

The Economic Contribution of Forestry and Forest Products in Lee County

Lee County

The forestry and forest products industries are a major component of Lee County's economy. The forest-related economic sectors generate value not only within their own sectors but also in other sectors of the economy. The multiplier effect of economic activity in one sector and the impacts on other sectors can be estimated using input-output analysis. Using 2022 data, this study estimates the economic contribution of the forestry and forest products industries to Lee County, Mississippi.

Employment and Income Contributions

Forest-related economic activity in Lee County during 2022 generated 6,863 jobs and nearly \$365.72 million in income. That's about 9.81 percent of jobs and 9.52 percent of income in the county. Employment is the number of full- and part-time jobs in all sectors of the economy. Income includes all forms of employment income, including employee compensation (wages and benefits) and proprietor income, also referred to as labor income.

Total Output and Value-Added Contributions

Over \$1,516.73 million, or about 11.31 percent of economic output in Lee County, is generated by the forestry and forest products industries. Forest-related value-added amounted to over \$536.57 million, or about 8.85 percent of all value-added in the county. The value of all goods and services produced is defined as total output. Value-added is a portion of total output and represents the creation of new wealth.

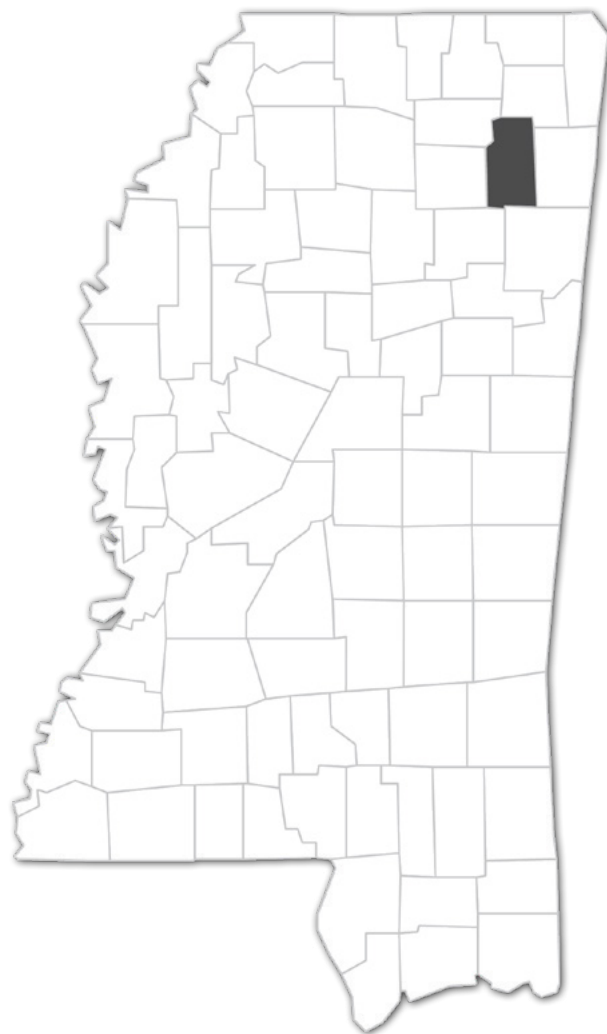


Table 1. Contributions from forest-related sectors on employment and income in Lee County, Mississippi, 2022.

Sectors	Number of Jobs	% of County	Income (\$)	% of County
Direct Contribution from Forest Related Sectors				
Forest Support Service	92	0.13	2,436,611	0.06
Logging	54	0.08	122,583	0.00
Solid Wood Product	107	0.15	6,497,149	0.17
Pulp and Paper	337	0.48	30,146,683	0.79
Wood Furniture	3,370	4.82	179,330,914	4.67
Subtotal	3,960	5.66	218,533,940	5.69
Indirect and Induced Contributions on Sectors				
Retail and Wholesale Trade	896	1.28	41,914,215	1.09
Real Estate, Finance, and Insurance	266	0.38	13,267,356	0.35
Services	717	1.03	37,670,099	0.98
Construction and Manufacturing	164	0.23	10,091,396	0.26
Health Care	176	0.25	16,352,552	0.43
Transportation and Warehousing	287	0.41	15,606,870	0.41
Government	54	0.08	3,193,387	0.08
Agriculture Production and Services	2	0.00	53,553	0.00
Food and Fiber	285	0.41	8,067,039	0.21
Hotels and Entertainment	31	0.04	707,708	0.02
Education	24	0.03	258,363	0.01
Subtotal	2,902	4.15	147,182,538	3.83
Total Impact from Forest Related Sector	6,863	9.81	365,716,478	9.52
Rest of the County	63,076	90.19	3,473,925,885	90.48
Total in County	69,938	100.00	3,839,642,363	100.00

Table 2. Contributions from forest-related sectors on total output and value-added in Lee County, Mississippi, 2022.

Sectors	Output (\$)	% of County	Value-Added (\$)	% of County
Direct Contribution from Forest Related Sectors				
Forest Support Service	3,066,558	0.02	2,528,411	0.04
Logging	2,502,049	0.02	304,294	0.01
Solid Wood Product	100,183,978	0.75	32,102,232	0.53
Pulp and Paper	193,655,292	1.44	43,916,623	0.72
Wood Furniture	696,048,781	5.19	198,010,462	3.26
Subtotal	995,456,658	7.43	276,862,022	4.56
Indirect and Induced Contributions on Sectors				
Retail and Wholesale Trade	162,329,809	1.21	85,713,285	1.41
Real Estate, Finance, and Insurance	82,300,122	0.61	46,467,198	0.77
Services	101,264,774	0.76	52,130,704	0.86
Construction and Manufacturing	57,492,682	0.43	14,411,437	0.24
Health Care	28,834,981	0.22	18,194,655	0.30
Transportation and Warehousing	45,767,035	0.34	23,175,691	0.38
Government	4,956,566	0.04	4,219,146	0.07
Agriculture Production and Services	232,815	0.00	103,707	0.00
Food and Fiber	34,374,577	0.26	13,580,284	0.22
Hotels and Entertainment	2,780,437	0.02	1,439,032	0.02
Education	937,579	0.01	270,365	0.00
Subtotal	521,271,377	3.89	259,705,504	4.28
Total Impact from Forest Related Sector	1,516,728,035	11.31	536,567,526	8.85
Rest of the County	11,888,713,012	88.69	5,528,720,261	91.15
Total in County	13,405,441,047	100.00	6,065,287,787	100.00

Estimates developed using IMPLAN software and data. Timber harvest value according to the Mississippi Harvest of Forest Products Report.

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