

MASSACHUSETTS COMMERCIAL FISHING PORT PROFILES

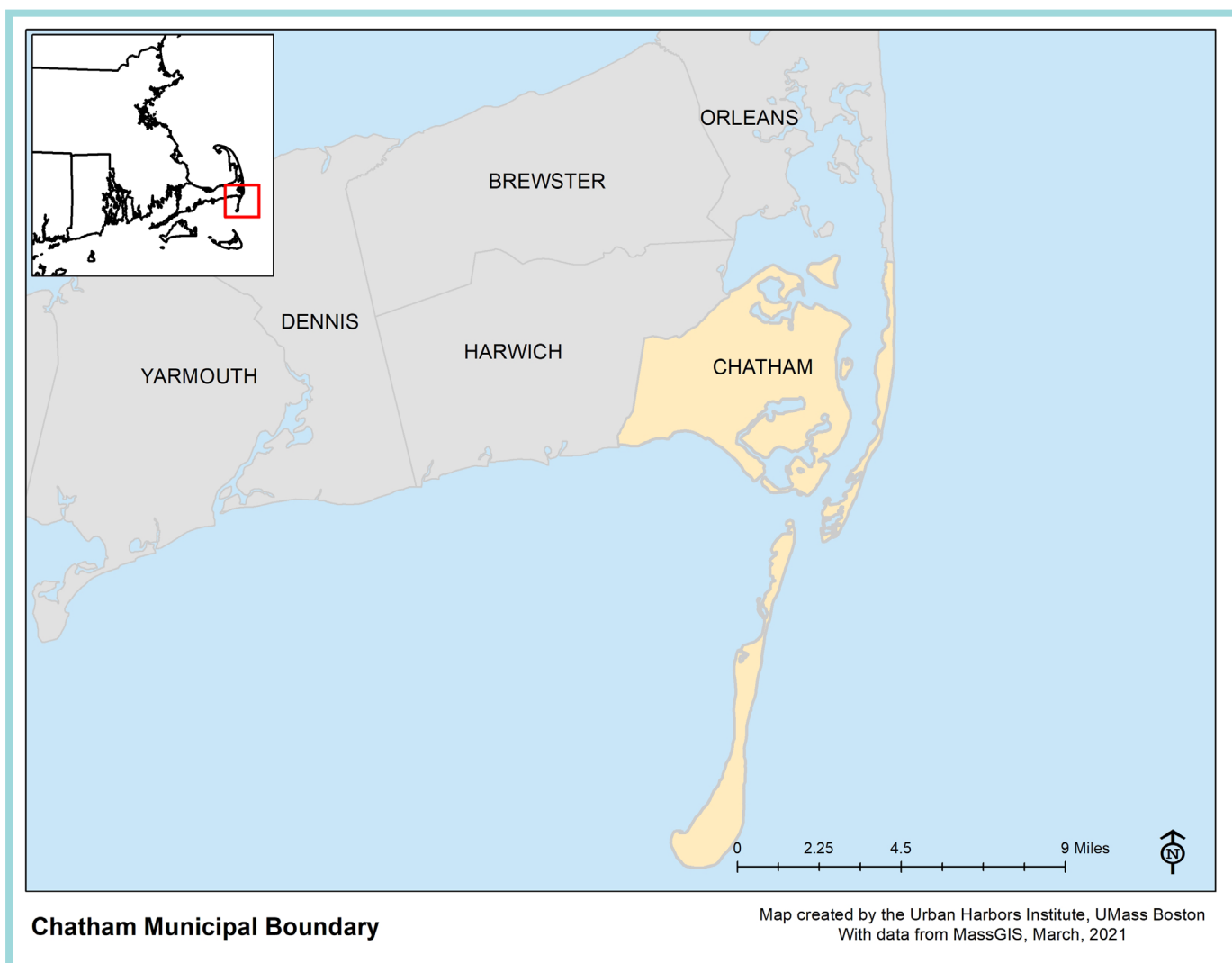
The **Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Port Profiles** were developed through a collaboration between the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, the University of Massachusetts Boston's Urban Harbors Institute, and the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance. Using data from commercial regional permits, the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program's (ACCSP) Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) Dealer Database, and harbormaster and fishermen surveys, these profiles provide an overview of the commercial fishing activity and infrastructure within each municipality. The Port Profiles are part of a larger report which describes the status of the Commonwealth's commercial fishing and port infrastructure, as well as how profile data can inform policy, programming, funding, infrastructure improvements, and other important industry-related decisions.

For the full report, visit the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries website.



URBAN HARBORS INSTITUTE
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Key Terms:

Permitted Harvesters: Commercially permitted harvesters residing in the municipality

Vessels: Commercially permitted vessels with the municipality listed as the homeport

Trips: Discrete commercial trips unloading fish or shellfish in this municipality

Active Permitted Harvesters: Commercially permitted harvesters with at least one reported transaction in a given year

Active Dealers: Permitted dealers with at least one reported purchase from a harvester in a given year

Ex-Vessel Value: Total amount (\$) paid directly to permitted harvesters by dealers at the first point of sale

CHATHAM

Located on Cape Cod, Chatham has many harbors:

Aunt Lydia's Cove (Chatham Harbor), Bassing Harbor, Crows Pond, Little Mill Pond, Mill Pond, Oyster Pond, Pleasant Bay, Ryder's Cove, Stage Harbor, and Taylors Pond.

Permitted commercial fisheries, which may or may not be active during the survey period, include:

Lobster Pot, Shellfish (by hand), Dragger, Gillnetter, Scallop Dredge, Rod & Reel, Tub Trawlers, and For Hire/ Charter.



