

MASSACHUSETTS COMMERCIAL FISHING PORT PROFILES

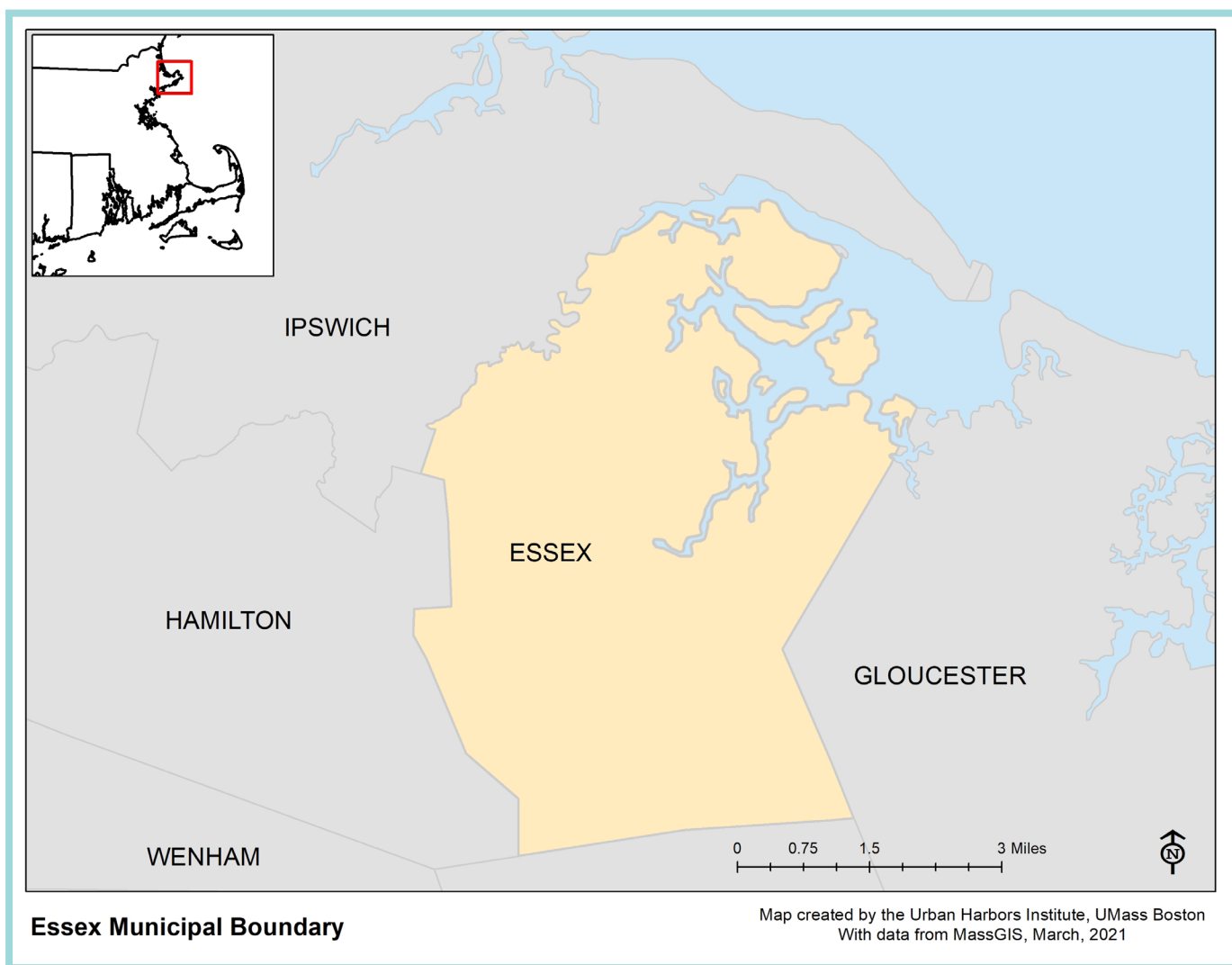
The **Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Port Profiles** were developed through a collaboration between the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, the University of Massachusetts Boston's Urban Harbors Institute, and the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance. Using data from commercial regional 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

Located on the North Shore, Essex has one main harbor named the Essex River.

