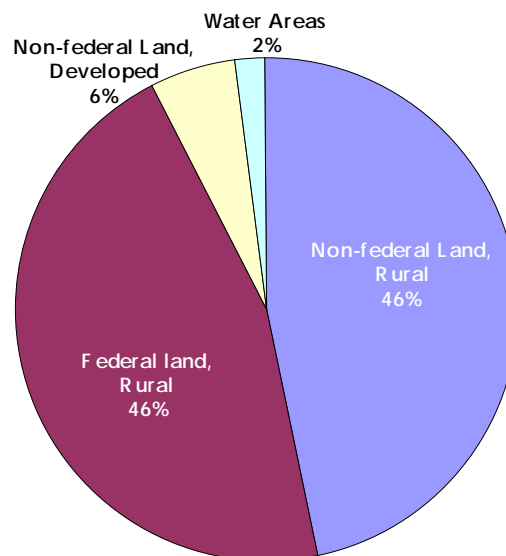


I.1 Land Use

About 92% of California’s 99.8 million acres is in rural uses. This rural area is divided evenly between federal and non-federal ownership. The federal land mostly includes national forest, national parks and wildlife areas, and “other land.”¹ Roughly 11% (5 million acres) of the federal rural land is grassland pasture and range used for agriculture.

¹ Other land is defined by the National Agricultural Statistics Service as “marshes, open swamps, bare rock deserts, rural transportation areas, defense and industrial areas, farmsteads, and farm roads and lanes.”

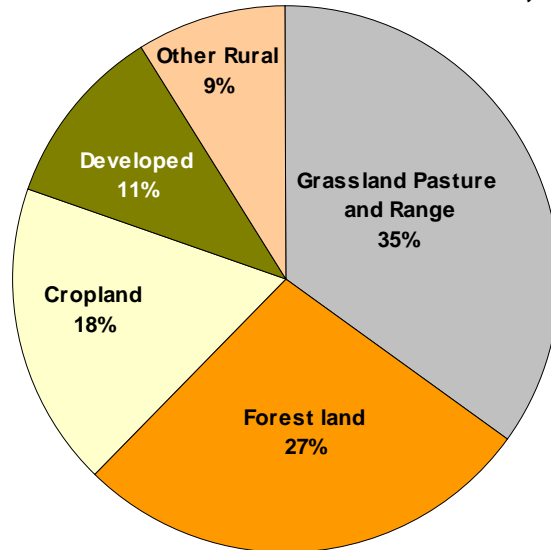
FIGURE 1
Federal and Non-federal Land Use in California, 1997



Source: USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, *Natural Resources Inventory*, 2000.

FIGURE 2

Non-federal Land Use in California, 1997



■ Of California’s 53 million acres of non-federal land, about 80% is grassland pasture and range, forest land, and cropland. Most of California agriculture is located on non-federal land.

Source: USDA, National Resources Conservation Service, *Natural Resources Inventory*, 2000.

- About 5.7 million acres of California’s non-federal land are defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as “developed” for residential, industrial, and commercial use. However, the intensity of use varies widely, with much of this land relatively unpopulated. The California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) defines 3.1 million acres of California’s non-federal land as “urban and built-up”². This suggests that roughly 2.6 million acres of “developed” land in the NRCS survey are still relatively rural, or not mapped by FMMP.

² “Urban and Built-up” land is defined by the FMMP as land occupied by structures with a building density of at least one unit to one and one-half acres.

TABLE 1

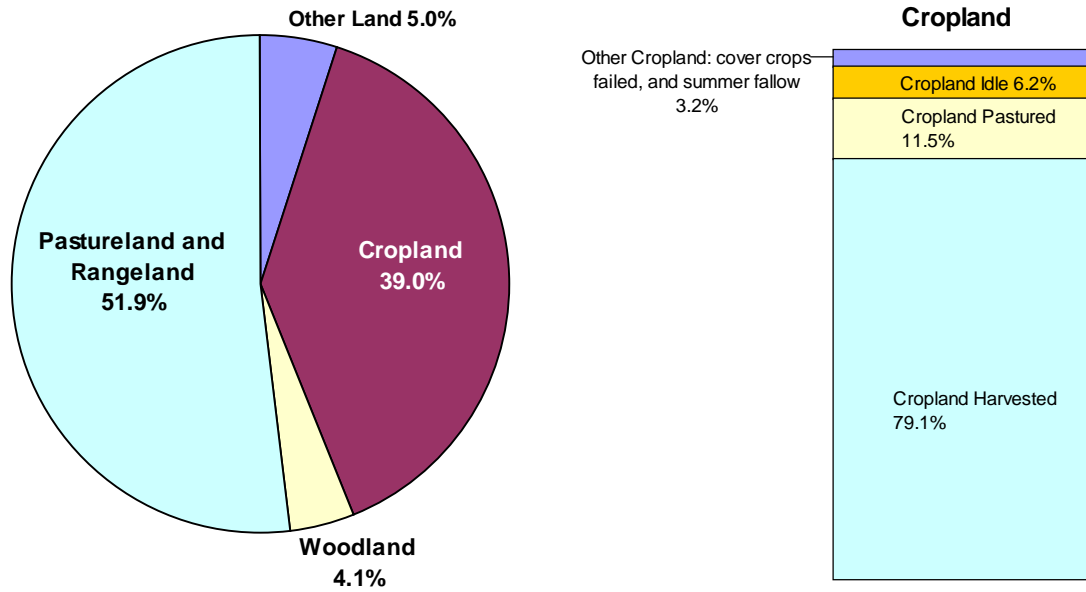
Non-federal Land Developed in California (1,000 acres)

