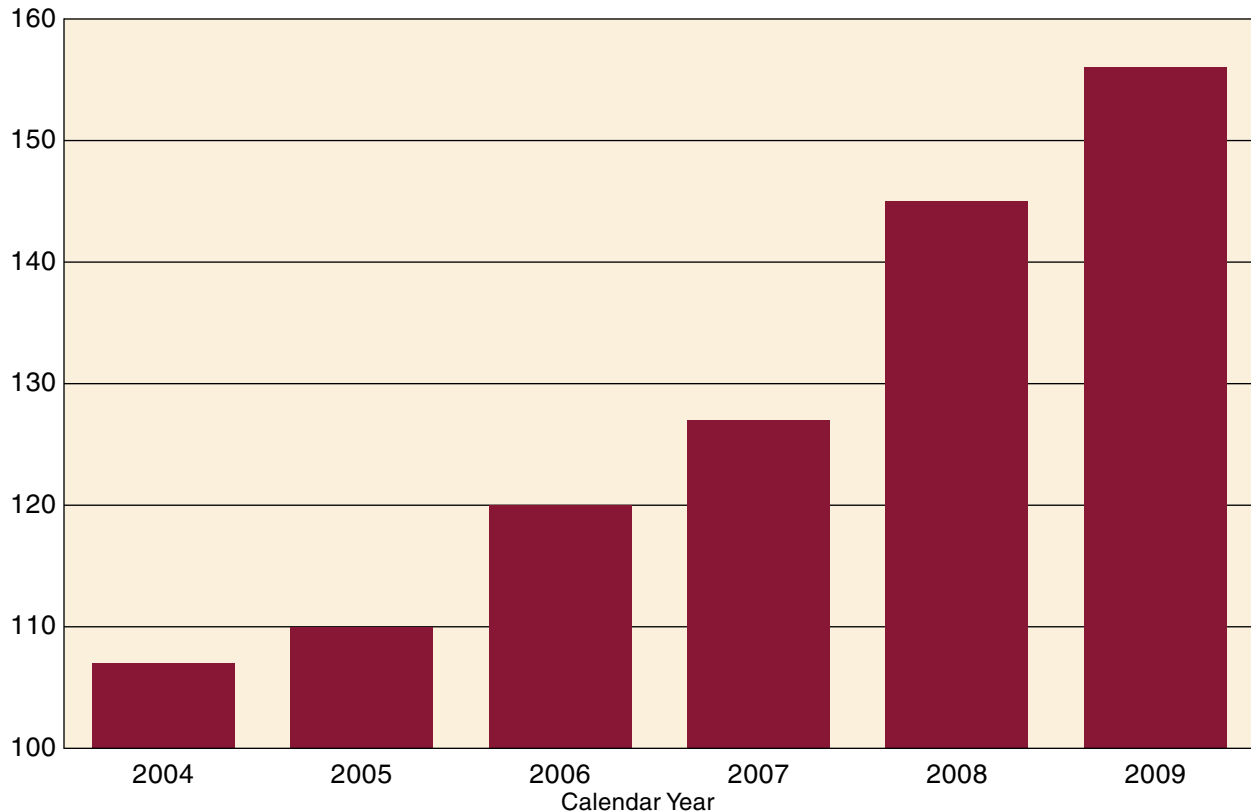


# Washington State Wine Industry Thrives

Washington Wine Grape Production  
(thousands of tons)



Wine grape production in Washington state increased by 8 percent last year to a record 156,000 tons crushed—more than double the figure of 10 years earlier. Washington ranks second only to California in terms of U.S. wine production, according to the 2009 edition of *The U.S. Wine Market: Impact Databank Review & Forecast*. Wine grapes generated an average price of \$989 per ton harvested last year, and the wine industry’s economic impact on the state exceeds \$3 billion.

Ste. Michelle Wine Estates is Washington’s largest producer, controlling more than 60 percent of the wine grape crop within the state. Ste. Michelle is also the world’s largest producer of the Riesling grape, one of the fastest-growing varieties globally. Washington is also home to around 650 wineries, double the number of just five years earlier. The state devoted nearly 36,000 acres to wine grapes in 2009, a 50 percent increase over a ten-year span.

For more information regarding *The U.S. Wine Market*, [click here](#).