
2002 Grower Survey

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Survey summary

Survey forms sent	143
Survey forms returned	96
Commercial growers	79
Mail undelivered	9
Not a commercial grower	8
Rate of return	67.1 %

Definition

“Producing area”

- vineyards that were planted prior to 2001

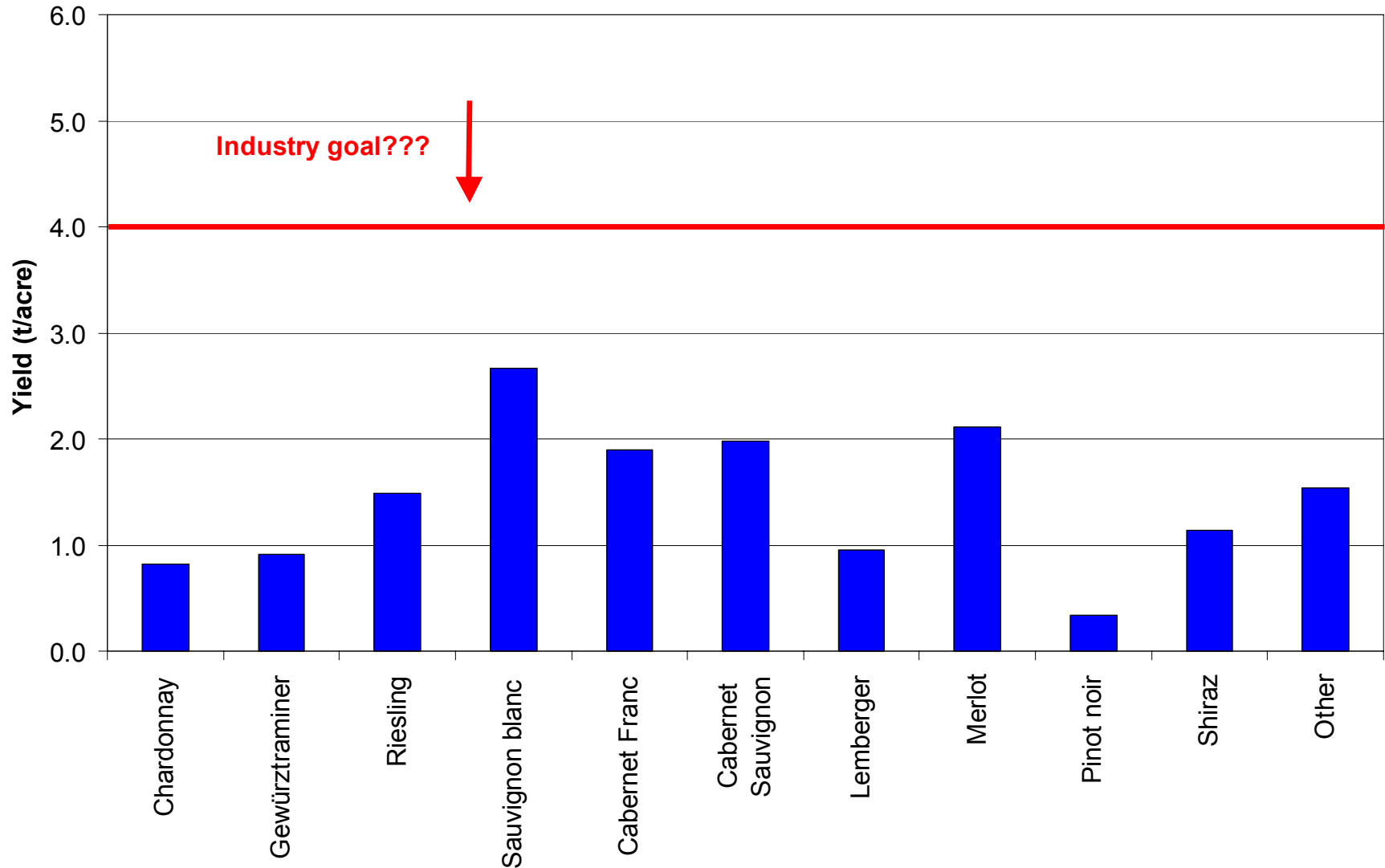
(Note: about 14 % of the area planted in 2001 did produce a crop in 2002, accounting for 1 % of production)

Survey results

Total vineyard area (acre)	544
Wineries	284 (52 %)
Contract growers	260 (48 %)
Producing vineyard area (acre)	430
Wineries	269 (63 %)
Contract growers	161 (37 %)
Average vineyard size (acre)	6.9
Total production (t)	653
Average yield (t/acre)	1.52
Average grape price (\$/t)	1,285
Average picking costs (\$/t)	149
Gross return (\$/acre)	3,024

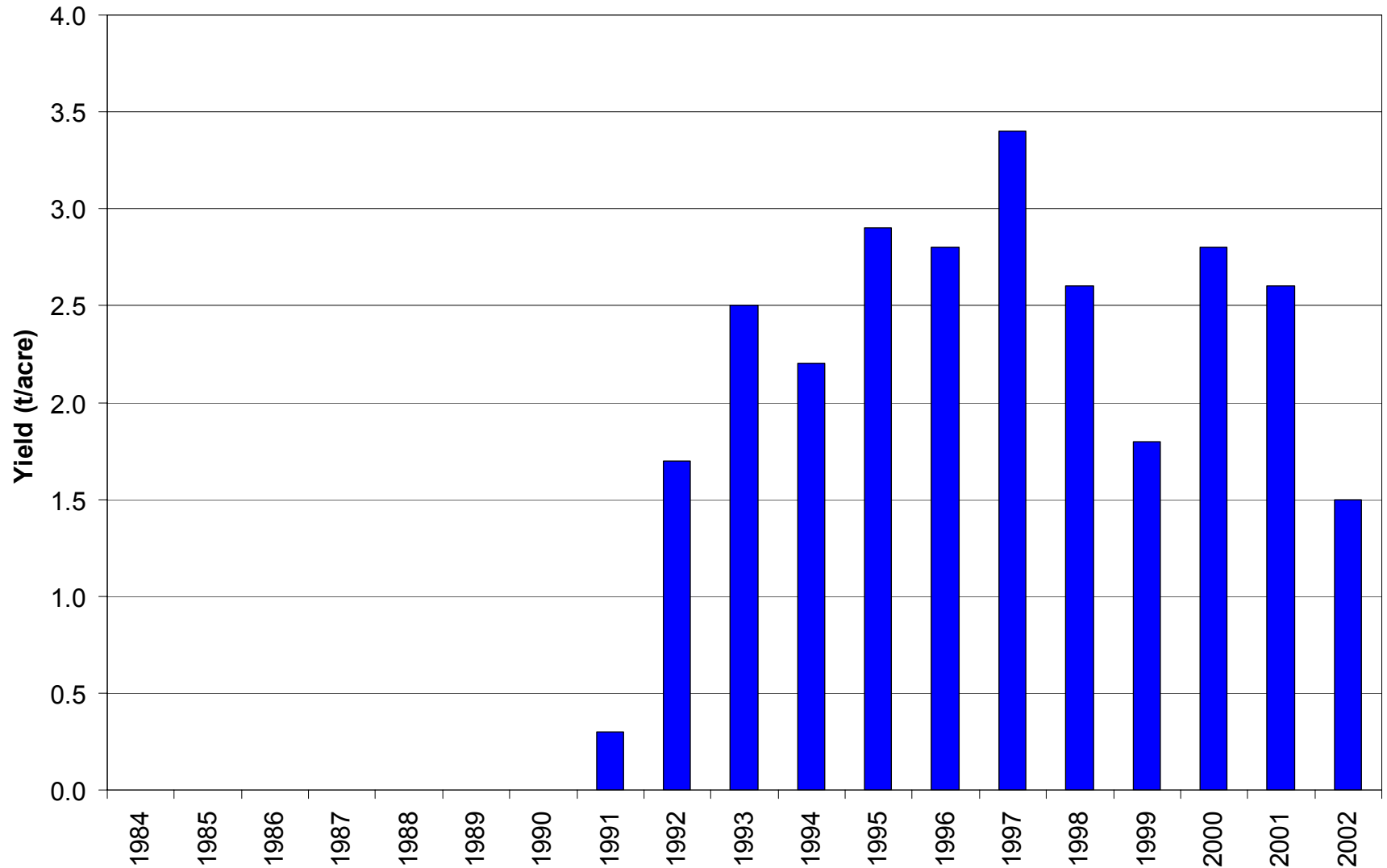
Colorado grape yield per acre by variety

