



Semiannual Fisheries Bulletin

2023 Commercial Statistics

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

November 2023

Preliminary North Carolina Commercial Landings January - June 2018-2023

FINFISH	January – June (Pounds – rounded)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Amberjacks ¹	63,247	76,163	54,171	64,263	64,505	65,264
Anglerfish (Monkfish & Monkfish livers)	40,205	37,916	25,653	19,624	11,481	9,416
Bluefish	470,193	526,497	631,509	568,499	269,921	1,073,334
Bonito	12,311	12,368	12,646	6,145	4,997	13,585
Butterfish	23,861	30,619	10,432	22,488	32,686	23,058
Carp	17,265	32,125	8,194	6,849	3,312	5,822
Catfishes	722,707	763,031	663,048	1,164,594	1,561,758	1,301,428
Cobia	17,695	19,901	16,159	11,851	11,538	15,376
Croaker, Atlantic	1,574,302	1,214,880	470,948	467,682	263,298	123,411
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	25,055	210,198	397,831	900,676	879,689	751,465
Dolphinfish	128,922	198,310	48,787	22,858	25,288	9,122
Drum, Black	41,121	19,848	19,035	55,765	47,184	87,074
Drum, Red	53,474	28,786	17,003	56,805	72,852	90,063
Eel, American	2,336	2,178	434	524	1,025	781
Flounder, Southern	74,249	106,324	*	*	*	-
Flounder, Summer	1,385,287	1,258,138	912,846	1,123,341	1,223,635	1,431,162
Garfish	12,623	24,608	15,029	7,085	4,079	2,379
Grouper, Gag	33,488	66,857	35,012	23,252	21,990	23,377
Grouper, Red	6,596	11,621	1,133	1,543	884	1,360
Grouper, Scamp	20,352	17,747	8,083	5,930	5,246	4,085
Grouper, Snowy	70,100	78,250	48,600	55,803	40,175	30,949
Groupers, Other	5,211	13,352	6,493	9,692	5,610	5,876
Grunts	14,032	23,663	14,168	12,475	7,693	7,696
Hakes	974	2,067	1,899	2,193	2,021	1,407
Harvestfish (Starbutters)	73,485	55,934	30,527	89,492	73,233	54,723
Hogfish (Hog Snapper)	3,161	7,500	4,110	4,580	5,256	3,730
Jacks (Crevalle, Rainbow Runner, Blue Runner)	316	1,894	1,883	1,165	1,194	765
Mackerel, Atlantic (Boston)	1,418	799	431	282	190	384
Mackerel, King	91,191	175,169	125,131	98,360	95,197	152,243
Mackerel, Spanish	253,065	357,278	497,620	474,301	484,094	266,827
Menhaden, Atlantic	420,421	405,683	435,823	283,725	344,014	592,636
Mullet, Sea (Kingfishes)	227,466	393,249	284,955	392,438	404,650	428,715
Mullet, Striped	238,572	262,923	252,289	538,697	508,249	456,464
Perch, White	118,547	72,721	173,654	136,762	297,866	364,407
Perch, Yellow	12,298	6,160	5,894	6,805	10,295	6,078
Pigfish	2,780	2,278	2,695	5,426	4,483	2,909
Pinfish	207	343	255	*	10	*
Pompano	1,890	6,150	1,507	2,737	1,863	1,408
Porgies	22,591	23,632	14,106	14,165	10,722	5,640
Pufferfish	261	2,197	522	154	19	36
Scup	64,138	171,502	35,119	46,849	17,708	*
Sea Basses	334,513	262,785	210,967	186,517	125,110	85,494
Seatrout, Spotted	15,389	64,854	232,443	365,618	325,323	207,128
Shad, American	52,081	40,972	134,576	58,884	9,371	27,562
Shad, Gizzard	209,605	207,563	229,970	173,857	122,647	138,939

