



# Mississippi's Timber Industry— Timber Product Output and Use, 2011

FOREST INVENTORY & ANALYSIS FACTSHEET

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## Introduction

This science update contains the findings of a 2011 canvass of all primary wood-using plants in Mississippi, and presents changes in product output and residue use since 2009. It complements the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) annual inventory of volume and removals from the State's timberland. The canvass was conducted to determine the amount and source of wood receipts and annual timber product drain, by county, in 2011 and to determine interstate and cross-regional movement of industrial roundwood. Only primary wood-using mills were canvassed. Primary mills are those that process roundwood in log or bolt form or as chipped roundwood. Examples of industrial roundwood products are saw logs, pulpwood, veneer logs, poles, and logs used for composite board products. Mills producing products from residues generated at primary and secondary processors were not canvassed. Trees chipped in the woods were included in the estimate of timber drain only if they were delivered to a primary domestic manufacturer.

A 100-percent canvass of all wood processors in Mississippi was conducted in 2012 to obtain information for 2011. In addition, roundwood from out-of-State mills known to be using logs or bolts harvested from Mississippi timberland was incorporated into Mississippi production estimates. Each mill was canvassed by mail or through personal contact at plant locations. Telephone contacts followed mailed questionnaire responses when additional information or clarification of a response was necessary. In the event

of a nonresponse, data collected in previous surveys were updated using current data collected for mills of similar size, product type, and location. Surveys for all timber products other than pulpwood began in 1948, and are currently conducted every 2 years.

Pulpwood production data were taken from an annual canvass of all southern pulpmills. Medium density fiberboard, insulating board, and hardboard plants were included in this survey.

The FIA Research Work Unit of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture developed the Timber Product Output (TPO) Database Retrieval System to help customers answer questions about timber harvesting and use in the Southern region. This system acts as an interface to a standard set of consistently coded TPO data for each State and county in the region and Nation. The database is well documented and easy to use. The retrieval system allows the user to select the TPO variables of interest and generate a standard set of timber products, removals, and mill residue tables for the specified resource area, State, or region. The system is available through the FIA Web site: <http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/>. The Excel® core tables and figures that complement this science update are available on the TPO database.

The Southern Research Station gratefully acknowledges the tremendous cooperation and assistance provided by the Mississippi Forestry Commission in collecting mill data. Appreciation is also extended to forest industry and mill managers for providing timber products information.



Weyerhaeuser pulp-mill in Columbus, MS. (photo by LueAnn Lefor)





## All Products

- Industrial timber product output from roundwood increased 38.3 million cubic feet, or 6 percent, to 723.3 million cubic feet.
- Output of industrial softwood roundwood products was up 7 percent, to 564.2 million cubic feet, while output of industrial hardwood roundwood products increased 2 percent to 159.2 million cubic feet (fig. 1).

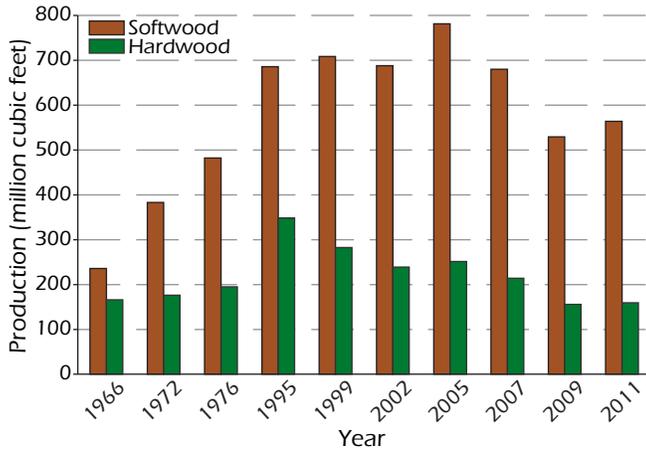


Figure 1—Roundwood production for all products by species group and year, Mississippi.

- Pulpwood and saw logs were the principal roundwood products in 2011. Combined output of these two products totaled 651.7 million cubic feet and accounted for 90 percent of the State’s total industrial roundwood output (fig. 2).
- Total receipts at Mississippi mills, which included roundwood harvested and retained in the State and roundwood imported from other States, was up 5 percent from 520.3 million cubic feet to 544.4 million cubic feet.

