



Annual Fisheries Bulletin

2020 Commercial and Recreational Statistics

License and Statistics Section, PO Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557

July 2021

Included in this bulletin are the 2020 landings and harvest information from the commercial and recreational fisheries programs, along with the 2015 to 2019 finalized landings for comparison. The bulletin also contains a summary of commercial fishing trips by major gear.

The North Carolina Trip Ticket Program (NCTTP) collects commercial fishery landings and effort statistics. This program collects trip-level fish dealer reports for all finfish and shellfish landed in the state. Recreational fishery harvest and effort statistics are derived from the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) that conducts recreational angler interviews at public access points and telephone/mail surveys.

Total Pounds Harvested in 2020

| Commercial |
|-------------------|
| 42,926,150 pounds |

| Recreational |
|-------------------|
| 24,915,542 pounds |

Top Five Species Caught in Each Fishery

| Commercial | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Species | Pounds |
| Hard Blue Crabs | 13,110,147 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) | 9,709,761 |
| Summer Flounder | 1,776,143 |
| Spiny Dogfish | 1,476,402 |
| Striped Mullet | 1,299,464 |

| Recreational | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Species | Pounds |
| Spotted Seatrout | 3,632,315 |
| Yellowfin Tuna | 2,429,665 |
| Dolphin | 2,149,038 |
| Bluefish | 2,124,224 |
| Spanish Mackerel | 1,843,314 |

Issued by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Department of Environmental Quality

For additional information regarding commercial and recreational statistics, please contact:

Commercial Statistics

Alan Bianchi
 Trip Ticket Coordinator
 (252) 726-7021 or (800) 682-2632
Alan.Bianchi@ncdenr.gov

Recreational Statistics

Andrew Cathey
 Coastal Angling Program Manager
 (252) 948-3876 or (800) 338-7804
Andrew.Cathey@ncdenr.gov

Electronic copies of the dealer report and landings bulletin can be found at
<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/marine-fisheries-catch-statistics>.

2020 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2020

Issued: July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | EX-VESSEL VALUE |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 150,952 | \$153,252.45 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 37,439 | \$24,430.33 |
| Bluefish | 1,113,009 | \$668,609.29 |
| Bonito, Atlantic | 15,926 | \$12,835.28 |
| Butterfish | 29,885 | \$15,338.89 |
| Carp | 9,642 | \$875.20 |
| Catfishes | 1,227,688 | \$296,513.78 |
| Cobia | 38,344 | \$90,006.19 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 570,453 | \$673,452.48 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 499,073 | \$865,588.38 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 54,486 | \$30,518.28 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 1,476,402 | \$205,015.83 |
| Dolphinfish | 51,994 | \$178,382.69 |
| Drum, Black | 98,118 | \$125,287.14 |
| Drum, Red | 165,670 | \$434,994.19 |
| Eel, American | 3,291 | \$9,772.95 |
| Flounder, Southern | 480,145 | \$1,058,051.57 |
| Flounder, Summer | 1,776,143 | \$3,745,666.07 |
| Flounders, Other | 435 | \$576.25 |
| Garfish | 18,958 | \$4,739.50 |
| Grouper, Gag | 95,058 | \$592,766.90 |
| Grouper, Red | 6,397 | \$34,578.59 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 16,301 | \$98,844.77 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 66,678 | \$308,563.60 |
| Groupers, Other | 14,843 | \$74,230.47 |
| Grunts | 34,989 | \$36,956.62 |
| Hakes | 2,063 | \$1,564.81 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 47,783 | \$95,648.13 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 11,640 | \$52,352.63 |
| Jacks (Crevale, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner) | 15,733 | \$12,445.56 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 823 | \$316.37 |
| Mackerel, King | 610,718 | \$1,467,667.57 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 1,034,042 | \$1,479,823.45 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 599,742 | \$122,682.70 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 639,727 | \$1,443,039.39 |
| Mullet, Striped | 1,299,464 | \$651,103.81 |
| Perch, White | 215,748 | \$240,953.18 |
| Perch, Yellow | 6,237 | \$9,486.68 |
| Pigfish | 17,811 | \$11,180.16 |
| Pinfish | 1,430 | \$249.58 |
| Pompano | 12,210 | \$45,378.45 |
| Porgies | 31,789 | \$73,562.01 |
| Pufferfish | 1,574 | \$506.29 |
| Scup | 38,772 | \$20,825.04 |
| Sea Basses | 271,728 | \$742,962.61 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 568,764 | \$1,269,025.87 |

2020 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 134,590 | \$82,957.18 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 313,562 | \$31,356.20 |
| Shad, Hickory | 68,876 | \$19,063.51 |
| Sharks ² | 704,498 | \$324,886.04 |
| Sheepshead | 76,501 | \$104,914.45 |
| Skates | 46,672 | \$9,078.14 |
| Skippers | 9,993 | \$5,160.12 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 11,981 | \$63,310.51 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 239,809 | \$879,731.47 |
| Snappers, Other | 25,385 | \$96,668.50 |
| Spadefish | 15,007 | \$7,918.99 |
| Spot | 547,026 | \$811,581.82 |
| Striped Bass | 124,453 | \$338,515.37 |
| Swordfish | 409,267 | \$1,320,775.40 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 87,872 | \$308,103.26 |
| Tilefish, Other | 27,491 | \$110,029.42 |
| Triggerfishes | 126,655 | \$366,785.79 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 407,636 | \$1,610,175.13 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 435,317 | \$847,237.75 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 713,675 | \$1,398,769.61 |
| Tunas, Other | 32,293 | \$30,171.69 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 230,702 | \$193,795.74 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 67,480 | \$211,579.11 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 37,376 | \$10,816.29 |
| Wahoo | 12,079 | \$40,809.31 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 91,374 | \$118,638.36 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 18,477,687.94 | \$26,823,451.15 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 13,110,147 | \$19,094,456.69 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 314,774 | \$807,873.59 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 124,163 | \$765,533.60 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 71,004 | \$901,531.51 |
| | <i>(3,707,324 Numbers)</i> | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 824,022 | \$4,531,523.80 |
| | <i>(155,770 Bushels)</i> | |
| Octopus | 130 | 218.95 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 187,324 | \$1,842,972.39 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 9,709,761 | \$22,322,312.82 |
| Squid | 22,664 | \$23,496.50 |
| Stone Crabs | 5,845 | \$17,207.82 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 58,198 | \$237,838.46 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 20,431 | \$54,302.25 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 24,448,462 | \$50,599,268.37 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 42,926,150 | \$77,422,719.52 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish).

² Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose.

³ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

⁴ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2019

Updated July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 104,411 | \$109,992.03 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 44,149 | \$35,486.69 |
| Bluefish | 1,108,205 | \$559,832.96 |
| Bonito | 14,045 | \$15,555.99 |
| Butterfish | 38,371 | \$14,087.24 |
| Carp | 49,440 | \$7,529.72 |
| Catfishes | 1,239,152 | \$267,300.59 |
| Cobia | 21,553 | \$58,500.14 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 1,278,340 | \$1,566,030.13 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 277,299 | \$491,810.18 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 102,592 | \$56,826.09 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 1,124,291 | \$137,241.19 |
| Dolphinfish | 208,385 | \$675,934.90 |
| Drum, Black | 80,049 | \$92,317.67 |
| Drum, Red | 56,419 | \$163,457.58 |
| Eel, American | 8,154 | \$37,602.50 |
| Flounder, Southern | 800,080 | \$3,078,601.00 |
| Flounder, Summer | 2,025,401 | \$7,292,374.78 |
| Flounders, Other | * | * |
| Garfish | 29,364 | \$2,027.51 |
| Grouper, Gag | 153,175 | \$759,663.77 |
| Grouper, Red | 17,786 | \$82,972.08 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 26,535 | \$135,952.81 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 84,535 | \$395,412.16 |
| Groupers, Other | 20,817 | \$101,203.95 |
| Grunts | 44,752 | \$48,787.60 |
| Hakes | 2,924 | \$2,137.31 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 73,799 | \$129,268.14 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 14,486 | \$66,894.82 |
| Jacks (Crevalle, Rainbow Runner, Blue Runner) | 7,974 | \$5,857.78 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 810 | \$329.68 |
| Mackerel, King | 698,252 | \$1,570,680.13 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 722,398 | \$998,880.82 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 551,849 | \$135,682.03 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 702,270 | \$995,166.36 |
| Mullet, Striped | 1,362,217 | \$929,285.03 |
| Perch, White | 100,991 | \$90,500.24 |
| Perch, Yellow | 6,339 | \$7,757.32 |
| Pigfish | 22,569 | \$11,534.28 |
| Pinfish | 1,372 | \$266.13 |
| Pompano | 25,223 | \$75,128.16 |
| Porgies | 48,991 | \$90,608.16 |
| Pufferfish | 5,356 | \$1,764.02 |
| Scup | 216,776 | \$112,878.36 |
| Sea Basses | 385,404 | \$1,157,244.38 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 378,500 | \$893,046.91 |

2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 40,975 | \$70,462.52 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 308,315 | \$30,831.50 |
| Shad, Hickory | 111,719 | \$32,501.72 |
| Sharks ² | 881,401 | \$352,390.90 |
| Sheepshead | 86,406 | \$130,987.55 |
| Skates | 80,039 | \$14,512.10 |
| Skippers | 10,973 | \$3,830.27 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 9,804 | \$52,112.90 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 380,774 | \$1,393,725.02 |
| Snappers, Other | 32,391 | \$121,001.36 |
| Spadefish | 12,262 | \$6,974.28 |
| Spot | 392,187 | \$565,329.71 |
| Striped Bass | 137,555 | \$373,151.98 |
| Swordfish | 413,055 | \$1,008,928.28 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 68,379 | \$242,461.50 |
| Tilefishes, Other | 21,739 | \$92,340.58 |
| Triggerfish | 165,126 | \$467,136.94 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 319,903 | \$1,182,769.03 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 359,887 | \$821,004.70 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 537,031 | \$1,263,968.70 |
| Tunas, Other | 26,391 | \$24,474.16 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 232,879 | \$132,981.51 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 85,538 | \$187,826.10 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 65,358 | \$26,182.00 |
| Wahoo | 31,494 | \$108,198.36 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 115,665 | \$181,369.08 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 19,213,047 | \$32,348,864.07 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 22,340,637 | \$22,194,428.69 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 465,091 | \$1,237,064.84 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 183,946 | \$1,199,842.24 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 118,149 | \$1,116,845.19 |
| | <i>(6,153,713 Numbers)</i> | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 832,708 | \$4,889,462.03 |
| | <i>(157,412 Bushels)</i> | |
| Octopus | 288 | 477.66 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 167,209 | \$1,477,876.75 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 9,558,653 | \$21,958,724.56 |
| Squid | 29,861 | \$33,806.26 |
| Stone Crabs | 5,131 | \$13,940.28 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 46,263 | \$73,925.17 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 39,569 | \$115,782.12 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 33,787,506 | \$54,312,175.79 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 53,000,553 | \$86,661,039.86 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish)

² River herring fishery is currently under moratorium (established 2015)

³ Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose

⁴ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years

⁵ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2018

Updated: July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 141,824 | \$162,910.04 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 45,166 | \$35,652.38 |
| Bluefish | 910,262 | \$675,209.32 |
| Bonito, Atlantic | 13,848 | \$25,228.28 |
| Butterfish | 48,234 | \$23,487.53 |
| Carp | 22,593 | \$3,218.83 |
| Catfishes | 1,137,401 | \$290,387.99 |
| Cobia | 20,629 | \$57,210.26 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 1,643,646 | \$1,631,506.45 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 152,713 | \$270,276.40 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 209,760 | \$96,475.45 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 1,168,247 | \$160,807.10 |
| Dolphinfish | 144,660 | \$494,055.08 |
| Drum, Black | 109,781 | \$117,144.94 |
| Drum, Red | 144,610 | \$386,639.42 |
| Eel, American | 18,058 | \$29,344.25 |
| Flounder, Southern | 903,811 | \$3,823,639.09 |
| Flounder, Summer | 1,654,569 | \$6,893,315.60 |
| Flounders, Other | * | * |
| Garfish | 14,057 | \$2,928.00 |
| Grouper, Gag | 98,105 | \$474,146.85 |
| Grouper, Red | 14,667 | \$63,541.28 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 40,724 | \$196,932.39 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 76,135 | \$334,589.72 |
| Groupers, Other | 9,557 | \$42,877.88 |
| Grunts | 36,820 | \$39,736.18 |
| Hakes | 5,034 | \$4,384.98 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 100,340 | \$152,303.34 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 13,755 | \$60,617.31 |
| Jacks (Crevale, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner) | 9,407 | \$8,237.32 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 1,453 | \$616.35 |
| Mackerel, King | 506,933 | \$1,146,961.92 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 796,890 | \$1,237,370.55 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 713,978 | \$176,162.07 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 407,173 | \$504,795.42 |
| Mullet, Striped | 1,314,385 | \$955,365.40 |
| Perch, White | 131,920 | \$108,241.31 |
| Perch, Yellow | 12,725 | \$14,567.62 |
| Pigfish | 6,572 | \$3,793.22 |
| Pinfish | 938 | \$363.64 |
| Pompano | 15,669 | \$43,265.40 |
| Porgies | 59,007 | \$114,545.91 |
| Pufferfish | 2,040 | \$667.22 |
| Scup | 78,944 | \$58,242.89 |
| Sea Basses | 497,056 | \$1,518,223.98 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 128,980 | \$346,688.28 |

2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 52,113 | \$79,811.55 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 262,405 | \$14,046.39 |
| Shad, Hickory | 75,481 | \$26,399.18 |
| Sharks ² | 817,498 | \$355,356.76 |
| Sheepshead | 90,398 | \$123,854.41 |
| Skates | 47,639 | \$8,435.12 |
| Skippers | 13,530 | \$4,210.39 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 11,317 | \$56,233.89 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 297,669 | \$1,063,669.27 |
| Snappers, Other | 14,291 | \$52,559.54 |
| Spadefish | 9,838 | \$5,639.93 |
| Spot | 167,696 | \$239,185.52 |
| Striped Bass | 136,047 | \$439,145.29 |
| Swordfish | 425,501 | \$931,381.88 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 54,426 | \$191,195.77 |
| Tilefish, Other | 14,083 | \$59,300.95 |
| Triggerfishes | 174,075 | \$479,893.73 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 328,429 | \$1,295,179.26 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 224,486 | \$1,042,248.96 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 682,401 | \$1,786,624.87 |
| Tunas, Other | 55,393 | \$58,076.28 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 204,177 | \$127,203.72 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 97,179 | \$203,738.13 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 67,912 | \$23,443.52 |
| Wahoo | 22,619 | \$81,776.50 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 35,134 | \$55,740.82 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 17,964,812 | \$31,591,026.47 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 16,410,770 | \$17,295,999.54 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 368,259 | \$857,909.09 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 234,503 | \$1,501,315.36 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 199,955 | \$1,628,664.46 |
| | <i>(10,522,001 Numbers)</i> | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 625,278 | \$3,834,873.65 |
| | <i>(118,200 Bushels)</i> | |
| Octopus | 253 | \$446 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 80,117 | \$685,229.26 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 9,729,552 | \$20,047,202.79 |
| Squid | 35,632 | \$30,686.88 |
| Stone Crabs | 6,900 | \$18,937.51 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 56,154 | \$266,131.73 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 51,342 | \$81,575.18 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 27,798,714 | \$46,248,971.73 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 45,763,526 | \$77,839,998.20 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish).

² River herring fishery is currently under moratorium (established 2015).

³ Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose.

⁴ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

⁵ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2017

Updated: July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 127,924 | \$162,983.91 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 66,225 | \$60,045.27 |
| Bluefish | 1,544,053 | \$999,645.75 |
| Bonito, Atlantic | 11,345 | \$20,261.46 |
| Butterfish | 76,097 | \$38,790.99 |
| Carp | 18,346 | \$2,100.75 |
| Catfishes | 1,165,136 | \$399,413.14 |
| Cobia | 20,842 | \$50,003.18 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 1,008,015 | \$1,133,570.33 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 49,975 | \$86,733.27 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 154,440 | \$72,966.16 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 393,085 | \$39,346.49 |
| Dolphinfish | 198,038 | \$719,453.76 |
| Drum, Black | 182,989 | \$185,312.17 |
| Drum, Red | 187,039 | \$498,259.90 |
| Eel, American | 24,753 | \$14,413.25 |
| Flounder, Southern | 1,396,384 | \$5,663,116.46 |
| Flounder, Summer | 1,563,045 | \$6,315,997.48 |
| Flounders, Other | * | * |
| Garfish | 22,719 | \$3,924.19 |
| Grouper, Gag | 97,733 | \$456,170.40 |
| Grouper, Red | 18,330 | \$78,488.55 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 34,125 | \$164,096.61 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 65,044 | \$280,161.21 |
| Groupers, Other | 8,378 | \$35,109.35 |
| Grunts | 42,200 | \$45,436.79 |
| Hakes | 2,946 | \$1,986.69 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 62,551 | \$96,209.87 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 15,776 | \$70,759.80 |
| Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner) | 5,293 | \$3,714.78 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 992 | \$469.79 |
| Mackerel, King | 629,703 | \$1,266,997.47 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 816,089 | \$1,384,682.00 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 752,799 | \$157,287.98 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 942,946 | \$1,096,613.80 |
| Mullet, Striped | 1,366,351 | \$1,037,533.23 |
| Perch, White | 171,756 | \$125,447.68 |
| Perch, Yellow | 16,131 | \$21,620.99 |
| Pigfish | 9,259 | \$4,557.90 |
| Pinfish | 521 | \$144.89 |
| Pompano | 21,562 | \$49,468.24 |
| Porgies | 54,531 | \$98,793.62 |
| Pufferfish | 4,482 | \$1,782.35 |
| Scup | 199,711 | \$112,830.26 |
| Sea Basses | 632,723 | \$1,863,099.42 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 299,952 | \$779,954.15 |

