, 2000=100.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

Contacts and Links

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Covers potatoes, sweet potatoes, long-run outlook

Subscription Information

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Articles

The following are links to articles released on subjects directly related to the vegetable and melon industry. These articles are in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format:

1. *How Much Do Americans Pay for Fruits and Vegetables?*

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FruitVegetableCosts/>

One argument as to why Americans eat too few fruit and vegetables is that they are expensive, especially when purchased fresh. This analysis uses ACNielsen HomeScan data to estimate a per-pound retail price for various produce items. The analysis suggests consumers can meet the recommendations of three servings of fruits and four servings of vegetables daily for 64 cents.

2. *Greenhouse Tomatoes Change the Dynamics of the North American Fresh Tomato Industry*

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR2/>

The North American greenhouse tomato industry has grown rapidly since the early 1990s and now plays a major role in the fresh tomato industry. However, relatively little is known about this new industry, in part because of the lack of reliable production, trade, and price data. Both analysts and industry members will benefit from a more comprehensive understanding of the rising greenhouse industry and its effect on the entire fresh field tomato sector.

3. *Understanding Fruit and Vegetable Choices—Research Briefs*

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aib792/>

USDA's Food Guide Pyramid recommends 2-4 servings of fruit and 3-5 servings of vegetables daily. As a member of the 5-A-Day public-private partnership, USDA partners with other government agencies and private sector groups to promote the health benefits of fruits and vegetables. Yet consumption of these healthful foods still does not meet dietary recommendations. How can we better understand the reasons for the persistent difficulty in increasing produce consumption? This series of research briefs provides information on the economic, social, and behavioral factors influencing consumers' fruit and vegetable choices.

E-mail Notification

Readers of ERS outlook reports have two ways to receive an e-mail notice about release of reports and associated data.

- Receive timely notification (soon after the report is posted on the web) via USDA's Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (which is housed at Cornell University's Mann Library). Go to http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/ess_netid.html and follow the instructions to receive e-mail notices about ERS, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board products.

- Receive weekly notification (on Friday afternoon) via the ERS website. Go to <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Updates/> and follow the instructions to receive notices about ERS outlook reports, Amber Waves magazine, and other reports and data products on specific topics. ERS also offers RSS (really simple syndication) feeds for all ERS products. Go to <http://www.ers.usda.gov/rss/> to get started.

4. Price Premiums Hold on as U.S. Organic Produce Market Expands

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/vgs/may05/VGS30801/>

Price premiums for organic products have contributed to growth in certified organic farmland and, ultimately, market expansion. This article explores price premiums and market margins for a limited set of fresh organic produce items, including carrots, broccoli, and mesclun mix.

Data Tables

The following links provide the most recent data on vegetables and melons. You may choose links for Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) table compilations or the original Excel workbook (spreadsheet) tables:

1. Per capita use (consumption)

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/percap.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/percap.xls>

2. Vegetable prices

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/price.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/price.xls>

3. Fresh vegetables and melons

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/fresh.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/fresh.xls>

4. Processing vegetables

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/proc.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/proc.xls>

5. Potatoes

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/potat.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/potat.xls>

6. Sweet potatoes

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/swpot.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/swpot.xls>

7. Dry edible beans

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drybn.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drybn.xls>

8. Mushrooms

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/mush.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/mush.xls>

9. Vegetable and melon trade

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/trade.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/trade.xls>

10. Dry peas and lentils

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drypea.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drypea.xls>

11. World vegetable production and harvested area

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/world.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/world.xls>

12. Mexican and Canadian vegetable production

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Mexcan.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Mexcan.xls>

13. U.S. farm cash receipts and cost indicators

PDF file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Receipt.pdf>

Excel file: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Receipt.xls>

Web Sites

A. Vegetables and Melons: ERS' Vegetables and Melons Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/vegetables/>

B. Potatoes: ERS' Potato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/potatoes/>

C. Tomatoes: ERS' Tomato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/tomatoes/>

D. Dry Beans: ERS' Dry Bean Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/drybeans/>

E. USDA Market News: Agricultural Marketing Service's web site containing fresh shipments, f.o.b. and terminal market prices, weekly truck rates, annual reports, and more.

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/mnacs/index.htm>

F. NASS Vegetables: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's annual & quarterly reports on vegetables & melons.

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/fruit/pvg-bb/>

G. FAS, HTP: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's Horticultural and Tropical Products web site.

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/htp/default.htm>

H. Organic Farming and Marketing: USDA, ERS Briefing Room contains articles, data, graphics, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Organic/>

I. Truck Rate Report: USDA, AMS weekly report on cost of shipping by trailer truck.

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/wa_fv190.txt

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Price table 1—Commercial vegetables and potatoes: Indexes of prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1995-2006 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1910-14=100--														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1995	803	772	989	1,161	1,037	808	653	680	781	651	658	678	806
	1996	631	742	986	818	691	774	661	775	679	727	747	643	740
	1997	740	700	789	754	710	751	747	817	794	971	817	911	792
	1998	816	775	837	1,042	859	736	806	764	760	886	756	779	818
	1999	702	749	806	870	786	732	696	709	700	650	654	776	736
	2000	656	572	719	907	874	785	795	862	958	835	964	769	808
	2001	810	980	923	916	964	805	837	968	894	688	731	1,144	888
	2002	1,054	1,283	1,816	803	770	731	771	807	795	704	735	694	914
	2003	752	755	824	865	924	1,015	797	920	964	955	1,041	1,171	915
	2004	842	960	770	879	749	742	830	886	899	1,065	1,110	805	878
	2005	635	805	1,095	1,225	894	938	761	798	881	764	787	1,128	893
2006	917													
Potatoes 3/	1995	466	450	484	505	529	612	729	586	497	539	548	547	541
	1996	564	589	633	668	696	707	700	521	482	461	452	434	576
	1997	426	431	433	433	477	431	499	544	440	433	457	477	457
	1998	491	524	554	546	559	539	517	481	449	415	450	475	500
	1999	489	497	520	546	532	557	610	517	451	429	474	463	507
	2000	475	496	519	545	529	511	559	464	406	384	383	395	472
	2001	409	450	437	466	453	486	532	632	516	461	538	578	497
	2002	620	645	715	699	748	806	884	651	520	466	524	547	652
	2003	533	554	567	592	590	559	570	483	458	443	479	493	527
	2004	488	504	530	568	558	558	552	485	492	450	486	510	515
	2005	531	533	560	564	616	675	743	591	524	484	537	584	579
2006	582													
--1990-92=100--														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1995	120	116	148	174	155	121	98	102	117	97	98	101	121
	1996	94	111	147	122	103	116	99	116	102	109	112	96	111
	1997	111	105	118	113	106	112	112	122	119	145	122	136	118
	1998	122	116	125	156	129	110	121	114	114	133	113	117	123
	1999	105	112	121	130	118	110	104	106	105	97	98	116	110
	2000	98	86	107	136	131	117	119	129	143	125	144	115	121
	2001	121	147	138	137	144	120	125	145	134	103	109	171	133
	2002	158	192	272	120	115	109	115	121	119	105	110	104	137
	2003	112	113	123	129	138	152	119	138	144	143	156	175	137
	2004	126	144	115	131	112	111	124	133	134	159	166	121	131
	2005	95	121	164	183	134	140	114	119	132	114	118	169	134
2006	137													
Potatoes 3/	1995	92	89	96	100	105	121	144	116	98	106	108	108	107
	1996	111	116	125	132	138	140	138	103	95	91	89	86	114
	1997	84	85	86	85	94	85	99	107	87	85	90	94	90
	1998	97	104	109	108	111	106	102	95	89	82	89	94	99
	1999	97	98	103	108	105	110	121	102	89	85	94	91	100
	2000	94	98	103	108	105	101	110	92	80	76	76	78	93
	2001	81	89	86	92	90	96	105	125	102	91	106	114	98
	2002	123	127	141	138	148	159	175	129	103	92	104	108	129
	2003	105	110	112	117	117	110	113	96	90	87	95	97	104
	2004	96	100	105	112	110	110	109	96	97	89	96	101	102
	2005	105	105	111	111	122	133	147	117	104	96	106	115	114
2006	115													

1/ Prices for 2006 are preliminary. 2/ Includes fresh and processing vegetables. 3/ Includes fresh potatoes and dry edible beans.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Price table 2—Fresh vegetables: U.S. monthly and season-average f.o.b. shipping-point prices, 2001-2006 1/

