



Annual Fisheries Bulletin

2019 Commercial and Recreational Statistics

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

May 2020

Included in this bulletin are the 2019 landings and harvest information from the finalized commercial and preliminary recreational fisheries programs, along with the 2014 to 2018 landings for comparison. The bulletin also contains a summary of commercial fishing trips by major gear.

The North Carolina Trip Ticket Program (TTP) 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 2019

Commercial
52,981,484 pounds

Recreational
23,819,357 pounds

Top Five Species Caught in Each Fishery

Commercial	
Species	Pounds
Hard Blue Crabs	22,339,308
Shrimp (Heads On)	9,547,982
Summer Flounder	2,025,401
Striped Mullet	1,360,787
Atlantic Croaker	1,277,829

Recreational	
Species	Pounds
Spotted Seatrout	3,334,163
Dolphinfish	3,147,384
Bluefish	3,011,480
Spanish Mackerel	1,694,247
King Mackerel	1,446,939

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

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Recreational Statistics

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

2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2019

Issued: May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	EX-VESSEL VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	104,411	\$109,992
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	44,149	\$35,487
Bluefish	1,107,902	\$559,710
Bonito, Atlantic	14,045	\$15,556
Butterfish	38,333	\$14,072
Carp	49,440	\$7,530
Catfishes	1,236,478	\$266,878
Cobia	21,553	\$58,500
Croaker, Atlantic	1,277,829	\$1,565,650
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	277,299	\$491,810
Dogfish, Smooth	102,592	\$56,826
Dogfish, Spiny	1,124,291	\$137,241
Dolphinfish	208,385	\$675,935
Drum, Black	80,036	\$92,302
Drum, Red	56,393	\$163,382
Eel, American	8,154	\$37,603
Flounder, Southern	799,772	\$3,077,470
Flounder, Summer	2,025,401	\$7,292,375
Flounders, Other	*	*
Garfish	29,364	\$2,028
Grouper, Gag	153,175	\$759,664
Grouper, Red	17,786	\$82,972
Grouper, Scamp	26,535	\$135,953
Grouper, Snowy	84,535	\$395,412
Grouper, Other	20,817	\$101,204
Grunts	44,752	\$48,788
Hakes	2,924	\$2,137
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	73,799	\$129,268
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	0	\$0
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	14,486	\$66,895
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	7,974	\$5,858
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	810	\$330
Mackerel, King	698,252	\$1,570,680
Mackerel, Spanish	722,396	\$998,879
Menhaden, Atlantic	551,849	\$135,682
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	702,234	\$995,115
Mullet, Striped	1,360,787	\$928,134
Perch, White	100,991	\$90,500
Perch, Yellow	6,339	\$7,757
Pigfish	22,488	\$11,493
Pinfish	1,372	\$266
Pompano	25,285	\$75,245
Porgies	48,991	\$90,608
Pufferfish	5,356	\$1,764
Scup	216,776	\$112,878
Sea Basses	385,404	\$1,157,244
Seatrout, Spotted	378,491	\$893,033