2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 90,868 | \$109,339.89 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 166,695 | \$8,334.75 |
| Shad, Hickory | 73,627 | \$20,189.84 |
| Sharks ² | 862,171 | \$424,464.65 |
| Sheepshead | 128,608 | \$155,320.61 |
| Skates | 45,467 | \$9,007.00 |
| Skippers | 10,507 | \$3,483.97 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 9,542 | \$47,810.38 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 269,688 | \$944,832.74 |
| Snappers, Other | 7,631 | \$27,597.36 |
| Spadefish | 18,834 | \$13,414.47 |
| Spot | 415,465 | \$523,832.59 |
| Striped Bass | 99,009 | \$288,887.64 |
| Swordfish | 458,361 | \$1,138,259.87 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 46,431 | \$154,760.93 |
| Tilefish, Other | 42,323 | \$181,225.96 |
| Triggerfishes | 152,958 | \$415,997.21 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 380,039 | \$1,350,709.18 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 323,251 | \$1,212,083.42 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 1,079,989 | \$2,326,057.42 |
| Tunas, Other | 72,220 | \$70,812.62 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 216,557 | \$112,474.25 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 94,813 | \$131,057.08 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 95,153 | \$41,110.53 |
| Wahoo | 28,963 | \$110,577.31 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 85,462 | \$129,159.83 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 19,756,967 | \$35,650,557.24 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 18,059,799 | \$17,767,012.48 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 776,161 | \$1,649,471.97 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 427,742 | \$2,791,960.09 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 273,280 | \$2,174,490.54 |
| | (14,417,980 Numbers) | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 852,848 | \$5,634,893.06 |
| | (161,219 Bushels) | |
| Octopus | 331 | \$694.09 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 104,181 | \$913,115.82 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 13,905,392 | \$29,631,075.64 |
| Squid | 41,071 | \$35,417.72 |
| Stone Crabs | 7,181 | \$20,762.17 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 55,951 | \$161,226.83 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 150,329 | \$217,695.51 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 34,654,266 | \$60,997,815.91 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 54,411,233 | \$96,648,373.15 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish).

² Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose.

³ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

⁴ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

2016 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2016

Updated: July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 138,712 | \$150,501.34 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 50,883 | \$47,172.86 |
| Bluefish | 1,148,643 | \$600,172.22 |
| Bonito, Atlantic | 14,838 | \$26,779.64 |
| Butterfish | 63,542 | \$31,387.05 |
| Carp | 27,688 | \$3,452.86 |
| Catfishes | 992,439 | \$238,725.36 |
| Cobia | 48,252 | \$107,971.32 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 2,092,287 | \$2,216,210.59 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 56,723 | \$103,316.33 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 178,694 | \$73,242.98 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 2,271,201 | \$235,068.90 |
| Dolphinfish | 356,061 | \$1,271,296.43 |
| Drum, Black | 90,055 | \$82,239.64 |
| Drum, Red | 77,101 | \$203,003.07 |
| Eel, American | 39,911 | \$88,195.39 |
| Flounder, Southern | 899,932 | \$3,618,195.98 |
| Flounder, Summer | 2,071,091 | \$8,238,710.45 |
| Flounders, Other | 1,209 | \$3,477.50 |
| Garfish | 16,424 | \$4,981.95 |
| Grouper, Gag | 115,117 | \$512,231.03 |
| Grouper, Red | 21,082 | \$84,893.01 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 41,225 | \$190,943.75 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 70,403 | \$282,182.47 |
| Groupers, Other | 10,358 | \$41,104.92 |
| Grunts | 39,843 | \$42,179.12 |
| Hakes | 3,124 | \$2,231.54 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 123,266 | \$211,512.38 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 9,195 | \$39,451.63 |
| Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner) | 9,714 | \$6,077.57 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 663 | \$305.00 |
| Mackerel, King | 420,869 | \$870,010.85 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 601,628 | \$1,068,262.23 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 398,044 | \$73,766.25 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 834,671 | \$1,007,571.66 |
| Mullet, Striped | 965,337 | \$669,842.87 |
| Perch, White | 242,106 | \$166,888.60 |
| Perch, Yellow | 29,405 | \$41,609.36 |
| Pigfish | 15,424 | \$7,602.05 |
| Pinfish | 404 | \$137.77 |
| Pompano | 18,601 | \$44,092.50 |
| Porgies | 47,319 | \$83,923.45 |
| Pufferfish | 4,567 | \$2,108.87 |
| Scup | 111,908 | \$72,870.86 |
| Sea Basses | 424,051 | \$1,346,245.42 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 254,590 | \$662,607.85 |