Commodity	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average	Change Jan.-Jan.	Change 4th quarter
		--Dollars per cwt--													Percent	Percent
Asparagus	2001	219.00	256.00	147.00	146.00	114.00	117.00	176.00	145.00	--	137.00	129.00	--	140.00	--	--
	2002	218.00	162.00	119.00	99.60	112.00	107.00	146.00	--	--	--	--	--	110.00	--	--
	2003	98.90	96.30	104.00	130.00	85.60	68.10	189.00	132.00	166.00	145.00	128.00	--	105.00	--	--
	2004	--	271.00	121.00	124.00	104.00	104.00	86.70	231.00	218.00	204.00	201.00	--	122.00	--	47.3
	2005	--	--	95.90	114.00	77.30	82.30	155.00	162.00	175.00	175.00	--	--	97.50	--	-12.9
	2006	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Broccoli	2001	22.70	32.30	24.70	26.90	25.50	27.00	23.60	27.10	22.90	24.20	21.40	56.10	26.50	--	--
	2002	57.00	44.30	33.70	24.00	20.80	28.40	27.00	29.60	40.60	24.00	31.80	25.60	31.40	151.1	-20.0
	2003	25.80	29.10	28.10	27.10	29.70	24.60	27.00	29.80	49.10	38.90	42.60	52.60	32.70	-54.7	64.7
	2004	33.60	28.50	21.60	24.00	27.20	28.70	24.20	29.70	57.00	43.90	43.70	38.50	33.20	30.2	-6.0
	2005	22.60	33.30	42.60	39.80	22.40	39.70	22.40	30.50	27.70	22.40	20.90	22.00	28.50	-32.7	-48.2
	2006	23.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.8	--
Cantaloups	2001	--	--	--	--	27.10	14.60	18.80	22.00	13.50	15.60	19.40	23.70	19.00	--	--
	2002	--	--	--	--	25.00	12.90	17.00	16.10	14.80	19.40	14.60	20.00	17.70	--	-8.0
	2003	--	--	--	--	24.30	14.40	16.40	15.70	14.20	17.10	26.70	19.80	16.80	--	17.8
	2004	--	--	--	--	15.30	12.10	11.00	14.30	15.50	14.80	18.30	33.80	14.70	--	5.2
	2005	--	--	--	--	20.20	16.70	10.80	8.10	11.00	12.90	15.90	11.00	13.60	--	-40.5
	2006	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carrots	2001	15.90	16.70	17.30	17.30	17.60	19.80	21.70	19.90	15.50	17.40	18.40	19.30	17.10	--	--
	2002	19.30	19.70	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.60	20.60	20.10	18.10	17.90	18.70	19.50	19.10	21.4	1.8
	2003	19.30	19.10	18.70	19.40	19.90	19.90	19.90	20.40	19.50	18.80	21.30	24.30	19.00	0.0	14.8
	2004	24.50	24.90	24.60	24.20	24.90	22.50	20.20	18.00	16.70	16.20	17.30	17.00	20.20	26.9	-21.6
	2005	20.30	21.00	21.00	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.80	21.40	20.00	21.40	23.10	22.00	20.90	-17.1	31.7
	2006	21.80	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7.4	--
Cauliflower	2001	26.00	37.30	23.60	46.50	26.30	37.40	25.60	25.70	24.80	21.70	22.50	56.60	29.20	--	--
	2002	61.50	39.00	37.10	23.70	20.80	28.40	27.50	30.40	41.30	24.10	30.90	28.70	32.20	136.5	-17.0
	2003	24.50	30.60	33.20	27.50	39.50	46.30	27.70	24.90	40.40	25.80	57.00	80.00	35.10	-60.2	94.5
	2004	27.20	42.20	24.20	23.50	28.80	46.20	27.50	26.00	31.00	32.20	27.10	40.90	30.80	11.0	-38.5
	2005	27.70	38.20	50.60	36.70	29.70	38.10	25.60	31.50	28.50	19.70	25.50	43.90	30.30	1.8	-11.1
	2006	22.90	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-17.3	--
Celery	2001	14.60	15.00	15.80	19.10	24.00	33.70	13.50	9.28	9.38	8.19	8.64	9.62	14.40	--	--
	2002	10.10	19.50	23.50	18.60	12.30	9.37	10.90	10.90	11.70	9.98	14.10	10.20	12.80	-30.8	29.6
	2003	8.29	11.80	12.60	17.00	11.00	9.34	12.70	11.80	13.30	15.90	20.60	15.30	13.40	-17.9	51.1
	2004	20.80	24.40	13.90	15.60	15.00	13.80	11.60	9.25	11.20	14.60	18.10	13.40	14.80	150.9	-11.0
	2005	12.90	22.90	28.40	20.80	15.50	9.62	10.00	10.80	12.80	12.20	13.10	10.70	14.30	-38.0	-21.9
	2006	8.86	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-31.3	--
Corn, sweet	2001	33.50	34.00	26.10	18.10	24.70	18.70	19.60	18.90	18.80	23.80	18.40	17.50	19.50	--	--
	2002	23.80	22.90	25.20	17.70	17.20	18.60	24.50	20.90	21.80	22.10	16.80	16.50	19.20	-29.0	-7.2
	2003	27.70	24.00	18.90	14.90	16.50	16.90	20.00	19.60	19.70	22.90	27.30	33.70	19.30	16.4	51.4
	2004	30.30	20.90	20.30	17.50	17.30	14.40	19.40	22.60	23.70	32.20	36.20	21.20	20.80	9.4	6.8
	2005	21.30	28.60	26.10	21.50	18.10	22.60	22.20	20.30	24.70	25.50	37.30	21.20	22.10	-29.7	-6.3
	2006	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cucumbers	2001	--	--	44.00	31.00	15.60	16.80	19.90	24.70	25.80	14.70	14.40	26.40	19.80	--	--
	2002	--	--	22.90	21.50	16.80	14.30	23.40	23.10	19.50	14.00	19.20	26.40	19.00	--	7.4
	2003	--	--	22.20	21.50	20.70	16.60	23.10	20.00	24.80	13.90	13.30	19.90	19.90	--	-21.0
	2004	28.10	22.20	30.30	23.30	14.50	18.20	22.30	28.10	30.10	28.00	18.70	--	22.10	--	48.7
	2005	20.20	17.20	32.60	29.30	27.90	26.90	15.80	23.70	21.40	21.90	34.70	64.80	22.90	-28.1	73.3
	2006	25.70	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	27.2	--
Head lettuce	2001	13.60	24.10	15.00	21.40	18.80	12.10	16.40	26.90	26.20	11.60	11.40	28.50	17.90	--	--
	2002	25.90	44.20	87.30	14.10	10.20	10.60	11.30	14.60	14.30	13.50	10.70	10.10	21.10	90.4	-33.4
	2003	11.00	11.80	10.40	12.50	21.20	32.20	11.90	21.50	23.90	26.30	43.60	26.20	18.10	-57.5	180.2
	2004	16.00	19.70	10.50	14.80	10.50	13.30	10.70	17.10	15.20	24.10	14.10	13.60	16.90	45.5	-46.1
	2005	11.50	11.70	27.90	30.10	13.90	17.30	11.00	13.50	12.70	12.40	9.81	16.60	15.60	-28.1	-25.1
	2006	11.40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-0.9	--
Onions	2001	10.70	9.69	9.96	12.70	17.90	16.70	16.40	13.70	10.20	9.61	8.85	8.93	10.70	--	--
	2002	8.89	7.95	6.12	15.90	17.30	17.00	16.00	12.40	9.01	8.86	9.02	10.20	12.10	-16.9	2.5
	2003	9.27	12.80	16.20	33.60	32.00	22.80	16.20	12.00	11.40	12.00	12.60	11.50	13.70	4.3	28.6
	2004	13.10	12.20	11.60	19.90	19.30	17.20	16.30	11.90	10.30	7.87	7.77	7.34	10.50	41.3	-36.3
	2005	6.29	5.61	6.13	18.20	19.70	17.80	14.70	11.50	13.10	12.90	14.00	18.50	13.70	-52.0	97.6
	2006	11.60	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	84.4	--
Snap beans	2001	96.70	69.40	44.00	57.80	34.70	28.60	59.40	60.30	60.50	40.30	47.90	62.10	45.00	--	--
	2002	58.70	53.80	42.10	41.80	35.50	34.80	52.50	59.70	70.30	51.60	54.60	62.30	47.60	-39.3	12.1
	2003	75.30	61.40	38.60	66.80	45.00	45.10	43.80	61.30	58.20	49.10	41.70	48.40	49.30	28.3	-17.4
	2004	76.20	43.50	42.50	48.60	22.50	27.90	50.70	67.60	68.30	82.90	53.90	47.50	45.20	1.2	32.4
	2005	71.40	77.80	85.30	60.70	55.00	38.10	59.10	72.80	64.90	40.40	66.10	67.80	52.60	-6.3	-5.4
	2006	44.40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-37.8	--
Tomatoes	2001	43.80	29.10	56.40	19.00	37.80	28.40	27.50	27.50	23.30	29.00	41.80	53.20	30.00	--	--
	2002	38.20	28.00	41.70	34.30	29.20	32.70	28.30	25.60	23.50	28.20	43.90	53.20	31.60	-12.8	1.0
	2003	50.90	31.70	55.60	30.00	23.70	45.70	36.60	40.00	33.00	31.00	31.80	32.10	37.40	33.2	-24.3
	2004	24.70	32.30	41.00	44.20	32.20	21.10	22.50	35.80	37.30	70.80	119.00	--	37.50	-51.5	200.0
	2005	15.40	40.90	40.70	65.10	49.40	40.00	28.00	26.10	46.10	37.30	36.50	--	41.50	-37.7	-61.1
	2006	100.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	549.4	--