Colorado grape yield per acre (2002)

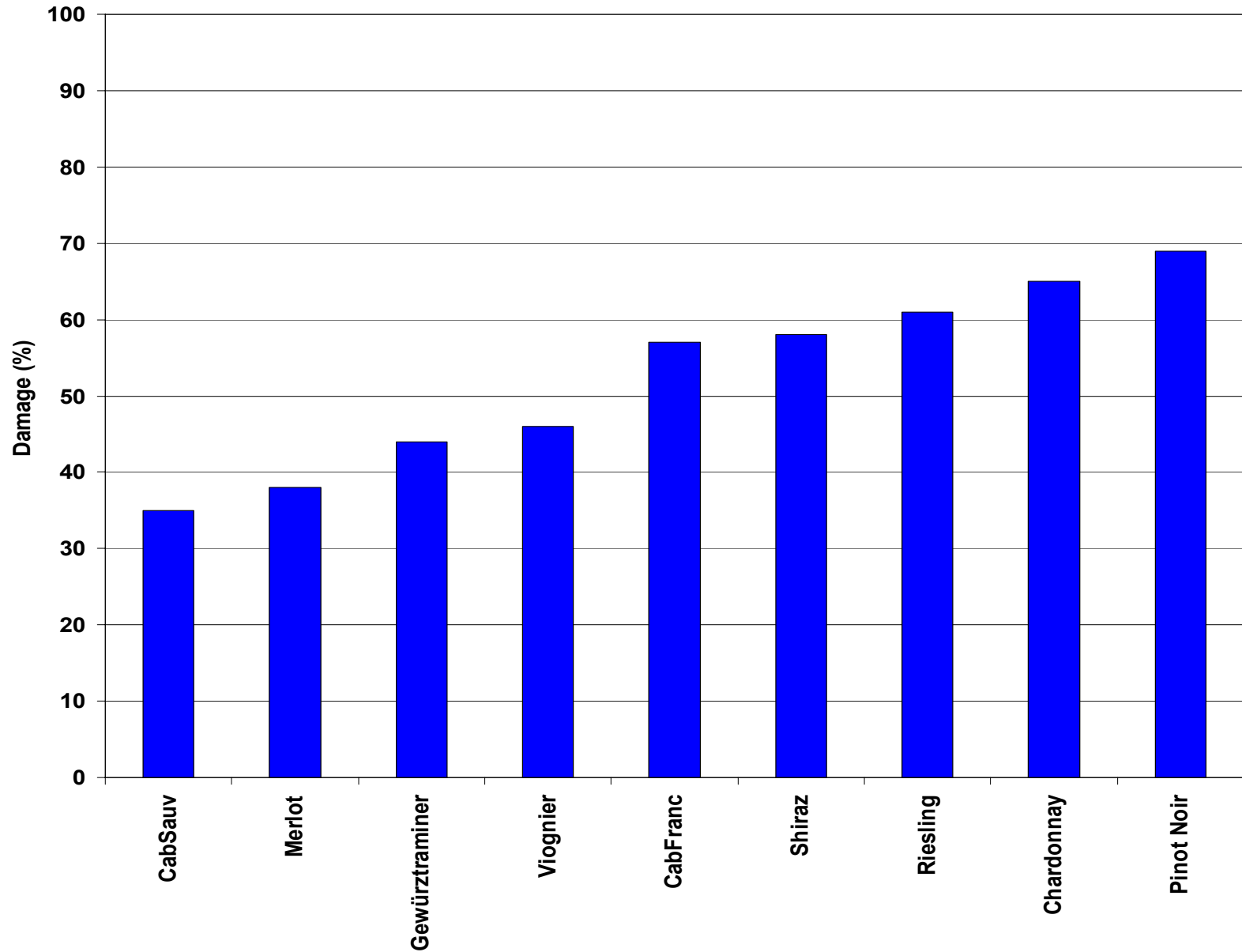


Colorado grape yield per acre by year

Colorado grape yield per acre

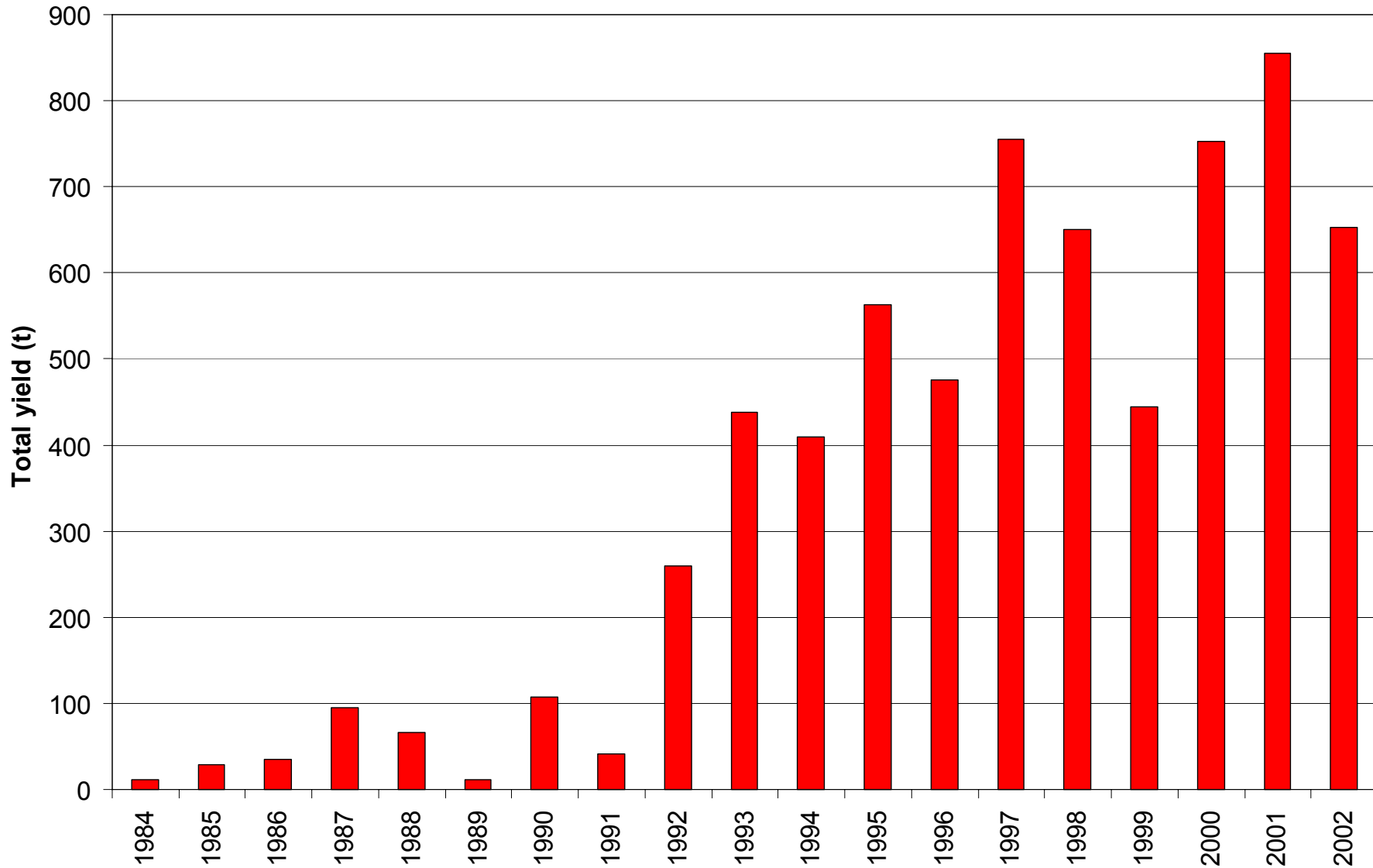


“Winter” damage in Colorado vineyards



