

# 2003 Grower Survey

**Horst Caspari**  
**Colorado State University**  
**Western Colorado Research Center**  
**Grand Junction, CO 81503**  
**Ph: (970) 434-3264**

# Survey summary

Survey forms sent	146
Survey forms returned	95
Commercial growers	91
Mail undelivered	3
Not a commercial grower	1
Rate of return	65 %

# Definition

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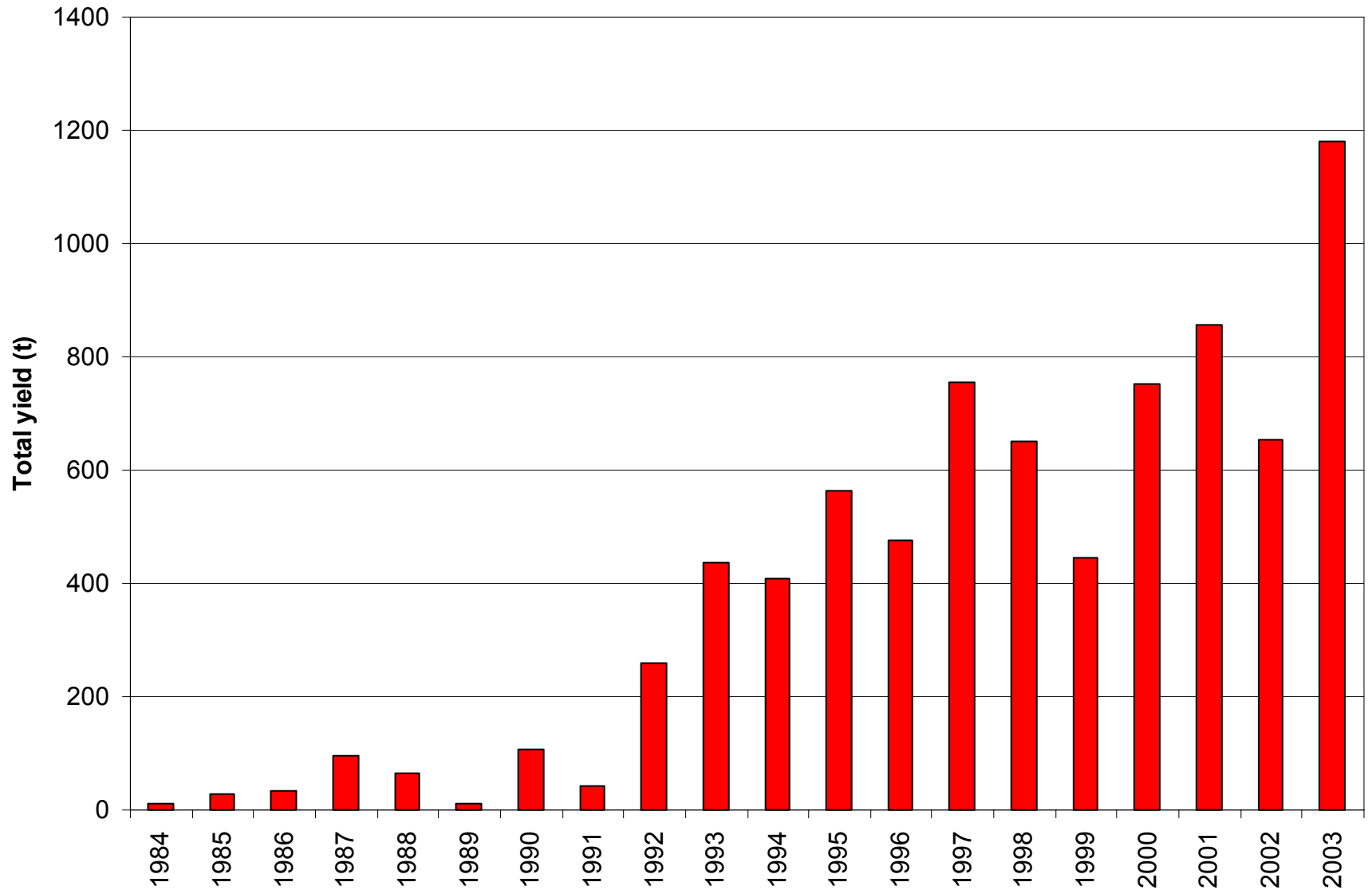
“Producing area”

- vineyards that were planted prior to 2002

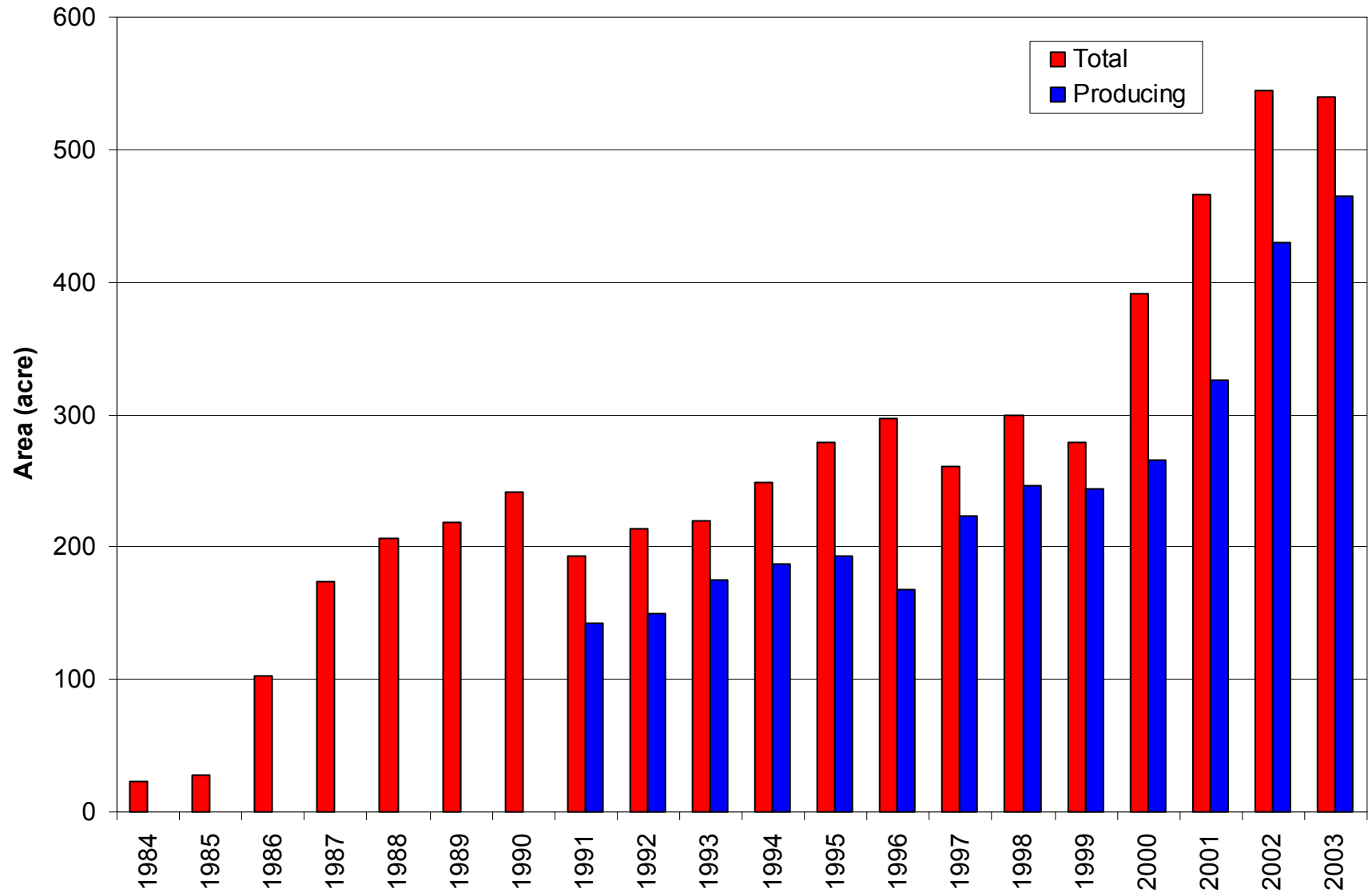
# Survey results

Total vineyard area (acre)	538
Wineries	291 (54 %)
Contract growers	247 (46 %)
Producing vineyard area (acre)	469
Wineries	280 (60 %)
Contract growers	189 (40 %)
Average vineyard size (acre)	6.21
Total production (t)	1,179
Average yield (t/acre)	2.52
Average grape price (\$/t)	1,236
Average picking costs (\$/t)	194
Gross return (\$/acre)	3,170