2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	40,975	\$70,463
Shad, Gizzard	307,879	\$30,788
Shad, Hickory	111,719	\$32,502
Sharks ³	881,381	\$352,382
Sheepshead	86,394	\$130,970
Skates	80,039	\$14,512
Skippers	10,973	\$3,830
Snapper, Red ⁴	9,804	\$52,113
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	380,774	\$1,393,725
Snappers, Other	32,391	\$121,001
Spadefish	12,262	\$6,974
Spot	392,067	\$565,155
Striped Bass	136,816	\$370,324
Swordfish	412,687	\$1,007,676
Tilefish, Blueline	68,379	\$242,462
Tilefishes, Other	21,739	\$92,341
Triggerfishes	165,126	\$467,137
Tuna, Bigeye	319,903	\$1,182,769
Tuna, Bluefin	359,887	\$821,005
Tuna, Yellowfin	537,031	\$1,263,969
Tunas, Other	26,391	\$24,474
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	232,879	\$132,982
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	65,358	\$26,182
Unclassified Fish for Food	85,538	\$187,826
Wahoo	31,494	\$108,198
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	115,638	\$181,334
TOTAL FINFISH	19,205,957	\$32,341,199
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	22,339,308	\$22,193,264
Blue Crabs, Peeler	465,077	\$1,237,027
Blue Crabs, Soft	183,946	\$1,199,842
Clams, Hard (Meats)	118,138	\$1,116,748
	<i>(6,153,169 Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	832,760	\$4,889,703
	<i>(157,422 Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	288	\$478
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	167,209	\$1,477,877
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	9,547,982	\$21,937,543
Squid	29,861	\$33,806
Stone Crabs	5,131	\$13,940
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	39,564	\$115,767
Unclassified Shellfish	46,263	\$73,925
TOTAL SHELLFISH	33,775,527	\$54,289,920
GRAND TOTAL	52,981,484	\$86,631,119

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: May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	141,824	\$162,910
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	45,166	\$35,652
Bluefish	910,262	\$675,209
Bonito, Atlantic	13,848	\$25,228
Butterfish	48,234	\$23,488
Carp	22,593	\$3,219
Catfishes	1,137,401	\$290,388
Cobia	20,629	\$57,210
Croaker, Atlantic	1,643,646	\$1,631,506
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	152,713	\$270,276
Dogfish, Smooth	209,760	\$96,475
Dogfish, Spiny	1,168,247	\$160,807
Dolphinfish	144,660	\$494,055
Drum, Black	109,771	\$117,134
Drum, Red	144,484	\$386,303
Eel, American	18,058	\$29,344
Flounder, Southern	903,777	\$3,823,498
Flounder, Summer	1,654,569	\$6,893,316
Flounders, Other	*	*
Garfish	14,057	\$2,928
Grouper, Gag	98,105	\$474,147
Grouper, Red	14,667	\$63,541
Grouper, Scamp	40,724	\$196,932
Grouper, Snowy	76,135	\$334,590
Groupers, Other	9,557	\$42,878
Grunts	36,820	\$39,736
Hakes	5,034	\$4,385
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	100,340	\$152,303
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	0	\$0
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	13,755	\$60,617
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	9,407	\$8,237
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	1,453	\$616
Mackerel, King	506,933	\$1,146,962
Mackerel, Spanish	796,890	\$1,237,371
Menhaden, Atlantic	712,213	\$175,769
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	407,171	\$504,793
Mullet, Striped	1,312,121	\$953,667
Perch, White	131,920	\$108,241
Perch, Yellow	12,725	\$14,568
Pigfish	6,572	\$3,793
Pinfish	938	\$364
Pompano	15,669	\$43,265
Porgies	59,007	\$114,546
Pufferfish	2,040	\$667
Scup	78,944	\$58,243
Sea Basses	497,056	\$1,518,224
Seatrout, Spotted	128,938	\$346,584

2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	53,878	\$82,435
Shad, Gizzard	262,405	\$14,046
Shad, Hickory	75,481	\$26,399
Sharks ³	817,498	\$355,357
Sheepshead	90,398	\$123,854
Skates	47,639	\$8,435
Skippers	13,530	\$4,210
Snapper, Red ⁴	11,317	\$56,234
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	297,669	\$1,063,669
Snappers, Other	14,291	\$52,560
Spadefish	9,838	\$5,640
Spot	167,696	\$239,186
Striped Bass	136,047	\$439,145
Swordfish	425,501	\$931,382
Tilefish, Blueline	54,426	\$191,196
Tilefishes, Other	14,083	\$59,301
Triggerfishes	174,075	\$479,894
Tuna, Bigeye	327,420	\$1,291,062
Tuna, Bluefin	224,486	\$1,042,249
Tuna, Yellowfin	682,401	\$1,786,625
Tunas, Other	55,393	\$58,076
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	204,177	\$127,204
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	67,912	\$23,444
Unclassified Fish for Food	97,179	\$203,738
Wahoo	22,619	\$81,777
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	35,134	\$55,741
TOTAL FINFISH	17,961,325	31,586,845
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	16,410,770	\$17,296,000
Blue Crabs, Peeler	368,241	\$857,867
Blue Crabs, Soft	234,503	\$1,501,315
Clams, Hard (Meats)	199,955	\$1,628,664
	<i>(10,522,001 Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	632,454	\$3,897,568
	<i>(119,557 Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	253	\$446
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	80,117	\$685,229
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	9,729,526	\$20,047,148
Squid	35,632	\$30,687
Stone Crabs	6,900	\$18,938
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	56,154	\$266,132
Unclassified Shellfish	51,342	\$81,575
TOTAL SHELLFISH	27,805,846	\$46,311,569
GRAND TOTAL	45,767,172	\$77,898,414

