



Building Food Security in Alaska

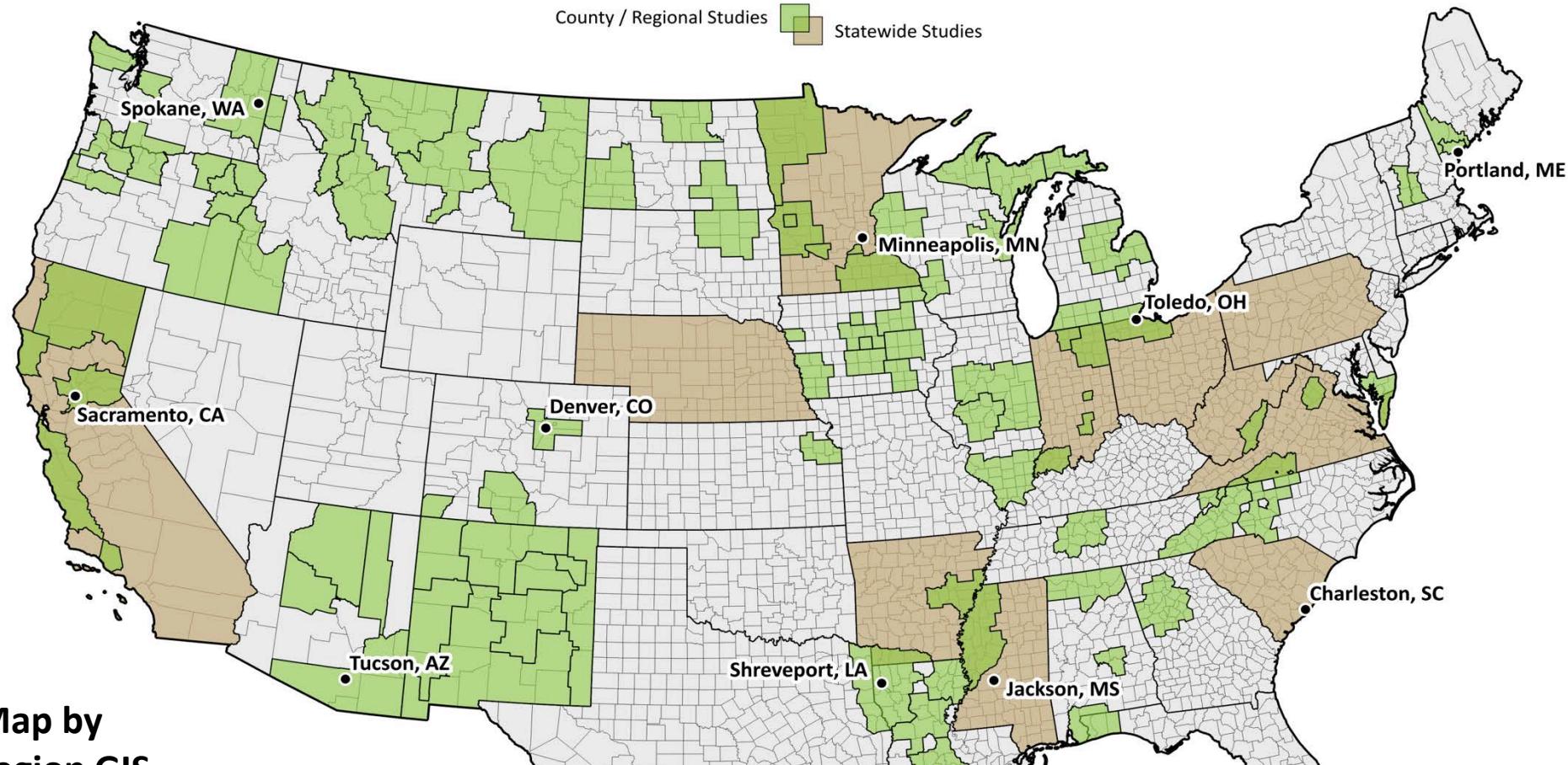


Ken Meter
Crossroads
Resource Center
(Minneapolis)

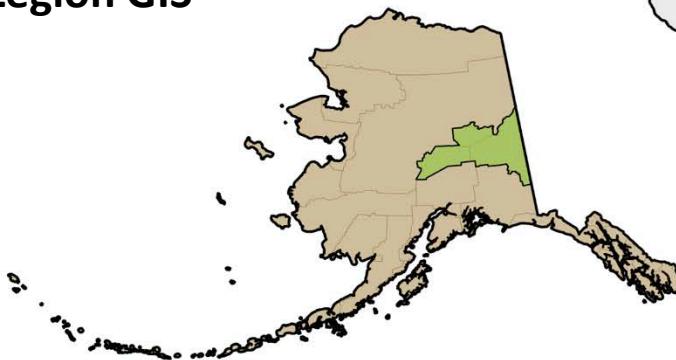
**Alaska House
Resources Committee**
March 5, 2018