2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



Chatham's commercial fishery had:

- 193** permitted harvesters with a Chatham address
- 315** vessels with a Chatham homeport
- 27,379** trips landing in Chatham
- 615** active permitted harvesters landing in Chatham
- 46** active dealers purchasing in Chatham



Commercial harvesters landed the following in Chatham in 2018:

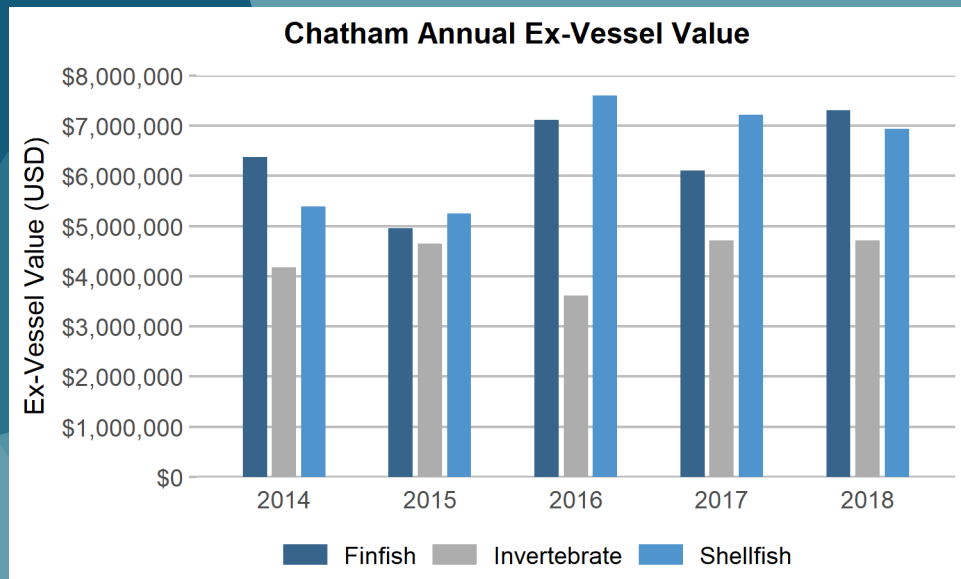
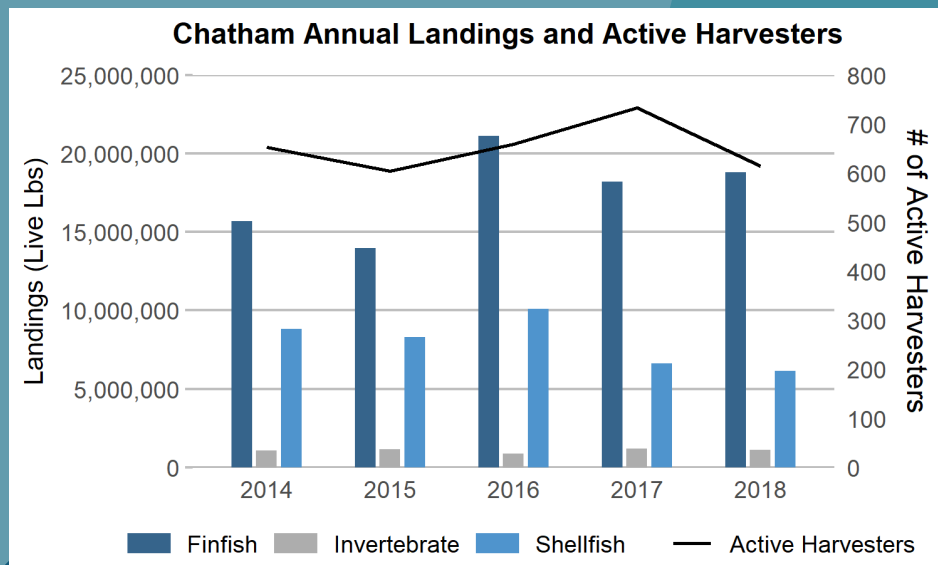
26,006,673 pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$18,967,799**

The top-ranked species, by dollar value, landed between 2014-2018 included:

- American Lobster
- Sea Scallop
- Winter Skate

5 Year Trends in Commercial Landings and Value

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



Status of the Commercial Fishing Industry

Source: 2019 Harbormaster and Harvester Survey Data

Chatham's commercial fishing fleet consists of mostly non-trailered vessels, with some trailered vessels. In the last 10 years, the number of non-trailered commercial fishing vessels operating out of Chatham has remained the same due to less shellfishing boats, but more seasonal vessels. On the other hand, the number of commercial fishing trailered vessels has increased due to more part-time fishermen, particularly part-time striped bass fishermen. High volumes of dogfish are landed regularly though the ex-vessel price is low.



Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



Infrastructure upgrades in last ten years:

- Dredging
- New dock, and some dock/bulkhead repair
- Fish pier observation deck
- Pumpout stations



Current infrastructure:

Challenges

- Shallow water/need for dredging
- Limited parking
- Lack of transient port accommodations
- In need of better ramps/ramp repair

Needs

- Ice
- Parking
- Dredging



Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

- Moorings: Yes
- Slips: None
- Broadside berthing: Yes



In 2018, the municipality charged for the following services:

- Moorings: \$2.50/foot for all commercial vessels
- Waterways user fee: \$50 (residents); \$150 (non-residents)
- Transient moorings: \$50/night
- Docking and unloading: Varies

Type of Infrastructure	Available?
Ice	
Bait storage	
Trash disposal	
Commerical offloading	
Hoist	
Dock space	
Gear storage	
Mooring space	
Fueling stations	
Vessel repair	
Launch ramp	
Parking for fishermen	
Parking for seafood trucks	
Other	

= Available