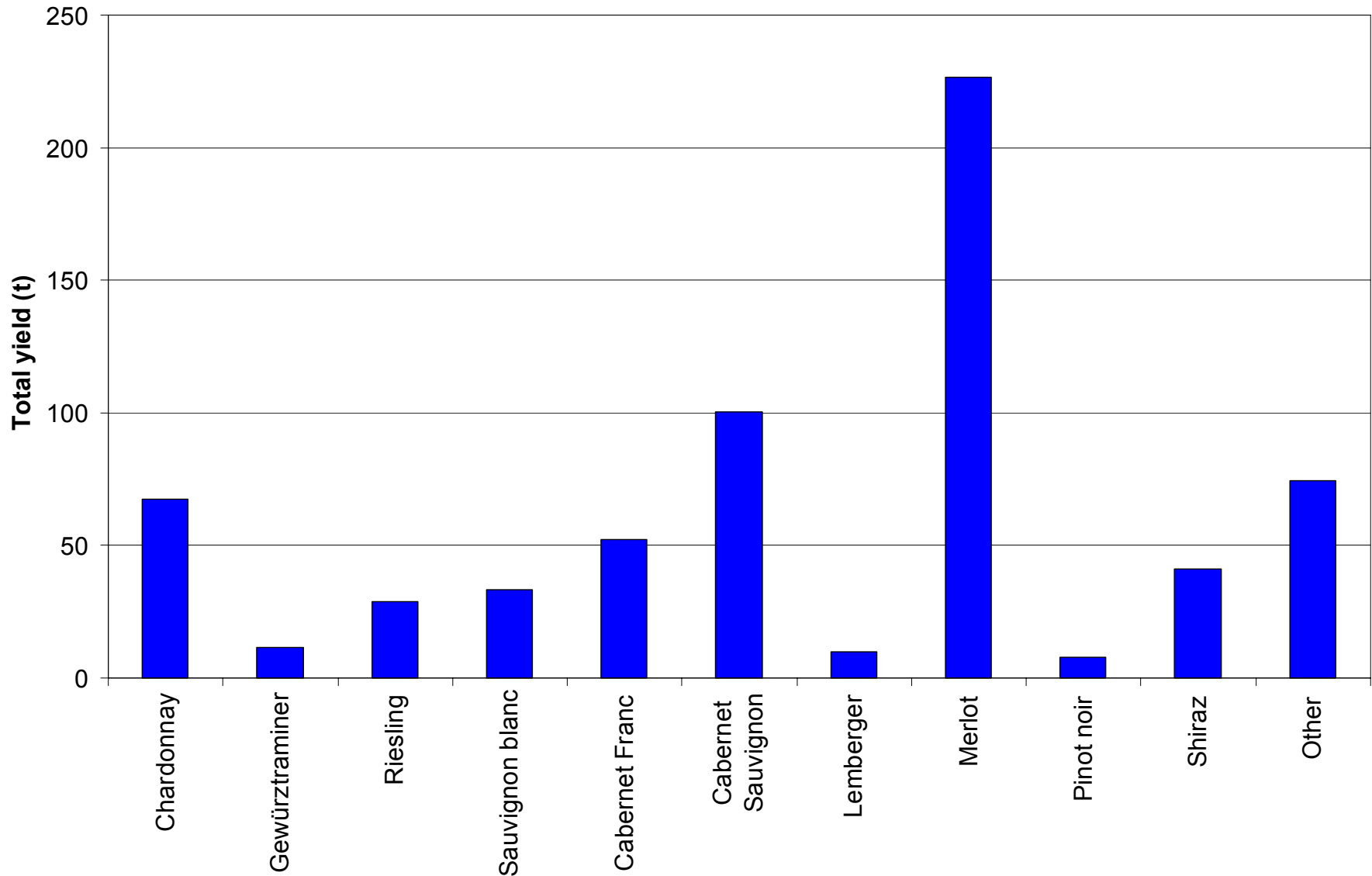
Colorado grape production by year

Colorado grape production

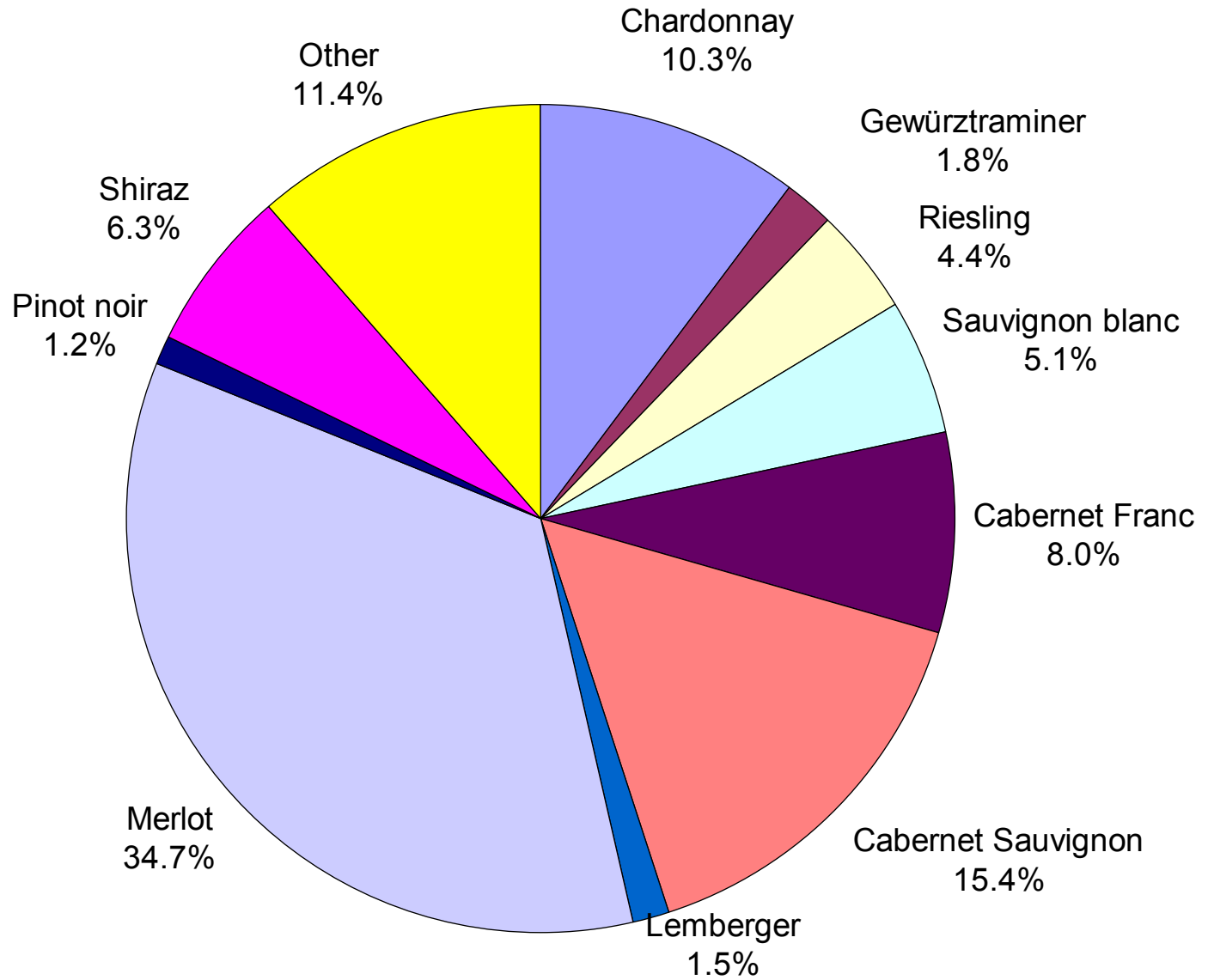


Colorado grape production by variety

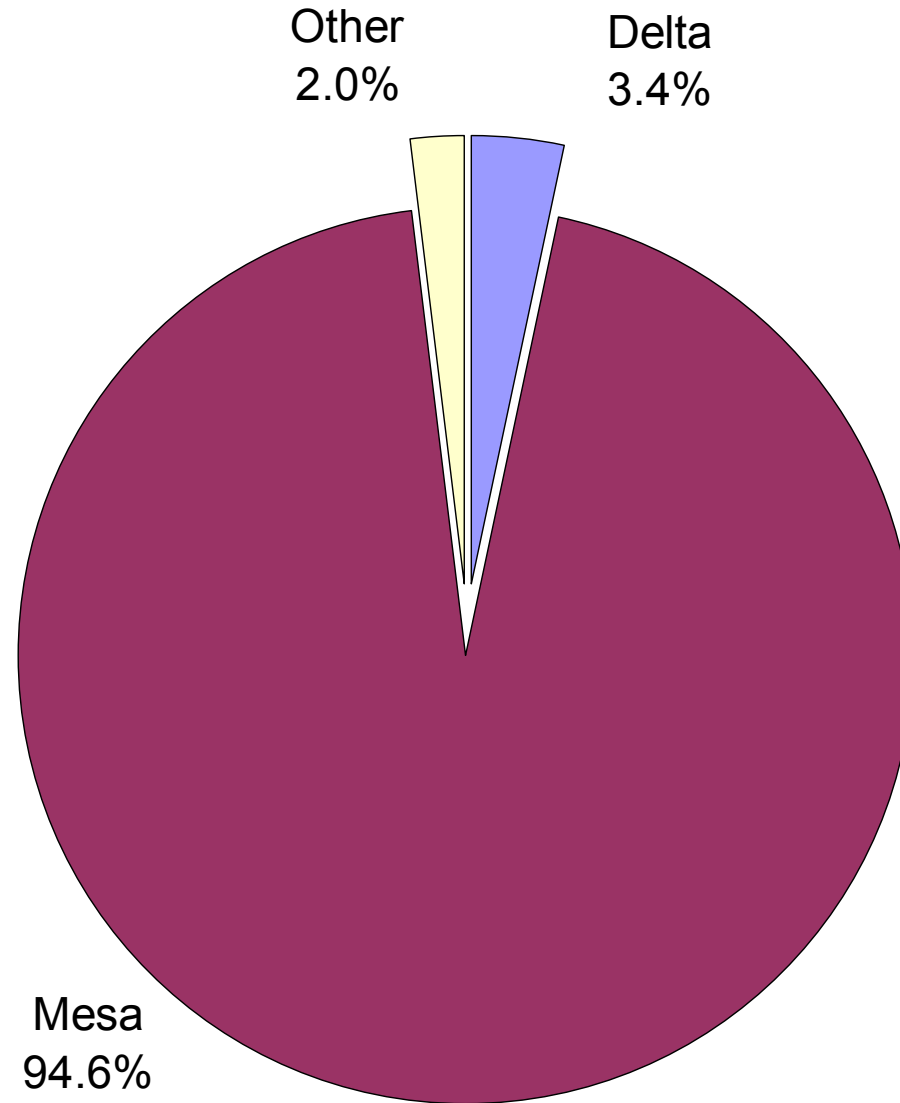
Colorado grape production (2002)