CRC Farm & Food Economy Studies

County / Regional Studies  Statewide Studies 



Map by
Legion GIS



136 studies in 40 states, 2 provinces; 3 Tribes



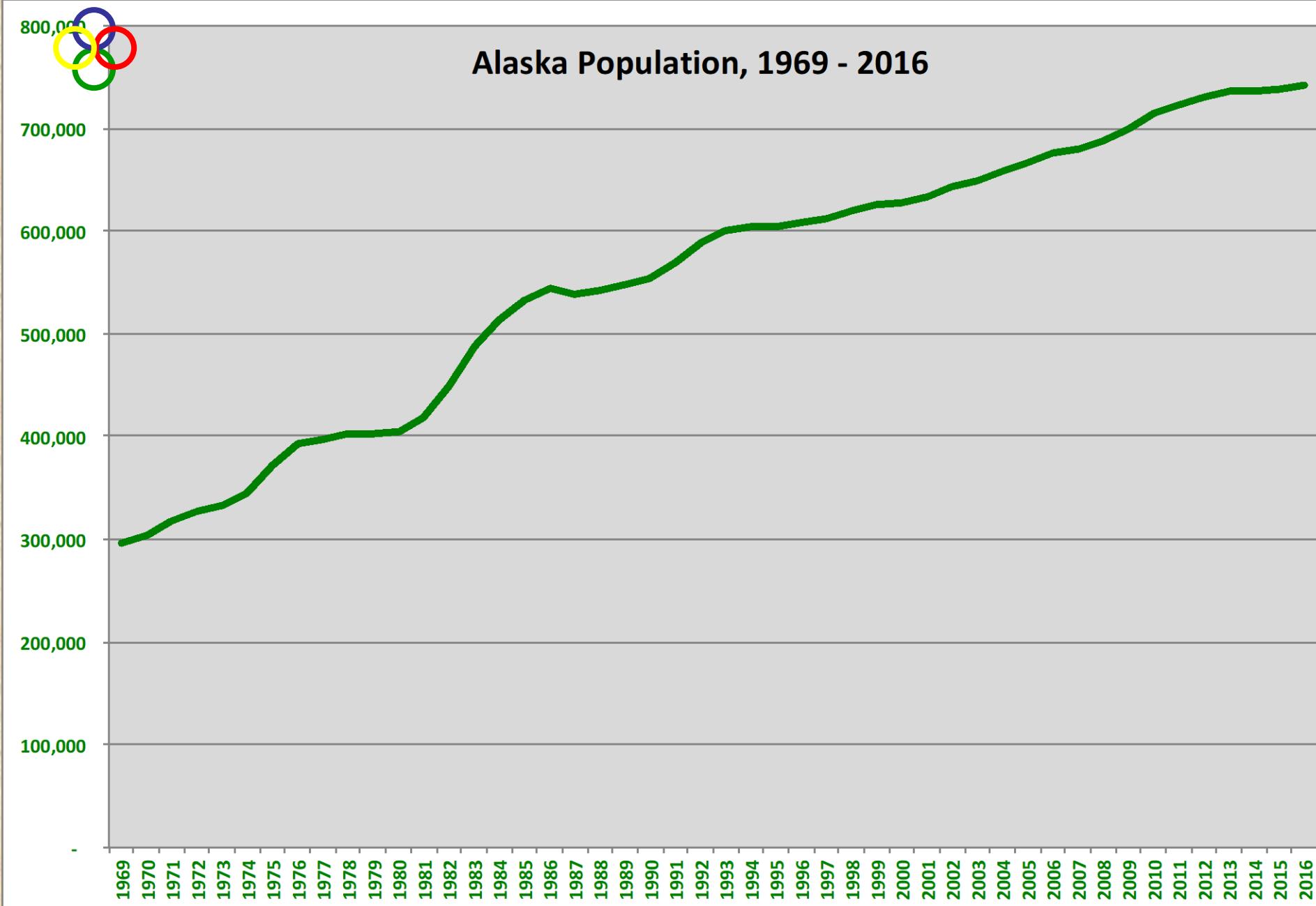
Chena Hot Springs © Ken Meter, 2014

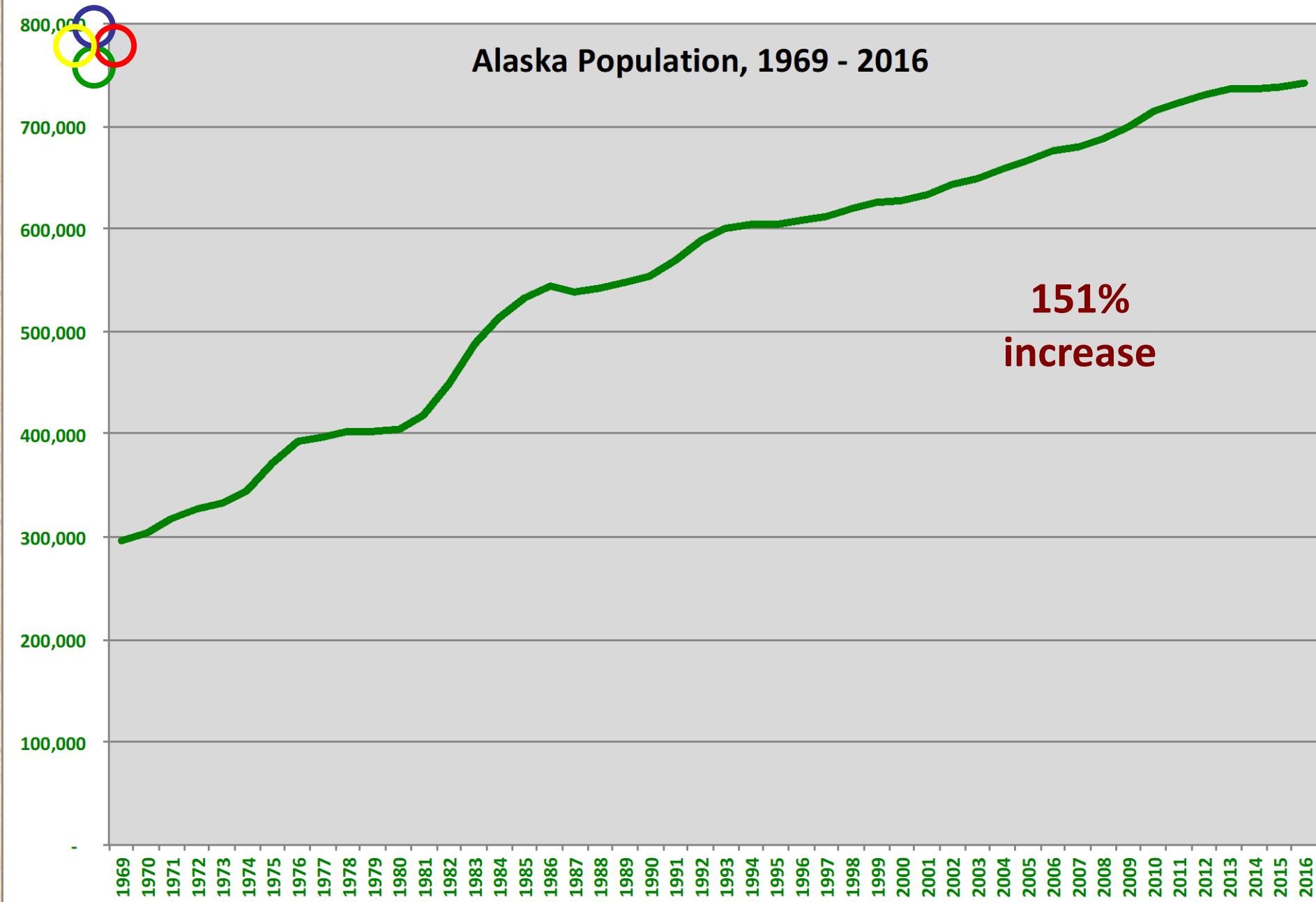


Kotzebue — © Ken Meter, 1982



