



# Annual Fisheries Bulletin

## 2022 Commercial and Recreational Statistics

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

July 2023

Included in this bulletin are the 2022 landings and harvest information from the commercial and recreational fisheries programs, along with the 2017 to 2021 finalized 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 mandatory 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 2022

Commercial	Recreational <sup>1</sup>
35,052,564 pounds	21,258,304 pounds

<sup>1</sup> Bluefin Tuna data are collected from a catch card program, not MRIP, and are therefore not included in the sum of the Recreational Total Pounds Harvested.

### Top Five Species Caught in Each Fishery in 2022

Commercial		Recreational	
Species	Pounds	Species	Pounds
Hard Blue Crabs	9,087,184	Spotted Seatrout	3,756,040
Shrimp (Heads On)	4,780,857	Spanish Mackerel	1,841,527
Striped Mullet	2,720,092	Black Drum	1,710,528
Catfishes	2,477,012	Bluefish	1,645,410
Summer Flounder	2,190,368	Kingfishes	1,631,041

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  
<https://deq.nc.gov/fisheries-statistics>.

# 2022 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2022

Issued: June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>EX-VESSEL VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	183,009	\$233,713
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	13,225	\$9,558
Bluefish	872,041	\$513,425
Bonito, Atlantic	6,576	\$12,544
Butterfish	58,905	\$25,391
Carp	5,652	\$1,036
Catfishes	2,477,012	\$835,121
Cobia	32,686	\$87,233
Croaker, Atlantic	357,312	\$454,445
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	1,039,489	\$1,839,622
Dolphinfish	28,379	\$121,005
Drum, Black	144,339	\$225,060
Drum, Red	175,029	\$531,001
Eel, American	4,202	\$6,303
Flounder, Southern	362,062	\$928,701
Flounder, Summer	2,190,368	\$4,973,013
Garfish	8,370	\$1,674
Grouper, Gag	65,175	\$481,405
Grouper, Red	3,573	\$24,417
Grouper, Scamp	10,168	\$71,437
Grouper, Snowy	61,061	\$317,408
Groupers, Other	13,137	\$75,884
Grunts	19,555	\$26,014
Hakes	2,126	\$1,568
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	92,779	\$187,676
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	11,987	\$60,745
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	7,962	\$10,043
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	191	\$84
Mackerel, King	409,941	\$1,414,168
Mackerel, Spanish	926,026	\$1,584,303
Menhaden, Atlantic	539,494	\$165,594
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	838,753	\$1,472,567
Mullet, Striped	2,720,092	\$2,118,988
Perch, White	396,282	\$539,727
Perch, Yellow	10,642	\$16,469
Pigfish	13,084	\$9,039
Pinfish	88	\$16
Pompano	13,256	\$49,010
Porgies	23,342	\$57,784
Pufferfish	2,106	\$878
Scup	18,567	\$11,756
Sea Basses	172,027	\$590,441
Seatrout, Spotted	603,155	\$1,712,579
Shad, American	9,443	\$12,211
Shad, Gizzard	151,251	\$15,125
Shad, Hickory	92,198	\$23,136
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	533,886	\$248,489
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	27,686	\$17,792
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	70,392	\$10,494