Colorado grape production by variety

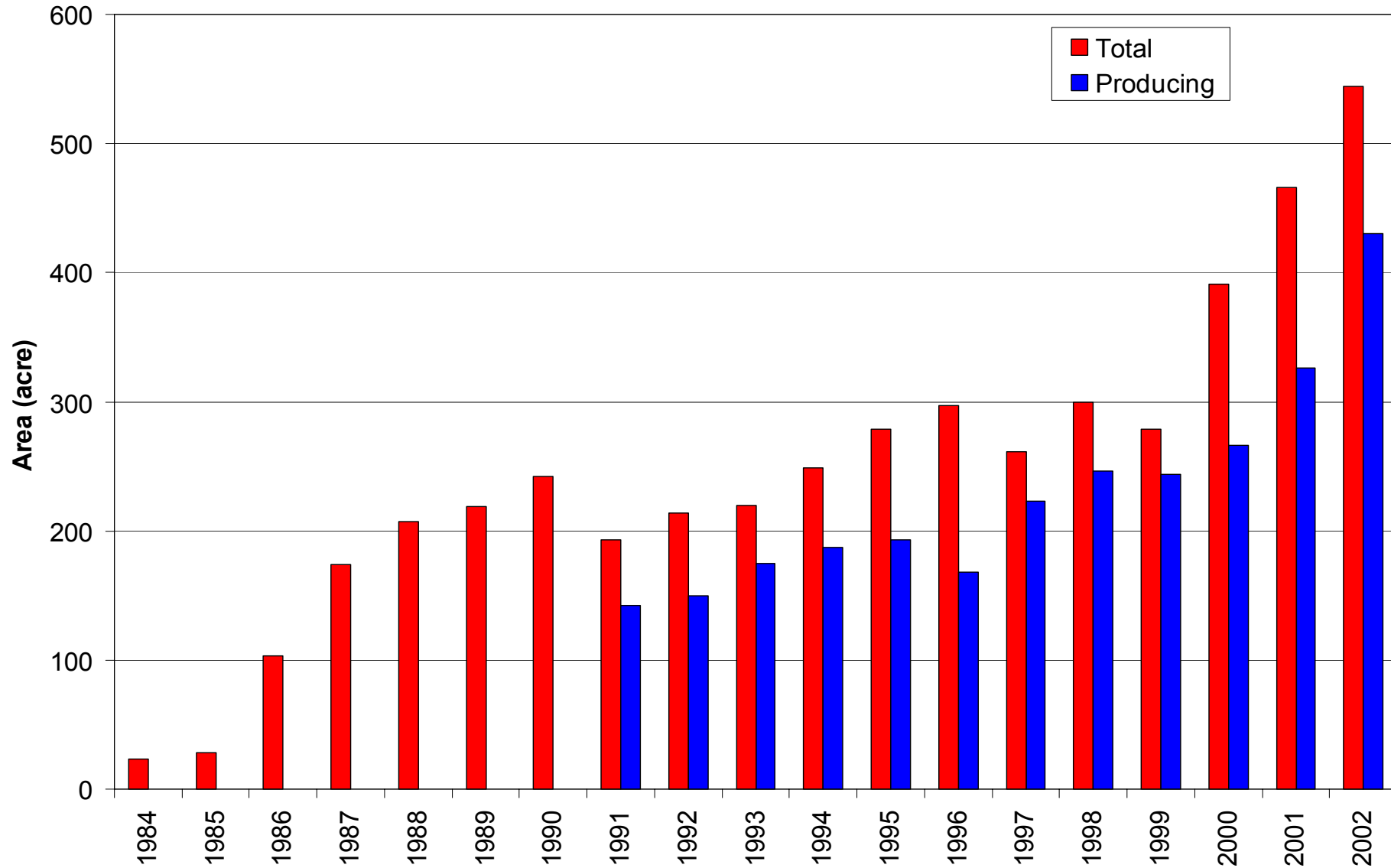


Colorado grape production by county



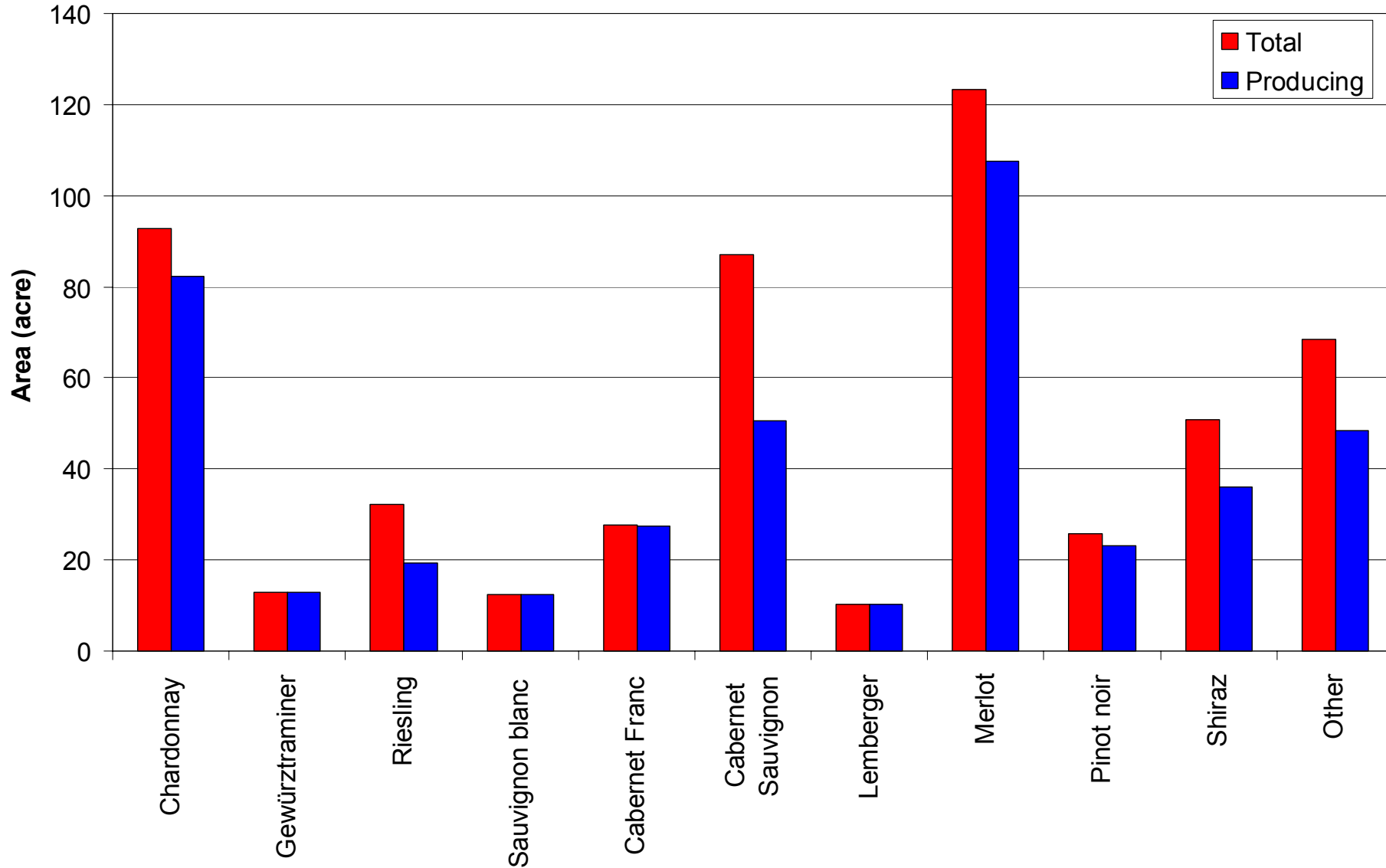
