



Oklahoma's Timber Industry—Timber Product Output and Use, 2013

Introduction

This science update contains the findings of a 2013 canvass of all primary wood-using plants in Oklahoma, and presents changes in product output and residue use since 2011. 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 2013 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 2014 to obtain information for 2013. 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 used to update the current survey. 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 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 Excel® core tables and figures that complement this science update are available on the TPO database. The system is available through the FIA Web site: <https://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/>.

The SRS extends appreciation to forest industry and mill managers for providing timber products information.

Table 1—Output of industrial products by product and species group, Oklahoma, 2011 and 2013

Product and species group	Year		Change	Change
	2011	2013		
	---- thousand cubic feet ----		percent	
Saw logs				
Softwood	30,031	26,564	-3,467	-11.5
Hardwood	2,432	2,349	-83	-3.4
Total	32,463	28,913	-3,550	-10.9
Other industrial				
Softwood	27,157	44,127	16,970	62.5
Hardwood	13,851	15,142	1,291	9.3
Total	41,008	59,269	18,261	44.5
All industrial				
Softwood	57,188	70,691	13,503	23.6
Hardwood	16,283	17,491	1,208	7.4
Total	73,471	88,182	14,711	20.0

All Products

Industrial timber product output from roundwood increased 14.7 million cubic feet, or 20 percent, to 88.2 million cubic feet.

Output of industrial softwood roundwood products was up 24 percent, to 70.7 million cubic feet, while output of industrial hardwood roundwood products increased 7 percent to 17.5 million cubic feet (fig. 1).

Saw logs were the principal roundwood product in 2013. Output from saw log products totaled 28.9 million cubic feet and accounted for 33 percent of the State’s total industrial roundwood output (fig. 2).

Total receipts at Oklahoma mills, which included roundwood harvested and retained in the State and roundwood imported from other States, were up 15 percent from 90.8 million cubic feet to 104.3 million cubic feet.

In 2013, the number of primary roundwood-using plants in Oklahoma was 13, the same as in 2011 (fig. 3). The number of sawmills decreased by one, while pulpmills and composite panel mills remained stable, and other miscellaneous mills increased by one. Across all products, 84 percent of roundwood harvested was retained for processing at Oklahoma mills. Exports of roundwood to other States amounted to 14.5 million cubic feet, while imports of roundwood amounted to 30.6 million cubic feet making the State a net importer of roundwood.

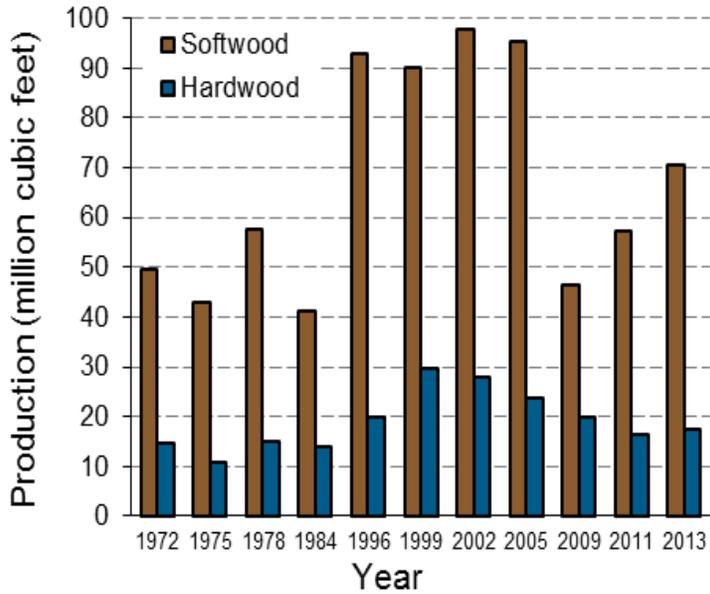


Figure 1—Roundwood production for all products by species group and year, Oklahoma.

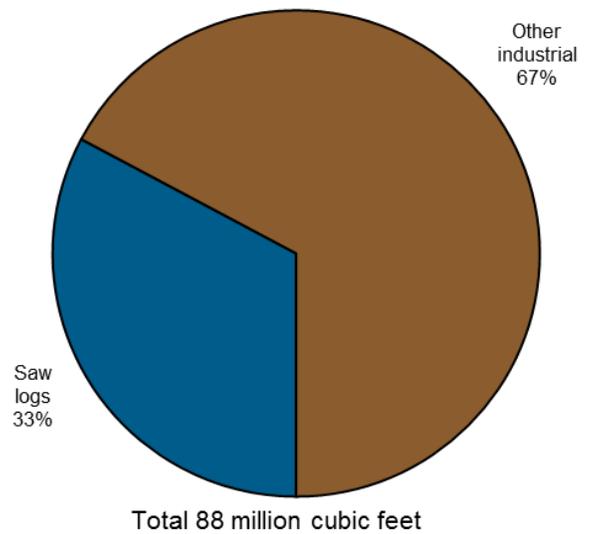


Figure 2—Roundwood production by type of product, Oklahoma, 2013.

