Forests of Georgia, 2018

Georgia has an estimated 24,464,219 acres of forest land.
* Percent forest is forest area/total area. Percent forest with water removed from total area is 66%.

This resource update is a brief look at some of the basic metrics that describe the status of and changes to forest resources in Georgia. This information is based on field data collected using the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) annualized sample design, and it is updated yearly.

Georgia has 6,595 sample plots across the State, of which 4,894 are currently forested. Each year, about 14-20 percent of these plots are visited and measured by field crews. Data used in this update were accessed from the FIA database on 04/23/2020.

Forest land ownership
- Private: 89.08%
- State and Local: 3.40%
- Federal: 7.53%

Area of forest land (million acres)
- 2013: 24.46
- 2018: 24.74

Number of live trees on forest land (billion trees)
- 2013: 14.39
- 2018: 15.36

Volume of live trees on forest land (billion cubic feet)
- 2013: 46.85
- 2018: 43.14

65,500 acres of nonforest revert back to forest annually*
121,197 acres of forest land convert annually* to nonforest
812,139 acres of forest land are treated (harvest, thinning, etc.) annually*
491,973 acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by fire
66,977 acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by weather events

*Average annual estimates are based on data collected across 5-10 years and may not be indicative of the nominal year presented in the title by itself.

USDA Forest Service - Forest Inventory & Analysis

The estimates presented are based on data retrieved from the FIA database (04/23/2020) and may not reflect the most recent data available from the FIA program. Note – this publication does not include estimates of uncertainty. The most current data and sampling error for the estimates above can be found by visiting https://www.fia.fs.fed.us/.
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How to cite this publication


Archived Versions

This report and archived past versions can be found on the USDA Forest Service publication database, Treesearch using keywords "Forest Inventory" and "Georgia" here: https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/.

National Woodland Owner Survey

The National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) collects and reports on multiple attributes of forest land ownership. Details of the NWOS program can be found here: https://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/.

The most recent NWOS Factsheet for Georgia can be found here: https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/52426/.

Additional Resources

The application that produced this resource update was developed using data from the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis database (FIADB): https://apps.fs.usda.gov/fia/datamart/datamart_excel.html .

Tables for Georgia, 2018 can be found here: https://doi.org/10.2737/FS-RU-254-Tables

The FIA one-click application can be found here: https://doi.org/10.2737/FIA-One-Click-State-Report-v1.2


NOTE: Some of the above links will not be active until the resource update has been approved for official publication.