Tim Meyers Farm, Bethel — © Ken Meter, 2014

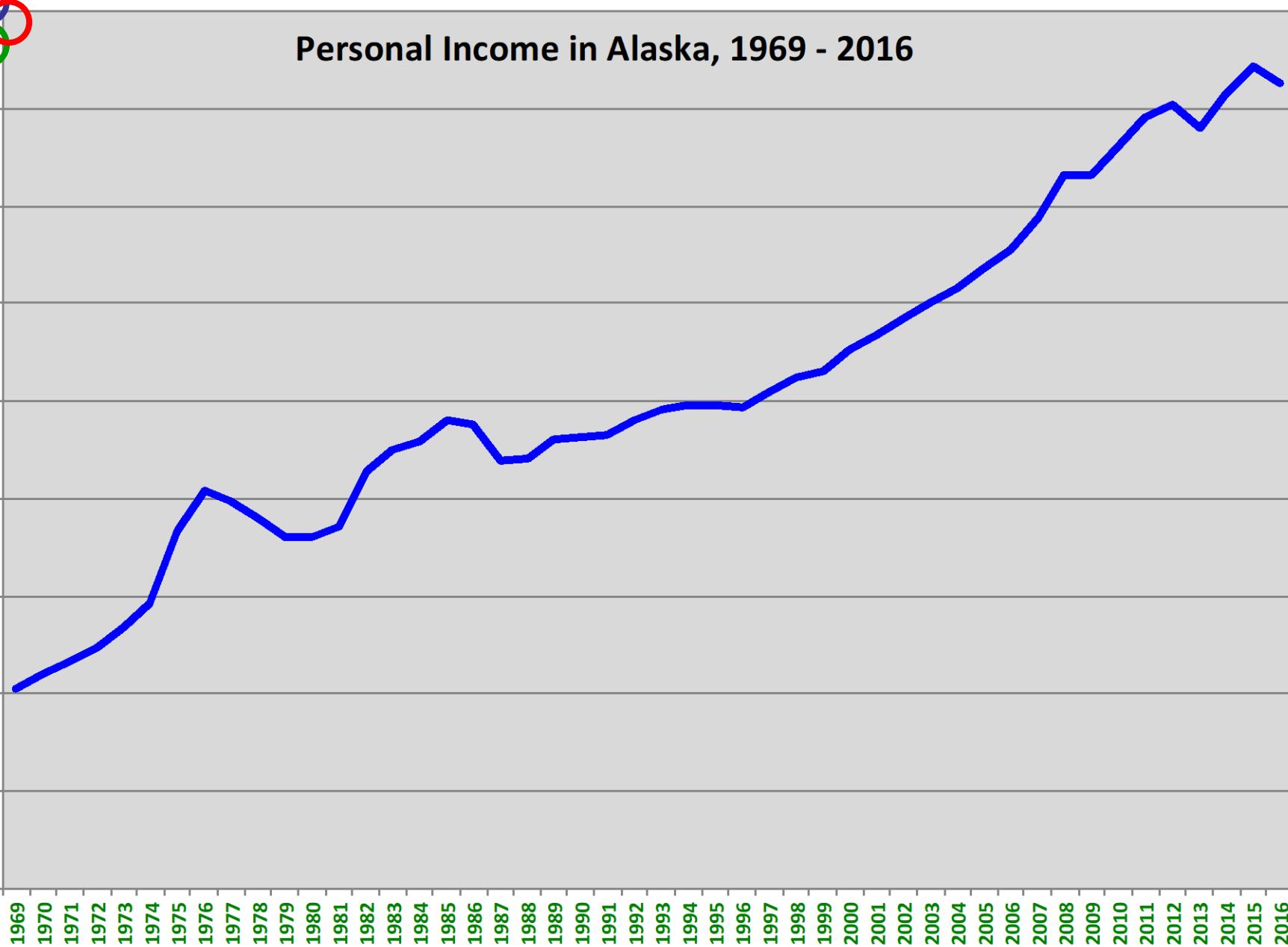






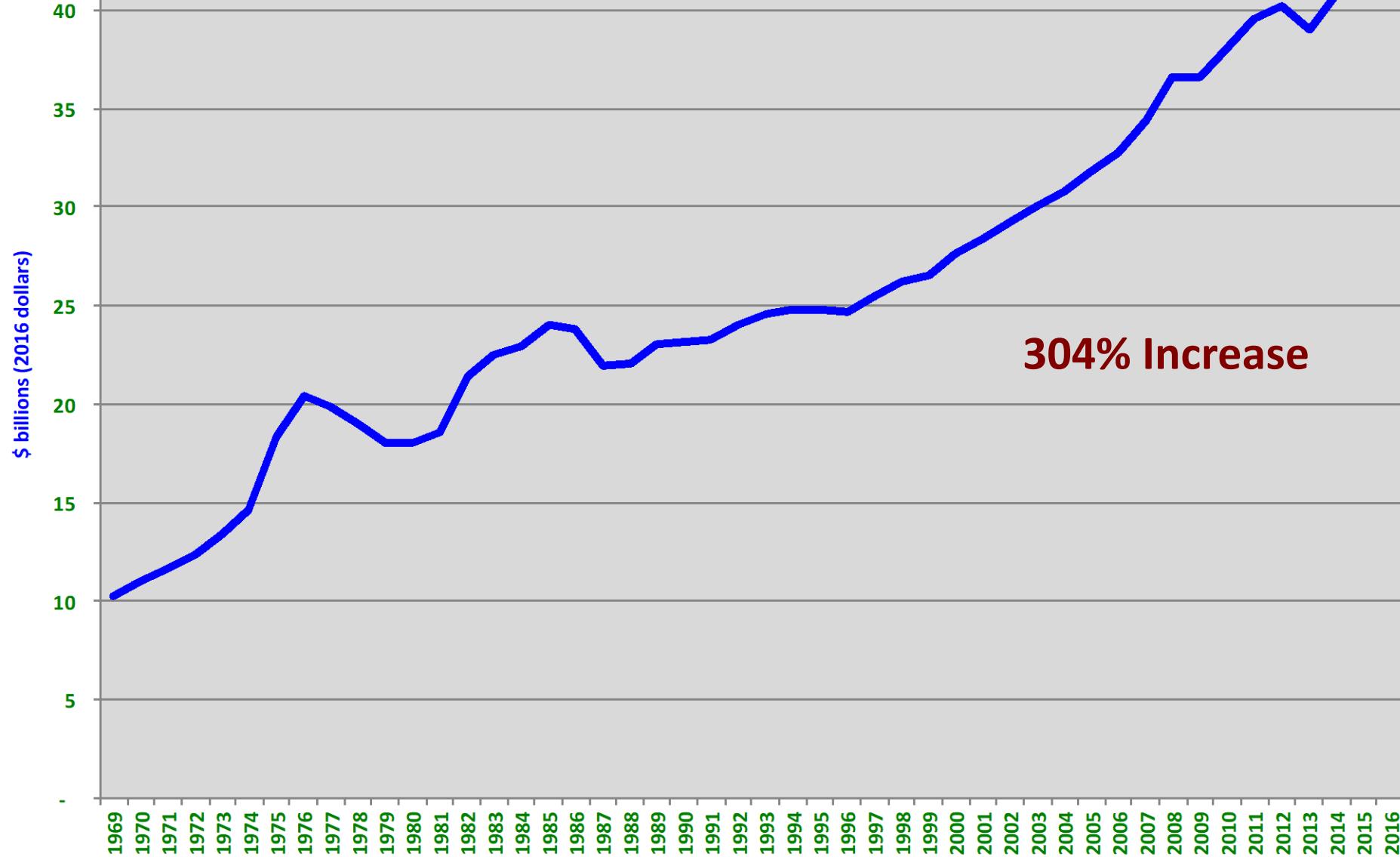
Personal Income in Alaska, 1969 - 2016

\$ billions (2016 dollars)





Personal Income in Alaska, 1969 - 2016





**Alaska residents buy \$2.1
billion of food each year**

**At least \$2 billion is sourced
outside the State**



**Alaska farmers sell \$12 million
of food products each year**



Top Alaska farm products

A scenic background image of a mountain range with snow-capped peaks and a foreground of a field of small white flowers.

