



## METODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

### FORESTRY AND HUNTING – GENERAL

***This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:***

- General data about forestry, Slovenia, annually (First Release)

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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of publishing the data is to show annual changes in the forests in the Republic of Slovenia, namely the management of forests, forest fires, the health of forests and the populations of wild animals.

Key statistics are:

- Total forest area
- Growing stock and increment
- Total volume of wood removals
- Cultivation and protection of forests
- Hunting

## 2. LEGAL BASIS

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\)](#) (only in Slovene)
- [National Statistics Act](#) (OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01)

Data are internationally comparable.

## 3. UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The unit described by the published data is forests on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia by forest area, growing stock, annual gross increment, regeneration, tending and protection of forest, removals, sanitation removals, and hunting.

## 4. SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

Coverage is complete. All forests on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia are covered.

## 5. SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are obtained from administrative sources. Most of the data are obtained from the Slovenian Forest Service, except data on production of raw wood categories and data on areas of protected forests and forest reserves. These data are obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. All data are obtained in aggregated form.

## 6. DEFINITIONS

**Forest.** In 1953, 1956 and 1958, all areas grown over with forest trees as well as smaller incorporated forest areas were shown as forest. Since 1961 the term forest

covers areas larger than 0.05 ha that are covered with forest trees, irrespective of their height and growth.

**Since 2007, after the change of the Forest Act, the forest is:**

(1) Land containing forest trees in the form of a stand that can reach a height of at least 5 meters and has a minimum area of 0.25 hectares;

Land being reclaimed on an area of at least 0.25 hectares, which for 20 years has not been used for agricultural purposes and on which forest trees can reach a height of at least 5 meters, and forest trees cover 75%;

Riverine and windbreaks wider than one tree height of adult trees, on the surface of at least 0.25 hectares.

(2) Other wooded land is land overgrown with forest trees or other forest vegetation, on the surface of at least 0.25 hectares, which is not the woods and over the last 20 years have not been used for agricultural purposes. Other wooded land includes forest pens for breeding wildlife and land under power lines in the forest on the surface of at least 0.25 hectares.

(3) Forest infrastructure, which is not measured in a separate plot, is an integral part of the forest.

(4) According to the Forest Act, forest or other wooded land is not individual forest trees, groups of forest trees on areas smaller than 0.25 hectares, tree-lined paths, parks and forest nurseries.

(5) The provisions of the Forest Act also apply to individual forest trees and groups of forest trees grown outside the forest where specified by this Act.

**Protective forests** are forests that protect the land from landslides, flushing and breaking, forests on steep slopes or banks of waters, forests exposed to strong winds, forests in torrential areas holding water draining and therefore protecting the land from erosion and landslides, forest zone which protect forests and land from wind, water, snow drifts and landslides, forests in agricultural and suburban area with highlighted function of biodiversity conservation and forests on the upper limit of the forest vegetation.

**Forest reserves** are special-purpose forests with highlighted research function. These are forests which are due to their development phase and the earlier development extremely important for research, study and monitoring of the natural development of forests, biodiversity and the protection of the natural values and cultural heritage.

**Protection of forest** includes forestry works on preventing and exterminating plant diseases, too large populations of insects, damages caused by game, and protection from fire and natural disasters.

**Sanitation removals** are removals of trees attacked by insects or disease, as well as severely damaged or fallen trees.

**Sawlogs and veneer logs** are used for the manufacture of sawn wood or railway sleepers or for the production of veneer.

**Pulpwood, round and split** is used for the production of pulp, particleboard or fiberboard.

**Other industrial roundwood** includes roundwood that will be used for poles, piling, posts, fencing, pitprops, tanning, distillation and matches.

**Fuelwood** includes roundwood from main stems or branches that is used as fuel for purposes such as cooking, heating or power production.

## 7. EXPLANATIONS

Data on forest area do not include data on abandoned area.

In interpreting the data one has to take into account that due to methodological reasons the data on **the growing stock and annual increment** that are compared to the previous year's removals do not indicate the real changes in the growing stock and annual increment in the previous year. They reflect ten-year changes in the growing stock of forest management units for which forest management plans were elaborated in 2014. These data thus indicate the trend in the growing stock and annual increment in forests in terms of moving averages with an average time lag of five years.

Data on **other game** are the sum of the data: mouflon, ibex, wolf, lynx, badger, wild cat, skunk, marmot, nutria and raccoon dog.

Data on hunting only indicate the number of animals shot. Data on other losses are not included.

### 7.1 DATA PROCESSING

All data are obtained in aggregated form at the level of Slovenia. Some categories are summed into the major groups.

### 7.2 OTHER EXPLANATIONS

Some totals do not add up due to rounding.

## 8. PUBLISHING

Data are published:

**Annually:**

- SI-STAT Data Portal: Forestry and Hunting – [Forestry and Hunting, general](#). Data are published at the national level in the form of absolute numbers.
- First Release (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, Forestry): "General data about forestry, Slovenia, annually".

## 9. REVISION OF THE DATA

### 9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Only final data are published.

### 9.2 BREAKS IN TIME SERIES

The data have been obtained from the Slovenian Forest Service since 1994 as before this year the institution did not exist and the data were not collected or had a different methodological basis.

After denationalization in 1993, the data on private forests of natural and legal persons have been taken into account in private forests, while the data on state and municipal forests have been taken into account in other forests.

By 2000, the data on hunting had been supplied by hunting societies and organizations involved in the management of hunting. Since 2000 the data on hunting have been supplied by the Slovenian Forest Service. By 2001 the data are shown for hunting seasons (from 1 April to 31 March of the following year), and from 2002 on for calendar years.

Methodological explanation on revision of statistical data is available on <http://www.stat.si/dokument/5299/RevisionOfStatisticalDataMEgeneral.pdf>.

## 10. OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

- Slovenian Forest Service: Annual reports about forests <http://www.zgs.si/slo/zavod/publikacije/letna-porocila/index>