

Administrative Datasets Used for National Statistics: FC Sales Recording Package

<p>Name of National Statistic and contact:</p>	<p>The dataset contributes to statistics on wood production, providing figures for quantities of timber sales by the Forestry Commission (FC) in England, Scotland and (until March 2013) Wales and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in Wales (from April 2013) for conifers and broadleaves in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Wood Production and Trade (provisional figures). • Forestry Statistics. • Forestry Facts & Figures. <p>The dataset also contributes to indices of timber prices, providing figures on quantities, values and average prices for coniferous standing sales and for softwood sawlog sales in Great Britain by the Forestry Commission/ Natural Resources Wales in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber Price Indices. • Forestry Statistics. <p>The dataset is also used in the following non-National Statistics outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The source is used indirectly for tables of UK Wood Production in the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, via the annual statistics in NS publications. • The source is used indirectly for reporting on forestry sector output in the Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Forestry. • The source is used in annual reports and in other corporate publications (including indicators produced by National Offices) to report on the activities of the Forestry Commission/ Natural Resources Wales. • The source is used to provide average price information and timber sale results that are published on the Forestry Commission website. <p>Contact: Sheila Ward, e-mail Sheila.ward@forestry.gsi.gov.uk, tel 0300 067 5236</p>
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FC Sales Recording Package

<p>Name of contributing dataset and what it contributes:</p>	<p>The Forestry Commission's sales recording package (SRP) provides data on the volume and value of timber sales by the Forestry Commission (in England and Scotland, and in Wales to 31 March 2013) and by Natural Resources Wales (in Wales from 1 April 2013). Information used in the production of Official Statistics comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location (England/ Scotland/ Wales),• Type of wood (softwood/ hardwood),• Type of sale (standing sales/ direct production),• Average tree size (for standing sales) and• Product category (sawlogs).
<p>Brief description of data and dataset:</p>	<p>The FC sales recording package is an Oracle database used to hold information on timber sales by the Forestry Commission and Natural Resources Wales. The database is developed and maintained by the FC's Finance and Accounting Services Division. Data held includes Timber Contract data by Customer broken down by volumes, values, species and type of sale. The sales recording package is a live system, with data extracted at a specific point in time.</p>
<p>How the data is collected:</p>	<p>The sales recording package is used to hold information about sales of timber by the Forestry Commission and Natural Resources Wales. The underlying database is updated by National Office and Forest District staff whenever contracts are set up or amended or when despatch transactions take place.</p> <p>Financial transactions are audited annually as part of the production of the Annual Accounts for the Forestry Commission and Natural Resources Wales. There is no formal audit after the data are passed to statisticians, but any surprising results are queried with the FC Inventory, Forecasting and Operational Support unit (IFOS), who extract the data required.</p>

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<p>Original purpose of dataset and any other publications from the data:</p>	<p>The data are used by staff in the Forestry Commission/ Natural Resources Wales throughout the year, to manage Timber Contracts and to interface to the Forestry Commission's main accounting systems for sales invoicing and Customer and Credit Management. They also feed into management information systems used by Forest Districts and by management within the Forestry Commission and Natural Resources Wales. They are also used by National Offices for monitoring progress against corporate plans.</p>
<p>Security of the data – how it is managed:</p>	<p>Access to the database is available to relevant staff in the Forestry Commission's Finance and Accounting Services and Information Services Divisions throughout the year, for maintenance of the database and operational and planning purposes. Data are input by relevant staff in Forest Districts and National Offices throughout the year.</p> <p>Access to unaggregated data is restricted for commercial and contractual reasons.</p>
<p>Is supporting metadata available for this dataset?:</p>	<p>There is no publishable metadata for the system however data models and table structures of the data are maintained by Information Services Division in order to support and develop the system. Any requests for information on the data should be sent to Finance & Accounting Services Division of the Forestry Commission.</p>
<p>How do we get access?:</p>	<p>There is an agreement with the Inventory, Forecasting and Operational Support team to provide extracts of the relevant data by end-March (for calendar year volumes), end-April (for data to end March) and end-October (for data to end September). The data are provided in spreadsheet format.</p>
<p>Quality assurance:</p>	<p>The Statistics team compare the data received with the figures for previous years and any apparent inconsistencies are queried. The wood production figures (along with other wood production and trade data from other sources) are also quality assured by the Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.</p>