-- = Not available. 1/ 2006 prices are preliminary. One hundredweight (cwt) is equal to 100 pounds. The prices in this table can also be read as cents per pound.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Price table 3—Vegetables: Producer Price Indexes, by month, 1996-2006 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change
															Jan. - Jan. Percent
								--1982=100--							
Fresh 2/	1996	133.9	119.4	202.5	155.6	108.2	96.6	108.8	97.2	91.3	106.0	131.5	99.3	120.9	--
	1997	105.2	126.2	150.4	109.6	103.2	112.2	115.7	125.2	121.8	143.1	124.7	118.5	121.3	-21.4
	1998	133.1	136.6	148.2	162.9	123.2	106.5	153.7	114.9	135.0	161.9	131.2	148.1	137.9	26.5
	1999	131.9	93.1	117.4	144.4	111.3	125.8	103.4	113.7	117.5	101.6	100.9	151.6	117.7	-0.9
	2000	111.3	100.5	122.3	126.8	152.0	128.1	127.2	136.7	155.9	165.0	173.9	120.3	135.0	-15.6
	2001	147.0	168.6	178.7	145.6	144.9	129.4	109.7	127.2	132.3	112.3	105.9	121.0	135.2	32.1
	2002	146.1	188.7	242.5	101.7	107.2	123.2	127.1	125.4	116.7	126.9	127.4	119.0	137.7	-0.6
	2003	147.8	127.5	153.0	167.7	165.0	138.8	133.3	136.6	164.7	156.9	148.4	184.7	152.0	1.2
	2004	143.8	125.9	140.3	133.1	132.9	101.0	102.8	128.3	141.9	200.0	211.1	143.7	142.1	-2.7
	2005	122.0	152.8	168.5	174.7	144.2	160.0	126.8	132.3	153.3	144.0	155.5	194.9	152.4	-15.2
2006	207.6													70.2	
Melons	1996	--	--	--	--	91.5	84.4	45.4	57.0	37.3	99.5	68.6	--	69.1	--
	1997	--	--	--	--	83.2	68.5	51.1	49.3	37.7	142.5	95.5	--	75.4	--
	1998	--	--	--	--	113.3	74.1	56.3	60.1	89.9	--	52.2	--	74.3	--
	1999	--	--	--	--	86.6	62.8	42.4	62.1	--	63.4	59.1	--	62.7	--
	2000	--	--	--	--	68.0	64.3	56.4	43.8	48.7	93.6	124.2	--	71.3	--
	2001	--	--	--	--	118.6	53.4	53.3	76.1	57.1	60.0	114.9	--	76.2	--
	2002	--	--	--	--	--	74.7	80.5	58.7	60.1	66.2	55.3	--	65.9	--
	2003	--	--	--	--	120.5	60.6	60.1	35.8	49.0	64.9	106.8	--	71.1	--
	2004	106.8	141.3	157.3	90.2	95.4	75.1	56.1	66.6	76.6	108.8	114.4	150.6	103.3	--
	2005	156.1	75.4	96.5	162.2	114.8	99.9	83.8	62.3	80.7	67.3	--	--	99.9	46.2
2006	--													--	
Canned 3/	1996	120.4	119.8	120.4	120.4	120.8	121.0	122.6	122.1	121.9	121.8	121.9	121.8	121.2	--
	1997	121.5	121.1	120.5	120.1	119.8	119.9	119.1	119.3	119.3	120.2	120.3	120.7	120.2	0.9
	1998	121.2	121.9	121.8	121.8	121.9	121.9	122.0	122.0	120.0	119.6	120.0	120.0	121.2	-0.2
	1999	120.6	120.6	120.9	120.9	121.0	121.0	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.7	121.3	121.3	120.9	-0.5
	2000	121.3	120.8	121.2	120.9	121.2	121.5	121.1	120.9	121.1	121.6	121.7	121.3	121.2	0.6
	2001	121.4	121.4	121.3	121.3	121.4	121.9	124.1	124.9	125.3	126.5	128.0	128.1	123.8	0.1
	2002	128.3	128.2	128.0	128.2	128.3	128.0	127.7	129.4	128.7	129.5	129.1	129.1	128.5	5.7
	2003	128.8	129.0	128.9	129.3	129.4	129.3	129.4	129.1	130.0	130.7	131.1	131.3	129.7	0.4
	2004	131.5	131.7	131.9	131.9	131.7	132.8	133.0	133.3	133.4	134.6	135.4	135.5	133.1	2.1
	2005	135.7	135.9	136.1	136.3	137.6	137.6	137.7	137.7	137.5	137.8	137.4	138.2	137.1	3.2
2006	137.8													1.5	
Frozen	1996	125.1	124.8	124.6	124.9	125.0	125.4	125.5	125.8	126.0	125.7	125.8	126.0	125.4	--
	1997	125.9	125.7	125.6	125.6	125.7	125.7	125.7	125.6	125.7	126.6	125.5	125.3	125.8	0.6
	1998	125.2	126.0	124.8	125.7	125.0	124.6	125.5	125.6	125.3	125.6	125.5	125.2	125.3	-0.6
	1999	125.8	126.6	125.6	126.7	125.9	126.0	126.8	126.1	126.0	126.4	125.5	125.3	126.1	0.5
	2000	125.4	126.2	125.7	126.3	126.3	124.9	125.9	126.4	126.2	126.9	126.1	126.2	126.0	-0.3
	2001	127.6	128.5	127.7	128.7	128.4	127.7	128.9	128.8	128.8	130.0	129.2	129.1	128.6	1.8
	2002	130.0	131.1	130.1	131.2	130.7	129.7	131.4	131.3	131.5	132.2	131.9	132.6	131.1	1.9
	2003	133.4	134.1	133.3	134.0	134.1	133.9	134.9	134.2	134.2	135.2	135.1	135.0	134.3	2.6
	2004	135.1	136.0	135.3	135.3	134.3	134.7	135.4	135.8	136.8	138.1	137.2	137.0	135.9	1.3
	2005	137.3	137.3	137.4	137.5	137.5	137.4	137.2	136.8	136.6	136.9	137.6	137.8	137.3	1.6
2006	138.6													0.9	
Dehydrated 4/	1996	143.3	143.3	144.6	146.6	147.3	147.6	146.9	146.1	145.8	145.3	145.5	145.7	145.7	--
	1997	144.6	144.6	143.6	143.1	141.1	141.1	141.1	141.0	141.1	141.4	139.7	141.1	142.0	0.9
	1998	142.0	141.1	140.8	140.5	143.2	143.2	142.2	144.9	143.6	142.9	142.0	146.2	142.7	-1.8
	1999	148.0	148.0	148.4	147.7	146.1	146.1	146.0	146.5	147.1	146.7	147.4	151.1	147.4	4.2
	2000	148.9	149.8	149.9	149.5	149.3	149.0	148.6	144.9	144.0	144.9	143.4	140.8	146.9	0.6
	2001	139.1	135.6	136.2	136.9	139.9	140.6	140.4	140.9	142.4	142.7	144.6	145.9	140.4	-6.6
	2002	148.2	149.3	150.3	151.0	150.1	151.2	152.6	152.3	151.2	151.1	150.2	151.1	150.7	6.5
	2003	150.6	150.2	149.8	147.8	147.5	147.3	146.5	145.2	144.2	143.3	143.5	146.1	146.8	1.6
	2004	145.4	145.1	144.5	144.4	144.2	144.2	144.3	144.1	145.7	144.8	143.9	144.5	144.6	-3.5
	2005	145.6	145.9	145.2	145.7	146.8	146.0	145.3	145.9	150.4	151.7	152.5	154.3	147.9	0.1
2006	155.1													6.5	

