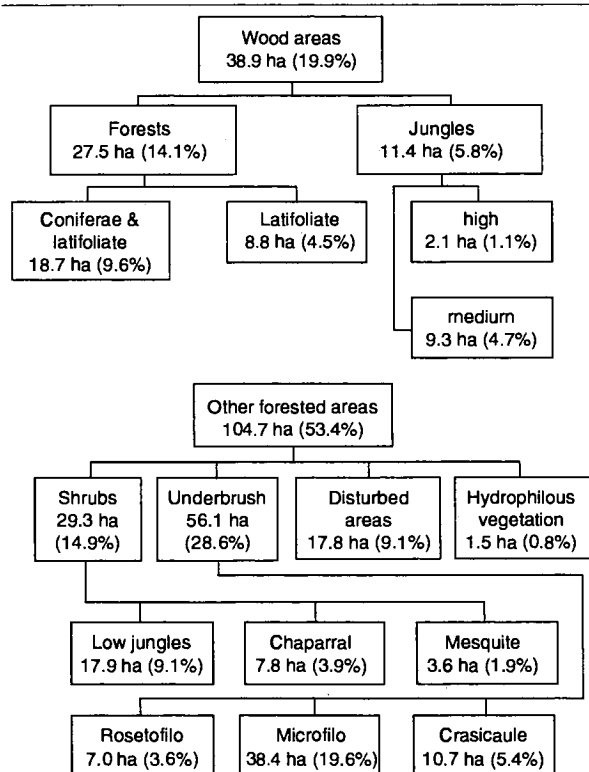


During the 1981-1989 period, this sector decreased by an average annual rate of 2.5 percent, as compared to a 1.4 percent annual increase of manufacturing GDP as a whole. Although, between 1981 and 1986, the forestry sector followed the general trend of manufacturing GDP, between 1987 and 1990, manufacturing experienced moderate to high growth, while the forestry sector showed a continuing decrease.

Mexico's total forested areas represent 143.6 million hectares, 73 percent of the country's total territory (see Tables 4 and 5). This places Mexico among the top 11 countries in the world in terms of forestry resources.

Approximately 12 million people live in forested areas and an estimated 300,000 live off primary forestry production.

Table 4: Mexico's Forested Areas
(million ha/% of total territory)



Source: *Memoria Económica 1991-1992, Cámara Nacional de la Industria Forestal*

Table 5: Regional Distribution of Forested Areas (000 ha.)

	Forests	Jungles	Shrubs	Underbrush	Total
I	6,842		7,510	22,374	37,733
II	5,940	980	4,627	6,428	18,925
III	1,509	11	3,576	23,217	29,777
IV	3,422	578	2,091	1,350	8,218
V	2,768	320	1,553	432	7,651
VI	2,536	1,845	2,920	919	12,331
VII	1,419	7,293	4,286		18,507
VIII	2,015	244	1,815	104	5,282
IX	792	135	883	747	4,149
Other	239		3	527	1,041
Total	27,482	11,406	29,264	56,098	143,614

Source: *Memoria Económica 1991-1992, Cámara Nacional de la Industria Forestal*

- I = Chihuahua, Sonora, Baja California Norte and Sur
- II = Durango, Sinaloa, Zacatecas
- III = San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, Nuevo León, Coahuila
- IV = Jalisco, Nayarit, Colima, Aguascalientes
- V = Michoacán, México, Guanajuato
- VI = Oaxaca, Veracruz, Morelos
- VII = Chiapas, Campeche, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Yucatán
- VIII = Guerrero
- IX = Puebla, Hidalgo, Tlaxcala
- Other = Distrito Federal, Querétaro

In the temperate and cold climate areas, forests cover 27.5 million ha. They have a log production potential of 2 billion cubic meters and are found in the:

- Western Sierra Madre, 48.2 percent;
- Neo-volcanic sierra, 20.8 percent;
- Southern Sierra Madre, 15.6 percent;
- Eastern Sierra Madre, 9.0 percent;
- Sierra of Chiapas, 5.1 percent; and
- Baja California peninsula, 1.3 percent.

In the tropical and semitropical climate areas, forests cover 11.4 million ha. and have a potential log production of 1.1 billion m³. They are found:

- In the southeast, 72.5 percent;
- Along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, 8.9 percent; and
- Along the Pacific coast, 18.6 percent.