# 2022 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	69,258	\$129,233
Skates	6,016	\$1,451
Skippers	10,191	\$4,366
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	14,736	\$95,660
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	183,898	\$840,934
Snappers, Other	47,645	\$198,036
Spadefish	21,494	\$20,794
Spot	543,096	\$824,595
Striped Bass	24,026	\$52,966
Swordfish	322,781	\$1,286,228
Tilefish, Blueline	99,354	\$387,773
Tilefishes, Other	7,059	\$29,717
Triggerfishes	88,167	\$300,090
Tuna, Bigeye	783,132	\$3,933,709
Tuna, Bluefin	283,574	\$1,445,743
Tuna, Yellowfin	664,162	\$1,596,144
Tunas, Other	20,622	\$27,576
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	147,065	\$165,173
Wahoo	7,924	\$34,748
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	62,196	\$86,210
Unclassified Fish for Food	57,417	\$61,406
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	68,019	\$182,599
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>19,349,811</b>	<b>\$33,831,243.61</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	9,087,184	\$13,473,854
Blue Crabs, Peeler	289,163	\$956,810
Blue Crabs, Soft	131,341	\$1,210,514
Clams, Hard (Meats)	83,801	\$1,148,220
	<i>4,425,570 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats) <sup>4</sup>	1,142,911	\$6,685,193
	<i>216,051 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	355	\$1,080
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	80,200	\$934,063
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>5</sup>	4,780,857	\$10,084,498
Squid	18,195	\$16,379
Stone Crabs	7,119	\$33,893
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	75,508	\$346,668
Unclassified Shellfish	6,019	\$92,269
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>15,702,653</b>	<b>\$34,983,442</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>35,052,564</b>	<b>\$68,814,686</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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 landings from holders of a Shellfish Lease Restoration Permit (SLRP).

<sup>5</sup> Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

# 2021 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2021

Updated June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	229,788	\$288,028
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	24,772	\$15,114
Bluefish	1,051,019	\$643,944
Bonito	7,351	\$16,620
Butterfish	38,319	\$16,076
Carp	9,737	\$2,568
Catfishes	1,985,590	\$557,913
Cobia	29,301	\$79,145
Croaker, Atlantic	540,620	\$595,624
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	1,151,706	\$1,929,317
Dolphinfish	26,314	\$111,702
Drum, Black	131,761	\$193,641
Drum, Red	200,825	\$576,463
Eel, American	5,505	\$15,139
Flounder, Southern	485,024	\$1,446,558
Flounder, Summer	2,081,420	\$5,775,613
Garfish	8,249	\$2,062
Grouper, Gag	69,287	\$449,206
Grouper, Red	5,566	\$33,136
Grouper, Scamp	13,736	\$85,543
Grouper, Snowy	79,288	\$386,412
Groupers, Other	19,068	\$98,862
Grunts	25,051	\$19,341
Hakes	2,354	\$1,246
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	106,728	\$190,608
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	13,147	\$59,431
Jacks (Crevalle, Rainbow Runner, Blue Runner)	9,750	\$9,172
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	291	\$142
Mackerel, King	430,868	\$1,270,228
Mackerel, Spanish	1,155,289	\$1,846,682
Menhaden, Atlantic	430,623	\$116,424
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	808,049	\$1,245,082
Mullet, Striped	2,140,620	\$1,336,140
Perch, White	203,239	\$246,168
Perch, Yellow	7,207	\$11,375
Pigfish	15,992	\$11,129
Pinfish	153	\$58
Pompano	16,742	\$52,526
Porgies	28,325	\$71,666
Pufferfish	882	\$394
Scup	54,255	\$24,287
Sea Basses	253,867	\$827,269
Seatrout, Spotted	695,795	\$1,757,806
Shad, American	58,884	\$73,446
Shad, Gizzard	229,267	\$17,359
Shad, Hickory	95,372	\$27,476
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	593,643	\$279,415
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	42,169	\$26,671
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	131,501	\$19,796

# 2021 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	85,452	\$137,251
Skates	*	*
Skippers	11,675	\$5,743
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	15,750	\$87,603
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	176,193	\$712,412
Snappers, Other	47,976	\$127,360
Spadefish	27,489	\$21,731
Spot	527,464	\$785,721
Striped Bass	27,930	\$72,627
Swordfish	265,391	\$1,038,998
Tilefish, Blueline	99,922	\$381,830
Tilefishes, Other	19,347	\$82,449
Triggerfishes	67,353	\$212,691
Tuna, Bigeye	596,566	\$2,765,667
Tuna, Bluefin	294,646	\$1,141,356
Tuna, Yellowfin	564,095	\$1,512,122
Tunas, Other	31,294	\$27,779
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	105,306	\$106,813
Wahoo	7,343	\$27,599
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	59,534	\$83,089
Unclassified Fish for Food	82,736	\$53,614
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	44,026	\$161,996
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>18,886,045</b>	<b>\$32,406,473</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	12,052,143	\$20,553,886
Blue Crabs, Peeler	531,179	\$1,644,073
Blue Crabs, Soft	236,522	\$1,753,343
Clams, Hard (Meats)	81,275	\$905,422
	<i>4,307,356 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats) <sup>4</sup>	1,227,374	\$6,904,735
	<i>232,018 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	105	\$263
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	22,980	\$373,867
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>5</sup>	9,152,499	\$24,691,993
Squid	34,299	\$30,710
Stone Crabs	9,637	\$46,330
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	50,443	\$189,149
Unclassified Shellfish	86,814	\$279,508
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>23,485,270</b>	<b>\$57,373,279</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>42,371,315</b>	<b>\$89,779,752</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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 landings from holders of a Shellfish Lease Restoration Permit (SLRP).

