

# Oklahoma'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 Oklahoma, 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 Oklahoma 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 Oklahoma timberland was incorporated into Oklahoma 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 1955, 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 U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service 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.



Portable sawmill in Oklahoma. (photo by Carrie Abner, Oklahoma Forestry Services)





## All Products

- Industrial timber product output from roundwood increased 7.1 million cubic feet, or 11 percent, to 73.5 million cubic feet.
- Output of industrial softwood roundwood products was up 23 percent to 56.9 million cubic feet, while output of industrial hardwood roundwood products decreased 17 percent to 16.6 million cubic feet (fig. 1).
- Saw logs were the principal roundwood product in 2011. Output from saw log products totaled 33.8 million cubic feet and accounted for 46 percent of the State's total industrial roundwood output (fig. 2).

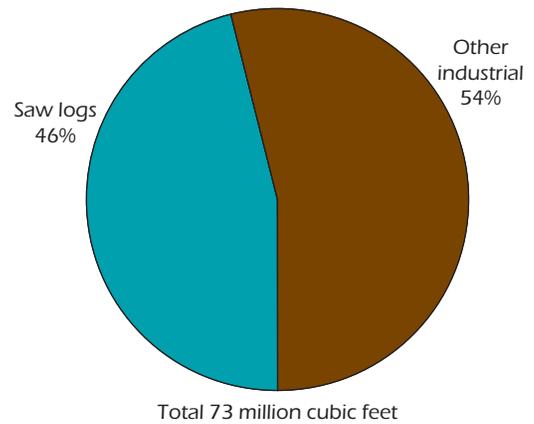


Figure 2—Roundwood production by type of product, Oklahoma, 2011.

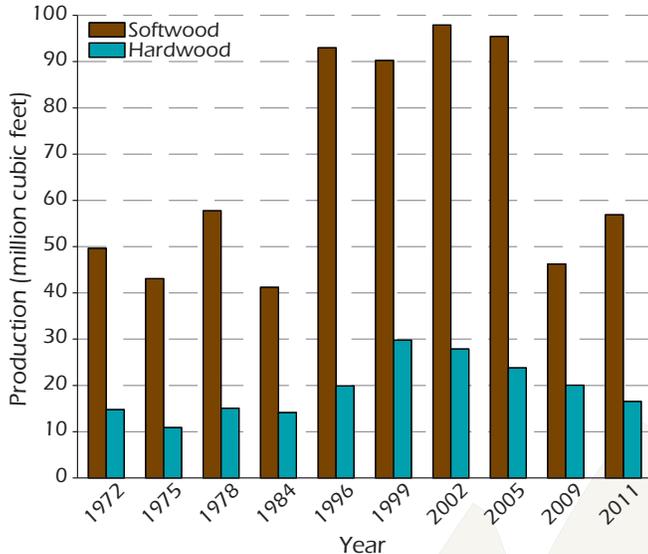


Figure 1—Roundwood production for all products by species group and year, Oklahoma.

- Total receipts at Oklahoma mills, which included roundwood harvested and retained in the State and roundwood imported from other States, was up 20 percent from 74.5 million cubic feet to 89.4 million cubic feet.
- In 2011, the number of primary roundwood-using plants in Oklahoma was 24, a loss of 7 mills since 2009 (fig. 3). The number of sawmills decreased by six, while the number of pulpmills, veneer, and composite panel remained stable and other miscellaneous mills decreased by one.
- Across all products, 76 percent of roundwood harvested was retained for processing at Oklahoma mills. Exports of roundwood to other States amounted to 18.0 million cubic feet, while imports of roundwood amounted to 33.9 million cubic feet making the State a net importer of roundwood.

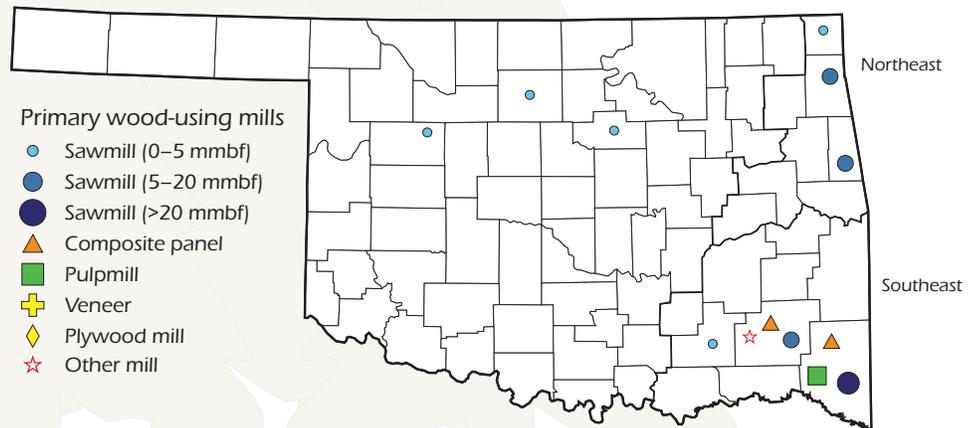


Figure 3—Primary wood-using mills by region, Oklahoma, 2011.



### Saw Logs

- Saw logs accounted for 46 percent of the State’s total roundwood products. Output of softwood saw logs increased 37 percent to 31.1 million cubic feet, while that of hardwood saw logs was up 9 percent to 2.7 million cubic feet (fig. 4).
- In 2011, Oklahoma had 20 sawmills, 6 fewer mills than in 2009. Total saw-log receipts were up 2.9 million cubic feet to 24.4 million cubic feet. Softwood saw-log receipts increased 16 percent to 21.8 million cubic feet, while those of hardwoods declined 1 percent to 2.6 million cubic feet.
- Oklahoma retained 70 percent of its saw-log production for within-State manufacture, with saw-log exports exceeding imports by 9.4 million cubic feet in 2011.

