Minnesota has an estimated 17,621,097 acres of forest land.

This resource update is a brief look at some of the basic metrics that describe the status of and changes to forest resources in Minnesota. 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.

Minnesota has 17,676 sample plots across the State, of which 6,307 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 09/22/2019.

### Forest land ownership

- Federal 16.36%
- State and Local 39.19%
- Private 44.45%

### Forest land metrics

- **Area of forest land (million acres)**
  - 2013: 17.38
  - 2018: 17.62

- **Number of live trees on forest land (billion trees)**
  - 2013: 14.23
  - 2018: 14.83

- **Volume of live trees on forest land (billion cubic feet)**
  - 2013: 19.06
  - 2018: 20.38

### Annual changes

- **Annual Net Change (All live, million cubic feet)**: 816
  - Annual Removals: 252
  - Annual Mortality: 364
  - Annual Gross Growth: 816

### Land use changes

- 88,635 acres of nonforest revert back to forest annually*
- 60,859 acres of forest land convert annually* to nonforest
- 25,622 acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by fire
- 172,261 acres of forest land are treated (harvest, thinning, etc.) annually*
- 139,134 acres of forest land are disturbed annually* by weather events
Forests of Minnesota, 2018

How to cite this publication

Archived Versions

Archived versions of resource updates can be found by searching Treesearch using keywords "Forest Inventory" and "Minnesota" 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 Minnesota can be found here: https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/52432/.

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 Minnesota, 2018 can be found here: https://doi.org/10.2737/FS-RU-201-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.

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