

Forest Statistics, 2023

Tirana, 10 September 2024: In 2023 the forest and pasture fund of Albania covers a total area of 1,420,973 hectare and 49.4 % of the total area of the country.

Tab.1 Cadastral Balance of Forest and Pasture Fund of Albania

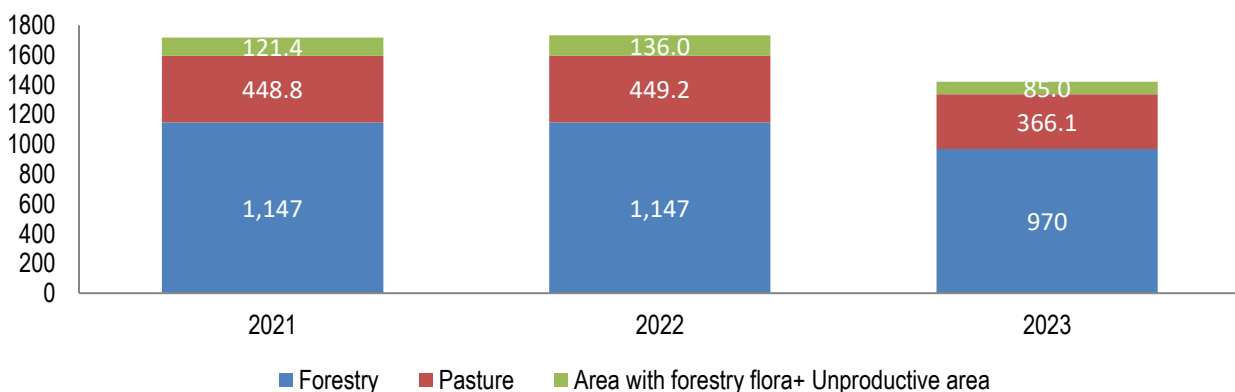
Year	Forestry		Pasture		Area with forestry flora and Unproductive area		Total	
	Area/Ha	%	Area/Ha	%	Area/Ha	%	Area/Ha	%
2021	1,146,724	66.8	478,750	26.1	121,350	7.1	1,716,824	100
2022	1,146,725	66.2	449,175	25.9	136,002	7.9	1,731,901	100
2023*	969,855	68.3	366,105	25.8	85,013	5.9	1,420,973	100

Source information: Ministry of Tourism and Environment / National Forestry Agency

The 2023 data does not include the surface of the forest and pasture fund located within the protected areas and therefore these data are subject to revision*

In 2023 forests cover an area of 1,420,973 hectare representing 68.3 % of the forest and pasture fund. Pastures and meadows have an area of 366,105 hectare or 25.8 % of the forest and pasture fund. Areas with forest vegetation and unproductive that are part of the forest have occupied 85,013 hectare or 5.9 % of this fund.

Fig. 1 Surface of the Forests and Pasture Fund (000 ha)



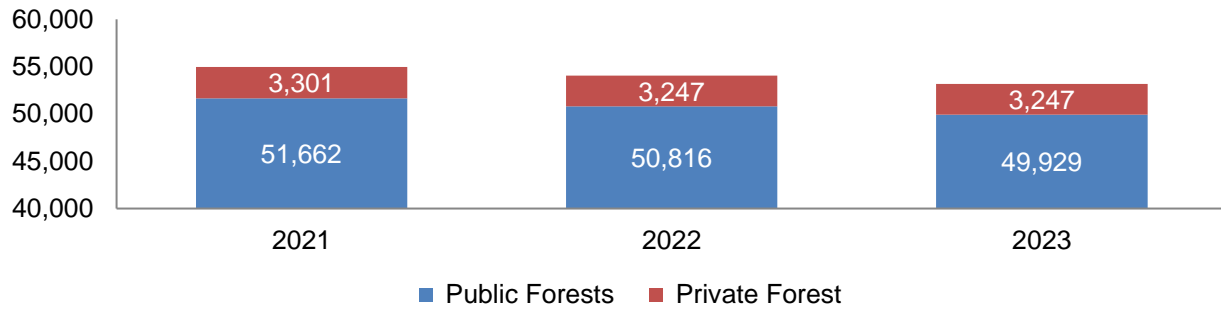
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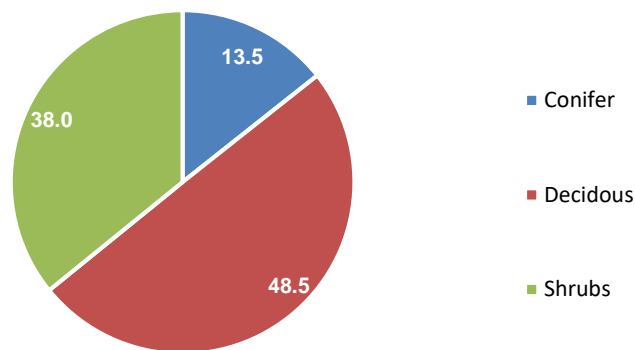
In 2023, the total forest volume was 53,176,000 (m3) and 93.9 % of this volume consisting from public forests and 6.1 % from private forests. In 2023 there was a decrease of 1.64 %, compared to 2022.