-- = not available. 1/ Indexes for 2006 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices. 4/ Includes both fruits and vegetables.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 4—Vegetables: Consumer Price Indexes, by month, 1999-2006 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1982-84=100--														
Fresh vegetables 2/	1999	224.5	209.8	209.2	206.2	207.7	203.1	206.0	204.8	208.0	208.9	209.1	214.0	209.3
	2000	223.0	211.0	212.1	213.6	219.1	217.7	216.7	217.3	218.9	218.6	224.6	240.2	219.4
	2001	235.9	240.6	238.2	232.6	226.2	226.4	226.3	224.9	228.2	229.1	228.6	230.4	230.6
	2002	251.6	258.1	265.3	255.9	238.6	239.3	241.8	238.9	236.1	233.5	240.6	245.2	245.4
	2003	253.7	250.9	250.7	244.3	246.3	250.5	248.3	245.4	247.2	251.2	253.5	263.8	250.5
	2004	265.2	262.8	261.3	251.7	251.0	247.2	244.6	245.6	248.4	270.7	291.0	295.1	261.2
	2005	271.0	263.2	267.0	280.1	280.6	266.9	268.5	261.0	265.6	274.1	274.6	288.3	271.7
2006	300.6													
Potatoes, fresh	1999	184.5	184.0	185.9	183.3	191.5	194.7	205.0	212.1	204.6	194.8	186.1	190.7	193.1
	2000	196.6	198.1	197.9	194.9	200.4	201.7	208.3	210.7	195.4	191.5	181.2	179.4	196.3
	2001	186.6	186.8	189.3	187.0	192.2	205.0	213.4	224.5	218.3	216.3	203.4	205.2	202.3
	2002	213.4	225.7	230.2	244.1	248.0	253.4	260.7	263.8	246.4	232.0	221.8	222.2	238.5
	2003	230.6	226.9	227.5	225.0	231.9	231.4	235.1	238.8	233.8	223.7	217.7	214.5	228.1
	2004	228.2	226.0	230.5	224.3	229.0	237.4	240.7	238.9	228.5	232.0	226.9	230.5	231.1
	2005	237.5	235.8	228.3	235.0	239.1	246.7	256.7	263.8	258.6	265.8	253.5	251.7	247.7
2006	261.1													
Lettuce, fresh	1999	207.9	200.6	217.0	213.4	207.7	198.5	196.0	202.0	208.5	218.5	216.6	212.7	208.3
	2000	229.3	203.9	210.0	209.4	234.0	211.1	207.8	213.1	262.7	235.5	238.5	281.6	228.1
	2001	233.3	249.6	245.7	227.3	243.5	215.1	211.7	226.5	254.1	238.5	228.6	231.6	233.8
	2002	272.0	301.9	398.0	299.6	219.7	213.1	215.1	213.4	221.9	228.5	229.0	218.5	252.1
	2003	223.8	219.7	222.9	227.4	253.1	266.0	243.1	226.1	260.9	250.2	259.4	301.8	246.2
	2004	271.7	245.8	242.3	232.1	224.1	221.7	219.8	228.4	229.2	236.2	249.0	276.9	239.8
	2005	258.3	237.9	253.5	287.5	271.6	257.6	247.7	247.4	249.4	258.4	258.7	260.0	257.3
2006	260.8													
Tomatoes, fresh	1999	299.8	239.9	224.6	215.7	214.3	213.8	218.6	198.9	208.2	208.4	213.8	233.4	224.1
	2000	237.0	214.0	224.4	239.6	226.8	221.4	216.6	217.5	224.8	234.3	273.7	285.9	234.7
	2001	272.7	260.3	259.5	273.8	234.0	247.8	235.5	225.0	222.6	238.1	266.3	264.2	250.0
	2002	279.1	256.9	255.7	262.4	244.5	242.2	238.9	230.1	224.6	232.3	256.5	288.5	251.0
	2003	299.5	275.3	285.2	272.0	244.2	252.9	262.6	271.5	262.7	261.2	281.0	284.2	271.0
	2004	283.2	282.8	285.0	274.4	272.3	252.9	243.5	249.5	253.8	316.3	422.7	425.0	296.8
	2005	309.6	274.8	297.1	310.6	333.6	293.0	287.3	267.6	273.5	297.2	299.0	342.3	298.8
2006	393.1													
Other, fresh	1999	223.6	215.1	214.2	212.8	214.2	206.2	206.7	206.3	211.0	214.6	217.2	219.8	213.5
	2000	230.1	218.9	216.6	216.1	222.9	226.7	224.2	222.9	218.5	223.0	225.9	243.4	224.1
	2001	247.4	256.7	252.1	241.9	235.7	233.4	234.3	226.7	230.1	231.4	229.4	232.2	237.6
	2002	256.0	264.8	253.5	251.8	242.1	243.9	246.8	243.4	244.2	241.8	249.6	250.1	249.0
	2003	258.7	264.1	259.2	250.7	255.6	257.9	254.2	248.1	248.0	263.9	260.9	271.0	257.7
	2004	276.2	279.0	274.2	263.7	263.0	259.8	257.1	255.3	263.5	282.8	283.5	282.5	270.1
	2005	277.9	280.8	279.4	289.9	284.8	272.2	276.0	265.2	274.0	277.4	282.7	295.2	279.6
2006	298.2													
Frozen vegetables	1999	154.1	153.2	151.8	152.0	154.2	151.9	153.7	155.2	155.2	155.6	153.9	154.3	153.8
	2000	156.8	155.7	154.7	155.0	157.6	157.4	157.6	159.9	160.2	161.1	157.3	159.1	157.7
	2001	162.0	164.5	162.5	164.4	166.2	166.9	169.0	166.6	168.3	169.8	168.3	168.8	166.4
	2002	172.7	172.8	168.8	169.9	169.9	171.5	173.8	171.4	172.1	171.7	169.4	168.6	171.1
	2003	169.0	171.0	170.6	169.0	172.7	174.4	174.2	176.0	175.0	171.9	173.0	173.2	172.5
	2004	176.3	177.6	174.9	173.5	176.9	174.5	177.0	178.1	177.6	177.5	173.8	171.4	175.8
	2005	177.0	176.3	174.7	177.2	178.6	176.5	180.2	177.7	181.5	179.1	176.8	177.5	177.8
2006	179.4													
--December 1997=100--														
Processed fruits and vegetables	1999	104.1	103.8	103.6	103.5	104.9	104.5	105.6	105.7	104.6	105.5	104.4	103.4	104.5
	2000	105.4	105.2	105.0	104.3	105.7	105.9	106.2	106.7	105.9	106.6	104.5	105.3	105.6
	2001	108.1	107.8	107.1	106.9	108.2	109.1	109.9	110.2	110.0	110.5	109.7	110.1	109.0
	2002	112.6	113.0	111.5	112.6	113.4	112.5	114.0	114.3	114.1	113.6	111.7	113.3	113.1
	2003	113.0	113.7	113.6	112.0	115.3	115.5	115.6	116.1	114.4	114.6	113.0	112.4	114.1
	2004	115.1	115.4	115.4	114.2	115.9	115.3	116.6	117.2	115.6	116.2	115.0	114.2	115.5
	2005	117.9	117.1	116.3	118.8	119.3	119.7	121.3	120.6	121.2	120.6	118.8	120.3	119.3
2006	121.8													
Canned vegetables	1999	106.7	105.5	104.7	104.7	106.5	106.1	107.6	107.2	105.8	107.3	105.4	103.6	105.9
	2000	107.0	106.9	105.2	105.6	107.6	108.6	107.5	107.3	107.0	108.4	104.5	105.7	106.8
	2001	110.9	108.8	107.6	107.9	108.5	111.2	111.3	113.3	112.6	112.9	111.3	113.7	110.8
	2002	115.7	115.6	114.0	117.0	117.2	114.5	117.1	117.7	116.7	115.2	112.5	116.1	115.8
	2003	114.2	115.0	115.9	114.8	118.2	116.7	117.9	118.6	115.8	115.3	114.9	112.2	115.8
	2004	116.1	116.0	115.7	115.8	118.0	116.9	118.3	119.7	117.0	117.7	115.9	116.5	117.0
	2005	119.3	117.5	117.9	120.5	121.0	121.0	125.6	125.5	124.8	126.0	121.9	124.4	122.1
2006	124.8													
Dried beans, peas, lentils	1999	101.3	101.8	102.2	101.4	101.7	102.2	101.3	101.2	100.1	100.0	100.5	98.4	101.0
	2000	99.9	99.5	99.2	98.3	97.6	99.1	99.4	99.1	100.2	100.1	100.4	99.0	99.3
	2001	99.0	99.1	98.9	97.7	99.7	99.5	99.6	99.9	99.5	100.0	102.0	103.6	99.9
	2002	102.1	105.5	107.5	110.1	111.0	112.0	110.2	110.8	111.7	111.0	111.3	110.1	109.4
	2003	109.8	109.1	108.9	109.6	108.3	109.1	109.3	108.9	109.3	109.4	109.2	108.9	109.2
	2004	108.6	109.9	110.6	110.0	109.4	110.2	110.1	110.7	108.3	111.2	111.9	113.8	110.4
	2005	115.2	116.0	116.4	118.4	117.5	118.3	118.3	118.1	118.3	118.7	118.9	116.6	117.6
2006	117.2													

1/ Not seasonally adjusted. 2/ Includes potatoes.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 5—Fresh-market vegetables: U.S. average retail prices, by month, 1996-2006

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change from yr	
															earlier, Jan.-Jan.	
															Percent	
																--Cents/lb.--
Potatoes, white	1996	38.5	38.5	39.2	39.4	39.2	40.1	40.8	40.3	37.5	35.9	34.3	33.5	38.1	--	
	1997	33.5	33.1	33.0	33.5	33.8	34.5	36.7	38.8	38.8	37.4	36.6	37.0	35.6	-13.0	
	1998	36.2	36.2	36.8	36.9	38.1	39.0	39.2	38.2	37.6	37.9	37.0	37.5	37.6	8.1	
	1999	38.1	38.2	38.4	38.0	38.8	39.1	41.1	42.9	41.3	39.3	38.4	39.5	39.4	5.2	
	2000	39.2	40.1	39.3	38.8	37.9	37.6	39.0	40.0	37.4	36.7	35.1	34.7	38.0	2.9	
	2001	35.5	34.8	35.6	36.2	36.3	38.8	40.9	43.9	42.2	41.8	41.0	41.0	39.0	-9.4	
	2002	42.6	44.7	46.5	49.3	50.8	51.7	54.9	55.9	51.1	49.2	47.3	47.9	49.3	20.0	
	2003	48.3	47.2	46.3	46.6	46.6	46.2	46.4	46.4	44.4	44.1	43.8	43.9	45.9	13.4	
	2004	45.7	44.6	45.9	46.1	43.5	46.2	47.1	46.4	44.6	45.0	44.3	44.9	45.4	-5.4	
	2005	45.8	44.8	44.0	45.0	45.2	45.5	47.7	49.1	48.2	50.5	49.9	49.8	47.1	0.2	
	2006	50.4													10.0	
Broccoli	1996	103.7	92.6	99.9	94.1	87.4	95.5	97.1	78.8	84.3	80.1	92.4	86.2	91.0	--	
	1997	109.8	115.6	103.2	92.2	88.6	92.1	96.8	90.5	90.3	104.0	100.3	92.6	98.0	5.9	
	1998	137.9	106.6	112.2	111.4	123.8	108.7	107.6	103.0	101.4	104.0	101.6	97.4	109.6	25.6	
	1999	112.3	99.9	99.0	101.2	95.2	94.4	99.3	96.2	105.2	102.8	100.1	100.4	100.5	-18.6	
	2000	118.2	98.9	106.9	101.3	117.4	123.6	113.9	112.0	105.2	108.0	108.5	151.8	113.8	5.3	
	2001	98.7	97.8	108.3	95.4	99.9	100.5	98.1	97.8	96.9	101.1	89.7	97.3	98.5	-16.5	
	2002	137.4	168.1	114.7	120.4	103.6	109.3	111.9	113.5	124.7	107.3	116.5	105.2	119.4	39.2	
	2003	112.2	110.1	119.9	113.9	115.1	112.7	113.3	109.3	130.3	135.8	131.2	135.6	120.0	-18.3	
	2004	131.9	121.6	112.5	102.2	110.7	106.0	106.9	106.7	120.8	139.9	133.5	141.4	119.5	17.6	
	2005	123.5	134.6	131.8	148.9	129.9	130.7	144.2	132.0	135.2	119.6	128.8	122.9	131.8	-6.4	
	2006	135.5													9.7	
Lettuce, iceberg	1996	76.9	58.7	64.7	64.6	61.3	67.2	62.7	61.5	59.5	63.4	74.6	62.2	64.8	--	
	1997	65.1	59.4	61.4	66.6	59.8	59.3	64.9	69.4	73.7	82.3	101.0	69.9	69.4	-15.3	
	1998	107.2	64.3	69.5	83.7	87.7	71.1	69.2	68.6	71.0	75.7	76.5	63.5	75.7	64.7	
	1999	64.9	65.8	77.4	75.3	69.1	65.2	62.7	65.2	62.3	66.9	67.7	66.8	67.4	-39.5	
	2000	74.8	65.0	67.1	65.0	80.3	68.6	65.6	67.3	89.7	77.2	77.4	85.1	73.6	15.3	
	2001	73.6	84.7	89.5	76.7	87.0	72.2	66.3	78.4	89.7	81.1	73.4	78.8	79.3	-1.6	
	2002	100.3	106.1	154.2	114.7	72.0	67.5	67.4	68.9	70.2	68.7	75.4	68.0	86.1	36.3	
	2003	73.4	68.2	65.5	72.3	79.5	83.2	80.8	70.9	89.8	85.8	92.7	125.5	82.3	-26.8	
	2004	87.6	80.5	81.3	80.1	71.0	75.1	73.7	80.8	77.1	83.0	84.9	82.3	79.8	19.3	
	2005	81.7	73.0	82.9	100.4	92.6	89.5	88.5	85.5	84.8	92.6	87.3	85.4	87.0	-6.7	
	2006	87.4													7.0	
Tomatoes, field grown	1996	110.3	108.4	146.7	186.7	137.9	112.7	103.1	100.6	98.0	108.4	118.2	121.0	121.0	--	
	1997	121.3	131.4	165.4	134.8	117.5	130.0	114.1	113.0	109.1	116.2	137.0	161.7	129.3	10.0	
	1998	145.2	135.6	151.5	139.8	147.2	139.3	151.5	131.2	124.1	157.3	168.9	179.8	147.6	19.7	
	1999	190.4	147.6	139.5	129.8	128.4	130.4	128.7	123.2	127.2	127.9	130.0	140.5	137.0	31.1	
	2000	144.3	128.6	136.4	148.7	136.6	131.8	128.2	126.2	131.9	138.7	150.3	156.7	138.2	-24.2	
	2001	141.4	131.3	133.6	143.3	124.3	135.6	125.7	118.5	116.8	126.7	146.8	140.4	132.0	-2.0	
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6	143.0	165.5	132.5	2.6	
	2003	171.1	156.5	161.9	155.5	140.1	139.8	146.0	151.3	143.8	143.6	148.0	153.3	150.9	17.9	
	2004	147.2	151.0	152.9	151.9	151.0	133.1	125.3	131.2	132.1	171.5	233.7	246.7	160.6	-14.0	
	2005	166.0	142.8	154.8	171.0	191.1	165.5	160.7	141.6	142.9	154.7	157.4	184.8	161.1	12.8	
	2006	216.2													30.2	
Lettuce, romaine 1/	2006	139.7													--	