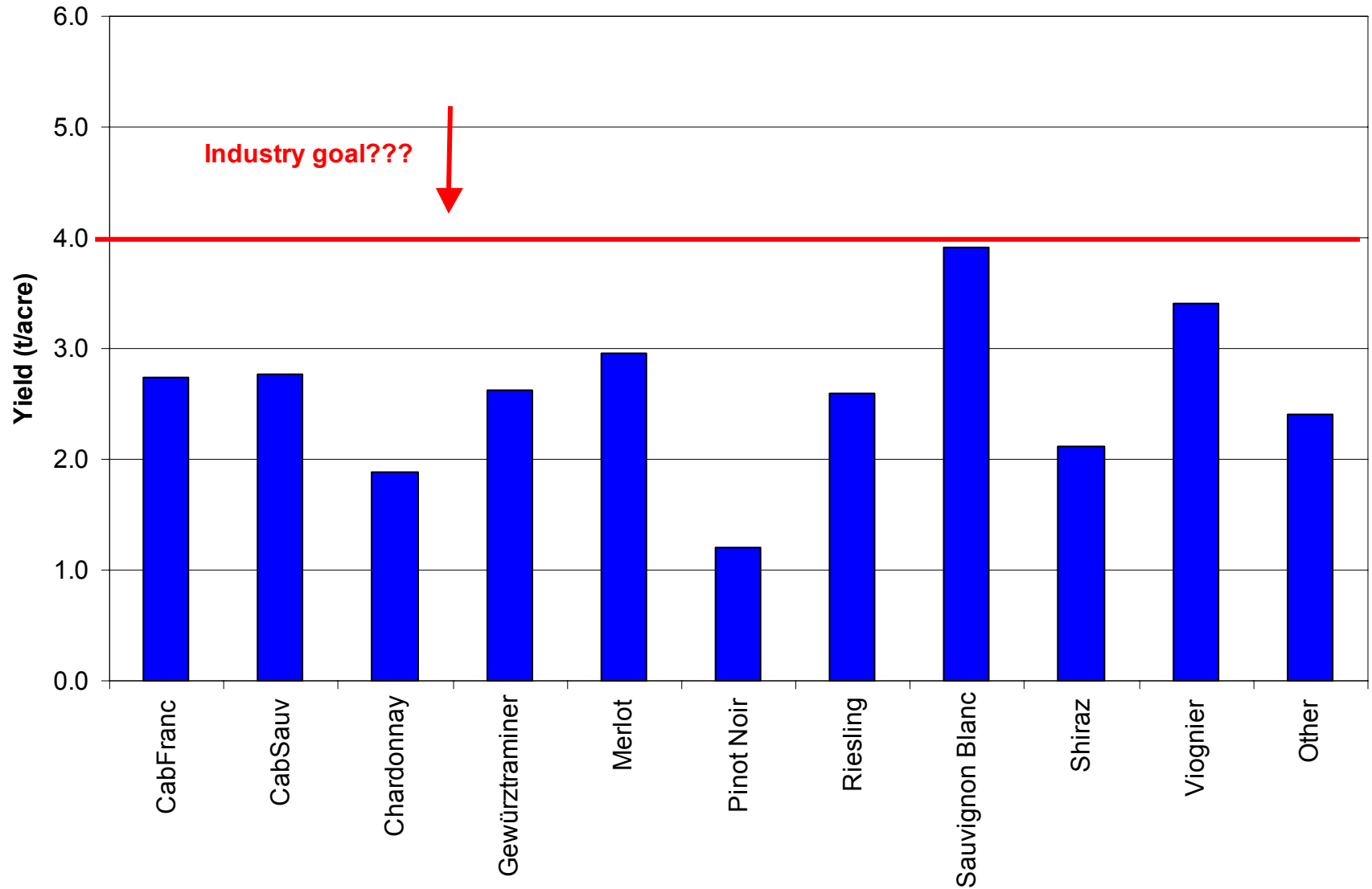
# Colorado grape production by year



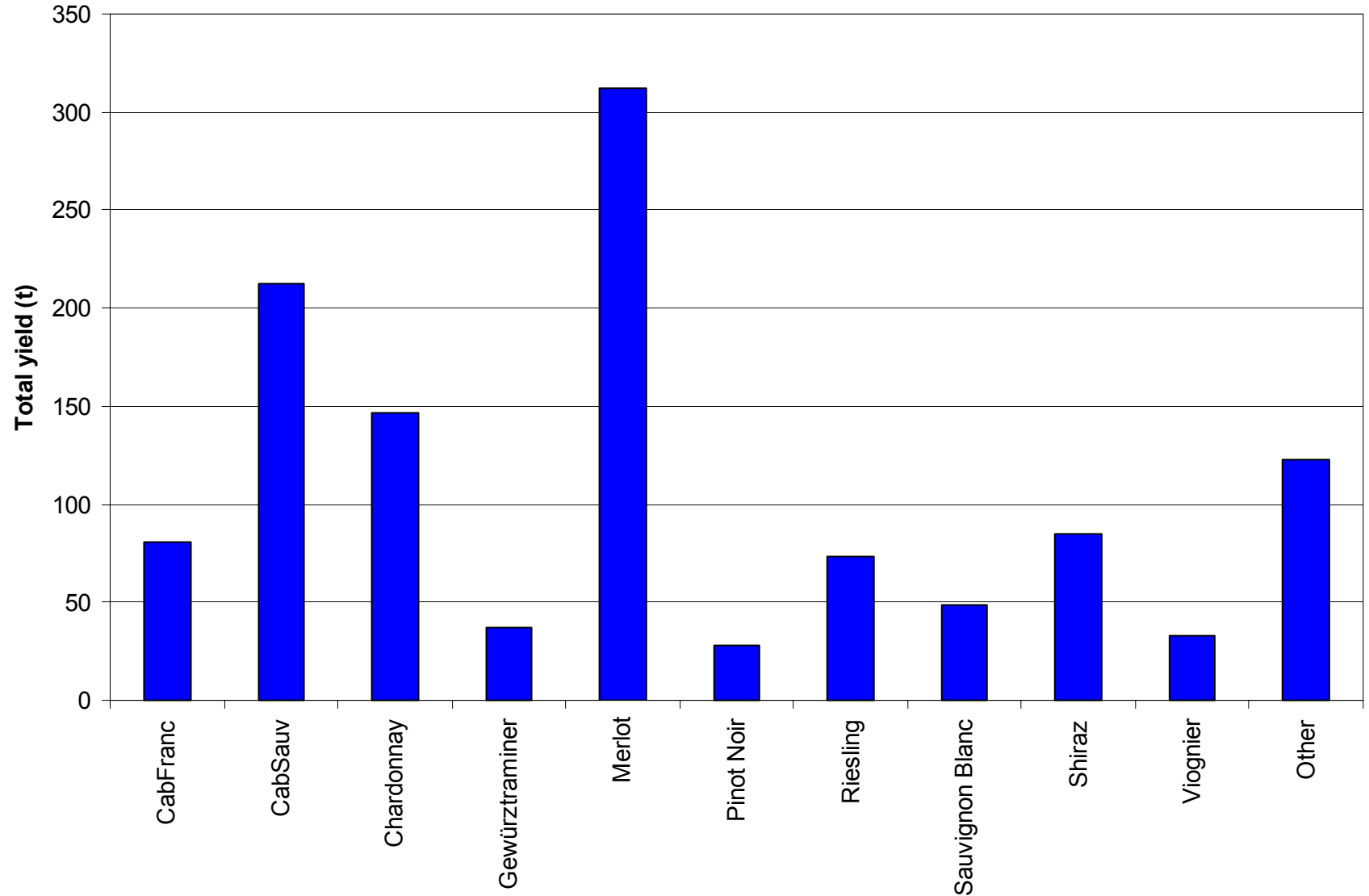
# Colorado grape growing area by year



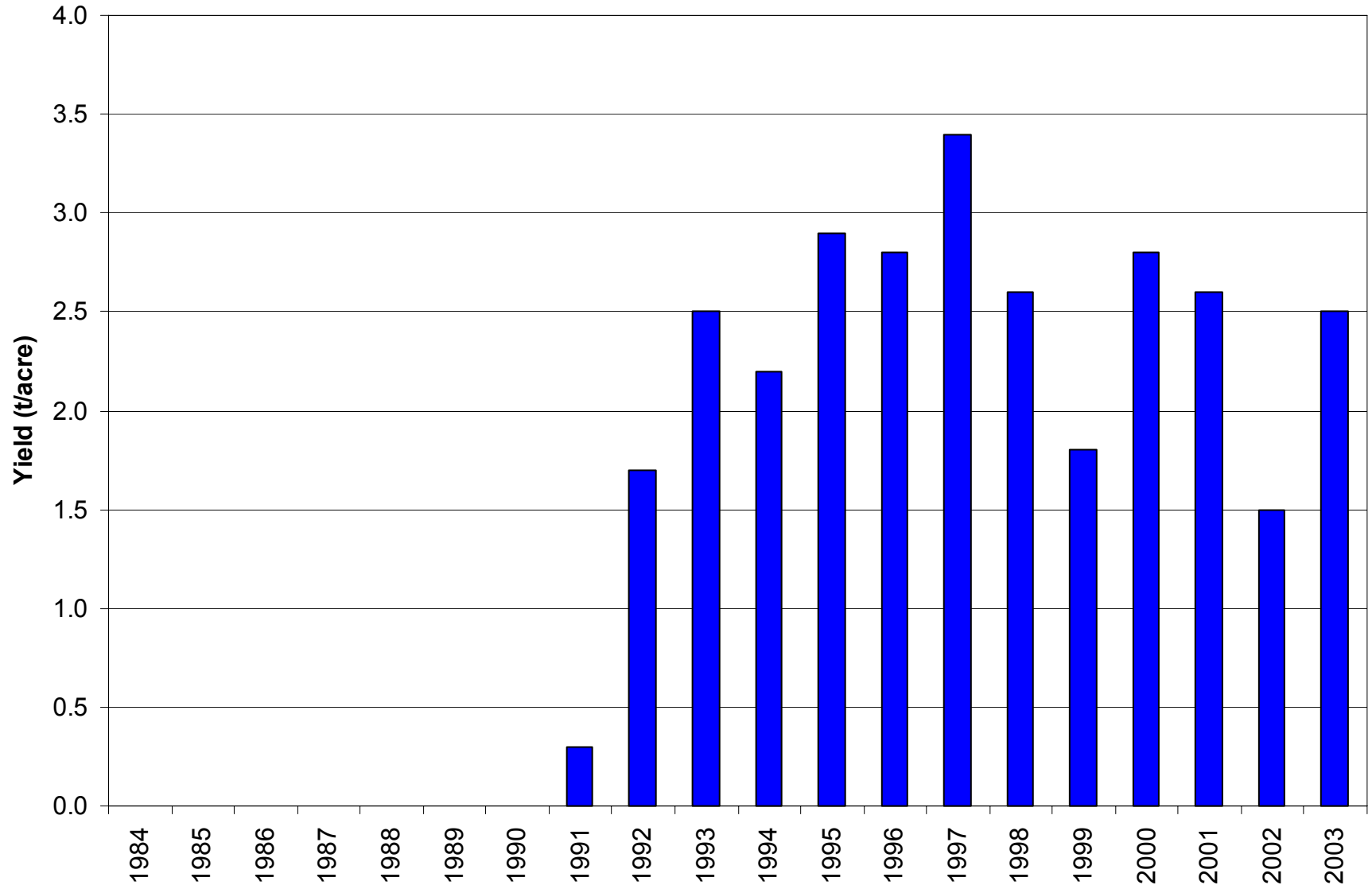
# Colorado grape yield per acre by variety