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: May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	127,895	\$162,956
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	66,225	\$60,045
Bluefish	1,544,037	\$999,641
Bonito, Atlantic	11,345	\$20,261
Butterfish	76,097	\$38,791
Carp	18,346	\$2,101
Catfishes	1,165,136	\$399,413
Cobia	20,842	\$50,003
Croaker, Atlantic	1,007,963	\$1,133,533
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	49,975	\$86,733
Dogfish, Smooth	154,440	\$72,966
Dogfish, Spiny	393,085	\$39,346
Dolphinfish	198,038	\$719,454
Drum, Black	182,937	\$185,259
Drum, Red	186,907	\$497,908
Eel, American	24,753	\$14,413
Flounder, Southern	1,394,907	\$5,656,948
Flounder, Summer	1,563,045	\$6,315,997
Flounders, Other	*	*
Garfish	22,719	\$3,924
Grouper, Gag	97,733	\$456,170
Grouper, Red	18,330	\$78,489
Grouper, Scamp	34,125	\$164,097
Grouper, Snowy	65,044	\$280,161
Groupers, Other	8,378	\$35,109
Grunts	42,192	\$45,428
Hakes	2,946	\$1,987
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	62,543	\$96,198
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	0	\$0
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	15,776	\$70,760
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	5,293	\$3,715
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	992	\$470
Mackerel, King	629,696	\$1,266,983
Mackerel, Spanish	816,075	\$1,384,667
Menhaden, Atlantic	752,799	\$157,288
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	942,938	\$1,096,605
Mullet, Striped	1,366,338	\$1,037,526
Perch, White	171,756	\$125,448
Perch, Yellow	16,131	\$21,621
Pigfish	9,205	\$4,531
Pinfish	521	\$145
Pompano	21,547	\$49,433
Porgies	54,528	\$98,791
Pufferfish	4,482	\$1,782
Scup	199,711	\$112,830
Sea Basses	632,554	\$1,862,633
Seatrout, Spotted	299,911	\$779,854

2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	90,868	\$109,340
Shad, Gizzard	166,695	\$8,335
Shad, Hickory	73,627	\$20,190
Sharks ³	862,171	\$424,465
Sheepshead	128,269	\$154,915
Skates	45,467	\$9,007
Skippers	10,507	\$3,484
Snapper, Red ⁴	9,542	\$47,810
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	269,688	\$944,833
Snappers, Other	7,631	\$27,597
Spadefish	18,834	\$13,414
Spot	413,999	\$521,980
Striped Bass	99,009	\$288,888
Swordfish	458,361	\$1,138,260
Tilefish, Blueline	46,431	\$154,761
Tilefish, Other	42,323	\$181,226
Triggerfishes	152,955	\$415,990
Tuna, Bigeye	380,039	\$1,350,709
Tuna, Bluefin	323,251	\$1,212,083
Tuna, Yellowfin	1,079,709	\$2,325,468
Tunas, Other	72,220	\$70,813
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	216,557	\$112,474
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	95,153	\$41,111
Unclassified Fish for Food	94,813	\$131,057
Wahoo	28,963	\$110,577
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	85,442	\$129,134
TOTAL FINFISH	\$19,752,761	\$35,640,337
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	18,059,799	\$17,767,012
Blue Crabs, Peeler	776,128	\$1,649,402
Blue Crabs, Soft	427,742	\$2,791,960
Clams, Hard (Meats)	273,280	\$2,174,491
	(14,417,980 Numbers)	
Oysters (Meats)	841,614	\$5,590,559
	(159,095 Bushels)	
Octopus	331	\$694
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	104,181	\$913,116
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	13,905,392	\$29,631,076
Squid	41,071	\$35,418
Stone Crabs	7,181	\$20,762
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	55,935	\$161,189
Unclassified Shellfish	150,329	\$217,696
TOTAL SHELLFISH	34,642,984	\$60,953,374
GRAND TOTAL	54,395,746	\$96,593,712

