



**Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
Technical Report TR-26**

# **Technical Report**

## **2004 Massachusetts Lobster Fishery Statistics**

*M. J. Dean, S. R. Reed, and T. B. Hoopes*

**Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
Department of Fish and Game  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

July 2006

# Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Technical Report Series

Managing Editor: Michael P. Armstrong

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Technical Reports present information and data pertinent to the management, biology and commercial and recreational fisheries of anadromous, estuarine, and marine organisms of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and adjacent waters. The series presents information in a timely fashion that is of limited scope or is useful to a smaller, specific audience and therefore may not be appropriate for national or international journals. Included in this series are data summaries, reports of monitoring programs, and results of studies that are directed at specific management problems.

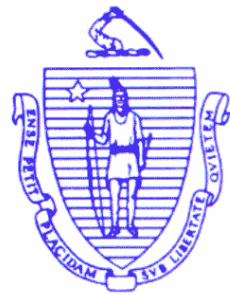
All Reports in the series are available for download in PDF format at:

<http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries/publications/technical.htm> or hard copies may be obtained from the Annisquam River Marine Fisheries Station, 30 Emerson Ave., Gloucester, MA 01930 USA (978-282-0308).

- TR-1 McKiernan, D.J., and D.E. Pierce. 1995. **The *Loligo* squid fishery in Nantucket and Vineyard Sound.**
- TR-2 McBride, H.M., and T.B. Hoopes. 2001. **1999 Lobster fishery statistics.**
- TR-3 McKiernan, D.J., R. Johnston, and W. Hoffman. 1999. **Southern Gulf of Maine raised footrope trawl experimental whiting fishery.**
- TR-4 Nelson, G.A, M.P. Armstrong, and T.B. Hoopes. 2001. **Massachusetts 2000 striped bass monitoring report.**
- TR-5 Chase, B.C., and A.R. Childs. 2002. **Rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*) spawning habitat in the Weymouth-Fore River.**
- TR-6 Chase, B.C., J. Plough, and W. Castonguay. 2002. **A study of the marine resources of Salem Sound, 1997.**
- TR-7 Estrella, B.T., and R.P. Glenn. 2001. **Massachusetts coastal commercial lobster sampling program May-November 2000.**
- TR-8 Estrella, B.T. 2002. **Techniques for live storage and shipping of American lobster, third edition.**
- TR-9 McBride, H.M., and T.B. Hoopes. 2002. **2000 lobster fishery statistics.**
- TR-10 Sheppard, J.J, M.P. Armstrong, D.J. McKiernan and D.E. Pierce 2003. **Characterization of the Massachusetts scup (*Stenotomus chrysops*) fisheries.**
- TR-11 Nelson, G.A., and T.B. Hoopes. 2002. **Massachusetts 2001 striped bass fisheries monitoring report.**
- TR-12 Howe, A. B., S. J. Correia, T. P. Currier, J. King, and R. Johnston. 2002. **Spatial distribution of ages 0 and 1 Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) off the Eastern Massachusetts coast, relative to 'Habitat Area of Special Concern'.**
- TR-13 Dean, M.J., K.A. Lundy, and T.B. Hoopes. 2002. **2001 Massachusetts lobster fishery statistics.**
- TR-14 Estrella, B.T., and R.P. Glenn. 2002. **Massachusetts coastal commercial lobster trap sampling program, May-November 2001.**
- TR-15 Reback, K.E., P.D. Brady, K.D. McLaughlin, and C.G. Milliken. 2004. **A survey of anadromous fish passage in coastal Massachusetts: Part 1. Southeastern Massachusetts.**
- TR-16 Reback, K.E., P.D. Brady, K.D. McLaughlin, and C.G. Milliken. 2004. **A survey of anadromous fish passage in coastal Massachusetts: Part 2. Cape Cod and the Islands.**
- TR-17 Reback, K.E., P.D. Brady, K.D. McLaughlin, and C.G. Milliken. 2004. **A survey of anadromous fish passage in coastal Massachusetts: Part 3. South Coastal.**
- TR-18 Reback, K.E., P.D. Brady, K.D. McLaughlin, and C.G. Milliken. 2004. **A survey of anadromous fish passage in coastal Massachusetts: Part 4. Boston and North Coastal.**
- TR-19 Nelson, G.A. 2003. **2002 Massachusetts striped bass monitoring report.**
- TR-20 Dean, M.J., K.A. Lundy, and T.B. Hoopes. 2003. **2002 Massachusetts lobster fishery statistics.**
- TR-21 Nelson, G.A. 2004. **2003 Massachusetts striped bass monitoring report.**
- TR-22 Lyman, E.G. and D.J. McKiernan. 2005. **Scale modeling of fixed-fishing gear to compare and quantify differently configured buoyline and groundline profiles: an investigation of entanglement threat.**
- TR-23 Dean, M.J., K.A. Lundy, and T.B. Hoopes. 2005. **2003 Massachusetts lobster fishery statistics.**
- TR-24 Nelson, G.A. 2005. **2004 Massachusetts striped bass monitoring report.**
- TR-25 Nelson, G.A. 2006. **A guide to statistical sampling for the estimation of river herring run size using visual counts.**
- TR-26 Dean, M. J., S. R. Reed, and T. B. Hoopes. 2006. **2004 Massachusetts lobster fishery statistics.**



Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
Technical Report TR-26



# 2004 Massachusetts Lobster Fishery Statistics

**Micah J. Dean, Story R. Reed, and Thomas B. Hoopes**

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
Annisquam River Marine Fisheries Station  
Gloucester, MA

July, 2006

**Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries**  
Paul Diodati, Director  
**Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement**  
Dave Peters, Commissioner  
**Executive Office of Environmental Affairs**  
Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary  
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
Mitt Romney, Governor



## Contents

Introduction.....	1
Methods .....	1
Results and Discussion .....	5
Permits issued and Reporting Status.....	5
Coastal Lobster Permit Transfers.....	5
Commercial Landings and Value.....	6
Recreational Landings .....	11
Catch Rates .....	12
Fishing Gear and Vessels.....	15
Validity of Data .....	16
Acknowledgements.....	16
Appendix A: Supplementary Tables.....	18
Appendix B: 2004 Commercial Catch Report Forms .....	22

## **List of Tables**

1. Permit information for the Massachusetts lobster fishery, 2000 - 2004.....	2
2. Recreational lobster permit information 2004 .....	5
3. Massachusetts commercial landings, traps fished and estimated value of landings for 2000 - 2004.....	6
4. Number of active commercial lobstermen, traps fished and lobster landings for 2004 .....	8
5. 2004 commercial lobster landings by month for territorial and non-territorial areas.....	9
6. 2004 commercial lobster landings by permit and area.....	10
7. Reported catch and effort information for 2004 Massachusetts recreational lobster fishery .....	11
8. Types of lobster traps fished and value by permit type for 2004 .....	15
A1. Number of fishermen, landings and value for 2004 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery .....	19
A2. Number of fishing vessels and pots fished for 2004 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery .....	20
A3. Value of fishing vessels and diving gear for 2004 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery .....	21

## List of Figures

1A. Map of DMF Statistical Reporting Areas .....	3
1B. Map of Lobster Management Areas.....	4
2. 2004 weighted ex-vessel price derived from audit lobstermen's' records .....	7
3. Total commercial lobster landings and estimated value for 1994 - 2004 .....	7
4. 2004 commercial lobster harvest by month for territorial and non-territorial areas .....	9
5. Map of 2004 commercial lobster landings from all permit types by statistical reporting area .....	10
6. 2004 commercial lobster landings by permit type and area .....	10
7. Reported recreational landings for 1994 - 2004 .....	11
8. Reported recreational effort for 1994 - 2004.....	11
9. Catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul) by set-over day for coastal and offshore potmen in 2004.....	12
10. Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for coastal and offshore potmen for the last 10 years .....	13
11. Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) by month for coastal and offshore potmen in 2004 .....	13
12. 2004 catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for all license types by are area fished. ....	14
13. Map of 2004 median catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for all license types by area fished .....	14
14. Percent of total traps fished by trap construction type; 1990 - 2004. ....	15
15. Frequency distribution of the percent difference between fishermen's reported catch and their audited records for 2004 commercial lobster fishery.....	16
16. Map of coastal Massachusetts showing county boundaries and statistical reporting areas.....	17

