MICHIGAN'S 38 SENATE DISTRICTS

2001 Apportionment Plan
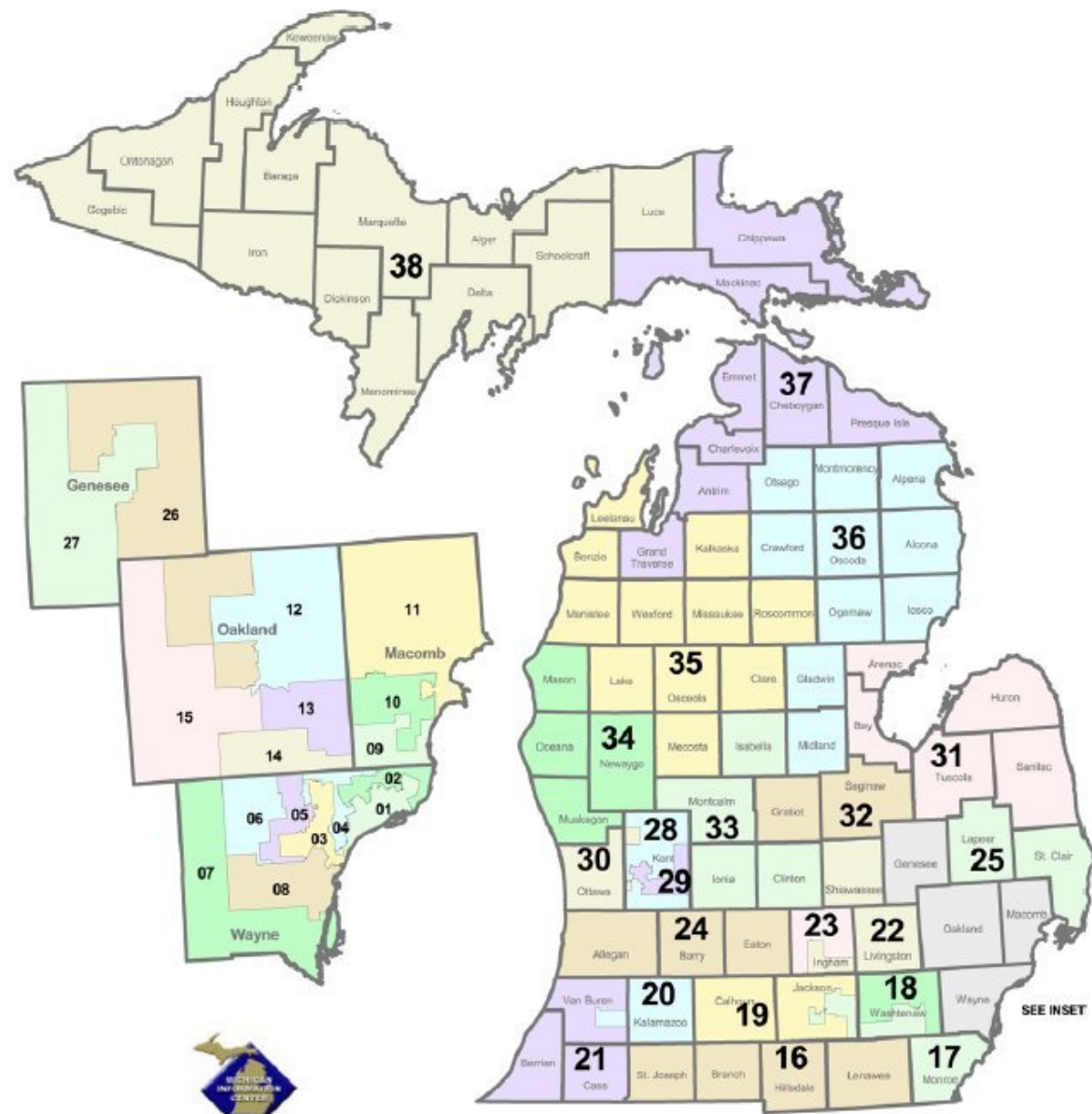
Source: *www.legislature.mi.gov*

FOREST & FORESTRY PROFILE FOR MICHIGAN SENATE DISTRICT 37
(Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Mackinac, and Presque Isle Counties)

Michigan citizens are dependent upon healthy forests and a healthy forest industry for a variety of goods, as well as quality lifestyles and recreation opportunities. These forest profiles help illustrate some of the characteristics of forests and forest industry by Senate District so that legislators, legislative staff, and other interested people might better understand these resources.

