



SYSTEM DIMENSIONS

Extent  
Pattern

CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL

Nutrients, Carbon, Oxygen  
Contaminants  
Physical

BIOLOGICAL COMPONENTS

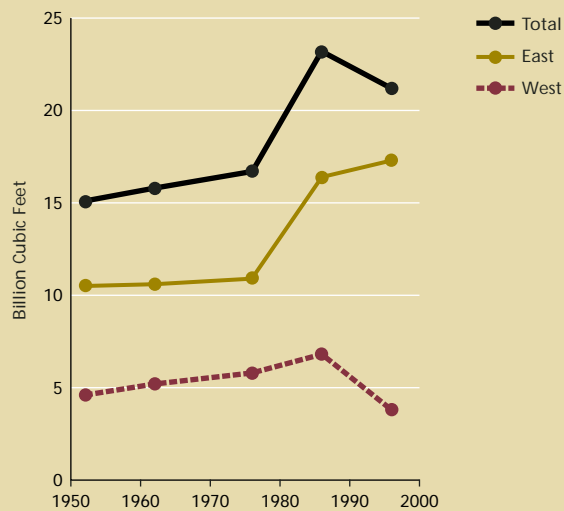
Plants and Animals  
Communities  
Ecological Productivity

HUMAN USES

Food, Fiber, and Water  
Recreation and Other Services

### ● Timber Harvest

#### Timber Harvest by Region



Data Source: USDA Forest Service. Coverage: all 50 states.

**What Is This Indicator, and Why Is It Important?** This indicator reports trends in timber harvest, by region and by primary product category (sawlogs, pulpwood, etc.)

The production of wood products provides employment, generates economic benefits, and meets society’s needs for wood, paper and other products. Demand for these products drives harvesting and other forest management activities.

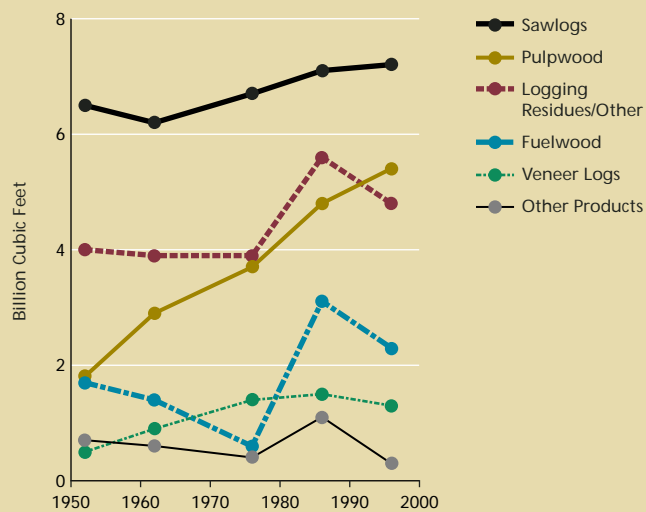
**What Do the Data Show?** Nationally, timber harvest increased by about 40% from 1952 to 1996. There was slow, steady growth through 1976, followed by a sharp increase from 1976 to 1986, and a subsequent decline. After 1986, harvest continued to rise in the East, but this increase was more than offset by decreases in harvest in the West.

Pulpwood production tripled from 1952 to 1996, increasing to 25% of total harvest (pulpwood is used for paper and similar products). One-third of the total harvest is used to produce sawlogs; this fraction is down slightly from 1952, despite a 20% increase in harvest for this purpose. Harvest for all uses other than pulpwood and sawlogs declined in 1996 compared to 1986.

See Growth and Harvest (opposite page) for a discussion of harvest trends on public and private lands.

The technical note for this indicator is on page 244.

#### Timber Harvest by Use



Data Source: USDA Forest Service. Coverage: all 50 states.