

## Annual Growth and Removals

Total net annual growth of all-live trees on timberland averaged more than 1.2 billion cubic feet per year between 2001 and 2006, surpassing the high mark set by the previous survey.

Net growth for all-live softwood trees on timberland averaged 817.0 million cubic feet per year, and removals averaged 596.1 million cubic feet per year. Softwoods accounted for almost three fourths of the current removals.

Planted pine stands account for 493 million cubic feet (41%) of total net annual growth, and 314 million cubic feet (39%) of total annual removals.

Hardwoods are growing wood at a rate of 387.5 million cubic feet per year, an increase of 27% over the record-setting mark of 305.9 million cubic feet per year set during the previous survey.

## Timber Products Output

There were approximately 75 sawmills, pulpwood mills, and other primary wood-processing plants operating in South Carolina in 2005. These mills averaged nearly 755 million cubic feet of timber products per year (including domestic fuelwood and plant byproducts) between 2001 and 2005.

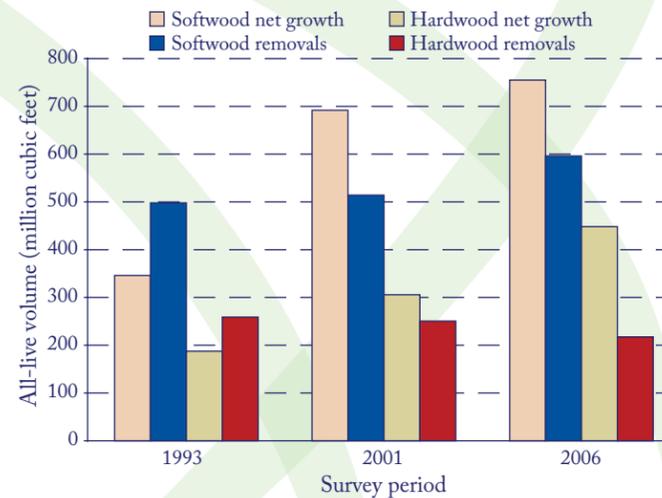
Average annual output of roundwood products (including domestic fuelwood) declined from 673 million cubic feet in the previous survey period, to an average of 669 million cubic feet between 2001 and 2005.

Roundwood harvested for saw log and pulpwood production amounted to 260 and 311 million cubic feet, respectively. These two products accounted for 85% of the total roundwood production for the State.

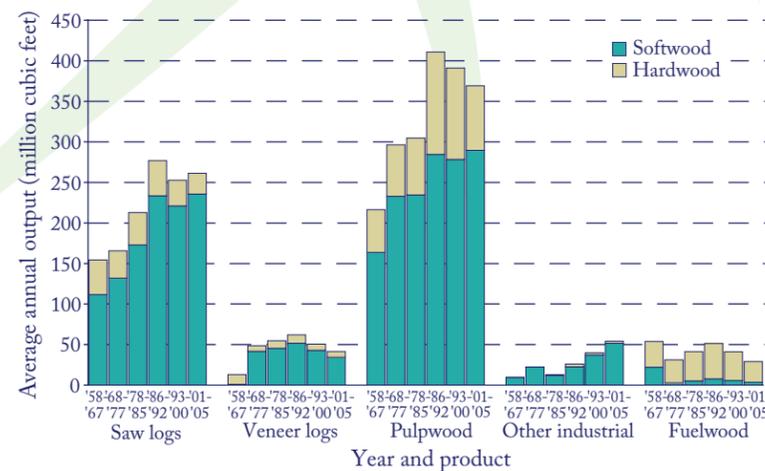
Hardwood removals dropped from an average of 250.7 million cubic feet per year between 1993 and 2000, to the current 218.1 million cubic feet per year.

Total removals of all-live trees on timberland averaged 813.8 million cubic feet per year between 2000 and 2005.

All-live growth and removals by survey



Average annual output of timber products



## Forest Land Area

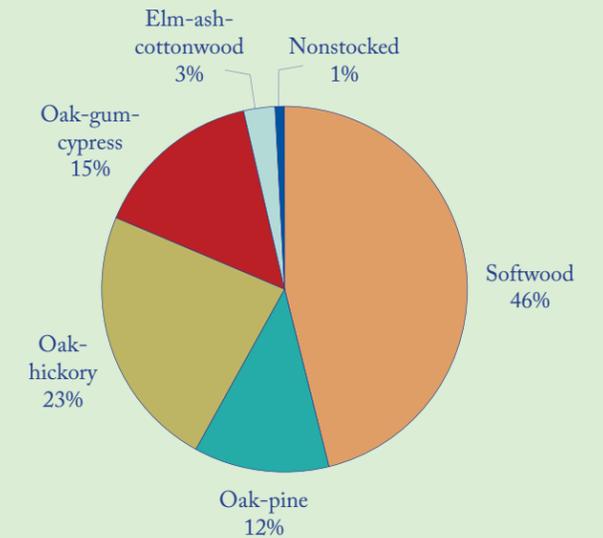
Total forest area has remained relatively stable over time, and amounted to 12.9 million acres in 2006. Forests currently occupy 67% of the land area of South Carolina.

