



# Annual Fisheries Bulletin

## 2018 Commercial and Recreational Statistics

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

May 2019

Included in this bulletin are the finalized 2018 landings and harvest information from the commercial and recreational fisheries programs, along with the 2013 to 2017 landings for comparison. The bulletin also contains a summary of commercial fishing trips by major gear.

The North Carolina Trip Ticket Program 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 2018

Commercial
45,758,871 pounds

Recreational
20,064,976 pounds

### Top Five Species Caught in Each Fishery

Commercial	
Species	Pounds
Blue Crabs, Hard	16,409,610
Shrimp (Heads On)	9,729,526
Flounder, Summer	1,657,761
Croaker, Atlantic	1,643,607
Mullet, Striped	1,312,117

Recreational	
Species	Pounds
Dolphin	2,873,059
Bluefish	2,333,410
Tuna, Yellowfin	1,640,717
Drum, Red	1,378,930
Mackerel, Spanish	1,156,702

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

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# 2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2018

Issued: May 2018

	<b>POUNDS</b> <b>(Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	141,824	\$162,910
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	45,166	\$35,652
Bluefish	910,284	\$675,211
Bonito, Atlantic	13,848	\$25,228
Butterfish	48,220	\$23,481
Carp	22,593	\$3,219
Catfishes	1,137,401	\$290,388
Cobia	20,629	\$57,210
Croaker, Atlantic	1,643,607	\$1,631,468
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	152,713	\$270,276
Dogfish, Smooth	209,882	\$96,478
Dogfish, Spiny	1,169,196	\$160,937
Dolphinfish	144,660	\$494,055
Drum, Black	109,757	\$117,119
Drum, Red	144,464	\$386,249
Eel, American	18,058	\$29,344
Flounder, Southern	902,466	\$3,817,971
Flounder, Summer	1,657,761	\$6,906,639
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)	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	796,855	\$1,237,327
Menhaden, Atlantic	712,213	\$177,070
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	407,161	\$504,781
Mullet, Striped	1,312,117	\$953,665
Perch, White	131,920	\$108,241
Perch, Yellow	12,725	\$14,568
Pigfish	6,575	\$3,795
Pinfish	938	\$364
Pompano	15,669	\$43,265
Porgies	59,007	\$114,546
Pufferfish	2,040	\$667
Scup	78,944	\$58,243
Sea Basses	498,021	\$1,521,341
Seatrout, Spotted	128,922	\$346,538

# 2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	53,878	\$82,435
Shad, Gizzard	262,405	\$14,046
Shad, Hickory	75,481	\$26,399
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	815,044	\$354,227
Sheepshead	90,291	\$123,719
Skates	47,639	\$8,435
Skippers	13,530	\$4,210
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	11,317	\$56,234
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	297,669	\$1,063,669
Snappers, Other	14,291	\$52,560
Spadefish	9,838	\$5,640
Spot	167,675	\$239,156
Striped Bass	134,463	\$434,443
Swordfish	425,872	\$932,781
Tilefish, Blueline	54,426	\$191,196
Tilefishes, Other	14,083	\$59,301
Triggerfishes	174,075	\$479,894
Tuna, Bigeye	325,502	\$1,283,813
Tuna, Bluefin	224,486	\$1,042,249
Tuna, Yellowfin	682,404	\$1,786,632
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	97,182	\$203,741
Wahoo	22,619	\$81,777
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	35,133	\$55,739
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>17,959,408</b>	<b>\$31,587,139</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	16,409,610	\$17,294,910
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)	627,230	\$3,877,025
	<i>(118,569 Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	253	\$446
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	80,117	\$685,229
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	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
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>27,799,463</b>	<b>\$46,289,937</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>45,758,871</b>	<b>\$77,877,076</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp

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

# 2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2017

Updated: April 2018

	<b>POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	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)	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	816,017	\$1,384,543
Menhaden, Atlantic	752,799	\$157,288
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	942,578	\$1,096,184
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
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	90,868	\$109,340
Shad, Gizzard	166,695	\$8,335
Shad, Hickory	73,627	\$20,190
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	862,171	\$424,465
Sheepshead	128,269	\$154,915
Skates	45,467	\$9,007
Skippers	10,507	\$3,484
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	9,542	\$47,810
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	269,688	\$944,833
Snappers, Other	7,631	\$27,597
Spadefish	18,834	\$13,414
Spot	413,995	\$521,975
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
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>19,752,339</b>	<b>\$35,639,788</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
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) <sup>4</sup>	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
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>34,642,984</b>	<b>\$60,953,374</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>54,395,324</b>	<b>\$96,593,163</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp

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

# 2016 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2016

Updated: April 2018

	<b>POUNDS</b> <b>(Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	138,712	\$150,501
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	50,883	\$47,173
Bluefish	1,148,264	\$599,967
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	2,092,140	\$2,216,111
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	77,091	\$202,978
Eel, American	39,911	\$88,195
Flounder, Southern	899,932	\$3,618,196
Flounder, Summer	2,071,089	\$8,238,703
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	41,251	\$191,066
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)	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	601,615	\$1,068,237
Menhaden, Atlantic	398,044	\$75,227
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	831,998	\$1,004,343
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	\$44,093
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
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	62,245	\$88,729
Shad, Gizzard	174,222	\$30,489
Shad, Hickory	96,121	\$29,309
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	951,814	\$403,736
Sheepshead	93,513	\$116,510
Skates	25,488	\$4,905
Skippers	12,861	\$4,030
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	0	\$0
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	270,446	\$924,351
Snappers, Other	9,598	\$33,839
Spadefish	15,231	\$9,189
Spot	235,761	\$295,133
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	102,855	\$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)	79,653	\$120,566
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>19,925,651</b>	<b>\$32,746,965</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
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
	<i>(17,384,413 Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	658,140	\$4,059,849
	<i>(124,412 Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	230	\$477
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	171,159	\$1,995,270
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	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
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>40,042,936</b>	<b>\$61,368,225</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>59,968,588</b>	<b>\$94,115,191</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp

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

# 2015 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2015

Updated: April 2018

	<b>POUNDS</b> <b>(Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	146,544	\$162,064
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monkfish)	112,863	\$106,081
Bluefish	804,336	\$445,293
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	1,819,070	\$1,646,377
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	51,103	\$43,158
Drum, Red	80,397	\$196,153
Eel, American	57,791	\$142,826
Flounder, Southern	1,202,952	\$3,823,788
Flounder, Summer	2,878,753	\$9,092,527
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)	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	561,409	\$1,034,231
Menhaden, Atlantic	898,282	\$152,429
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	786,546	\$860,494
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
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	95,966	\$91,655
Shad, Gizzard	97,978	\$4,899
Shad, Hickory	149,336	\$43,119
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	795,831	\$338,283
Sheepshead	124,827	\$139,228
Skates	44,848	\$8,349
Skippers	16,736	\$4,636
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	0	\$0
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	225,481	\$781,211
Snappers, Other	6,549	\$22,776
Spadefish	15,997	\$8,177
Spot	377,361	\$322,201
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)	80,245	\$115,851
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>23,293,439</b>	<b>\$32,393,715</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
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) <sup>4</sup>	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
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>42,656,576</b>	<b>62,331,261</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>65,950,014</b>	<b>\$94,724,976</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp

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

# 2014 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2014

Updated April 2018

	<b>POUNDS</b> <b>(Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	192,994	\$198,868
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	76,392	\$85,364
Bluefish	2,019,279	\$889,710
Bonito, Atlantic	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)	1,139	\$1,519
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	9,767	\$37,920
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow 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
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	191,302	\$159,657
Shad, Gizzard	114,999	\$5,750
Shad, Hickory	110,280	\$27,575
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	1,005,858	\$473,375
Sheepshead	173,376	\$159,274
Skates	18,907	\$6,137
Skippers	19,884	\$5,207
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	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
Tilefishes, Other	19,306	\$62,001
Triggerfishes	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 Industrial/Bait	24,635	\$4,196
Unclassified Fish for Food	123,386	\$138,185
Wahoo	22,783	\$71,829
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	105,247	\$140,574
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>29,456,169</b>	<b>\$37,033,146</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
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) <sup>4</sup>	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
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>32,519,243</b>	<b>\$57,077,130</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>61,975,412</b>	<b>\$94,110,276</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp

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

# 2013 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2013

Updated April 2018

	<b>POUNDS</b> <b>(Whole/Round Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	90,122	\$89,876
Anglerfish (Monkfish Including Monklivers)	10,566	\$9,053
Bluefish	1,159,580	\$564,377
Bonito, Atlantic	10,506	\$15,460
Butterfish	93,146	\$53,369
Carp	14,133	\$1,360
Catfishes	548,913	\$92,497
Cobia	35,456	\$73,142
Croaker, Atlantic	1,927,938	\$1,723,578
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	145,362	\$204,869
Dogfish, Smooth	783,053	\$344,182
Dogfish, Spiny	3,010,958	\$302,248
Dolphinfish	178,035	\$529,916
Drum, Black	127,170	\$79,480
Drum, Red	371,949	\$715,685
Eel, American	33,980	\$88,649
Flounder, Southern	2,186,391	\$5,673,190
Flounder, Summer	541,542	\$1,386,338
Flounders, Other	*	*
Garfish	5,893	\$1,208
Grouper, Gag	167,334	\$704,382
Grouper, Red	72,034	\$259,053
Grouper, Scamp	42,711	\$180,679
Grouper, Snowy	20,274	\$72,067
Groupers, Other	8,856	\$31,637
Grunts	44,702	\$47,062
Hakes	614	\$231
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	221,168	\$253,604
Herring, River (Alewife and Blueback)	743	\$743
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	7,847	\$30,640
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	14,548	\$10,677
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	154	\$61
Mackerel, King	345,177	\$877,497
Mackerel, Spanish	620,752	\$1,015,965
Menhaden, Atlantic	454,206	\$73,494
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	603,186	\$668,480
Mullet, Striped	1,549,157	\$1,402,914
Perch, White	275,652	\$255,633
Perch, Yellow	31,481	\$40,546
Pigfish	62,099	\$28,093
Pinfish	1,536	\$463
Pompano	15,423	\$41,351
Porgies	72,669	\$116,776
Pufferfish	5,846	\$2,858
Scup	28,691	\$13,323
Sea Basses	329,691	\$868,811
Seatrout, Spotted	367,648	\$818,159

# 2013 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole/Round Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Shad, American	257,348	\$306,885
Shad, Gizzard	112,295	\$4,492
Shad, Hickory	71,772	\$29,324
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	553,665	\$282,318
Sheepshead	180,225	\$145,794
Skates	2,286	\$429
Skippers	15,780	\$4,652
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	2,686	\$11,942
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	267,260	\$886,596
Snappers, Other	6,587	\$19,449
Spadefish	20,369	\$9,246
Spot	768,592	\$690,035
Striped Bass	96,935	\$303,486
Swordfish	1,058,089	\$2,935,940
Tilefish, Blueline	214,153	\$517,882
Tilefishes, Other	2,926	\$4,770
Triggerfishes	160,861	\$342,228
Tuna, Bigeye	243,637	\$939,909
Tuna, Bluefin	106,197	\$608,952
Tuna, Yellowfin	648,039	\$1,434,318
Tunas, Other	96,937	\$113,429
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	189,746	\$114,416
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	24,389	\$2,565
Unclassified Fish for Food	119,914	\$120,750
Wahoo	23,380	\$75,577
Weakfish (Grey Trout)	120,191	\$150,730
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>22,003,149</b>	<b>\$29,819,788</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	21,438,077	\$26,465,523
Blue Crabs, Peeler	447,120	\$1,449,542
Blue Crabs, Soft	317,426	\$2,091,382
Clams, Hard (Meats)	347,073	\$2,295,366
	<i>(17,855,759 Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	586,625	\$3,353,126
	<i>(110,893 Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	1,205	\$2,069
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	36,445	\$402,717
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	4,858,885	\$12,944,880
Squid	12,090	\$10,703
Stone Crabs	6,839	\$18,479
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	50,079	\$123,236
Unclassified Shellfish	92,222	\$126,867
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>28,194,084</b>	<b>\$49,283,890</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>50,197,233</b>	<b>\$79,103,678</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes species from the genus *Seriola* (amberjacks, almaco jacks, and banded rudderfish)

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: blacknose, blacktip, bonnethead, bull, finetooth, hammerhead, shortfin mako, spinner, thresher, tiger, and Atlantic sharpnose

<sup>3</sup> The red snapper fishery closed on January 4, 2010 with restricted openings occurring in some years.

<sup>4</sup> 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

(2013 – 2018)

