

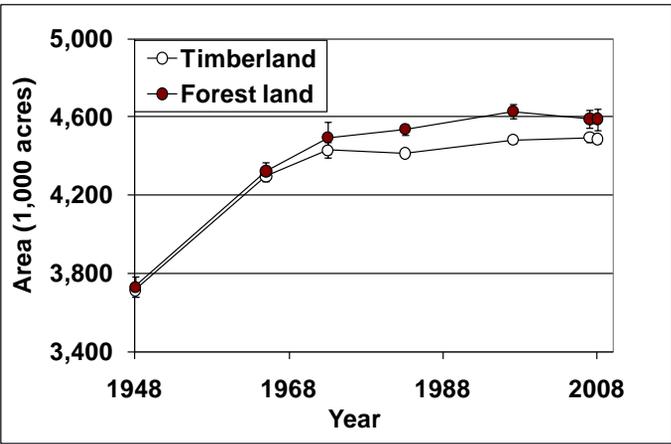
# Vermont's Forest Resources, 2008

Research Note NRS-55

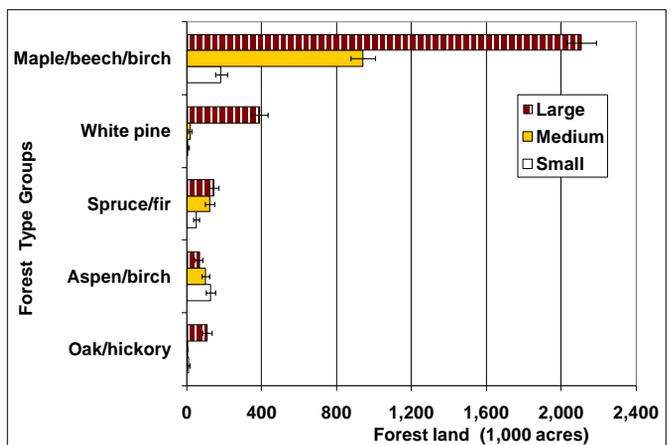
This publication provides an overview of forest resource attributes for Vermont based on an annual inventory conducted by the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program at the Northern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service. These estimates, along with web-posted core tables, will be updated annually. For more information please refer to page 4 of this report.

**Table 1. – Annual estimates and uncertainty**

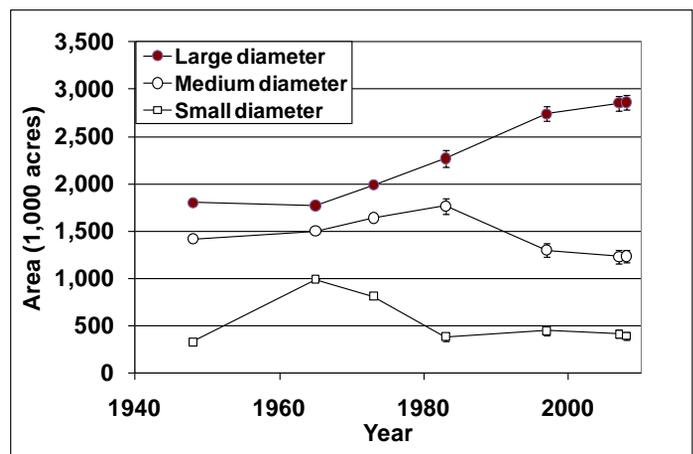
	Estimate 2008	Sampling error (%)
<b>Forest Land Estimates</b>		
Area (1,000 acres)	4,588.4	1.0
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	3,516.7	2.6
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	275,107.1	1.7
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft <sup>3</sup> )	10,174.5	1.8
Annual net growth of live trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	180,372.2	9.3
Annual mortality of live trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	102,317.2	12.2
Annual harvest removals of live trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	116,915.5	29.7
Annual other removals of live trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	3,607.0	46.0
<b>Timberland Estimates</b>		
Area (1,000 acres)	4,486.8	1.1
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	3,424.9	2.7
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	270,315.2	1.7
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft <sup>3</sup> )	10,005.3	1.9
Net volume of growing-stock trees (1,000,000 ft <sup>3</sup> )	9,021.6	2.0
Annual net growth of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	191,737.7	6.2
Annual mortality of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	58,360.2	13.8
Annual harvest removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	102,493.4	29.1
Annual other removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft <sup>3</sup> /year)	10,621.5	70.2