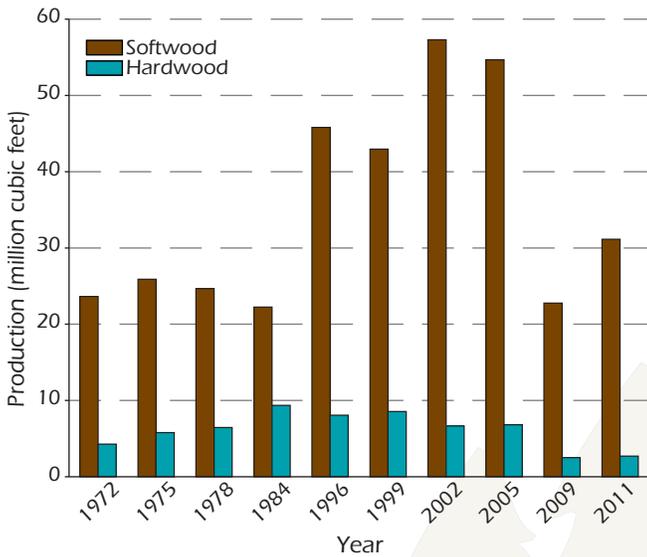


Figure 4—Roundwood saw-log production by species group and year, Oklahoma.

### Other Industrial Products

- Roundwood harvested for other industrial uses such as poles, posts, pulpwood, mulch, residential firewood, industrial fuel, logs for log homes, veneer, and all other industrial products totaled 39.6 million cubic feet. Softwood made-up 65 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 65.0 million cubic feet, an increase of 23 percent since 2009.

### Plant Byproducts

- In 2011, processing of primary products in Oklahoma mills generated 22.7 million cubic feet of wood and bark residues. Coarse residues from all primary products amounted to 7.8 million cubic feet, while bark volume totaled 8.1 million cubic feet. Collectively, sawdust and shavings made-up 31 percent of total residues, or 6.8 million cubic feet (fig. 5).

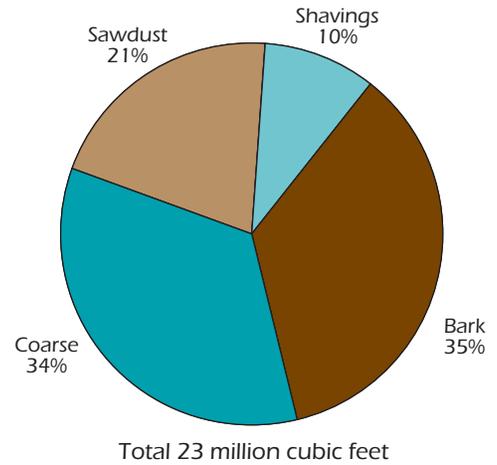


Figure 5—Primary mill residue by residue type, Oklahoma, 2011.

- The processing of saw logs generated 16.5 million cubic feet of mill residues, accounting for 73 percent of the total residues produced (fig. 6).

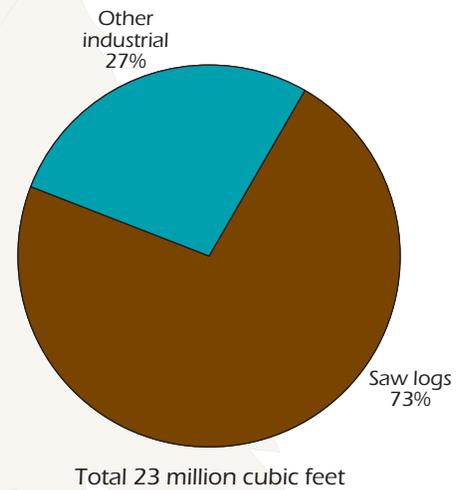


Figure 6—Primary mill residue produced by roundwood type, Oklahoma, 2011.



- Nearly 100 percent, or 22.7 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, 63 percent of the residues were used for industrial fuel, and 25 percent were used for fiber products (fig. 7). Seventy-four percent, or 5.8 million cubic feet, of the coarse residues were used for fiber products. Ninety-eight percent of the bark was used for industrial fuel, while 89 percent of the sawdust and shavings were used for industrial fuel.

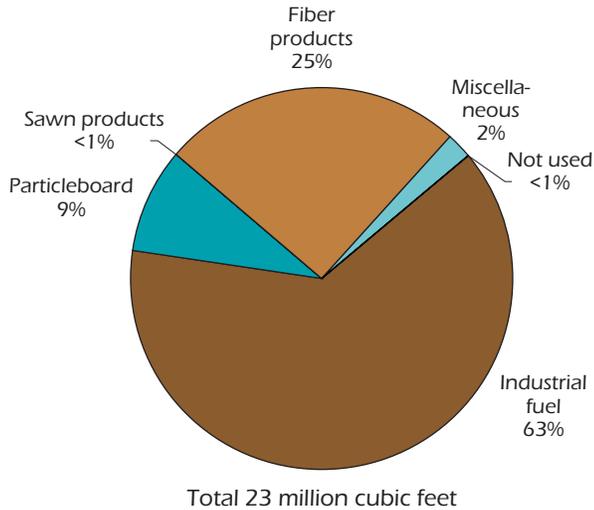


Figure 7—Disposal of residue by product, Oklahoma, 2011.

## How to Cite this Publication

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

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