

# 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.

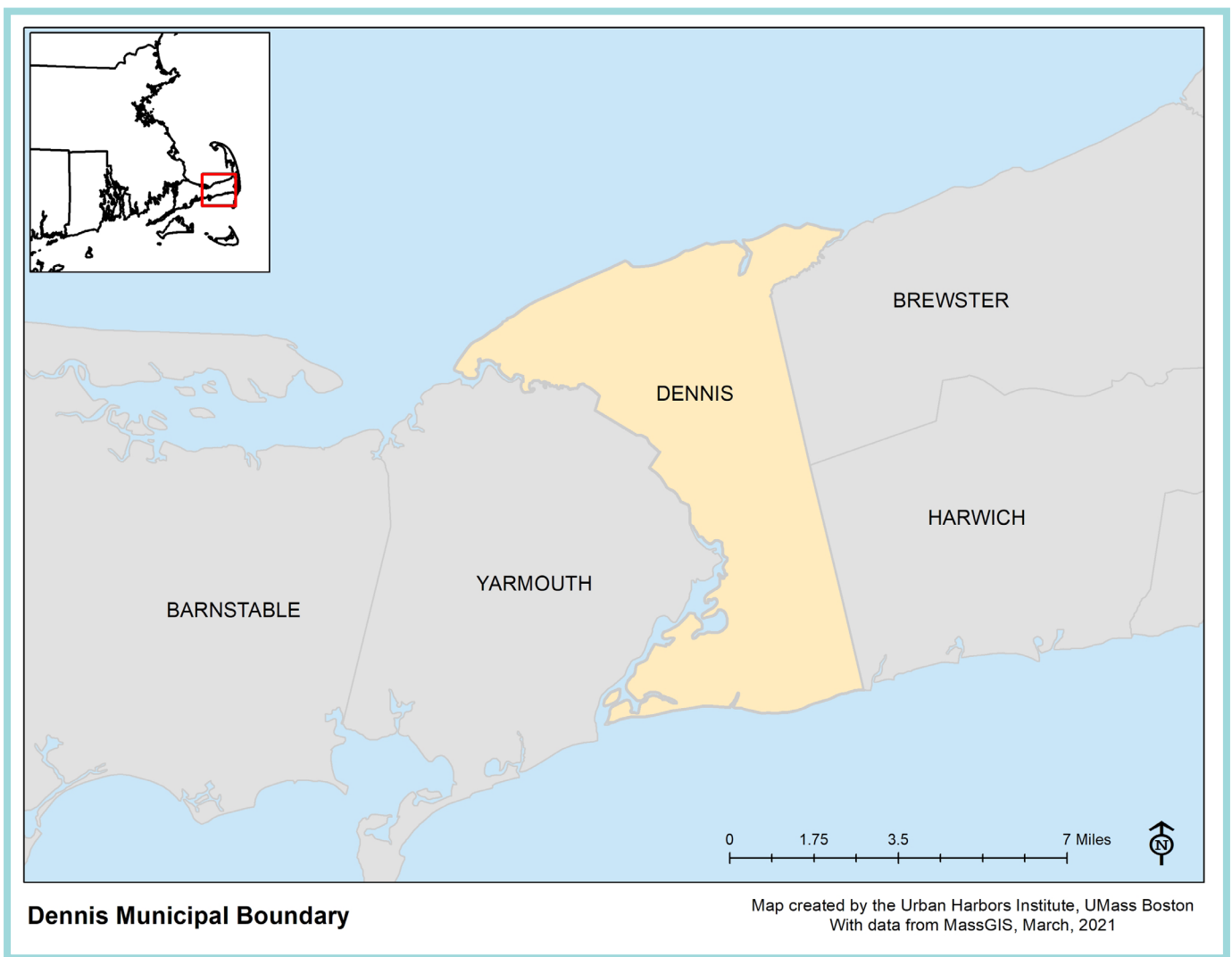
For the full report, visit the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries website.



URBAN HARBORS INSTITUTE  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON







### 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

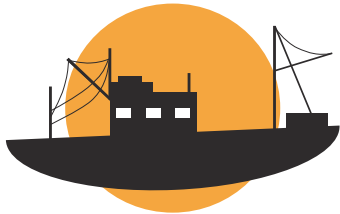
# DENNIS

Located on Cape Cod, Dennis has two main harbors: Sesuit Harbor and Bass River- Kelley's Bay.