Colorado grape growing area by year

Colorado vineyard area



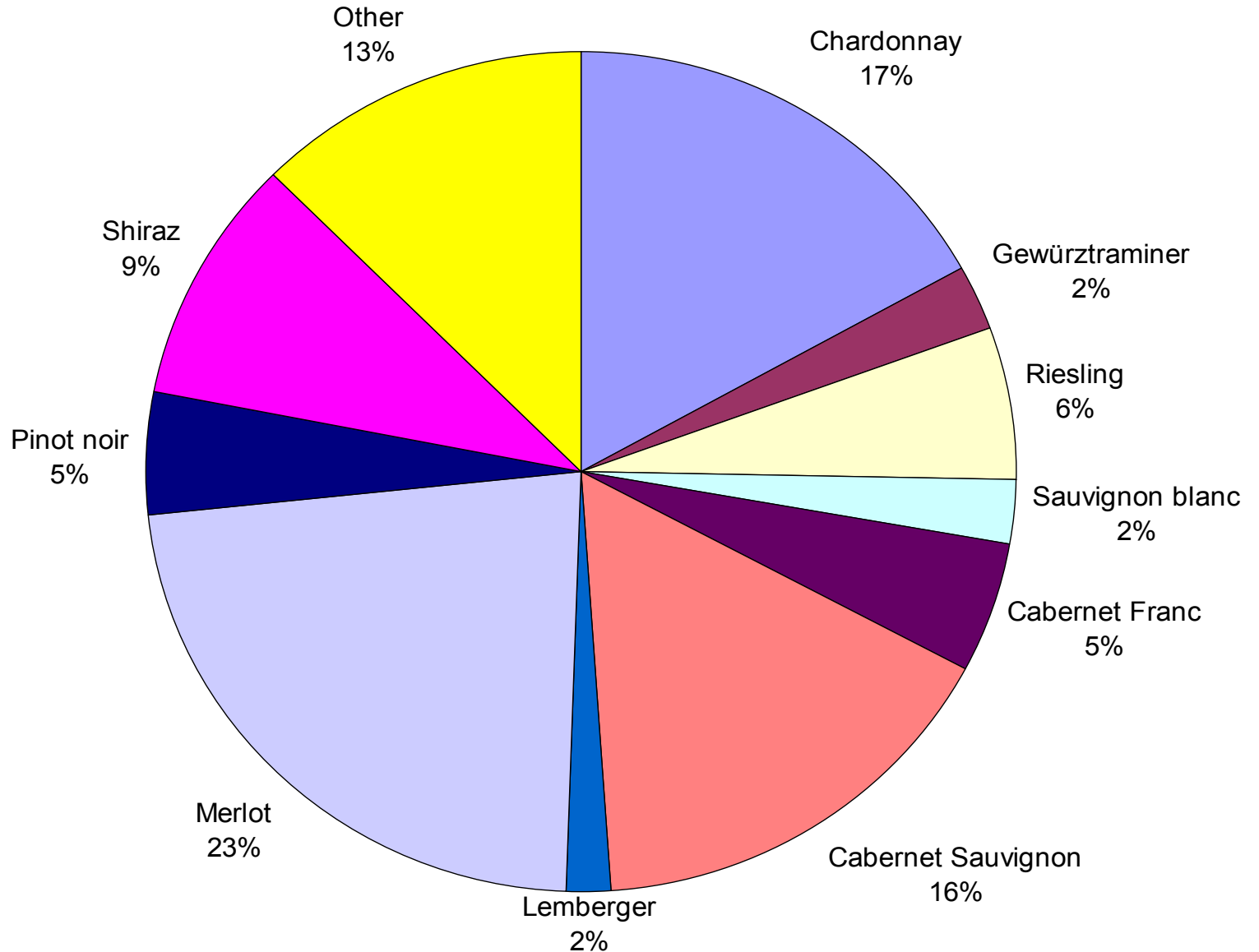
Colorado grape growing area by variety

Colorado vineyard area (2002)