1/ Romaine data first reported Jan 2006.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 6—Representative wholesale prices for selected fresh-market vegetables and melons in Chicago, 2005-06

Commodity	Shipping point 1/	Shipping container	2005												2006	
			Jan 4	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 2	June 1	July 1	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 3	Nov 1	Dec 5	Jan 3	Feb 1
Artichokes	CA	Carton, 24s	38.00	38.00	14.00	23.00	26.00	28.00	21.75	15.00	27.00	23.00	21.00	18.00	33.00	27.00
Beans, round green, machine-pick	FL, GA, MI	Bushel cartons	26.00	31.00	17.50	11.00	34.00	19.00	18.50	24.00	29.00	24.00	21.00	45.50	15.00	19.00
Beets, medium	TX, IL, CA	25 lb sacks/filmbags	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	7.25	7.75	9.00	8.50	8.50	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.00
Bok choy	CA, FL	30 lb cartons	16.50	17.00	20.00	24.50	20.00	14.50	13.00	13.00	13.00	11.00	21.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Brussels sprouts	CA, MX	25 lb cartons	20.00	17.00	32.00	32.50	--	45.50	42.00	29.00	16.00	22.00	19.00	23.00	16.50	17.00
Cabbage, round-green, medium	NY, GA	50 lb cartons	10.50	7.25	8.00	8.25	13.50	8.50	10.75	8.00	10.25	11.00	13.00	10.50	12.00	8.75
Chinese cabbage (Napa)	CA	30 lb cartons	12.75	13.00	13.00	24.50	16.00	14.50	16.00	13.00	14.50	13.00	12.00	12.50	12.00	11.00
Carrots, baby peeled	CA	Carton, 24-1 lb filmbag	17.00	17.00	16.00	16.75	16.75	17.00	17.25	16.50	17.00	17.00	17.00	15.75	16.50	16.00
Eggplant, medium	FL, NJ, MX	1 1/9 bushel cartons	14.00	12.50	15.50	17.50	24.00	12.50	12.00	11.50	9.50	11.00	11.00	14.00	16.00	9.50
Garlic, white colossal	CA, MX	30 lb cartons	39.00	38.00	37.00	37.00	38.00	39.00	38.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	40.00	38.00	40.00	38.00
Greens, kale	CA	Carton, 24s	11.00	10.00	10.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.75	9.25	11.50	11.50	10.50	12.00	11.50	11.50
Greens, kohlrabi	CA, TX	Carton, 12s/24s	17.50	17.25	16.50	18.50	21.50	24.00	24.00	18.00	18.00	28.00	15.00	19.50	19.00	19.50
Greens, turnip tops	GA, IL	Carton, 24s	10.50	10.50	11.00	9.50	10.00	9.50	9.50	9.25	12.00	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.75	9.75
Greens, mustard	CA	Carton, 24s	10.50	10.50	11.00	9.50	18.00	11.00	9.50	9.25	12.00	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.75	9.75
Greens, collards	GA, CA	Carton, 24s	10.50	10.50	11.00	9.50	10.00	9.75	11.00	9.25	12.00	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.75	9.75
Leeks	CA, IL, MX	Carton, bunched 12s	15.00	14.50	12.50	11.50	13.50	13.50	26.00	17.00	17.50	21.00	22.50	20.50	24.50	18.00
Lettuce, Boston	CA	Carton, 24s	11.00	10.00	12.00	19.00	25.50	12.00	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	9.50
Lettuce, Romaine	CA	Carton, 24s	12.50	11.50	11.50	23.00	15.50	15.50	12.25	12.50	12.50	11.00	11.50	12.00	12.50	10.50
Mushrooms, button, large	PA	10 lb carton	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	15.00	15.00	15.00
Mushrooms, shiitake	PA	5 lb carton	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Mushrooms, oyster	PA	5 lb carton	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
Mushrooms, cremini, medium	PA	10 lb carton	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	12.50	12.50	12.50
Mushrooms, portobellas, lrg	PA	5 lb carton	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	10.00
Okra, small-medium	FL, MX	1/2 bushel carton	24.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	29.00	14.50	18.00	15.00	15.00	11.50	27.00	29.00	20.00	27.00
Onions, green	CA, MX	Carton, bunched 48s	26.00	13.50	18.00	27.00	9.50	9.50	10.50	12.75	14.00	10.25	12.00	12.25	12.50	10.50
Parsley, curly	CA	Cartons, bunched 60s	16.50	13.00	12.00	13.00	16.50	14.50	16.00	15.00	16.00	14.00	14.00	20.50	16.00	13.00
Peas, snow	CA, GU	10 lb carton	11.50	16.50	9.00	13.50	11.50	23.00	19.35	26.00	10.00	13.50	11.00	13.00	10.00	10.75
Peas, sugar snap	CA, GU	10 lb carton	16.50	11.00	8.00	17.00	22.00	16.00	21.00	17.00	24.00	16.00	12.50	13.00	20.00	11.00
Peppers, green bell, large	FL, CA	1 1/9 bushel carton	12.00	8.50	8.50	12.00	13.00	13.50	13.00	8.00	8.50	14.00	24.50	17.00	23.00	8.50
Peppers, jalapeno, medium	FL, GA, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	13.50	15.00	10.00	14.00	15.00	13.00	7.25	9.50	8.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	19.00	18.00
Radishes	FL, MI	Carton, 30-6oz filmbag	7.75	7.75	7.75	13.00	9.75	10.50	8.50	8.00	7.75	6.75	7.75	13.00	14.00	8.75
Spinach	CA	Cartons, bunched 24s	13.00	11.50	11.00	19.00	21.00	12.75	11.50	17.00	14.50	14.00	11.50	10.50	16.00	12.50
Squash, zucchini, medium	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	14.25	11.00	8.50	9.50	11.00	9.00	5.00	7.00	10.25	7.00	8.00	11.00	10.00	14.50
Squash, yellow straightneck, med.	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	20.00	10.00	12.00	24.00	13.50	14.50	6.00	8.00	12.00	6.50	10.00	30.50	13.00	15.00
Sweet potatoes, US #1, Beauregrd	LA	40 lb carton	17.75	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	16.50	16.00	18.50	17.75	17.00	18.50	18.00	17.75
Tomatoes, mature green, lrg, 6x6	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	9.00	6.50	15.00	14.00	13.50	15.00	12.50	7.50	9.50	15.00	12.50	24.50	36.00	14.50
Tomatoes, vine ripe, large, 6x6	MX, CA, FL	25 lb carton	11.00	7.50	15.50	17.50	26.50	16.50	15.00	11.00	10.50	17.00	15.00	25.00	33.00	13.00
Tomatoes, greenhse, v. ripe, md/lrg	CD, NL, MX	5 kg carton (on vine)	16.00	22.00	16.75	16.00	17.50	13.00	9.50	11.50	9.00	11.00	12.50	10.25	12.00	17.00
Tomatoes, cherry	FL, CA, MX	Flats, 12 1-pint buckets	11.00	7.50	17.50	14.50	14.00	9.00	13.50	9.00	11.50	9.50	20.00	16.00	24.00	12.50
Tomatoes, plum-type, med/lrg	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	10.50	7.50	14.50	12.50	25.50	11.50	18.00	11.00	10.00	14.50	15.50	20.50	19.50	21.50
Turnips, purple top, medium-large	CA, IL	25 lb filmbags	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	10.50	10.50	11.00	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.50	9.00	8.50	10.00
Cantaloups	CA, CR, MX	1/2 carton 15s	16.00	13.25	12.25	11.50	19.00	11.50	13.50	9.50	11.50	11.25	13.50	20.00	13.00	14.00
Honeydews	CA, HD, CR	2/3 cartons 6s	18.50	15.00	18.50	11.50	14.50	11.50	19.00	10.50	8.25	8.50	10.50	9.25	10.00	12.50
Watermelon, various red	CA, TX, MX	Carton 3s or 4s, per lb	0.34	0.25	0.30	0.28	0.37	0.30	0.36	0.26	0.28	0.30	0.31	0.38	0.39	0.40
Watermelon, red seedless	CA, MX	Carton 4s or 5s, per lb	0.35	0.30	0.29	0.27	0.39	0.30	0.36	0.27	0.29	0.31	0.35	0.39	0.42	0.45