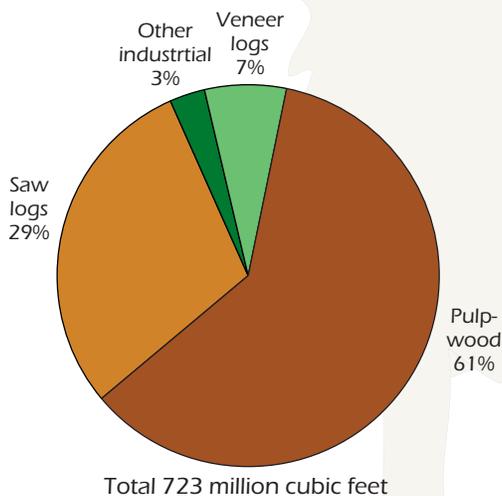


Figure 2—Roundwood production by type of product, Mississippi, 2011.

- At the same time, the number of primary roundwood-using plants in Mississippi declined from 73 in 2009 to 63 in 2011 (fig. 3).
- Across all products, 69 percent of roundwood harvested was retained for processing at Mississippi mills. Exports of roundwood to other States amounted to 221.3 million cubic feet, while imports of roundwood amounted to 42.4 million cubic feet, making the State a net exporter of roundwood.

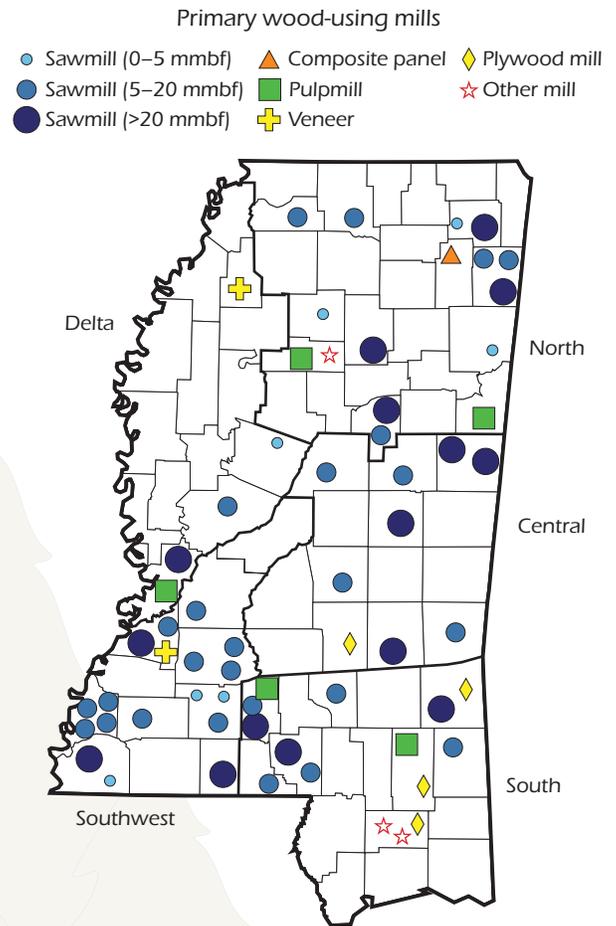


Figure 3—Primary wood-using mills by region, Mississippi, 2011.

## Pulpwood

- Total pulpwood production increased 11 percent to 438.7 million cubic feet and accounted for 61 percent of the State’s total roundwood TPO compared to 58 percent of total TPO in 2009. Softwood output was up 15 percent to 343.7 million cubic feet, while hardwood output decreased 3 percent to 94.9 million cubic feet (fig. 4).
- Five pulpmill facilities were operating and receiving roundwood in Mississippi in 2011, the same since 2005. Total pulpwood receipts for these mills increased to 265.4 million cubic feet, accounting for 49 percent of total receipts for all mills.
- Fifty-seven percent of roundwood cut for pulpwood was retained for processing at Mississippi pulpmills. Roundwood pulpwood accounted for 86 percent of total known exports and 39 percent of total imports.

