

Benton County Forests and Forest Industry, 2021

ARKANSAS CENTER FOR FOREST BUSINESS

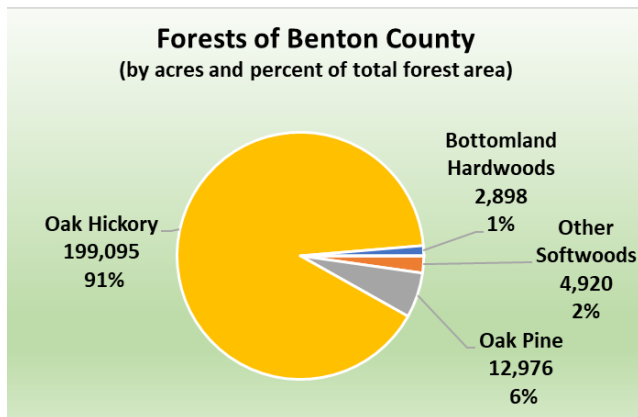
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

Report 2021-C4

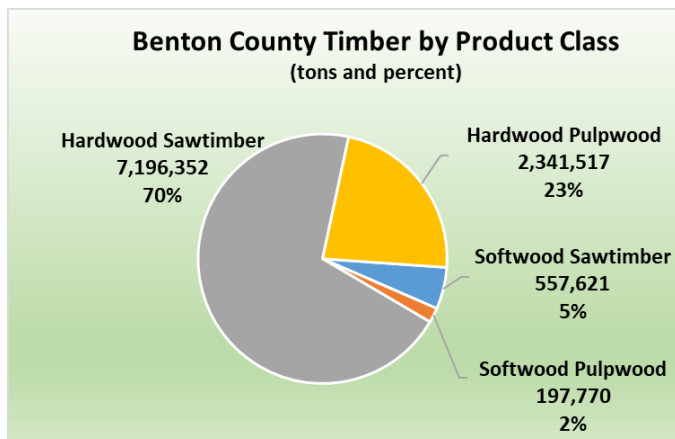


Benton County Forest Facts

Forests occupy 219,889 acres (41%) of the land area in Benton County; 87% of the forests are privately owned. The major public owner is the Ozark National Forest. Overall, 100% of the county's forests are of natural origin. Forest area by cover type is shown in the figure below.



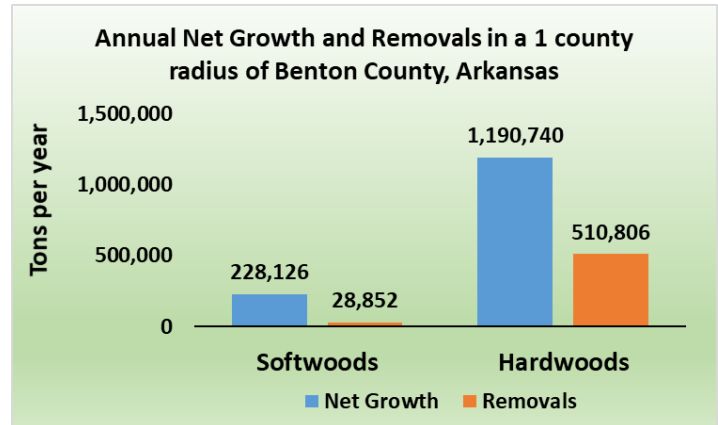
The forests of Benton County contain 755,391 tons of softwood timber and 9,537,868 tons of hardwood timber. The forest is made up of largely hardwood saw timber trees as shown below.



Timber Supply around Benton County

Within a 1-county radius around and including Benton County (Adair, Barry, Caroll, Delaware, Madison, McDonald, and Washington) there are 8 million tons of softwood and 71 million tons of hardwood timber. In this 8-county region, annual net growth exceeds

harvest by 879,207 tons, 75% of this surplus is in hardwood growth as shown below.



Economic Contributions of Benton County Forests

Forest industries contribute \$90,016,662 annually to Benton County's value added (GDP) which is 0.6% of the county's total economic activity. This is well below the state-wide average of 4.95%. Notable forest industries include International Paper, WestRock, Shipping Resources, Good Wood Shavings and Rice Hulls, Collins Custom Cabinets, County Cabinets, Estes Wood Design, Mid-America Cabinets, Morgan Millworks, LZB Manufacturing, and Timber Mill Products. Five logging firms operate from Benton County. Income in Benton County's forestry sectors is 86% of the county average. The direct economic contribution of Benton County's forest industry is shown in the table below by sectors.

Sector	Employees	Labor Income	Value Added (GDP)
Forestry	11	\$965,835	\$980,994
Logging	37	\$3,382,390	\$3,495,386
Solid Wood Products	39	\$2,152,950	\$3,619,793
Furniture	707	\$30,998,866	\$44,462,846
Pulp and Paper	184	\$15,757,203	\$37,457,642
Forestry Totals in Benton County	978	\$53,257,244	\$90,016,662