	January – June (Pounds – rounded)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Shad, Hickory	75,402	111,716	68,876	95,346	92,198	103,941
Sharks	433,412	503,170	368,352	266,813	292,138	334,729
Sharks, Dogfish, Smooth	198,810	101,594	47,044	28,827	12,664	55,129
Sharks, Dogfish, Spiny	755,015	1,000,130	1,500,853	131,383	54,076	6,147
Sheepshead	11,248	21,227	6,035	13,844	12,114	15,785
Skates	32,527	64,839	35,303	*	*	*
Skippers	11,937	8,932	7,195	8,150	7,655	6,832
Snapper, Vermilion (Beeliner)	105,130	188,260	94,353	65,829	66,197	83,215
Snappers, Other	7,262	17,755	12,473	15,617	28,719	26,463
Spadefish	4,807	4,914	7,527	9,567	6,766	3,338
Spot	42,015	19,324	57,084	56,827	79,821	47,501
Striped Bass	94,841	130,992	114,421	27,930	24,026	20,181
Swordfish	332,961	249,433	269,338	172,198	232,706	157,478
Tilefish, Blue-line	32,282	42,167	35,794	52,029	40,717	51,635
Tilefish, Other	11,387	12,094	11,317	18,620	6,677	16,635
Triggerfish	82,275	72,889	56,410	29,284	34,229	33,355
Tuna, Bigeye	62,330	54,988	89,846	79,697	156,130	106,391
Tuna, Bluefin	200,423	323,901	371,371	270,159	272,764	266,934
Tuna, Yellowfin	329,979	154,717	271,770	254,691	263,607	152,298
Tunas, Other	38,120	8,115	16,367	9,320	11,095	21,536
Tunny, Little (False Albacore)	56,799	176,058	119,642	34,800	72,688	39,043
Wahoo	9,642	18,098	4,953	3,543	2,222	3,241
Weakfish (Gray Trout)	13,602	85,173	39,799	29,603	22,510	31,104
Unclassified Fish for Food ²	48,944	48,665	31,587	52,886	33,829	81,778
Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait ²	60,615	52,983	31,326	23,815	43,751	41,237
TOTAL FINFISH	10,010,764	10,769,162	9,762,624	9,241,528	9,271,657	9,579,499
SHELLFISH						
Blue Crabs, Hard	5,952,660	7,284,705	5,606,541	3,145,321	2,754,553	2,587,932
Blue Crabs, Peeler	327,855	401,122	258,147	409,695	256,524	245,046
Blue Crabs, Soft	225,796	172,311	114,339	209,289	126,278	61,570
Clams, Hard (Meats)	130,891	70,885	37,835	40,416	42,063	40,244
Clams, Hard (Number)	6,902,125	3,627,371	1,965,720	2,163,968	2,201,543	2,025,106
Octopus	123	178	86	81	70	171
Oysters (Meats)	322,777	361,521	329,641	525,213	479,310	549,672
Oysters (Bushels)	61,016	68,340	62,314	99,284	90,607	103,908
Scallop, Bay (Meats)	0	0	*	0	*	15,985
Scallop, Sea (Meats)	55,331	126,445	76,666	8,318	*	*
Shrimp (Heads On) ³	318,464	1,211,922	3,043,672	2,632,642	640,759	599,857
Squid	25,173	16,826	12,645	19,605	11,041	4,464
Stone Crabs	2,918	2,990	3,074	4,631	3,677	6,374
Whelks/Conchs (Meats)	48,890	37,267	17,855	46,656	70,388	49,704
Unclassified Shellfish	35,255	44,338	12,779	40,086	40,616	22,877
TOTAL SHELLFISH	7,446,132	9,730,511	9,513,279	7,081,953	4,425,278	4,183,895
GRAND TOTAL	17,456,896	20,499,673	19,275,904	16,323,482	13,696,935	13,763,394

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

² Prior to 2021, minnows were included in the Unclassified Fish for Food category but were moved to the Unclassified Fish for Industrial/Bait in this report.

³ Includes brown, pink, and white shrimp.

* Units not shown to avoid disclosure of private enterprise. Quantities were included in the “Unclassified Fish for Food” or “Unclassified Shellfish” categories.

NOTE: Landings collected by North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries Trip Ticket Program (November 2023).