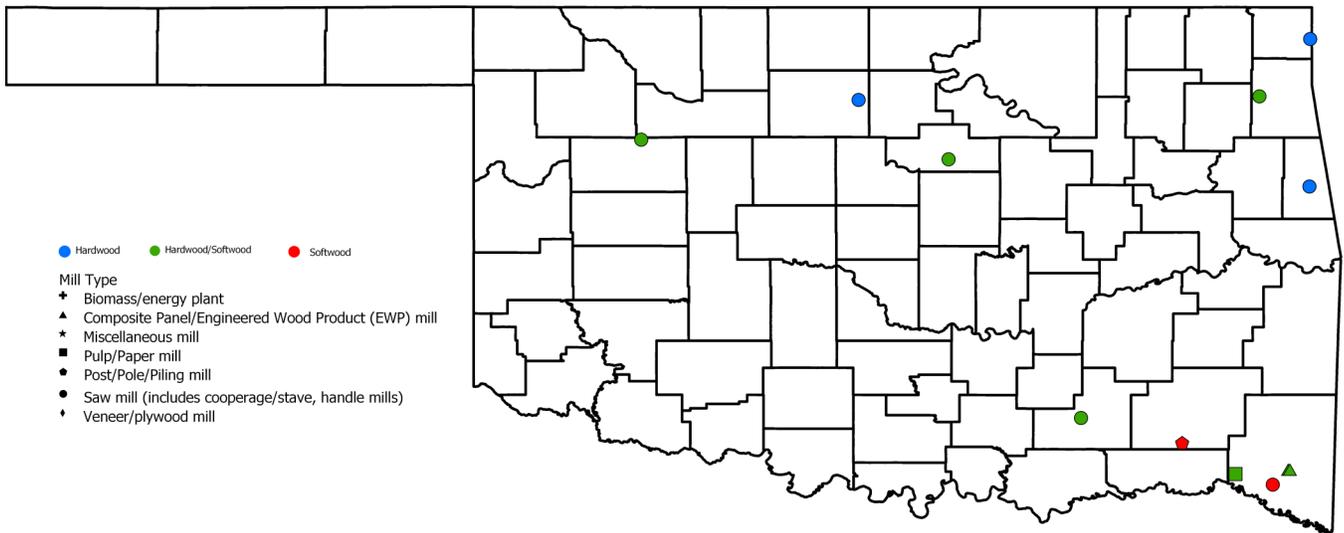


Figure 3—Primary wood-using mills, Oklahoma, 2013.

Saw Logs

Saw logs accounted for 33 percent of the State’s total roundwood products. Output of softwood saw logs decreased 12 percent to 26.6 million cubic feet, while that of hardwood saw logs was down 3 percent to 2.3 million cubic feet (fig. 4).

In 2013, Oklahoma had 8 sawmills, 1 fewer mill than in 2011. Total saw-log receipts were down 2.7 million cubic feet to 21.7 million cubic feet. Softwood saw-log receipts decreased 12 percent to 19.1 million cubic feet, while those of hardwoods were 2.6 million cubic feet, the same as in 2011.

Oklahoma retained 69 percent of its saw-log production for within State manufacture, with saw-log exports exceeding imports by 7.2 million cubic feet in 2013.

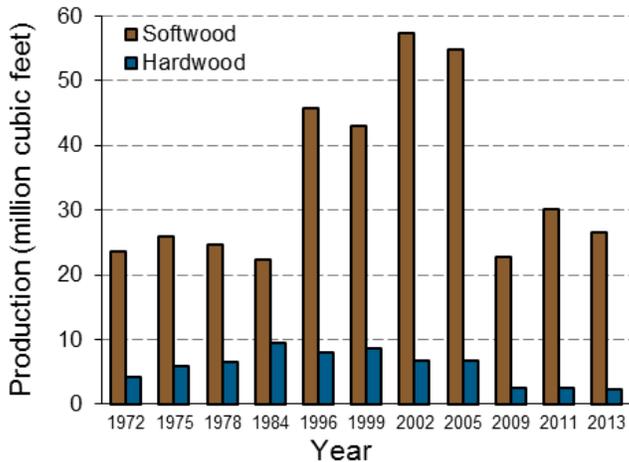


Figure 4—Roundwood saw log production by species group and year, Oklahoma.

Other Industrial Products

Roundwood harvested for other industrial uses such as pulpwood, poles, posts, mulch, residential firewood, industrial fuel, logs for log homes, veneer and all other industrial products totaled 59.3 million cubic feet. Softwood made up 74 percent of the other industrial products volume.

The number of plants producing other industrial products totaled 5 in 2013. Combined receipts of other industrial products from softwood and hardwood totaled 82.6 million cubic feet an increase of 24 percent since 2011.

Plant Byproducts

In 2013, processing of primary products in Oklahoma mills generated 22.6 million cubic feet of wood and bark residues. Coarse residues from all primary products amounted to 6.6 million cubic feet, while bark volume totaled 10.1 million cubic feet. Collectively, sawdust and shavings made up 26 percent of total residues, or 5.8 million cubic feet (fig. 5).