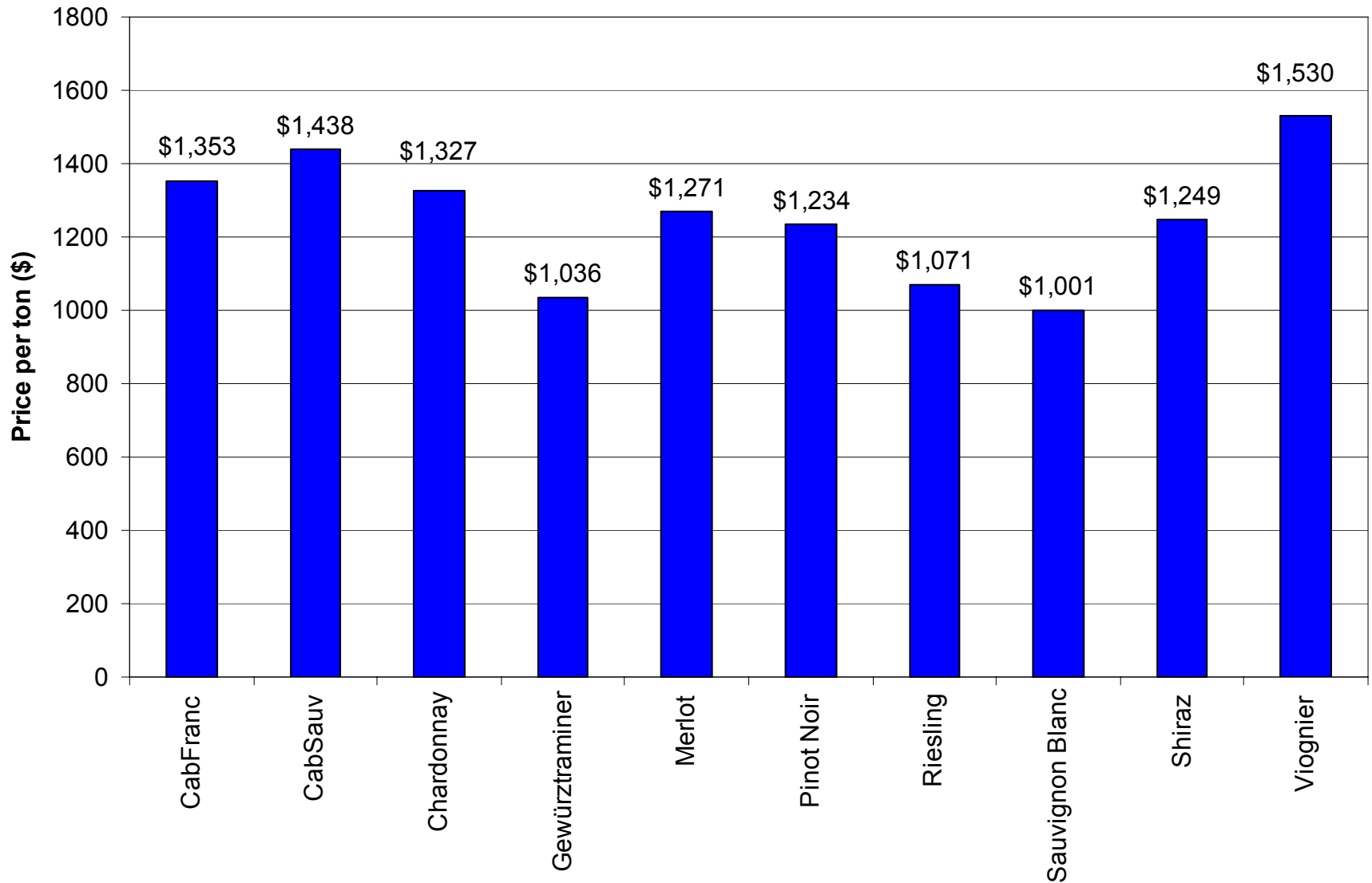
# Colorado grape production by variety



# Colorado grape yield per acre by year



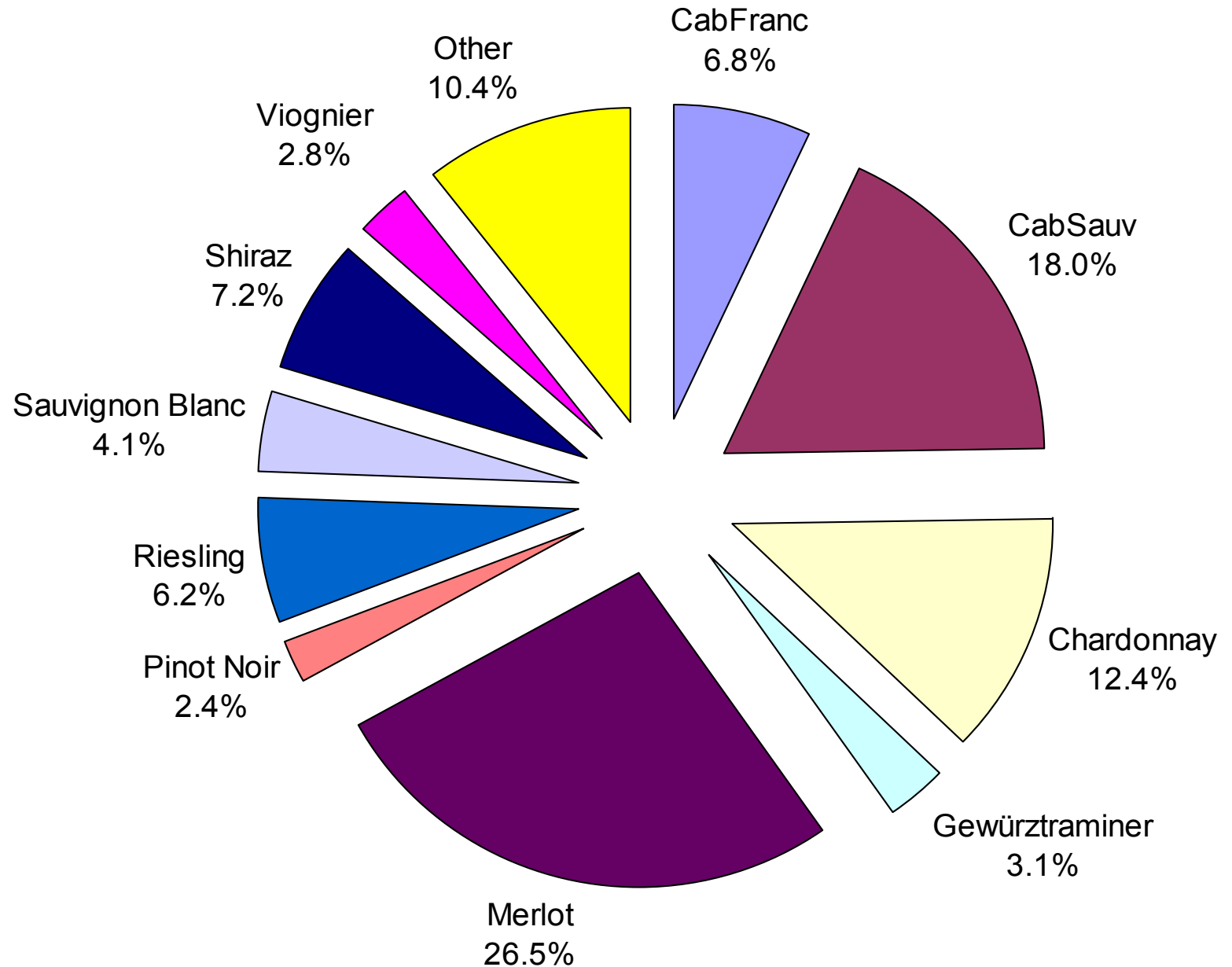
# Colorado grape prices for main varieties



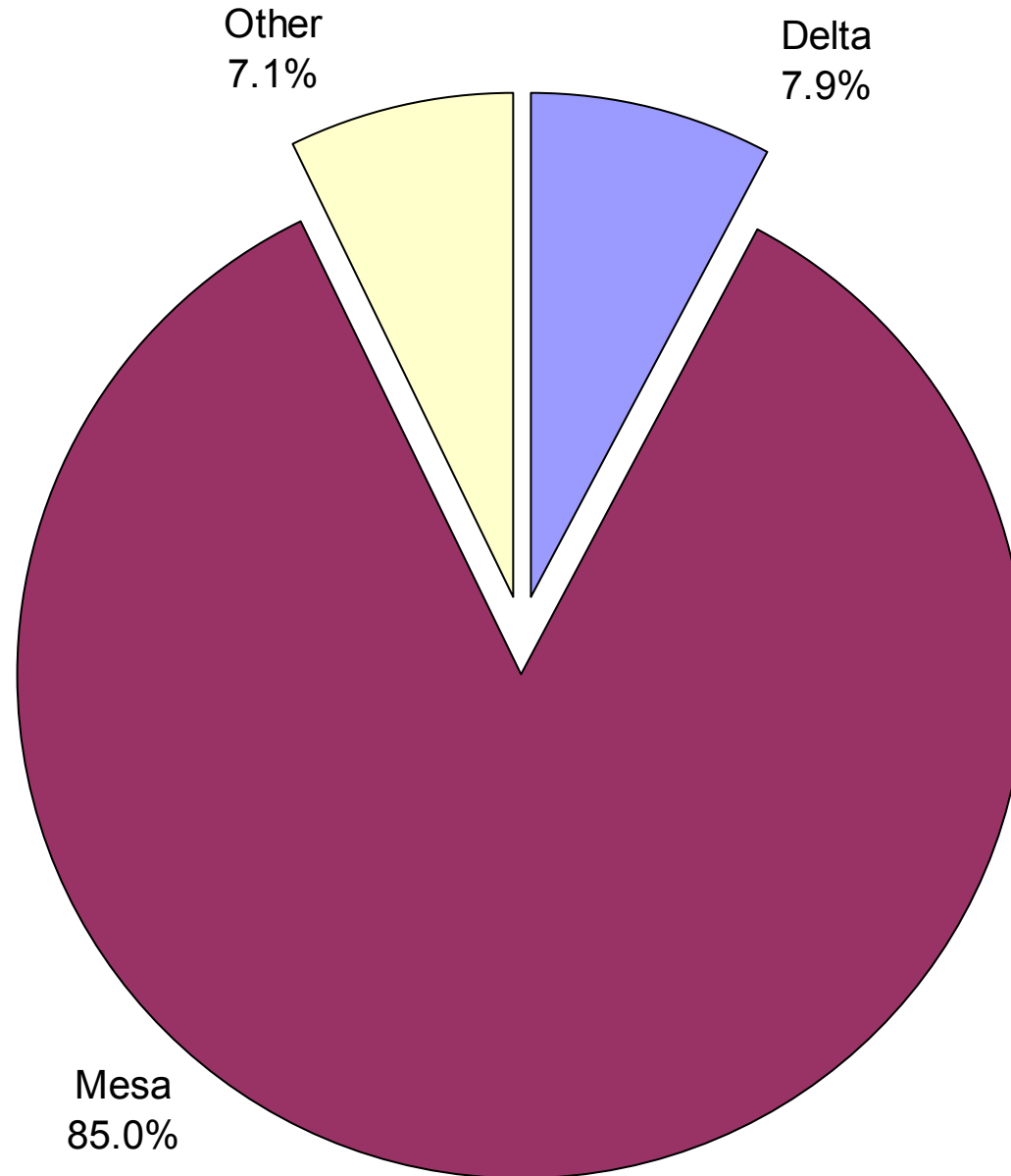
# Colorado grape prices for main varieties

Variety	Average	Range
Cabernet Sauvignon	\$1,353	\$1,200-\$1,500
Cabernet Franc	\$1,438	\$900-\$1,500
Chardonnay	\$1,327	\$1,100-\$2,500
Gewürztraminer	\$1,036	\$900-\$1,400
Lemberger	\$820	\$800-\$1,000
Merlot	\$1,271	\$900-\$1,500
Muscat (various)	\$935	\$846-\$1,100
Pinot noir	\$1,234	\$800-\$2,500
Riesling	\$1,071	\$800-\$1,200
Syrah / Shiraz	\$1,249	\$1,000-\$1,500
Viognier	\$1,530	\$1,200-\$1,700