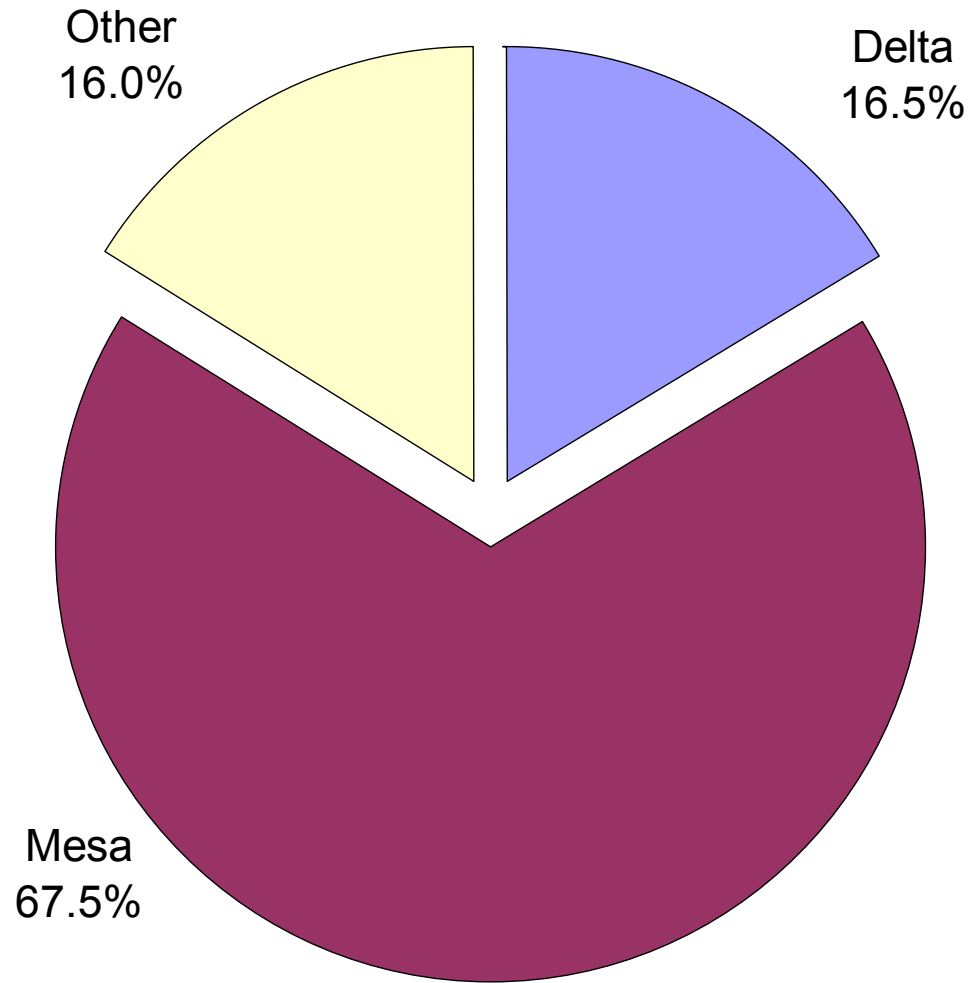


Colorado grape growing area by variety

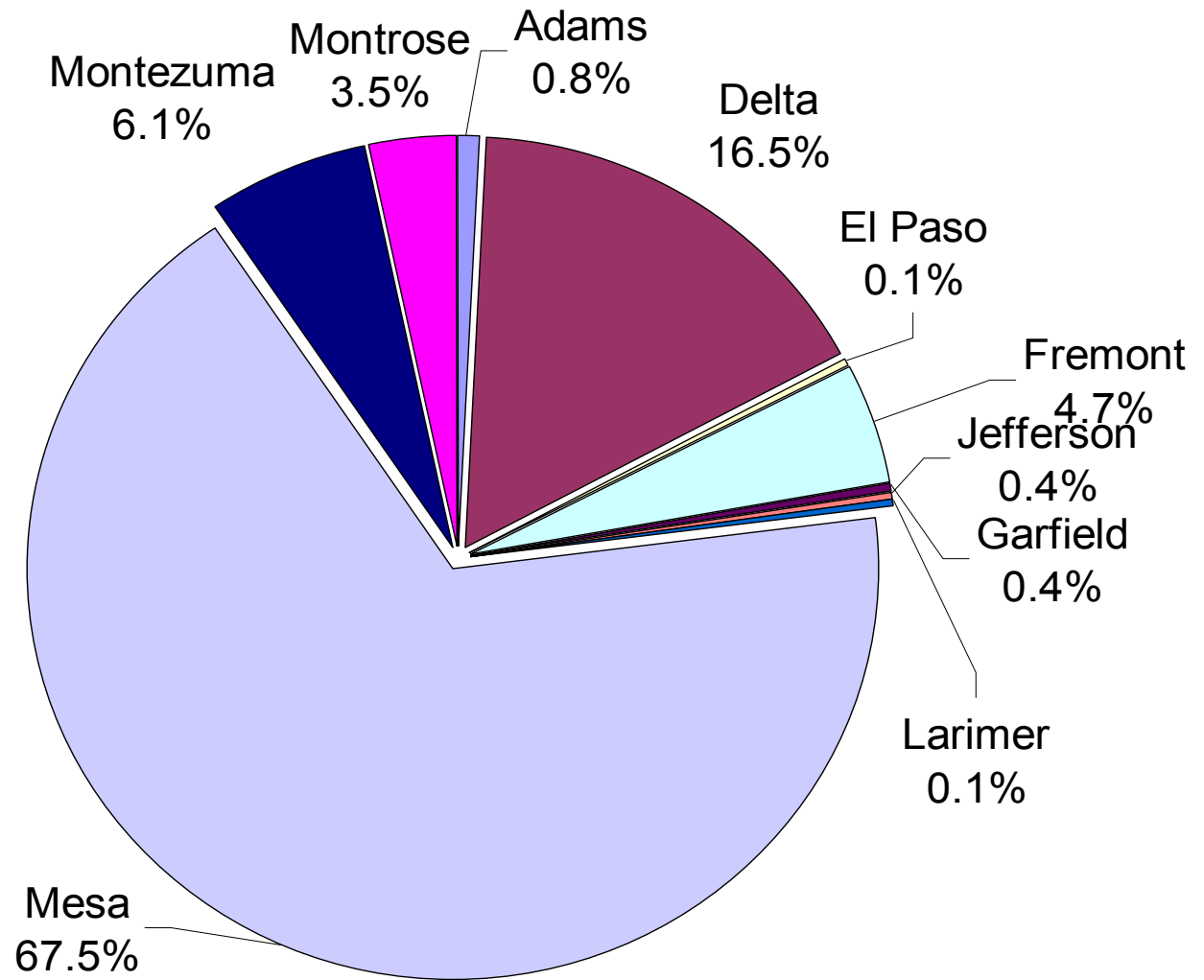
Colorado total vineyard area (2002)



Colorado total vineyard area by county

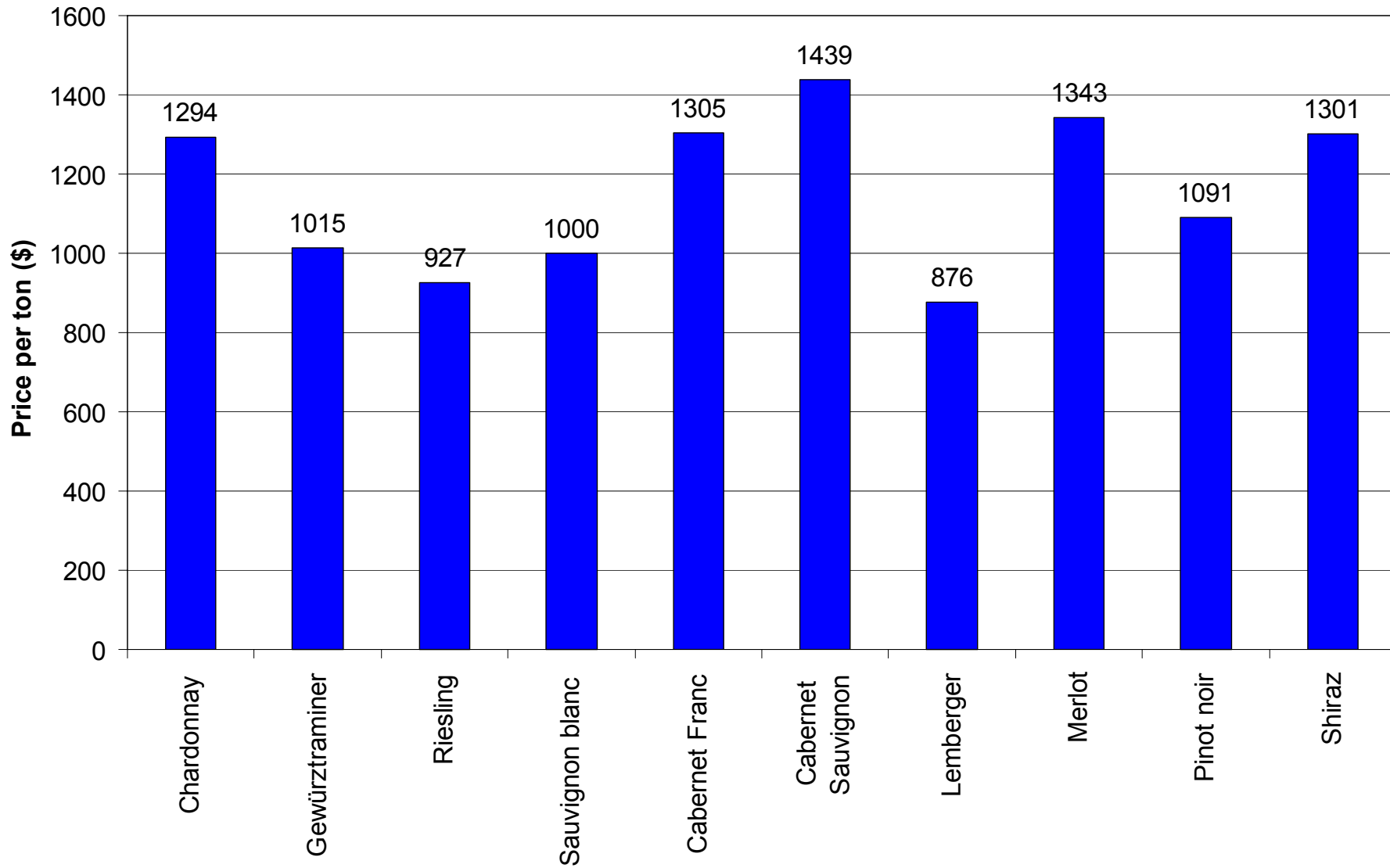


Colorado total vineyard area by county



Colorado grape prices by variety

Colorado grape prices (2002)