The processing of saw logs generated 14.0 million cubic feet of mill residues, accounting for 62 percent of the total residues produced (fig. 6).

Nearly 100 percent, or 22.6 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, 70 percent of the residues were used for industrial fuel and 27 percent were used for fiber products (fig. 7). Ninety-six percent of industrial fuel was used on site, while 4 percent were sold to other plants. Ninety-one percent, or 6.1 million cubic feet, of the coarse residues were used for fiber products. Ninety-six percent of the bark was used for industrial fuel, while 98 percent of the sawdust and shavings were used for industrial fuel.

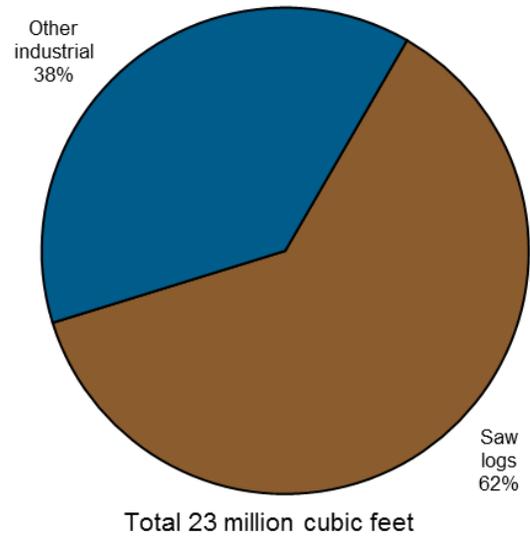


Figure 6—Primary mill residue produced by roundwood type, Oklahoma, 2013.

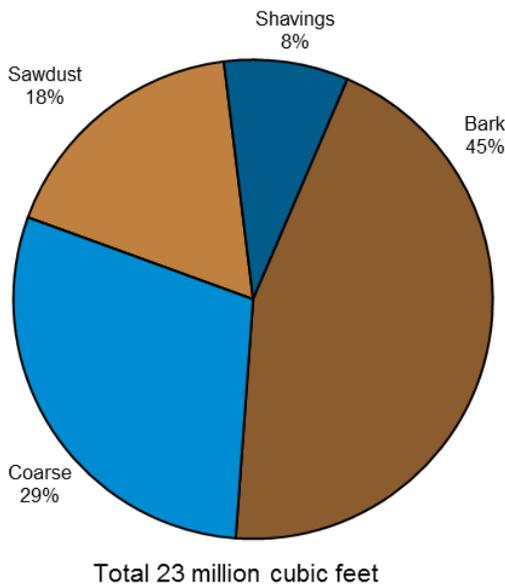


Figure 5—Primary mill residue by residue type, Oklahoma, 2013.

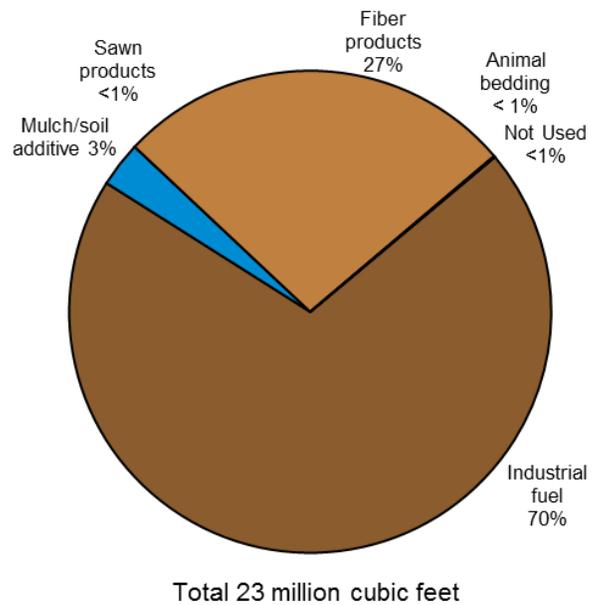


Figure 7—Disposal of residue by product, Oklahoma, 2013.

How to Cite This Publication

Gray, James A.; Bentley, James W.; Cooper, Jason A.; Wall, David J. 2017. Oklahoma's timber industry—timber product output and use, 2013. e-Science Update—SRS-119. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.

Contact Information

James A. Gray, Forester
 Forest Inventory and Analysis
 Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service
 4700 Old Kingston Pike
 Knoxville, Tennessee 37919
 Phone: 865-862-2008/ Fax: 865-862-0248
 Email: jagray@fs.fed.us
 Southern FIA: <https://srsfia2.fs.fed.us>
 National FIA: <https://fia.fs.fed.us>

James Bentley, Forester
 Forest Inventory and Analysis
 Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service
 4700 Old Kingston Pike
 Knoxville, Tennessee 37919
 Phone: 865-862-2056 / Fax: 865-862-0248
 Email: jamesbentley@fs.fed.us
 Southern FIA: <https://srsfia2.fs.fed.us>
 National FIA: <https://fia.fs.fed.us>

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