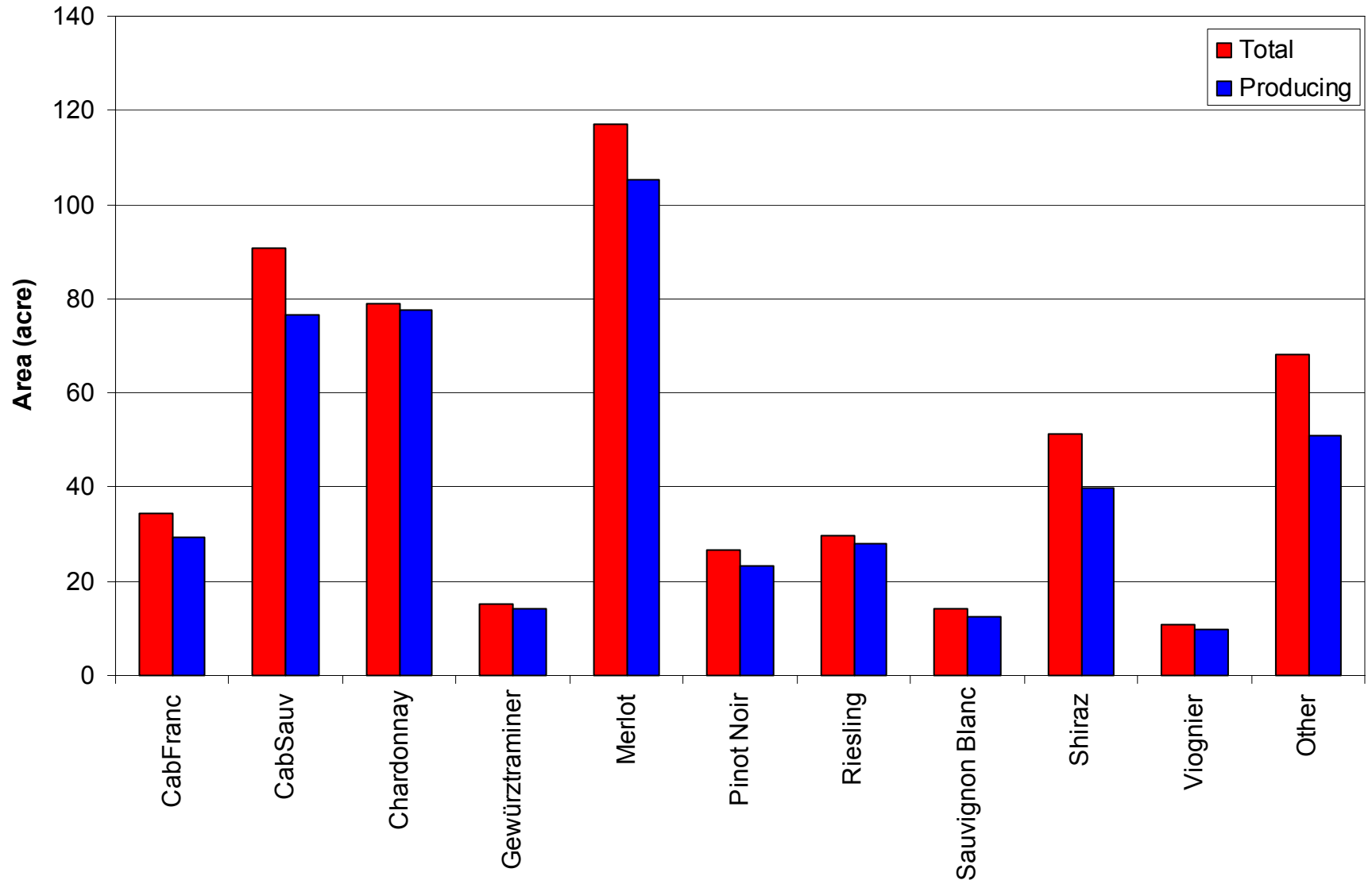
# Colorado grape production by variety



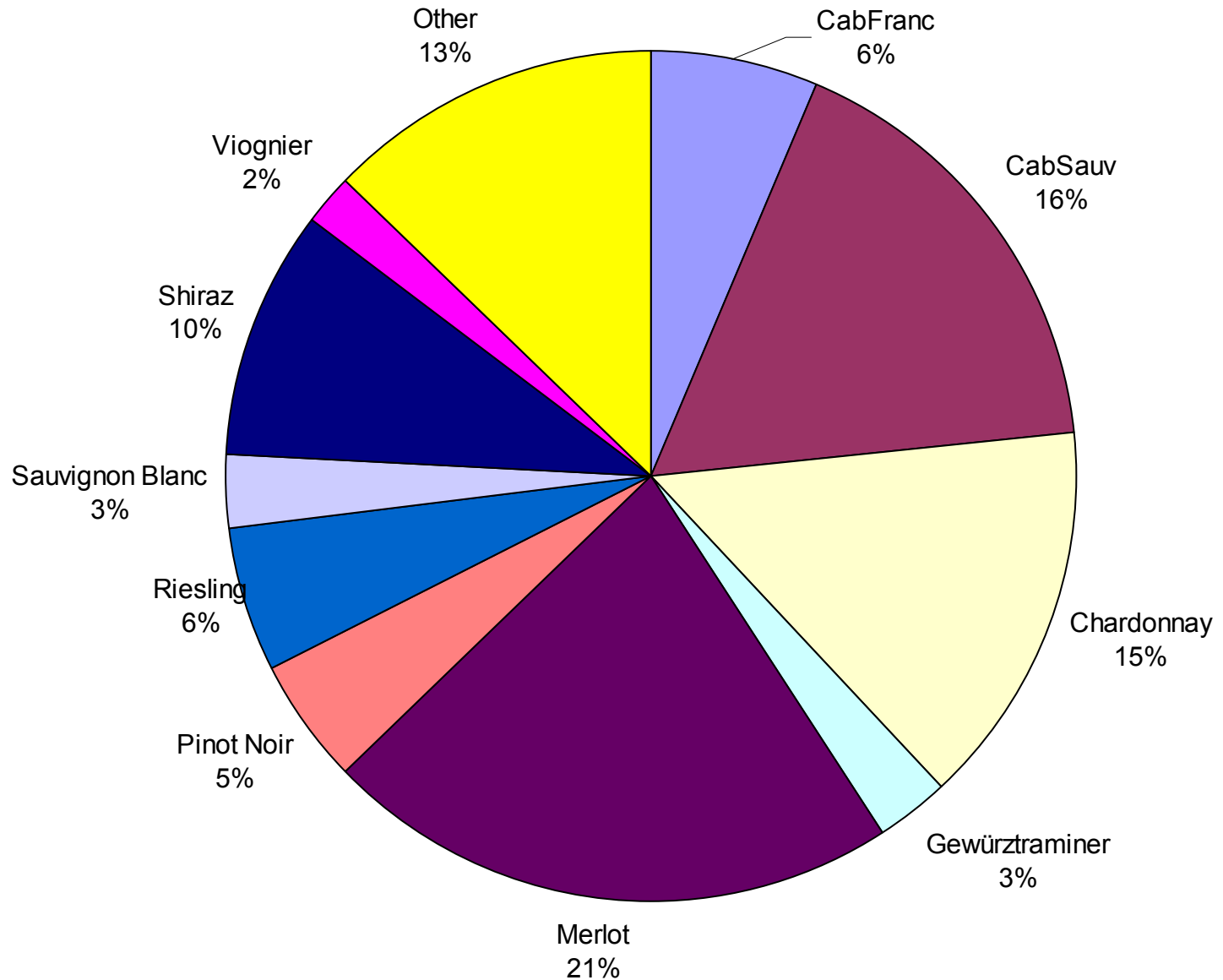
# Colorado grape production by county



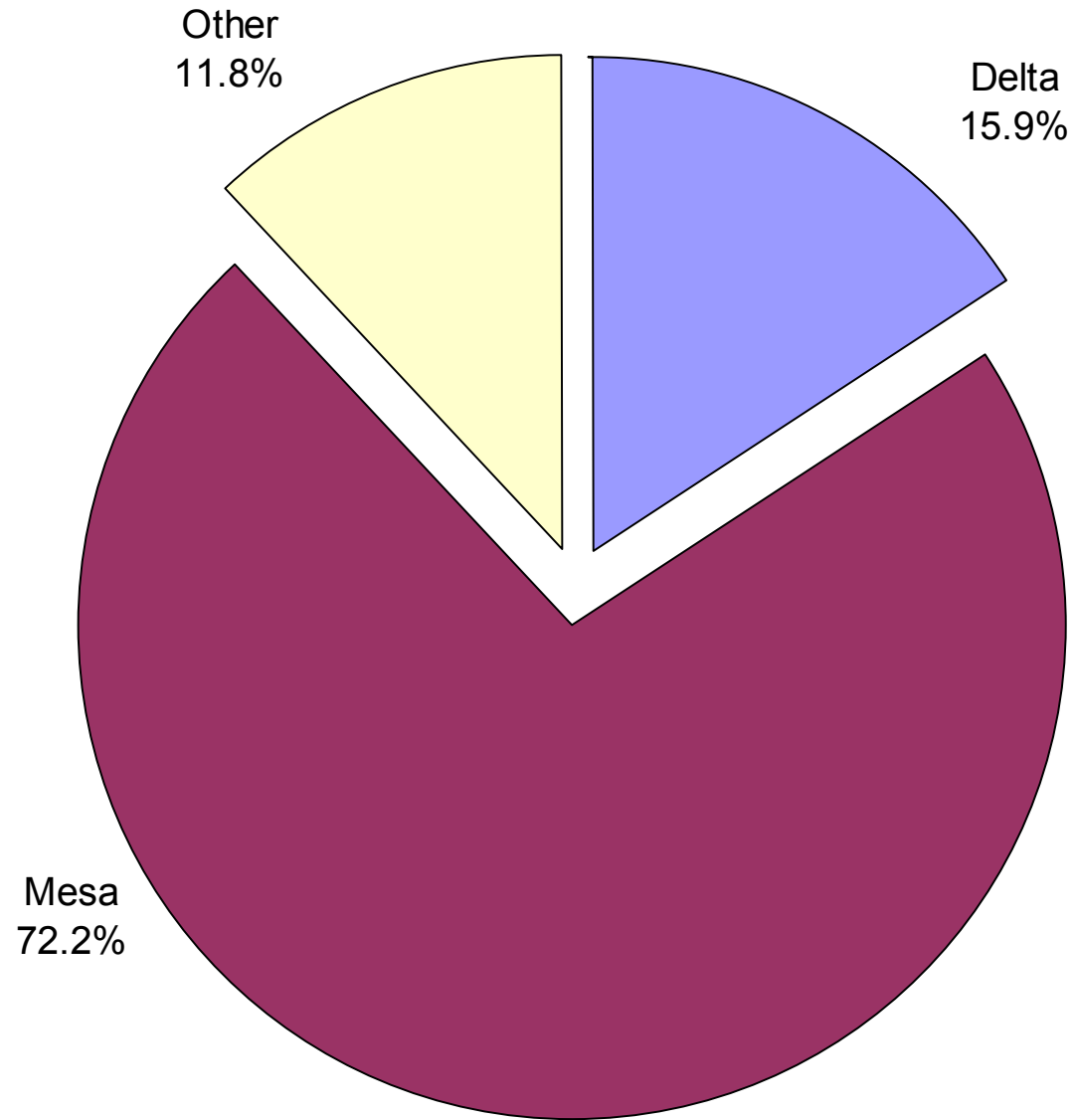
# Colorado grape growing area by variety



