

# LUMBER ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA & NEVADA



## LUMBER INDUSTRY INFORMATION

□ Ranking as one of the state's top manufacturing industries, California's forest products industry is a vital component of the state's economy. According to the 2000 census, the primary and secondary industry employs over 60,000 workers, with an annual payroll of \$1.4 billion. California's paper and wood manufacturing workforce represents 4.1 percent of the state's total manufacturing workforce.

(American Forest & Paper Association)

□ California lumber and building materials dealers and suppliers paid \$2.562 billion in state and local sales taxes in 2007. Estimated annual revenue from lumber and building from California sales are more than \$22 billion. Nevada dealers and suppliers paid \$145 million in taxes. Nationwide, \$17.740 billion was collected in taxes. (taxadmin.org)

□ Approximately 31 percent of California is forested. Credited to regeneration and planting programs, the net annual forest growth exceeds harvests by a substantial margin.

(American Forest & Paper Association)

□ Lumber dealers often support one or more of the “green” building rating systems that advocate a better environment. Additionally many of the dealers and timber companies support timber harvesting certification programs that advocate wise use of this natural resource.

(Lumber Association of California & Nevada)

□ Wood has a “softer” environmental footprint than steel or concrete in terms of embodied energy, air and water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions when viewed as a total life cycle process. It has a better insulating value, which reduces the need for heating and cooling.

(Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials, U of WA, Seattle)

□ Wood is an inherently “green” material, in addition to being the only major building material that is renewable and sustainable over the long term. Because of its better insulating value, a wood-frame home can help meet energy-efficiency objectives.

(Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials, U of WA, Seattle)

□ A study by the Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials (CCORRIM) compared the environmental impacts of homes framed with wood and steel (In Minneapolis) and wood and concrete (in Atlanta). These were the most common framing types in the cities selected. The report concluded the home framed in steel and concrete would require 17% and 16% more energy respectively (from extraction through maintenance) than their wood framed counterparts.

(Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials, U of WA, Seattle)

□ Wood reduces the need to burn fossil fuels. Compared to other materials, wood requires less energy to extract, process, transport, construct and maintain over time.

(Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials, U of WA, Seattle)

□ Growing forests absorb carbon dioxide. Growing trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and release clean oxygen. The CO<sub>2</sub> is stored, a process known as “carbon sequestration, either in the trees or wood products made from the trees, until they burn or biodegrade.

(Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials, U of WA, Seattle)

□ North American forests cover about the same area of land as they did 100 years ago.  
(Wood Promotion Network)

□ Over the past decade, forest products companies have spent more than \$100 million on wildlife and environmental research. They employ more than 90 wildlife biologists. As a result of careful forest management, the white-tailed deer population has grown from 4.5 million to over 16 million in the past 30 years. In the 1970's, scientists knew of only 200 pairs of spotted owls. By early 1992, they had found over 3,510 owl pairs. By 1994, researchers found over 600 pairs of spotted owls in a single small section of private forestland in Northern California, suggesting that California alone could be home to as many as 8,000 pairs of spotted owls.  
(Temperate Forest Foundation)

□ The forest and paper industry, while providing society with wood and paper products vital to everyday life, also meets the expectations of Americans by serving as responsible environmental stewards--providing homes for wildlife, protecting air and water quality, and managing forests for future generations. (American Forest & Paper Association)

□ Nationwide, \$326.1 billion worth of building materials, components, fuel and other supplies were sold to building contractors who generated \$1.21 trillion in value of business done.  
(2002 US Census Bureau economic data, latest year available information)

□ Nationwide, lumberyards generated approximately \$52.3 billion in products sales in 2007.  
(Chain Store Guide's Directory of Home Center Operators and Hardware Stores)

□ The 1995 earthquake in Kobe, Japan, demonstrated the strength of North American-style wood framing. Measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale, the quake took 6,000 lives and caused more than \$100 billion in losses. However, while older homes built in the traditional post-and-beam style fared extremely poorly, wood frame homes built to modern building code standards remained largely intact. According to Forintek Canada Corp., which has analyzed about half a million wood buildings involved in earthquakes worldwide over the past four decades, wood framed construction offers some key structural advantages over other materials. Among other things, wood's high strength-to-weight ratio means that ground movement doesn't generate as much energy in a wood framed building. Plus, wood's flexibility allows it to absorb and disperse the energy that is generated without suffering damage.  
(Wood Promotion Network)

□ The Earth is unique in our solar system in having an atmosphere able to support life. The Earth's atmosphere is, by volume, 77% nitrogen and 21% oxygen with the balance being composed of other gases. The bulk of the oxygen in the atmosphere is a result of photosynthesis in plants and trees. During photosynthesis, trees convert sunlight and carbon dioxide into energy to sustain their growth. As a by-product of this chemical reaction, oxygen gets released into the atmosphere. It was the appearance of trees and plants in the Devonian Era that paved the way for life as we know it to exist on earth. By sequestering carbon from the atmosphere, trees help moderate the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere to keep the surface temperature within a livable range. By giving off oxygen, trees and plants make it possible for animals to breathe.  
(Temperate Forest Foundation)

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