Total Non-federal Land (NRCS, 1997)	52,926
Developed Land (NRCS, 1997)	5,687
Urban and Built-up Land (FMMP, 1998)	3,079

Sources:

1. USDA, National Resources Conservation Service, *Natural Resources Inventory*, 2000.
2. California Department of Conservation, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, 2000.

FIGURE 3
Agricultural Land Use in California, 1997
 Total Acres 27,698,779



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 1997 Census of Agriculture.

- In total, about 27.7 million acres, including 5 million acres of federal grazing land, are used for agriculture in California. Over half is pasture and range, about 39% is cropland, and the remainder is divided between woodland and other land.

TABLE 2

Agricultural Land Use, 1964-1997 (1,000 acres)

Census Year	Pasture Land and Range Land	Total Cropland*	Other Land**	Woodland including Woodland Pasture	Total Agricultural Land
CALIFORNIA 99,823,000 total acres					
1964	20,450	11,815	1,343	3,403	37,012
1969	NA***	11,245	NA***	2,038	35,328
1974	NA***	10,630	NA***	1,522	33,386
1978	18,733	11,455	1,175	1,365	32,727
1982	17,980	11,257	1,437	1,483	32,157
1987	17,111	10,895	1,241	1,351	30,598
1992	16,191	10,479	1,158	1,150	28,979
1997	14,385	10,804	1,394	1,116	27,699
UNITED STATES 2,262,444,000 total acres					
1964	490,307	434,232	39,671	145,976	1,110,187
1969	NA***	458,990	NA***	112,013	1,062,893
1974	NA***	440,039	NA***	92,528	1,017,030
1978	436,729	453,874	36,733	91,815	1,014,777
1982	418,264	445,362	36,082	87,088	986,797
1987	410,329	443,318	30,929	79,894	964,471
1992	410,835	435,366	25,369	73,962	945,532
1997	396,885	431,145	32,300	71,465	931,795

*Includes harvested cropland, cropland used only for pastures, and other cropland.

**Houses and barns, lots, ponds, roads and wasteland.

***NA: In 1969 and 1974, the Census of Agriculture aggregated pastureland and other land.

Sources:

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture, 1964-1992*.
2. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *1997 Census of Agriculture*.

■ Agricultural land use in California fell by almost 10 million acres between 1964 and 1997, with much of this change coming from decreases in pasture and rangeland. Some changes may be at least partially attributed to changes in land use definitions in the *Census of Agriculture*. Cropland fell by more than one million acres from 1964 to 1974 and has fluctuated since then.

- Despite its reputation as a major fruit, tree-nut and vegetable producer, California has a greater ratio of pasture and range to cropland than the United States as a whole.

TABLE 3

Agricultural Land Use, 1964-1997 (percent)

Census Year	Pasture Land and Range Land	Total Cropland*	Other Land**	Woodland including Woodland Pasture
CALIFORNIA				
1964	55.3	31.9	3.6	9.2
1969	NA***	31.8	NA***	5.8
1974	NA***	31.8	NA***	4.6
1978	57.2	35.0	3.6	4.2
1982	55.9	35.0	4.5	4.6
1987	55.9	35.6	4.1	4.4
1992	55.9	36.2	4.0	4.0
1997	51.9	39.0	5.0	4.0
UNITED STATES				
1964	44.2	39.1	3.6	13.1
1969	NA***	43.2	NA***	10.5
1974	NA***	43.3	NA***	9.1
1978	43.0	44.7	3.6	9.0
1982	42.4	45.1	3.7	8.8
1987	42.5	46.0	3.2	8.3
1992	43.5	46.0	2.7	7.8
1997	42.6	46.3	3.5	7.7

*Includes harvested cropland, cropland used only for pastures, and other cropland.

**Houses and barns, lots, ponds, roads and wasteland.

***NA: In 1969 and 1974, the Census of Agriculture aggregated pastureland and other land.

Sources:

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture, 1964-1992*.
2. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *1997 Census of Agriculture*.

- California tends to harvest a greater percentage of its cropland than the United States as a whole. Between 1964 and 1997 there was a net decrease in total cropland and a net increase in harvested cropland, but both statistics fluctuated from census to census.