**Figure 1. – Area of timberland and forest land by year.**



**Figure 2. – Area of forest land area by top five forest type groups and stand size class, 2004-2008.**

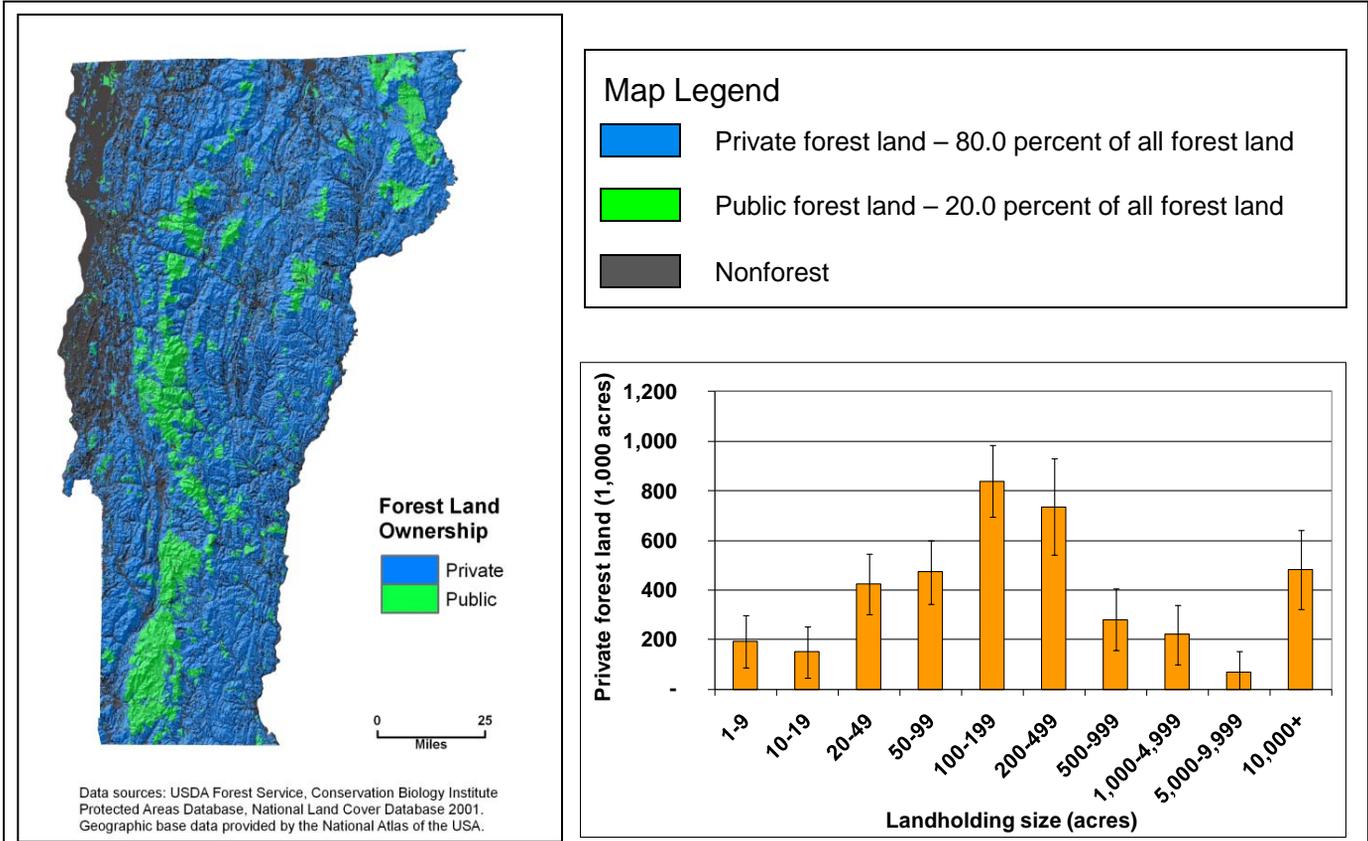


**Figure 3. – Area of timberland by stand size class and year.**

Note: When available, sampling errors/bars provided in figures and tables represent the approximate error interval at the 68 percent confidence level

**Table 2. – Top 10 tree species by statewide volume estimates, 2004-2008**

Rank	Species	Volume of live trees on forest land (1,000,000 ft <sup>3</sup> )	Sampling error (%)	Proportion of total live tree volume (%)	Volume of sawtimber trees on timberland (1,000,000 bdf <sup>t</sup> )	Sampling error (%)	Proportion of total sawtimber volume (%)
1	Sugar maple	2,374.8	4.7	23.3	6,730.1	6.1	24.3
2	Red maple	1,249.8	5.7	12.3	2,851.9	7.9	10.3
3	Eastern hemlock	1,056.9	8.7	10.4	2,995.3	10.0	10.8
4	Eastern white pine	937.2	9.7	9.2	3,873.0	10.6	14.0
5	Yellow birch	726.8	6.1	7.1	1,758.8	8.8	6.4
6	American beech	615.5	7.0	6.0	1,161.6	11.0	4.2
7	White ash	511.6	8.9	5.0	1,532.5	12.8	5.5
8	Red spruce	504.4	8.5	5.0	1,388.2	10.5	5.0
9	Paper birch	434.7	8.6	4.3	873.6	11.9	3.2
10	Balsam fir	389.5	9.0	3.8	725.1	10.4	2.6
	<b>Other softwoods</b>	<b>215.7</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>511.7</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>
	<b>Other hardwoods</b>	<b>1,157.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>3,284.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>11.9</b>
	<b>All Species</b>	<b>10,174.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>27,686.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>