2016 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 62,245 | \$88,728.62 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 174,222 | \$30,488.85 |
| Shad, Hickory | 96,121 | \$29,309.17 |
| Sharks ² | 951,814 | \$403,735.59 |
| Sheepshead | 93,513 | \$116,509.90 |
| Skates | 25,488 | \$4,905.40 |
| Skippers | 12,861 | \$4,030.19 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 0 | \$0 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 270,446 | \$924,350.79 |
| Snappers, Other | 9,598 | \$33,838.73 |
| Spadefish | 15,231 | \$9,188.62 |
| Spot | 241,039 | \$301,670.46 |
| Striped Bass | 146,189 | \$432,127.32 |
| Swordfish | 445,415 | \$1,202,276.11 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 75,536 | \$242,806.01 |
| Tilefishes, Other | 36,252 | \$153,006.65 |
| Triggerfishes | 135,545 | \$356,210.95 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 287,442 | \$1,037,207.33 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 156,198 | \$517,113.97 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 668,360 | \$1,410,176.55 |
| Tunas, Other | 102,854 | \$119,271.88 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 233,501 | \$110,270.67 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 97,467 | \$108,749.10 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 43,145 | \$30,344.96 |
| Wahoo | 25,393 | \$93,872.31 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 79,667 | \$120,584.74 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 19,934,141 | \$32,755,529.72 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 24,729,421 | \$20,736,476.54 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 445,932 | \$1,315,141.20 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 284,768 | \$2,062,996.42 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 331,215 | \$2,578,119.62 |
| | <i>(17,384,413 Numbers)</i> | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 668,423 | \$4,091,154.98 |
| | <i>(126,356 Bushels)</i> | |
| Octopus | 230 | \$476.67 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 171,159 | \$1,995,270.19 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 13,193,816 | \$28,243,868.44 |
| Squid | 45,841 | \$40,682.88 |
| Stone Crabs | 7,908 | \$21,593.59 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 76,249 | \$191,123.64 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 96,923 | \$119,615.16 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 40,051,885 | \$61,396,519.34 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 59,986,026 | \$94,152,049.06 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish).

² Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose.

³ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

⁴ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

2015 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2015

Updated: July 2021

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Amberjacks ¹ | 146,544 | \$162,064 |
| Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers) | 112,863 | \$106,081 |
| Bluefish | 804,094 | \$445,184 |
| Bonito, Atlantic | 20,989 | \$32,905 |
| Butterfish | 62,658 | \$28,237 |
| Carp | 37,791 | \$3,071 |
| Catfishes | 918,085 | \$262,863 |
| Cobia | 52,684 | \$113,176 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 1,819,007 | \$1,646,350 |
| Cutlassfish, Atlantic | 178,077 | \$309,752 |
| Dogfish, Smooth | 268,429 | \$98,113 |
| Dogfish, Spiny | 4,247,213 | \$532,180 |
| Dolphinfish | 320,961 | \$973,324 |
| Drum, Black | 51,097 | \$43,153 |
| Drum, Red | 80,388 | \$196,131 |
| Eel, American | 57,791 | \$142,826 |
| Flounder, Southern | 1,202,952 | \$3,823,788 |
| Flounder, Summer | 2,878,743 | \$9,092,495 |
| Flounders, Other | 7,638 | \$26,179 |
| Garfish | 37,651 | \$5,648 |
| Grouper, Gag | 127,194 | \$580,929 |
| Grouper, Red | 35,258 | \$138,669 |
| Grouper, Scamp | 36,391 | \$161,478 |
| Grouper, Snowy | 47,121 | \$184,206 |
| Groupers, Other | 15,234 | \$57,065 |
| Grunts | 32,684 | \$33,221 |
| Hakes | 1,407 | \$685 |
| Harvestfish (Starbutters) | 164,046 | \$221,595 |
| Hogfish (Hog Snapper) | 8,238 | \$33,500 |
| Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner) | 7,607 | \$4,692 |
| Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston) | 1,861 | \$796 |
| Mackerel, King | 391,315 | \$800,688 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 561,401 | \$1,034,217 |
| Menhaden, Atlantic | 898,322 | \$152,435 |
| Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes) | 784,695 | \$858,468 |
| Mullet, Striped | 1,247,044 | \$804,675 |
| Perch, White | 161,596 | \$124,499 |
| Perch, Yellow | 41,655 | \$54,013 |
| Pigfish | 20,763 | \$7,507 |
| Pinfish | 845 | \$304 |
| Pompano | 22,085 | \$39,973 |
| Porgies | 54,464 | \$92,779 |
| Pufferfish | 9,578 | \$5,861 |
| Scup | 229,696 | \$130,029 |
| Sea Basses | 467,953 | \$1,366,822 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 128,762 | \$318,307 |

2015 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

| | POUNDS (Whole Weight) | VALUE |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| FINFISH | | |
| Shad, American | 95,926 | \$91,619 |
| Shad, Gizzard | 97,978 | \$4,899 |
| Shad, Hickory | 149,336 | \$43,119 |
| Sharks ² | 795,831 | \$338,283 |
| Sheepshead | 124,827 | \$139,228 |
| Skates | 44,848 | \$8,349 |
| Skippers | 16,736 | \$4,636 |
| Snapper, Red ³ | 0 | \$0 |
| Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner) | 225,481 | \$781,211 |
| Snappers, Other | 6,549 | \$22,776 |
| Spadefish | 15,997 | \$8,177 |
| Spot | 376,979 | \$321,871 |
| Striped Bass | 141,824 | \$450,208 |
| Swordfish | 593,258 | \$1,277,355 |
| Tilefish, Blueline | 27,181 | \$69,502 |
| Tilefishes, Other | 18,173 | \$65,726 |
| Triggerfishes | 131,536 | \$331,805 |
| Tuna, Bigeye | 369,347 | \$1,277,767 |
| Tuna, Bluefin | 118,159 | \$200,380 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 515,014 | \$1,191,039 |
| Tunas, Other | 152,716 | \$128,529 |
| Tunny, Little (False Albacore) | 164,853 | \$85,437 |
| Unclassified Fish for Food | 138,829 | \$108,875 |
| Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait | 67,995 | \$8,066 |
| Wahoo | 18,380 | \$65,475 |
| Weakfish (Grey Trout) | 80,234 | \$115,834 |
| TOTAL FINFISH | 23,290,856 | \$32,391,133 |
| SHELLFISH | | |
| Blue Crabs, Hard | 31,018,956 | \$29,606,681 |
| Blue Crabs, Peeler | 704,354 | \$2,099,220 |
| Blue Crabs, Soft | 375,874 | \$2,221,331 |
| Clams, Hard (Meats) | 415,027 | \$5,038,973 |
| | (21,126,582 Numbers) | |
| Oysters (Meats) | 648,444 | \$3,936,572 |
| | (122,580 Bushels) | |
| Octopus | 209 | \$388 |
| Scallop, Sea (Meats) | 198,393 | \$2,213,074 |
| Shrimp (Heads On) ⁴ | 9,116,730 | \$16,879,782 |
| Squid | 25,516 | \$22,212 |
| Stone Crabs | 8,158 | \$22,925 |
| Whelks/Conchs (Meats) | 65,221 | \$137,526 |
| Unclassified Shellfish | 91,124 | \$177,869 |
| TOTAL SHELLFISH | 42,668,006 | \$62,356,553 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 65,958,863 | \$94,747,656 |

