

The Economic Contribution of Forestry and Forest Products in Itawamba County

Itawamba County

The forestry and forest products industries are a major component of Itawamba 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 Itawamba County, Mississippi.

Employment and Income Contributions

Forest-related economic activity in Itawamba County during 2022 generated 1,203 jobs and nearly \$55.71 million in income. That's about 13.87 percent of jobs and 15.31 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 \$ 237.09 million, or about 10.98 percent of economic output in Itawamba County, is generated by the forestry and forest products industries. Forest-related value-added amounted to over \$80.89 million, or about 12.36 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.



Mississippi Forestry Association

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

Sectors	Number of Jobs	% of County	Income (\$)	% of County
Direct Contribution from Forest Related Sectors				
Forest Support Service	7	0.08	39,617	0.01
Logging	225	2.59	12,503,703	3.44
Solid Wood Product	135	1.56	8,732,549	2.40
Pulp and Paper	0	0.00	2,068	0.00
Wood Furniture	587	6.77	25,878,545	7.11
Subtotal	954	11.00	47,156,482	12.96
Indirect and Induced Contributions on Sectors				
Retail and Wholesale Trade	80	0.92	2,901,786	0.80
Real Estate, Finance, and Insurance	20	0.23	392,384	0.11
Services	65	0.75	1,647,225	0.45
Construction and Manufacturing	9	0.10	547,105	0.15
Health Care	12	0.14	626,807	0.17
Transportation and Warehousing	20	0.23	1,070,224	0.29
Government	6	0.07	329,880	0.09
Agriculture Production and Services	5	0.06	92,105	0.03
Food and Fiber	30	0.35	905,968	0.25
Hotels and Entertainment	1	0.01	37,270	0.01
Education	0	0.00	4,727	0.00
Subtotal	248	2.86	8,555,481	2.35
Total Impact from Forest Related Sector	1,203	13.87	55,711,963	15.31
Rest of the County	7,469	86.14	308,128,501	84.69
Total in County	8,671	100.00	363,840,464	100.00

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

Sectors	Output (\$)	% of County	Value-Added (\$)	% of County
Direct Contribution from Forest Related Sectors				
Forest Support Service	90,783	0.00	48,696	0.01
Logging	23,801,946	1.10	14,649,501	2.24
Solid Wood Product	56,136,172	2.60	19,142,589	2.92
Pulp and Paper	69,475	0.00	2,738	0.00
Wood Furniture	115,530,485	5.35	28,753,990	4.39
Subtotal	195,628,861	9.06	62,597,514	9.56
Indirect and Induced Contributions on Sectors				
Retail and Wholesale Trade	12,110,505	0.56	6,255,717	0.96
Real Estate, Finance, and Insurance	7,920,583	0.37	4,560,968	0.70
Services	5,543,137	0.26	2,185,790	0.33
Construction and Manufacturing	5,948,116	0.28	968,777	0.15
Health Care	1,093,756	0.05	679,655	0.10
Transportation and Warehousing	4,005,315	0.19	1,461,560	0.22
Government	438,057	0.02	414,789	0.06
Agriculture Production and Services	339,128	0.02	107,784	0.02
Food and Fiber	3,936,159	0.18	1,590,540	0.24
Hotels and Entertainment	109,779	0.01	66,351	0.01
Education	13,433	0.00	5,328	0.00
Subtotal	41,457,968	1.92	18,297,259	2.80
Total Impact from Forest Related Sector	237,086,829	10.98	80,894,773	12.36
Rest of the County	1,922,285,941	89.02	573,678,788	87.64
Total in County	2,159,372,770	100.00	654,573,561	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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