2018 Forest Sector Review



Forestry has been a cornerstone of the New Brunswick economy for generations, generating economic growth, recreational activities, and environmental sustainability among communities and families. There are approximately six million hectares of forest land in the province. About 50 per cent is Crown land, 30 per cent is private woodlots, and 20 per cent is industrial freehold. In addition to private and industrial landowners, there are 367 forestry and logging companies, and 91 support businesses. In 2018, the primary forest sector generated \$564 million in revenues. About 70 per cent of these revenues were generated by softwood (mainly spruce-fir-jack pine), with hardwood contributing around 30 per cent.

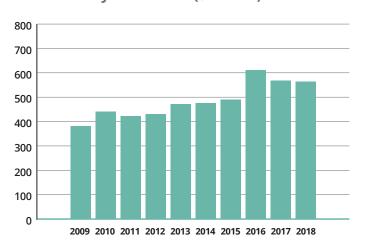
The wood processing sector comprises 135 businesses, which include approximately 35 industrial sawmills, 6 pulp and paper mills, and 2 panel mills. The balance of the wood processing sector is comprised of smaller, locally owned mills and of secondary processing facilities which remanufacture wood products to create finished goods such as windows, doors and furniture.

Industry at a Glance

Number of small private woodlots	Over 40,000
Number of primary forest businesses	458
Number of forest processing businesses	135
Value of primary forest production	\$564 million
Value of processed forest product shipments*	Over \$3 billion
Value of exports	\$2 billion
GDP (direct)	\$1.3 billion
Employment-Primary ¹	3,455
Employment-Processing ²	8,455

^{*} Estimate.

Total Primary Production (\$ Million)



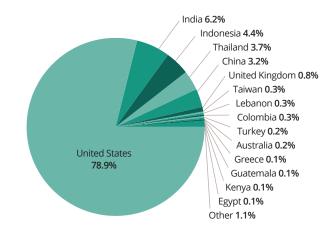
Together these businesses produced over \$3 billion worth of processed forest products. New Brunswick is the largest exporter of forest products in Atlantic Canada valued at \$2 billion in 2018. The United States, India and Indonesia are the main export destinations, accounting for 79 per cent, six per cent and four per cent of export share, respectively. In 2018, the primary forest sector generated approximately 3,455 full-year equivalent jobs, while the processing sector generated 8,455 full-year equivalent jobs.

Exports by Country

Country	Val	Value (\$ Million)		
	2017	2018		
United States	1,435.3	1,562.8		
India	142.9	123.4		
Indonesia	92.3	87.9		
Thailand	68.9	73.2		
China	53.8	63.2		
United Kingdom	24.4	15.3		
Taiwan	0.0	5.7		
Lebanon	0.8	5.1		
Colombia	2.2	5.0		
Turkey	30.2	3.5		
Australia	0.1	3.1		
Greece	0.8	2.9		
Guatemala	8.9	2.8		
Kenya	0.0	2.5		
Egypt	1.8	2.0		
Other	25.3	21.1		
Total	1,887.6	1,979.5		

Source: Trade Data Online (December 2020).

Exports by Country (\$2 Billion)

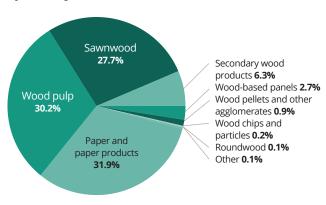


^{1,2} Employment statistics refer to full-year equivalent jobs and should not be compared to previous years since a different data source was used (Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0489-01).

2018 Highlights

- Compared to 2017, the total value of New Brunswick's primary forest products fell marginally by \$2.9 million (one per cent) to \$564 million in 2018. Particularly, revenues from softwood, mainly spruce-fir-jack pine and cedar, dropped, while hardwood sales increased.
- Revenues from spruce-fir-jack pine totaled \$377 million in 2018, down \$14 million (four per cent) from 2017. The total harvested volume fell marginally by one per cent (34,500 cubic metres) to 5.84 million cubic metres. Additionally, the average price fell three per cent, as a lower volume of logs and higher volume of studwood were marketed, compared to 2017.
- Hardwood sales increased by \$15 million (nine per cent) to reach \$171 million in 2018. This resulted from a 14-per-cent rise in average price, mainly due to higher pulpwood prices, outweighing a four-per-cent drop in harvested volume, from 3.39 million cubic metres to 3.26 million cubic metres. Hardwood pulp prices have been increasing as New Brunswick mills face competition from mills in Maine. Additionally, there is a premium on maple, which tends to drive the price up.
- Cedar production was valued at \$6.2 million in 2018, about 39 per cent (\$3.9 million) lower than the previous year. This decline in value resulted from a drop in harvested volume, by 73,400 cubic metres (39 per cent) to 114,300 cubic metres.
- Exports of New Brunswick's forest products were valued at \$1,979 million in 2018, about five per cent (\$92 million) higher than the previous year. This increase resulted largely from greater sales of paper and paper products, sawnwood and secondary wood products.
- Exports of paper and paper products rose by \$65 million (12 per cent) to \$631 million in 2018; while sales of sawnwood increased by \$29 million (six per cent) and secondary wood products by \$16 million (15 per cent) to total \$549 million and \$124 million, respectively.
- The United States continued to be the most significant export market for New Brunswick's forest products, with sales totaling \$1,563 million in 2018, up \$127 million (nine per cent) from 2017. Exports of paper and paper products, sawnwood, wood pulp and secondary wood products contributed most to this rise in value.
- Other key markets that increased in value include China and Taiwan. Particularly, exports to China rose by \$9.4 million (17 per cent) to \$63 million; while sales to Taiwan increased from \$0 in 2017 to \$5.7 million in 2018. These increases were mainly attributed to higher sales of wood pulp.

Exports by Product (\$2 Billion)

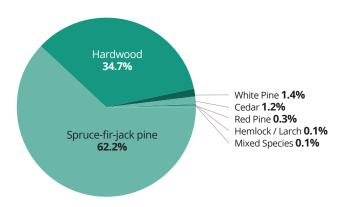


Primary production

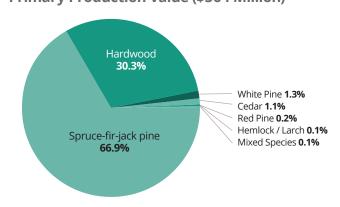
Species	Volume (000 M³)		Value (\$ Million)	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Spruce-fir-jack pine	5,879.4	5,844.9	391.3	377.5
Hardwood	3,394.1	3,256.6	156.4	171.1
White Pine	136.9	129.9	7.8	7.6
Cedar	187.8	114.3	10.0	6.2
Red Pine	28.4	23.9	1.3	1.0
Hemlock / Larch	12.3	13.8	0.6	0.6
Mixed Species	0.0	11.7	0.0	0.5
Total	9,638.9	9,395.1	567.4	564.4

Note: Due to rounding, numbers in the tables in this report may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Primary Production Volume (9.4 Million M³)



Primary Production Value (\$564 Million)



Exports by Product

Product	Value (\$ Million)		
	2017	2018	
Paper and paper products	565.2	630.5	
Wood pulp	595.8	598.2	
Sawnwood	519.6	548.7	
Secondary wood products	107.7	123.7	
Wood-based panels	57.1	53.0	
Wood pellets and other agglomerates	26.1	17.5	
Wood chips and particles	8.3	3.2	
Roundwood	6.7	3.0	
Other	1.2	1.7	
Total	1,887.6	1,979.5	
Source: Global Trade Tracker (December 2020)			

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