

21 March

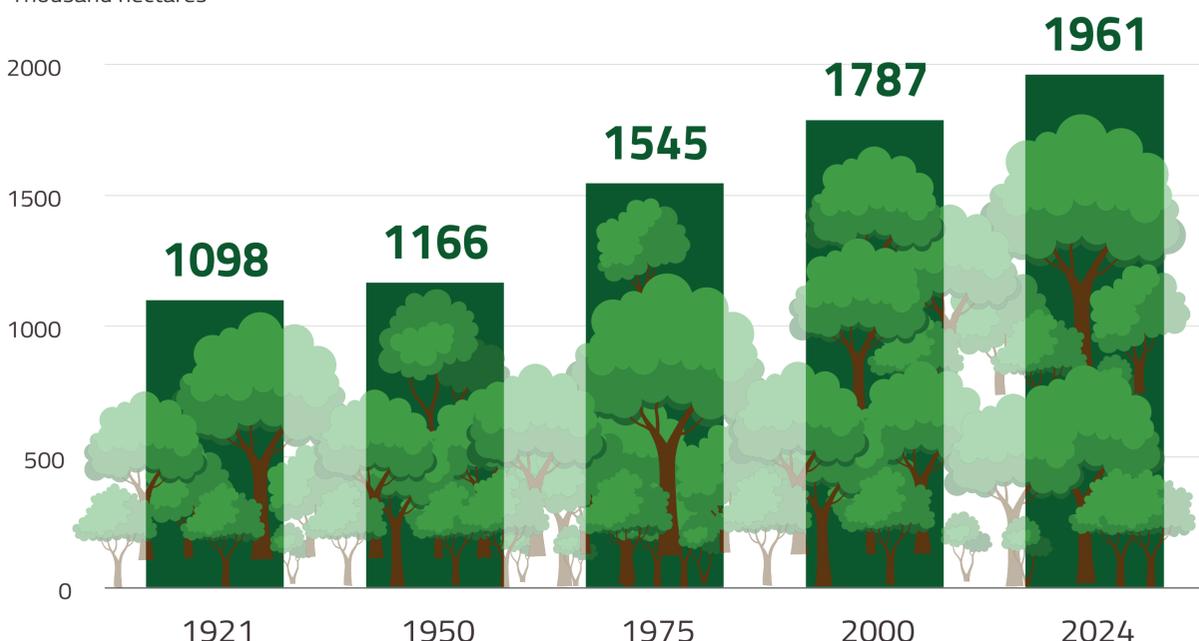
International Day of Forests, 2026



Extent of Forest Areas in Hungary

Over the past century, the area of forests in Hungary has increased 1.8 fold (from 1.10 million to 1.96 million hectares), raising the forest cover from below 12% to above 21%.

Thousand hectares



After World War I, coniferous forests accounted for only 4% of Hungary's forest area, a share that expanded to 15–16% by the second half of the 1980s. At the end of 2024, 91% of Hungary's forests consisted of broadleaved species and 9% of various conifers.

Growing stock of Hungarian forests

In recent decades, the growing stock of Hungarian forests has increased substantially, as the balance between annual increment and timber removal has remained consistently positive.



growing stock of forests

44 m³

annual increment

1.4 m³

timber removal

0.7 m³

per capita in Hungary, in 2024

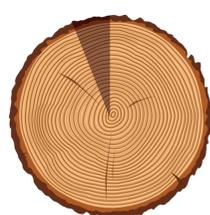
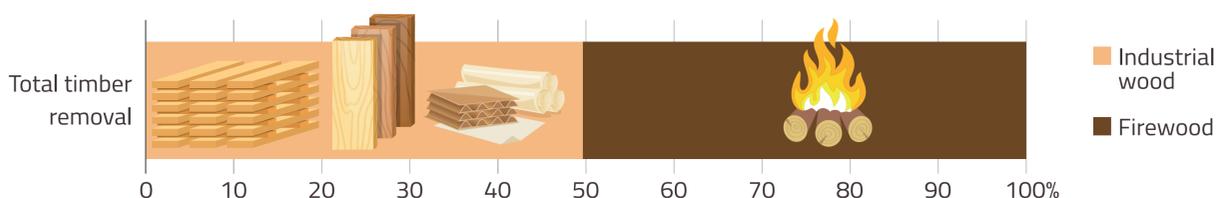
The ratio of timber removal to annual increment (the total wood volume produced in a year) is an important indicator of sustainable forest management. Between 2000 and 2023, this ratio ranged between 51% and 64%, and stood at 53% in 2024.

Use of harvested timber



In 2024, timber harvested from Hungarian forests was used in nearly equal proportions for industrial purposes and as firewood. Over the past decade, despite some fluctuations, the share of firewood consistently exceeded that of industrial wood.

Distribution of Timber Removal in Hungary by Use Category, 2024*



Hybrid poplar



Black locust



Conifers



Oak



Turkey oak

* The five tree species with the highest harvested volume.

Based on harvested volume, hybrid poplar and black locust stood out. The former was used mainly as an industrial raw material (sawlogs, veneer logs, pulpwood), while the latter was predominantly utilised for energy purposes.