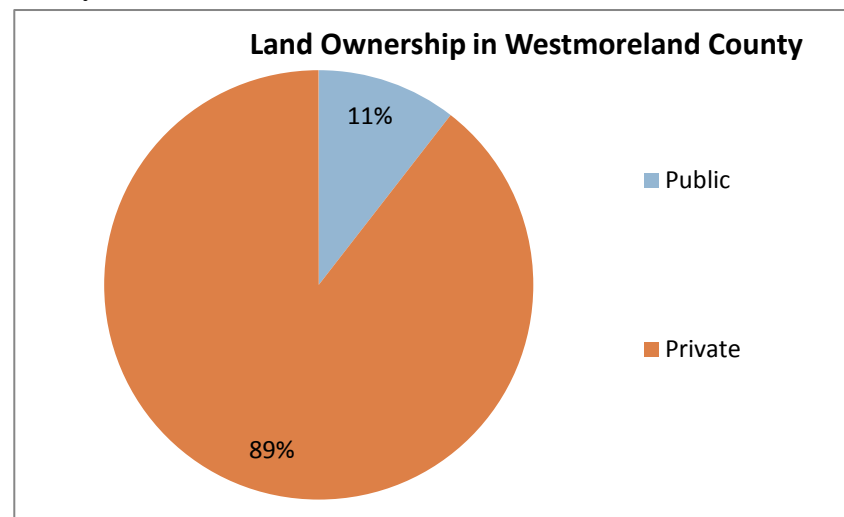
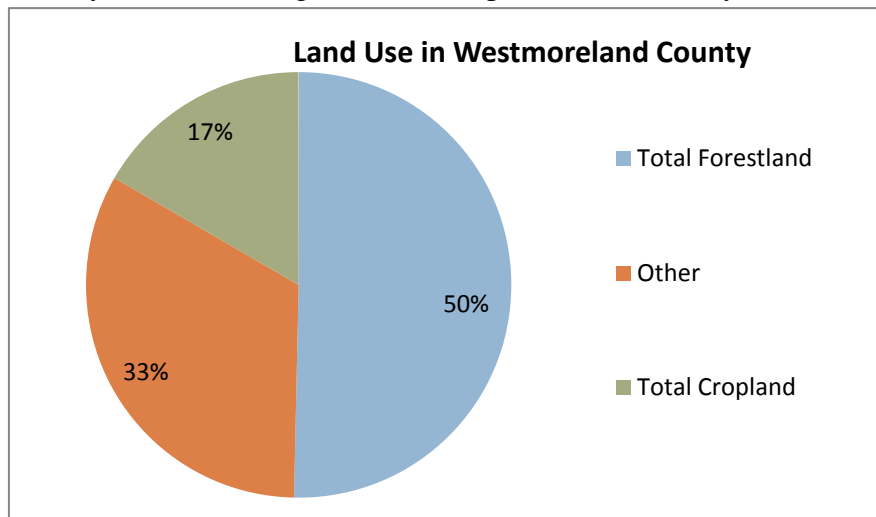


How important is forestry in Westmoreland County?

Almost sixty percent (17 million acres) of Pennsylvania's 28 million acres is forested. The estimated half a million private forest landowners own about 12 million acres (70 percent) of the forest land. The timber and forest products industry is one of the largest manufacturing sectors in the state, employing over 80,000 workers in 2,500 firms. The value added contribution to the state's economy by the forest sector is over 5 billion dollars annually. For the agricultural production sector and processing sector value added is approximately \$2 billion and \$8 billion respectively. State wide there is over 86 billion board feet of standing timber valued at about \$24 billion. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranks number one in hardwood production and forest-based recreation in Pennsylvania is a large component of tourism, the state's second-largest industry. The following shows the importance of forestry to Westmoreland County:



Westmoreland County has 645259 acres of land. Forests cover 324839 acres.

Estimated number of private forestland owners in Westmoreland county:	12,098
Number of forestry and wood products establishments:	59
Number of forestry and wood products establishments employees:	1,456
Estimated volume of standing timber (<i>mil bdf</i>):	1467.45
Estimated value of standing timber (<i>million</i>):	\$293.49
Annual economic contribution of forestry sector (<i>million</i>):	\$64.04

How does forestry compare to agriculture in Westmoreland County?

Annual economic contribution of agricultural production sector (<i>million</i>)	\$20.71
Annual economic contribution of agricultural processing sector (<i>million</i>)	\$103.49

Forests provide many other environmental and economic goods and services such as recreation, wildlife, water production, biodiversity, carbon sequestration and aesthetics. These benefits to Pennsylvania residents are not reported in this data set.

Prepared by Dr. Michael Jacobson and Mr. Kyle Kovach, Penn State, School of Forestry.