

Macroeconomic situation

In 2002, the Thai economy expanded by 5.2 percent in spite of the slight crop damages due to flood, the concerns about the U.S.-Iraq War, and the conflicts between the United States and North Korea. These factors led to an increase in oil prices and low economic growth in the three main markets: the United States, Japan, and the EU. According to the National Economic and Social Development Board, the forecasted economic growth in 2003 is 4.5 percent due to an increase in domestic demand, especially private expenditure, supported by increased exports. The inflation rate is estimated at 1.6 percent.

Private expenditures increased by 4.7 percent in 2002 while investment in the private sector increased by 13.3 percent. Better agricultural prices, increased employment, a low interest rate, and better confidence in economic growth are factors supporting the increase in private expenditure. The share of private expenditure in GDP is 54.5 percent. The low interest rate motivated demand for durable goods, especially motor vehicles, electronics, and electrical appliances.

The higher demand for electronic goods in the international market led to increased investments in electronic manufacturing as well as office equipment and electrical appliances. Another factor of the growth in private investment was an increase in construction. A government program that accelerated housing demand with low interest rates led to increased construction investment. Nevertheless, the investment in office building has been constrained by existing excess supply. In the latter half of the year, there had been replacement in machines and equipment. Due to excess supply, there had not been additional investment.

Exports keep increasing both in value and volume. Export shares to ASEAN countries and China have been increasing. Main exports, including electronics, electrical appliances, and seafood, have been increasing continually. Exports of the top 20 commodities, which represent 51.4 percent of total export values, mostly increased, except for rice, frozen shrimp, garments, sugar, and cassava products. The export values in 2002 were US\$66,886 million, a 5.8 percent increase from 2001.

POSITIVE FACTORS FOR ECONOMIC EXPANSION IN 2003 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Low interest rate, which pushed increases in expenditure and investment in private sector
- Greater confidence among consumers and investors, resulting in more employment and better returns in private sector during the last year
- Better prices for agricultural commodities, which led to higher farm income
- Domestic demand and subsequent improvement to regional economy
- Increase in demand from China.

Possible negative factors related to the impact of the U.S.-Iraq War are:

- Contraction in world economy, reducing foreign exchange earnings

from exports and tourism

- Lower confidence and delays in stock market investment decisions
- Higher costs of production due to an increase in oil prices.

Food consumption costs

The food price index in 2002 was 137.9 and still increased to 138.7 in 2003 due to an increasing trend in agricultural commodity prices. Food prices have been recovering since 2001; nevertheless, they are still lower than the 1998 index before the economic crisis (=139.2). The consumer price index has followed a similar trend, and increased from 103.5 in 2001 to 104.2 in 2002 and 105.4 in 2003.

Per capita income increased to US\$2,004.4 in 2002 and is expected to increase further to US\$2,149.0 in 2003. The share of disposable income spent on food in 2002 was 33.6 percent, a slight decrease from 2001, while the share of food consumed away from home increased to 7.7 percent due to changes in household food preparation in Thailand. Consumers' preferences for ready-to-eat meals and eating out have been increasing.

Food processing and marketing

Basic food processing products shared 11.42 percent of the value of total agricultural production and increased 4.85 percent in 2002. Part of the increase was due to a government program promoting village products and supporting both domestic and international marketing.

Exports of processed products in 2002 consisted of canned and processed seafood (42.68 percent), sugar and molasses (15.87 percent), canned and processed fruit (10.40 percent), canned and processed vegetables (3.46 percent), wheat products (4.32 percent), rice products (2.45 percent), and other processed products (20.81 percent). Exports of processed food products increase 2.50 percent. Canned fruit exports increased by 16.47 percent. Exports of sugar and molasses increased 2.76 percent. Other processed food exports increased 0.51 percent.

In 2002, the export value of canned and processed seafood decreased 7.20 percent in spite of a 3.90-percent increase in volume, mainly because of a decrease in processed shrimp. Other decreases in value were canned tuna, canned clam, canned cephalopods, and processed crustaceans. The main markets included the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.

A decrease in sugar's world price led to higher demand in the international market, thus an increase in sugar exports from Thailand. Export volume increased 35.85 percent while value increased only 3.10 percent. Exports of molasses decreased both in value (1.16 percent) and volume (7.26 percent). Important markets were Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Somalia, Algeria, Jordan, and Iran.

Canned fruit exports decreased 2.33 percent in terms of volume, mainly because of a decrease in canned pineapple; nevertheless, the export value still increased 11.12 percent. Fruit juice exports increased

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8.35 percent in volume while value increased 21.59 percent. Other processed fruit exports increased 32.77 percent in terms of volume and 27.39 percent in terms of value. The main markets were Netherlands, Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, South Korea, and Taiwan.

Canned and processed vegetable exports increased 9.70 percent in volume but decreased 1.28 percent in value. The main markets included Japan, the United States, Germany, Australia, and Canada.

Agricultural production and trade

In 2002, the agricultural sector expanded by 1.30 percent, lower than last year. Rate of growth was slow due to increase in oil prices, slow economic growth in major importing countries, agricultural trade barriers in various forms, and natural factors. Floods at the end of the year and drought at the beginning of the crop year led to damages in main crops especially rice. Increased oil prices adversely affected fisheries. The European Union's zero tolerance policy on antibiotic residues decreased exports of shrimp and poultry. In 2003, according to the Office of Agricultural Economics, exports will increase 3.81 percent due to better agricultural prices. The increase will be from each agricultural production sector, except forestry.

Crop production increased 1.43 percent in 2002 and was forecast to increase by 4.53 percent in 2003 due to better crop prices. The higher prices will allow application of good seeds and soil improvements. The Ministry of Agriculture has been undertaking a technology transfer program through Subdistrict Technology Transfer Centers. Production of most crops, including rice, cassava, sugar cane, maize, oil palm, and coffee, will be increased. Cotton production will decrease as a number of farmers quit production due to last year's low farm price.

In 2002, rice production decreased 4.3 percent because of a drought early in the crop year and a flood at the end of the season. Planted area decreased 1.0 percent while yield decreased by 3.3 percent. The production was 20.0 million tons. Second crop rice, nevertheless, increased 5.8 percent due to a 1.4-percent increase in planted area and a 9.3-percent increase in yield. Total production from second crop rice was 5.9 million tons. In 2003, both production and area planted have been expected to increase slightly. Data for 2003's second crop rice are not yet available.

Maize production decreased 5.7 percent in 2002. Planted area decreased by 3.9 percent because farmers left their farms idle due to a drought in the early season, and floods in the harvesting season reduced harvests. Yield decreased to 1.9 percent. Total maize production was 4.2 million tons. In 2003, both production and yield will be slightly decreased.

In 2002, cassava production increased 9.2 percent due to an increase in last year's price. Planted area increased 5.51 percent, but yield was decreased 3.37 percent. Total cassava production was 17.8 million tons. In 2003, planted area will be slightly increased. Together with better yield, production will be increased.

Crop	% Change in Area	% Change in Production	Production (mill. ton)
Rice	0.57	5.06	20.99
Maize	-0.21	1.63	5.96
Cassava	2.35	6.70	18.99
Sugar Cane	0.25	0.42	70.90
Mung bean	-3.70	-7.05	0.25
Oil Palm	2.20	11.26	4.45
Soybean	0.17	1.17	0.27
Pineapple	7.04	12.61	1.86
Peanut	0.81	1.27	0.11
Coffee	1.23	9.91	0.06
Garlic	-0.44	10.80	0.11
Shallot	2.27	7.86	0.20
Onion	23.44	67.22	0.07
Pepper	14.21	19.68	0.01

Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

Sugar cane production decreased 0.21 percent in 2002 due to a low price the previous year. Planted area decreased 0.14 percent and yield decreased 0.1 percent. Total sugar cane production was 62.5 million tons. In 2003, planted area, yield, and production are expected to be better.

Livestock production increased only 0.83 percent in 2002 because of lower production, especially of chicken, due to low prices. In 2003, it was estimated that livestock production would increase by 2.00 percent due to increased production in response to a better export market and improvements in livestock farm standards and quality control for feeds, contamination, and residues.

Broiler exports decreased due to the EU restrictions on nitrofluorane residues in the last quarter. Prices decreased, resulting in losses among the farmers. Exports in the last quarter decreased 10.9 percent compared the last year; however, total exports still increased 6.7 percent. The farm price decreased 10.9 percent.

