



MTN-34C

2018 Harvest of Forest Products<sup>1</sup>  
Forest Economics

March 2019

The Mississippi forest industry harvested and delivered \$1.15 billion worth of forest products to mills and other processors in 2018. The forest industry in Mississippi and the harvest volumes in this report include all producers and harvesters of forest products paying a timber severance tax collected by the Mississippi Department of Revenue. The total estimated value of the 2018 Mississippi timber harvest delivered to the point of first processing (such as a pulpwood yard or sawmill) was \$1,148,399,259. The estimated volume and value by product is presented in Table 1. The 2018 harvest value is 10.9% lower than the 2017 value of \$1.29 billion. This decrease is attributed to significant decreases in the volumes harvested of hardwood sawtimber and crossties, along with a reduction in hardwood chips. (Table 2) A comparison of 2018 and 2017 Mississippi timber product prices is presented in Table 3. The decrease may also be attributed in part to changes made in the MSU ES Timber Price Report. Prior to 2018, stumpage prices reported were obtained from a third-party source, Timber Mart-South. Starting in 2018, stumpage prices were averaged from data collected directly from timber sales in the state. These prices were generally lower than Timber Mart-South, but somewhat more reflective of actual prices paid to landowners. Delivered prices in this report are from Timber Mart-South.

Timber remains the second most valuable agricultural commodity in Mississippi for 2018. Poultry and eggs were first, with a value of \$2.99 billion, and soybeans third at \$1.05 billion. Mississippi's forest landowners collected \$504.5 million for their standing timber in 2018, a decrease of 10.9% from 2017. The estimated value of the harvesting and transportation sector<sup>2</sup>, which is the difference between the delivered and standing values, was \$644 million. The 2018 value of the harvesting and transportation sector accounted for 56% of the total harvest value as compared to 51.8% of the total harvest in 2017.

Severance tax collections on forest products were \$3,780,670 in 2018, which is 2.7% lower than 2017. Twenty percent of severance tax collections, or about \$735,931, is returned to counties where the timber was harvested. Eighty percent, or about \$3,024,560, is allocated to the Forest Resource Development Program (FRDP) to provide cost share funds to nonindustrial private forest landowners for reforestation and other forest management activities.

A comparison between 2018 and 2017 harvest volumes and delivered values by product category is presented in Table 2. The harvest volume of pine sawtimber decreased 17.4% and value decreased 19.4%. The volume of hardwood sawtimber decreased by 13% while value decreased 16.3%. Pine pulpwood volume increased by 5.8% and value remained the same, while hardwood pulpwood volume increased by 17.4% with an associated value increase of 42.7%. Pine poles remained fairly steady with a slight decrease of 0.5% in volume and 0.8% in value. Crosstie volume saw a decrease of 13% and value decreased by 14.6%. The volume of pine in-woods chips increased by 33.5% over 2017 volumes with an

<sup>1</sup> By John B. Auel, Assistant Extension Professor, Department of Forestry

<sup>2</sup> This sector includes logging firms, contractual services, contractual trucking, timber buyers, and wood dealers.

associated increase in value of 27.5%. Hardwood chips decreased by 29.4% of volume and 14.3% of value. Christmas tree harvest remained the same while the value of those trees increased by 6.7%.

The demand for pine sawtimber dropped somewhat in 2018 as evidenced by a 17.4% decrease in harvest volume over 2017. U.S. housing starts in December of 2018 (an indicator of new home construction tracked by the U.S. Census Bureau) were down 3.3% from December 2017 levels, however the long term trend has been positive. Delivered prices of pine sawtimber decreased 2% in 2018 indicating both a slower than expected increase in housing starts and an excess of supply of standing sawtimber in Mississippi.

The demand for hardwood sawtimber dropped again in 2018. The volume harvested was down 13% from 2017 and the harvest value dropped 16%. The crosstie market remained relatively stable with a less than 1% drop in volume harvested and corresponding value. The overall value of the 2018 Mississippi harvest was down 10.9% from 2017, which was an improvement over last year's drop in value of 15% over 2016.

Demand for pine pulpwood increased 5.8% in 2018 while the delivered price dropped by 6%. Hardwood pulpwood demand increased 17.4% in 2017, and the delivered price increased by 21.6% over 2017 average prices. However, with the recent closure of the Port Hudson, LA paper mill, which consumed a large volume of hardwood pulp from southwest MS, the outlook for this sector is questionable for 2019.

Harvested volumes by product and by county obtained from the Mississippi Department of Revenue are presented in Table 4. For information on current Mississippi timber prices, consult the Mississippi Timber Price Report available at [extension.msstate.edu](http://extension.msstate.edu). Select "Natural Resources" then "Forestry" then "Forest Economics" and then "Timber Prices". For more information on timber marketing, harvesting, or prices, contact your local County Extension office or the Mississippi State University Department of Forestry, Box 9681, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Also, please visit our blog <http://blogs.msucare.com/forestry/> and sign up for email updates to receive the latest information from Forestry Extension on publications and educational programs.