## Introduction

The commercial lobster fishery of Massachusetts is the most economically important fishery conducted within the territorial waters of the Commonwealth. The overall importance of the fishery both in New England and the Mid-Atlantic states has focused the attention of federal, regional and state fishery managers on this species. With the passage of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976, the New England Fisheries Management Council, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Council, developed and implemented a management plan for the entire Atlantic Coast lobster fishery. Management of this fishery was transferred to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) in 1997. Since its first implementation, the Interstate Management Plan for Atlantic Coast Lobster (FMP) has been modified several times. The most current revision at the time these data were collected was Addendum VI (February 2005).

The Commission's management plan introduced area management along the coast, with seven separate Lobster Management Areas (LMAs) from Maine to Maryland. Area designations were based primarily on the percent contribution from different stock components, but the manner in which the fisheries have been prosecuted were also taken into consideration. Each area has been designated a Lobster Conservation Management Team (LCMT) composed of fishermen whose task it is to develop management recommendations that achieve the objectives of the plan. The Massachusetts lobster fishery occurs in four of these LMAs: 1, 2, 3 and OC (Figure 1A).

Information provided by a peer-reviewed stock assessment in 2000 indicated a need for an increase in egg production across all Lobster Management Areas. To meet this requirement, ASMFC created a schedule of minimum gauge size increases through Addendum III to Amendment 3 of the FMP. At the end of 2004, the minimum gauge size was  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " for LMA 1, and  $3\frac{3}{8}$ " for LMAs 2, 3, and Outer Cape (OC). Additional increases of  $\frac{1}{32}$ " per year may be required, if necessary, for LMA 3 until a final minimum size of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " is reached in 2008.

The basis and success of any such management plan is an accurate statistical database. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with funding from the National Marine Fisheries Service, has been collecting annual reports from permitted lobster fishermen

since the early 1960's. In the past, these data were used primarily for descriptive and informational purposes, and occasionally for management. With the emphasis on coastwide management, however, these data have provided the respective management agencies with the information they need to protect the interests of Massachusetts' lobstermen and ensure a productive fishery in the Commonwealth.

During the mid 1970s, concerns over the ability of the resource to support rapidly expanding effort levels prompted statutory and regulatory measures to limit the number of new commercial lobster permits being issued. The issuance of new Coastal Permits was suspended entirely in 1988. As a result of these measures, the number of permits has declined from an all time high of 1,865 in 1988 to a more manageable 1,464 permits in 2004.

This report is the thirty-eighth annual publication of data compiled from the catch reports of permitted lobster fishermen. This report does not, however, cover the scope of the Project's existing database and computational capability. Requests for expanded information, or questions concerning this publication, should be directed to the Division's MIS & Fisheries Statistics Project in Gloucester, MA: (978) 282-0308.

## Methods

Chapter 130, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 33, requires all lobstermen to file an annual report of their catch by January 31 for the preceding calendar year. Commercial lobstermen (coastal, offshore and seasonal/student) receive a detailed catch report form specific to their permit type with their renewal application (Appendix B). Recreational fishermen are asked to report on their permit renewal application form the number of lobsters taken during the previous year, hours dived and the maximum number of traps fished. Catch reports are visually screened upon receipt and incomplete or improperly filled out forms are returned. Completed reports are entered into an Oracle database and the original forms are kept on file at our Gloucester office. As the data enters the database, it is validated against a set of QA/QC criteria by the data entry software. In addition, the data is once again reviewed for data entry errors prior to the production of this report.

Fisherman catch reports are the primary source of the data presented in this report. Some data elements, such as permits and transfer information come from our permitting database. Price and data



validity information are derived from records submitted by fishermen during our annual audit of commercial lobster catch reports.

Most of the data presented in this publication are broken out either by permit type or by area. Area data is reported according to MA DMF Statistical Reporting Areas (Figure 1A), which conform to National Marine Fisheries Service reporting areas. Reporting areas 1 through 14 are considered "Territorial" areas and include all waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth. Reporting areas 15 through 25 are considered "Non-Territorial" areas, meaning they lie outside the State Waters. Statistical Reporting Area 26 refers to any area outside of Areas 1 through 25.