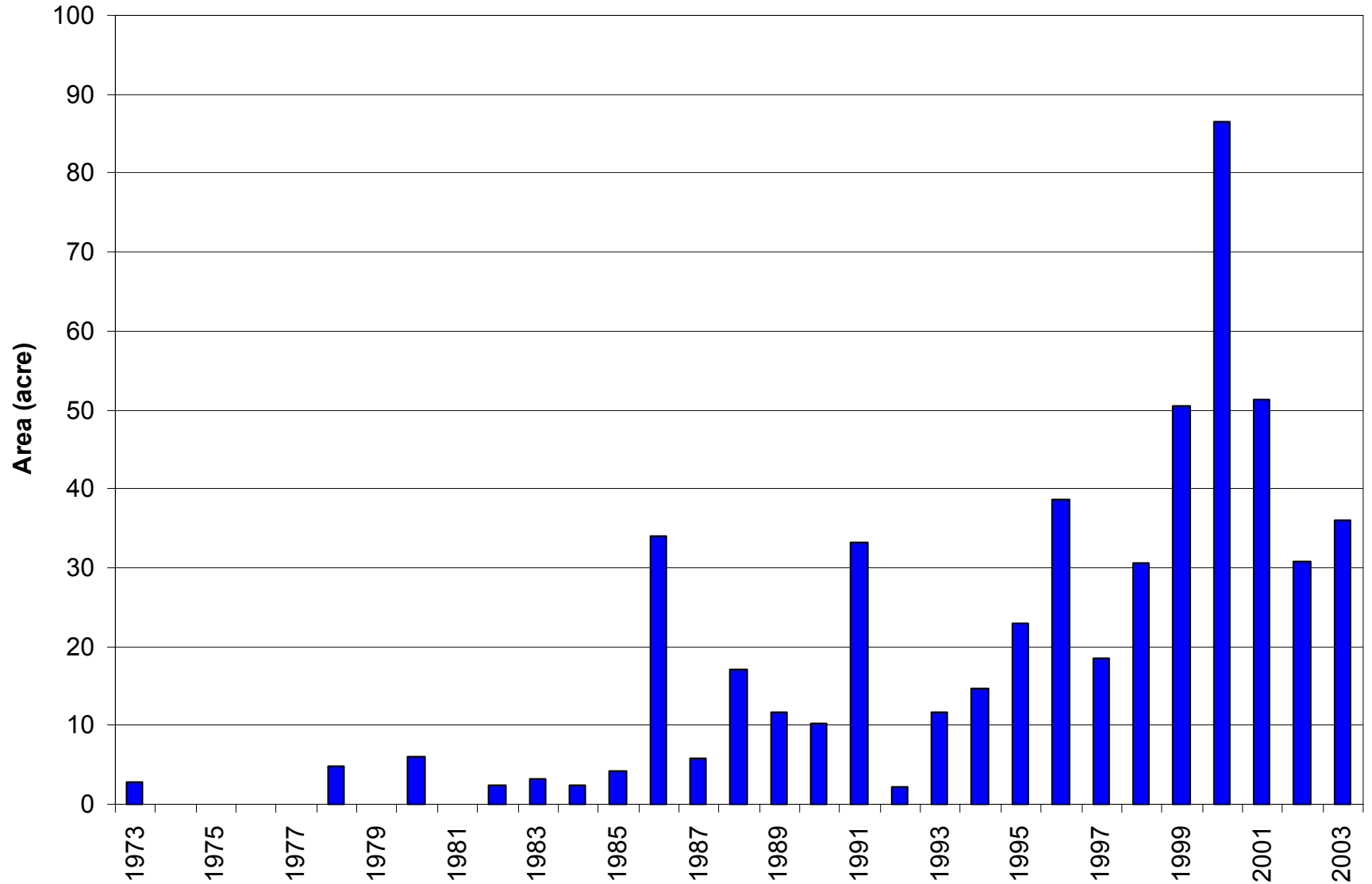
# Colorado grape growing area by variety



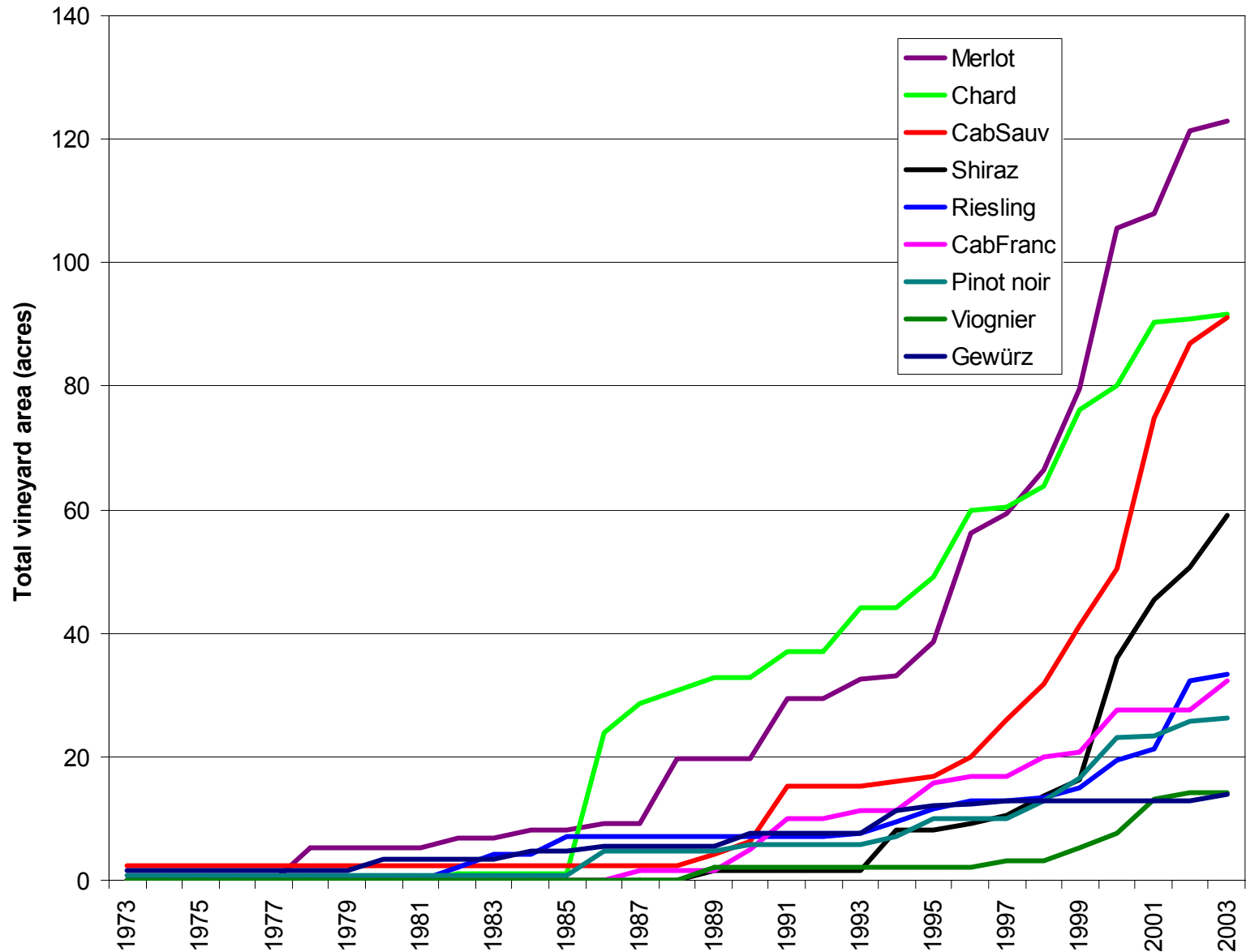
# Colorado total vineyard area by county