Fig. 2 Total Volume of Forestry (000/m3)



In 2023 in the forestry fund by species the largest surface is covered by deciduous with 48.5 % followed by shrubs 38.0 % and conifer 13.5 %.

Fig.3 Forest Fund by Types Structure 2023 (%)



*The 2023 data does not include the surface of the forest fund located within the protected areas and therefore these data are subject to revision**

Protected areas

Protected natural and tourist areas in our country are considered as protected land and water areas due to the biodiversity of the natural and cultural assets they offer.

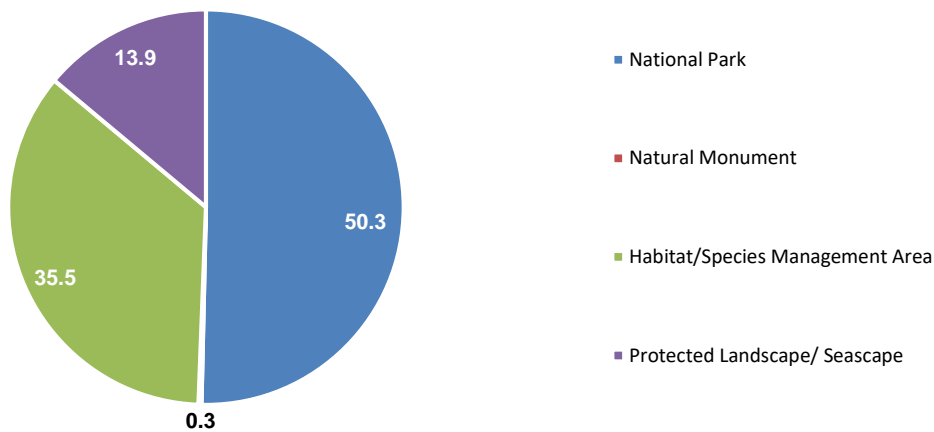
Tab. 2 Number and area of protected areas

Categories of protected areas	Number (Nr)			Area (Ha)		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Strict Nature Reserve	2	0	0	4,800	0	0
National Park	14	11	13	230,707	301,197	315,304
Natural Monument	725	723	724	3,470	1,550	1,585
Habitat/Species Management Area	25	24	30	169,275	224,014	222,049
Protected Landscape/ Seascap	6	10	9	97,333	81,923	87,107
Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	4	0	0	18,245	0	0
Total	776	768	776	523,831	608,684	626,045

Source information: Ministry of Tourism and Environment / National Agency of Protected Areas

Protected areas in 2023 occupy a general area of 626,045 hectare, equivalent 44.0 % of the forest and pasture found and around 21.8 % of the total area of the country.

Fig. 4 Area of protected areas, by categories (%)



In 2023, the largest surface of protected areas is occupied by national parks by 50.3 % of the total surface followed by Habitat/Species Management Area with 35.5 %, Protected Landscape/ Seascap with 13.9 % and natural monuments 0.3 %.

Methodology

Data on forest and biodiversity statistics are based on administrative data on annual basis. The institution responsible for collecting this data is the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and other responsible institutions under its authority as the National Environment Agency

According to Council of Ministers Decision No 433, date 8.6.2016 on Transfer Ownership of Municipalities Forests and Public Pastures Information is collected in all the municipalities of the country which they have a legal obligation to report every three months to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment

The legal basis for the collection forest and biodiversity statistics is the Law No. 17/2018 on Official Statistics and Official Statistics Program 2022 - 2026, applying the classifications and definitions according to the relevant EU regulations.

Definitions

Forest Cadaster: is an official document (register), where evidenced, reflected and updated initial data for each forestry unit or for catchment basins, data on periodic changes in volumes, surfaces and relevant maps.

Forest fund: are all forest and non-forest surfaces, forest and non-forest resources accompanying, relevant infrastructure, including bare surfaces, which create a harmonious environment with forests and forest land, rocks, dunes and sandbanks, defensive forests, isolated groups trees and shrubs.

Protected areas: (PA) can take on many different forms, such as national parks, wilderness areas, community conserved areas, nature reserves and privately owned reserves. According to IUCN, "A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values."