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.

2016 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2016

Updated: May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	138,712	\$150,501
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	50,883	\$47,173
Bluefish	1,148,643	\$600,172
Bonito, Atlantic	14,838	\$26,780
Butterfish	63,542	\$31,387
Carp	27,688	\$3,453
Catfishes	992,439	\$238,725
Cobia	48,252	\$107,971
Croaker, Atlantic	2,092,287	\$2,216,211
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	56,723	\$103,316
Dogfish, Smooth	178,694	\$73,243
Dogfish, Spiny	2,271,201	\$235,069
Dolphinfish	356,061	\$1,271,296
Drum, Black	90,055	\$82,240
Drum, Red	77,101	\$203,003
Eel, American	39,911	\$88,195
Flounder, Southern	899,932	\$3,618,196
Flounder, Summer	2,071,091	\$8,238,710
Flounders, Other	1,209	\$3,478
Garfish	16,424	\$4,982
Grouper, Gag	115,117	\$512,231
Grouper, Red	21,082	\$84,893
Grouper, Scamp	41,225	\$190,944
Grouper, Snowy	70,403	\$282,182
Groupers, Other	10,358	\$41,105
Grunts	39,843	\$42,179
Hakes	3,124	\$2,232
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	123,266	\$211,512
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	0	\$0
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	9,195	\$39,452
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	9,714	\$6,078
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	663	\$305
Mackerel, King	420,869	\$870,011
Mackerel, Spanish	601,628	\$1,068,262
Menhaden, Atlantic	398,044	\$73,766
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	834,671	\$1,007,572
Mullet, Striped	965,337	\$669,843
Perch, White	242,106	\$166,889
Perch, Yellow	29,405	\$41,609
Pigfish	15,424	\$7,602
Pinfish	404	\$138
Pompano	18,601	\$44,092
Porgies	47,319	\$83,923
Pufferfish	4,567	\$2,109
Scup	111,908	\$72,871
Sea Basses	424,051	\$1,346,245
Seatrout, Spotted	254,590	\$662,608

2016 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	62,245	\$88,729
Shad, Gizzard	174,222	\$30,489
Shad, Hickory	96,121	\$29,309
Sharks ³	951,814	\$403,736
Sheepshead	93,513	\$116,510
Skates	25,488	\$4,905
Skippers	12,861	\$4,030
Snapper, Red ⁴	0	\$0
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	270,446	\$924,351
Snappers, Other	9,598	\$33,839
Spadefish	15,231	\$9,189
Spot	241,039	\$301,670
Striped Bass	146,189	\$432,127
Swordfish	445,415	\$1,202,276
Tilefish, Blueline	75,536	\$242,806
Tilefishes, Other	36,252	\$153,007
Triggerfishes	135,545	\$356,211
Tuna, Bigeye	287,442	\$1,037,207
Tuna, Bluefin	156,198	\$517,114
Tuna, Yellowfin	668,360	\$1,410,177
Tunas, Other	102,854	\$119,272
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	233,501	\$110,271
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	43,145	\$30,345
Unclassified Fish for Food	97,467	\$108,749
Wahoo	25,393	\$93,872
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	79,667	\$120,585
TOTAL FINFISH	19,934,141	\$32,755,530
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	24,729,421	\$20,736,477
Blue Crabs, Peeler	445,814	\$1,314,789
Blue Crabs, Soft	284,768	\$2,062,996
Clams, Hard (Meats)	331,215	\$2,578,120
	(17,384,413 Numbers)	
Oysters (Meats)	658,140	\$4,059,849
	(124,412 Bushels)	
Octopus	230	\$477
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	171,159	\$1,995,270
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	13,195,269	\$28,247,232
Squid	45,841	\$40,683
Stone Crabs	7,908	\$21,594
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	76,249	\$191,124
Unclassified Shellfish	96,923	\$119,615
TOTAL SHELLFISH	40,042,936	\$61,368,225
GRAND TOTAL	59,977,077	\$94,123,755