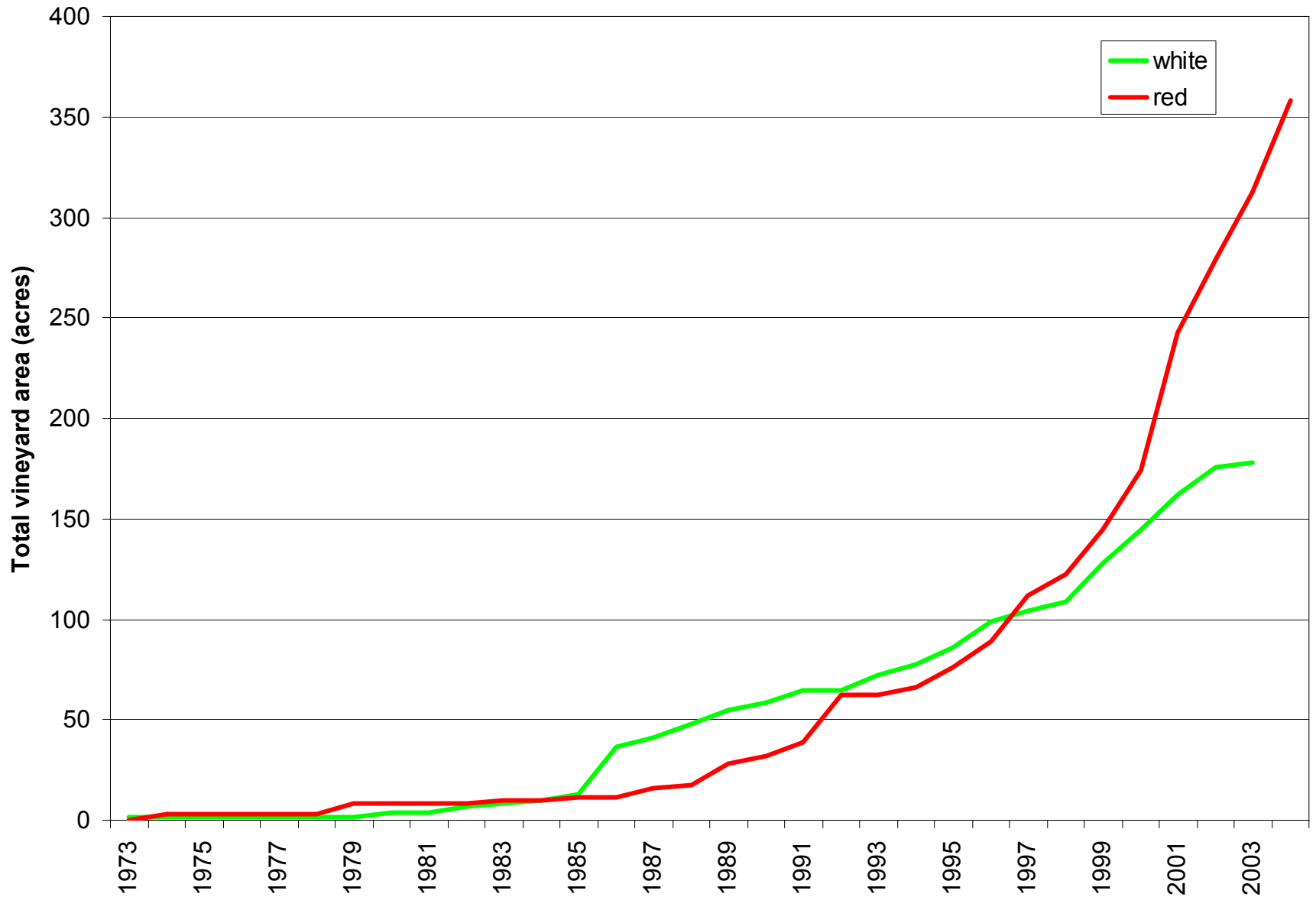
# Colorado vineyards by planting year



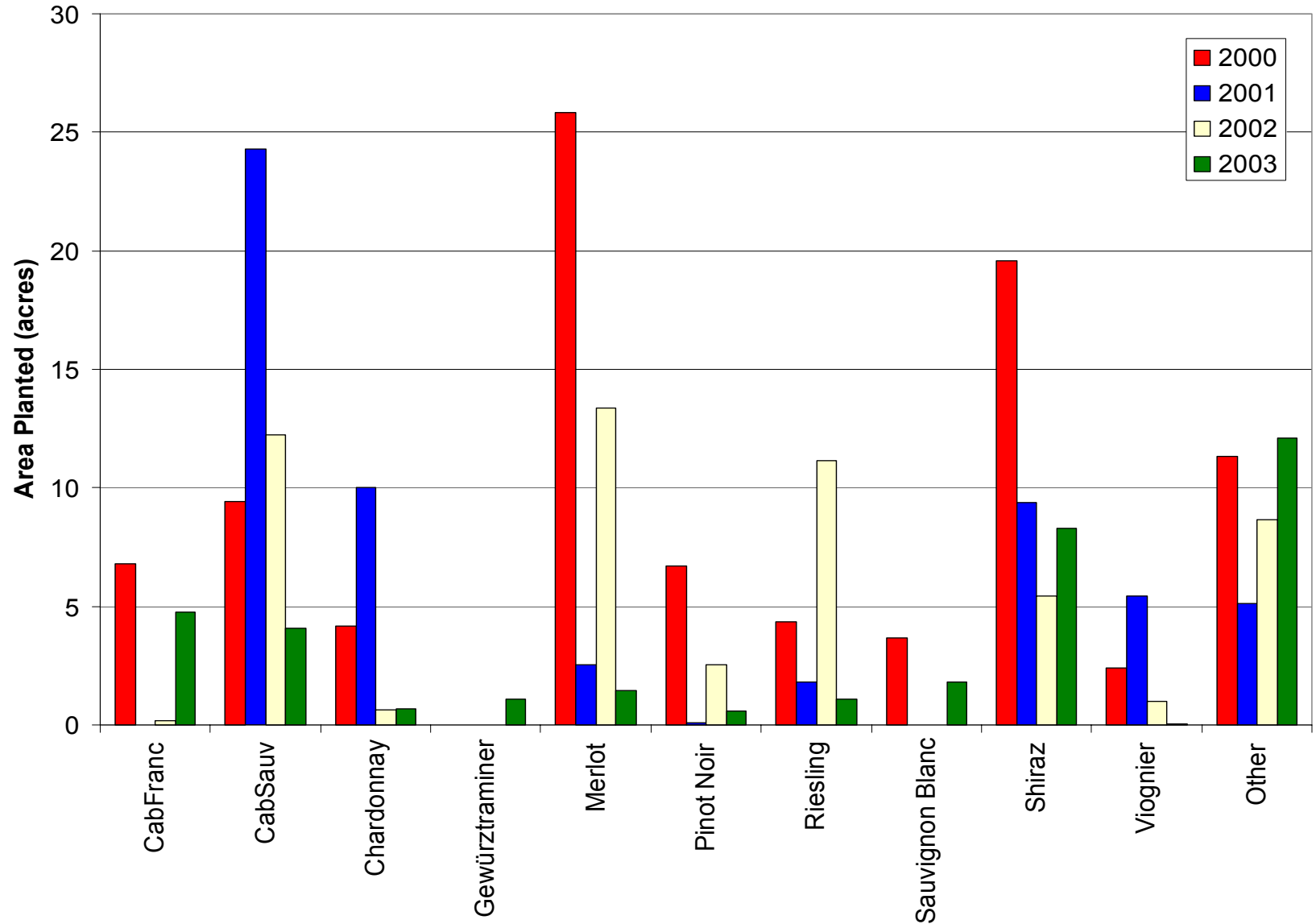
# Colorado area for main varieties



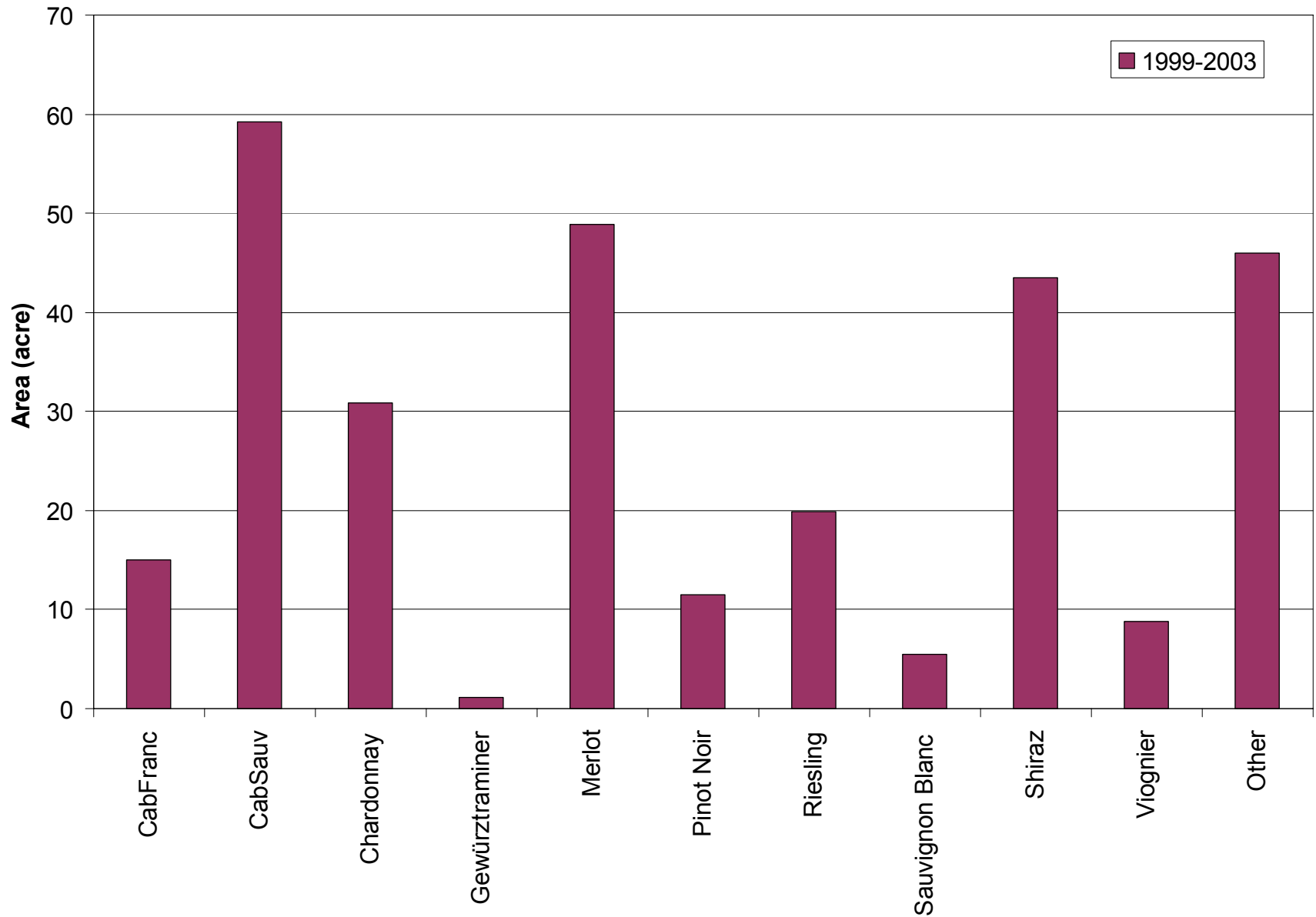
# Colorado wine varieties – red & white



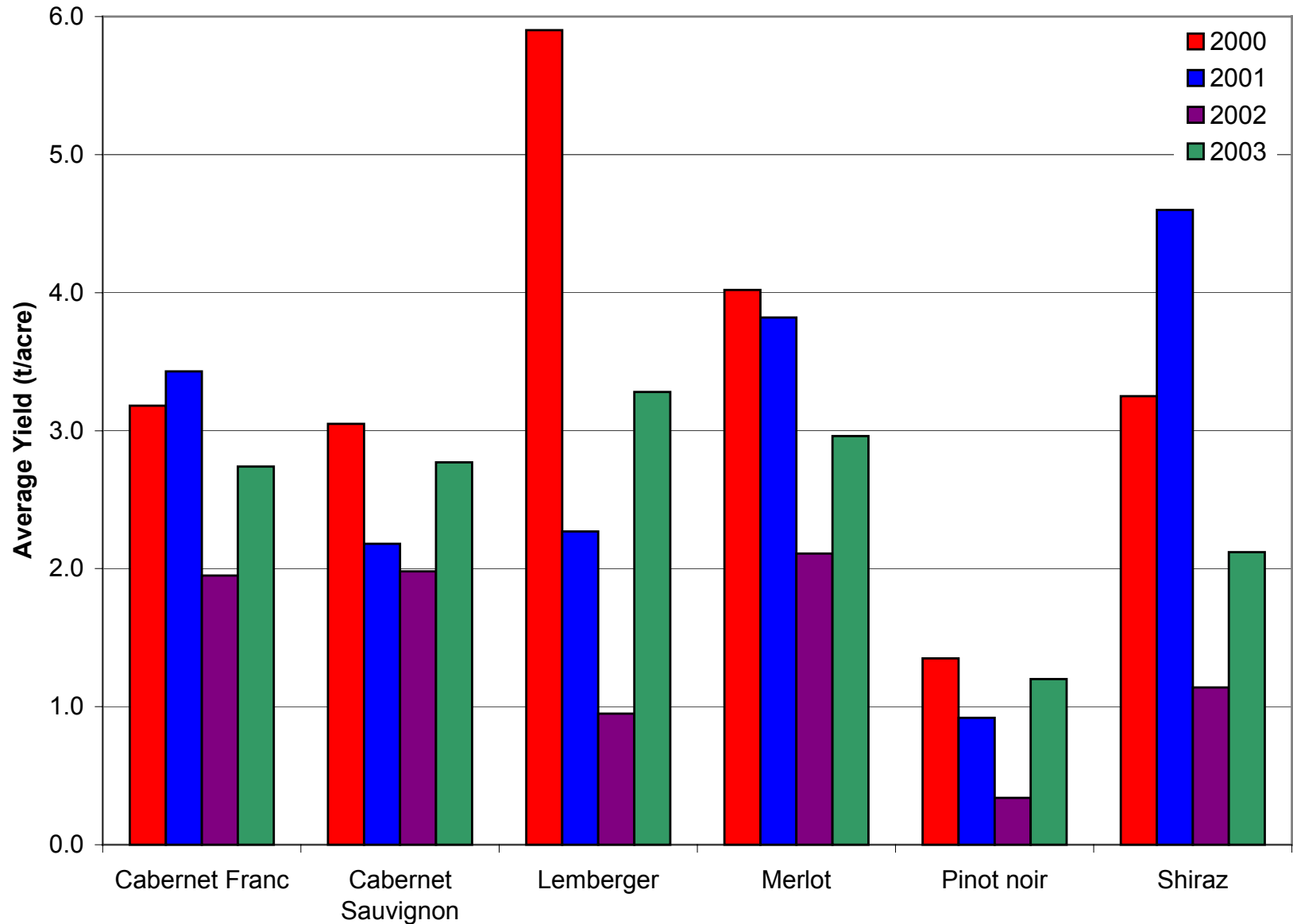
# What has been planted?