In keeping with Division policy, some of the data are masked or combined to protect the confidentiality of the individual submitting the report. Specifically, any grouping of data that represents less than

three fishermen is not shown.

Data referring to the number of fishermen, number and value of gear, and number and value of boats are presented by the homeport of the vessel associated with the permit.

Vessel and SCUBA gear values were calculated on the basis of the fishermen's estimate of its present value and the percentage of the time it is in use specifically for lobstering. When fishermen reported the number of lobsters taken, rather than poundage, a conversion factor of 1.27 pounds per lobster was used to calculate poundage figures. This figure is based on information collected by the Division's Coastal Lobster Investigations Project.

Data presented in this publication are based on catch reports actually received as of April 2006. Late reports received beyond this point are not represented here but will be entered into our databases and accounted for in future publications.

**Table 1.** Permit information for the Massachusetts lobster fishery, 2000-2004

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Coastal Permits</b>					
Issued	1,541	1,538	1,531	1,504	<b>1,464</b>
Fished	1,125	1,098	1,086	1,044	<b>982</b>
Did Not Fish	399	416	422	433	<b>450</b>
Not Reporting	17	24	23	27	<b>32</b>
<b>Offshore Permits*</b>					
Issued	534	530	555	553	<b>346</b>
Fished	345	344	376	381	<b>203</b>
Did Not Fish	129	142	140	142	<b>116</b>
Not Reporting	60	44	39	30	<b>27</b>
<b>Offshore Non-Trap Permits*</b>					
Issued					<b>202</b>
Fished					<b>129</b>
Did Not Fish					<b>53</b>
Not Reporting					<b>20</b>
<b>Seasonal (Student) Permits</b>					
Issued	92	96	98	104	<b>100</b>
Fished	53	51	57	55	<b>51</b>
Did Not Fish	17	14	16	15	<b>15</b>
Not Reporting	22	31	25	34	<b>34</b>
<b>Recreational Permits</b>					
Issued	11,766	11,957	11,954	11,395	<b>11,113</b>
Fished	6,573	6,605	6,279	5,921	<b>5,800</b>
Did Not Fish	2,590	2,538	2,740	2,688	<b>2,492</b>
Not Reporting	2,604	2,814	2,935	2,786	<b>2,821</b>

\* The "Offshore Non-Trap" permit type was created for the 2004 fishing year. In prior years, only one type Offshore permit existed, regardless of gear type.

**Figure 1A. Map of DMF Statistical Reporting Areas**

MA Territorial Waters = Reporting Areas 1 - 14  
Description of Boundaries Between Territorial Areas

Between	Boundaries
1 & 2	Castle Neck, Ipswich to Territorial Line
2 & 3	Gales Pt, Manchester to Territorial Line
3 & 4	Red Rock, New Bedford to Territorial Line
4 & 5	High Pines Pt, Cape Cod to Territorial Line
5 & 6	High Pines Pt, Plymouth to 120 Foot Line
6 & 7	Scussett Beach, Sandwich to 120 Foot Line
7 & 8	120 Foot Line
8 & 9	70 Degree Longitude Line
9 & 10	41 Degree 20 Minute Longitude Line
10 & 11	Wasque Pt, MA to Muskeget Island, Nantucket
11 & 12	120 Degree Longitude Line to Cape Poge, NY
12 & 13	41 Degree 20 Minute Longitude Line
13 & 14	Elizabeth Is and Sow & Pigs Reef to Territorial Line

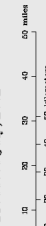
Department of  
Fisheries, Wildlife &  
Environmental Law Enforcement

