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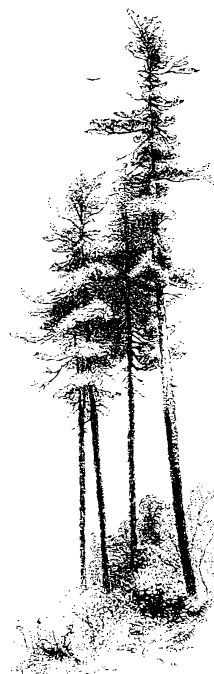
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Eastern Washington Sawmill Statistics for 2000

Produced by

The Inland Northwest Forest Products Research Consortium, a research cooperative centered at the Forest Products Department at the University of Idaho, the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Montana-Missoula, and the Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory at Washington State University

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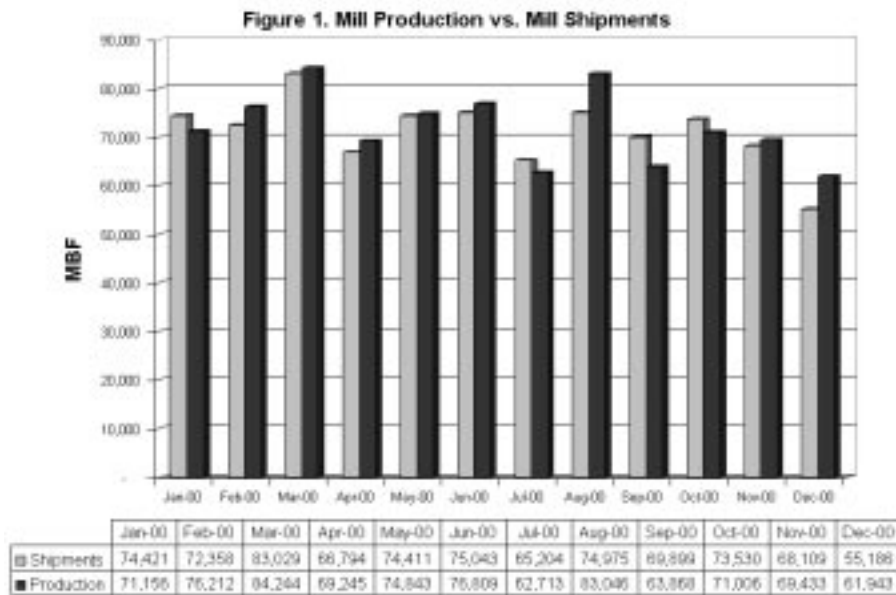
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Eastern Washington Sawmill Statistics for 2000

The Inland-Northwest Forest Products Research Consortium in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University, has undertaken to work closely with the forest products industry of the state of Washington to collect important economic and production information related to the Eastern Washington Forest Products Industry. Started in 1999, this effort has received the cooperation of all the major sawmills in the region. The annual report provides a summary of monthly production, shipments, employment, and payroll as well as annual raw log acquisition data for the year 2000. Visit our website at <http://www.its.uidaho.edu/forp/consortium.htm> to learn more about the consortium and other ongoing projects.

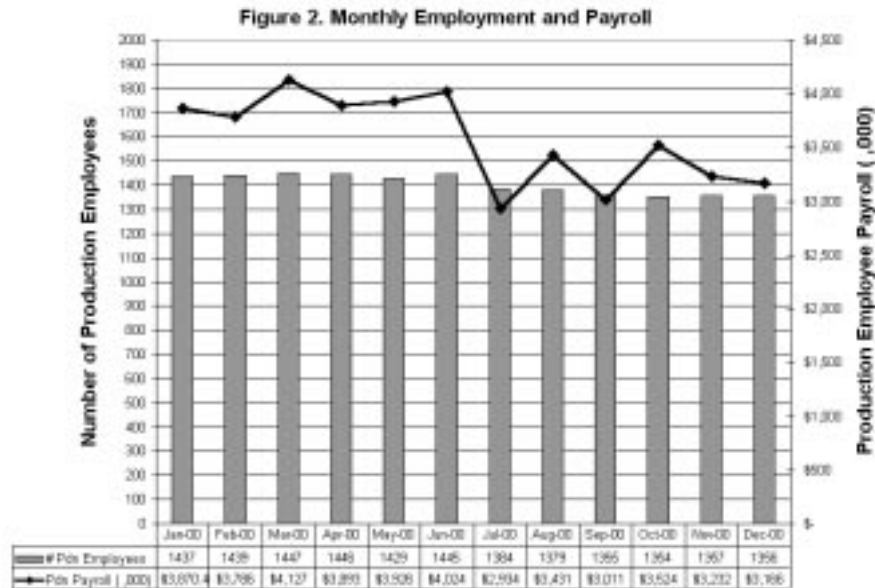
Data presented are based on a census of sawmills located in eastern Washington. For purposes of this report, eastern Washington includes all of the sawmills located east of the Cascade Mountains within the state of Washington. This report amends previous data presented for the first six months of 2000