Gear	Trips					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Beach Seine	57	21	23	11	31	33
By Hand	16,446	18,019	17,186	18,794	20,913	15,295
Cast Net	703	627	690	666	710	641
Channel Net	1,626	1,078	968	761	776	512
Clam Dredges	344	388	251	213	189	181
Clam Trawl Kicking	180	155	77	39	31	10
Crab Dredge	1	3	14	4	0	0
Crab Pot	48,122	50,527	51,709	46,268	37,199	33,291
Crab Trawl	85	197	470	463	357	165
Eel Pot	70	143	97	63	87	55
Fish Pot	623	678	583	472	577	532
Flounder Trawl	71	256	276	266	200	221
Flynet	4	40	11	19	15	4
Fyke Net	428	404	639	628	546	390
Gigs	2,585	2,804	2,739	2,796	2,892	2,131
Gill Net – Anchored	36,712	27,863	23,432	22,801	25,352	20,453
Gill Net – Drift	236	296	401	279	586	545
Gill Net – Runaround	3,780	3,377	3,252	3,294	4,117	3,199
Haul Seines <sup>1</sup>	273	204	45	93	68	43
Longlines	719	634	519	598	412	406
Oyster Dredge	3,763	5,705	4,031	2,684	1,540	337
Peeler Pot	3,334	4,006	4,723	4,957	3,462	2,733
Peeler Trawl <sup>2</sup>	29	26	21	14	15	14
Pound Nets	2,859	2,444	2,856	2,557	2,918	2,929
Rakes	9,988	11,779	12,489	11,220	9,293	5,750
Rod-n-Reel	2,068	2,272	1,992	2,294	2,287	2,208
Shrimp Trawl	5,650	4,598	6,062	7,490	7,796	4,957
Skimmer Trawl	1,194	711	1,035	1,273	676	446
Spears (Diving)	159	195	168	186	168	112
Tongs	4,092	3,896	3,688	3,163	3,578	2,861
Trolling	2,195	2,247	1,950	1,885	2,520	2,031
Trotline	38	49	39	86	170	183
Other Gears <sup>3</sup>	231	168	117	106	111	191
<b>Total trips<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>148,665</b>	<b>145,810</b>	<b>142,553</b>	<b>136,443</b>	<b>129,592</b>	<b>102,859</b>

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.

<sup>1</sup> Includes long hauls, common seines, and swipe nets

<sup>2</sup> A new code to distinguish peeler trawl gear was put into effect in 2010.

<sup>3</sup> 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

<sup>4</sup> 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 (April 2019).

# North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest

(2016 – 2018)

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>POUNDS</u>	<u>POUNDS</u>	<u>POUNDS</u>
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Amberjacks	18,608	6,653	11,742	305,372	157,091	227,441
Barracudas	2,420	2,771	5,848	27,950	76,501	52,304
Bluefish	4,489,223	3,173,218	3,304,587	3,356,049	3,634,502	2,630,685
Bonito	3,411	1,999	12,576	22,127	9,578	42,879
Cobia	26,421	25,025	25,331	838,363	872,861	685,962
Croaker, Atlantic	1,109,570	666,930	472,917	443,728	237,160	164,644
Dolphin	480,860	279,932	495,435	5,099,647	2,223,509	3,318,532
Drum, Black	459,078	355,544	134,624	1,322,547	856,081	428,273
Drum, Red	169,195	353,716	299,577	633,496	1,475,852	1,452,358
Flounder, Southern	299,273	221,321	217,805	695,713	451,126	495,289
Flounder, Summer	65,494	91,193	57,913	110,392	147,426	92,032
Groupers	5,370	4,115	1,160	78,007	53,880	8,816
Grunts	52,349	40,077	11,913	86,926	60,245	16,762
Jacks	177,430	86,391	44,467	51,109	77,247	130,220
Kingfishes	4,149,467	3,387,470	1,731,340	1,035,121	915,561	479,739
Mackerel, King	108,151	110,339	102,675	963,139	1,261,775	1,018,459
Mackerel, Spanish	918,352	995,706	1,012,889	907,400	1,094,778	1,156,702
Perch, Silver	55,040	133,676	6,595	11,275	24,532	1,594
Pigfish	1,316,198	656,096	418,174	443,062	218,003	163,686
Pinfish	1,236,741	917,956	886,712	246,720	283,455	188,046
Pompano	411,634	730,412	318,702	258,769	290,660	245,670
Porgies	12,482	34,382	4,045	19,455	52,159	7,592
Puffers	1,827,054	669,528	330,237	783,007	258,605	148,220
Sea basses	194,512	316,925	86,153	302,925	539,910	116,825
Seatrout, Spotted	978,624	1,217,834	449,473	1,724,492	2,157,198	658,555
Sharks	9,497	8,918	4,123	3,645	51,540	169,486
Sharks, Dogfish	33,490	683	7,514	359,844	5,616	43,732
Sheepshead	149,085	282,480	343,772	375,328	810,633	735,738
Snappers	29,519	26,315	20,475	46,391	42,041	29,407
Spot	1,928,716	2,418,331	2,068,865	558,799	909,796	597,511
Striped Bass <sup>1</sup>	4,177	0	25	15,961	0	366
Tuna, Bluefin <sup>2</sup>	74	39	34	13,576	9,130	11,573
Tuna, Yellowfin	80,458	118,659	61,171	3,164,911	4,040,504	1,977,741
Wahoo	39,565	30,305	10,690	1,056,969	842,604	280,644
Weakfish	77,341	51,795	30,935	83,702	55,944	29,924

<sup>1</sup> Striped bass landings reflect Atlantic Ocean catches only.

