

State	Fishery	License Requirements	Trip Limit	Size Limit	Gear	Season	Stock Assessment	Management
Maine	Recreational	Town Requirements	1 peck per person per day	2.5"	Hand	Nov 1 - Apr 30	No	Co-managed Towns may further restrict harvest via shellfish control ordinance. Oyster habitat restoration program
	Commercial	State		2.5"		Nov 1 - Apr 30		
New Hampshire	Recreational	State, Resident Only	1/5 bushel per person per day	None	Hand	1 Sep - Jun 30	No	Managed by Towns and Municipalities
	Commercial	No Wild Harvest						
Massachusetts	Recreational	Town Requirements	Consult Town Regs	3"	Hand	Consult Town Regs	No	Managed by Towns and Municipalities
	Commercial	Town Requirements	Consult Town Regs	3"	Hand	Consult Town Regs		
Rhode Island	Recreational	License For Non-residents	1/2 to 1 Peck varies by area	3"	Hand	15 Sep- 15 May	No	Managed in State Shellfish Management Areas and Closed Spawner Sanctuaries. Habitat restoration program.
	Commercial	State	3 bushels per person, not to exceed 6 bushels per vessel	3"	Hand	Fixed Season Varies by Management Area		
Connecticut	Recreational	Town Requirements	Varies by town, range from 24 oysters to 1/2 bushel per person	3"	Hand	Year round, exceptions by town	No	Habitat restoration, allows seed oyster harvest for relay and sale.
	Commercial	State	Seed Oyster Harvest Fishery Only	3"	Hand/Mechanical	20 Sep - 20 July		
New York	Recreational	Town Requirements	1/2 bushel	3"	Hand (Sail Power is allowed in some areas)	1st Monday Nov - 31 March	No	Habitat restoration.
	Commercial	State Permit	None	3"	Hand (Sail Power is allowed in some areas)	1st Monday Nov - 31 March		
New Jersey	Recreational	State	150 (mollusks in aggregate)		Hand	Year round (no Sunday harvest)	Yes (Delaware Bay Only)	Annual assessment for Delaware Bay. Extensive dredge survey of bay in six management regions. Quota set by region based on survey. 2024 stock status, thresholds and reference points from times series 1989 onward. 224 grids sampled to determine 2023 stock status. >100sq miles of area. Partnership with Rutgers. https://hsrl.rutgers.edu/wp-
	Commercial	State	Quota for Delaware Bay Direct Market Fishery		Tong Dredge	April - Nov (quota for Delaware Bay)		
Delaware	Recreational	Prohibited					Population Survey	Survey used to set landings quota. 2% of population as target set in 2018. Limited Entry in to Oyster Fishery. https://documents.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/Fisheries/Commercial/survey-of-natural-oyster-beds.pdf
	Commercial	State	Quota set by department of fish and wildlife (split between license holders)	2.75"	Dredge	Season set by department of fish and wildlife (2024 season 2 parts, 1 April - 31 May & 2 Sep- 31 Dec)		
	Recreational	Resident Only, no license	100 per day	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar, Mon-Sat ends at noon		The stage-structured SA model integrated data sources including oyster buy ticket data, MDDNR fall dredge survey, oyster and shell planting data, bottom mapping data, and the Maryland patent tong survey. The

Maryland	Commercial	State	12 Bushels per day / 24 Vessel	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar, Mon-Fri	Yes	results used to estimate sustainable fishing mortality reference points. Maryland Portion of Chesapeake ~1,500 sq miles. Bushel limits and Fishing Days used to limit fishing mortality. https://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Documents/2020_OysterStockAssessmentUpdate.pdf
			10 Bushels per day / 20 Vessel		Power Dredge	1 Nov - 31 Mar, Mon-Fri		
			100 Bushels per day / 100 Vessel		Sail Dredge	1 Nov - 31 Mar, Mon-Fri		
Virginia	Recreational	None	1 Bushel per day / Vessel	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar, Mon-Fri ends at 3:00 pm	Yes	Virginia Oyster Stock Assessment and Replenishment. Partnership with VIMS and VMRC. Assessment Program and Restoration activities for Chesapeake Bay. Managed and surveyed by individual public oyster reefs. Virginia Public Oyster Grounds, 243,000 acres (380 sq miles) Fishing mortality limited by area using season length and fishing times. https://scholarworks.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3578&context=reports
	Commercial	State	8 Bushels per day / 16 Vessel	3"	Hand	Season length varies by areas, time allowed to fish varies by season		
			14 Bushels per day / 28 Vessel		Hand Tong	Season length varies by areas, time allowed to fish varies by season		
			8 Bushels per day / 16 Vessel		Mechanical	Season length varies by areas, time allowed to fish varies by season		
North Carolina	Recreational	None	1 Bushel per day	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar	No	Extensive oyster restoration and enhancement program. Mechanical harvest monitoring to close mechanical harvest when below 26% legal by area.
	Commercial	State	Varies by license type and area (between 3 and 15 bushels)	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar(15 march Brunswick Co.), Mon-Sat		
			Varies by area (10 bushels or 15 bushels)		Mechanical	3rd Monday in November until areas closed because of reaching management trigger. Mon-Fri		
South Carolina	Recreational	State	2 bushels, no more than 4 bushels per any seven day period	None	Hand	1 Oct - 27 May	No	Restoration and enhancement on public shellfish grounds.
	Commercial	State	None	None	Hand / Mechanical	1 Oct - 27 May		
Georgia	Recreational	State	2 Bushels per day / 6 Vessel	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 27 May	No	Restoration and enhancement.
	Commercial		None	2"	Hand	1 Oct - 27 May		
Florida	Recreational	State	2 60lb bags	3"	Hand	1 Sep - 31 May or 1 Oct - Jun 30, depending on County	No	Restoration and enhancement.

	Commercial		20 60lb bags per person/vessel	3"	Hand Tong	1 Sep - 31 May or 1 Oct - Jun 30, depending on County		
Alabama	Recreational	None	100 per day	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 30 April, Mon - Fri until 2 p.m.	No	Reefs are assessed annually by divers to determine if management changes are needed. Enhancement program funded from sale of oyster tags.
	Commercial	State	6 sacks per day	3"	Hand / Mechanical	1 Oct - 30 April, Mon - Fri until 2 p.m.		
Mississippi	Recreational	State	3 sacks per week	3"	Hand	1 Oct - 31 Mar	No	Restoration and enhancement.
	Commercial	State	15 Sacks, quotas by area	3"	Hand / Mechanical	1 Oct - 31 Mar		
Louisiana	Recreational	State & Gear	2 sacks per day	3"	Hand	Wed after Labor day to 30 Apr	Yes	over 1,700 dredge samples and 1,000 diver quadrat samples used to inform fishery independent portion of stock assessment. 2,656 sq. miles of oyster ground. Shell Recycling and restoration and enhancement programs. https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/assets/Resources/Publications/Oyster/2023-Oyster-Stock-Assessment-Final.pdf
	Commercial	State	Varies by region (5 to 30 sacks per vessel/day)	3"	Hand / Mechanical	Wed after Labor day to 30 Apr		
Texas	Recreational	State	2 sacks (110 lbs. per sack) per day	3"	Hand	1 Nov - 30 April	No	Restoration and enhancement. Area and season closures determined by monitoring and a traffic light approach.
	Commercial	State	30 sacks (110 lbs. per sack) per day	3"	Hand / Mechanical	1 Nov - 30 April, Mon - Fri until 3:30 p.m.		