**Figure 4. – Area of forest land by major owner group (2008) and size of private family forest landholding (2006).**

## Vermont's Family Forest Owners

Most of Vermont's forests are privately owned (Fig. 4) and of this private forest land, most is owned by families and individuals. There are an estimated 87,000 family forest owners in Vermont who own a total of 3.11 million acres of forest land or 68 percent of the State's total forested area. Along with an inventory of the biophysical characteristics of the forest, the USDA Forest Service conducts the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) to characterize the people who own these resources. The NWOS collects data on forest holding characteristics, ownership histories, ownership objectives, forest uses, forest management practices, preferred methods for receiving information, concerns, future intentions, and demographics. Below are some of the key findings for Vermont. For additional information about Vermont's family forest owners, see Butler (2008) or visit [www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos](http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos).

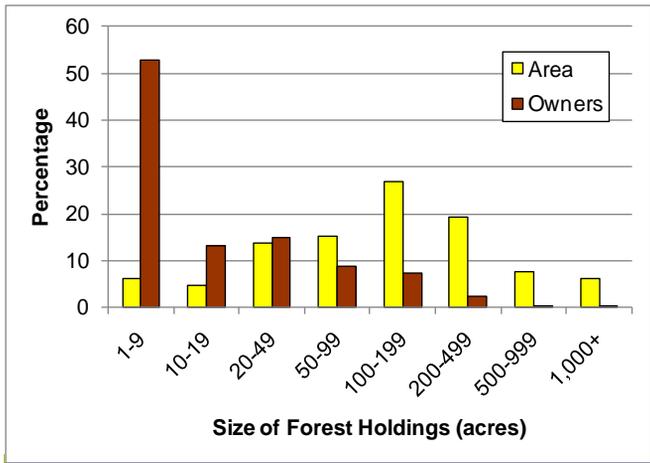


Figure 5. – Area and number of family forests in Vermont by size of forest landholdings (2006).

### Demographics

- Age**
  - 16% are <45 years old
  - 59% are between 45 and 64
  - 25% are 65 or older
- Education**
  - 45% have a college degree
- Annual Household Income**
  - 30% under \$50,000
  - 55% \$50,000-99,999
  - 15% over \$100,000

### Ownership Characteristics

- New Owners**
  - 28% have purchased their forest land within last 10 years
- Absentee Owners**
  - 9% do not live on or near (within 1 mile) their land
- Farmers**
  - 10% have a farm associated with their forest land

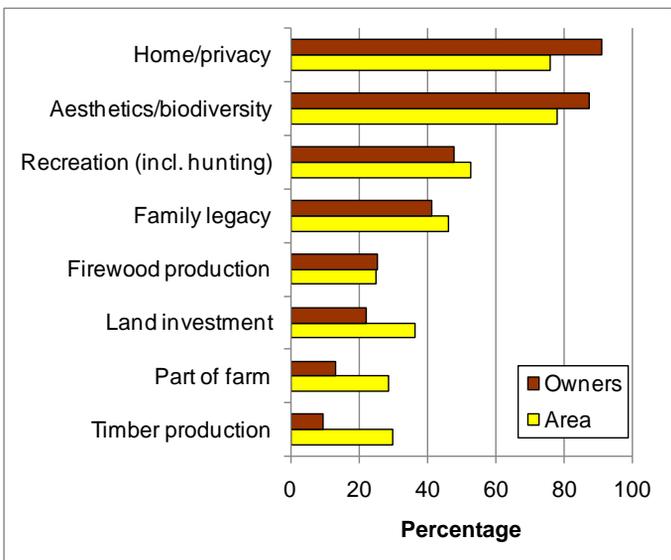


Figure 6. – Area and number of family forests in Vermont by reason for owning forest land (2006). Numbers include landowners who ranked each objective as very important (1) or important (2) on a seven-point Likert scale.

### Citation for this Publication

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### FIA Program Information

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### Additional Information

Butler, B.J. 2008. Family forest owners of the United States, 2006. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-27. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 72 p.

### Additional Vermont Inventory Information

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Estimates, tabular data, and maps from this report may be generated at: [fiatools.fs.fed.us](http://fiatools.fs.fed.us)

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