

## Economic Accounts for Forestry

2019

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### **In 2019, the GVA of forestry decreased by 6.5% in volume and 4.2% in nominal terms The surplus trade balance of forest products decreased from 2.6 billion € in 2019 to 2.3 billion € in 2020**

In 2019, the Gross Value Added (GVA) of Forestry decreased in volume and in value (-6.5% and -4.2%, respectively) and the relative importance of forestry GVA in the national economy decreased to 0.4% (the lowest since 2009).

In nominal terms, output decreased by 3.7%, with the evolution of cork output (-17.4%) and forestry services (-4.7%) being decisive for this result. The decrease in output in volume (-5.3%) resulted from negative developments in most products, with the exception of wood for energy, which showed a significant increase (+12.6%).

In 2020, the trade balance of forest products registered a surplus of 2.3 thousand M€, lower than that observed in 2019 (2.6 thousand M€). Cork-based products were the most prominent group, with a trade surplus of 892.0 M€ in 2020. Exports of materials and industrial products of forestry origin maintained in 2020 (year marked by the COVID-19 pandemic) relative of 8.6% their relative weight in total exports of goods.

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In this press release, Statistics Portugal presents the Economic Accounts for Forestry (EAF) for the year 2019, with revisions to the provisional results for 2018. In Statistics Portugal website, in the area of dissemination of the National Accounts ([section of Satellite Accounts](#)), tables with detailed information are available.

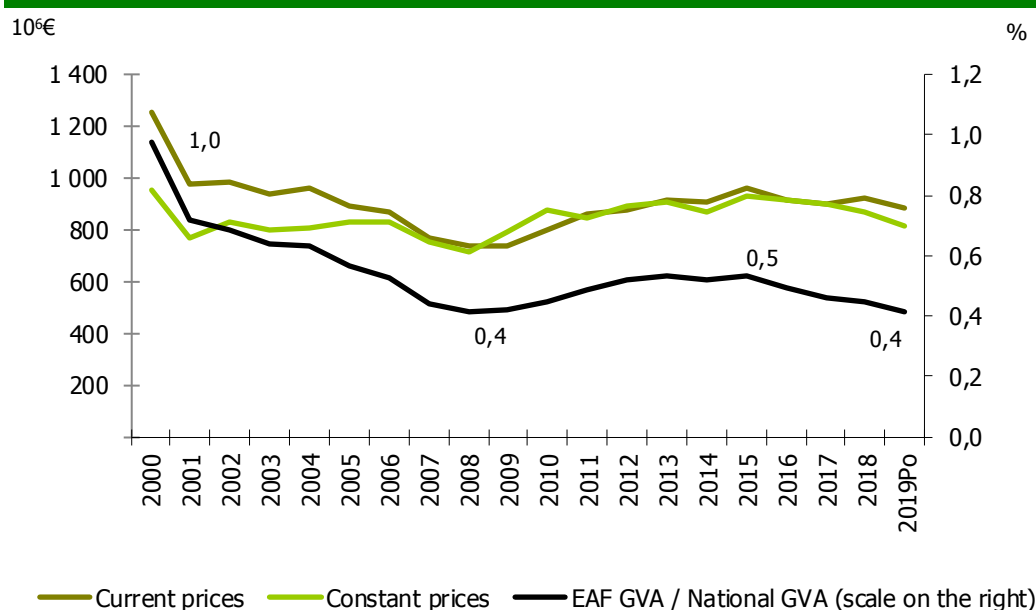
The information from EAF presents a set of economic variables and aggregates that characterize the activities of Forestry and logging, not covering the industrial transformation of wood, cork and other products of forestry origin. Within the scope of this project, the forestry activity comprises the production of goods and services such as wood, cork, forest plantations and forestry services, in particular logging services.

## **1. Main results for 2019**

### **1.1 GVA decreased 6.5% in volume and 4.2% in value**

In 2019, forestry GVA decreased in volume (-6.5%) and value (-4.2%), with the relative weight of forestry GVA in the national economy decreasing to 0.4% (the lowest since 2009).

**Chart 1. Forestry GVA**



## 1.2 Output decreased 5.3% in volume and 3.7% in value

The negative evolution of output in real terms (-5.3%) resulted from decreases in most goods, with special emphasis on saw logs (-6.4%), cork (-14.0%) and forestry and logging services (-4.6%). It should be noted that in 2018 there were exceptional increases in volume in the production of most forestry products, reflecting the immediate effects of the major forest fires in 2017. Reflecting this abnormal volume of output, the cuts and removals of pine wood and the forestry services declined in 2019.

Additionally, in the case of cork, the weather conditions registered in some regions of the country in 2019 conditioned the campaign and the quantities extracted.

Contrary to this general scenario, wood for energy presented a significant real increase (+12.6%), because of the activity of the pellet industry.