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

- Lobster Pot
- Shellfish
- Rod & Reel
- For Hire/ Charter



2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



Essex's commercial fishery had:

126 permitted harvesters with an Essex address

33 vessels with an Essex homeport

4,587 trips landing in Essex

122 active permitted harvesters landing in Essex

8 active dealers purchasing in Essex



Commercial harvesters landed the following in Essex in 2018:

1,085,135 pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$1,838,377***

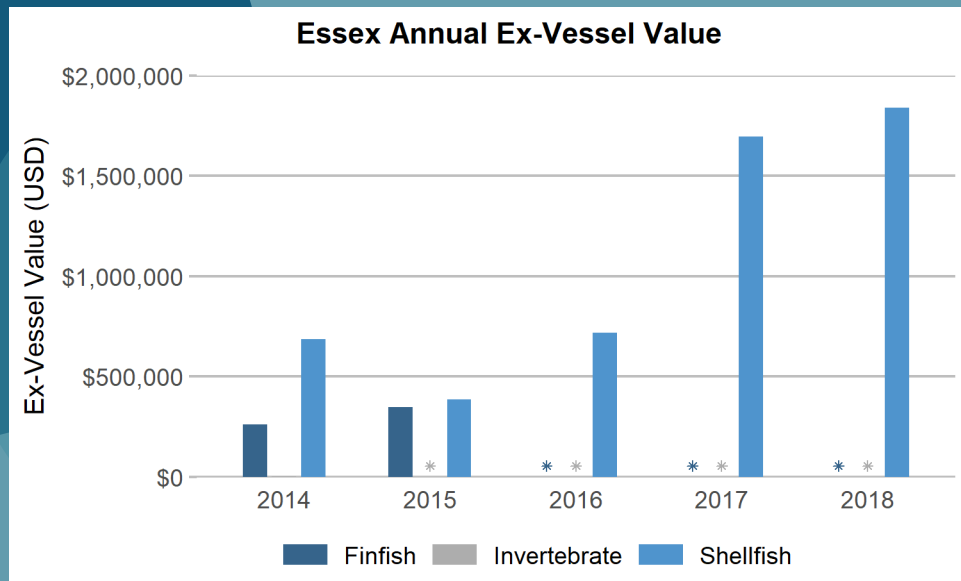
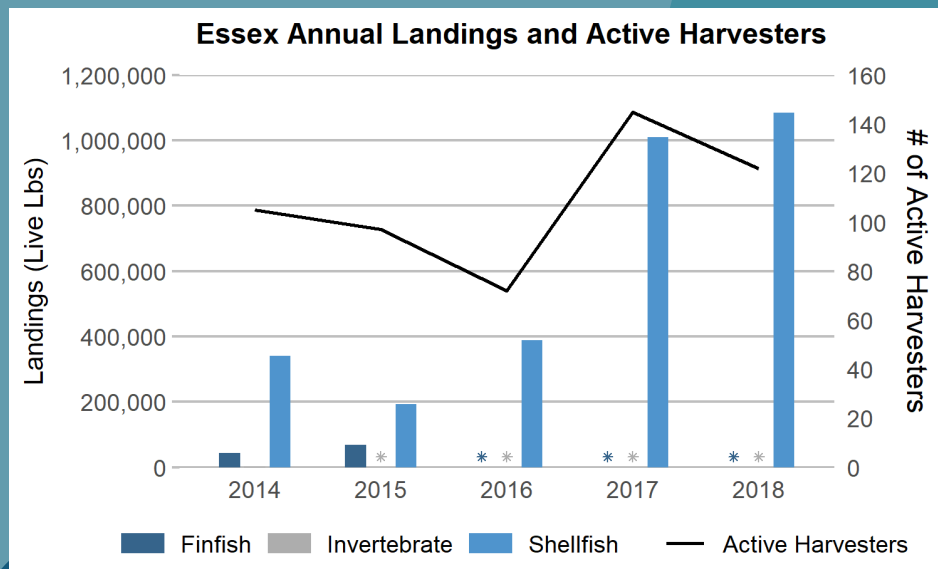
The top-ranked species, by dollar value, landed between 2014-2018 included:

- Soft Shell Clam
- Bluefin Tuna
- Atlantic Razor Clam

*Does not include confidential finfish and invertebrate landings

5 Year Trends in Commercial Landings and Value

Source: 2018 Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



* = CONFIDENTIAL, as fewer than three harvesters, vessels, and/or dealers reported in this municipality.

Status of the Commercial Fishing Industry

Source: 2019 Harbormaster and Harvester Survey Data

Essex's commercial fishing fleet consists of both trailered and non-trailered vessels. In the last 10 years, the number of commercial fishing vessels has increased due to rich fishing waters and shellfish harvesting. The harbor has also become more popular for smaller craft due to shallow water in need of dredging.



Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



Current infrastructure

Challenges

- Lack of docking space and moorings
- Shallow water/need for dredging
- Limited parking

Needs

- Dredging is the biggest obstacle and results in difficulty navigating and minimal space for moorings and docks
- Additional dock and mooring space
- Parking



Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

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



In 2018, municipalities charged for the following services:

- Moorings: \$6/foot per year
- Slips: Private marinas
- Transient moorings: \$25/day
- Launch: \$20/launch

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