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)

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2015 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2015

Updated: May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	146,544	\$162,064
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monkfish)	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
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	0	\$0
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	898,282	\$152,429
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/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	95,966	\$91,655
Shad, Gizzard	97,978	\$4,899
Shad, Hickory	149,336	\$43,119
Sharks ³	795,831	\$338,283
Sheepshead	124,827	\$139,228
Skates	44,848	\$8,349
Skippers	16,736	\$4,636
Snapper, Red ⁴	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 Industrial/Bait	67,995	\$8,066
Unclassified Fish for Food	138,829	\$108,875
Wahoo	18,380	\$65,475
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	80,234	\$115,834
TOTAL FINFISH	23,290,856	\$32,391,133
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	31,018,908	\$29,606,587
Blue Crabs, Peeler	704,346	\$2,099,196
Blue Crabs, Soft	375,874	\$2,221,331
Clams, Hard (Meats)	415,027	\$5,038,973
	(21,126,582 Numbers)	
Oysters (Meats)	637,069	\$3,911,399
	(120,429 Bushels)	
Octopus	209	\$388
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	198,393	\$2,213,074
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	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	42,656,576	\$62,331,261
GRAND TOTAL	65,947,432	\$94,722,394

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.

2014 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2014

Updated May 2020

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Amberjacks ¹	192,994	\$198,868
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monkfish)	76,392	\$85,364
Bluefish	2,019,279	\$889,710
Bonito	9,081	\$14,386
Butterfish	53,607	\$27,287
Carp	16,456	\$1,557
Catfishes	521,540	\$158,480
Cobia	41,798	\$87,931
Croaker, Atlantic	2,629,908	\$1,865,595
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	165,375	\$221,870
Dogfish, Smooth	498,904	\$213,763
Dogfish, Spiny	5,650,285	\$566,615
Dolphinfish	422,496	\$1,237,458
Drum, Black	51,217	\$32,298
Drum, Red	90,650	\$208,295
Eel, American	60,755	\$164,797
Flounder, Southern	1,673,511	\$4,839,672
Flounder, Summer	2,911,750	\$8,225,282
Flounders, Other	4,413	\$8,926
Garfish	10,803	\$3,673
Grouper, Gag	168,036	\$739,793
Grouper, Red	53,096	\$202,112
Grouper, Scamp	42,207	\$187,776
Grouper, Snowy	27,553	\$102,830
Groupers, Other	9,125	\$33,799
Grunts	39,312	\$40,117
Hakes	652	\$293
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	155,357	\$187,901
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback) ²	1,139	\$1,519
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	9,767	\$37,920
Jacks (Crevalle, Rainbow Runner, Blue Runner)	9,158	\$6,225
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	1,761	\$658
Mackerel, King	549,981	\$1,203,503
Mackerel, Spanish	673,974	\$1,230,410
Menhaden, Atlantic	917,905	\$145,659
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	955,087	\$1,007,513
Mullet, Striped	1,828,351	\$1,112,465
Perch, White	172,486	\$148,698
Perch, Yellow	67,454	\$82,336
Pigfish	38,572	\$15,334
Pinfish	1,431	\$561
Pompano	12,923	\$31,176
Porgies	82,809	\$145,061
Pufferfish	1,611	\$886
Scup	160,508	\$110,203
Sea Basses	529,075	\$1,413,708
Seatrout, Spotted	242,245	\$579,343