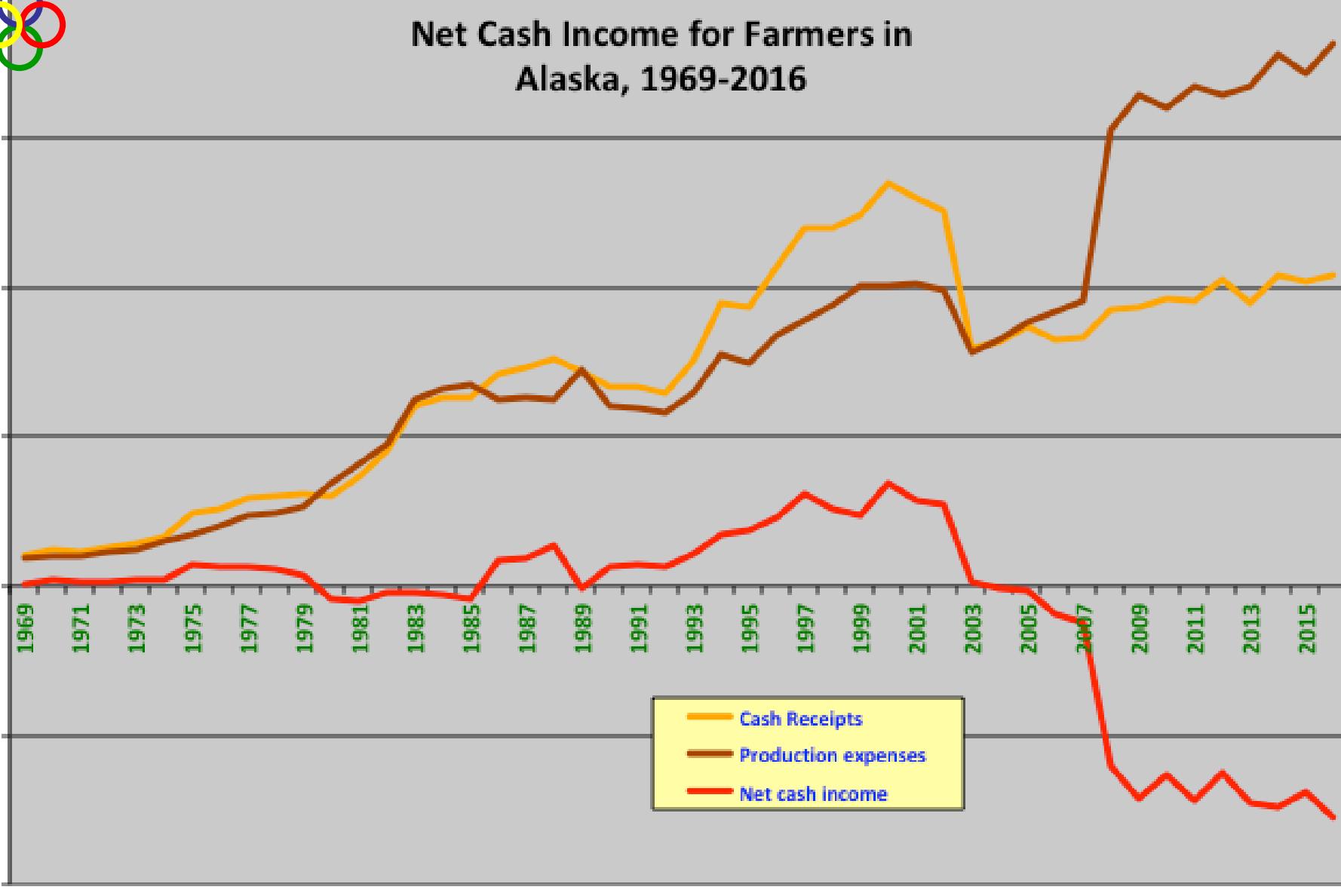
	\$ millions
1 Ornamentals	13.0
2 Hay	4.4
3 Vegetables	3.3
4 Misc. Livestock	2.8
5 Potatoes	2.5
6 Cattle & calves	1.7
7 Dairy products	1.3
8 Barley	1.0

