Watch in near real-time the deforestation polygons at the Xingu Observatory: [https://www.xingumais.org.br/observatorios/degradacao](https://www.xingumais.org.br/observatorios/degradacao)

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More than 46,800 hectares were deforested in the Xingu basin in September and October 2020. This total represents the highest deforestation rate ever mapped in the period of two months since the beginning of Sirad X mapping (January / 2018).

September, the record-breaking month for deforestation, had 27,369 hectares deforested, an increase of 14% over the same month last year. In October, another 19,314 hectares of forest were cleared. Even though October showed a decrease compared to September, the total deforestation in that month was 87% higher than October of the previous year.

Of the total deforested area in these two months, 91% occurred in the part of the basin that is in Pará and 9% in Mato Grosso. In Protected Areas, 12,475 ha were deforested in Conservation Units and 6,388 ha in Indigenous Lands, an increase of 37% and 107%, respectively, compared to the previous period.
In Pará state, there was an increase of 43% in deforestation compared to the previous two months, and three municipalities concentrated 74% of all deforestation in the basin: São Félix do Xingu with 15,147 ha, Altamira with 15,074 ha, and Senador José Porfírio with 4,674 ha.

The increase in deforestation is also related to the fire season between September and October. In those two months, more than 113,288 hot spots (NPP-375 sensor) were recorded in the Pará portion of the basin, an increase of 21% compared to July and August.

In Mato Grosso state there was a 6% increase in deforestation compared to the previous two months. União do Sul was the most deforested municipality, with 829 ha, followed by Santa Cruz do Xingu, Peixoto de Azevedo, and São Félix do Araguaia, which together accounted for almost 70% of deforestation in the state. Despite the fact that the deforestation rates in the Mato Grosso region of the basin are significantly lower than in its portion in Pará state, the fact that 49% of the deforestation was illegal in the state is still a serious concern.
6,388 ha were deforested in September and October in Indigenous Lands in the Xingu basin, an increase of 107% in relation to July and August. The Apyterewa, Trincheira Bacajá, Cachoeira Seca and Kayapó ILs concentrated 85% of the total deforested area in ILs in the period, more than half, 51%, only in the Apyterewa. These ILs are among the six most deforested in Brazil in 2020, according to PRODES data released recently. This shows the seriousness of the situation in these territories and the urgency to articulate effective and permanent actions to monitor and combat deforestation.

Although the IL Cachoeira Seca still shows high rates of deforestation, there was a reduction of 85% compared to the period from January to August 2019. This is possibly due to the inspection operations carried out by Ibama in the territory and the maintenance of a fixed base in the region since April. However, the spending cuts suffered by environmental agencies in the current government limited the actions carried out in the IL. In September and October, with the start of the demobilization of the inspection teams that were in the field, deforestation rose again, amounting to almost double the deforestation detected between January and August (913 ha).
More than 12,000 ha were deforested in Conservation Units (CUs) in September and October, an increase of 37% over the previous two months. When compared to September and October 2019, this increase rises to 107%. Of this total, ¾ occurred in the APA Triunfo do Xingu, a protected area that continues to be intensely deforested due to land grabbing. Deforestation in this CU puts pressure on neighboring Protected Areas such as ESEC Terra do Meio and Serra do Pardo National Park, both of which are strict protection Conservation Units.

Among the most deforested CUs are the Altamira National Forest with 1,052 ha, the Biological Reserve (Rebio) Nascentes da Serra do Cachimbo with 670 ha and the FES do Iriri with 403 ha. All of them are located in the area of influence of BR-163 road, which had its last stretch paved in early 2020. Between January and October, these three Conservation Units showed an increase when compared to the same period last year.

In fifth position was the Ecological Station (ESEC) of Terra do Meio, with 402 ha. This CU is between FES do Iriri and APA Triunfo do Xingu and the intensification of deforestation threatens to break the connectivity of the entire Corridor of Protected Areas of the Xingu basin.
The Apyterewa Indigenous Land, of the Parakanã people, has faced the intensification of forest clearing and invasions in its territory since 2018, when deforestation went from 564 ha in 2017 to 1,886 ha in 2018. In 2019, the rate quadrupled to 8,569 ha from destruction, according to PRODES data. Between January and August 2020, this IL had already lost 1,680 hectares to deforestation, and in September and October another 3,232 hectares were deforested, an increase of 91%, according to Sirad X.

The invasions at Apyterewa are being driven by a land-grabbing scheme in which new invaders are installed irregularly within the IL, having their logistical support point in Renascer village. Two mining fronts are also active, causing contamination of its rivers.

In 2019, an illegal road starting in Apyterewa was reactivated and expanded, giving access to Trincheira Bacajá and now another invasion front is also putting pressure on the southwestern region of the Xikrin people's territory. In September and October, more than 200 ha were deforested in this region. In all, 1,255 ha were deforested between September and October 2020 in Trincheira Bacajá, an 84% increase over the previous two months.

In November, a letter signed by indigenous leaders of the Trincheira Bacajá, the Apyterewa, and the Cachoeira Seca ILs, denounces the growing invasions and calls for measures to be taken, such as the removal of invaders, installation of barriers at the entrance to invasions, seizure of cattle, destruction of buildings and seizure of equipment used in illegal activities.
46,683 hectares were deforested in the Xingu river basin

91% PA

9% MT

**ALERT**

Deforestation in the Apyterewa and Trincheira Bacajá continues to increase

4,488 ha were destroyed in the two ILs

**I.L. (INDIGENOUS LANDS)**

6,388 hectares deforested

107% increase over the previous two months

1. IL Apyterewa
   3,233 ha

2. IL Trincheira/Bacajá
   1,255 ha

3. IL Cachoeira Seca do Iriri
   913 ha

4. IL Kayapó
   478 ha

5. IL Araweté/Igarapé Ipixuna
   182 ha

**C.U. (CONSERVATION UNITS)**

12,475 hectares deforested

37% more than in July and August.

1. APA Triunfo do Xingu
   9,462 ha

2. FLONA de Altamira
   1,052 ha

3. REBIO Nascentes da Serra do Cachimbo
   670 ha

4. FES do Iriri
   403 ha

5. ESEC da Terra do Meio
   402 ha

São Félix do Xingu, Altamira and Senador José Porfírio concentrated 74% of all deforestation

São Félix do Xingu - PA
15,147 ha

Altamira - PA
15,074 ha

Senador José Porfírio - PA
4,674 ha

Anapu - PA
2,291 ha

Medicilândia - PA
1,161 ha

União do Sul - MT
829 ha

Santa Cruz do Xingu - MT
669 ha

Cumaru do Norte - PA
668 ha

São Félix do Xingu - PA
37% more than in July and August.

Sept. - Oct. 2020

Deforestation in the Xingu Socio-environmental diversity corridor

Critical areas

Protected areas

Xingu river hydrographic basin

on this link you access more information

*hectares deforested*

*hectares deforested*

*hectares deforested*

*hectares deforested*