

Statistical Highlights Fisheries of the United States, 2008

prepared by NMFS Fisheries Statistics Division

U.S. COMMERCIAL FISHERIES (Round weight)

World-wide catch by U.S. Vessels⁽¹⁾ :

8.6 billion pounds (3.9 million metric tons) - down 9%
Valued at \$4.5 billion - exvessel value - up 5%

Of 8.6 billion pounds:

7.5 billion pounds (3.4 million metric tons) of finfish - down 10%
1.1 billion pounds (484,325 metric tons) of shellfish - down 3%

U.S. Landings in the 50 United States⁽²⁾:

8.3 billion pounds (3.8 million metric tons) - down 11%
Valued at \$4.4 billion - up 5%

Of 8.3 billion pounds:

7.2 billion pounds (3.3 million metric tons) for food - down 12%
1.1 billion pounds (484,326 metric tons) for industrial purposes - down 3%
(including bait and animal food)

Total supply (landings + imports - exports) of edible fishery products:

Total = 11.8 billion pounds (5.4 million metric tons) - down 5%
Landings = 6.6 billion pounds (3.0 million metric tons) - down 11%
Imports = 10.5 billion pounds (4.7 million metric tons) - down 3%
Exports = 5.3 billion pounds (2.4 million metric tons) - down 9%

Per capita consumption: 16.0 pounds (7.3 kilograms) edible meat - down 2%

FOREIGN TRADE (Product weight)

Imports - edible:

5.2 billion pounds (2.4 million metric tons) product weight
Valued at \$14.2 billion

Exports - edible:

2.7 billion pounds (1.2 million metric tons) product weight
Valued at \$4.3 billion

U. S. LANDINGS BY DISTANCE FROM SHORE⁽¹⁾

<u>Distance</u>	<u>Billion Pounds</u>	<u>Million Metric Tons</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Billion Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-3 miles	3.1	1.4	36	1.9	43
3-200 miles	5.2	2.4	61	2.4	55
International	0.3	0.1	3	0.1	2
TOTAL	8.6	3.9	100	4.4	100

U.S. DOMESTIC LANDINGS - TOP FIVE SPECIES / GROUPS

<u>Volume:</u>				<u>Value:</u>			
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>U.S. Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1	Pollock	2,298.1 million	28	1	Crabs	562.3 million	13
2	Menhaden	1,341.4 million	16	2	Shrimp	441.8 million	10
3	Flatfish	663.1 million	8	3	Salmon	394.6 million	9
4	Salmon	658.3 million	8	4	Scallops	371.6 million	8
5	Hakes	549.6 million	7	5	Lobster	336.9 million	8

WORLD FISHERIES (Live weight, 2007) includes aquaculture and captured catch

Total catch 309.5 billion pounds (140.4 million metric tons)
U.S. catch 7.1 billion pounds (3.2million metric tons)
(including weight of mollusk shells)

U.S. catch is 3.8 percent of world catch

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT (GNP)

U.S. consumers spent an estimated \$69.8 billion for fishery products.
In producing and marketing these items, the commercial fishing industry contributed \$34.9 billion in value added to the U.S. GNP.

MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERIES⁽³⁾

MAJOR SPECIES

Atlantic and Gulf:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Caught</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1	Spotted Seatrout	40,200	9
2	Atlantic Crocker	27,500	6
3	Summer Flounder	24,500	6
4	Bluefish	21,400	5
5	Spot	19,100	4

Pacific:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Caught</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1	Black Rockfish	640	5
2	Kelp Bass	580	5
3	Barred Surfperch	570	4
4	Barred Sand Bass	390	3
5	Califorinia Halibut	320	3

2008 Atlantic and Gulf Coast (excluding Texas) catch: 445 million fish

2008 Pacific Coast (excluding Alaska and Hawaii) catch: 13 million fish

U.S. RECREATIONAL CATCH TYPES BY AREA FISHED

<u>Area</u>	<u>Thousand Pounds</u>	<u>Thousand Metric Tons</u>	<u>Percent of Catch</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Harvested</u>	<u>Percent of Harvest</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Released</u>	<u>Percent of Release</u>
Inland	108,600	49	44	124,800	63	167,100	63
STS	63,200	29	26	55,200	28	79,000	30
EEZ	75,800	34	30	16,700	9	21,200	7
Total	247,600	112	100	196,700	100	267,300	100