Most Common Species By Volume

Sugar Maple, White Cedar, Red Maple, Quaking Aspen, Red Pine, Bigtooth Aspen, Paper Birch, White Pine, Basswood, Balsam Fir, .Other Spp

Percentage of Total Volume
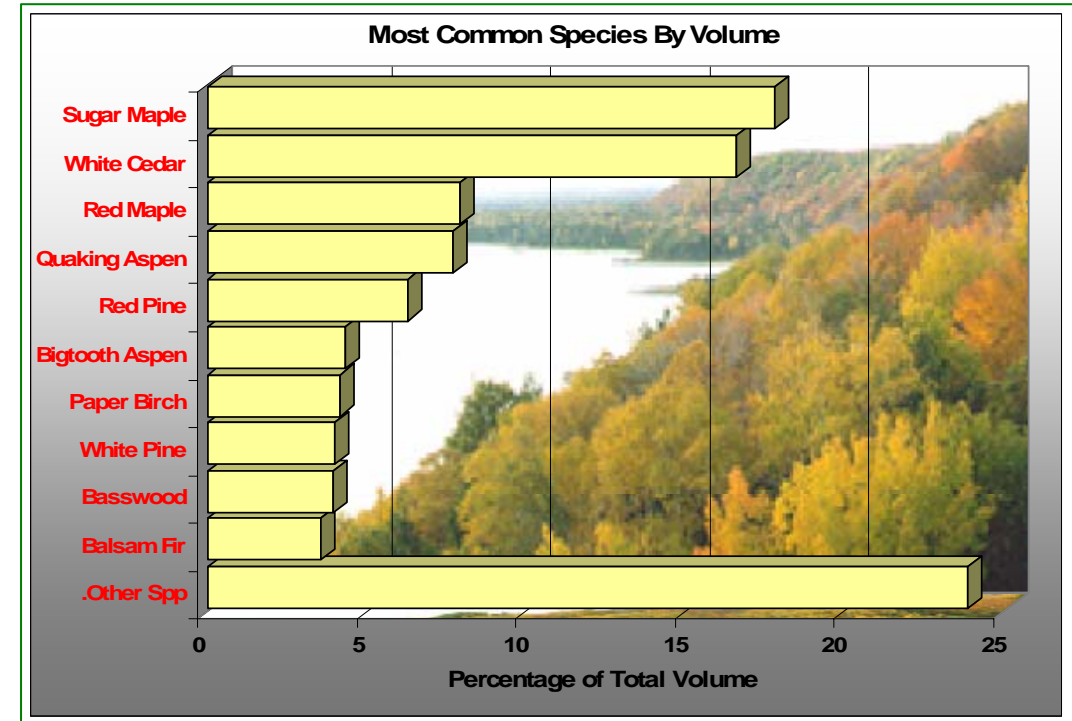
The most common species, Michigan-wide, are sugar maple, red maple, northern white cedar, red pine, quaking aspen, northern red oak, white pine, bigtooth aspen, hemlock, and basswood. The most common species by county will vary with the diverse ecology across the state.

Forest Ownership by Senate District 37

The ownership category of a forest will often determine much about how that forest is managed and what characteristics that forest might have. Nearly half of Michigan's forest is owned by families and individuals, about 320,000 people. The remaining portion is owned by the State of Michigan, the federal government, forest industry, and local governments. Targeted efforts on managing family forests for the long-term will have a tremendous impact on the future of Michigan's forests.
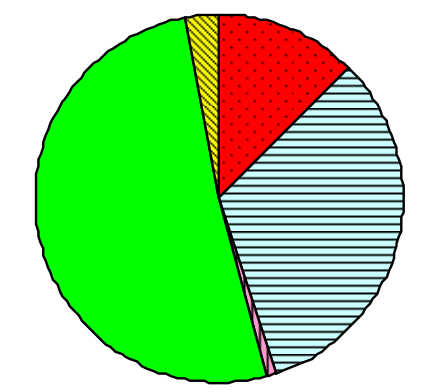
2,825,205 Acres

Forest Ownership	Acres
Federal	356,936
State	915,054
Local Government	19,489
Family Forest	1,444,362
Corporate / CFP	89,364

Notes:
Forest defined by U.S. Forest Service specifications which include minimum acreage, productivity, and timber availability.
"Forest" does not include residential, ornamental, and urban forest trees.
Inventory is for "all live trees" at least one inch in diameter.
Local Government: Indian, County, Municipal ownerships.
Smaller District volumes have less statistical reliability.
Industrial acres based on Michigan Commercial Forest Program (CFP).
Source: U.S. Forest Service Inventory Data, 2005.

Michigan's Vital Forest Products Industry

Forest industry comprises a wide range of businesses. A large portion of the forest economy consists of traditional logging and trucking enterprises, sawmills, and pulp mills. However, the majority of the forest economy has a diverse array of additional value-added businesses such as paper coating, furniture, crafts, millwork, adhesives, boxing, pallets, and many others.