<sup>5</sup> Includes Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp.

\* Units and value not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise. Quantities were included in the "Unclassified Fish for Food" categories.

# 2020 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2020

Updated: June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	150,952	\$153,252
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	37,439	\$24,430
Bluefish	1,112,966	\$668,583
Bonito, Atlantic	15,926	\$12,835
Butterfish	29,872	\$15,332
Carp	9,642	\$875
Catfishes	1,227,613	\$296,501
Cobia	38,344	\$90,006
Croaker, Atlantic	570,423	\$673,426
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	499,065	\$865,575
Dolphinfish	51,994	\$178,383
Drum, Black	98,143	\$125,320
Drum, Red	165,666	\$434,984
Eel, American	3,291	\$9,773
Flounder, Southern	479,905	\$1,057,536
Flounder, Summer	1,779,865	\$3,753,777
Garfish	18,958	\$4,740
Grouper, Gag	95,058	\$592,767
Grouper, Red	6,397	\$34,579
Grouper, Scamp	16,301	\$98,845
Grouper, Snowy	66,678	\$308,564
Groupers, Other	14,843	\$74,230
Grunts	35,002	\$36,970
Hakes	2,063	\$1,565
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	47,134	\$93,968
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	11,640	\$52,353
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	15,733	\$12,446
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	823	\$316
Mackerel, King	611,476	\$1,469,914
Mackerel, Spanish	1,033,526	\$1,479,165
Menhaden, Atlantic	599,742	\$122,683
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	640,759	\$1,445,430
Mullet, Striped	1,299,500	\$651,112
Perch, White	215,748	\$240,953
Perch, Yellow	6,237	\$9,487
Pigfish	17,807	\$11,178
Pinfish	1,430	\$250
Pompano	12,210	\$45,378
Porgies	31,789	\$73,562
Pufferfish	1,574	\$506
Scup	38,772	\$20,825
Sea Basses	272,422	\$745,088
Seatrout, Spotted	568,763	\$1,269,024
Shad, American	134,590	\$82,957
Shad, Gizzard	313,562	\$31,356
Shad, Hickory	68,876	\$19,064
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	704,498	\$325,134
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	49,286	\$27,608
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	1,501,331	\$208,481

# 2020 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	76,630	\$105,114
Skates	46,672	\$9,078
Skippers	9,993	\$5,160
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	11,981	\$63,311
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	239,809	\$879,731
Snappers, Other	25,385	\$96,668
Spadefish	15,007	\$7,919
Spot	542,870	\$805,387
Striped Bass	123,933	\$337,124
Swordfish	409,267	\$1,320,775
Tilefish, Blueline	87,872	\$308,103
Tilefishes, Other	27,491	\$110,029
Triggerfishes	126,655	\$366,786
Tuna, Bigeye	407,636	\$1,610,175
Tuna, Bluefin	435,317	\$847,238
Tuna, Yellowfin	713,622	\$1,398,583
Tunas, Other	32,293	\$30,172
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	230,685	\$193,782
Wahoo	12,079	\$40,809
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	87,645	\$114,634
Unclassified Fish for Food	53,496	\$48,247
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	51,795	\$174,724
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>18,493,768</b>	<b>\$26,824,636</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	13,109,518	\$19,093,957
Blue Crabs, Peeler	314,723	\$807,743
Blue Crabs, Soft	124,170	\$765,587
Clams, Hard (Meats)	71,052	\$901,974
	<i>3,709,724 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	829,106	\$4,553,647
	<i>156,731 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	130	\$219
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	187,324	\$1,842,972
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	9,742,575	\$22,406,741
Squid	22,664	\$23,497
Stone Crabs	5,845	\$17,208
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	20,431	\$54,302
Unclassified Shellfish	58,198	\$237,838
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>24,485,736</b>	<b>\$50,705,685</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>42,979,504</b>	<b>\$77,530,321</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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.