Fishery production decreased 1.13 percent due to a decrease in shrimp culture as import demand from the main markets (United States, Japan, EU, and China) declined due to contamination problems. Increased oil prices and degraded fishery resources increased fishing costs, thus lowering catches. In 2003, after antibiotic contamination problems had been solved, shrimp exports were expected to increase. Fishery production is therefore expected to increase by 2.58 percent.

The prices of rice, maize, cassava, soybean, oil palm, garlic, shallots, and pork increased in 2002 while prices of sugar cane, coffee, cotton, fruit, broilers, and shrimp decreased. In 2003, most prices were expected to increase due to increases in both international and domestic demand. Those with decreasing trends are cassava, pineapple, and sugar cane.

The total value of exports in 2002 increased 2.34 percent. Those items that increased, both in value and volume were frozen and dried fruits, frozen and dried vegetables, orchids, cuttlefish, frozen fish, sugar, canned fruit, meat, and broilers. Those that decreased, both in value and volume, were cassava products, coffee, shrimp, and pineapple. Rice decreased in volume but increased in value. In 2003, agricultural exports are expected to increase in both value and volume. Nevertheless, rice exports might decrease due to last year's lower production.

In 2002, floods in many planted areas led to losses in production. In 2003, weather has been forecast to be better. Prices have been increasing, including prices of rice, maize, cassava, and pineapple. Better production is expected in general. By selected commodity, the following tables present the outlook for 2003 as forecast by the Office of Agricultural Economics.

Food and agricultural policy

In the Ninth Plan (2002–2006), in order for Thailand to be a competitive food producer in the international market, the food and agricultural plan puts the emphasis on dual development: the competitive sector and the subsistence sector. For the competitive sector, there will be development on agricultural production in irrigated areas and exclusive economic zones, targeting agriculture and agro-industries for export. For the subsistence sector, the policy is targeted on a self-sufficiency economy and sustainable natural resource utilization. Growth in agricultural production is targeted at 2.0 percent annually while agricultural processing is targeted at 4.5 percent. Farm income is targeted to increase at 3.0 percent from farm as well as non-farm income.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES ARE AS FOLLOWS.

- Strengthening capability of farm households, farm organizations, and community organizations in correspondence with the Royal Initiatives on a self-sufficiency economy, with an emphasis on sustainable agriculture and promotion of community enterprises.
- Increasing competitiveness in agriculture and agro-industry via development of modern agricultural technology, research and development, quality control, economic zoning, and strengthening marketing management potential, both domestic and international.
- Improving farmers' living conditions via better education, income stability, and farm organization. Participatory learning will be promoted through Subdistrict Agricultural Service and Technology Transfer Centers. Farm debt burden will be alleviated. Farm social security, cooperative banks, and crop insurance system will be provided.
- Promoting participatory management in natural resources as an attempt to reconcile conflicts in natural resource utilization.

The Role of Demographics

According to the Ministry of Interior, average population growth in Thailand was 0.83 percent per annum during 1993–2001. The highest growth was in the Peri-urban area (2.19 percent), followed by the East (1.34 percent) and the South (1.32 percent). The other Central Provinces except Bangkok and the Peri-urban area had a slightly higher growth than the average (0.88 percent). In the other areas, the growth rates were below average. The lowest growth rate was found in the North (0.32 percent). In 2001, 9.2 percent of total population lived in Bangkok. Most of the population was in the Northeast (34.5 percent), followed by the North (19.5 percent) and the South (13.3

percent). Nevertheless, in term of population density, Bangkok had 3,650 persons per square kilometer, about thirty times of the average population density (121 persons per sq.km.). Just over 28 percent of the population lived in urban areas with an average density of 1,269 persons per sq.km. The rest—71.35 percent—lived in non-urban area with a much lower density of 89 persons per sq.km.

The average household size decreased from 4.4 persons per household in 1993 to 3.7 in 2001, with an average urban household of 3.0 persons and non-urban household of 4 persons. According to a survey by the Population and Social Science Institute of Mahidol University, the fertility rate was six children per woman in 1965 and decreased to only 1.98 in 1996. It is projected to be 1.70 in 2025.

Births were 17.04 per thousand in 1999 and decreased to 15.96 in 2003, and they are projected to decrease further to 12.72 in 2020. Deaths were 7.88 per thousand in 1999, increased slightly to 8.08 in 2003, and are projected to increase to 9.40 in 2020. The figures for immigration and emigration were close, with a little higher amount of immigration. According to an estimate by the Office of the Prime Minister, immigration and emigration would not have significant impact on demographic structure.

According to the Office of the Prime Minister, in the period of 1999–2000, the population growth rate was 1.1 per annum, increasing at a decreasing rate to reach only 0.2 in 2025. The population would be “stable.” The higher proportion of older people explains the increase in the death rate, not from infant deaths, as it used to be during the early development period.

In 1999, the ratio of females was 50.24 and increased to 50.31 in 2003. It is expected to increase to 50.47 in 2010. It is estimated that, for 100 women, there will be 98 men.

In terms of age distribution, the ratio of the younger groups will be lower due to the decrease in the birth rate and the better survival rate that allows a larger ratio of the elderly.

The Thai population would still be increasing but at a decreasing rate from 61.7 million in 1999, to 67.7 million in 2010, and to a tendency to be stable after 2025. The proportion of younger groups would be lower while it would be higher for the elderly. The number of those 70 years old and older increased from 2.2 million in 1999 to 2.8 million in 2003 and is expected to be 3.7 million in 2010. The number of those 0–4 years old decreased from 4.9 million in 1999 to 4.4 million in 2010. The number of those in the age groups of 5–9, 10–14, 15–19, and 20–44 years also decreased while those aged 45–64 years increased from 10.4 million in 1999 to 16.1 in 2010.

In the early years, the share of the population was higher in the agricultural sector (e.g., 75 percent before 1960). Population growth was 3.3 percent by that time. A policy was established to decrease the growth rate especially in rural agricultural sector. In 1999, more than half of the population (58.79 percent) was in the agricultural sector while 55.75 percent of the total labor force was in the agricultural sector, indicating that there were relatively more young and old people in this sector. In 2002, the share of agricultural population had declined to 54.85 percent. By 2006, the share of agricultural population is

expected to decrease to 51.62 percent, while the agricultural labor force share would be 48 percent. This decrease would be due both to the population policy in birth control and emigration from the agricultural to non-agricultural sector. In terms of the labor force, the agricultural share was 51.62 in 2002 and is forecast to be 48.43 in 2006.

By region, most of the farm population is in the Northeast. In 2002, 70.19 percent of agricultural population was in the Northeast, followed by the Central, North, and South, accordingly.

During the Ninth Plan (2002–2006), agricultural population and its share are forecast to decrease, while the population is expected to increase in non-agricultural sector. The policy calls for enhancing agricultural labor productivity to increase income. There is also a program to promote year-round occupations to keep people on farm.

According to the National Economic and Social Economic Development Board, the poverty line in 2002 was US\$20.86/month. The poverty line was lower for the rural sector, which can rely on self-food production (19.01 US\$). By region, the poverty line for Bangkok and its periphery was US\$23.16, and the lowest was in the North at US\$18.69). The poverty lines in the rural sector were US\$20.04 and 17.62, respectively. The number of people living below the poverty line was 9.83 million in 1999 with a decrease each year after—to 8.87, 8.07, and 6.54 in 2000, 2001, and 2002, respectively. Most of the poor people were found in the Northeast, but the number was much reduced in 2002.

The average income of farmers was US\$45.29/month in 2002, while it was US\$103.89 for non-farm workers. Farm income was expected to improve because of an increase in agricultural production, especially vegetables, fruits, and para-rubber. Positive factors influencing farm income include better farm prices, a higher minimum wage rate, and government programs on improving farmers' living conditions.

Thai population will not significantly increase after the next decade. The emphasis of development after that time will be more on the quality of life, especially nutrition. According to a survey by the Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, 12.2 percent of school children were still underweight for their respective age. There was also evidence of both iodine and iron deficiencies. Measures have to be taken to alleviate these nutrition problems.