2014 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
FINFISH		
Shad, American	191,302	\$159,657
Shad, Gizzard	114,999	\$5,750
Shad, Hickory	110,280	\$27,575
Sharks ³	1,005,858	\$473,375
Sheepshead	173,376	\$159,274
Skates	18,907	\$6,137
Skippers	19,884	\$5,207
Snapper, Red ⁴	4,826	\$23,007
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	242,259	\$829,916
Snappers, Other	4,002	\$11,695
Spadefish	22,761	\$10,652
Spot	766,224	\$619,643
Striped Bass	96,233	\$283,241
Swordfish	694,911	\$2,109,549
Tilefish, Blueline	71,768	\$176,807
Tilefish	19,306	\$62,001
Triggerfish	116,782	\$262,199
Tuna, Bigeye	337,269	\$1,222,610
Tuna, Bluefin	114,037	\$375,975
Tuna, Yellowfin	821,520	\$1,811,675
Tunas, Other	155,033	\$115,186
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	225,797	\$107,605
Unclassified Fish for Food	123,386	\$138,185
Unclassified Fish For Industrial/Bait	24,635	\$4,196
Wahoo	22,783	\$71,829
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	105,247	\$140,574
TOTAL FINFISH	29,456,169	\$37,033,146
SHELLFISH		
Blue Crabs, Hard	25,242,795	\$29,954,723
Blue Crabs, Peeler	621,040	\$1,935,462
Blue Crabs, Soft	367,277	\$2,137,335
Clams, Hard (Meats)	430,816	\$2,866,096
	(22,440,617 Numbers)	
Oysters (Meats)	727,775	\$4,544,236
	(137,576 Bushels)	
Octopus	217	\$276
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	92,976	\$1,011,221
Shrimp (Heads On) ⁵	4,690,933	\$14,145,407
Squid	16,156	\$13,493
Stone Crabs	7,451	\$19,882
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	53,627	\$112,275
Unclassified Shellfish	268,180	\$336,723
TOTAL SHELLFISH	32,519,243	\$57,077,130
GRAND TOTAL	61,975,412	\$94,110,276

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.

North Carolina Commercial Fishing Trips by Major Gears

(2014 – 2019)

Gear	Trips ¹					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Beach Seine	21	23	12	31	33	41
By Hand	18,019	17,186	18,794	20,913	15,304	14,870
Cast Net	627	690	666	710	641	662
Channel Net	1,078	968	761	776	512	233
Clam Dredges	388	251	213	189	181	108
Clam Trawl Kicking	155	77	39	31	10	13
Crab Dredge	3	14	4	0	0	0
Crab Pot	50,527	51,709	46,268	37,199	33,298	34,549
Crab Trawl	197	470	463	357	165	314
Eel Pot	143	97	63	87	55	21
Fish Pot	678	583	472	577	532	443
Flounder Trawl	256	276	266	200	219	202
Flynet	40	11	19	15	4	7
Fyke Net	404	639	628	546	391	364
Gigs	2,804	2,739	2,796	2,892	2,145	1,960
Gill Net (Anchored)	27,863	23,429	22,817	25,356	20,467	18,768
Gill Net (drift)	296	401	279	586	545	622
Gill Net (runaround)	3,377	3,252	3,294	4,117	3,199	4,362
Haul Seines ²	204	45	93	68	43	96
Longlines	634	519	598	412	404	395
Other Gears	168	117	105	111	115	117
Oyster Cage/Rack/Bag	0	0	0	0	76	1,033
Oyster Dredge	5,705	4,031	2,684	1,540	337	161
Peeler Pot	4,006	4,723	4,957	3,462	2,733	2,994
Peeler Trawl ³	26	21	14	15	14	8
Pound Nets	2,444	2,856	2,557	2,918	2,941	2,282
Rakes	11,779	12,489	11,220	9,293	5,750	3,204
Rod-n-Reel	2,272	1,992	2,294	2,287	2,210	2,571
Shrimp Trawl	4,598	6,062	7,490	7,796	4,957	5,283
Skimmer Trawl	711	1,035	1,273	676	446	327
Spears, Diving	195	168	186	168	112	190
Tongs, Hand	3,896	3,688	3,163	3,578	2,861	3,456
Trolling ⁴	2,247	1,950	1,885	2,520	2,032	2,935
Trotline	49	39	86	170	183	262
Total trips ⁵	140,723	138,247	132,242	126,694	100,803	100,599