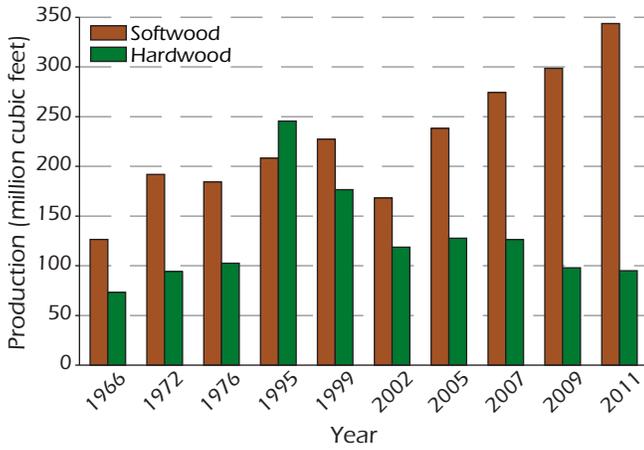


Figure 4—Roundwood pulpwood production by type of product, Mississippi.

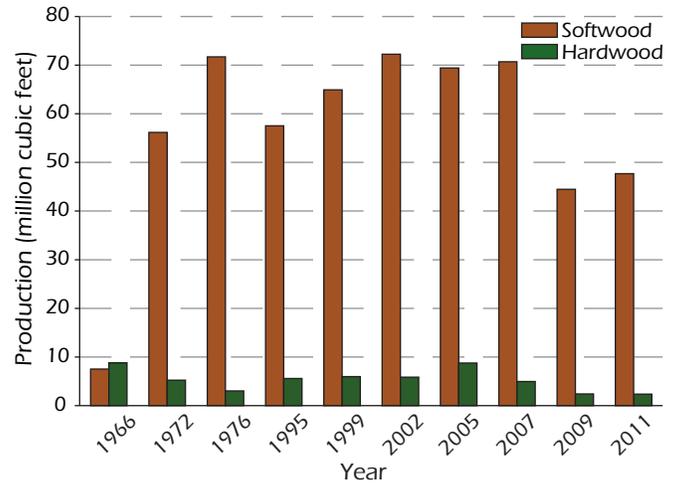


Figure 6—Roundwood veneer-log production by type of product, Mississippi.

### Saw Logs

- Saw logs accounted for 29 percent of the State’s total roundwood products. Output of softwood saw logs decreased 8 percent to 152.1 million cubic feet, while that of hardwood saw logs was up 12 percent to 60.9 million cubic feet (fig. 5).
- In 2011, Mississippi had 48 sawmills, 9 fewer mills than in 2009. Total saw-log receipts dropped 10.4 million cubic feet to 204.9 million cubic feet. Softwood saw-log receipts decreased 11 percent to 144.8 million cubic feet, while those of hardwoods were up 13 percent to 60.1 million cubic feet.
- Mississippi retained 87 percent of its saw-log production for within-State manufacture, with saw-log exports exceeding imports by 8.1 million cubic feet in 2011.

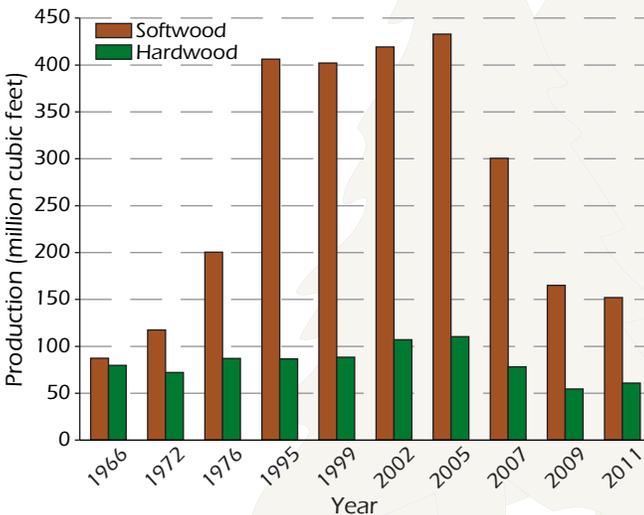


Figure 5—Roundwood saw-log production by type of product, Mississippi.

### Veneer Logs

- Output of veneer logs in 2011 totaled 50.1 million cubic feet, a 7-percent increase since 2009, and accounted for 7 percent of the State’s total roundwood TPO volume (fig. 6).
- The number of veneer mills operating in Mississippi dropped to six in 2011. Receipts of veneer logs increased 6 percent to 53.5 million cubic feet.

