

# Forest Statistics 2020

**Tirana, 09 September 2021:** In 2020 the forest and pasture fund of Albania covers a total area of 1,740,304 (ha) and 60.5 % 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   | %   |
| 2016 | 1,052,237 | 60.4 | 478,188 | 27.5 | 210,456.3                                      | 12.1 | 1,740,880 | 100 |
| 2017 | 1,051,871 | 60.4 | 478,081 | 27.5 | 210,387.8                                      | 12.1 | 1,740,339 | 100 |
| 2018 | 1,051,859 | 60.4 | 478,081 | 27.5 | 210,383.4                                      | 12.1 | 1,740,324 | 100 |
| 2019 | 1,051,843 | 60.4 | 478,081 | 27.5 | 210,382.5                                      | 12.1 | 1,740,307 | 100 |
| 2020 | 1,051,841 | 60.4 | 478,081 | 27.5 | 210,382.1                                      | 12.1 | 1,740,304 | 100 |

Source information: Ministry of Tourism and Environment

In 2020 forests cover an area of 1,051,841 (ha) representing 60.4 % of the forest and pasture fund. Pastures and meadows have an area of 478,081 (ha) or 27.5 % of the forest and pasture fund. Areas with forest vegetation and unproductive that are part of the forest have occupied a 210.382 (ha) or 12.1 % of this fund.

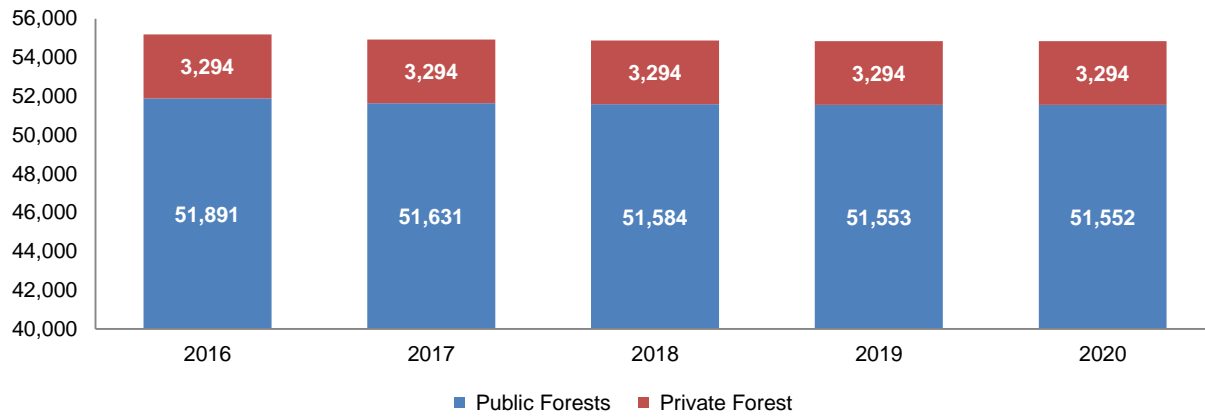
On the surface of the forest and pasture fund in 2020, as a result of natural phenomena and human activities is noted a decrease by approximately 2.2 (ha) compared with 2019.

**Fig. 1 Structure of the Forests and Pasture Fund (%) in 2020 year**



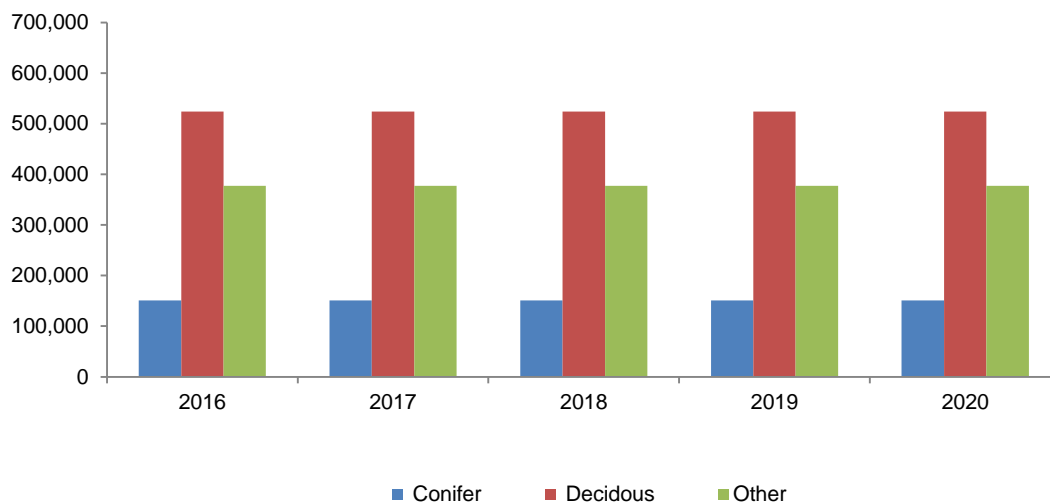
In 2020 the total forest volume was 54,845,573 (m3) and 94 % of this volume consisting from public forests and 6 % from private forests. Volume decreased by approximately 1,113 (m3) compared to 2019.