Permitted commercial fisheries, which may or may not be active during the survey period, include: Lobster Pot, Dragger, Clam Dredge, Scallop Dredge, Rod & Reel, Aquaculture, For Hire/Charter

## 2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



### Dennis' commercial fishery had:

- 37** permitted harvesters with a Dennis address
- 101** vessels with a Dennis homeport
- 2,552** trips landing in Dennis
- 153** active permitted harvesters landing in Dennis
- 27** active dealers purchasing in Dennis



### Commercial harvesters landed the following in Dennis in 2018:

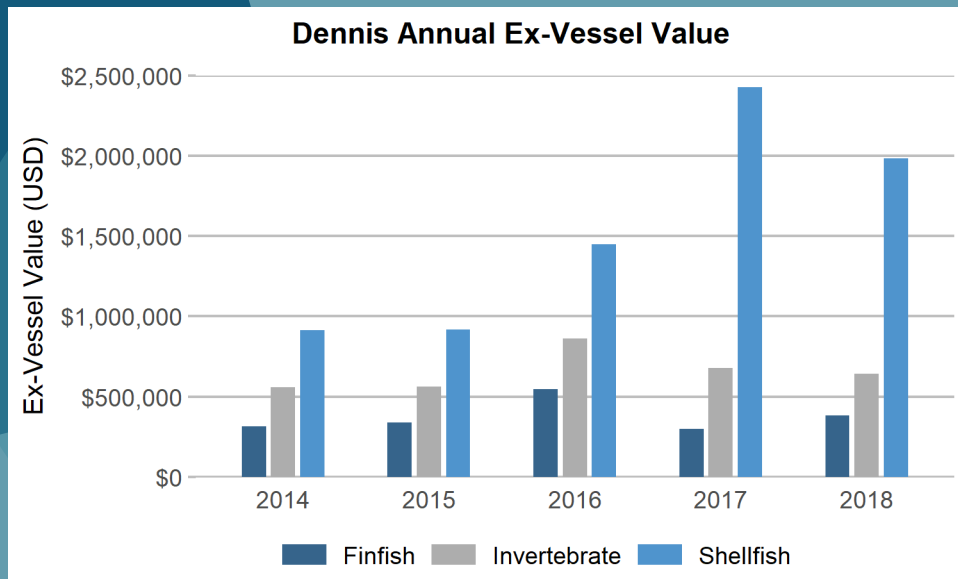
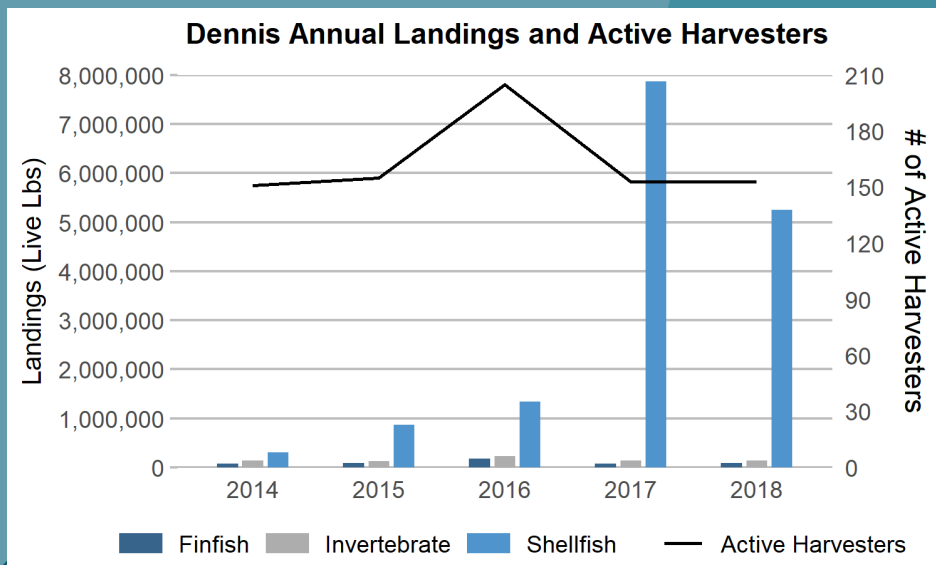
**5,475,064** pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$3,006,213**

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

- Eastern Oyster
- American Lobster
- Blue Mussel

# 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

Dennis' commercial fishing fleet has seen a decline in the number of bluefish in Cape Cod Bay, and growth in the blue mussel dragging industry. Dragging for bay scallops has been dynamic, with good years occurring every 4-5 years. The fleet consists primarily of trailered vessels, and this number has been increasing over the last 10 years due to increased effort for commercial striped bass harvest. A small number of non-trailered vessels also operates out of Dennis.

## Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



### Infrastructure upgrades in last ten years:

- New ramp and docks
- Dredging



### Current infrastructure:

#### Challenges

- Limited parking
- Cost of moorings/slips (cause need to trailer)
- Shallow water/need for dredging
- Lack of docking space/moorings

#### Needs

- Dock repairs/replacement
- New hoist
- Security camera
- Dredging
- Bait storage
- Repair breakwater



### Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

- Moorings: 5
- Slips: 31
- Broadside berthing: None



### In 2018, the municipality charged for the following services:

- Moorings: \$180/mooring
- Slips: \$85/foot
- Launch: \$15/launch
- Transient dockage/mooring: \$4/foot/night on-season; \$2/foot/night off-season
- Annual commercial load/offload: \$150



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