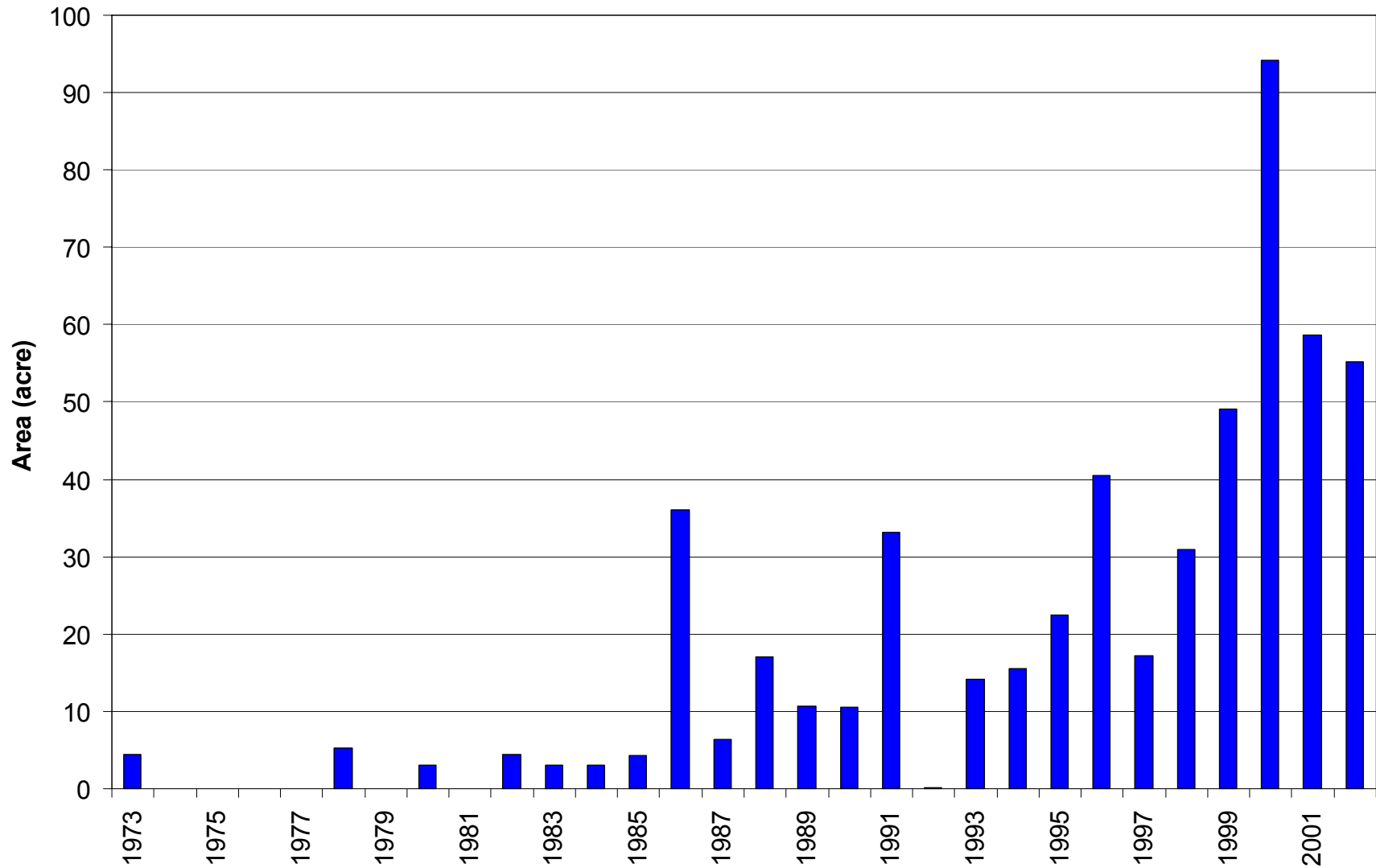
Four Corners Study – 30 years later

The Four Corners Study recommended the following *Vitis vinifera* varieties for higher elevation (> 4,000 ft) sites:

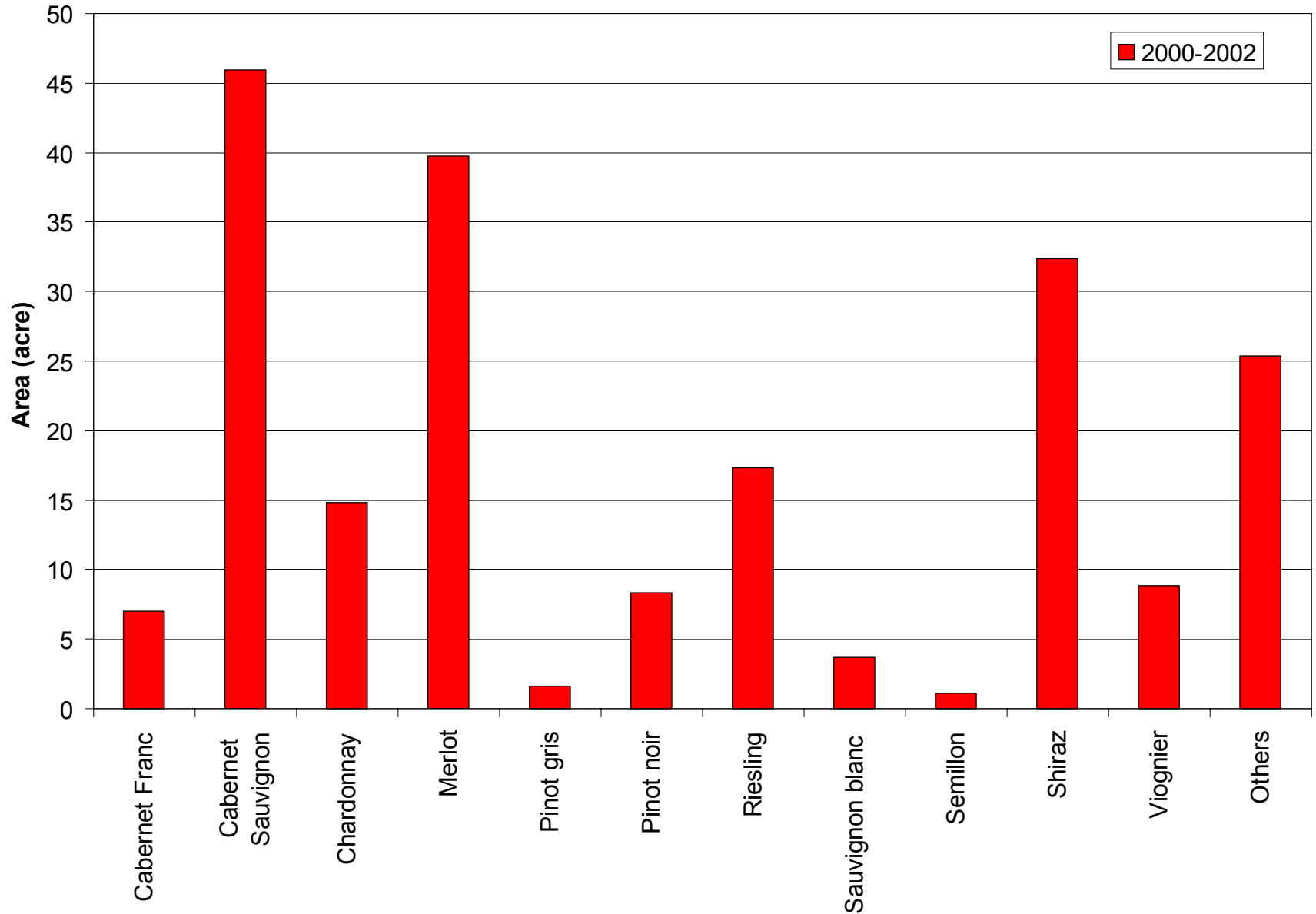
- Barbera
- Cabernet Sauvignon
- Chardonnay
- Chenin blanc
- Pinot noir
- Ruby Cabernet
- Sauvignon blanc
- Semillon
- Silvaner
- White Riesling
- Zinfandel