¹ Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (Greater Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish)

² Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, Shortfin Mako, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger, and Atlantic Sharpnose

³ The Red Snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years

⁴ Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp

* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise.

North Carolina Commercial Fishing Trips by Major Gears

(2015 – 2020)

| Gear | Trips ¹ | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Beach Seine | 23 | 12 | 31 | 33 | 41 | 45 |
| By Hand | 17,174 | 18,779 | 20,894 | 15,305 | 14,869 | 10,982 |
| Cast Net | 690 | 666 | 710 | 641 | 661 | 544 |
| Channel Net | 968 | 761 | 776 | 512 | 233 | 359 |
| Clam Dredges | 251 | 213 | 189 | 181 | 108 | 26 |
| Clam Trawl Kicking | 77 | 39 | 31 | 10 | 13 | 9 |
| Crab Dredge | 14 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Crab Pot | 51,710 | 46,268 | 37,199 | 33,298 | 34,554 | 32,579 |
| Crab Trawl | 470 | 463 | 357 | 165 | 314 | 118 |
| Eel Pot | 97 | 63 | 87 | 55 | 21 | 14 |
| Fish Pot | 583 | 472 | 577 | 532 | 443 | 335 |
| Flounder Trawl | 276 | 266 | 200 | 219 | 202 | 144 |
| Flynet | 11 | 19 | 15 | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| Fyke Net | 639 | 628 | 546 | 391 | 364 | 387 |
| Gigs | 2,739 | 2,796 | 2,892 | 2,145 | 1,960 | 468 |
| Gill Net (Anchored) | 23,429 | 22,817 | 25,361 | 20,470 | 18,404 | 15,227 |
| Gill Net (drift) | 401 | 279 | 586 | 545 | 982 | 2,471 |
| Gill Net (runaround) | 3,252 | 3,294 | 4,120 | 3,204 | 4,374 | 6,625 |
| Haul Seines ² | 45 | 93 | 68 | 43 | 96 | 268 |
| Longlines | 519 | 598 | 412 | 404 | 395 | 419 |
| Other Gears | 117 | 106 | 111 | 115 | 117 | 103 |
| Oyster Cage/Rack/Bag ³ | 51 | 55 | 52 | 76 | 1,032 | 1,401 |
| Oyster Dredge | 4,031 | 2,684 | 1,540 | 337 | 162 | 611 |
| Peeler Pot | 4,723 | 4,959 | 3,466 | 2,735 | 2,994 | 2,551 |
| Peeler Trawl ⁴ | 21 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 8 | 4 |
| Pound Nets | 2,856 | 2,557 | 2,922 | 2,942 | 2,283 | 2,386 |
| Rakes | 12,489 | 11,220 | 9,293 | 5,750 | 3,204 | 3,305 |
| Rod-n-Reel | 1,992 | 2,294 | 2,288 | 2,210 | 2,571 | 2,144 |
| Shrimp Trawl | 6,062 | 7,490 | 7,796 | 4,958 | 5,283 | 5,281 |
| Skimmer Trawl | 1,035 | 1,273 | 676 | 446 | 327 | 460 |
| Spears, Diving | 168 | 186 | 168 | 112 | 190 | 167 |
| Tongs, Hand | 3,688 | 3,163 | 3,578 | 2,861 | 3,456 | 2,576 |
| Trolling ⁵ | 1,950 | 1,885 | 2,520 | 2,032 | 2,938 | 2,798 |
| Trotline | 39 | 86 | 170 | 183 | 262 | 164 |
| TOTAL TRIPS⁶ | 138,288 | 132,285 | 126,747 | 100,817 | 100,620 | 93,115 |

¹ A trip is defined as the time period beginning when a vessel or fisherman leaves port to conduct fishing activities and ending when that vessel or fisherman returns to land the catch. The duration of a trip can vary from a few hours, as in hand clamming, to several days, as in ocean flounder trawling. An assessment of the number of trips gives an indication of the amount of effort conducted by commercial fishermen within that fishery.

² Includes long hauls, common seines, and swipe nets.

³ Gear code for Oyster Cage/Rack/Bag began in July 2018 to accommodate the increasing use of the gear. Any data provided before July 2018 are edits made to Trip Tickets after the start of the gear code.

⁴ A new code to distinguish peeler trawl gear was put into effect in 2010.

⁵ Includes greenstick trolling.

⁶ Total trips are not equal to the sum of trips by gear due to multi-gear trips.

Source: North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries Trip Ticket Program (June 2021).

The North Carolina Trip Ticket Program statistics is supported in part by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Cooperative Statistics Program (Grant NA17NMF4340326) and the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act (Grant NA13NMF4740243).