# 2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2019

Updated: June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	104,411	\$109,992
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	44,149	\$35,487
Bluefish	1,108,205	\$559,833
Bonito, Atlantic	14,045	\$15,556
Butterfish	38,371	\$14,087
Carp	49,440	\$7,530
Catfishes	1,239,152	\$267,301
Cobia	21,553	\$58,500
Croaker, Atlantic	1,278,340	\$1,566,030
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	277,299	\$491,810
Dolphinfish	208,385	\$675,935
Drum, Black	80,049	\$92,318
Drum, Red	56,419	\$163,458
Eel, American	9,139	\$37,972
Flounder, Southern	800,080	\$3,078,601
Flounder, Summer	2,025,401	\$7,292,375
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
Groupers, Other	20,817	\$101,204
Grunts	44,752	\$48,788
Hakes	2,924	\$2,137
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	73,799	\$129,268
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	722,398	\$998,881
Menhaden, Atlantic	551,849	\$135,682
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	702,328	\$995,249
Mullet, Striped	1,362,217	\$929,285
Perch, White	100,991	\$90,500
Perch, Yellow	6,339	\$7,757
Pigfish	22,569	\$11,534
Pinfish	1,372	\$266
Pompano	25,223	\$75,128
Porgies	48,991	\$90,608
Pufferfish	5,310	\$1,748
Scup	216,776	\$112,878
Sea Basses	385,404	\$1,157,244
Seatrout, Spotted	378,500	\$893,047
Shad, American	40,975	\$70,463
Shad, Gizzard	308,315	\$30,832
Shad, Hickory	111,719	\$32,502
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	881,401	\$352,391
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	102,592	\$56,826
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	1,124,291	\$137,241



# 2019 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	86,406	\$130,988
Skates	80,039	\$14,512
Skippers	10,973	\$3,830
Snapper, Red <sup>3</sup>	9,804	\$52,113
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	380,774	\$1,393,725
Snappers, Other	32,391	\$121,001
Spadefish	12,262	\$6,974
Spot	392,206	\$565,357
Striped Bass	137,555	\$373,152
Swordfish	413,055	\$1,008,928
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
Wahoo	31,494	\$108,198
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	115,665	\$181,369
Unclassified Fish for Food	70,582	\$61,806
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	80,318	\$152,207
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>19,214,068</b>	<b>\$32,349,333</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	22,377,971	\$22,221,353
Blue Crabs, Peeler	465,091	\$1,237,065
Blue Crabs, Soft	183,946	\$1,199,842
Clams, Hard (Meats)	118,149	\$1,116,845
	<i>6,153,713 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	832,708	\$4,889,462
	<i>157,412 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	288	\$478
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	167,209	\$1,477,877
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	9,620,035	\$22,112,792
Squid	29,866	\$33,814
Stone Crabs	5,131	\$13,940
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	39,569	\$115,782
Unclassified Shellfish	46,263	\$73,900
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>33,886,227</b>	<b>\$54,493,150</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>53,100,294</b>	<b>\$86,842,484</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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.