Changes in the age distribution for the total population (Million)							
Age (Yrs)	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2010p
0 - 4	4.9	4.9	5	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.4
5 - 9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.7
10 - 14	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9
15 - 19	5.4	5.2	5	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.8
20 - 44	27.6	27.9	28	28.2	28.2	28.2	27.2
45 - 64	10.4	10.8	11.2	11.7	12.1	12.6	16.1
65 - 69	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8
70-over	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.7

Source: National Social and Economic Development Board

Sources of annual changes in total population							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2010p
Births (Per thousand)	17.04	16.76	16.48	16.20	15.96	15.72	12.72
Deaths (Per thousand)	7.88	7.92	7.96	8.00	8.08	8.16	9.40
Immigration (Mill.)	3.2184	3.5727	3.5472	na	na	na	na
Emigration (Mill.)	2.9052	3.2827	3.2569	na	na	na	na

Source: National Social and Economic Development Board

Population numbers (Mill.)							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2010p
Total 1	61.7	61.9	62.3	62.8	64.2	64.8	67.7
Male 1	30.7	31.0	31.3	31.6	31.9	32.2	33.6
Female 1	31.0	30.9	31.0	31.2	32.3	32.6	34.1
Urban 2	11.4	11.5	17.8	na	na	na	na
Non-urban 2	50.3	50.4	44.5	na	na	na	na

Source: 1 Office of the Prime Minister

2 Ministry of Interior

Life expectancy							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2010p
Male	67.36	67.36	68.15	68.15	68.15	68.15	69.50
Female	71.04	71.04	72.39	72.39	72.39	72.39	73.58
Total	68.72	68.72	70.23	70.23	70.23	70.23	71.50

Source: National Economic and Social Development Board

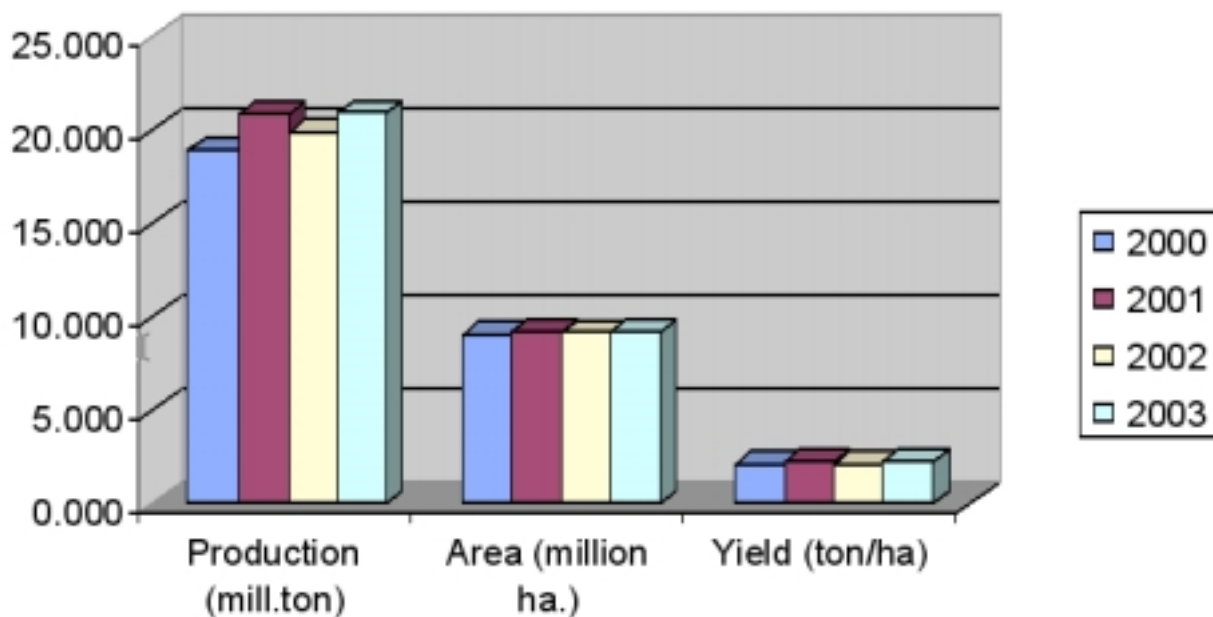
Changes in population density (Persons/sq.km.)							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2010p
North	72	71	na	na	na	na	na
Northeast	127	127	na	na	na	na	na
Peri-urban	589	601	na	na	na	na	na
Bangkok	3610	3621	na	na	na	na	na
Other central	179	180	na	na	na	na	na
East	113	116	na	na	na	na	na
West	83	84	na	na	na	na	na
South	115	118	na	na	na	na	na
Total	120	121	122	na	na	na	na

Source: Ministry of Interior

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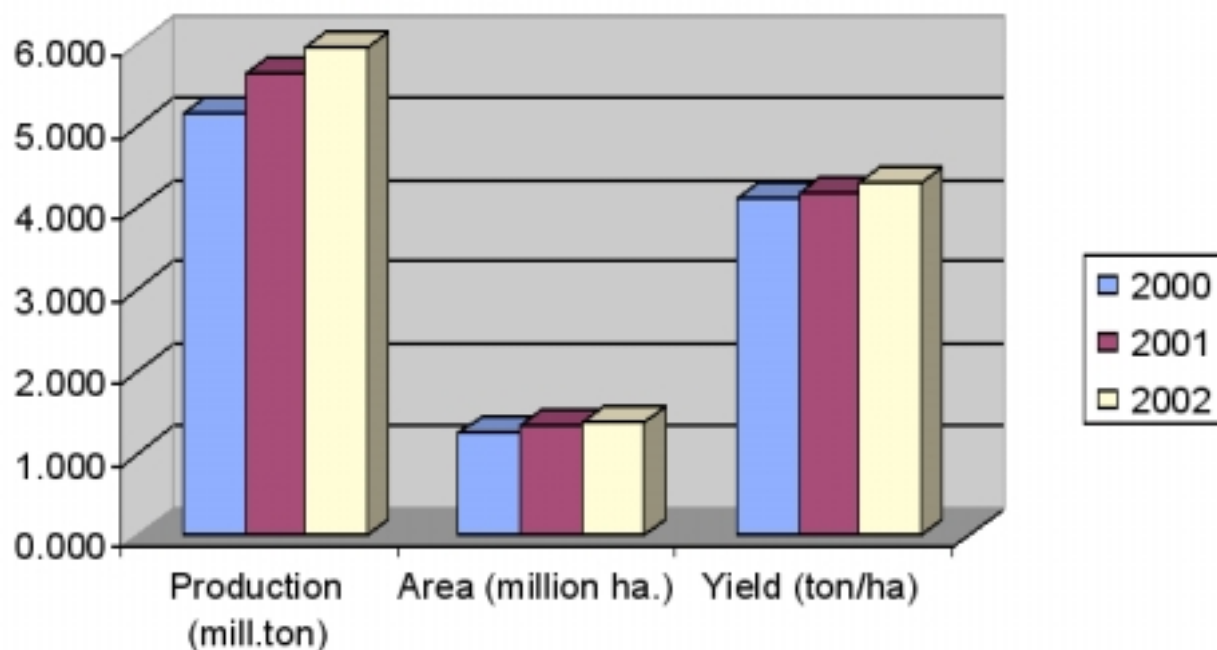
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RICE PRODUCTION



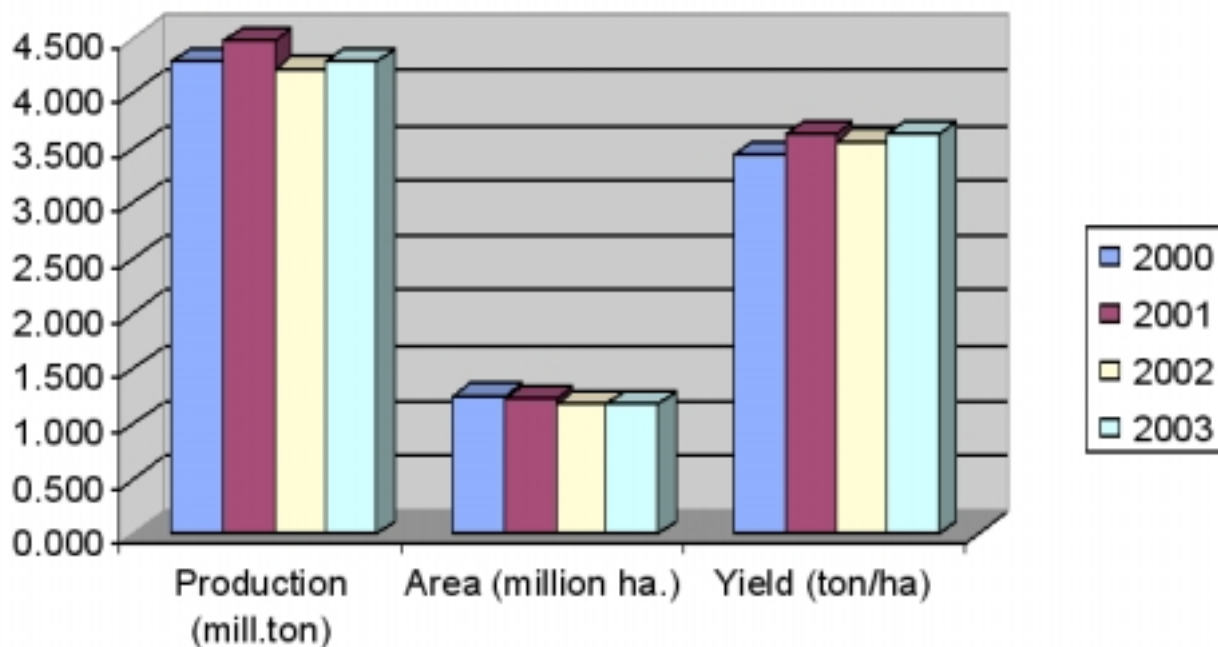
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SECOND CROP RICE



