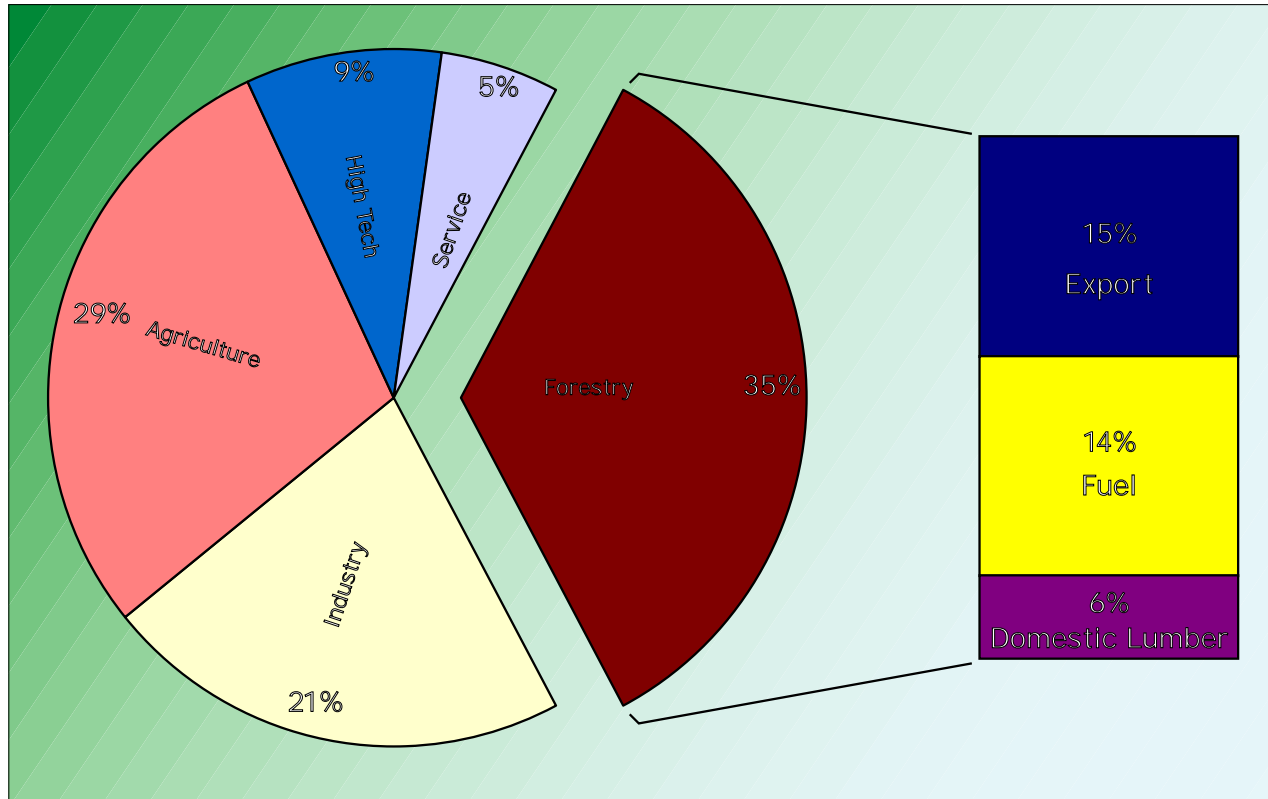


Average Percent GNP of Forestry for all African Countries



In many African countries, forestry related industries contribute a significant amount of the gross national product (GNP). On average, 35 percent of a country's GNP is tied to the forestry industry. Of this percentage, over half leaves the country as unprocessed raw materials. In some countries, this is an important area of concern, as most of the exportation is conducted by overseas companies. The other half is devoted to fuel, as increasing populations assert pressure on the natural resource base. The fact that almost half of the forestry related resource is being used for daily subsistence echoes a problem faced by the majority of developing countries. Only a small portion (6 percent) is used domestically as structural timber and finished lumber, areas which contribute the most to the local economies.