

# Independence County Forests and Forest Industry, 2021

## ARKANSAS CENTER FOR FOREST BUSINESS

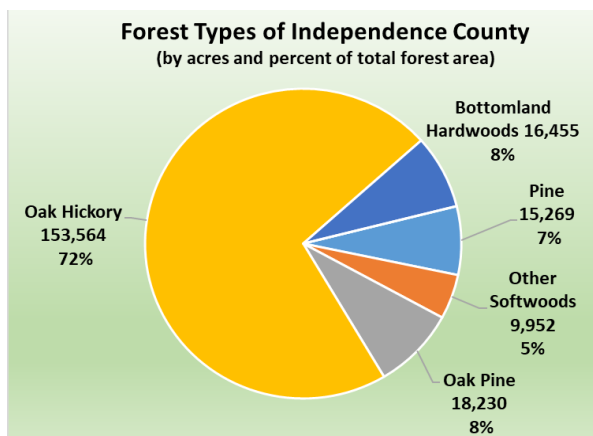
Report 2021-C32

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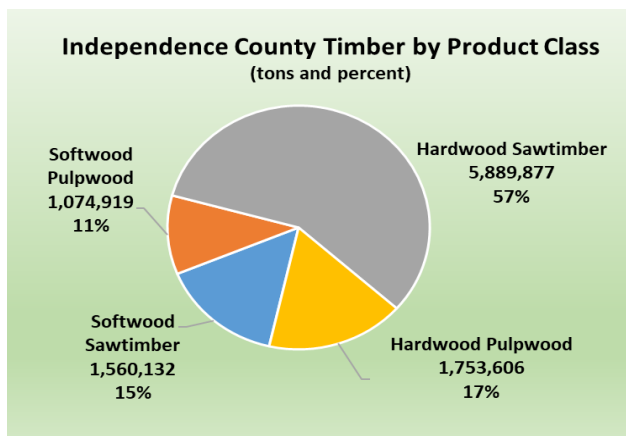


### Independence County Forest Facts

Forests occupy 213,470 acres (44%) of the land area in Independence County; 99% of the forests are privately owned. 62% of the pine covertime is planted, but overall, 96% of the county's forests are of natural origin. Forest area by covertime is shown in the figure below.



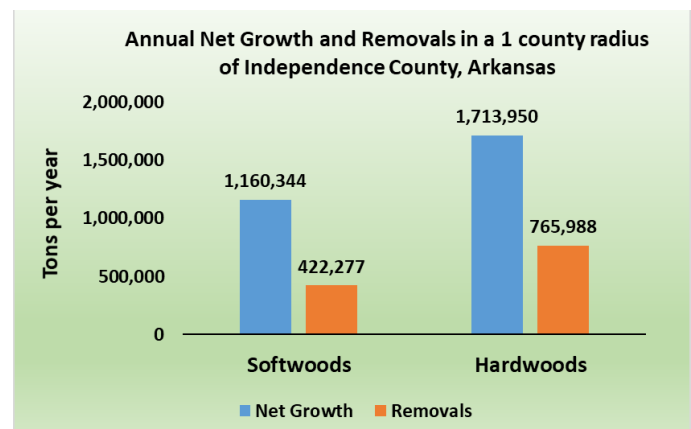
The forests of Independence County contain 2,635,051 tons of softwood timber and 7,643,483 tons of hardwood timber. The forest is made up of largely hardwood saw timber trees as shown below.



### Timber Supply around Independence County

Within a 1-county radius around and including Independence County (Cleburne, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, and White) there are 25 million tons of pine and

68 million tons of hardwood timber. In this 8-county region, annual net growth exceeds harvest by 1,686,029 tons, 56% of which is hardwoods, as shown below.



### Economic Contributions of Independence County Forests

Forest industries contribute \$24,451,723 annually to Independence County's value added (GDP) which is 1.5% of the county's total economic activity, far less than the state-wide average of 4.95%. Forest industries in the county include Tharp Pallet, A-1 Truss, Cushman Forest Products, Jamestown Lumber, Concord Specialty Corrugated, and Gibson Box Company. Three logging firms operate from Independence County. Income from forestry sectors is 140% of the county average. The direct economic contribution of Independence County's forest industry is shown in the table below by sectors.

Sector	Employees	Labor Income	Value Added (GDP)
Forestry	1	\$60,818	\$59,287
Logging	8	\$697,736	\$689,993
Solid Wood Products	117	\$5,174,792	\$8,496,996
Furniture	17	\$810,731	\$1,481,802
Pulp and Paper	95	\$8,274,432	\$13,723,644
<b>Forestry Totals in Independence County</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>\$15,018,509</b>	<b>\$24,451,723</b>