



# Agricultural Statistical Review

## 2006 Overview

California agriculture saw a 4 percent drop in the sales value of its products in 2006. The state's 76,000 farms and ranches received \$31.4 billion for their output, down from the all-time high of \$32.8 billion reached during 2005. The state's agricultural sales first exceeded the \$30 billion mark in 2004, when \$30.9 billion in receipts was tallied.

Low milk prices experienced by California's dairy sector contributed to the drop in agricultural sales. Cash receipts for milk totaled \$4.49 billion, down 14 percent from \$5.22 billion in 2005. The price that producers received fell from \$13.92 to \$11.58 per hundred pounds of milk sold during the year. Despite the decline in revenue, milk remained California's No. 1 farm commodity, and the Golden State retained its ranking as the nation's leading dairy producer by a wide margin. California produced 21 percent of the U.S. milk supply in 2006, 23 percent of the cheese, 31 percent of

the butter, 50 percent of nonfat dry milk, and 15 percent of the ice cream. The state's dairy farms have increased their milk output every year since 1978; the 3.4 percent increase in overall output in 2006 continued this trend.