-- = Not available. 1/ Major shipping points by commodity into the Chicago Wholesale Market. CA=California, FL=Florida, TX=Texas, MI=Michigan, IL=Illinois, NY=New York, NJ= New Jersey, GA=Georgia, PA=Pennsylvania, LA = Louisiana, MX=Mexico, CR=Costa Rica, HD=Honduras, GU=Guatemala, CD=Canada, NL=Netherlands.

Source: Fruit & Vegetable Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

Price table 7—Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 1997-2006 1/

Year & quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Beets 6/		Tomato paste 7/		
	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	55-drum	6/10	
											-- \$/case --	\$/lb	\$/case
1997													
I	7.38	11.75	7.08	9.67	9.05	14.46	7.79	10.46	7.63	11.50	0.30	17.17	
II	7.00	10.83	6.67	8.75	8.88	13.75	7.75	10.46	7.83	11.50	0.30	15.13	
III	7.05	11.08	6.75	8.75	8.58	13.63	7.67	10.50	8.00	11.08	0.30	15.42	
IV	7.17	10.38	7.00	9.84	8.88	13.00	7.88	10.50	7.88	10.33	0.31	16.25	
Average	7.15	11.01	6.88	9.25	8.85	13.71	7.77	10.48	7.84	11.10	0.30	15.99	
1998													
I	7.21	10.63	7.05	8.63	8.13	11.25	7.84	11.00	7.92	10.58	0.33	16.42	
II	7.38	10.88	7.13	9.75	8.50	10.88	7.88	11.13	7.88	10.75	0.33	16.92	
III	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.21	12.58	7.25	10.58	7.25	10.92	0.38	19.00	
IV	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.38	12.75	7.25	10.50	7.25	11.00	0.45	21.00	
Average	7.27	10.75	7.15	9.58	8.31	11.87	7.56	10.80	7.58	10.81	0.37	18.34	
1999													
I	7.25	10.75	7.50	10.38	8.80	13.30	7.33	10.67	7.42	11.00	0.45	21.00	
II	7.33	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.71	13.21	7.79	11.29	8.09	11.83	0.46	21.00	
III	7.50	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.38	8.09	12.00	0.46	21.00	
IV	7.63	12.34	7.46	10.92	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.13	8.04	11.75	0.35	20.29	
Average	7.43	11.09	7.49	10.52	8.75	13.42	7.72	11.12	7.91	11.65	0.43	20.82	
2000													
I	7.75	13.84	7.50	11.67	8.75	14.79	7.88	10.88	8.21	11.75	0.34	19.63	
II	7.84	15.00	7.50	11.92	8.84	16.33	7.88	10.88	8.38	11.38	0.34	20.04	
III	7.71	15.00	7.25	12.00	8.79	16.00	7.96	11.13	8.46	11.38	0.32	19.50	
IV	7.63	15.09	7.38	11.17	8.75	16.13	7.75	11.01	8.50	11.75	0.32	19.00	
Average	7.73	14.73	7.41	11.69	8.78	15.81	7.87	10.97	8.39	11.57	0.33	19.54	
2001													
I	7.25	14.75	7.25	10.25	8.63	15.46	7.75	10.88	7.75	11.75	0.31	17.88	
II	7.25	14.75	7.25	10.25	8.63	15.25	7.75	10.88	7.75	11.75	0.31	17.88	
III	7.67	14.92	7.67	10.42	8.96	15.42	7.92	11.05	7.92	11.75	0.32	17.88	
IV	8.25	15.25	8.25	12.55	9.00	15.42	8.33	11.25	8.42	11.83	0.32	17.88	
Average	7.61	14.92	7.61	10.87	8.81	15.39	7.94	11.02	7.96	11.77	0.32	17.88	
2002													
I	9.00	15.75	9.00	14.59	9.00	15.25	9.00	12.00	9.00	12.00	0.32	17.63	
II	8.33	15.08	8.33	12.05	8.75	15.08	9.00	12.00	9.00	12.00	0.31	17.80	
III	8.00	14.75	8.00	10.88	8.63	15.00	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.50	
IV	8.00	14.67	8.00	11.05	8.88	15.09	8.75	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	20.38	
Average	8.33	15.06	8.33	12.14	8.82	15.11	8.94	11.75	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.58	
2003													
I	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.13	9.00	15.42	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.32	18.46	
II	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.38	9.00	15.50	8.71	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	19.46	
III	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.75	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	17.63	
IV	8.00	14.13	8.00	12.38	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	17.63	
Average	8.00	14.03	8.00	11.66	9.00	15.73	8.65	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	18.30	
2004													
I	8.17	14.80	8.17	14.38	9.17	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	18.67	
II	8.42	15.46	8.33	15.92	9.13	15.75	8.75	11.50	9.00	13.00	0.30	20.25	
III	8.50	15.63	8.33	16.17	9.00	15.59	9.00	11.50	9.00	14.00	0.30	20.25	
IV	8.42	15.29	8.46	15.84	8.92	15.54	9.00	11.75	8.50	15.00	0.30	20.25	
Average	8.38	15.30	8.32	15.58	9.06	15.72	8.85	11.56	8.88	13.50	0.30	19.86	
2005													
I	8.58	14.04	8.54	13.54	8.96	15.67	9.00	11.75	8.83	14.58	0.30	20.25	
II	8.75	13.58	8.63	13.25	9.13	15.42	9.00	11.75	9.00	14.17	0.30	20.17	
III	8.75	13.42	8.80	12.96	9.13	15.33	8.88	12.00	9.00	13.92	0.30	20.00	
IV	8.50	13.25	8.50	13.25	9.13	15.25	8.75	11.75	9.00	13.63	0.31	20.50	
Average	8.65	13.57	8.62	13.25	9.09	15.42	8.91	11.81	8.96	14.08	0.30	20.23	
2006													
I f	8.50	12.00	8.75	12.00	9.25	15.38	8.75	11.75	9.00	12.50	0.31	20.50	
II f	8.55	12.25	8.80	12.25	9.25	15.50	8.75	11.75	9.00	12.75	0.32	21.00	
III f	8.55	12.25	8.80	12.25	9.15	15.25	9.00	12.00	9.00	12.75	0.32	21.50	
IV f	8.50	12.75	8.50	12.75	9.10	15.25	9.00	11.75	9.00	13.00	0.31	21.00	
Average	8.53	12.31	8.71	12.31	9.19	15.35	8.88	11.81	9.00	12.75	0.32	21.00	

p = Preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel corn, Midwest. 3/ 4-sieve cut, Midwest. 4/ 4-sieve, Midwest. 5/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 6/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 7/ 26-percent solids for 6/10 and 31 percent for 55-gallon drum, California.

Source: *Price Trends*, American Institute of Food Distribution.

Price table 8—Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 1997-2006 1/

Year and quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Cauliflower 4/		Broccoli 6/		Spinach 7/	
	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	24/10	12/2	24/10	12/3
--\$ per case--												
1997												
I	6.90	0.50	6.88	0.48	7.10	0.51	9.20	0.65	10.23	0.68	7.98	0.42
II	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.50	9.20	0.65	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
III	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.49	9.20	0.65	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.48	9.20	0.65	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
Average	6.88	0.49	6.84	0.47	7.05	0.50	9.20	0.65	10.01	0.69	8.22	0.42
1998												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.47	9.20	0.65	10.08	0.70	8.30	0.42
II	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.46	9.20	0.65	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
III	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.75	0.45	9.20	0.65	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.87	0.45	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.33	0.42
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.86	0.46	9.27	0.66	10.13	0.71	8.31	0.42
1999												
I	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
II	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
III	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.91	0.51	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.90	0.49	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
2000												
I	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
2001												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.46	6.84	0.47	6.88	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.47	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
IV	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
Average	6.86	0.47	6.84	0.48	6.89	0.54	9.49	0.71	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
2002												
I	6.88	0.49	6.93	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.50	7.05	0.55	9.49	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.51	7.07	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.05	0.50	7.06	0.51	7.02	0.55	9.48	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2003												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2004												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.38	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.38	0.56	7.38	0.58	7.38	0.58	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
IV	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.28	0.57	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
Average	7.22	0.55	7.23	0.56	7.29	0.56	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.49
2005												
I	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.28	0.57	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
II	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.28	0.57	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
III	7.30	0.54	7.30	0.56	7.30	0.56	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
IV	7.30	0.55	7.30	0.55	7.30	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
Average	7.30	0.54	7.31	0.57	7.29	0.56	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
2006												
I f	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.20	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.60	0.56
II f	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.20	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.65	0.57
III f	7.30	0.54	7.30	0.56	7.30	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
IV f	7.30	0.55	7.30	0.55	7.30	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
Average	7.30	0.54	7.31	0.57	7.25	0.53	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.46	0.53

p = Preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel (cut) corn, f.o.b. West Coast basis. 3/ Regular cut. 4/ Poly bags. 5/ Sliced, poly bags. 6/ Spears. 7/ Chopped.

