

# 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.

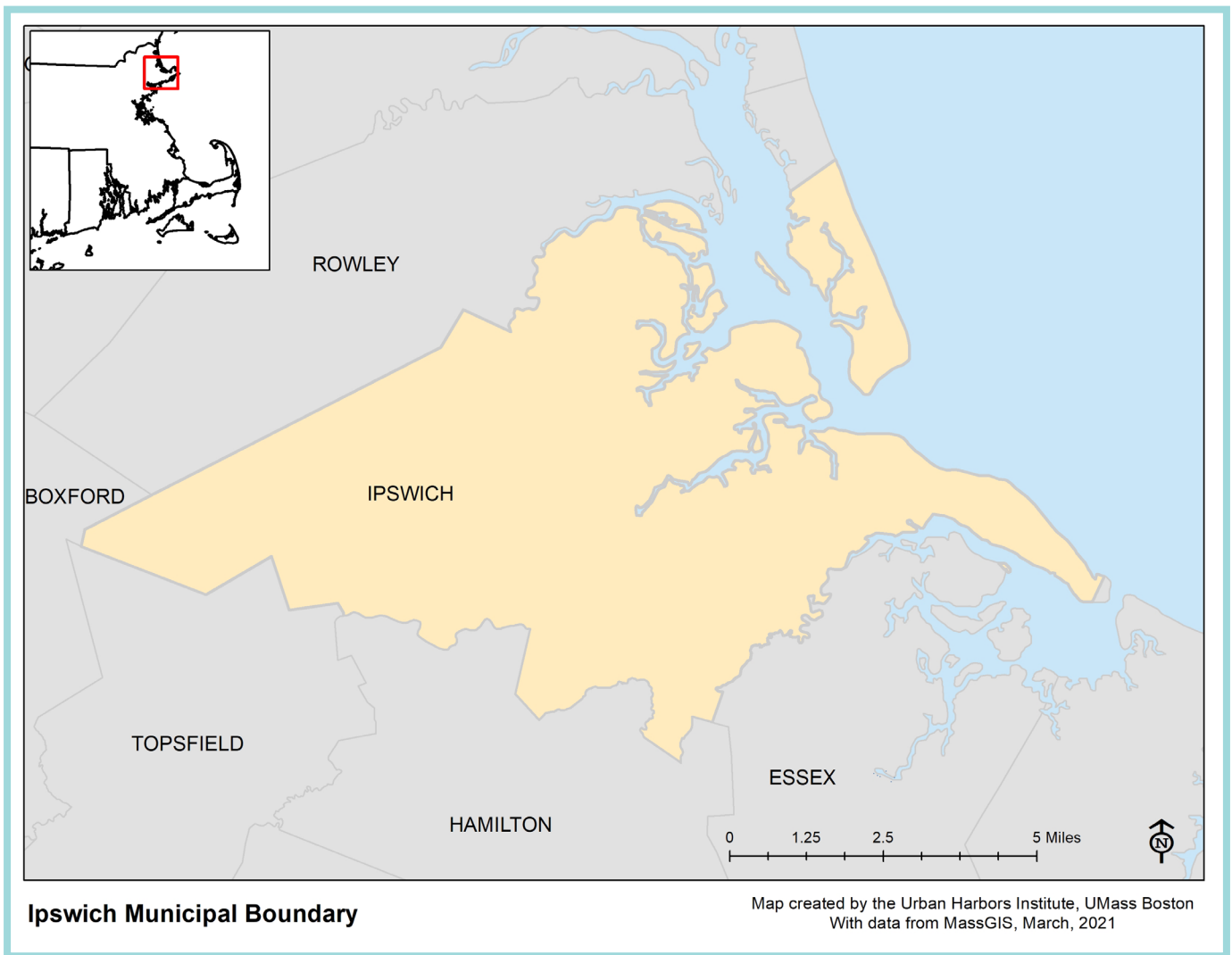
For the full report, visit the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries website.



