

New York's Forest Resources, 2008

Research Note NRS-66

This publication provides an overview of forest resource attributes for New York 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, uncertainty, and change

	Estimate 2008	Sampling error (%)	Change since 2007(%)
Forest Land Estimates			
Area (1,000 acres)	18,951	0.7	0.0
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	12,193	1.3	-0.7
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	1,082,090	1.0	0.5
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	39,609	1.1	0.4
Annual net growth of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	706,831	6.2	NA*
Annual mortality of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	510,221	5.9	NA*
Annual harvest removals of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	316,924	14.2	NA*
Annual other removals of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	28,756	88.1	NA*
Timberland Estimates			
Area (1,000 acres)	15,887	0.8	0.3
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	9,866	1.5	-0.9
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	879,724	1.2	0.7
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	32,079	1.3	0.6
Net volume of growing-stock trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	29,341	1.4	0.4
Annual net growth of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	626,543	6.3	NA*
Annual mortality of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	267,529	7.8	NA
Annual harvest removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	261,369	14.3	NA*
Annual other removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	38,406	67.7	NA*

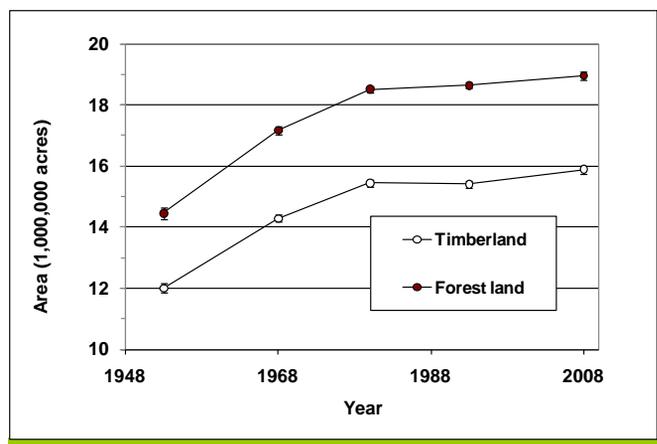


Figure 1. – Area of timberland and forest land by year.

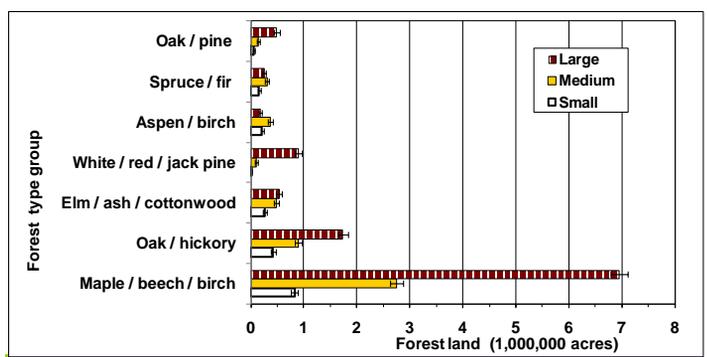


Figure 2. – Area of forest land area by top six forest type groups and stand size class, 2003-2008.

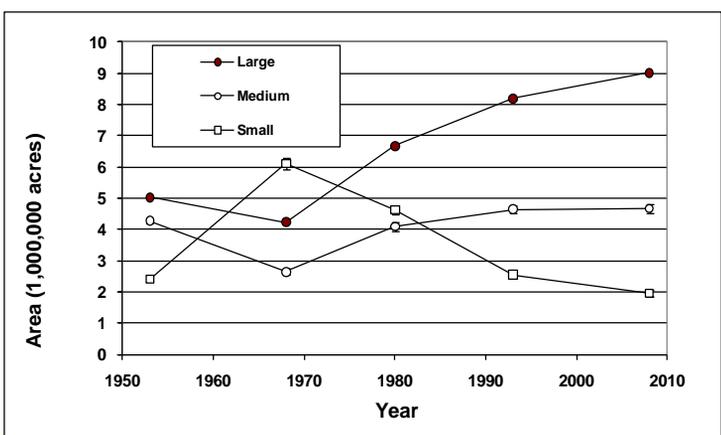


Figure 3. – Area of timberland by stand size class and year.

*Due to a change in data processing systems, 2008 is the first year that data is available for growth, removal, and mortality. Note: When available, sampling errors/bars provided in figures and tables represent 68 percent confidence intervals.

