**Wood Products is a Growth Industry**

Jobs in lumber and wood products are expected to grow in Pennsylvania by 11% between 2007 and 2017, which is greater than the growth for this industry across the U.S. Wood products will also grow faster than the expected growth of all industries in Pennsylvania.

Many of the most prevalent occupations in lumber and wood products are expected to show growth. Additional openings are also expected to be available to replace retiring workers.

**Select Resources for Wood Product Careers**

**Educational Resources**

- **Penn State School of Forest Resources**
  - University Park; (814) 865-7541
  - www.sfr.cas.psu.edu
  - Offering Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees in Wood Products, Forest Science and Wildlife & Fisheries Science, as well as outreach and professional continuing education in wood products and natural resource management.

- **Penn State Mont Alto**
  - Mont Alto; (717) 749-6000
  - www.ma.psu.edu
  - Offering Associate Degree in Forest Technology and core courses for the transition into a B.S. program at Penn State School of Forest Resources.

- **Pennsylvania College of Technology**
  - Williamsport; (814) 359-9222
  - www.pct.edu
  - Offering an Associate Degree in Forest Technology.

**Industry Resources**

- **Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group**
  - Kane; (814) 837-8550
  - www.ahug.com

- **Keystone Wood Products Association**
  - Lewisburg; (570) 746-0457
  - www.keystonewoodpa.org

- **Northern Tier Hardwoods Association**
  - Wyalusing; (570) 746-0457
  - www.nthardwoods.org

  These industry-driven hardwood utilization groups provide linkages to workforce development services, career promotion initiatives, technical and marketing assistance, through partnerships with local agencies and institutions.

- **Sustainable Forestry Initiative™ Pennsylvania State Implementation Committee**
  - State College; (814) 867-9299
  - www.sfiofpa.org

  This industry-driven effort provides loggers with training on sustainable practices, safety and business management issues.

- **Pennsylvania Forest Products Association**
  - Harrisburg; (717) 901-0420
  - www.paforestproducts.org

  The statewide trade association for the industry, engaged in governmental affairs, public relations and industry outreach.

- **Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council**
  - Harrisburg; (717) 772-3715
  - www.agriculture.state.pa.us

  A bureau-level office in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the HDC is responsible for the development, expansion and promotion of the state’s hardwoods industry.

Produced by the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association with support from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s Hardwoods Development Council.
Pennsylvania is home to a large and competitive wood products industry which is projected to grow during the next decade. Energetic and hardworking individuals of all skill and education levels are in high demand by industry.

Wood products are a true ‘green’ product. Wood is natural, renewable and recyclable. The sustainable management and use of Pennsylvania’s 17 million acres of world renown hardwood forests (the largest in the U.S.), ensure long term job opportunities.

Pennsylvania leads the nation in the production of hardwood lumber and is a leading producer of millwork, flooring, cabinetry and pallets. Pennsylvania is a national leader in the production of hardwood lumber. But the state’s wood products industry is much more. Hundreds of companies across the Commonwealth produce a diverse range of wood products that add beauty to our homes and are used in our lives each day.

Pennsylvania’s wood product companies utilize the latest technology, management and marketing strategies to maximize the use of the harvested material and position themselves as leaders in the global marketplace.

There are nearly 1,400 logging, lumber and wood product establishments in Pennsylvania, contributing about 39,000 jobs in the state. Wood product companies are located in every county of Pennsylvania, with the largest concentration of establishments and jobs being located in southcentral Pennsylvania, the Susquehanna Valley region of central Pennsylvania, the northcentral and northwestern Pennsylvania. Because of its global competitiveness and strategic importance to the Commonwealth’s economy, lumber and wood products has been identified as one of only nine “Targeted Industry Clusters” that are utilized to focus workforce development strategies and resources.

There are a wide range of well-paying career opportunities in wood products. Challenging and fulfilling opportunities are projected in areas of management, supervisory, skilled trades, professional and technical, sales and production. Good, well paying careers are available for individuals with varying educational levels.

Wood products are part of Pennsylvania’s $16 billion forest products industry.

Wood products companies include the producers of lumber and products such as millwork, flooring, components for cabinetry and furniture, engineered wood products (such as fiberboard), pallets and containers and manufactured and prefabricated homes.

Pennsylvania’s wood products industry offers a wide variety of career opportunities for individuals, including positions in the areas of management and supervisory, skilled trades, professional and technical, sales and production. Good, well paying careers are available for individuals with varying educational levels.

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Top Lumber and Wood Products Occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2007 Jobs</th>
<th>2007-2017 Growth</th>
<th>Median Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, exc. sawing</td>
<td>3,556</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$13.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team assemblers</td>
<td>2,999</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$13.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders</td>
<td>2,382</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$15.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers and freight stock, and material movers</td>
<td>2,020</td>
<td>(-3%)</td>
<td>$11.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$20.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters</td>
<td>1,479</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$19.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>1,393</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$64.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Loggers and saw mill workers are in high demand by industry.

Other Select Wood Products Occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2007 Jobs</th>
<th>2007-2017 Growth</th>
<th>Median Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logging equipment operators</td>
<td>1,157</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$16.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisors of production and operating workers</td>
<td>1,095</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$28.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Representatives</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$29.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodworkers</td>
<td>638</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$24.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Executives</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$52.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Machine Mechanics</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$19.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foresters</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>$25.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation scientists</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>$18.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$24.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation; Pennsylvania State University School of Forest Resources; Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry; Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council