### Other Industrial Products

- Roundwood harvested for other industrial uses such as poles, posts, mulch, residential firewood, industrial fuel, logs for log homes, composite panels, and all other industrial products totaled 21.6 million cubic feet. Softwood made up 95 percent of the other industrial products volume.
- The number of plants producing other industrial products totaled four in 2011. Combined receipts of other industrial products from softwood and hardwood totaled 20.6 million cubic feet. Industrial fuel accounted for 4.3 million cubic feet, or 21 percent, of receipt volume for this category.

### Plant Byproducts

- In 2011, processing of primary products in Mississippi mills generated 202.8 million cubic feet of wood and bark residues. Coarse residues from all primary products amounted to 84.3 million cubic feet, while bark volume totaled 54.0 million cubic feet. Collectively, sawdust and shavings made up 32 percent of total residues, or 64.5 million cubic feet (fig. 7).

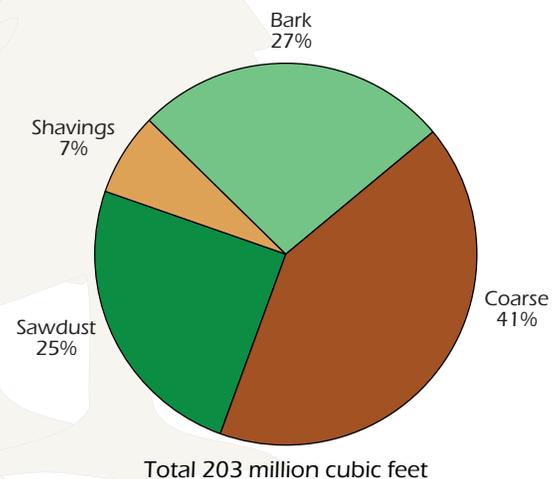


Figure 7—Primary mill residue by residue type, Mississippi, 2011.



- The processing of saw logs generated 137.8 million cubic feet of mill residues, accounting for 68 percent of the total residues produced (fig. 8).

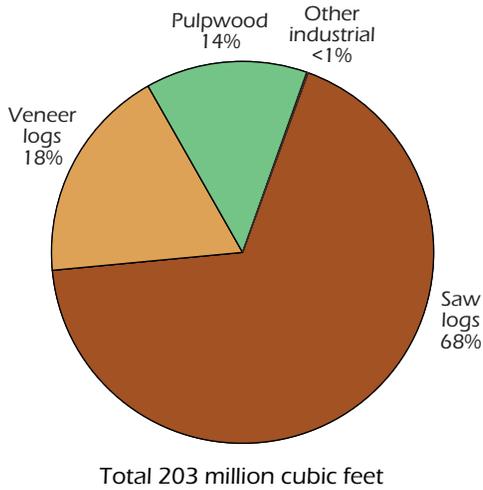


Figure 8—Primary mill residue produced by roundwood type, Mississippi, 2011.

- Nearly 100 percent, or 202.7 million cubic feet, of the wood and bark residues were used for a product. While <1 percent of the residues were not used for a product, 52 percent of the residues were used for industrial fuel and 39 percent were used for fiber products (fig. 9). Ninety-three percent, or 78.4 million cubic feet, of the coarse residues were used for fiber products. Ninety-five percent of the bark and shavings were used for industrial fuel, while 77 percent of the sawdust and shavings were used for industrial fuel.

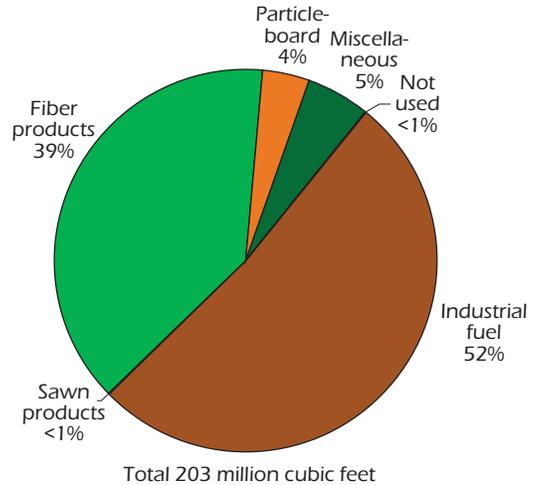


Figure 9—Disposal of residue by product, Mississippi, 2011.



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Load of pulp logs headed to pulpmill.  
(photo by James Bentley)

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