Results

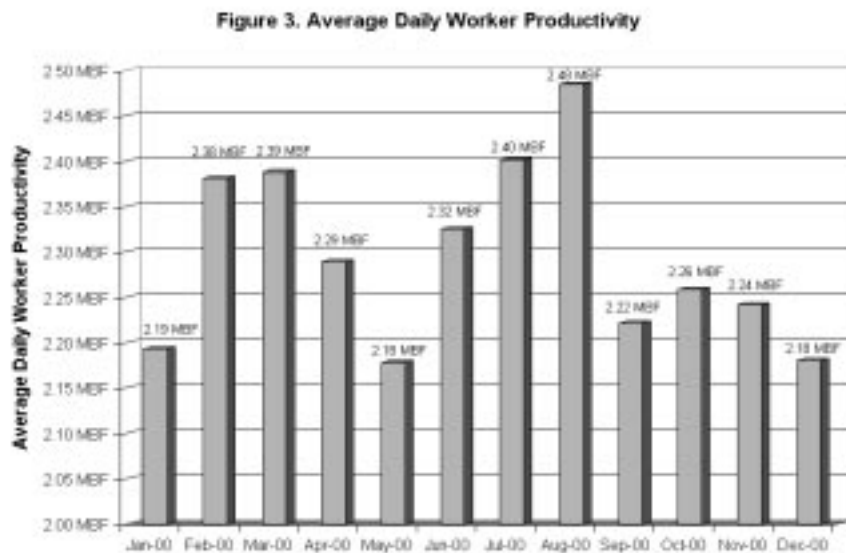
During the year 2000, the 14 sawmills of eastern Washington produced 864.5 million board feet of lumber (lumber tally), which is 11.6 million board feet more than they shipped that year (Figure 1). Production during the year 2000 exceeded shipments by 1.34%. Average monthly production of all mills combined was approximately 72.0 million board feet, lumber tally, ranging from 61.9 million board feet (December) to 84.2 million board feet (March).

Shipments by these mills during the year totaled 853.0 million board feet of lumber (lumber tally) (Figure 1), with an approximate value of \$ 293.9 million. Average monthly lumber shipments for all mills equaled approximately 71.1 million board feet. Lumber production and lumber shipments tracked each other from month to month within a range of $\pm 10.9\%$ on a volume basis. When evaluated for the entire



year, lumber production exceeded shipments by 1.34%. Monthly employment during the year was fairly constant at 1,402 employees and ranged from 1,354 (October) to 1,447 (March) employees during this period (Figure 2). This estimate includes only employees involved directly in lumber production such as sawyers, millwrights, and associated personnel. Total monthly payroll for these positions averaged \$3.6 million and was in the range of \$2.9 million (July) to \$4.1 million (March) monthly (Figure 2). Total payroll for lumber production employees was approximately \$42.9 million during 2000 in eastern Washington.

The number of hours worked by each production employee averaged 41.8 hours each week in 2000. January represented the highest average number of hours worked per week at 43.0 hours, while July was



the lowest at 39.8 hours. Employee productivity, measured in thousands of board feet produced per employee, averaged 2.29 MBF per worker day during 2000. Worker productivity for the region reached its peak in August at 2.48 MBF per worker day and fell to its lowest level during May and December at 2.18 MBF per worker day (Figure 3).

Wages paid to production employees averaged \$13.84 per hour during 2000 based on the total number of hours worked in each month and monthly production employee payroll. The lowest average cost per hour was observed in August, at \$12.65, while April had the highest at \$15.31 per hour. The variability was affected greatly by changes in the amount of overtime paid at each mill from month to month.

Acquisition of logs in the region was approximately 541.4 million board feet during the year for all mills combined. On a volume basis, 28.7% were acquired from industrial forestlands, 26.4% were purchased from tribal lands, 22.3% were from nonindustrial private forestlands, 11.4% were from other public lands¹, 6.6% were from U.S. Forest Service lands, and 5.0% were from state owned and managed forestlands. The end of year sawlog inventory totaled 108.6 million board feet or 12.6% of total production.

End Note

Washington State University and the consortium members wish to extend our gratitude and thanks to the members of the sawmill industry of eastern Washington for their support of this work and their assistance by providing the base data used in this analysis. As the database grows over the next few years, it will be possible to provide a more detailed analysis. Intended readers of this information include the Washington State Governor's Office, the Washington State Legislature, industry members, state, federal, tribal land management agencies, the media, and other parties interested in this state industry.

¹ *Other Public Lands includes public lands owned by cities, counties, public utility districts, and state agencies other than Washington State Department of Natural Resources (including logs from nonfederal public lands in nearby states).*

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