TABLE 4

Harvested Cropland as a Percent of Total Cropland, 1964-1997

Census Year	Total Cropland* (1,000 acres)	Harvested Cropland (1,000 acres)	Percent of Total Cropland Harvested
CALIFORNIA			
1964	11,815	7,846	66.4
1969	11,245	7,649	68.0
1974	10,630	8,307	78.1
1978	11,455	8,804	76.9
1982	11,257	8,765	77.9
1987	10,895	7,676	70.5
1992	10,479	7,761	74.1
1997	10,804	8,543	79.1
UNITED STATES			
1964	434,232	286,892	66.1
1969	458,990	273,016	59.5
1974	440,039	303,002	68.9
1978	453,874	317,146	69.9
1982	445,362	326,306	73.3
1987	443,318	282,224	63.7
1992	435,366	295,937	68.0
1997	431,145	309,395	71.8

*Includes harvested cropland, cropland idled, cropland used only for pastures, and other cropland.

Sources:

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture, 1964-1992*.
2. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *1997 Census of Agriculture*.

- California's planted cropland has shifted over time toward higher value crops such as fruits, tree-nuts and vegetables while acres of field crops have decreased. Cotton, wheat and rice are notable exceptions in that harvested acreage for each increased substantially between 1964 and 1997, but peaked during census years in the late 1970's or early 1980's. Rice surpassed its 1982 acreage by about 600 acres in 2000.

TABLE 5

California Harvested Cropland by Category, Census Years 1964-1997 (1,000 acres)

Category	1964	1969	1974	1978	1982	1987	1992	1997
Orchards and Vineyards	1,520	1,588	1,770	1,892	2,158	2,153	2,246	2,582
Hay--all types*	1,702	1,534	1,545	1,501	1,416	1,533	1,531	1,699
Vegetables and Melons	626	676	740	900	895	883	1,017	1,209
Cotton	759	663	1,150	1,518	1,313	1,084	1,066	1,036
Wheat for Grain	267	404	703	590	929	562	569	581
Rice**	343	NA	NA	485	567	399	401	514
Barley for Grain**	1,319	NA	NA	874	583	270	204	130
Nursery and Greenhouse	37	34	45	52	59	67	76	95
Other Crops***	1,273	NA	NA	992	845	725	651	697
Total Harvested Cropland	7,846	7,649	8,307	8,804	8,765	7,676	7,761	8,543

*Hay includes alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, and green chop varieties.

**Acres of rice and barley were not reported in the Census of Agriculture in 1969 and 1974.

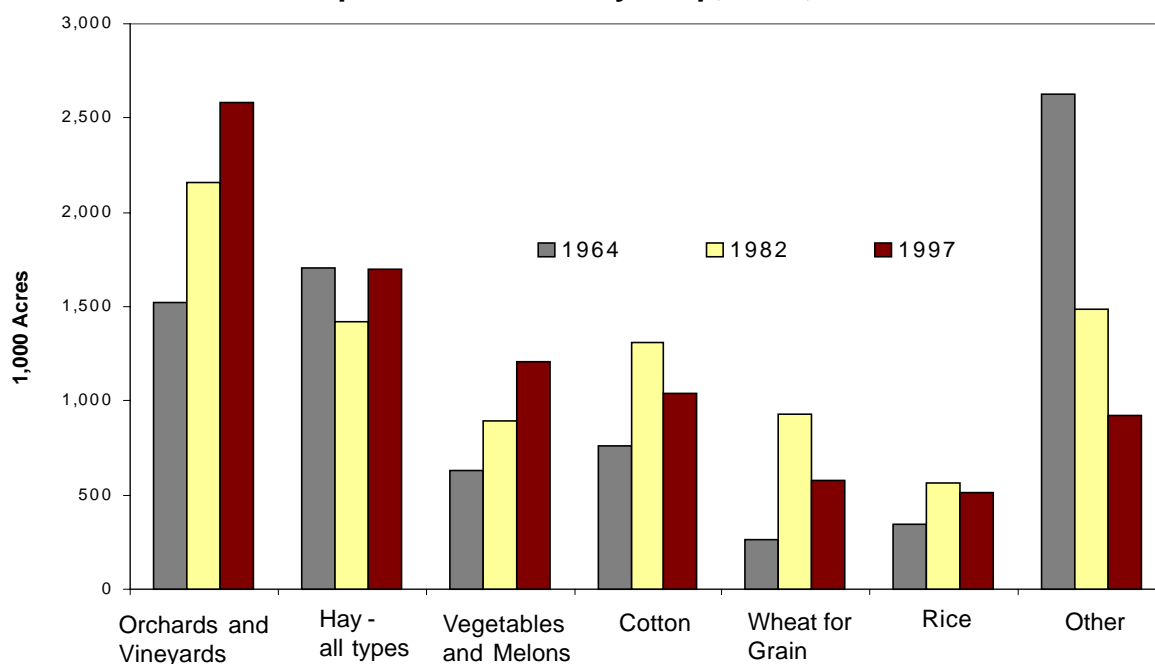
***Acres of other crops were calculated by subtracting all reported categories from Total Harvested Cropland. Other crops include corn, dry beans, peas, potatoes, seed crops, sugar beets, sweet potatoes, and other field crops.

Sources:

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture*, 1964-1992.
2. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *1997 Census of Agriculture*.

FIGURE 4

California Cropland Harvested by Crop, 1964, 1982 and 1997



Sources:

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture*, 1964 and 1982.
2. USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *1997 Census of Agriculture*.