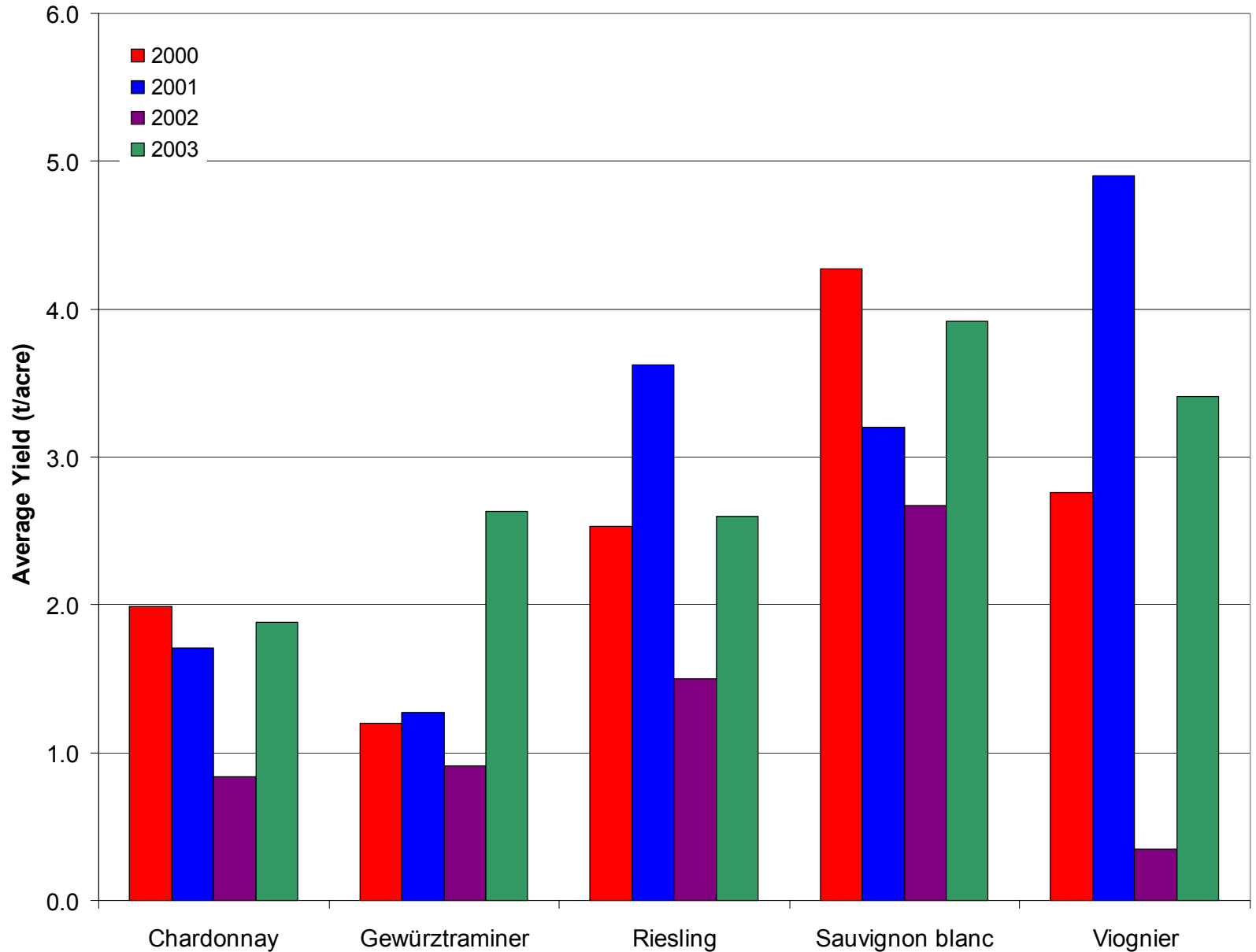
# What has been planted?



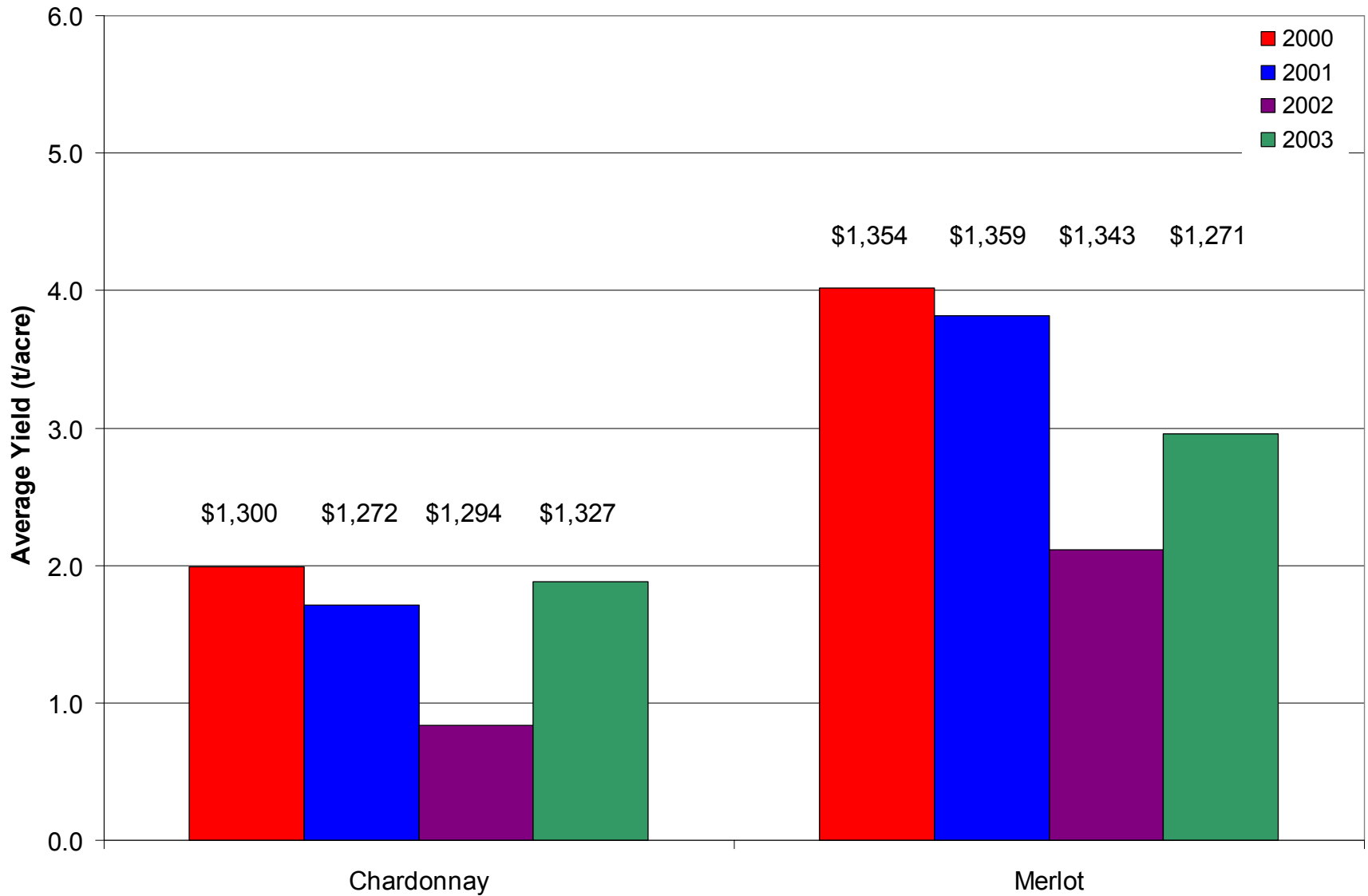
# Yield comparison for main red varieties



