

Polk County Forests and Forest Industry, 2021

ARKANSAS CENTER FOR FOREST BUSINESS

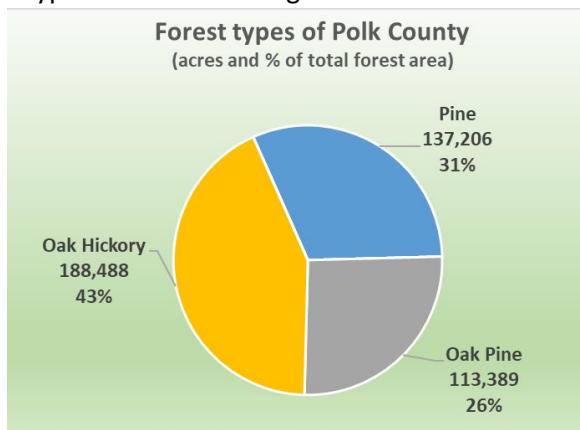
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

Report 2021-C57

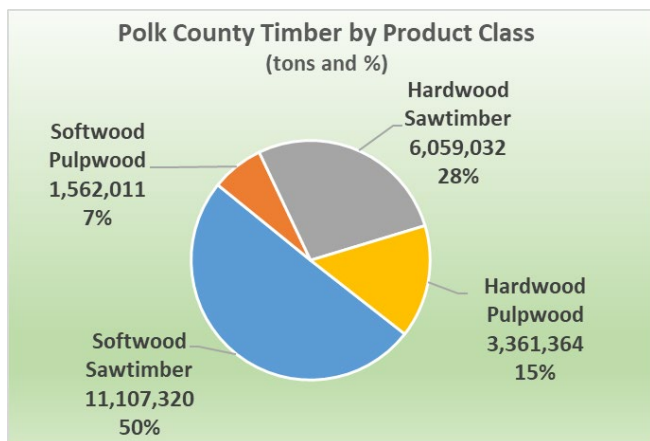


Polk County Forest Facts

Forests occupy 439,083 acres (80%) of the land area in Polk County; 53% of the forests are privately owned, public ownership is largely the Ouachita National Forest. Planted forests account for 55% of the pine and 4% of the non-pine forests in Polk County. Overall, 20% of the county's forests are planted. Forest area by covertype is shown in the figure below.



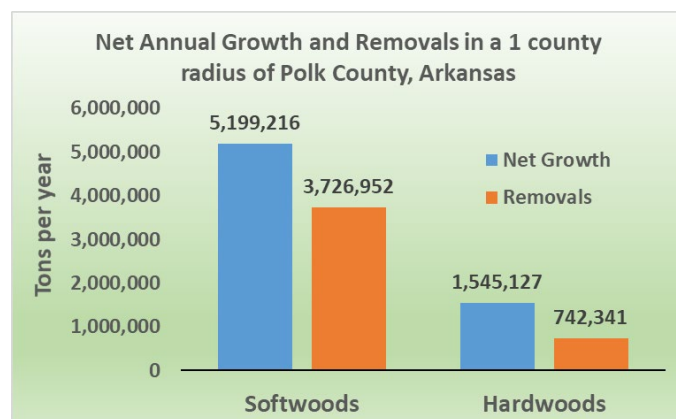
The forests of Polk County contain 12,669,331 tons of softwood (pine) timber and 9,420,396 tons of hardwood timber. The forest is made up of largely saw timber trees as shown below.



Timber Supply around Polk County

Within a 1-county radius around and including Polk County (Howard, Leflore, McCurtain, Montgomery,

Scott, and Sevier) there are 105 million tons of pine and 63 million tons of hardwood timber. In this 7 county region, annual net growth exceeds harvest by 2,275,050 tons, 65% of which is softwoods (pine).



Economic Contributions of Polk County Forests

Forest industries contribute \$24,577,206 annually to Polk County's value added (GDP) which is 4.7% of the county's total economic activity. This is about the same as the state-wide average of 4.95%. Forest industries in the county include Hatfield Lumber, Pedder Brothers, and Smith Pallet. Six logging firms operate from Polk County. Income in Polk County's forestry sectors is 132% of the county average. The direct economic contribution of Polk County's forest industry is shown in the table below by sectors.

Sector	Employees	Labor Income	Value Added (GDP)
Forestry	1	\$24,087	\$24,027
Logging	136	\$8,691,282	\$8,638,340
Solid Wood Products	212	\$7,701,526	\$15,274,988
Furniture	10	\$347,175	\$635,958
Pulp and Paper	0	\$2,692	\$3,893
Forestry Totals in Polk County	359	\$16,766,761	\$24,577,206