Table 1. Estimated volumes and values of the 2018 timber harvest.

<b>Product/Unit<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Volume</b>	<b>Standing Value<sup>4</sup> Dollars</b>	<b>Delivered Value Dollars</b>
<b>Pine Sawlogs, MBF, D</b>	1,739,654	295,998,405	558,439,782
<b>Hardwood Sawlogs<sup>5</sup>, MBF, D</b>	280,342	107,492,870	174,263,830
<b>Pine Pulpwood, Cords</b>	4,594,629	65,961,805	296,163,162
<b>Hardwood Pulpwood, Cords</b>	1,057,375	24,247,675	97,697,440
<b>Poles, Cunits</b>	73,386	8,967,056	12,767,286
<b>Crossties<sup>6</sup>, MBF, D</b>	1,862	535,546	982,401
<b>Pine Chips, Tons</b>	67,666	358,732	1,668,339
<b>Hardwood Chips<sup>7</sup>, Tons</b>	124,267	945,653	3,937,019
<b>Christmas Trees<sup>8</sup>, Tree</b>	31,000	(***) <sup>9</sup>	2,480,000
<b>Total Value</b>		504,507,743	1,148,399,259

<sup>3</sup> Unit abbreviations: MBF = thousand board feet, and D = Doyle Log Rule. Cunit = 100 cubic feet.

<sup>4</sup> Standing and delivered values calculated using regional (north and south Mississippi) volumes reported by the Miscellaneous Tax Division of the Mississippi Department of Revenue and product prices from sources such as MSUE ES Timber Price Report and Timber Mart-South.

<sup>5</sup> Composite price for hardwood sawlogs calculated under the assumption that hardwood sawmills cut 70% oak and 30% mixed hardwood.

<sup>6</sup> Crosstie values calculated using standing and delivered values for mixed hardwood sawtimber prices by region.

<sup>7</sup> Pine and Hardwood Chips standing and delivered values are assumed to be the same as pine and hardwood pulpwood.

<sup>8</sup> Christmas trees values and volumes estimated by Mississippi State University Extension Professor, Stephen Dicke.

<sup>9</sup> Not reported since most trees are sold as Choose-N-Cut.

Table 2. Comparison of 2017 and 2018 harvest volumes and delivered values by product.

Product/Unit <sup>10</sup>	2017		2018			
	Volume	Value (\$)	Volume	% Change	Value (\$)	% Change
Pine Sawlogs, MBF, D	2,106,858	693,011,333	1,739,654	-17.4%	558,439,782	-19.4%
Hardwood Sawlogs, MBF, D	322,217	208,323,709	280,342	-13.0%	174,263,830	-16.3%
Pine Pulpwood, Cords	4,343,270	296,455,641	4,594,629	5.8%	296,163,162	-0.1%
Hardwood Pulpwood, Cords	900,444	68,439,961	1,057,375	17.4%	97,697,440	42.7%
Poles, Cunits	73,777	12,865,755	73,386	-0.5%	12,767,286	-0.8%
Crossties, MBF, D	2,141	1,150,029	1,862	-13.0%	982,401	-14.6%
Pine Chips, Tons	50,671	1,308,194	67,666	33.5%	1,668,339	27.5%
Hardwood Chips, Tons	175,894	4,593,452	124,267	-29.4%	3,937,019	-14.3%
Christmas Trees, Tree	31,000	2,325,000	31,000	0.0%	2,480,000	6.7%
<b>Total Value</b>		<b>1,288,473,073</b>			<b>1,148,399,259</b>	<b>-10.9%</b>

<sup>10</sup> Unit abbreviations: MBF = thousand board feet, and D = Doyle Log Rule. Cunit = 100 cubic feet.

Table 3. Comparison of 2017 and 2018 Mississippi major product prices<sup>11</sup>.

		Standing Prices Per Ton <sup>12</sup>				Delivered Prices Per Ton <sup>13</sup>			
			Statewide Average				Statewide Average		
Product	Region	2018 Average	2018	2017	% Change	2018 Average	2018	2017	% Change
Pine Pulpwood	North	\$3.30	\$4.96	\$6.70	-50.8%	\$23.42	\$24.45	\$26.06	-6.2%
	South	\$6.62				\$25.47			
Hardwood Pulpwood	North	\$8.35	\$7.96	\$6.82	22.5%	\$32.13	\$31.90	\$26.22	21.6%
	South	\$7.57				\$31.66			
Pine Sawtimber	North	\$20.23	\$22.30	\$22.85	-11.5%	\$42.31	\$42.73	\$43.60	-2.0%
	South	\$24.38				\$43.14			
Mixed Hardwood Sawtimber	North	\$32.87	\$32.63	\$39.17	-16.1%	\$60.30	\$60.40	\$61.45	-1.7%
	South	\$32.39				\$60.50			
Oak Sawtimber	North	\$48.66	\$46.20	\$49.48	-1.6%	\$68.90	\$68.47	\$69.35	-1.3%
	South	\$43.74				\$68.04			
Pine Poles	North	\$42.94	\$42.46	\$44.16	-2.8%	\$63.83	\$61.14	\$61.16	0.0%
	South	\$41.98				\$58.45			