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

⁴ Includes greenstick trolling, butterfly nets, conch pots, dip nets, purse seines, bay scallop dredges, scallop scoops and trawls, shrimp pots, oyster cages, and turtle pots

⁵ 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 (May 2020).

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

(2017 – 2019)

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>			<u>POUNDS</u>		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Amberjacks	6,653	11,742	4,236	157,091	227,441	81,769
Barracudas	2,771	5,848	1,661	76,501	52,304	15,529
Bluefish	3,173,218	3,304,587	2,752,589	3,634,502	2,630,685	3,011,480
Bonito	1,999	12,576	35,874	9,578	42,879	122,931
Cobia	25,025	25,331	10,090	872,861	685,962	254,963
Croaker, Atlantic	666,930	472,917	651,268	237,160	164,644	224,337
Dolphin	279,932	495,435	458,086	2,223,509	3,318,532	3,147,384
Drum, Black	355,544	134,624	156,401	856,081	428,273	404,452
Drum, Red	353,716	299,577	97,186	1,475,852	1,452,358	436,219
Flounder, Southern	221,321	217,805	163,045	451,126	495,289	387,203
Flounder, Summer	91,193	57,913	34,895	147,426	92,032	52,872
Groupers	4,115	1,160	10,245	53,880	8,816	104,455
Grunts	40,077	11,913	89,057	60,245	16,762	91,273
Jacks	86,391	44,467	14,269	77,247	130,220	54,844
Kingfishes	3,387,470	1,731,340	3,370,636	915,561	479,739	881,104
Mackerel, King	110,339	102,675	184,962	1,261,775	1,018,459	1,446,939
Mackerel, Spanish	995,706	1,012,889	1,478,890	1,094,778	1,156,702	1,694,247
Perch, Silver	133,676	6,595	32,444	24,532	1,594	7,520
Pigfish	656,096	418,174	432,005	218,003	163,686	146,570
Pinfish	917,956	886,712	955,550	283,455	188,046	217,718
Pompano	730,412	318,702	1,734,862	290,660	245,670	769,603
Porgies	34,382	4,045	8,975	52,159	7,592	9,311
Puffers	669,528	330,237	2,501,094	258,605	148,220	1,016,972
Sea basses	316,925	86,153	151,999	539,910	116,825	220,377
Seatrout, Spotted	1,217,834	449,473	1,937,250	2,157,198	658,555	3,334,163
Sharks	8,918	4,123	15,660	51,540	169,486	110,510
Sharks, Dogfish	683	7,514	8,962	5,616	43,732	50,477
Sheepshead	282,480	343,772	221,419	810,633	735,738	590,150
Snappers	26,315	20,475	33,055	42,041	29,407	50,678
Spot	2,418,331	2,068,865	2,822,884	909,796	597,511	851,998
Striped Bass ¹	0	25	9	0	366	26
Tuna, Bluefin ²	39	35	70	9,130	11,918	23,932
Tuna, Yellowfin	118,659	61,171	44,864	4,040,504	1,977,741	1,190,484
Wahoo	30,305	10,690	17,098	842,604	280,644	454,391
Weakfish	51,795	30,935	39,061	55,944	29,924	43,252

