

1. Bihar, a State in the eastern part of the country is the 13th largest in terms of geographical area and 3rd largest by population.
2. The State has a geographical area of 94,163 sq km which is 2.86% of the total geographical area of the country.
3. The State lies between 24°16' N to 27°45' N latitude and 83°16' E to 88°30' E longitude.
4. Ganga is the main river which flows from west to east through the State.
5. The main tributaries of Ganga are Son, Gandak and Phalgu.
6. The annual rainfall ranges between 1,000 to 2,000 mm and the average annual temperature from 20°C to 28°C.
7. The rural and urban population constitutes 88.71% and 11.29% respectively.
8. The Tribal population is 1.28%.
9. As per 2011 census, Bihar has a population of 104.10 million and population density 1,106 per sq km which is much higher than the national average of 382 persons per sq km.
10. Bihar is a forest deficient State and natural forests are found in limited areas.
11. Sal (*Shorea robusta*) forests are found in the West Champaran district in the Terai region in the north and in Kaimur, Rohtas, Aurangabad, Gaya, Jamui, Munger and Banka districts in southern Bihar.
12. The West Champaran district has moist deciduous Sal forest while South Bihar has dry deciduous Sal Forests.
13. Recorded Forest Area (RFA) in the State is 6,877 sq km. which is 7.30% of its geographical area.
14. One National Park and 12 Wildlife Sanctuaries constitute the Protected Area network of the State covering 3.44% of its geographical area.
15. Forest Cover in the State is 7,305.99 sq km which is 7.76 % of the State's geographical area.
16. Forest Cover in the State has increased by 6.99 sq km as compared to the previous assessment reported in ISFR 2017.
17. The reserved, protected and unclassed forests are 10.08%, 89.91% and 0.01% of the recorded forest area in the State respectively.
18. Tree Cover in Bihar (in sq km): 2,003



TABLE 11.4.8 Wetlands inside the Recorded Forest Area (or Green wash) in Bihar

(in ha)

Wetland Category	No. of Wetlands	Total Wetland Area
Inland Wetlands - Natural		
Lake/Pond	6	62
Ox-bow lake/Cut-off meander	1	222
Riverine wetland	4	13
Waterlogged	26	139
River/Stream	35	2,137
Sub - Total	72	2,573
Inland Wetlands -Man-made		
Reservoir/Barrage	34	1,224
Tank/Pond	16	32
Sub - Total	50	1,256
Wetlands (<2.25 ha)	163	163
Total	285	3,992
Total Recorded Forest (or Green Wash) Area (in ha)		6,30,197
% of Wetland area inside Recorded Forest (or Green Wash) Area		0.63%

(analysis based on the National Wetland Atlas: India, 2011)

TABLE 11.4.19 Top five tree species in TOF (Rural) in Bihar

Sl. No.	Species	Relative Abundance (%)
1.	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	25.81
2.	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	14.22
3.	<i>Borassus flabelliformis</i>	12.66
4.	<i>Litchi senensis</i>	3.50
5.	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	3.42

TABLE 11.4.20 Top five tree species in TOF (Urban) in Bihar

Sl. No.	Species	Relative Abundance (%)
1.	<i>Litchi senensis</i>	17.63
2.	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	13.38
3.	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	11.60
4.	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	5.15
5.	<i>Psidium guyava</i>	3.77