# 2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2018

Updated: June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	141,824	\$162,910
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	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
Dolphinfish	144,660	\$494,055
Drum, Black	109,781	\$117,145
Drum, Red	144,640	\$386,724
Eel, American	18,058	\$29,344
Flounder, Southern	903,842	\$3,823,767
Flounder, Summer	1,654,569	\$6,893,316
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
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	713,978	\$176,162
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	407,173	\$504,795
Mullet, Striped	1,314,385	\$955,365
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	128,980	\$346,688
Shad, American	52,113	\$79,812
Shad, Gizzard	262,405	\$14,046
Shad, Hickory	75,481	\$26,399
Sharks <sup>2</sup>	817,498	\$355,357
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	209,760	\$96,475
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	1,168,247	\$160,807

# 2018 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	90,406	\$123,865
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	167,696	\$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	174,047	\$479,815
Tuna, Bigeye	328,429	\$1,295,179
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
Wahoo	22,619	\$81,777
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	35,142	\$55,755
Unclassified Fish for Food	79,244	\$74,970
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	85,875	\$152,252
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>17,964,889</b>	<b>\$31,591,225</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	16,412,935	\$17,298,279
Blue Crabs, Peeler	368,259	\$857,909
Blue Crabs, Soft	234,503	\$1,501,315
Clams, Hard (Meats)	199,955	\$1,628,664
	<i>10,522,001 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	625,278	\$3,834,874
	<i>118,200 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	253	\$446
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	80,117	\$685,229
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	9,729,752	\$20,047,635
Squid	35,684	\$30,723
Stone Crabs	6,900	\$18,938
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	56,154	\$266,132
Unclassified Shellfish	51,342	\$82,281
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>27,801,131</b>	<b>\$46,252,426</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>45,766,020</b>	<b>\$77,843,650</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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.

# 2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings 2017

Updated: June 2023

	<b>POUNDS (Whole Weight)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Amberjacks <sup>1</sup>	127,924	\$162,984
Anglerfish (Monkfish, including livers)	66,277	\$60,086
Bluefish	1,544,053	\$999,646
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	1,008,015	\$1,133,570
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	49,975	\$86,733
Dolphinfish	198,038	\$719,454
Drum, Black	182,989	\$185,312
Drum, Red	187,039	\$498,260
Eel, American	24,753	\$14,413
Flounder, Southern	1,396,384	\$5,663,116
Flounder, Summer	1,572,707	\$6,354,888
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	42,200	\$45,437
Hakes	2,946	\$1,987
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	62,551	\$96,210
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	15,776	\$70,760
Jacks (Crevalle, Blue Runner, Rainbow Runner)	5,293	\$3,715
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	992	\$470
Mackerel, King	629,703	\$1,266,997
Mackerel, Spanish	816,089	\$1,384,682
Menhaden, Atlantic	752,799	\$157,288
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	942,946	\$1,096,614
Mullet, Striped	1,366,351	\$1,037,533
Perch, White	171,756	\$125,448
Perch, Yellow	16,131	\$21,621
Pigfish	9,259	\$4,558
Pinfish	521	\$145
Pompano	21,562	\$49,468
Porgies	54,531	\$98,794
Pufferfish	4,482	\$1,782
Scup	199,711	\$112,830
Sea Basses	632,730	\$1,863,116
Seatrout, Spotted	299,952	\$779,954
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
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	154,440	\$72,966
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	393,085	\$39,346

# 2017 North Carolina Commercial Landings

(continued)

	POUNDS (Whole Weight)	VALUE
<b>FINFISH</b>		
Sheepshead	128,608	\$155,321
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	415,465	\$523,833
Striped Bass	99,009	\$288,888
Swordfish	458,361	\$1,138,260
Tilefish, Blueline	46,431	\$154,761
Tilefishes, Other	42,323	\$181,226
Triggerfishes	152,958	\$415,997
Tuna, Bigeye	380,039	\$1,350,709
Tuna, Bluefin	323,251	\$1,212,083
Tuna, Yellowfin	1,079,989	\$2,326,057
Tunas, Other	72,220	\$70,813
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	216,557	\$112,474
Wahoo	28,963	\$110,577
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	85,462	\$129,160
Unclassified Fish for Food	77,937	\$105,260
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait	112,030	\$66,908
<b>TOTAL FINFISH</b>	<b>19,766,688</b>	<b>\$35,689,505</b>
<b>SHELLFISH</b>		
Blue Crabs, Hard	18,059,855	\$17,767,075
Blue Crabs, Peeler	776,161	\$1,649,472
Blue Crabs, Soft	427,742	\$2,791,960
Clams, Hard (Meats)	273,280	\$2,174,491
	<i>14,417,980 (Numbers)</i>	
Oysters (Meats)	852,848	\$5,634,893
	<i>161,219 (Bushels)</i>	
Octopus	331	\$694
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	104,181	\$913,116
Shrimp (Heads On) <sup>4</sup>	13,908,941	\$29,638,702
Squid	41,071	\$35,418
Stone Crabs	7,181	\$20,762
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	55,951	\$161,227
Unclassified Shellfish	150,329	\$217,696
<b>TOTAL SHELLFISH</b>	<b>34,657,871</b>	<b>\$61,005,504</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>54,424,558</b>	<b>\$96,695,009</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes shark fins and the following sharks: Blacknose, Blacktip, Bonnethead, Bull, Finetooth, hammerhead species, 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.