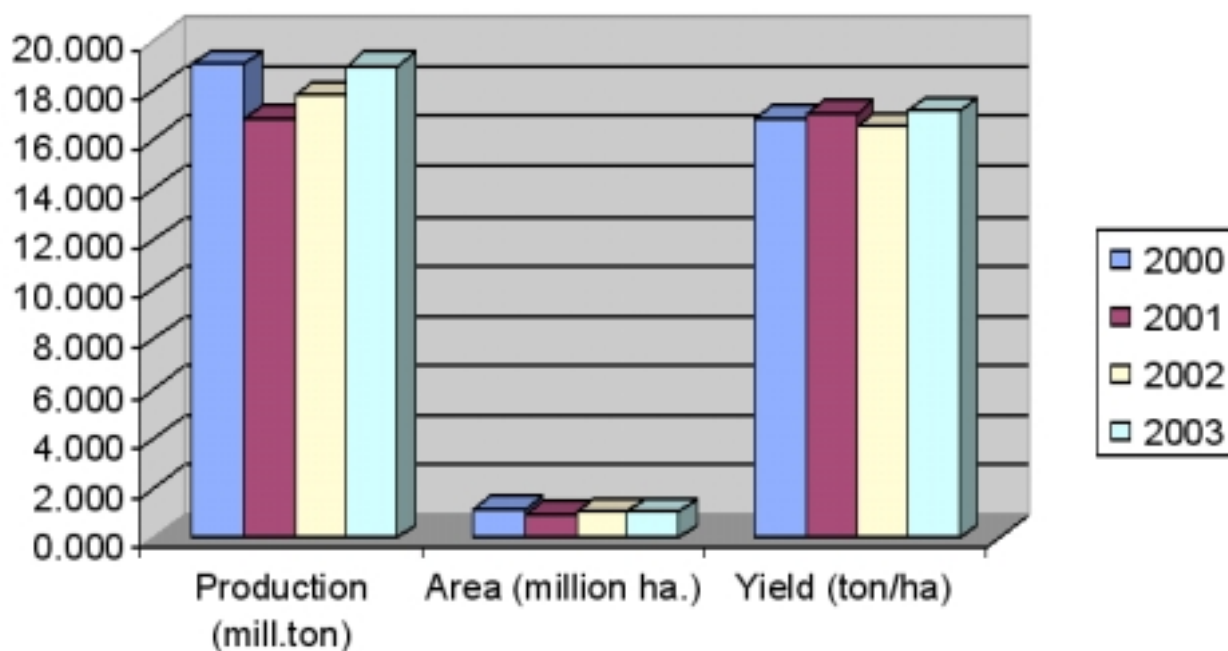
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MAIZE PRODUCTION



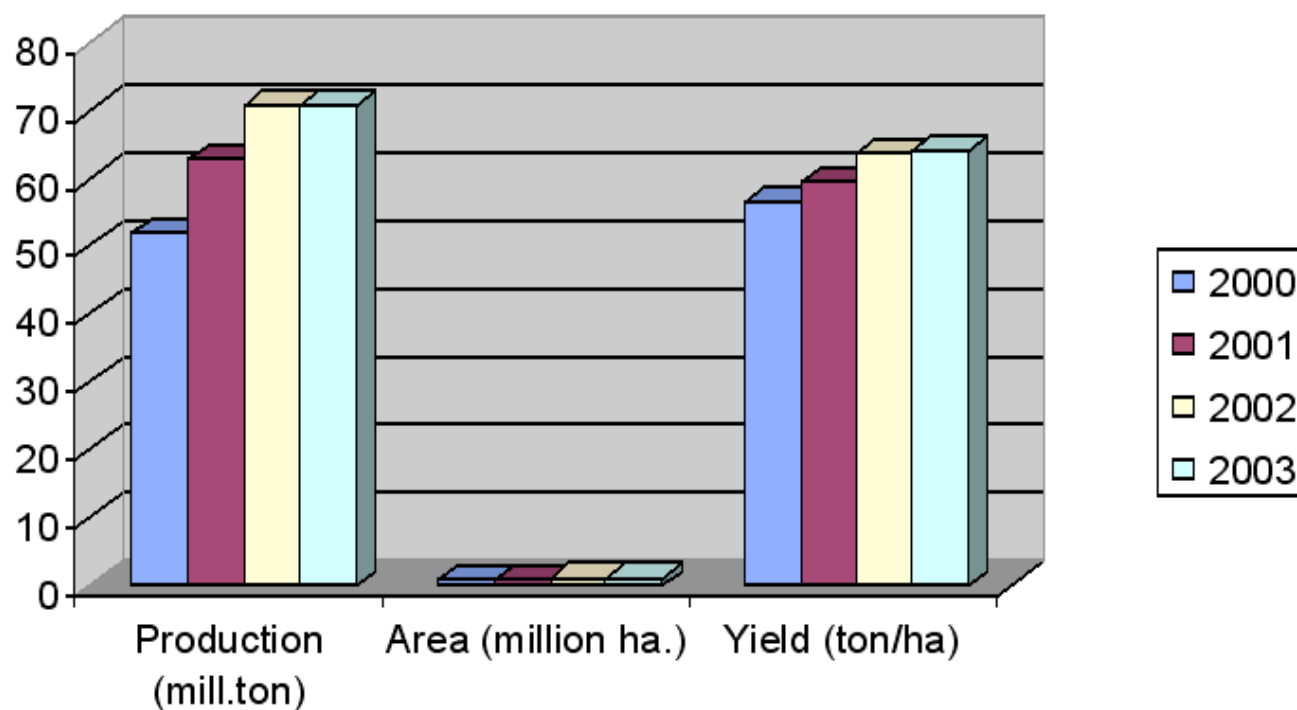
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CASSAVA PRODUCTION