# Yield comparison for main white varieties

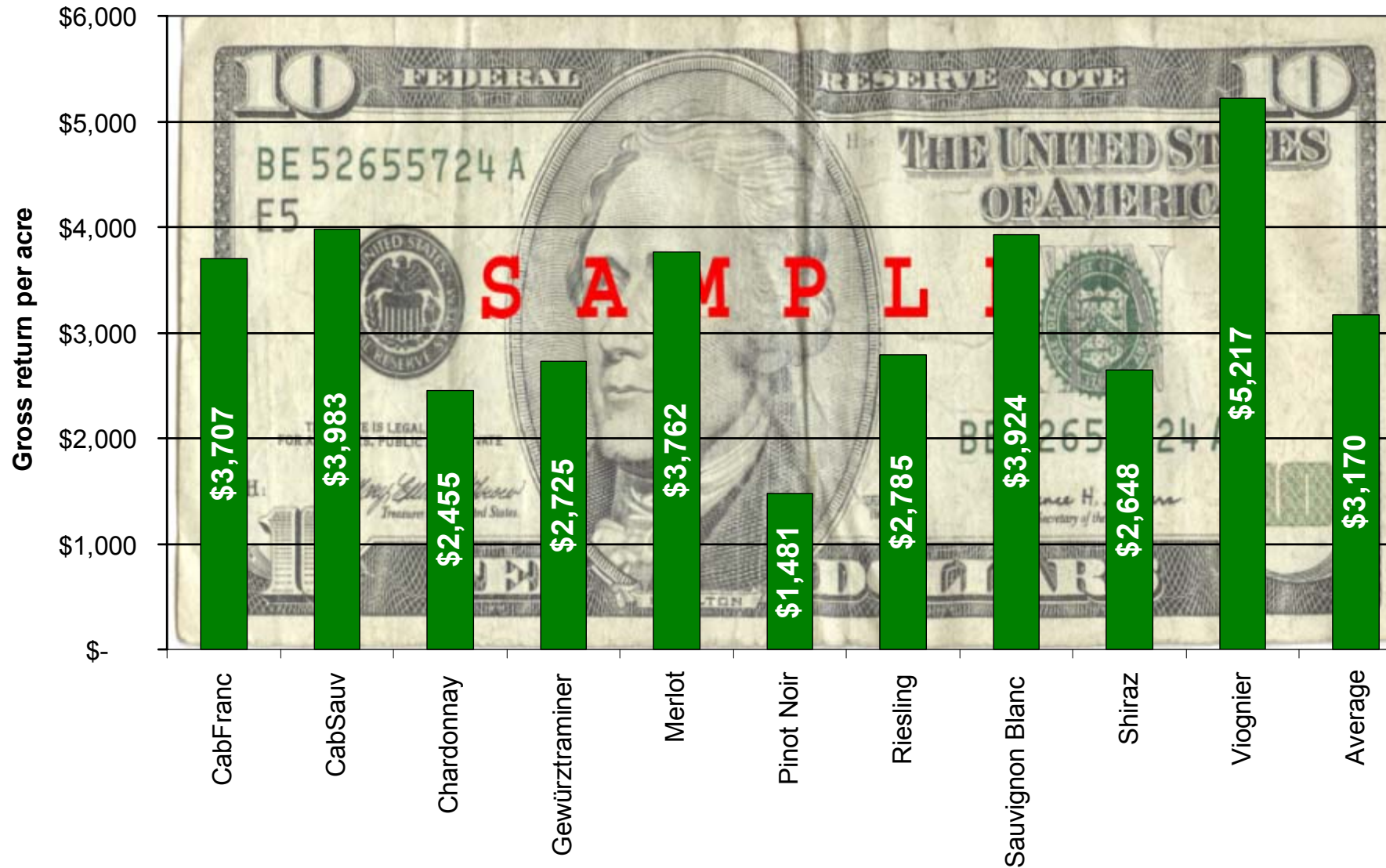


# Want to plant Chardonnay?



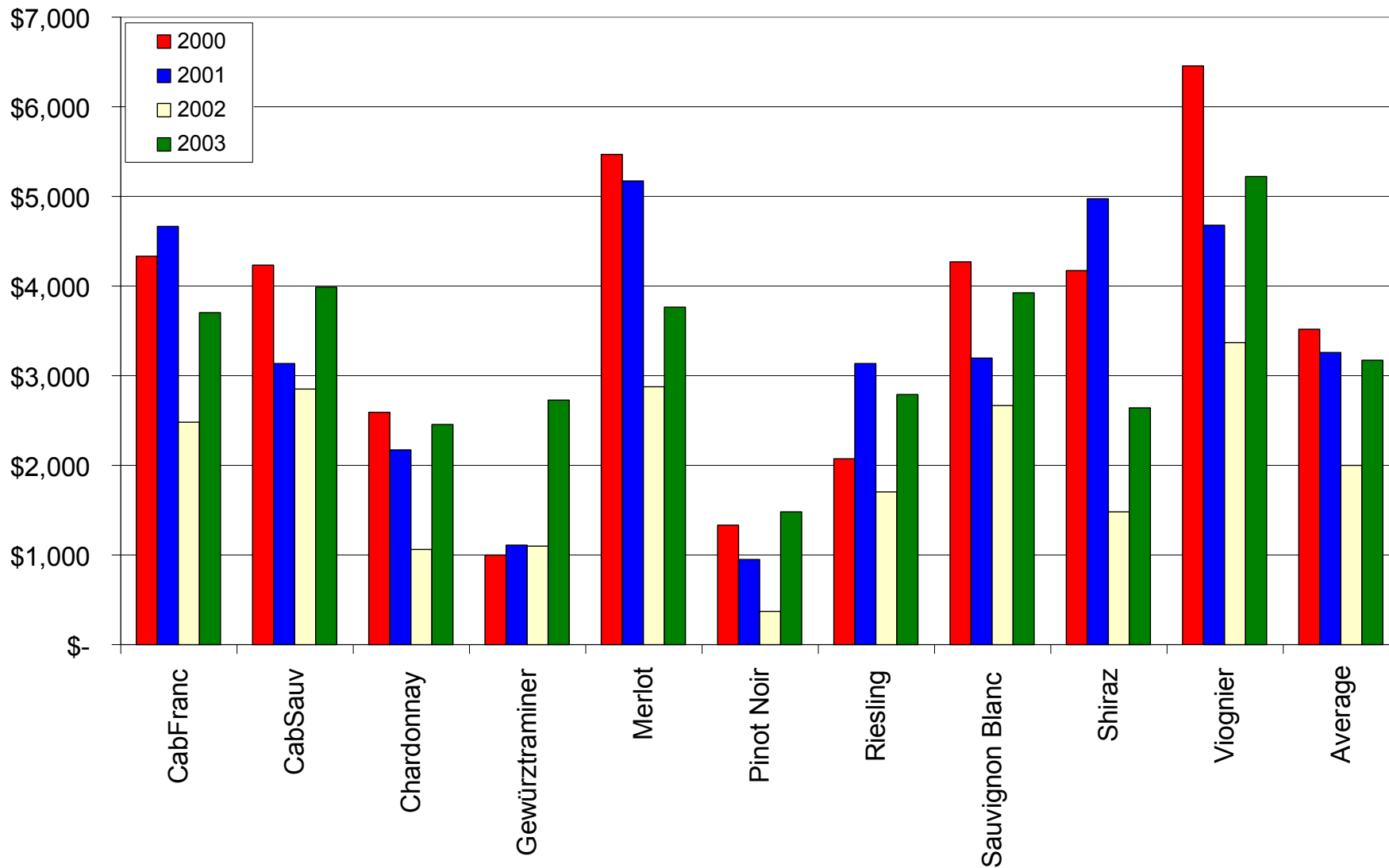
# Gross return per acre, 2003

Gross return per acre (2003)



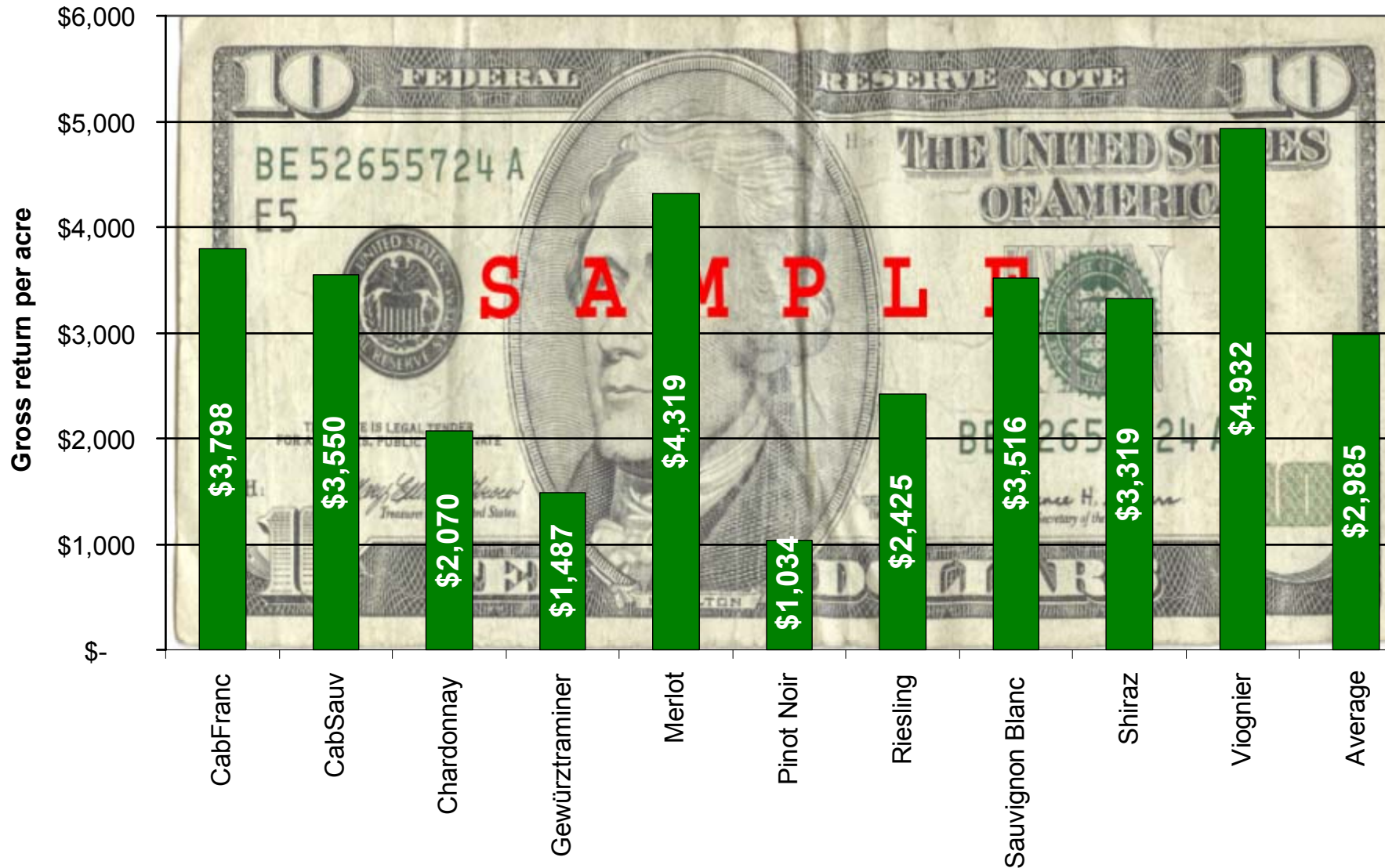
# Gross return per acre, 2000-2003

Gross \$ per acre by year and variety



# Average gross return per acre, 2000-2003

Average gross return per acre (2000-2003)



# The Future – viewed in 2002

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In 2003, we will have

- 500+ acres of vines that are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 – viewed in 2002

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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?

# Looking ahead for 2004

In 2004, we have

- ~600 acres in production
- At a moderate 2.5 t/acre we will have 1,500 tons
- BUT, not all of the grapes produced in 2003 found a home (when production was ~1,200 tons)
- Colorado wine sales totaled ~500,000 liters from July 2002 to June 2003 (equivalent to ~850 tons of grapes)
- Wines sales will need to double to keep pace with the increasing grape production

# Acknowledgements

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Thanks to

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

# “Guesstimate” of Colorado grape growing area

Total vineyard area (acre)	650-700
Wineries	49 %
Contract growers	51 %
Producing vineyard area (acre)	627
Wineries	320 (51 %)
Contract growers	307 (49 %)
Average vineyard size (acre)	6.2
Number of growers	110-120

Note: This “guesstimate” was prepared from data provided in the 1999 to 2003 surveys. 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 650-700 acres.

Dr Horst Caspari  
May 11, 2004

# "Guesstimate" of Colorado Vineyard Area

"Guesstimate" of Colorado vineyard area (2003)