FIGURE 11.4.3 Forest Cover Map of Bihar

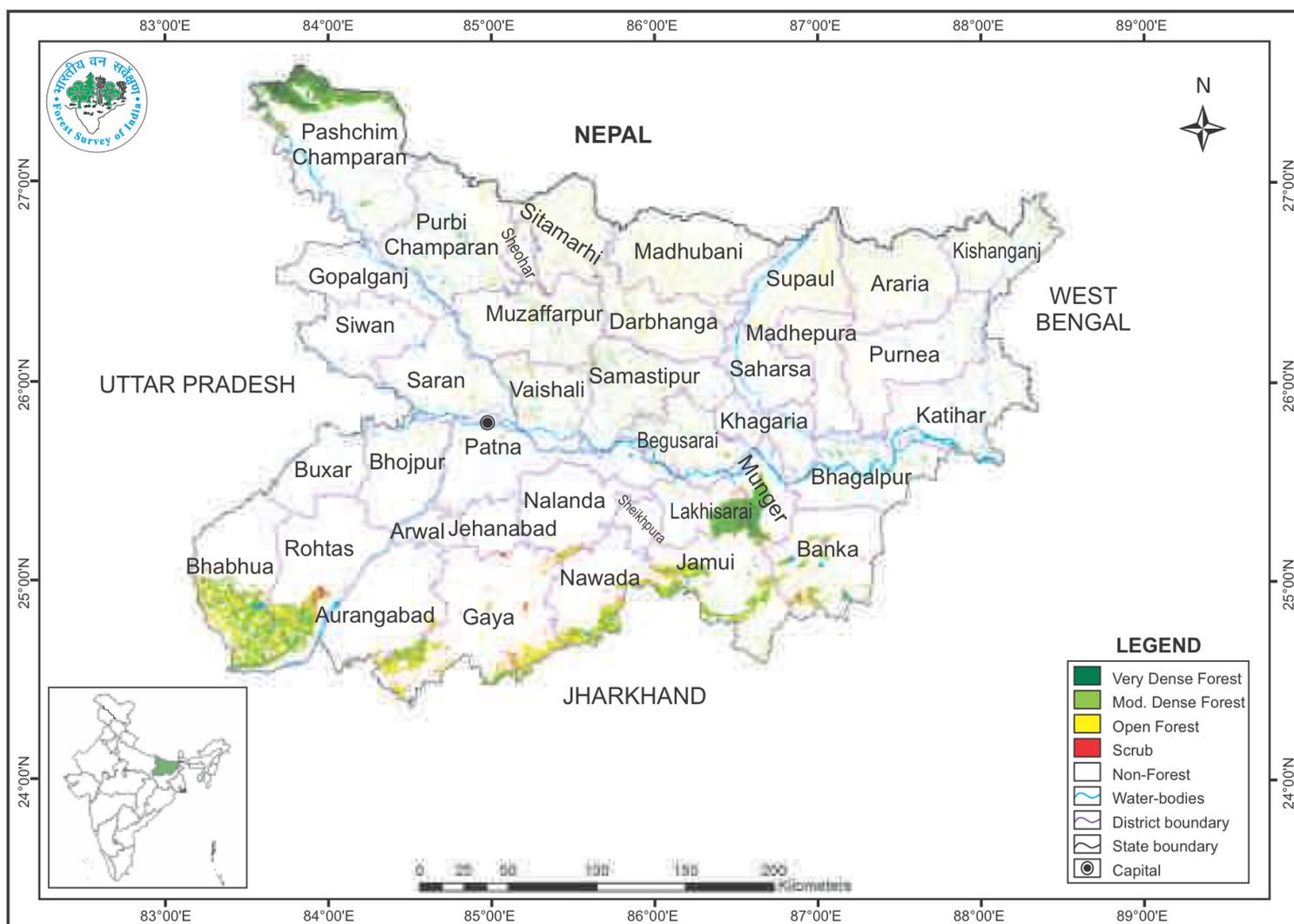


TABLE 11.4.4 District-wise Forest Cover in Bihar

(in sq km)

District	Geographical Area (GA)	2019 Assessment				% of GA	Change wrt 2017 assessment	Scrub
		Very Dense Forest	Mod. Dense Forest	Open Forest	Total			
Araria	2,830	0.00	8.10	142.91	151.01	5.34	-4.99	0.38
Arwal	638	0.00	1.63	2.37	4.00	0.63	-1.00	0.00
Aurangabad	3,305	0.00	62.26	94.50	156.76	4.74	-0.24	16.70
Banka	3,020	0.00	103.34	157.39	260.73	8.63	20.73	34.55
Begusarai	1,918	0.00	28.64	53.31	81.95	4.27	-1.05	0.00
Bhagalpur	2,569	0.00	46.21	23.52	69.73	2.91	1.73	0.00
Bhojpur	2,395	0.00	19.44	12.81	32.25	1.89	-3.75	0.00
Buxar	1,703	0.00	2.94	2.95	5.89	0.26	-0.11	0.00
Darbhanga	2,279	0.00	43.54	94.12	137.66	2.77	1.66	0.00
Gaya	4,976	0.00	134.40	455.91	590.31	29.04	-14.69	62.34
Gopalganj	2,033	0.00	1.98	2.93	4.91	0.16	-0.09	0.00
Jamui	3,098	28.97	351.69	267.29	647.95	69.60	6.95	15.74
Jehanabad	931	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Kaimur(Bhabua)	3,332	0.00	525.14	531.25	1,056.39	41.12	-14.61	19.43
Katihar	3,057	0.00	6.03	55.95	61.98	2.03	0.98	0.00
Khagaria	1,486	0.00	3.18	15.27	18.45	1.24	-2.55	0.00
Kishanganj	1,884	0.00	16.33	87.37	103.70	5.50	1.70	0.00
Lakhisarai	1,228	17.00	144.42	18.99	180.41	14.69	-2.59	5.49
Madhepura	1,788	0.00	0.93	51.95	52.88	2.96	1.88	0.40
Madhubani	3,501	0.00	40.34	163.73	204.07	5.83	7.07	0.00
Munger	1,419	37.97	223.67	21.96	283.60	19.99	-1.40	9.98
Muzaffarpur	3,172	0.00	52.17	109.65	161.82	5.10	19.82	0.00
Nalanda	2,355	0.00	6.86	24.99	31.85	1.35	-0.15	9.17
Nawada	2,494	0.00	200.98	312.52	513.50	20.59	1.50	20.46
Pashchim Champaran	5,228	249.19	550.24	105.23	904.66	17.30	0.66	8.10
Patna	3,202	0.00	18.78	4.76	23.54	0.74	-2.46	0.00
Purbi Champaran	3,968	0.00	65.04	98.82	163.86	4.13	8.86	0.00
Purnia	3,229	0.00	5.00	50.67	55.67	1.72	2.67	0.00
Rohtas	3,881	0.00	352.52	319.71	672.23	17.32	-33.77	42.14
Saharsa	1,687	0.00	4.17	30.45	34.62	2.05	0.62	0.00
Samastipur	2,904	0.00	105.30	48.06	153.36	5.28	-3.64	0.00
Saran	2,641	0.00	26.30	32.83	59.13	2.24	2.13	0.00
Sheikhpura	689	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.15	0.00	0.00
Sheohar	349	0.00	2.00	18.58	20.58	5.90	1.58	0.00
Sitamarhi	2,294	0.00	37.38	110.40	147.78	6.44	1.78	0.00
Siwan	2,219	0.00	1.99	5.17	7.16	0.32	0.16	0.00
Supaul	2,425	0.00	3.89	134.89	138.78	5.72	8.78	0.00
Vaishali	2,036	0.00	82.49	29.33	111.82	5.49	2.82	0.00
Grand Total	94,163	333.13	3,280.32	3,692.54	7,305.99	7.76	6.99	249.88