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



In 2020 in the forestry fund by species the largest surface is covered by deciduous with 49.8 % followed by shrubs 35.8 % and conifer 14.3 %.

**Fig.3 Forest Fund by Types Structure (ha)**



**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.

They are divided into 6 categories by relevance:

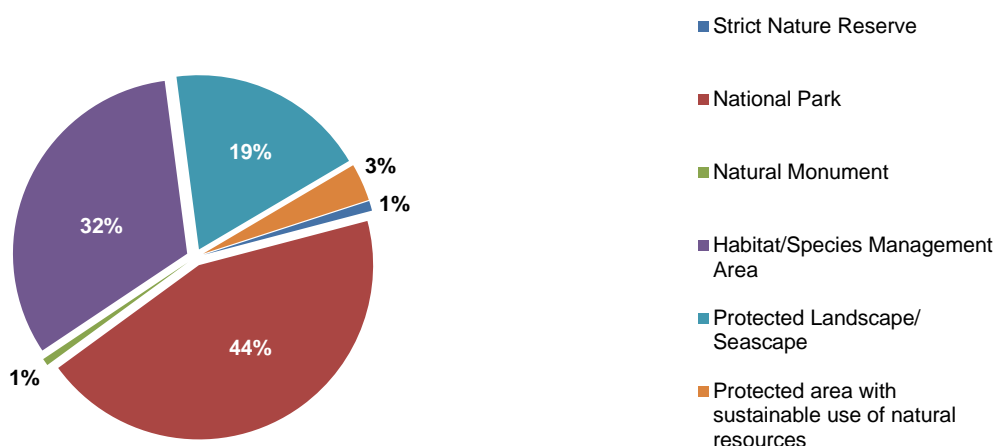
**Tab. 2 Number and area of protected areas**

| Categories of protected areas                            | Number/(Nr) |            |            |            |            | Area (Ha)      |                |                |                |                |
|--|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | 2016        | 2017       | 2018       | 2019       | 2020       | 2016           | 2017           | 2018           | 2019           | 2020           |
| Strict Nature Reserve                                    | 2           | 2          | 2          | 2          | 2          | 4,800          | 4,800          | 4,800          | 4,800          | 4,800          |
| National Park  | 15          | 15         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 210,501        | 210,501        | 230,707        | 230,707        | 230,707        |
| Natural Monument   | 750         | 750        | 750        | 725        | 725        | 3,470          | 3,470          | 3,470          | 3,470          | 3,470          |
| Habitat/Species Management Area                          | 24          | 24         | 25         | 25         | 25         | 144,685        | 144,685        | 169,275        | 169,275        | 169,275        |
| Protected Landscape/ Seascape                            | 5           | 5          | 6          | 6          | 6          | 95,864         | 95,864         | 97,333         | 97,333         | 97,333         |
| Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources | 4           | 4          | 4          | 4          | 4          | 18,245         | 18,245         | 18,245         | 18,245         | 18,245         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>800</b>  | <b>800</b> | <b>801</b> | <b>776</b> | <b>776</b> | <b>477,566</b> | <b>477,566</b> | <b>523,831</b> | <b>523,831</b> | <b>523,831</b> |

Source information: Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Protected areas in 2020 occupy a general area of 523 831 (ha), equivalent 30 % of the forest found and around 18 % of the total area of the country. In 2020 there were not changes in the number or surface of protected areas.

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



In 2020, the largest surface of protected areas is occupied by national parks by 44.0 % followed by Habitat/Species Management Area with 32.3 % Protected Landscape/ Seascape with 18.6 %, Habitat/Species Management Area 3.5 %, Strict Nature Reserve 0.9 % and natural monuments 0.7 %.

# 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 2017 - 2021, applying the classifications and definitions according to the relevant EU regulations.

## Definitions

**Forest Cadastre:** 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.”