# North Carolina Commercial Fishing Trips by Major Gears

(2017 – 2022)

Gear	Trips <sup>1</sup>					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Beach Seine	31	33	41	45	64	19
By Hand	20,894	15,305	14,869	10,994	11,394	10,907
Cast Net	710	641	661	544	614	728
Channel Net	776	512	233	359	323	350
Clam Dredges	189	181	108	26	132	72
Clam Trawl Kicking	31	10	13	9	0	6
Crab Pot	37,199	33,301	34,564	32,552	30,618	24,813
Crab Trawl	357	165	314	118	71	47
Eel Pot	87	55	24	14	33	25
Fish Pot	578	532	443	336	305	347
Flounder Trawl	201	219	202	147	149	117
Flynet	15	4	7	6	2	5
Fyke Net	546	391	364	387	352	466
Gigs	2,896	2,145	1,959	468	423	668
Gill Net (Anchored)	25,362	20,471	18,727	16,600	14,720	11,721
Gill Net (drift)	586	547	650	1,080	1,060	1,810
Gill Net (runaround)	4,120	3,205	4,383	6,633	9,390	10,613
Haul Seines <sup>2</sup>	68	43	96	268	105	116
Longlines	412	404	395	422	425	610
Other Gears	111	115	117	103	57	57
Oyster Cage/Rack/Bag <sup>3</sup>	52	76	1,032	1,408	1,913	2,213
Oyster Dredge	1,540	337	162	619	896	880
Peeler Pot	3,466	2,735	2,994	2,550	2,682	2,347
Peeler Trawl <sup>4</sup>	15	14	8	4	1	1
Pound Nets	2,922	2,941	2,283	2,387	1,652	1,497
Rakes	9,293	5,751	3,203	3,305	2,639	4,131
Rod-n-Reel	2,289	2,213	2,572	2,144	2,096	2,112
Shrimp Trawl	7,797	4,959	5,291	5,284	5,020	2,785
Skimmer Trawl	677	446	327	462	173	197
Spears, Diving	168	112	190	169	160	121
Tongs, Hand	3,578	2,861	3,456	2,576	3,648	4,963
Trolling <sup>5</sup>	2,520	2,032	2,938	2,800	2,045	1,738
Trotline	170	183	262	164	2,239	2,801
<b>TOTAL TRIPS<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>126,751</b>	<b>100,824</b>	<b>100,641</b>	<b>93,109</b>	<b>93,170</b>	<b>86,991</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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>2</sup> Includes long hauls, common seines, and swipe nets.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

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

<sup>5</sup> Includes greenstick trolling.

<sup>6</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 (May 2023).

