## STATE OF THE INDUSTRY



Consumer demand has grown by double-digits every year since the 1990s - and organic sales increased from \$3.6 billion in 1997 to over \$39 billion in 2014

Total U.S. Organic Sales and Growth, 2004-2014


The vast majority of American consumers purchase organic food productsa recent Consumer Reports survey shows that $84 \%$ of American consumers purchase organic food.

But production is not keeping up with demand. Supply shortages are one of the greatest challenges facing the industry today. Despite continued growth in production, handlers are not able to keep up with demand. Organic food sales currently make up four percent of total food sales, while acreage devoted to organic agriculture is less than one percent of total U.S. cropland.

There is a huge opportunity for rural communities to fill this demand.