North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest

(2018 – 2020)

| <u>SPECIES</u> | <u>NUMBER</u> | | | <u>POUNDS</u> | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> |
| Amberjacks | 11,742 | 4,236 | 10,714 | 227,441 | 81,769 | 212,826 |
| Barracudas | 5,848 | 1,661 | 7,694 | 52,304 | 15,529 | 72,196 |
| Bluefish | 3,304,587 | 2,752,589 | 2,108,296 | 2,630,685 | 3,011,480 | 2,124,224 |
| Bonito | 12,576 | 35,874 | 52,337 | 42,879 | 122,931 | 179,803 |
| Cobia | 25,331 | 10,090 | 15,067 | 685,962 | 254,963 | 407,883 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 472,917 | 651,268 | 673,377 | 164,644 | 224,337 | 223,685 |
| Dolphin | 495,435 | 458,086 | 262,372 | 3,318,532 | 3,147,384 | 2,149,038 |
| Drum, Black | 134,624 | 156,401 | 213,320 | 428,273 | 404,452 | 612,932 |
| Drum, Red | 299,577 | 97,186 | 413,419 | 1,452,358 | 436,219 | 1,758,789 |
| Flounder, Southern | 217,805 | 163,045 | 152,244 | 495,289 | 387,203 | 398,769 |
| Flounder, Summer | 57,913 | 34,895 | 24,699 | 92,032 | 52,872 | 37,935 |
| Groupers | 1,160 | 10,245 | 5,464 | 8,816 | 104,455 | 25,393 |
| Grunts | 11,913 | 89,057 | 57,258 | 16,762 | 91,273 | 83,906 |
| Jacks | 44,467 | 14,269 | 22,914 | 130,220 | 54,844 | 148,307 |
| Kingfishes | 1,731,340 | 3,370,636 | 3,865,039 | 479,739 | 881,104 | 452,569 |
| Mackerel, King | 102,675 | 184,962 | 146,423 | 1,018,459 | 1,446,939 | 1,376,229 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 1,012,889 | 1,478,890 | 1,286,131 | 1,156,702 | 1,694,247 | 1,843,314 |
| Perch, Silver | 6,595 | 32,444 | 21,049 | 1,594 | 7,520 | 3,838 |
| Pigfish | 418,174 | 432,005 | 454,825 | 163,686 | 146,570 | 147,533 |
| Pinfish | 886,712 | 955,550 | 869,751 | 188,046 | 217,718 | 170,160 |
| Pompano | 318,702 | 1,734,862 | 441,569 | 245,670 | 769,603 | 406,980 |
| Porgies | 4,045 | 8,975 | 6,514 | 7,592 | 9,311 | 11,485 |
| Puffers | 330,237 | 2,501,094 | 1,186,892 | 148,220 | 1,016,972 | 507,458 |
| Sea basses | 86,153 | 151,999 | 133,096 | 116,825 | 220,377 | 195,098 |
| Seatrout, Spotted | 449,473 | 1,937,250 | 2,053,354 | 658,555 | 3,334,163 | 3,632,315 |
| Sharks | 4,123 | 15,660 | 8,336 | 169,486 | 110,510 | 21,664 |
| Sharks, Dogfish | 7,514 | 8,962 | 3,073 | 43,732 | 50,477 | 16,763 |
| Sheepshead | 343,772 | 221,419 | 247,390 | 735,738 | 590,150 | 592,774 |
| Snappers | 20,475 | 33,055 | 54,376 | 29,407 | 50,678 | 83,352 |
| Spot | 2,068,865 | 2,822,884 | 920,512 | 597,511 | 851,998 | 297,813 |
| Striped Bass ¹ | 25 | 9 | 0 | 366 | 26 | 0 |
| Tuna, Bluefin ² | 35 | 70 | 17 | 11,918 | 23,922 | 4,513 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 61,171 | 44,864 | 83,766 | 1,977,741 | 1,190,484 | 2,429,665 |
| Wahoo | 10,690 | 17,098 | 19,055 | 280,644 | 454,391 | 462,937 |
| Weakfish | 30,935 | 39,061 | 82,124 | 29,924 | 43,252 | 105,729 |

¹ Striped Bass landings reflect Atlantic Ocean catches only.

² Landings for Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year.

NOTE: The number and pounds of finfish listed represent estimated harvest; finfish released alive are not included. Headboat landings are not included but are available upon request from the NOAA Beaufort Lab's Southeast Region Headboat Survey.

North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest

(2015 – 2017)