Source: *Price Trends*, American Institute of Food Distribution.

Price table 9—Potatoes and pulses: Prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1996-2006 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season
														average
--\$/cwt--														
Potatoes, all uses	1996	6.65	6.92	7.51	7.82	8.09	8.16	7.79	5.58	4.92	4.75	4.44	4.28	4.91
	1997	4.22	4.56	4.64	4.67	5.31	4.66	5.66	6.31	5.08	4.93	5.12	5.36	5.64
	1998	5.41	5.88	6.41	6.27	6.46	6.13	5.78	5.38	5.08	4.55	5.02	5.29	5.56
	1999	5.50	5.75	6.12	6.50	6.06	6.54	7.35	5.91	5.33	4.98	5.58	5.68	5.76
	2000	5.56	5.78	6.14	6.49	6.28	5.97	6.58	5.32	4.79	4.39	4.50	4.93	5.08
	2001	4.72	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.36	7.20	6.23	5.28	6.16	6.93	6.99
	2002	7.34	7.33	8.24	8.01	8.59	9.38	10.59	7.39	6.29	5.53	6.24	6.62	6.67
	2003	6.44	6.47	6.79	6.99	6.94	6.67	6.84	5.57	5.24	5.03	5.42	5.76	5.89
	2004	5.70	5.87	6.09	6.62	6.47	6.47	6.44	5.46	5.32	4.70	5.02	5.36	5.67
	2005	5.59	5.76	6.21	6.17	6.72	7.66	8.69	6.84	6.16	5.54	6.31	6.93	6.90
2006	7.00													
Potatoes, table stock	1996	7.99	8.52	8.85	9.01	9.78	10.50	9.74	7.06	5.82	5.31	4.02	3.73	5.05
	1997	3.21	3.82	3.46	3.92	4.60	5.34	7.02	9.04	7.02	6.65	6.07	6.05	6.65
	1998	5.76	6.81	7.54	6.83	7.31	7.23	6.94	6.73	6.62	5.75	5.77	5.41	6.94
	1999	6.08	6.94	7.85	8.32	7.70	9.08	9.79	9.67	7.23	6.26	6.58	7.00	6.94
	2000	6.21	6.62	6.74	6.61	7.30	7.40	8.81	8.15	5.90	4.66	4.16	4.77	5.27
	2001	3.54	5.41	4.48	5.53	7.23	8.31	8.93	12.96	10.96	8.69	8.68	9.37	10.79
	2002	10.49	11.63	13.19	12.17	14.69	16.28	16.70	15.31	11.52	8.34	8.62	8.60	9.59
	2003	8.09	8.54	8.58	8.80	9.09	9.16	8.96	8.04	7.08	6.95	6.70	6.52	7.32
	2004	6.26	6.68	7.20	7.82	7.76	9.04	9.07	7.77	7.25	5.34	5.08	5.56	6.76
	2005	5.89	6.53	7.19	7.24	9.00	11.86	13.66	11.41	10.77	9.18	8.52	8.96	--
2006	--													
Potatoes, processing	1996	5.42	5.44	5.71	5.87	6.59	6.47	5.92	4.91	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.77	4.82
	1997	4.98	4.90	5.11	5.02	6.04	5.04	4.33	4.81	4.61	4.60	4.71	4.96	5.00
	1998	5.07	5.26	5.24	5.48	5.97	5.58	5.04	4.83	4.55	4.31	4.61	5.22	4.86
	1999	5.11	4.94	5.14	5.30	5.32	5.30	5.28	4.43	4.59	4.67	5.04	4.95	4.99
	2000	5.18	5.27	5.21	5.41	5.37	5.34	4.89	4.46	4.48	4.34	4.69	5.07	4.70
	2001	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.10	4.96	5.24	4.43	4.56	4.47	4.89	5.15	5.05
	2002	5.37	5.27	5.34	5.66	6.02	5.83	6.09	4.67	4.62	4.79	5.14	5.35	5.16
	2003	5.38	5.32	5.28	5.33	5.59	5.60	5.39	4.69	4.64	4.52	4.85	5.31	5.10
	2004	5.29	5.24	5.24	5.54	5.64	5.54	5.30	4.62	4.64	4.50	4.98	5.23	5.06
	2005	5.34	5.26	5.40	5.39	5.75	5.66	5.18	4.70	4.66	4.61	4.87	5.52	--
2006	--													
Dry edible beans	1996	19.60	19.90	19.90	22.70	24.80	25.80	26.80	26.90	24.40	24.00	25.10	24.10	23.50
	1997	23.20	23.60	23.30	23.00	22.20	21.20	21.90	20.40	16.20	16.90	18.60	20.30	19.30
	1998	21.10	21.20	20.20	20.80	20.80	20.90	21.30	19.60	19.00	19.40	20.30	19.90	19.00
	1999	19.70	18.30	17.00	16.60	19.90	18.90	18.50	18.00	18.00	17.10	17.20	16.10	16.40
	2000	15.80	15.60	14.50	15.70	16.20	14.70	14.20	13.80	15.50	15.70	15.50	14.40	15.50
	2001	15.10	15.30	14.90	15.60	16.90	16.40	16.80	17.40	18.40	19.20	22.70	21.70	22.10
	2002	21.50	26.10	27.10	27.50	27.80	27.40	24.50	23.20	17.90	16.60	15.90	16.10	17.10
	2003	16.40	19.20	15.90	18.70	19.10	16.60	17.20	18.00	17.60	17.60	19.10	17.40	18.40
	2004	17.20	17.50	20.20	19.60	19.90	20.00	19.20	20.90	22.90	24.50	25.80	26.70	25.70
	2005	27.40	27.80	26.60	28.80	31.90	27.50	25.40	21.30	18.00	18.80	18.30	18.60	18.40
2006	17.50													
Green peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.30	8.75	9.50	9.95	10.15	10.85	11.65	12.50	12.30	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.60
	1997	11.50	12.60	14.25	13.80	13.00	11.90	9.00	7.70	7.65	7.90	8.00	8.00	7.82
	1998	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.95	7.75	7.75	7.70	6.85	6.15	6.00	6.19	6.31	6.48
	1999	6.46	6.50	6.53	6.56	6.75	6.88	6.91	6.53	6.22	6.03	6.03	5.83	5.76
	2000	5.79	5.78	5.78	5.69	5.68	5.59	5.41	5.25	5.13	5.20	5.38	5.50	5.95
	2001	5.84	6.28	6.44	6.53	6.43	6.28	6.25	6.19	6.21	6.35	6.56	6.88	6.96
	2002	7.04	7.06	7.13	7.40	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.13	7.38	7.68	7.91	8.33	9.08
	2003	9.08	9.81	10.88	10.60	10.44	9.92	9.30	7.56	7.63	8.09	8.84	9.08	9.17
	2004	9.56	9.94	10.50	10.94	11.25	8.43	7.38	6.45	6.41	6.66	6.93	6.69	6.41
	2005	6.63	6.56	6.03	5.88	5.68	5.60	5.47	5.25	5.00	4.88	4.88	4.88	5.12
2006	5.13	5.44												
Yellow peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.75	9.50	8.80	9.05	9.30	10.40	11.00	12.00	12.25	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.08
	1997	11.40	12.50	13.60	12.80	11.75	10.40	8.50	7.60	7.55	7.60	7.75	7.60	7.46
	1998	7.50	7.50	7.60	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.05	6.50	5.65	5.69	5.78	5.94	6.13
	1999	6.00	6.06	6.35	6.19	6.38	6.30	6.50	6.75	6.34	6.25	6.33	6.29	6.05
	2000	6.38	6.13	6.03	6.00	5.88	5.91	5.72	5.30	5.16	5.15	5.31	5.38	5.92
	2001	5.81	6.31	6.44	6.38	6.40	6.25	6.25	6.19	6.17	6.25	6.56	6.79	7.02
	2002	7.04	7.25	7.31	7.68	7.66	7.59	7.38	6.50	6.72	7.10	7.34	7.58	7.78
	2003	7.50	7.94	8.03	8.50	8.75	8.83	8.44	6.63	6.43	6.75	7.53	7.75	7.90
	2004	7.91	8.72	9.03	9.25	9.42	7.73	7.13	6.08	5.97	6.25	6.43	6.25	6.04
	2005	6.00	6.00	5.73	5.50	5.58	5.53	5.31	5.18	4.66	4.63	4.63	4.63	4.85
2006	4.75	4.94												
Lentils, regular (Brewer) 2/	1996	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.70	17.25	19.00	19.75	20.60	19.75	18.50	18.15	17.25	17.10
	1997	17.00	17.40	17.50	17.00	16.50	16.25	16.00	14.75	13.80	12.90	12.10	11.50	13.00
	1998	11.40	12.00	11.60	11.10	10.75	11.00	12.00	11.30	10.15	10.70	10.81	10.94	11.21
	1999	10.92	11.25	11.55	11.38	11.69	11.90	11.94	12.15	12.13	12.28	13.05	13.17	12.54
	2000	12.88	12.45	12.13	12.31	12.73	12.81	12.81	11.75	11.19	11.03	10.97	10.88	10.44
	2001	10.84	10.50	10.22	10.25	9.90	9.91	9.78	9.84	9.81	9.75	9.80	9.70	9.56
	2002	9.44	9.06	9.03	9.75	9.59	9.44	9.40	9.50	10.75	12.85	13.81	14.25	14.30
	2003	15.42	17.63	18.63	18.70	18.63	18.56	15.20	14.50	14.85	16.50	16.88	16.50	17.20
	2004	17.13	19.00	20.90	21.25	20.38	15.80	14.19	13.25	14.38	15.56	15.95	15.38	14.40
	2005	14.69	14.19	13.45	12.50	11.90	11.31	11.25	11.25	11.35	11.28	10.78	10.25	11.70
2006	10.38	10.38												

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for 2006 are preliminary. 2/ Grower bids for U.S. no. 1 grade reported by the Bean Market News for Idaho & Washington.