U.S. RECREATIONAL CATCH TYPES AND NUMBER OF TRIPS BY FISHING MODE

<u>Mode</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Harvested</u>	<u>Percent of Harvest</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish Released</u>	<u>Percent of Release</u>	<u>Thousands of of Trips</u>	<u>Percent of Trips</u>
Shore	58,200	30	66,800	25	36,600	43
Private/Rental Boat	124,800	63	188,500	71	44,800	53
Party/Charter Boat	13,700	7	12,000	4	3,400	4
Total	196,700	100	267,300	100	84,800	100

U.S. RECREATIONAL TOP ENCOUNTERED SPECIES

Harvested:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish</u>	<u>Percent of Harvest</u>
1	Spotted Seatrout	15,700	8
2	Spot	12,500	7
3	Atlantic Croaker	10,700	6
4	Pinfish	9,500	4
5	Bluefish	7,100	4

Released:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Thousands of Fish</u>	<u>Percent of Release</u>
1	Spotted Seatrout	24,500	9
2	Summer Flounder	22,200	8
3	Atlantic Croaker	16,800	6
4	Black Sea bass	14,400	5
5	Bluefish	14,200	5

ENDNOTES

- (1) Commercial landings including all catches by U.S.-flag vessels landed in the continental United States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and other foreign ports.
- (2) Commercial landings by U.S. fishermen at ports in the 50 United States, excluding catches by U.S.-flag vessels which are landed in Puerto Rico and other foreign ports.
- (3) Coverage of Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program, 1981 - 2008

The Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program provides coverage of saltwater sport fishing (including estuarine and brackish water) from private/rental boats, charter and head boats, and the shore on the Atlantic Coast (Maine - East Florida), Gulf Coast (Louisiana - West Florida), Puerto Rico, and Hawaii. Detailed information and access to the data are available on the Fisheries Statistics web page (<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/>).

Exceptions Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program to Coverage

Care is advised when comparing catch estimates for the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program time series because of differences in sampling coverage.

- In the South Atlantic and Gulf sub-regions (NC-LA) the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program has not collected catch data from head boats since 1985, so estimates for these sub-regions now only include charter boats in the for-hire sector.
- Marine recreational fishing in Texas is monitored by the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife.
- Prior to 1998, on the Pacific coast, ocean boat trips and salmon trips were not sampled during certain waves because they were surveyed by state natural resource agencies.
- Alaska conducts an annual mail survey and has never been surveyed by the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program.
- West Pacific U.S. territories have not been surveyed by the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program since 1981.
- Hawaii was not surveyed between 1981 and 2002.
- The U.S. Caribbean was not surveyed between 1981 and 2000.

Historically, only about five percent of the annual recreational catch on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts is taken during Wave 1 (January - February). Costs to sample these months are very high due to low fishing activity. Therefore, in Jan/Feb of 1981 the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program was not conducted in any region. In 1982, Jan/Feb data collection resumed on the Pacific and Gulf coasts and also on the Atlantic coast of Florida. With few exceptions Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program has not been conducted in Jan/Feb on the Atlantic coast north of Florida since 1980.

Other Times / Areas of No Coverage

Nov/Dec (ME & NH) - 1987 to present	Nov/Dec (Oregon) - 1994
Mar/Apr (ME & NH) - 1986 to present	Nov/Dec (Washington shore modes) - 2003
Jan/Feb (No.CA-OR) - 1994	July - Dec (Oregon shore modes) - 2003
Jan/Feb (So. CA-OR) - 1995	All Waves (Washington) 1993 to 1994
All Waves (CA through WA) -1990 to1993, 2004 to present	

Note:-- Totals may not match due to rounding.

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