Forest land ownership

South Carolina has an estimated **12,857,040** acres of forest land.

This resource update is a brief look at some of the basic metrics that describe the status of and changes to forest resources in South Carolina. This information is based on field data collected using the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) annualized sample design, and it is updated yearly.

South Carolina has 3,641 sample plots across the State, of which 2,683 are currently forested. Each year, about 14-20 percent of these plots are visited and measured by field crews. Data used in this update were accessed from the FIA database on 09/20/2019.

- **Private: 87.00%**
- **Federal: 8.11%**
- **State and Local: 4.89%**

### Forest Land Ownership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area of forest land (million acres)</td>
<td>12.86</td>
<td>13.04</td>
<td>0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of live trees on forest land (billion trees)</td>
<td>9.17</td>
<td>9.91</td>
<td>0.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume of live trees on forest land (billion cubic feet)</td>
<td>26.61</td>
<td>25.19</td>
<td>-1.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Forest Land Ownership

- **Federal:** 13.04 million acres
- **State and Local:** 9.91 billion trees
- **Private:** 25.19 billion cubic feet

### Data Changes

- **Area of forest land:** 12.86 million acres to 13.04 million acres (0.18 million acres)
- **Number of live trees:** 9.17 billion trees to 9.91 billion trees (0.74 billion trees)
- **Volume of live trees:** 26.61 billion cubic feet to 25.19 billion cubic feet (-1.42 billion cubic feet)

### Land Use Changes

- **33,617** acres of nonforest revert back to forest annually*
- **55,616** acres of forest land convert annually* to nonforest
- **516,731** acres of forest land are treated (harvest, thinning, etc.) annually*
- **164,439** acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by fire
- **88,128** acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by weather events

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*Average annual estimates are based on data collected across 5-10 years and may not be indicative of the nominal year presented in the title by itself.
Forests of South Carolina, 2018

How to cite this publication

Archived Versions
Archived versions of resource updates can be found by searching Treesearch using keywords "Forest Inventory" and "South Carolina" here: https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/.

National Woodland Owner Survey
The National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) collects and reports on multiple attributes of forest land ownership. Details of the NWOS program can be found here: https://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/.

The most recent NWOS Factsheet for South Carolina can be found here: https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/52416/.

Additional Resources
The application that produced this resource update was developed using data from the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis database (FIADB): https://apps.fs.usda.gov/fia/datamart/datamart_excel.html.

Tables for South Carolina, 2018 can be found here: https://doi.org/10.2737/FS-RU-221-Tables.

The FIA one-click application can be found here: https://doi.org/10.2737/FIA-One-Click-State-Report-v1.2.


NOTE: Some of the above links will not be active until the resource update has been approved for official publication.

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