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

# IPSWICH

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

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

- Lobster Pot
- Shellfish (by hand)
- Rod & Reel
- For Hire/ Charter



## 2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



### Ipswich's commercial fishery had:

- 170** permitted harvesters with an Ipswich address
- 54** vessels with an Ipswich homeport
- 9,289** trips landing in Ipswich
- 214** active permitted harvesters landing in Ipswich
- 12** active dealers purchasing in Ipswich



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

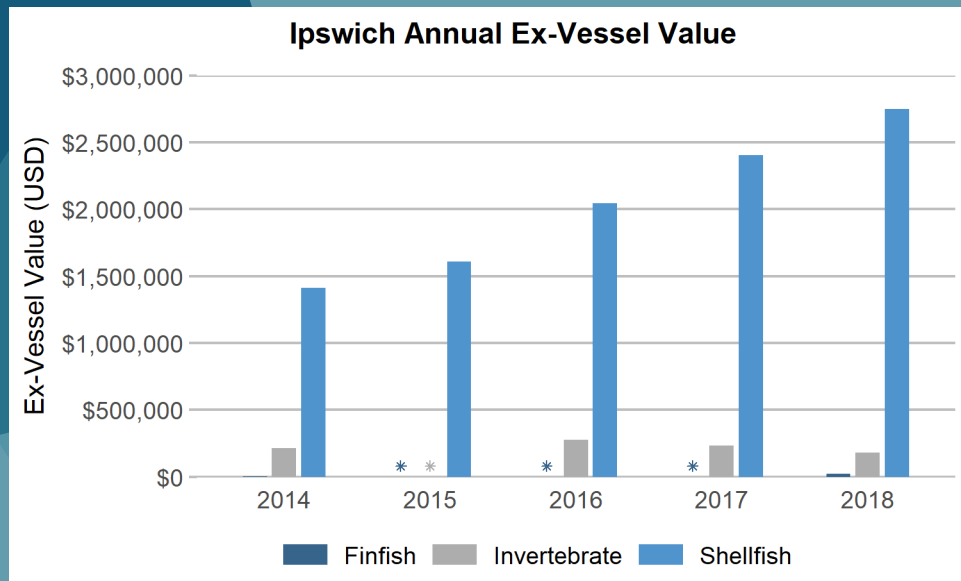
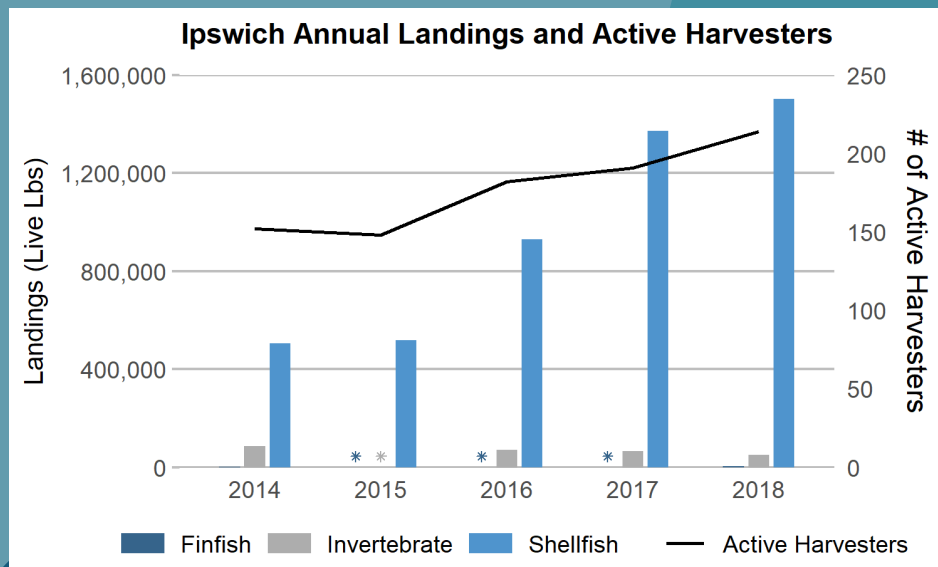
**1,559,841** pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$2,955,464**

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

- Soft-shell Clams
- Atlantic Razor Clam
- American Lobster

# 5 Year Trends in Commercial Landings and Value

Source: DMF 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

Ipswich's commercial fishing fleet consists of both trailered and non-trailered vessels. In the last 10 years, the number of non-trailered commercial fishing vessels has decreased due to a lack of deep water access to the Town Wharf and the need for dredging. The number of trailered vessels has remained the same because those vessels are often smaller and able to navigate more shallow waters.

## Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



### Infrastructure upgrades in last ten years:

- New docks
- Fully refurbished Town Wharf walls, ramp, and pilings



### Current infrastructure:

#### Challenges

- Lack of docking space and moorings
- Shallow water/need for dredging
- Limited parking
- Crowded launch and landing area

#### Needs

- Dredging
- Commercial dockage
- Parking
- Additional launch ramp space for shellfishing
- New gear hoist



### Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

- Moorings: None
- Slips: None
- Broadside berthing: None, Town Wharf only has temporary tie-up



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

- Moorings: \$6/foot
- Slips: \$82/foot per year
- Launch: \$35/year for MA residents



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