Sources: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA, and Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

Price table 10—U.S. fresh-market herbs: Selected monthly wholesale prices in San Francisco, CA, 2004-2005

Herb	Unit	2004			2005			Change from prev. year		
		July	Aug.	Sep.	July	Aug.	Sep.	July	Aug.	Sep.
		-- \$/cwt --						--- Percent ---		
Anise	24-ct crtn	25.38	27.50	11.35	17.56	14.44	13.50	- 30.8	- 47.5	18.9
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	7.44	7.50	7.50	7.75	7.75	7.75	4.2	3.3	3.3
Basil	12-ct ctns	7.25	7.00	7.05	7.50	7.31	7.25	3.4	4.4	2.8
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	11.25	13.00	13.00	15.50	15.50	15.50	37.8	19.2	19.2
Chervil	12-ct flmbag	7.06	7.00	7.14	7.25	7.25	7.25	2.7	3.6	1.5
Chives	12-ct flmbag	4.63	4.50	4.50	4.13	4.13	4.13	- 10.8	- 8.2	- 8.2
Cilantro	60-ct ctns	10.56	15.38	17.85	8.13	12.38	21.00	- 23.0	- 19.5	17.6
Cipolinos	10-lb ctns	24.00	22.13	24.00	19.50	19.50	19.50	- 18.8	- 11.9	- 18.8
Dill	12-ct ctns	6.69	6.88	7.00	7.31	7.00	7.00	9.3	1.7	.0
Dry Eschallot	5-lb sack	6.38	5.50	5.40	5.00	5.00	5.00	- 21.6	- 9.1	- 7.4
Epasote	50-lb sack	7.06	7.19	7.40	7.00	7.00	7.00	- .8	- 2.6	- 5.4
Horseradish	50-lb sack	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.05	2.05	2.5	2.5	2.5
Lemon grass	Per lb-ctns	0.69	0.60	0.43	0.60	0.60	0.60	- 13.0	.0	39.5
Majoram	12-ct flmbag	5.66	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 2.8	.0	.0
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	5.66	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 2.8	.0	.0
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	5.28	5.00	5.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	4.2	10.0	10.0
Mint	12-ct ctns	6.69	6.50	6.95	7.31	7.25	7.25	9.3	11.5	4.3
Sage	12-ct flmbag	5.66	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 2.8	.0	.0
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	18.25	18.25	18.25	23.50	23.50	23.50	28.8	28.8	28.8
Sorrel	12-ct flmbag	5.66	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 2.8	.0	.0
Tarragon	12-ct flmbag	6.19	6.00	6.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.0	8.3	8.3
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	5.66	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 2.8	.0	.0
Verdulaga	24-ct flmbag	6.88	6.75	6.70	7.00	8.00	8.00	1.7	18.5	19.4
Watercress	12-ct ctns	8.06	8.00	8.00	7.25	7.25	7.25	- 10.0	- 9.4	- 9.4

Source: Derived from data provided by the Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Price table 11—Farm-retail price spreads, 2002-05

	Annual			2004	2005					
	2002	2003	2004	Sep	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Market basket 1										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	180.3	185.3	194.9	193.7	200.6	201.9	201.2	202.4	202.6	202.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	104.3	110.4	124.4	120.2	122.9	122.4	122.4	122.9	122.0	127.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	221.2	225.6	232.9	233.3	242.5	244.7	243.6	245.3	246.1	243.8
Farm value-retail cost (%)	20.3	20.9	22.4	21.7	21.5	21.2	21.3	21.3	21.1	21.9
Fresh fruit										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	298.0	309.0	328.5	301.1	371.0	390.3	396.5	415.6	427.6	429.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	154.4	163.2	200.5	211.1	158.9	167.1	159.2	155.1	164.6	181.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	364.2	376.3	387.6	342.6	468.9	493.4	506.0	535.9	549.0	544.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	16.4	16.7	19.3	22.1	13.5	13.5	12.7	11.8	12.2	13.4
Fresh vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	245.4	250.5	261.2	248.4	280.1	280.6	266.9	268.5	261.0	265.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	145.8	149.9	146.5	124.5	178.3	157.4	167.8	147.1	136.8	149.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	296.6	302.2	320.2	312.1	332.4	343.9	317.8	330.9	324.9	325.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	20.2	20.3	19.0	17.0	21.6	19.0	21.4	18.6	17.8	19.2
Processed fruits and vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	166.2	171.9	183.1	183.9	190.0	191.0	191.5	194.0	192.8	193.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	110.5	108.4	125.4	126.4	145.7	149.6	151.8	153.1	153.4	155.2
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	183.6	191.8	201.1	201.8	203.8	203.9	203.9	206.8	205.1	205.9
Farm value-retail cost (%)	15.8	15.0	16.3	16.3	18.2	18.6	18.9	18.8	18.9	19.0
Fats and oils										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	155.4	157.4	167.8	170.4	169.4	167.8	164.5	167.3	167.6	169.4
Farm value (1982-84=100)	91.7	113.4	128.4	113.4	109.7	109.0	110.5	119.8	109.5	107.4
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	178.9	173.5	182.3	191.4	191.4	189.4	184.4	184.8	189.0	192.2
Farm value-retail cost (%)	15.9	19.4	20.6	17.9	17.4	17.5	18.1	19.3	17.6	17.1
Meat products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	160.3	169.0	183.2	185.9	188.3	189.1	189.2	187.7	187.0	186.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	102.6	108.4	116.9	119.0	122.3	123.3	123.6	124.2	124.5	125.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	219.5	231.1	251.3	254.5	256.0	256.6	256.5	252.9	251.1	250.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	32.4	32.5	32.3	32.4	32.9	33.0	33.1	33.5	33.7	33.9
Dairy products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	168.1	167.9	180.2	181.6	182.2	183.3	181.0	181.6	182.9	181.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	97.6	99.1	125.9	119.8	118.9	116.1	114.2	117.1	117.0	116.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	233.1	231.3	230.3	238.6	240.6	245.3	242.6	241.1	243.7	242.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	27.8	28.3	33.5	31.7	31.3	30.4	30.3	30.9	30.7	30.6
Poultry										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.0	169.1	181.7	186.4	184.1	183.7	184.9	185.9	186.9	188.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	102.0	113.0	142.9	130.9	138.2	139.2	139.8	141.0	142.0	149.2
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	242.0	233.7	226.4	250.3	236.9	235.0	236.8	237.5	238.6	234.6
Farm value-retail cost (%)	32.7	35.8	42.1	37.6	40.2	40.5	40.5	40.6	40.7	42.3
Eggs										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	138.2	157.3	167.0	146.3	138.6	138.5	135.4	140.0	137.3	148.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	72.1	102.0	92.2	60.3	44.9	40.6	39.7	56.0	44.3	79.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	256.9	256.5	301.4	300.8	307.0	314.5	307.4	290.9	304.3	271.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	33.5	41.7	35.5	26.5	20.8	18.8	18.8	25.7	20.7	34.6
Cereal and bakery products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	198.0	202.8	206.0	206.4	209.1	209.7	209.4	209.4	210.1	208.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	86.4	93.5	103.7	98.4	94.0	95.8	94.0	95.0	92.9	97.7
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	213.6	218.0	220.3	221.5	225.2	225.6	225.5	225.4	226.5	223.7
Farm value-retail cost (%)	5.3	5.6	6.2	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.7

1/ Retail costs are based on CPI-U of retail prices for domestically produced farm foods, published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Farm value is the payment for the quantity of farm equivalent to the retail unit, less allowance for byproduct. Farm values are based on prices at first point of sale, and may include marketing charges such as grading and packing for some commodities. The farm-retail spread, the difference between the retail value and farm value, represents charges for assembling, processing, transporting, and distributing.

Source: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/aotables/2005/11nov/aotab08.xls>

Price table 12—U.S. tomato retail price: Year, month, and level of record highs 1/

Item	Retail		Farm	
	Year	Price	Year	Price
		<i>Cents/pound</i>		<i>Cents/pound</i>
Fresh tomatoes				
January	2006	216.20	1990	116.00
February	1990	236.10	1990	97.60
March	1990	176.50	1996	81.70
April	1996	186.70	2005	65.10
May	2005	191.10	1993	58.10
June	1991	167.20	1991	59.50
July	2005	160.70	1998	40.90
August	2003	151.30	2003	40.00
September	2003	143.80	2005	46.10
October	2004	171.50	2004	70.80
November	2004	233.70	2004	119.00
December	2004	246.70	2005	--

-- = not disclosed. 1/ Nominal dollar prices (unadjusted for inflation).

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, USDL and National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.