| <u>SPECIES</u> | <u>NUMBER</u> | | | <u>POUNDS</u> | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2017</u> |
| Amberjacks | 16,436 | 18,608 | 6,653 | 360,417 | 305,372 | 157,091 |
| Barracudas | 3,844 | 2,420 | 2,771 | 22,806 | 27,950 | 76,501 |
| Bluefish | 4,123,461 | 4,489,223 | 3,173,218 | 3,754,577 | 3,356,049 | 3,634,502 |
| Bonito | 16,973 | 3,411 | 1,999 | 102,408 | 22,127 | 9,578 |
| Cobia | 47,110 | 26,421 | 25,025 | 1,925,762 | 838,363 | 872,861 |
| Croaker, Atlantic | 1,437,019 | 1,109,570 | 666,930 | 557,735 | 443,728 | 237,160 |
| Dolphin | 740,023 | 480,860 | 279,932 | 5,610,008 | 5,099,647 | 2,223,509 |
| Drum, Black | 276,126 | 459,078 | 355,544 | 780,876 | 1,322,547 | 856,081 |
| Drum, Red | 143,876 | 169,195 | 353,716 | 567,730 | 633,496 | 1,475,852 |
| Flounder, Southern | 249,166 | 299,273 | 221,321 | 558,303 | 695,713 | 451,126 |
| Flounder, Summer | 99,263 | 65,494 | 91,193 | 157,437 | 110,392 | 147,426 |
| Groupers | 8,765 | 5,370 | 4,115 | 99,496 | 78,007 | 53,880 |
| Grunts | 45,606 | 52,349 | 40,077 | 76,946 | 86,926 | 60,245 |
| Jacks | 62,691 | 177,430 | 86,391 | 41,743 | 51,109 | 77,247 |
| Kingfishes | 5,503,437 | 4,149,467 | 3,387,470 | 1,520,264 | 1,035,121 | 915,561 |
| Mackerel, King | 95,705 | 108,151 | 110,339 | 1,168,255 | 963,139 | 1,261,775 |
| Mackerel, Spanish | 835,011 | 918,352 | 995,706 | 981,867 | 907,400 | 1,094,778 |
| Perch, Silver | 41,707 | 55,040 | 133,676 | 8,832 | 11,275 | 24,532 |
| Pigfish | 1,593,393 | 1,316,198 | 656,096 | 567,572 | 443,062 | 218,003 |
| Pinfish | 1,597,032 | 1,236,741 | 917,956 | 449,239 | 246,720 | 283,455 |
| Pompano | 722,558 | 411,634 | 730,412 | 306,213 | 258,769 | 290,660 |
| Porgies | 23,094 | 12,482 | 34,382 | 26,520 | 19,455 | 52,159 |
| Puffers | 2,825,703 | 1,827,054 | 669,528 | 1,334,104 | 783,007 | 258,605 |
| Sea basses | 319,653 | 194,512 | 316,925 | 455,100 | 302,925 | 539,910 |
| SeatROUT, Spotted | 249,260 | 978,624 | 1,217,834 | 430,579 | 1,724,492 | 2,157,198 |
| Sharks | 14,794 | 9,497 | 8,918 | 517,941 | 3,645 | 51,540 |
| Sharks, Dogfish | 8,314 | 33,490 | 683 | 38,340 | 359,844 | 5,616 |
| Sheepshead | 181,554 | 149,085 | 282,480 | 520,382 | 375,328 | 810,633 |
| Snappers | 43,999 | 29,519 | 26,315 | 60,138 | 46,391 | 42,041 |
| Spot | 2,572,738 | 1,928,716 | 2,418,331 | 833,390 | 558,799 | 909,796 |
| Striped Bass ¹ | 0 | 4,177 | 0 | 0 | 15,961 | 0 |
| Tuna, Bluefin ² | 44 | 74 | 39 | 7,747 | 13,576 | 9,130 |
| Tuna, Yellowfin | 38,199 | 80,458 | 118,659 | 1,079,798 | 3,164,911 | 4,040,504 |
| Wahoo | 36,920 | 39,565 | 30,305 | 983,232 | 1,056,969 | 842,604 |
| Weakfish | 143,543 | 77,341 | 51,795 | 157,269 | 83,702 | 55,944 |

¹ Striped Bass landings reflect Atlantic Ocean catches only.

² Landings for Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year.

NOTE: The number and pounds of finfish listed represent estimated harvest; finfish released alive are not included. Headboat landings are not included but are available upon request from NOAA Beaufort Lab's Southeast Region Headboat Survey.

North Carolina Coastal Angling Program

Survey Methods

The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) survey consists of telephone/mail and on-site angler interviews. Telephone/mail interviews are used to collect data on the number of trips, fishing location, and when these trips were made. Information on the catch (species, number, weight, and length) is collected through on-site angler interviews. Information from both types of interviews are combined to produce estimates of the total number and pounds of finfish caught.

Precision of Estimates

The numbers and pounds presented here are estimates, not actual counts. Currently there is no way to monitor all recreational catch, so landings are estimated for all recreational fisheries through the interviews described above which sample a portion of recreational fishermen. These estimates have varying levels of precision, meaning that the values may be closer to or farther away from the actual true value, depending on factors such as the number of fishermen interviewed.

North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest and Release Catch Estimates, 2015 – 2020.¹

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Number Harvested</u> | <u>Pounds Harvested</u> | <u>Number Released</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2015 | 32,029,176 | 29,382,094 | 76,359,197 |
| 2016 | 29,612,819 | 28,782,892 | 79,311,111 |
| 2017 | 24,992,736 | 27,434,020 | 73,343,486 |
| 2018 | 16,167,035 | 20,064,976 | 62,467,785 |
| 2019 | 22,991,602 | 23,819,357 | 58,780,769 |
| 2020 | 18,954,501 | 24,915,542 | 53,523,311 |

¹ Totals shown in this table include more species than shown in the tables above. Therefore, totals will not match the above column sums.

North Carolina Marine Recreational Fishing Trip Estimates (number), 2015 – 2020.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Beach/Bank</u> | <u>Charter Boat</u> | <u>Manmade</u> | <u>Private Boat</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 2015 | 6,699,488 | 114,043 | 8,516,390 | 4,992,920 | 20,322,841 |
| 2016 | 10,187,550 | 140,575 | 5,970,329 | 4,860,391 | 21,158,845 |
| 2017 | 7,745,619 | 149,438 | 9,512,489 | 5,044,731 | 22,452,277 |
| 2018 | 6,879,419 | 148,004 | 5,317,495 | 4,279,389 | 16,624,306 |
| 2019 | 6,711,048 | 160,692 | 6,021,580 | 4,646,520 | 17,539,840 |
| 2020 | 5,542,658 | 214,822 | 5,228,098 | 5,413,655 | 16,399,233 |

Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) Sales by Residency, 2015 – 2020.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>In-State</u> | <u>Out-of-State</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 2015 | 316,376 | 164,470 | 480,846 |
| 2016 | 308,879 | 158,827 | 467,706 |
| 2017 | 308,220 | 161,354 | 469,574 |
| 2018 | 277,765 | 151,165 | 428,930 |
| 2019 | 301,714 | 156,891 | 458,605 |
| 2020 | 320,373 | 177,734 | 498,107 |



Coastal recreational fishery statistics are provided through participation in the Marine Recreational Information Program. In North Carolina, this project is supported in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Sport Fish Restoration Program, Grant F-31.