The value of shipments from Michigan's wood products industry was $8.6 billion in 2002, with a total payroll of $1.5 billion (US Census Bureau 2002 Economic Census). Just over 45,000 people are employed in the industry, with over 100,000 jobs directly and indirectly attributable. Most of the industry resides in the southern counties, but the relative impact is greater in the north. The forest industry is certainly a key piece of Michigan's economy.

Number of Forest Industries By Michigan Senate District					
District	Industries	Producers	District	Industries	Producers
1	23		20	45	2
2	7		21	66	10
3	10		22	29	2
4	10		23	26	1
5	11		24	53	17
6	24		25	36	2
7	17		26	16	4
8	20		27	17	1
9	35		28	64	2
10	27		29	62	
11	25	2	30	94	4
12	26		31	45	16
13	25	2	32	34	5
14	28		33	54	15
15	23		34	57	32
16	66	9	35	62	102
17	21	2	36	139	109
18	31	1	37	109	91
19	21	4	38	166	832

Notes:
A forest-based industry is a company utilizing wood products in the manufacture of a value-added product.
Typically, lumber yards and construction firms are not included but do use large amounts of wood products.
A producer is a logger, trucker, or wood broker.
District locations were determined using Michigan's Senate District map.
Forest industry data from the DNR Wood Products Directory and DNR Directory of Producers, Truckers, Brokers.
U.P. producers compiled from Sustainable Forestry Education records.
Actual number of loggers in other Districts is probably double what the table shows.
Numbers of industries and producers will vary with time and address changes.

Forest industry often suffers from a negative environmental public image. However, wood is the single most environmentally-friendly raw material at our disposal. Negative environmental impacts are substantially greater for products made from petroleum, metals, or concrete. Additionally, wood can be harvested in an ecologically sound and sustainable manner, and largely has been for decades in Michigan. Forest industry has an important and growing high-tech component, together with good jobs and excellent wages. In many ways, the industry is on the "cutting edge" of technology, from harvest equipment to wood utilization. Each person in the United States uses about 4.5 pounds of wood *each day* (about half a two-by-four). Michigan is a net importer of wood, yet we harvest less than half the annual growth in our forests. With the nation's fifth largest forest resource, tremendous potential exists.

Michigan Forest Features

There are about 11.5 *billion* trees in Michigan.

The largest tree recorded in Michigan is a black willow in Grand Traverse County. The tallest recorded tree was a 201-foot white pine in Marquette County, now dead. The tallest tree recorded in the world is a California redwood at 368 feet.

Michigan has the FIFTH largest area of timberland in the USA, exceeded only by Georgia, Oregon, Alabama, and North Carolina. And, yes, we have more timberland than Alaska!

Michigan has the second largest state-owned forest in the USA, second to Alaska.

Michigan has about 19.3 million acres of forest (18.6 million acres of timberland), covering about 53% of the State. This was an increase of over a million acres between 1980 and 2004.

Michigan was about 95% forested prior to Euro-American settlement. The two main causes of deforestation have been agriculture and construction of towns & cities. Logging, fires, and pollution do *not* result in deforestation in the Lake States.

The most common tree species in Michigan are: sugar maple, red maple, northern white cedar, red pine, quaking aspen, northern red oak, white pine, bigtooth aspen, hemlock, and basswood. Together, they make up 67% of the total timber volume in Michigan.

A well-stocked acre of northern hardwoods will have the equivalent of 30-40 cords. A cord is a stack of eight-foot logs that is four feet high and four feet wide.

Although about 30 million trees are planted in Michigan each year, many billions more are regenerated through forest management working in concert with natural processes.

The Upper Peninsula holds 45% of Michigan's forest, with 39% in the northern Lower Peninsula, and 16% in the southern Lower Peninsula. However, the majority of forest-based industries operate in the southern Lower Peninsula.

On the average, Michigan's trees have been getting older and larger for over 50 years. While this is true overall, there are important differences among tree species and forest types.

Annual timber harvest in Michigan would form a cord pile 3,500 miles long. Annual growth would form a pile 8,000 miles long. If all the timber in Michigan were laid in that cord pile, it would stretch over 250,000 miles . . . roughly the distance to the Moon!

The four most serious threats to Michigan forests are, arguably, intensive browsing by deer, wildland home construction and forest ownership parcelization, loss of forest-based industries, and forest invasive species and pests.

Among the Lake States of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, Michigan timber harvest per acre ranks lowest. Among Michigan ownership categories, the lowest producer is family forests. This has largely been a social choice, not an economic or environmental choice.