<sup>2</sup> Landings for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year January 1 through December 31.

**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

(2013 – 2015)

<u>SPECIES</u>	NUMBER	NUMBER	NUMBER	POUNDS	POUNDS	POUNDS
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Amberjacks	19,275	5,004	16,436	428,664	94,629	360,417
Barracudas	365	2,564	3,844	2,183	36,960	22,806
Bluefish	4,287,526	4,418,858	4,123,461	3,517,233	3,764,005	3,754,577
Bonito	19,182	18,380	16,973	99,252	91,228	102,408
Cobia	37,617	24,601	47,110	980,541	645,427	1,925,762
Croaker, Atlantic	1,300,804	1,935,961	1,437,019	453,881	758,751	557,735
Dolphin	322,769	403,203	740,023	2,277,519	2,933,166	5,610,008
Drum, Black	1,511,995	109,307	276,126	2,709,269	230,834	780,876
Drum, Red	520,758	324,303	143,876	2,214,045	1,674,595	567,730
Flounder, Southern	374,215	209,228	249,166	869,223	447,337	558,303
Flounder, Summer	123,742	150,201	99,263	196,002	215,294	157,437
Groupers	10,732	2,256	8,765	96,962	25,771	99,496
Grunts	26,321	49,186	45,606	44,549	86,365	76,946
Jacks	59,057	28,975	62,691	41,882	59,744	41,743
Kingfishes	5,878,621	5,545,371	5,503,437	1,462,060	2,098,322	1,520,264
Mackerel, King	48,000	72,288	95,705	521,153	1,213,096	1,168,255
Mackerel, Spanish	994,599	1,028,925	835,011	1,242,029	1,193,442	981,867
Perch, Silver	60,246	91,219	41,707	10,662	19,567	8,832
Pigfish	905,659	1,278,934	1,593,393	293,508	354,667	567,572
Pinfish	1,385,301	1,453,062	1,597,032	269,250	281,547	449,239
Pompano	1,978,916	646,308	722,558	735,833	360,398	306,213
Porgies	14,185	10,499	23,094	29,167	19,907	26,520
Puffers	973,080	499,387	2,825,703	449,032	248,174	1,334,104
Sea basses	89,682	332,594	319,653	123,413	563,662	455,100
Seatrout, Spotted	1,107,957	725,086	249,260	1,881,881	1,451,592	430,579
Sharks	56,862	8,656	14,794	25,822	36,336	517,941
Sharks, Dogfish	52,026	1,992	8,314	88,216	11,978	38,340
Sheepshead	784,747	185,267	181,554	1,220,357	389,583	520,382
Snappers	12,568	15,073	43,999	17,303	25,716	60,138
Spot	6,120,985	8,343,467	2,572,738	1,789,251	2,877,483	833,390
Striped Bass <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuna, Bluefin <sup>2</sup>	201	69	44	40,979	14,492	7,747
Tuna, Yellowfin	52,907	44,151	38,199	1,705,605	1,392,966	1,079,798
Wahoo	11,951	29,362	36,920	319,866	804,473	983,232
Weakfish	63,090	71,912	143,543	66,720	70,988	157,269

<sup>1</sup> Striped bass landings reflect Atlantic Ocean catches only.

<sup>2</sup> Landings for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year January 1 through December 31.

**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

North Carolina Marine Recreational Finfish Harvest and Release Catch Estimates, 2013 – 2018.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number Harvested</u>	<u>Pounds Harvested</u>	<u>Number Released</u>
2013	37,097,386	28,539,154	71,387,944
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

North Carolina Marine Recreational Fishing Trip Estimates (number), 2013 – 2018.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Beach/Bank</u>	<u>Charter Boat</u>	<u>Manmade</u>	<u>Private Boat</u>	<u>Total</u>
2013	6,028,869	111,366	7,097,673	4,847,955	18,085,862
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

Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) Sales by Residency, 2013 – 2018.

<u>Year</u>	<u>In-State</u>	<u>Out-of-State</u>	<u>Total</u>
2013	317,649	162,351	480,000
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

## Survey Methods

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

## Precision of Estimates

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



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.