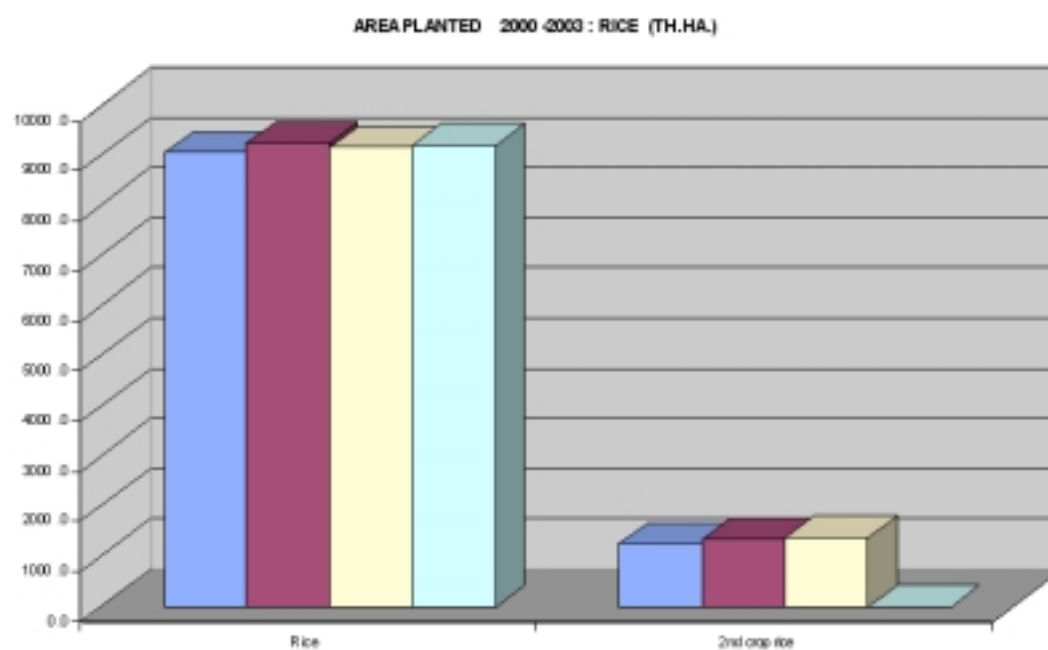


Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

SUGAR CANE PRODUCTION



Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

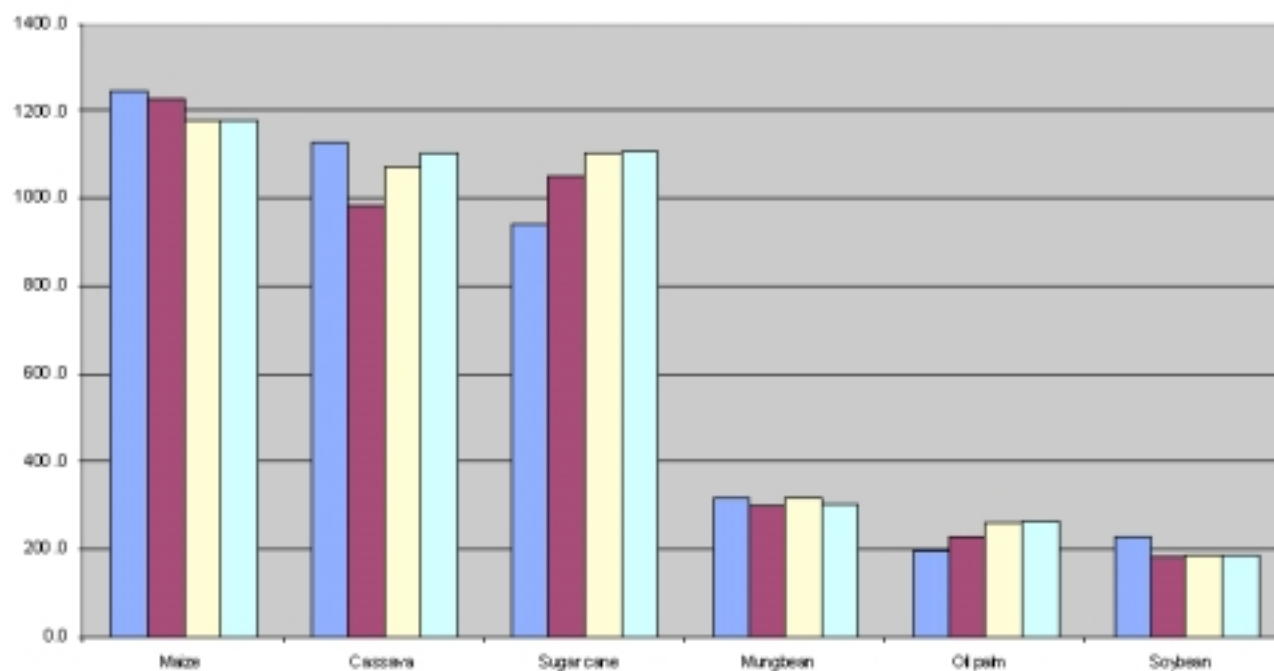


Note: Data is not available for second crop rice in 2003.

Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

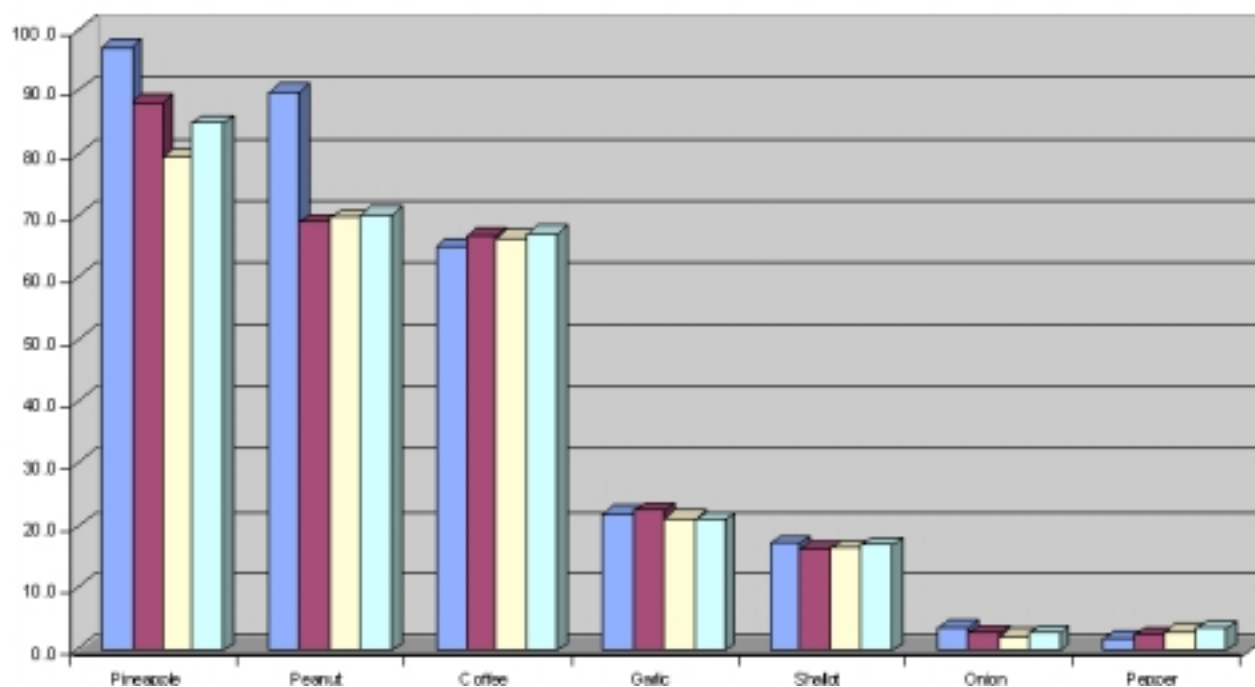
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AREA PLANTED 2000-2003: MAIZE, CASSAVA, SUGAR CANE, MUNG BEAN, OIL PALM, AND SOYBEAN (TH.HA.)



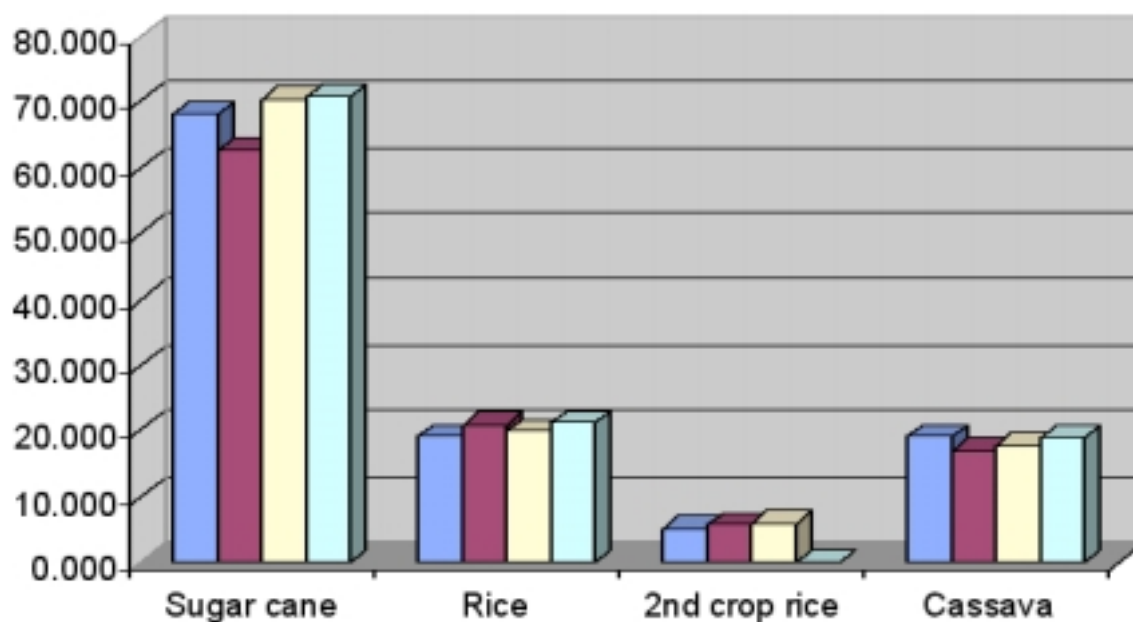
Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

AREA PLANTED 2000-2003: PINEAPPLE, PEANUT, COFFEE, GARLIC, SHALLOT, ONION, AND PEPPER (TH.HA.)



Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

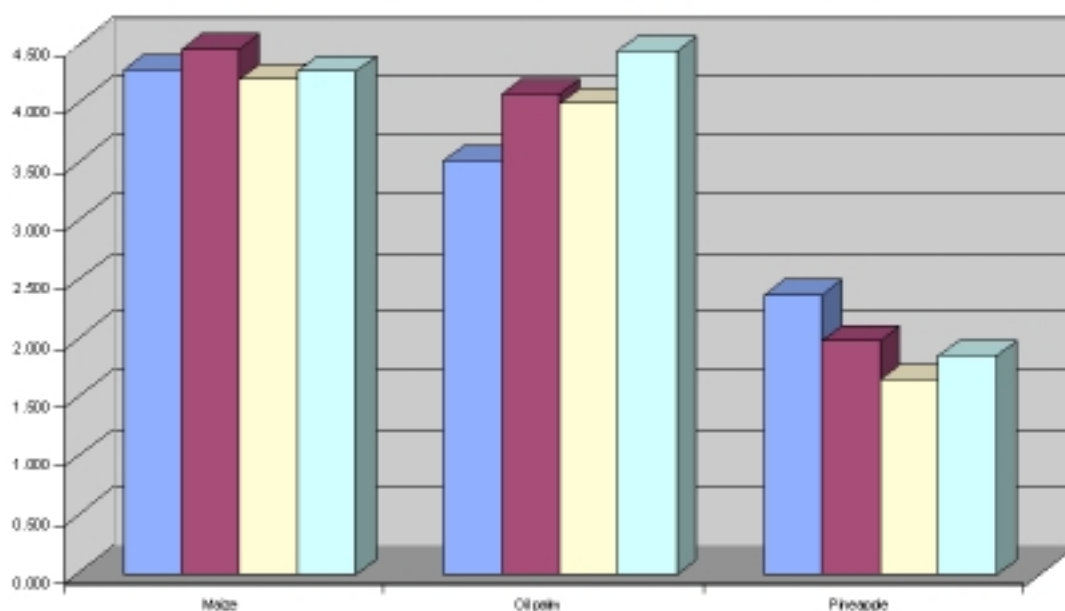
PRODUCTION 2000-2003: SUGAR CANE, RICE, AND CASSAVA (MILL.TON)



Note: Data is not available for second crop rice in 2003.

Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

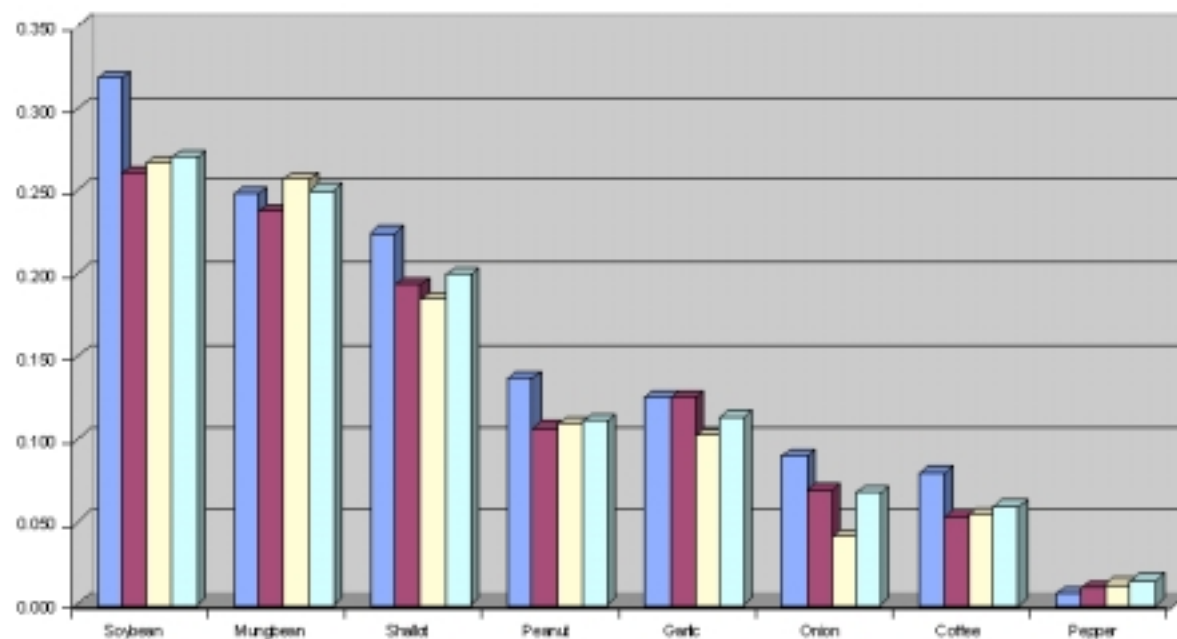
PRODUCTION 2000-2003: MAIZE, OIL PALM, AND PINEAPPLE (MILL.TON)



Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

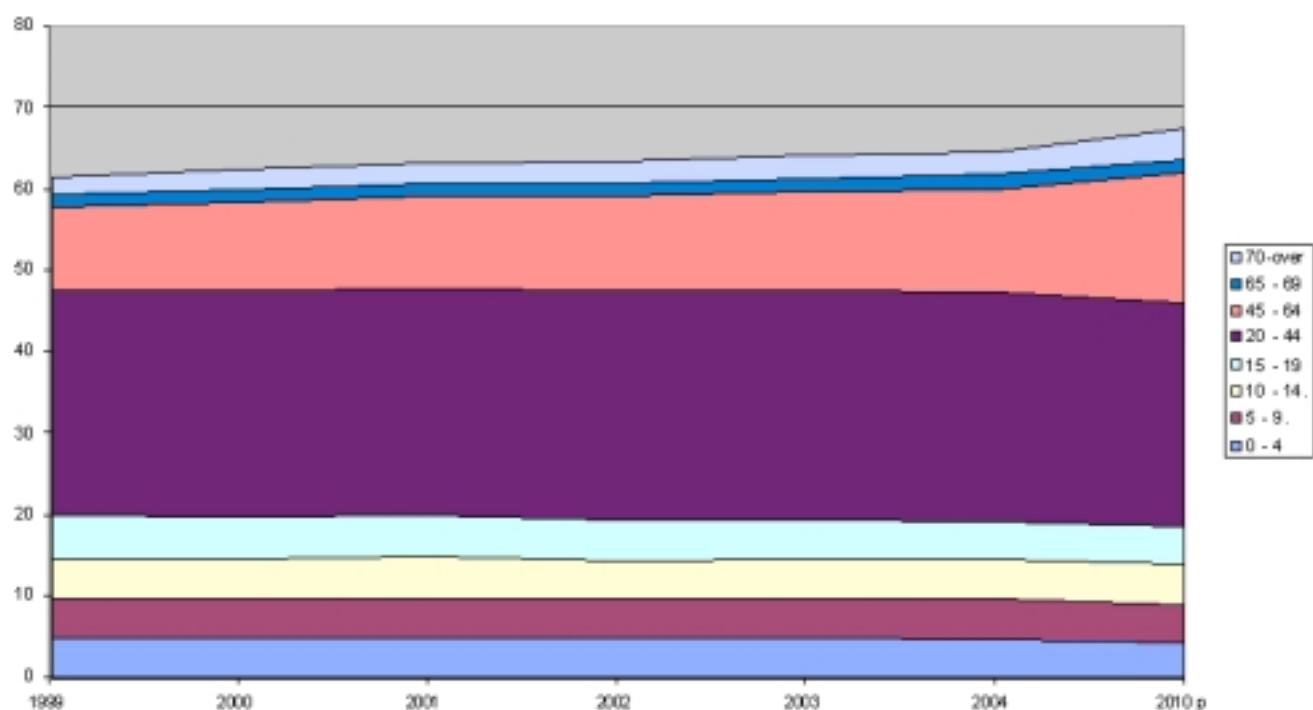
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PRODUCTION 2000-2003 : SOYBEAN, MUNGBEAN, SHALLOT, PEANUT, GARLIC, ONION, COFFEE, AND PEPPER (MILL. TON)