<sup>11</sup> Data source: MSU ES Price Survey and Timber Price Report

<sup>12</sup> MSU ES Timber Price Report

<sup>13</sup> Delivered Prices are from Timber Mart-South

Table 4. Mississippi's 2018 harvested timber volumes by product and county.

	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE		PINE	HARDWOOD
COUNTY	SAWTIMBER	SAWTIMBER	PULPWOOD	PULPWOOD	POLES	CROSSTIES	CHIPS	CHIPS
NORTHERN REGION	MBF,D	MBF,D	CORDS	CORDS	C CU FT	MBF,D	TONS	TONS
ALCORN	4,258.8	992.6	38,298.0	8,392.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,989.0
ATTALA	62,442.1	5,576.6	135,730.0	22,826.0	3,279.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
BENTON	2,516.9	0.0	15,400.0	5,647.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	145.0
BOLIVAR	3.6	610.9	0.0	4,896.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CALHOUN	34,362.3	417.0	38,177.0	18,069.0	601.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CARROLL	20,374.8	6,934.5	46,250.0	3,019.0	830.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHICKASAW	16,006.7	41.0	21,307.0	6,513.0	389.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHOCTAW	32,421.0	6,256.9	57,281.0	10,441.0	2,525.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CLAY	14,810.8	11,555.3	17,876.0	11,566.0	95.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
COAHOMA	12.5	1,228.2	4,843.0	1,692.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DESOTO	162.8	4.8	559.0	1,332.0	307.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GRENADA	15,247.5	2,379.3	48,104.0	9,669.0	379.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HOLMES	13,958.9	6,392.8	39,585.0	16,787.0	388.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HUMPHRIES	0.0	874.3	11.0	356.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ISSAQUENA	7.1	4,579.5	43.0	20,516.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ITAWAMBA	21,831.3	1,041.3	43,799.0	21,494.0	23.0	0.0	399.0	0.0
KEMPER	55,574.9	13,256.7	167,708.0	5,068.0	1,327.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LAFAYETTE	12,054.3	911.8	27,034.0	7,229.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LEAKE	58,249.5	3,398.1	81,813.0	15,002.0	2,570.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LEE	2,477.1	381.6	7,573.0	5,270.0	508.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LEFLORE	0.0	1,250.3	989.0	228.0	242.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LOWNDES	6,252.7	628.7	18,458.0	8,446.0	534.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MADISON	14,129.5	3,139.7	50,215.0	13,935.0	241.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MARSHALL	3,130.3	118.3	10,085.0	7,293.0	77.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MONROE	23,604.1	2,684.3	15,222.0	42,442.0	117.0	0.0	26,453.0	0.0
MONTGOMERY	27,590.6	7,337.5	56,473.0	3,541.0	1,104.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
NESHOBA	48,586.9	12,048.5	55,879.0	12,581.0	3,056.0	121.0	0.0	0.0
NOXUBEE	34,553.1	3,637.1	82,492.0	7,048.0	1,108.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
OKTIBBEHA	24,071.9	1,292.2	31,760.0	4,077.0	888.0	1,736.0	0.0	0.0
PANOLA	1,469.7	3,380.7	6,143.0	21,092.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PONTOTOC	29,098.5	31.9	39,512.0	7,439.0	35.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PRENTISS	6,571.6	1,356.2	57,328.0	15,362.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
QUITMAN	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SHARKEY	0.0	265.0	33.0	952.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUNFLOWER	91.1	3.0	11.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TALLAHATCHIE	1,042.7	2,852.4	2,288.0	3,303.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TATE	104.1	216.5	526.0	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TIPPAH	2,419.3	1,072.3	27,557.0	12,912.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3,191.0
TISHOMINGO	7,252.1	1,414.7	59,785.0	22,344.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,723.0
TUNICA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
UNION	15,150.8	37.6	10,715.0	7,165.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	74.0
WASHINGTON	57.1	3,284.0	89.0	10,694.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WEBSTER	29,029.7	2,067.1	60,485.0	6,209.0	1,335.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WINSTON	50,293.5	4,547.3	95,314.0	19,614.0	2,244.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
YALOBUSHA	14,545.2	679.5	25,758.0	3,890.0	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
YAZOO	3,903.2	8,700.7	19,783.0	36,550.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>NORTHERN TOTAL</b>	<b>709,720.5</b>	<b>128,878.7</b>	<b>1,518,291.0</b>	<b>462,908.0</b>	<b>24,238.0</b>	<b>1,860.0</b>	<b>26,852.0</b>	<b>7,122.0</b>

Table 4. Mississippi's 2018 harvested timber volumes by product and county.