Census of Agriculture, 2012 Total for humans ~\$11.8



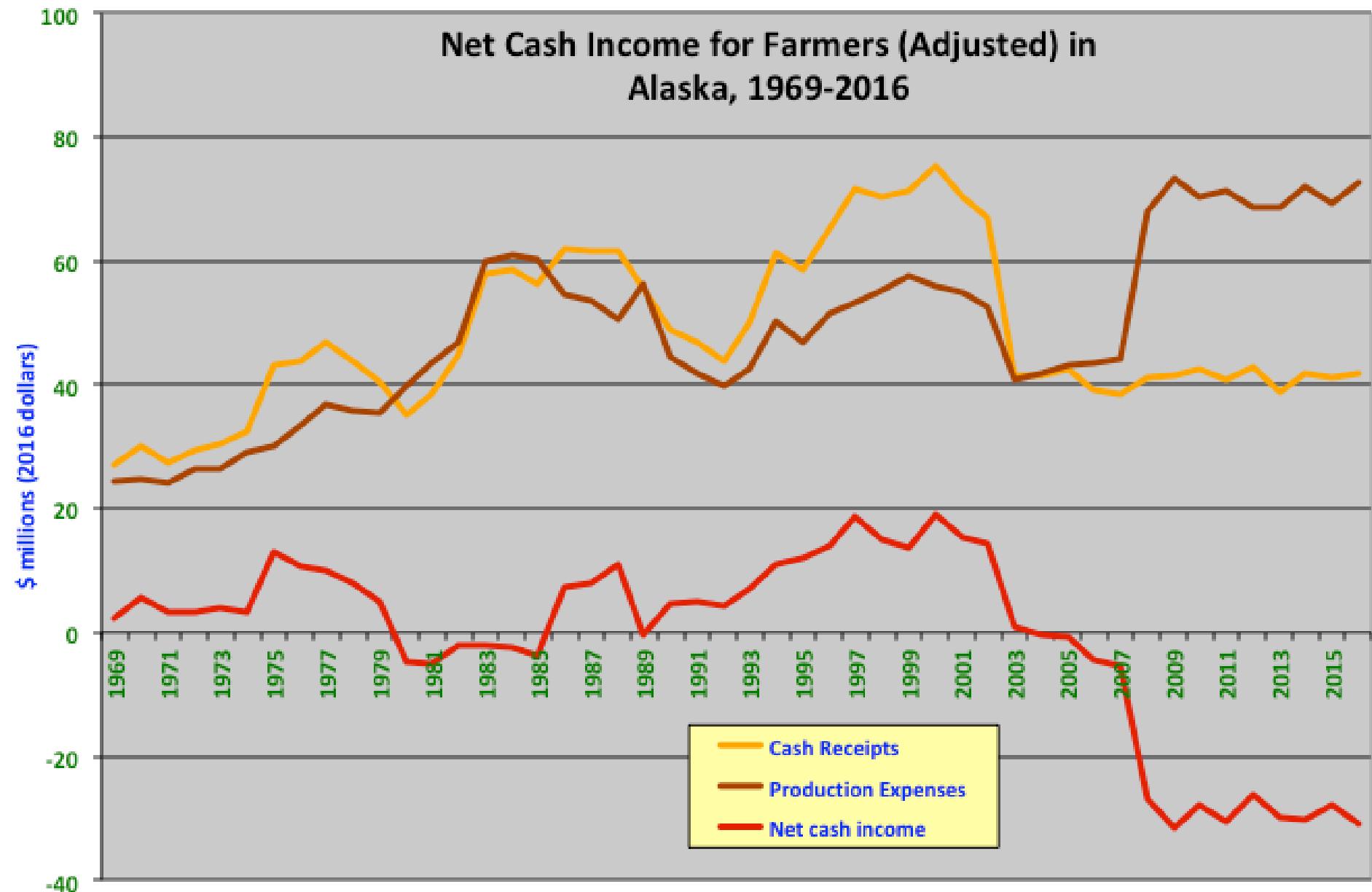
Net Cash Income for Farmers in Alaska, 1969-2016

\$ millions (year by year)



Cash Receipts
Production expenses
Net cash income

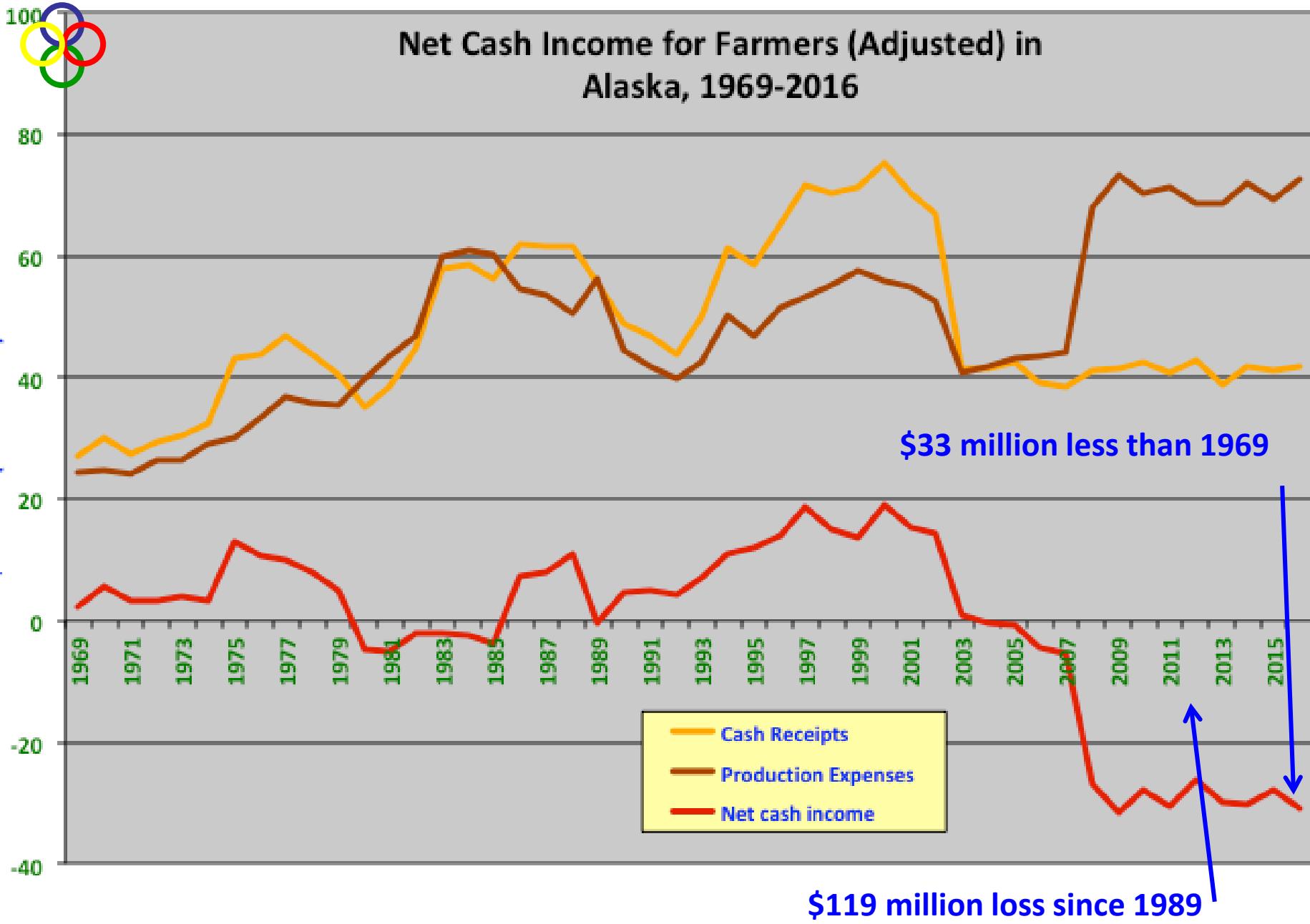
Net Cash Income for Farmers (Adjusted) in Alaska, 1969-2016