Timberland area now totals more than 12.8 million acres, up 5% from 2001. Hardwood timber types occupy nearly 6.8 million acres (54%) of timberland, an increase of 9% during the past 5 years.

Area by land class (million acres)

Land class	1968	1978	1986	1993	2001	2006
Forest land						
Timberland	12.4	12.5	12.2	12.5	12.2	12.8
Other/reserved	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total forest land	12.5	12.6	12.3	12.6	12.4	12.9
Nonforest land	6.9	6.8	7.1	6.6	6.8	6.4
Total land area	19.4	19.3	19.3	19.3	19.3	19.3
Percent forested	65%	65%	63%	66%	64%	67%

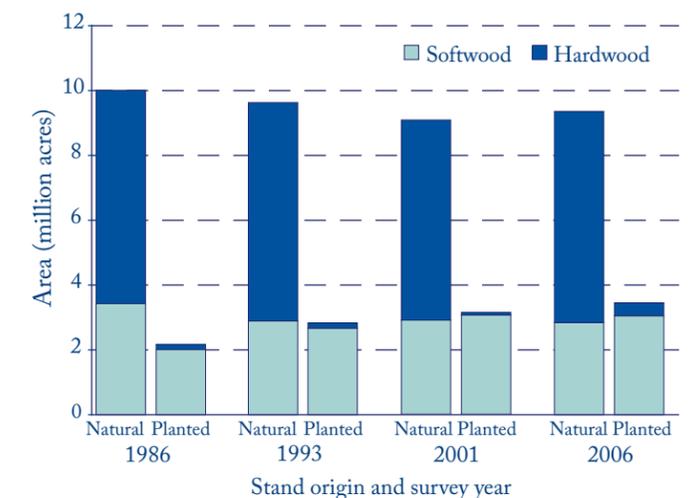
Area of timberland by forest-type group



Area of planted pine remains statistically unchanged at nearly 3.1 million acres, outnumbering stands of natural pine by 207,000 acres.

In 2006, natural stands totaled almost 9.4 million acres, including 6.5 million acres of hardwoods.

Timberland area by forest-type group and stand origin



## Forest-Type Composition

Softwood forest types occupy 5.9 million acres, or 46% of the State's timberland area.

The majority of the softwood acreage is loblolly-shortleaf forest types which occupy 5.3 million acres.

Oak-hickory is the predominant hardwood forest-type group (23%), followed by oak-gum-cypress types (15%), and oak-pine (12%).



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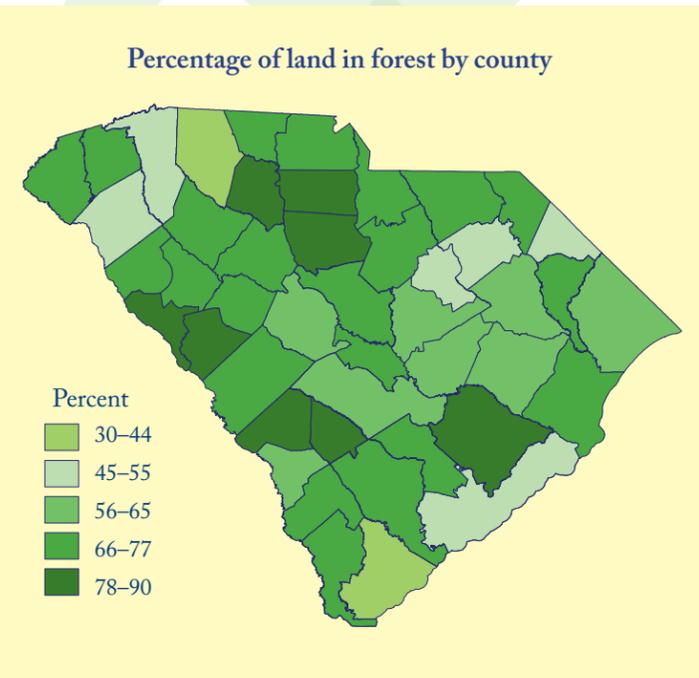


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**Forest Distribution**

Thirty-five of South Carolina's 46 counties are at least 60% forested, including 14 counties that are 75% or more forested.