Colorado vineyards by planting year

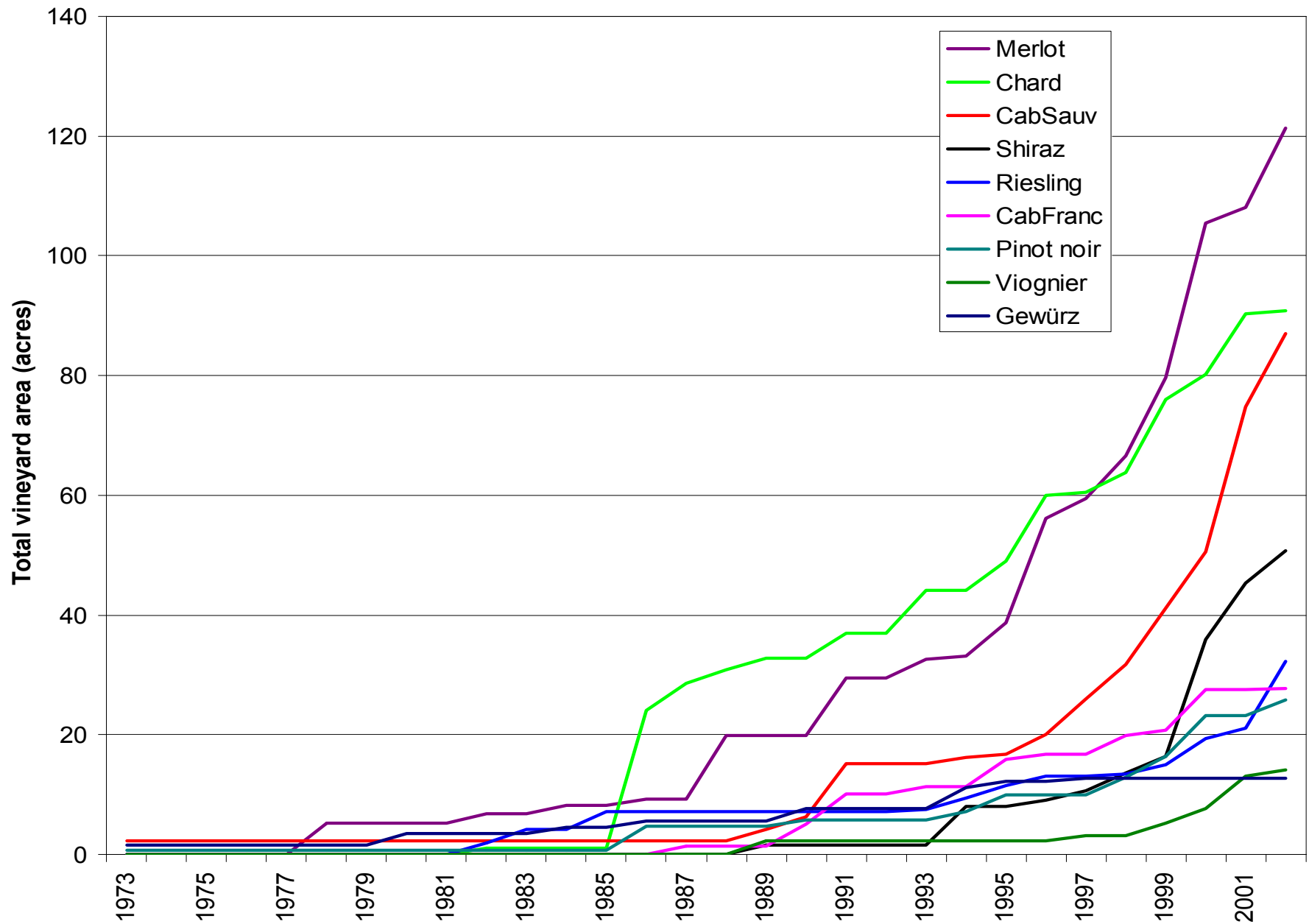
Colorado vineyards by planting year



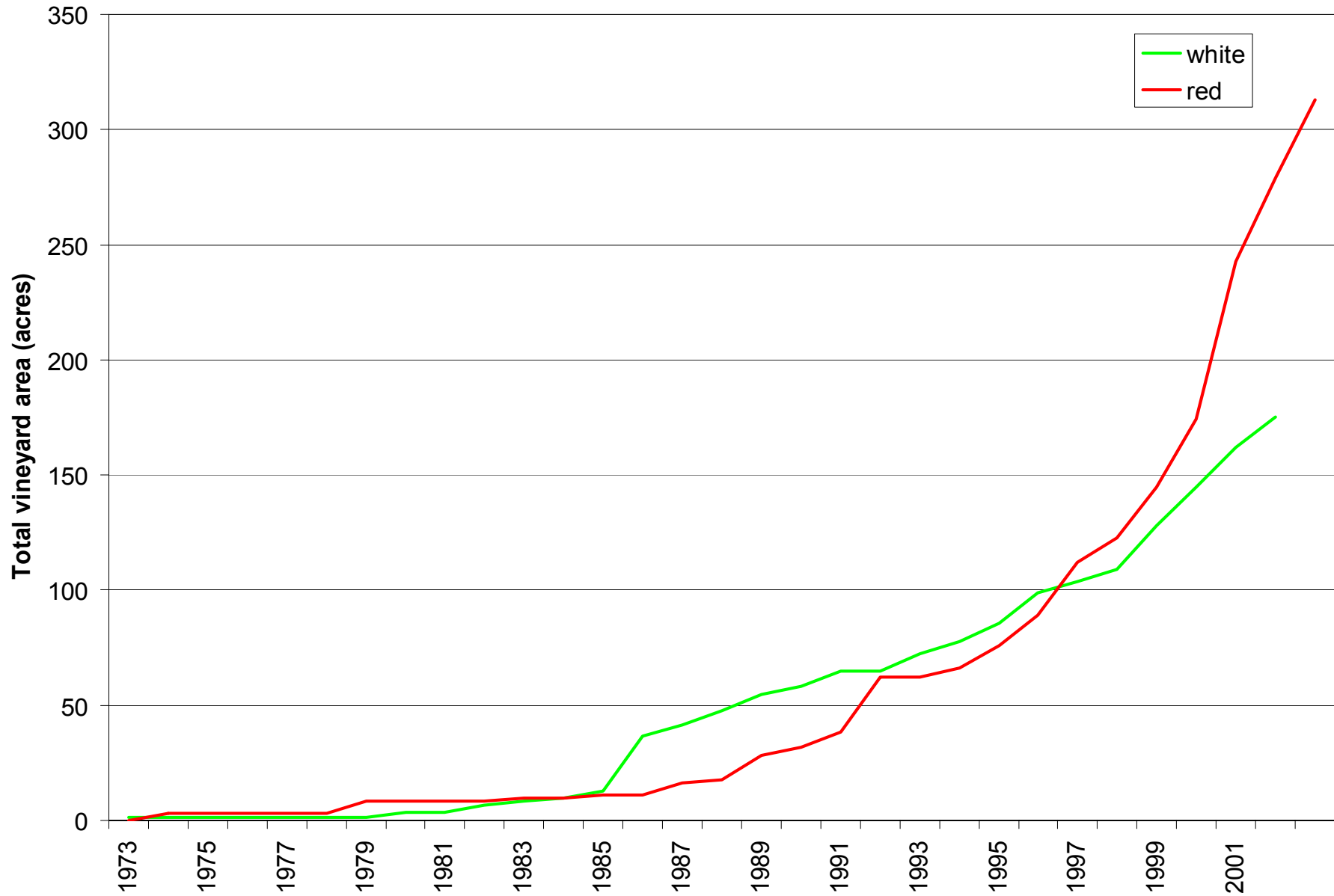
Colorado new area by variety



Colorado area by variety



Colorado wine varieties – a change for the heart?



The Future

In 2003, we will have

- 500+ acres of vines that are in their 3rd year or more
- At a moderate 2.5 t/acre we will have 1,250 tons
- At 3.5 t/acre we will have 1,750 tons
- The highest production in Colorado was ~900 tons in 2001
- Do we have the capacity to process the 2003 vintage?

The Future

In 2003, we have

- 49 (and counting) licensed wineries
- As of 2001, 31 licensed wineries had a combined capacity of ~1,900 tons
- BUT, how much wine do we have in tanks/barrels?
- Do we know our Stock:Sales ratio?

Acknowledgements

Thanks to

- All growers who responded to the survey
- CWIDB for funding the survey
- Cate Hight & Amy Montano, CSU for help with data entry, analysis, and presentation

Thank you for your attention

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“Guesstimate” of Colorado grape growing area

Total vineyard area (acre)	598
Wineries	294 (49 %)
Contract growers	304 (51 %)
Producing vineyard area (acre)	483
Wineries	279 (58 %)
Contract growers	204 (42 %)
Average vineyard size (acre)	5.9
Number of growers	101

Note: This “guesstimate” was prepared from data provided in the 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 Survey. A number of growers never responded to either of those surveys. Taking into account non-respondents, I estimate the total Colorado vineyard area at around 600-650 acres.

Dr Horst Caspari
August 1, 2003

"Guesstimate" of Colorado grape growing area

"Guesstimate" of Colorado vineyard area (2002)