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

(2014 – 2016)

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>			<u>POUNDS</u>		
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Amberjacks	5,004	16,436	18,608	94,629	360,417	305,372
Barracudas	2,564	3,844	2,420	36,960	22,806	27,950
Bluefish	4,418,858	4,123,461	4,489,223	3,764,005	3,754,577	3,356,049
Bonito	18,380	16,973	3,411	91,228	102,408	22,127
Cobia	24,601	47,110	26,421	645,427	1,925,762	838,363
Croaker, Atlantic	1,935,961	1,437,019	1,109,570	758,751	557,735	443,728
Dolphin	403,203	740,023	480,860	2,933,166	5,610,008	5,099,647
Drum, Black	109,307	276,126	459,078	230,834	780,876	1,322,547
Drum, Red	324,303	143,876	169,195	1,674,595	567,730	633,496
Flounder, Southern	209,228	249,166	299,273	447,337	558,303	695,713
Flounder, Summer	150,201	99,263	65,494	215,294	157,437	110,392
Groupers	2,256	8,765	5,370	25,771	99,496	78,007
Grunts	49,186	45,606	52,349	86,365	76,946	86,926
Jacks	28,975	62,691	177,430	59,744	41,743	51,109
Kingfishes	5,545,371	5,503,437	4,149,467	2,098,322	1,520,264	1,035,121
Mackerel, King	72,288	95,705	108,151	1,213,096	1,168,255	963,139
Mackerel, Spanish	1,028,925	835,011	918,352	1,193,442	981,867	907,400
Perch, Silver	91,219	41,707	55,040	19,567	8,832	11,275
Pigfish	1,278,934	1,593,393	1,316,198	354,667	567,572	443,062
Pinfish	1,453,062	1,597,032	1,236,741	281,547	449,239	246,720
Pompano	646,308	722,558	411,634	360,398	306,213	258,769
Porgies	10,499	23,094	12,482	19,907	26,520	19,455
Puffers	499,387	2,825,703	1,827,054	248,174	1,334,104	783,007
Sea basses	332,594	319,653	194,512	563,662	455,100	302,925
Seatrout, Spotted	725,086	249,260	978,624	1,451,592	430,579	1,724,492
Sharks	8,656	14,794	9,497	36,336	517,941	3,645
Sharks, Dogfish	1,992	8,314	33,490	11,978	38,340	359,844
Sheepshead	185,267	181,554	149,085	389,583	520,382	375,328
Snappers	15,073	43,999	29,519	25,716	60,138	46,391
Spot	8,343,467	2,572,738	1,928,716	2,877,483	833,390	558,799
Striped Bass ¹	0	0	4,177	0	0	15,961
Tuna, Bluefin ²	69	44	74	14,492	7,747	13,576
Tuna, Yellowfin	44,151	38,199	80,458	1,392,966	1,079,798	3,164,911
Wahoo	29,362	36,920	39,565	804,473	983,232	1,056,969
Weakfish	71,912	143,543	77,341	70,988	157,269	83,702

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 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

Numbers and pounds presented are estimates, not actual counts, and have varying levels of precision.

North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest and Release Catch Estimates, 2014 – 2019.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number Harvested</u>	<u>Pounds Harvested</u>	<u>Number Released</u>
2014	35,266,582	26,160,399	79,350,225
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

North Carolina Marine Recreational Fishing Trip Estimates (number), 2014 – 2019.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Beach/Bank</u>	<u>Charter Boat</u>	<u>Manmade</u>	<u>Private Boat</u>	<u>Total</u>
2014	7,919,735	96,432	6,014,374	4,895,957	18,926,498
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

Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) Sales by Residency, 2014 – 2019.

<u>Year</u>	<u>In-State</u>	<u>Out-of-State</u>	<u>Total</u>
2014	320,663	165,624	486,287
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



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.