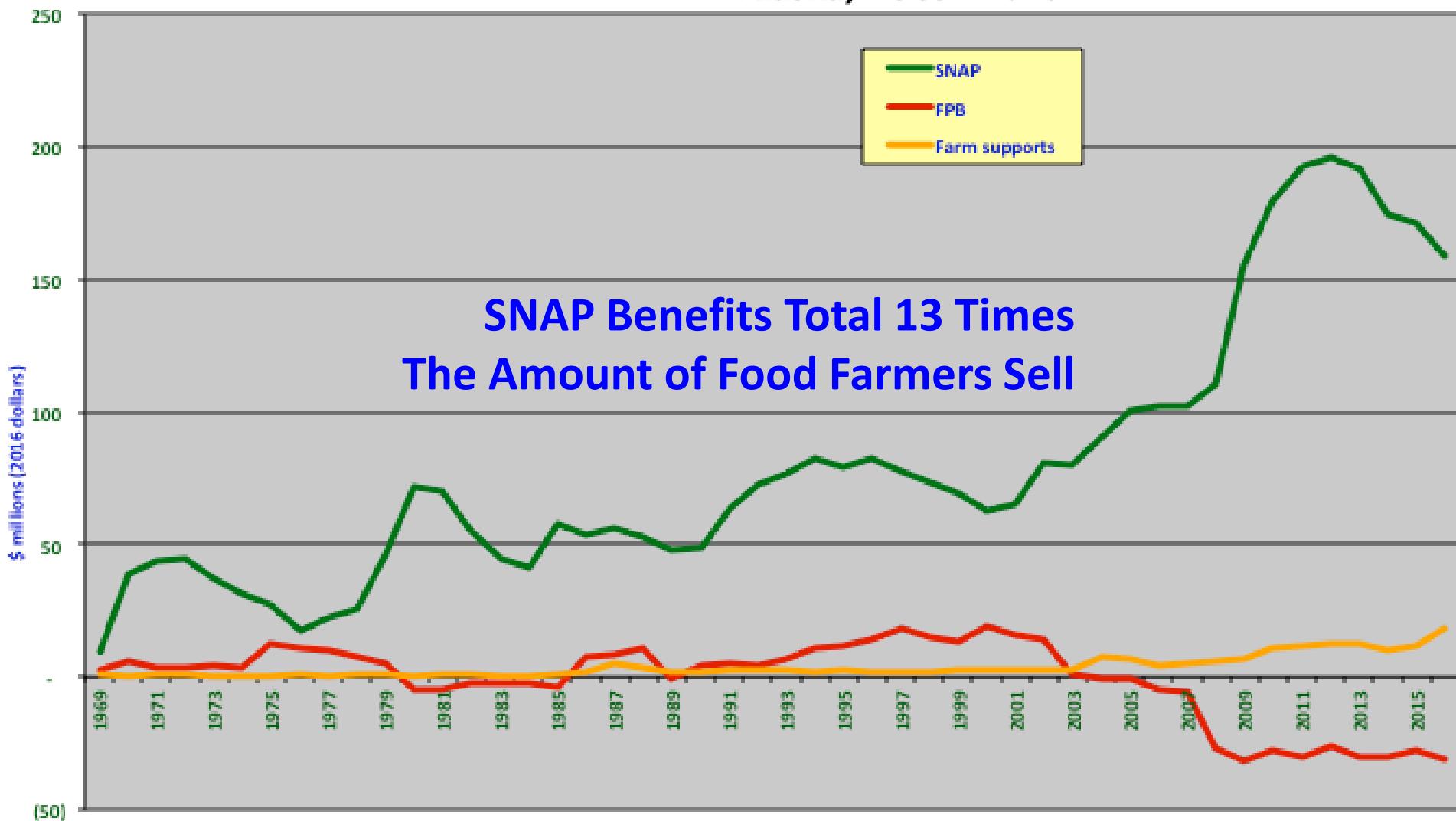
Net Cash Income for Farmers (Adjusted) in Alaska, 1969-2016