	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE	HARDWOOD	PINE		PINE	HARDWOOD
COUNTY	SAWTIMBER	SAWTIMBER	PULPWOOD	PULPWOOD	POLES	CROSSTIES	CHIPS	CHIPS
SOUTHERN REGION	MBF,D	MBF,D	CORDS	CORDS	C CU FT	MBF,D	TONS	TONS
ADAMS	7,023.2	6,903.3	5,468.0	28,818.0	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
AMITE	95,966.3	3,956.3	192,727.0	29,469.0	949.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CLAIBORNE	7,961.5	17,913.1	44,840.0	41,278.0	3,316.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CLARKE	46,726.9	2,678.4	185,654.0	22,181.0	6,118.0	0.0	1,023.0	1,340.0
COPIAH	44,395.5	9,331.5	132,593.0	39,977.0	1,912.0	0.0	80.0	2,488.0
COVINGTON	16,509.1	2,122.6	73,675.0	6,660.0	852.0	0.0	1,272.0	6,467.0
FORREST	7,324.8	174.1	68,438.0	2,438.0	607.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FRANKLIN	48,377.7	6,186.5	89,943.0	31,590.0	736.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GEORGE	5,431.7	157.4	45,544.0	3,358.0	323.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GREENE	36,798.3	949.7	157,813.0	19,965.0	3,132.0	0.0	217.0	329.0
HANCOCK	2,253.7	0.0	36,329.0	247.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HARRISON	8,574.4	18.4	21,987.0	527.0	127.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HINDS	12,438.3	9,304.5	52,713.0	22,552.0	297.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
JACKSON	6,318.4	12.0	46,020.0	902.0	279.0	0.0	0.0	5,067.0
JASPER	35,929.6	2,120.7	66,392.0	11,892.0	2,123.0	0.0	4,565.0	21,464.0
JEFFERSON	27,876.8	7,111.2	78,420.0	15,323.0	632.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
JEFFERSON DAVIS	22,305.3	1,255.3	68,887.0	10,129.0	850.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
JONES	24,275.5	1,402.5	114,731.0	24,055.0	876.0	2.0	55.0	5,963.0
LAMAR	14,367.7	718.3	77,725.0	2,735.0	1,135.0	0.0	426.0	958.0
LAUDERDALE	53,475.3	8,813.3	79,135.0	12,815.0	3,053.0	0.0	57.0	828.0
LAWRENCE	33,742.4	4,086.1	82,154.0	19,267.0	2,456.0	0.0	28.0	1,387.0
LINCOLN	55,399.5	3,613.7	125,231.0	24,133.0	1,233.0	0.0	0.0	545.0
MARION	16,869.4	502.0	103,280.0	9,941.0	2,676.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NEWTON	50,438.6	2,447.5	76,995.0	33,590.0	2,504.0	0.0	2,155.0	11,322.0
PEARL RIVER	10,561.7	58.6	94,769.0	5,854.0	802.0	0.0	0.0	27.0
PERRY	27,057.0	228.4	153,150.0	19,502.0	888.0	0.0	392.0	0.0
PIKE	22,388.3	1,261.3	56,728.0	6,026.0	163.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RANKIN	58,340.7	4,354.4	105,242.0	11,646.0	5,660.0	0.0	417.0	1,800.0
SCOTT	31,645.7	16,069.3	58,947.0	15,408.0	1,008.0	0.0	7,929.0	13,227.0
SIMPSON	29,793.8	3,541.5	84,667.0	12,210.0	722.0	0.0	0.0	902.0
SMITH	60,882.1	5,467.2	107,296.0	3,927.0	1,313.0	0.0	22,198.0	43,031.0
STONE	11,743.9	81.4	49,546.0	2,816.0	152.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WALTHALL	8,623.3	481.3	84,557.0	6,648.0	251.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WARREN	1,667.9	21,748.7	6,131.0	51,268.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WAYNE	36,928.6	654.4	166,976.0	29,870.0	1,718.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WILKINSON	49,520.6	5,738.9	81,635.0	15,450.0	252.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>SOUTHERN TOTAL</b>	<b>1,029,933.7</b>	<b>151,463.8</b>	<b>3,076,338.0</b>	<b>594,467.0</b>	<b>49,148.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>40,814.0</b>	<b>117,145.0</b>