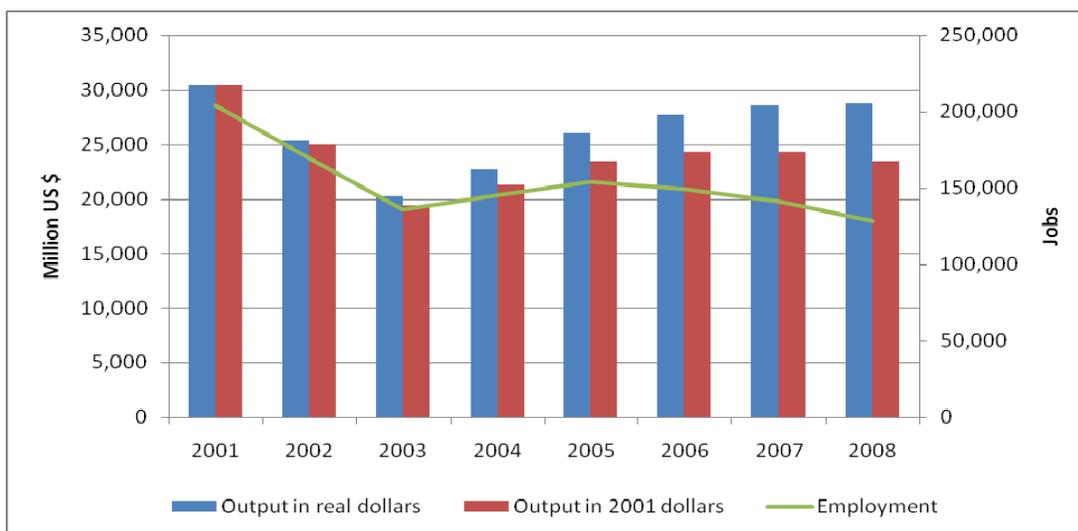




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The Economic Impact of Forest Products Manufacturing in Georgia

The total economic impacts of the forest industry in Georgia in 2008, including the multiplier effects to other parts of the economy, were: **\$28.7 billion in output, 128,387 jobs, and \$6.5 billion in compensation** to employees and proprietors. Although the output remained stable with the previous year, the number of jobs and compensation levels decreased 9% and 3% respectively. Trends in these indicators that show the total impact of forestry in Georgia during this decade are reflected in the chart below.

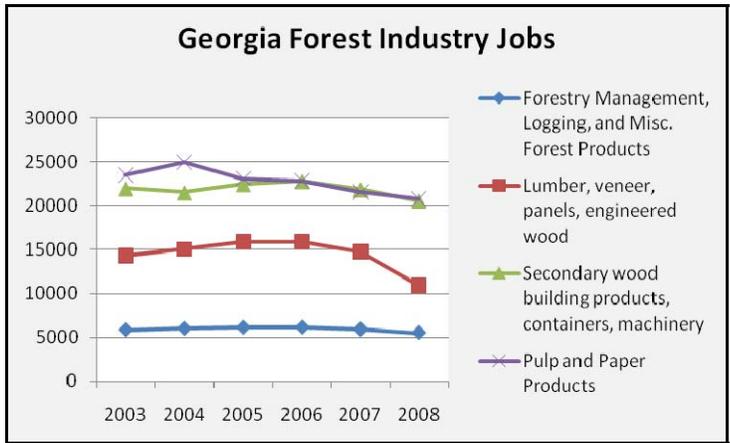
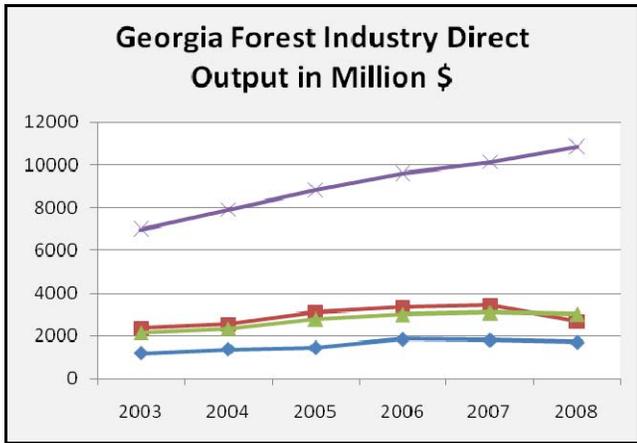


Direct Impacts

Georgia's forest industry in 2008 had an output of \$18.3 billion, employed 57,812 persons, and paid \$3.1 billion dollars in compensation. These economic impacts were within the forest industry and do not include impacts to other related and supporting industries. The output was similar to the previous year, but the employment and compensation levels were 10% and 8% lower, respectively, than 2007 levels.

The pulp and paper sector of the forest industry continues to dominate the industry by producing 59% of the industry output. The pulp and paper industry output also continued to improve in 2008, facilitated by a weak dollar through much of the year in the global marketplace. However, employment continued to decline in all sectors of the industry.

The construction slowdown that began in 2007 had a severe impact on the building products sector of the industry with significant drops in all economic measures. The forest industry sectors have been combined into four categories with the output and employment levels of each category shown in the following two charts.

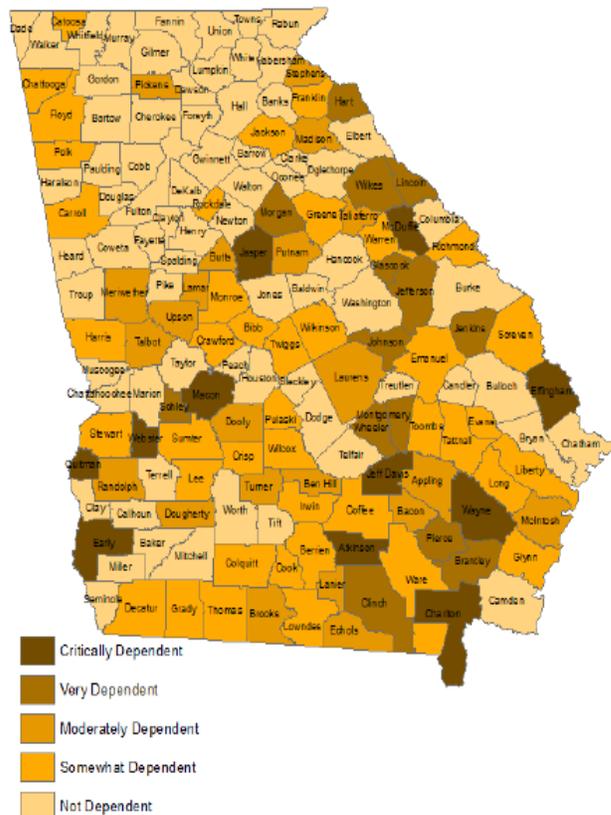


Other Forest Industry Facts

- Forestry activities result in \$539 million in taxes and other payments to Georgia's state budget.
- Georgia has 12 pulp mills, 11 veneer and panel products mills, 94 sawmills, 65 mills producing miscellaneous other products from logs, , and over 1200 industries that provide secondary processing to Georgia's wood products.
- The forest industry continues to rank 2nd in Georgia behind food processing, when considering compensation to employees and proprietors.

Local Economic Dependence

The rural economies of forty-seven Georgia counties are moderately to critically dependant on the forest industry based on both employment and compensation. Eighty-five counties have at least one primary wood-using industry that provides these impacts. The map to the right shows the level of economic dependence of counties based on income.



References

Riall, Bill; Various reports on the economic impact of the forest industry, 2001-2008; Enterprise Innovation Institute, Georgia Institute of Technology; 2008