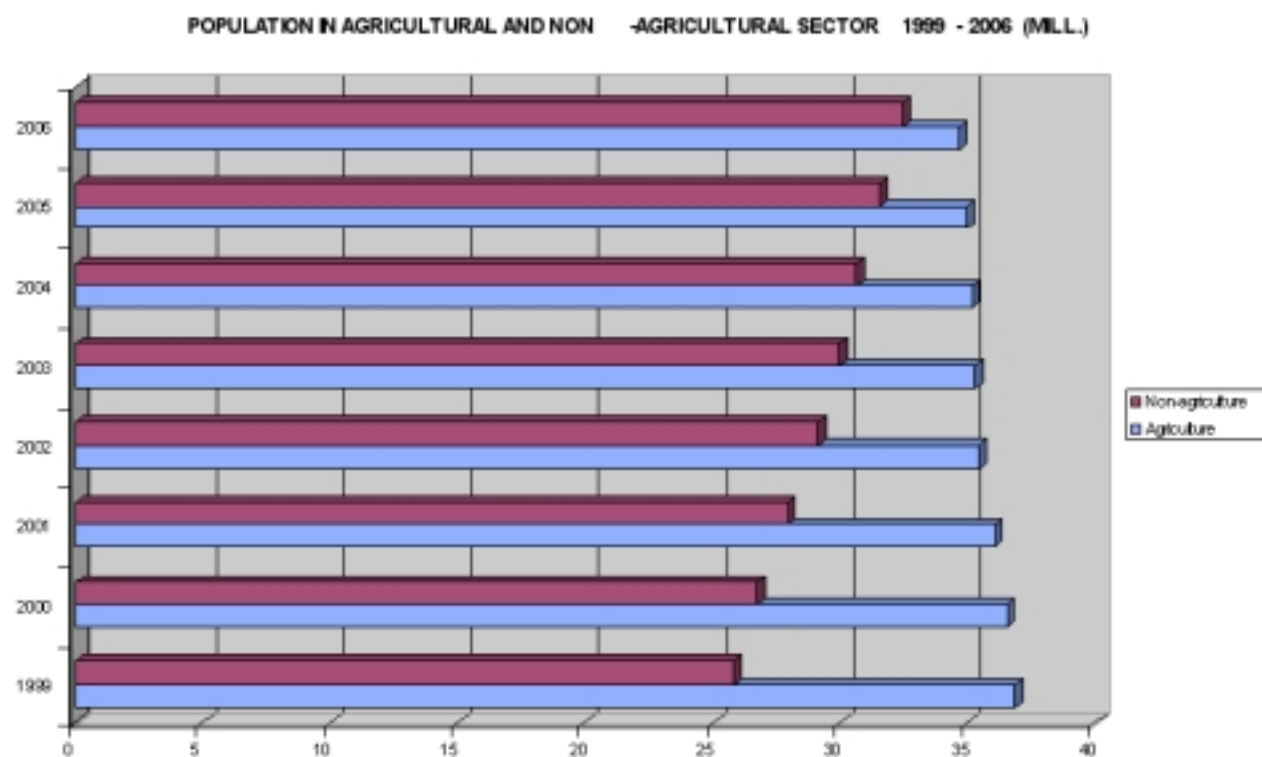
Source: Office of Agricultural Economics

AGE DISTRIBUTION FOR TOTAL POPULATION (MILL.)

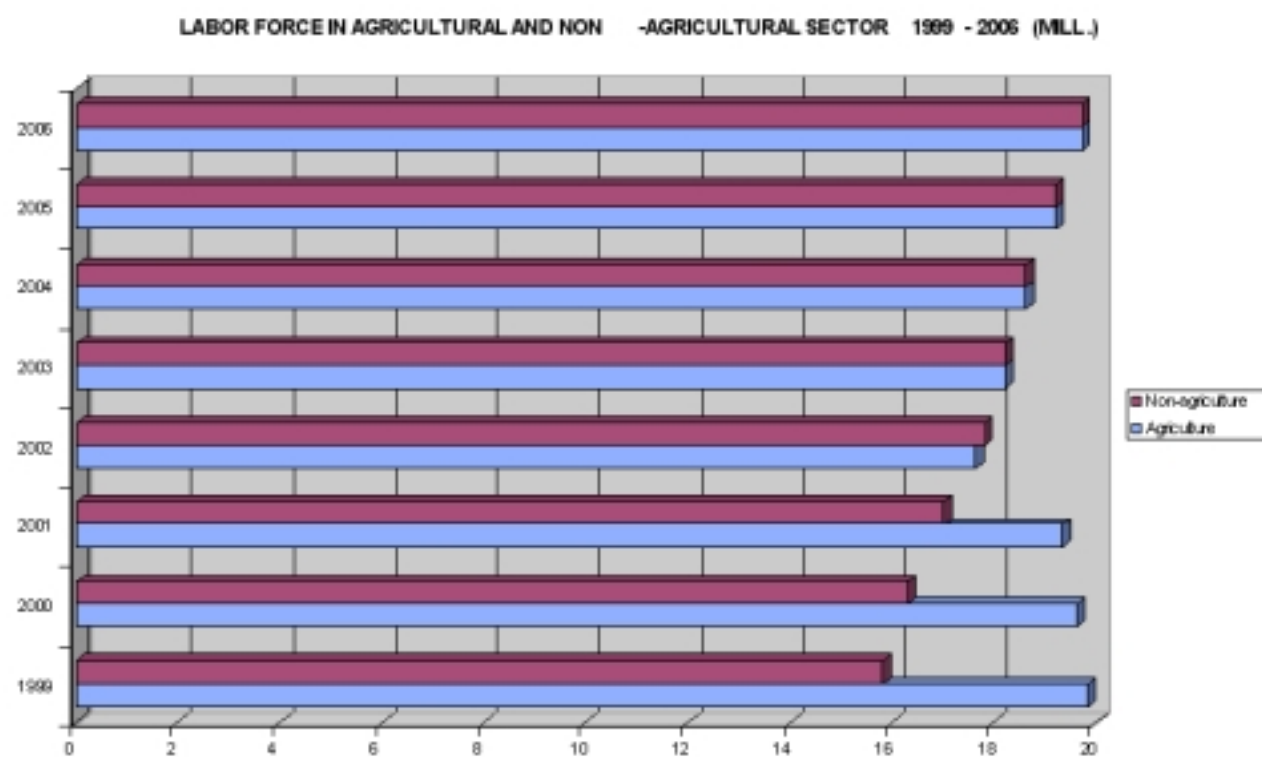


Source: National Economic and Social Development Board

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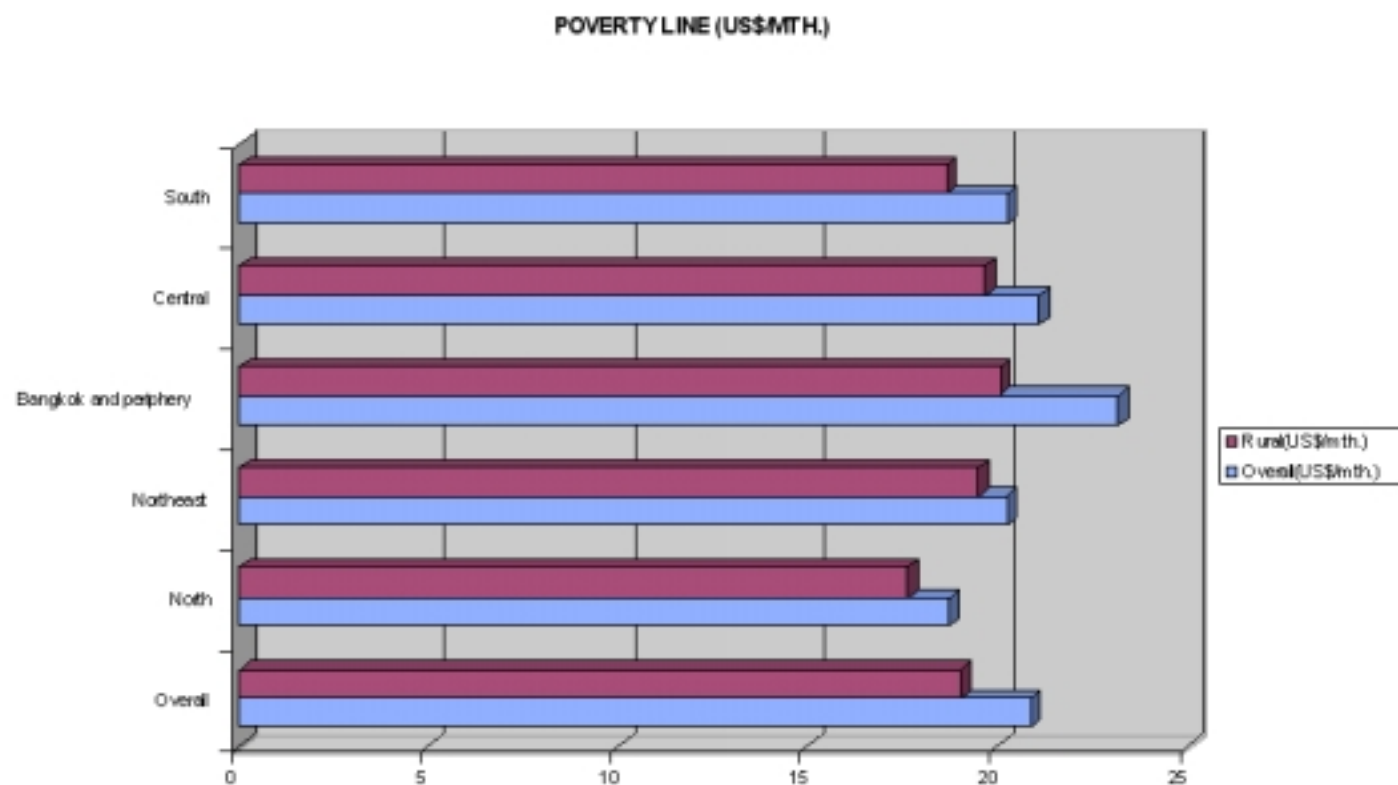


