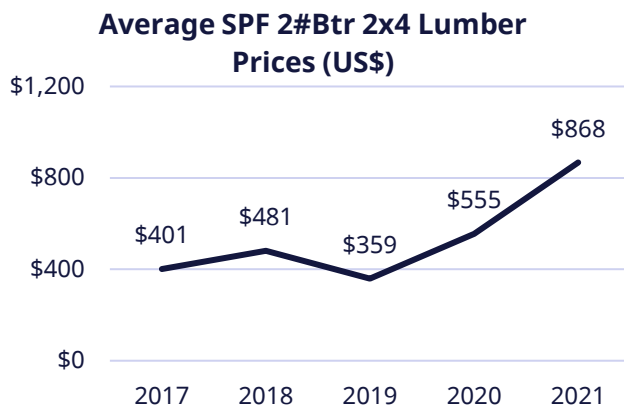


2021 B.C. Forest Sector - Statistics Summary

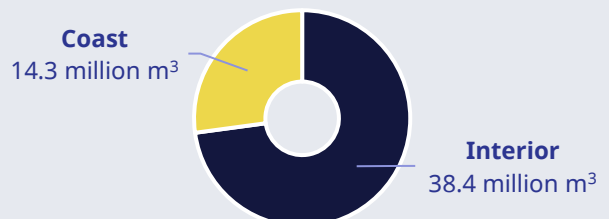
- In 2021, the forest sector in British Columbia (B.C.) played a key role in the provincial economy by generating 55,715 direct jobs¹, contributing \$5.9 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)², and providing \$1.9 billion in provincial government revenues.
- In 2021, the forest manufacturing sales were \$21 billion, a significant increase of 41% from 2020, and accounted for 33% of B.C.'s manufacturing sales.
- The dominant forest product in B.C. is softwood lumber, with production reaching 21.8 million m³ in 2021, up 3% from 2020. The majority of B.C.'s softwood lumber production (88%) was in the Interior.
- B.C.'s forest sector is export-oriented, with forest product exports valued at \$16.3 billion in 2021, representing 30% of B.C.'s total commodity export value. Softwood lumber (54% of B.C.'s forest product export value) increased by 64% from 2020 to \$8.9 billion in 2021. Pulp and paper exports (24%) increased by 15% from 2020 to \$3.9 billion in 2021.
- The United States (U.S.) was the largest market for B.C. forest products, with exports totaling \$10 billion in 2021, representing 61% of the total forest product export value. Softwood lumber accounted for the largest share of exports to the U.S. at 67%, with export value increasing by 69% from \$4 billion in 2020 to \$6.7 billion in 2021. Housing starts in the U.S. were 1.6 million units in 2021, the highest level since 2007.
- China was the second-largest export market for B.C. forest products, with exports totaling \$3.1 billion in 2021, representing 19% of the total forest product export value. Pulp accounted for the largest share of exports to China at 76%, followed by lumber (15%) and logs (8%).
- Japan was the third-largest market for B.C. forest product exports, with a total export value of \$1.5 billion in 2021, representing 9% of the total forest product export value. Softwood lumber accounted for the largest share of exports to Japan at 65%, followed by pulp (12%) and logs (12%).



Data source: [Fastmarkets Random Lengths](#)

- Strong demand from the repair and remodel sector and from residential construction, combined with supply disruptions caused by the pandemic, weather events, and transportation issues, resulted in record-high prices for lumber and many non-lumber wood products.
- The Western SPF 2x4 averaged at US\$868 per thousand board feet, up 56% from 2020. The average export price for Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft (NBSK) pulp increased by 32% to \$1,007 per tonne in 2021.
- For a more detailed analysis of forest sector economics, please refer to the [2021 Economic State of the B.C. Forest Sector](#) report.

- In 2021, B.C.'s timber harvest³ totaled 52.7 million m³, with the Interior accounting for 73% of the harvest, and the Coast for 27%.
- The primary species harvested in the Interior were spruce (32%) and lodgepole pine (23%). The Coast harvest was dominated by Douglas fir (35%), hemlock (33%), and Western redcedar (16%).



¹ Direct jobs are based on the [System of National Accounts](#) estimates.

² GDP is in 2012 chained dollars.

³ B.C. Stats extract from Statistics Canada data. Also available from Statistics Canada CIMTD.

⁴ [Harvest Billing System \(HBS\)](#) data excludes waste, rejects, and Christmas trees.