*The North Carolina Trip Ticket Program statistics are 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

(2020 – 2022)

SPECIES	NUMBER			POUNDS		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Amberjacks	10,714	8,946	5,387	212,826	159,419	79,265
Barracudas	7,694	2,936	1,939	72,196	33,469	29,368
Bluefish	2,108,296	982,389	1,533,911	2,124,224	1,031,760	1,645,410
Bonito, Atlantic	52,337	20,177	12,301	179,803	104,789	70,411
Cobia	15,067	10,970	12,330	407,883	356,340	306,411
Croaker, Atlantic	673,377	1,066,533	1,110,382	223,685	376,121	481,721
Dolphin	262,372	268,012	117,803	2,149,038	1,945,342	962,267
Drum, Black	213,320	121,454	264,634	612,932	359,481	1,710,528
Drum, Red	413,419	325,662	336,280	1,758,789	1,479,550	1,615,108
Flounder, Southern	152,244	266,421	70,945	398,769	560,440	166,102
Flounder, Summer	24,699	13,863	10,591	37,935	27,492	22,151
Groupers	5,464	11,721	4,498	25,393	100,450	54,664
Grunts	57,258	36,521	32,829	83,906	34,697	20,701
Jacks	22,914	14,067	13,304	148,307	146,961	24,617
Kingfishes	3,865,039	8,425,767	5,594,758	452,569	1,583,649	1,631,041
Mackerel, King	146,423	58,174	38,512	1,376,229	563,082	375,164
Mackerel, Spanish	1,286,131	1,312,929	1,898,755	1,843,314	1,894,535	1,841,527
Perch, Silver	21,049	156,481	4,432	3,838	34,609	776
Pigfish	454,825	301,906	1,190,673	147,533	119,332	448,404
Pinfish	869,751	1,079,719	1,016,021	170,160	167,331	151,153
Pompano	441,569	348,053	584,682	406,980	218,191	105,344
Porgies	6,514	10,195	5,287	11,485	18,917	8,994
Puffers	1,186,892	521,571	1,902,765	507,458	237,736	966,751
Sea basses	133,096	50,612	151,867	195,098	79,195	253,302
Seatrout, Spotted	2,053,354	1,223,508	1,963,400	3,632,315	2,241,421	3,756,040
Sharks	8,336	4,997	2,153	21,664	24,835	16,909
Sharks, Dogfish	3,073	21,587	5,214	16,763	117,447	14,461
Sheepshead	247,390	324,540	387,924	592,774	928,130	1,024,623
Snappers	54,376	80,284	60,797	83,352	117,205	135,665
Spot	920,512	1,199,080	1,197,145	297,813	435,231	375,168
Striped Bass <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuna, Bluefin <sup>2,3</sup>	18	29	35	4,665	11,258	9,018
Tuna, Yellowfin	83,766	49,158	38,924	2,429,665	1,365,679	1,450,166
Wahoo	19,055	9,760	9,657	462,937	244,048	232,436
Weakfish	82,124	91,032	112,095	105,729	103,449	105,060

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

<sup>2</sup> Landings for Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year.

<sup>3</sup> Bluefin Tuna are collected from a catch card program, not MRIP, and are therefore not included in the Recreational Total Pounds Harvested value.

**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

(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, Atlantic	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 <sup>1</sup>	0	25	9	0	366	26
Tuna, Bluefin <sup>2,3</sup>	39	35	70	9,130	11,918	23,922
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

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

<sup>2</sup> Landings for Bluefin Tuna shown by Highly Migratory Species fishing year.

<sup>3</sup> Bluefin Tuna are collected from a catch card program, not MRIP, and are therefore not included in the Recreational Total Pounds Harvested value.

**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, 2017 – 2022.<sup>1</sup>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number Harvested</u>	<u>Pounds Harvested</u>	<u>Number Released</u>
2017	24,992,736	27,434,021	73,343,487
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
2021	21,978,024	19,039,914	60,060,649
2022	21,414,770	21,258,304	77,102,243

<sup>1</sup> 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), 2017 – 2022.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Beach/Bank</u>	<u>Charter Boat</u>	<u>Manmade</u>	<u>Private Boat</u>	<u>Total</u>
2017	7,745,619	149,438	9,512,489	5,044,731	22,452,276
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
2021	5,397,877	158,800	7,905,354	4,482,582	17,944,614
2022	5,981,160	148,488	9,249,542	5,196,023	20,575,213

Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL) Sales by Residency, 2017 – 2022.

<u>Year</u>	<u>In-State</u>	<u>Out-of-State</u>	<u>Total</u>
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
2021	320,943	192,732	513,675
2022	307,589	177,418	485,007



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.