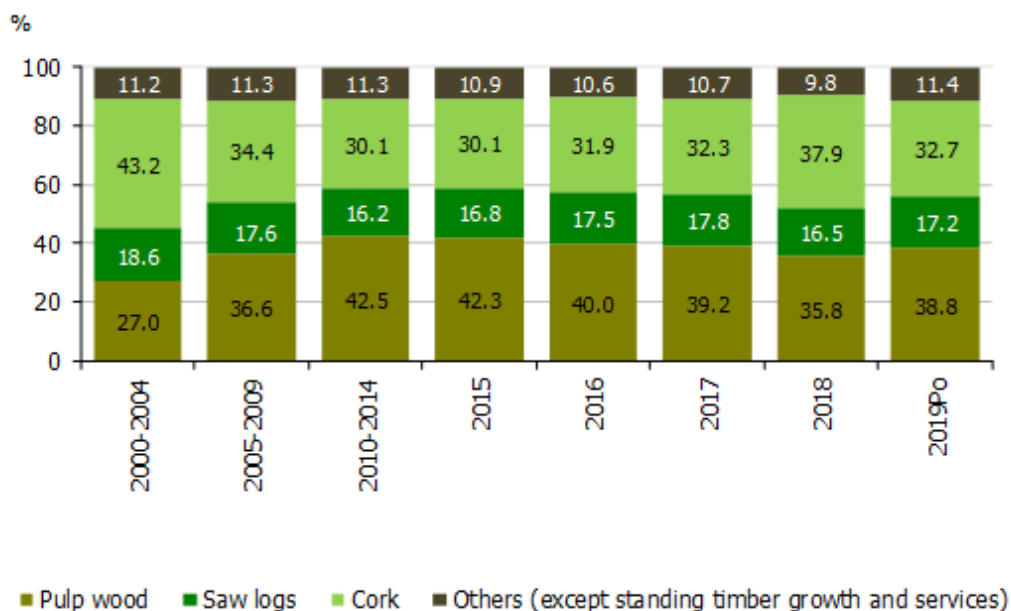
Output decreased (-3.7%) in value, mainly reflecting the evolution in cork (-17.4%) and forestry services (-4.7%). In the opposite direction, total wood production increased in nominal terms (+4.1%). Additionally, in the particular case of cork, the weather conditions registered in some regions of the country in 2019 conditioned the campaign and the quantities extracted.

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In terms of value, production decreased (-3.7%), mainly reflecting the decrease in cork (17.4%) and forestry services (-4.7%). In the opposite direction, total wood production increased in nominal terms (+4.1%). In structural terms, pulp

wood was once again the product with higher relative importance, changing its position with cork, with its relative weight increasing by 3.0 p.p. in 2019.

**Chart 2. Wood, cork and other goods output**

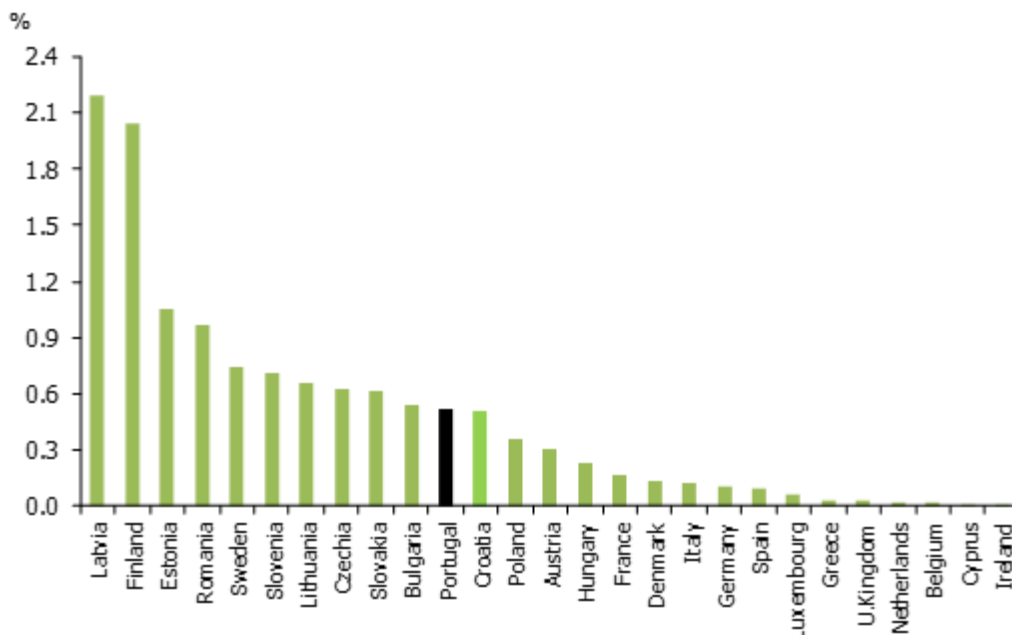


## 2. International comparisons<sup>1</sup>

Compared to other EU Member States, in 2018 Portugal ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in terms of relative weight of forestry GVA in national GVA (0.5%), surpassing countries with Mediterranean characteristics such as Spain (0.1%), Italy (0.1%) or France (0.2%). The countries with the greatest relative importance of forestry in the economy were Latvia (2.2%), Finland (2.0%) and Estonia (1.1%).

<sup>1</sup> Data extracted from the Eurostat database on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021.  
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**Chart 3. Forestry GVA/national GVA by MS**  
2018



Regarding forestry GVA per unit of forest area, Portugal was in 5<sup>th</sup> place, with a value (279 €/ha), much higher than countries where the forest area is more significant, such as Finland (184 €/ha), Sweden (110 €/ha) or Spain (54 €/ha).

**Chart 4. Forestry GVA/Forestry area by MS**  
2018