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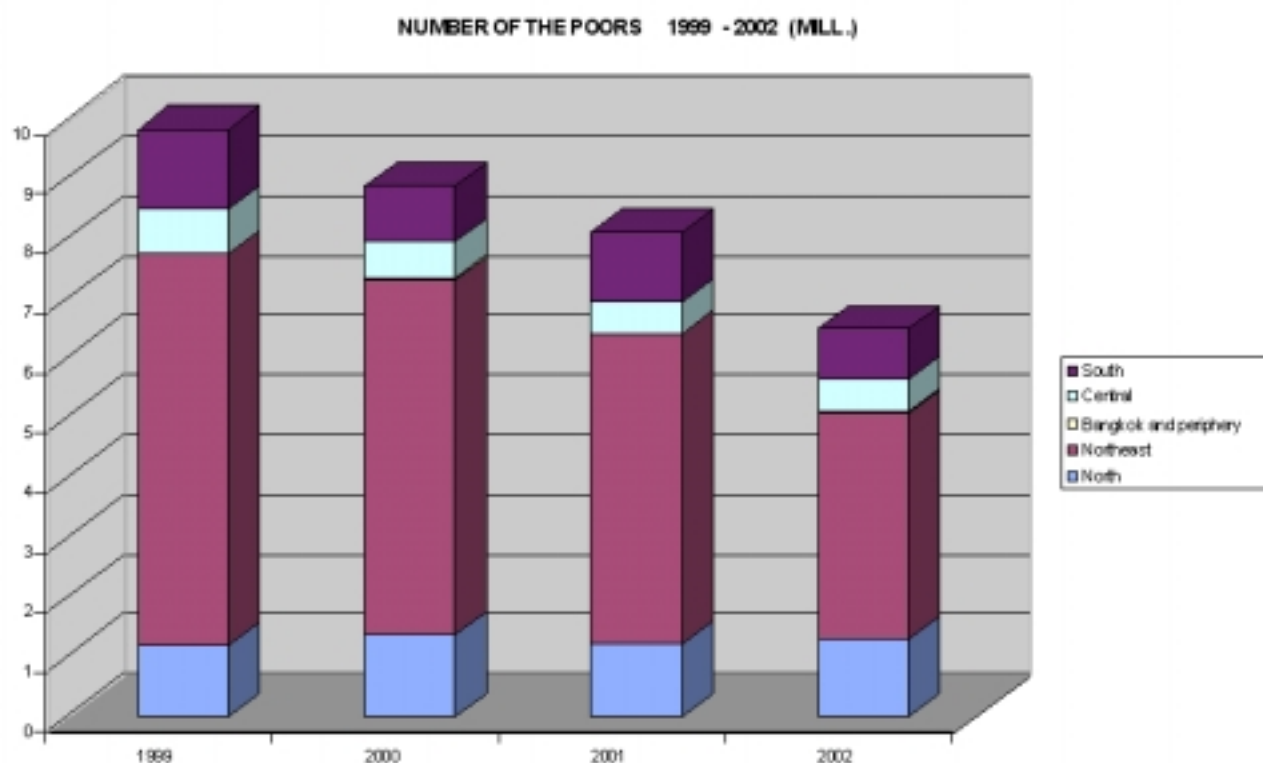


Source: National Economic and Social Development Board

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Source: National Economic and Social Development Board



Source: National Economic and Social Development Board

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	Units	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 ^E	2003 ^F
FOOD CONSUMPTION PATTERNS								
Per capita caloric intake	Cal/day	1,751	1,751	1,751	1,751	1,751	1,751	na
Protein (% of calories)	%	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	na
Fat (% of calories)	%	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	na
Carbohydrates (% of calories)	%	64.3	64.3	64.3	64.3	64.3	64.3	na
INCOME AND FOOD PRICE								
Per capita income	US\$/capita	1,836	1,988	1,964	1,829	2,004	2,149	na
% of disposable income spent on food	%	35.1	33.3	32.2	33.9	33.6	na	na
% spent on eating out	%	6.3	6.3	7.0	7.4	7.7	na	na
Food price index	1994=100	139.2	136.7	135.2	136.2	137.9	138.7	na
General price index (CPI)	1994=100	122.8	123.2	125.1	127.1	128.3	129.4	na
POPULATION								
Total population	Million	61.2	61.8	62.9	63.4	63.9	64.5	na
Urban	Million	11.3	11.4	11.5	17.8	19.6	19.8	na
Non-urban	Million	50.1	50.2	50.4	44.5	43.3	43.6	na
Share of population in the following age groups								
0-4 years	%	8.8	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.5
5-14 years	%	17.9	15.6	15.4	15.8	15.5	15.1	15.1
15-19 years	%	9.6	8.7	8.3	7.9	6.2	7.5	7.3
20-44 years	%	41.6	44.8	44.8	44.4	44.9	43.9	43.5
45-64 years	%	16.6	16.9	17.3	17.7	18.7	18.9	19.5
65-69 years	%	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6
70+ years	%	3.0	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.3	4.5
Median age of population	Years	26.9	27.4	29.4	29.8	29.8	na	na
Female labor force participation	%	71	70.9	70.8	70.8	70.7	na	na
LIFE EXPECTANCY								
Males	Years	67.4	67.4	68.2	68.2	68.2	68.2	na
Females	Years	71.7	71.7	72.4	72.4	72.4	72.4	na
FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE								
Trade capacity	1,000 tons	7,568	7,763	7,218	9,034	8,407	na	na
Grain exports	1,000 tons	6,675	6,923	6,182	8,203	7,508	na	na
Grain imports	1,000 tons	893	840	1,036	831	899	na	na
Total food and agricultural trade	Million US\$	11,891	13,335	12,475	12,957	12,767	na	na
Total food and agricultural exports	Million US\$	9,640	9,958	9,939	9,998	9,740	na	na
Perishable products	Million US\$	5,419	5,845	6,060	5,951	5,727	na	na
Fishery exports	Million US\$	3,999	4,077	4,315	4,007	3,544	na	na
Total food and agricultural imports	Million US\$	2,251	3,377	2,536	2,959	3,027	na	na
Perishable products	Million US\$	892	1,667	1,118	1,080	1,128	na	na
Fishery imports	Million US\$	815	1,543	724	952	979	na	na
Road access	Kms	55,321	57,233	59,306	60,788	62,781	na	na
Rail access	Kms	4,120	4,120	4,120	4,179	4,179	na	na
Power generation	Gigawatts	93,250	96,330	96,000	103,165	110,945	na	na
Percent of population with refrigerators	%	59	59.2	59.5	73.5	73.5	na	na
FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE FOOD SECTOR								
Net FDI in food sector	Million US\$	76.1	-18.7	na	na	na	na	na
ROLE OF AGRICULTURE AND TRADE IN THE ECONOMY								
Agriculture as a share of GNP (Real)	%	12.7	11.2	10.6	10.6	10.5	10.2	na
Self-sufficiency in grains	%	86.6	87.9	83.2	89.9	88.0	na	na
Self-sufficiency in horticulture products	%	94.1	92.0	92.5	89.3	87.1	na	na
MACROECONOMICS INDICATORS								
GDP growth	%	-10.5	4.4	4.6	4.6	1.9	5.2	na
Interest rate	%	15.50	10.50	8.13	7.40	6.50 – 7.00	na	na
Exchange rate	Baht/US\$	41.37	37.84	40.16	44.48	43.92	42.77	na