\$ millions (2016 dollars)





Adjusted SNAP Coupons Compared to Farm Subsidies Alaska, 1969 - 2016



**SNAP Benefits Total 13 Times
The Amount of Food Farmers Sell**



**Alaska spends \$450 million
each year to cover medical
costs of diabetes & related
conditions**



Consumers matter

If each resident bought \$5 of food directly from some Alaska farm each week...(and if these farms existed)

...farms would earn **\$193 million**
16 times current cash receipts



Retailers Take Part in 2017 \$5 Alaska Grown Challenge

Carrs Safeway

Walmart

Fred Meyer

JBER Commissary

Save U More

Alaska Commercial Co.



Alaska food & farm economy

**241 (32%) farms sell
direct to consumers**



Key recommendations

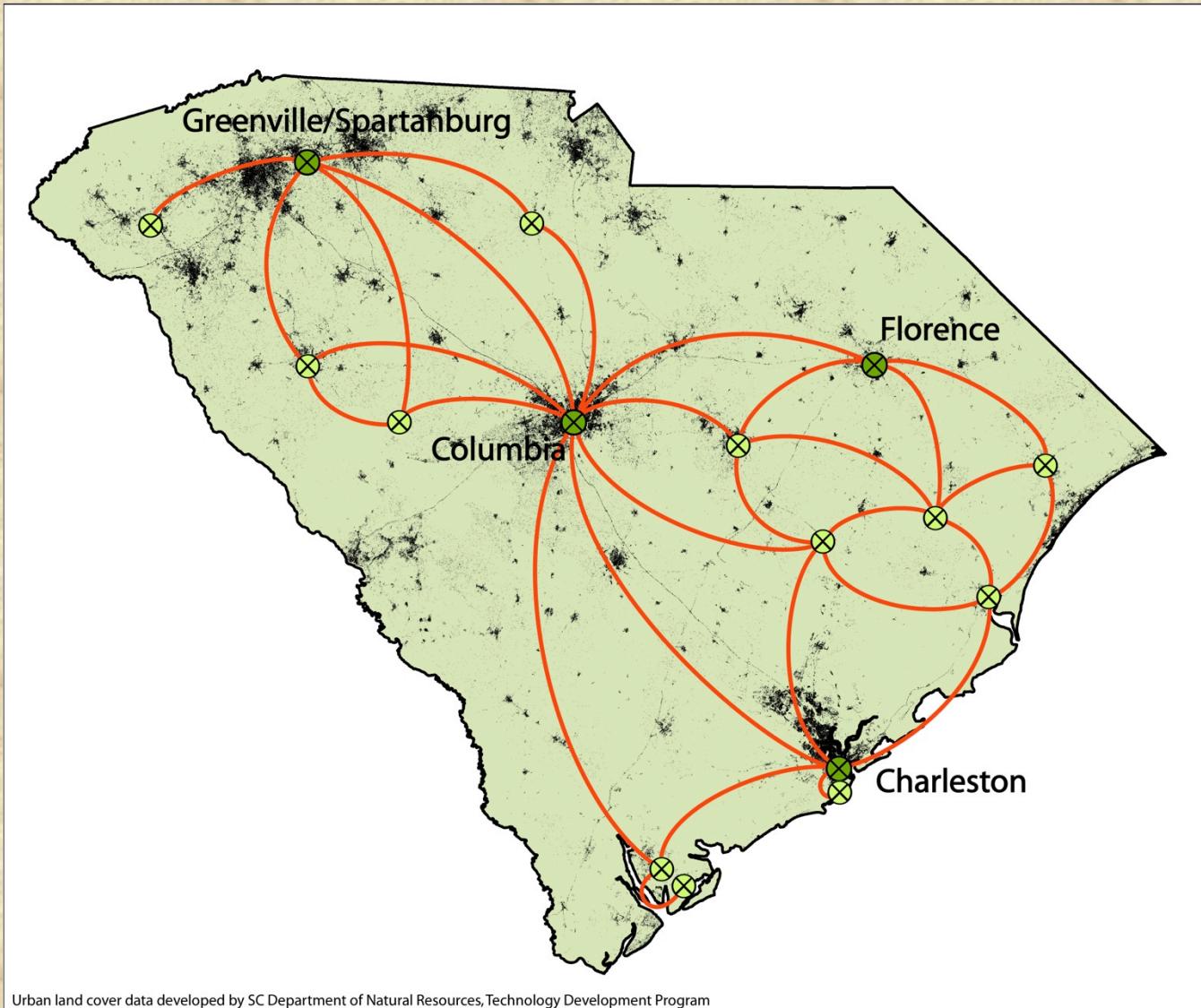
How much land would be required to provide all of Alaska's demand?

[At current rates of consumption]

	acres
• Potatoes	4,700
• Carrots	200
• Cabbage	200
• Lettuce	600



South Carolina “Food Web”





Dan & Marguerite Guenther, Common Harvest Farm, Osceola, Wisconsin



The key role of public investment

**Build infrastructure
that creates
community efficiencies**



Local Farm & Food Economy Studies

**Ken Meter & Megan Phillips Goldenberg
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