Beaufort remains the least forested county with less than one-third (30%) of its land area in forest.

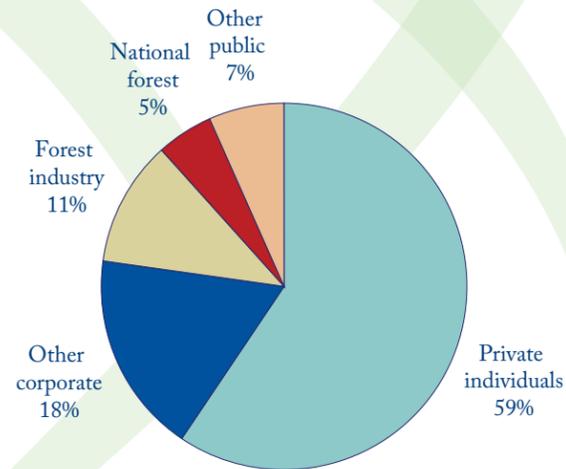


**Forest Ownership**

Most (59%) of the State's 12.8 million acres of forest land is owned by private individuals. Forest industry owns 11%, down from 16% in 2001. Corporate ownership has risen from 16% in 2001 to 18% as of 2006.

National forest timberland amounted to 613,000 acres (5%) as of 2006.

**Ownership of timberland**



Nearly 7.3 million acres of South Carolina's private forest land is in the hands of some 262,000 private individuals. Nearly one-fourth (22%) of these family forest landowners ranked the production of timber products as an important management objective.



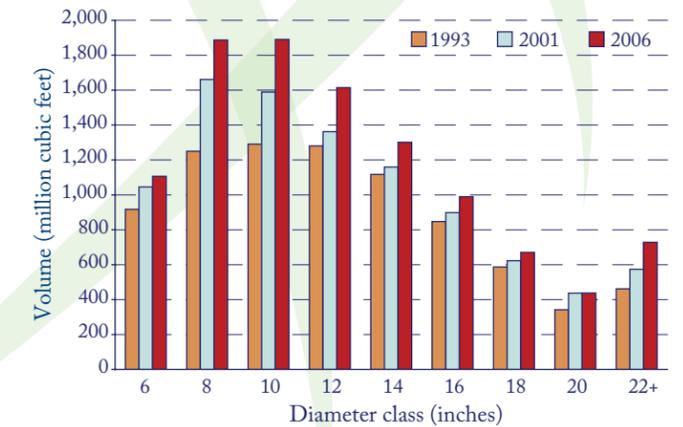
**Tree Volume**

As of 2006, total all-live volume on timberland in South Carolina amounted to 21.5 billion cubic feet; the most volume ever reported for the State.

All-live volume is split almost evenly between softwoods (10.6 billion cubic feet) and hardwoods (10.9 billion cubic feet). Loblolly and shortleaf pine species combined accounted for 8.8 billion cubic feet (83%) of the all-live softwood volume.

Softwood all-live volume has increased in all diameter classes since 2001; particularly in the 8-inch, 10-inch, and 12-inch classes.

**Softwood all-live volume by diameter class and year**

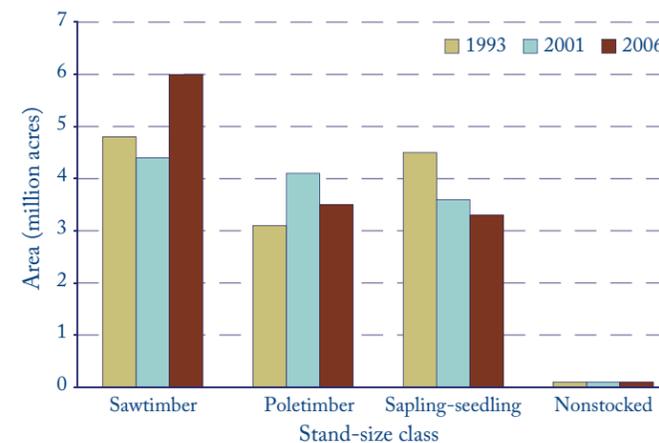


**Stand-Size Distribution**

Sawtimber acres were significantly reduced between 1986 and 1993 by Hugo-related mortality of large-diameter trees. The downward trend of sawtimber stands continued with the reduction of another 400,000 acres to 4.4 million acres as of 2001.

Poletimber stands increased by 1.0 million acres to 4.1 million since 1993, while the area of sapling-seedling stands dropped to 3.6 million acres.

**Area of timberland by stand-size class**



Hardwood all-live volume also showed increases in most diameter classes, although not at the levels for softwood. Much of the added volume occurred in diameter classes 12-inches and larger.

**Hardwood all-live volume by diameter class and year**