Table 2. – Top 10 tree species by statewide volume estimates, 2003-2008

Rank	Species	Volume of live trees on forest land (1,000,000 ft ³)	Sampling error (%)	Change since 2007 (%)	Volume of sawtimber trees on timberland (1,000,000 bdf)	Sampling error (%)	Change since 2007 (%)
1	Red maple	6,275	2.7	1.5	11,602	4.2	1.1
2	Sugar maple	6,180	3.1	-1.2	12,564	4.7	-1.8
3	Eastern white pine	3,027	5.7	-1.6	10,514	6.5	-1.2
4	Eastern hemlock	2,988	4.9	0.9	6,932	6.0	3.4
5	White ash	2,417	4.3	3.6	5,470	6.3	5.0
6	American beech	2,320	3.9	0.1	3,457	6.9	0.9
7	Black cherry	2,043	4.9	-0.1	5,429	6.7	-1.0
8	Northern red oak	2,030	5.6	2.8	7,025	6.9	5.3
9	Yellow birch	1,962	4.6	0.3	2,131	9.2	3.2
10	Red spruce	1,052	6.9	1.2	974	11.1	2.7
	Other softwoods	2,177	6.6	-0.2	4,579	10.0	4.5
	Other hardwoods	7,139	2.8	0.1	17,537	4.3	1.9
	All Species	39,609	1.1	0.4	88,212	1.9	1.4

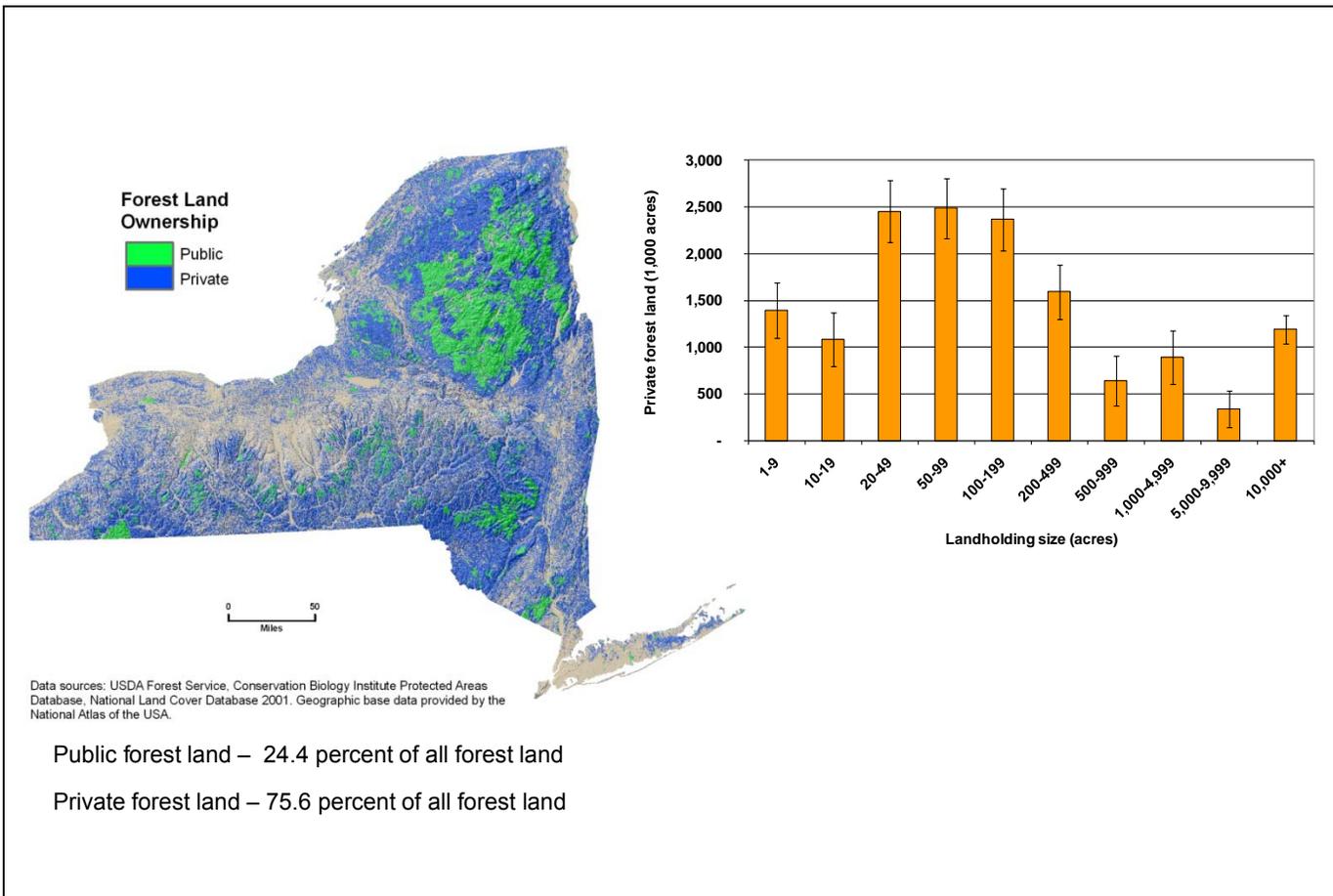


Figure 4. – Area of forest land by major owner group (2008) and size of private family forest landholding (2006).

New York's Family Forest Owners

Most of New York's forests are privately owned (Fig. 4) and of this private forest land, most is owned by families and individuals. There are an estimated 613,000 family forest owners in New York who own a total of 11 million acres of forest land or 59 percent of the State's total forested area. Along with an inventory of the biophysical characteristics of the forest, the U.S. 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 New York. For additional information about New York's family forest owners, see Butler (2008) or visit www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos.

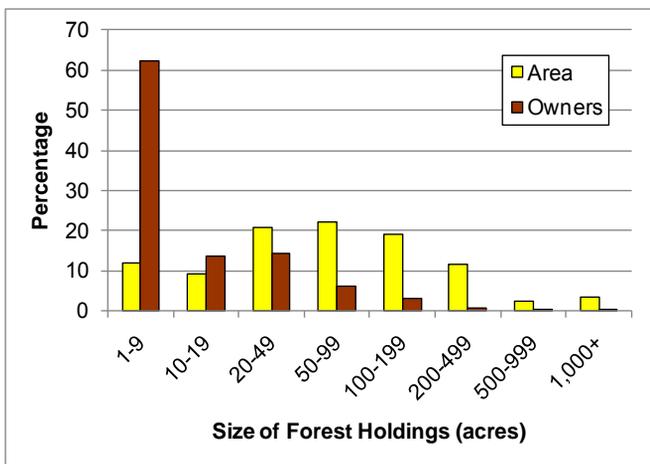


Figure 5. – Area and number of family forests in New York by size of forest landholdings (2006).

Ownership

- **New Owners**
12% have purchased their forestland within last 10 years
- **Absentee Owners**
23% do not live on or near (within 1 mile) their land
- **Farmers**
16% have a farm associated with their forestland

Demographics

- **Age**
11% are <45 years old
45% are between 45 and 64
44% are 65 or older
 - **Education**
39% have a college degree
- Annual Household Income
 48% under \$50,000
 35% \$50,000 to \$99,999
 17% \$100,000 or more

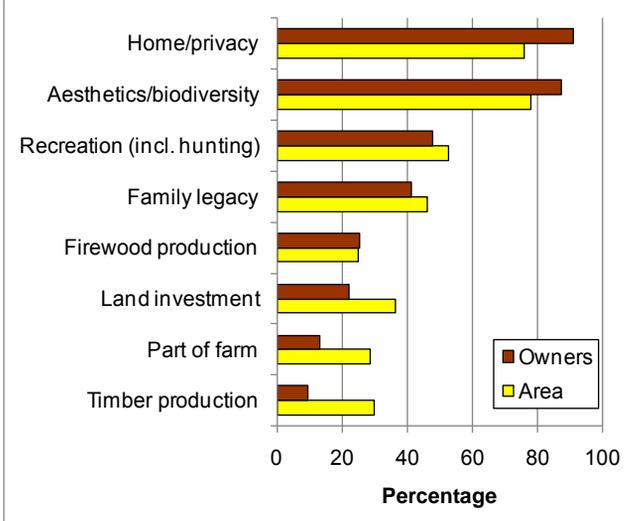


Figure 6. – Area and number of family forests in New York by reason for owning forest land (2006). Numbers include landowners who ranked each objective as very important (1) or important (2) on a seven-point Likert scale.

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FIA Program Information

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USDA Forest Service. 2005. Forest inventory and analysis national core field guide, Vol. 1, field data collection procedures for phase 2 plots, Ver. 3.0. Available at <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/library/field-guides-methods-proc/> (verified Aug. 1, 2008).

Additional Information

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Estimates, tabular data, and maps from report may be generated at: www.fia.fs.fed.us/tools-data

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