**Division of  
Marine Fisheries**  
DIRECTOR PAUL LUDWIG



Massachusetts Office of Environmental Affairs - 2002

Produced July, 2002

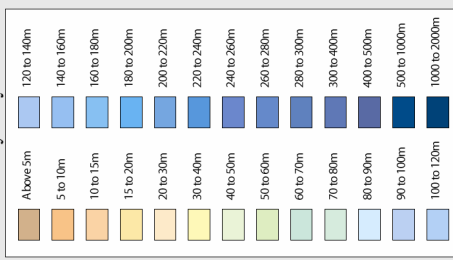


**NOTE: Cape Cod Canal = Area 14**

**Offshore Reporting Areas = 15 - 25**  
**Comparison of Offshore Areas to**  
**NMFS Statistical Reporting Areas**

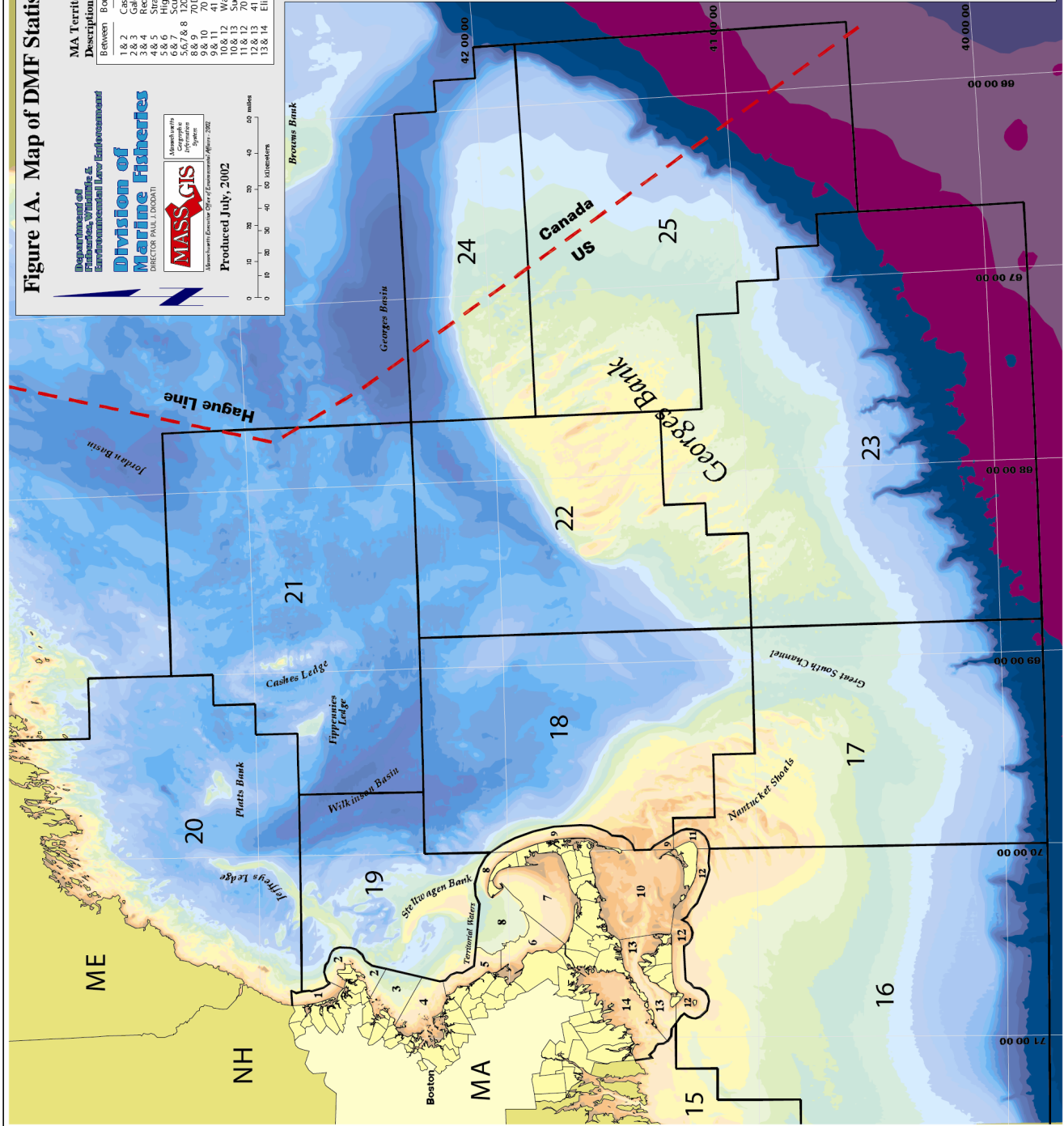
DMF Area	NMFS Area
15	539
16	537
17	526
18	521
19	514
20	513
21	515
22	522
23	523
24	524
25	524

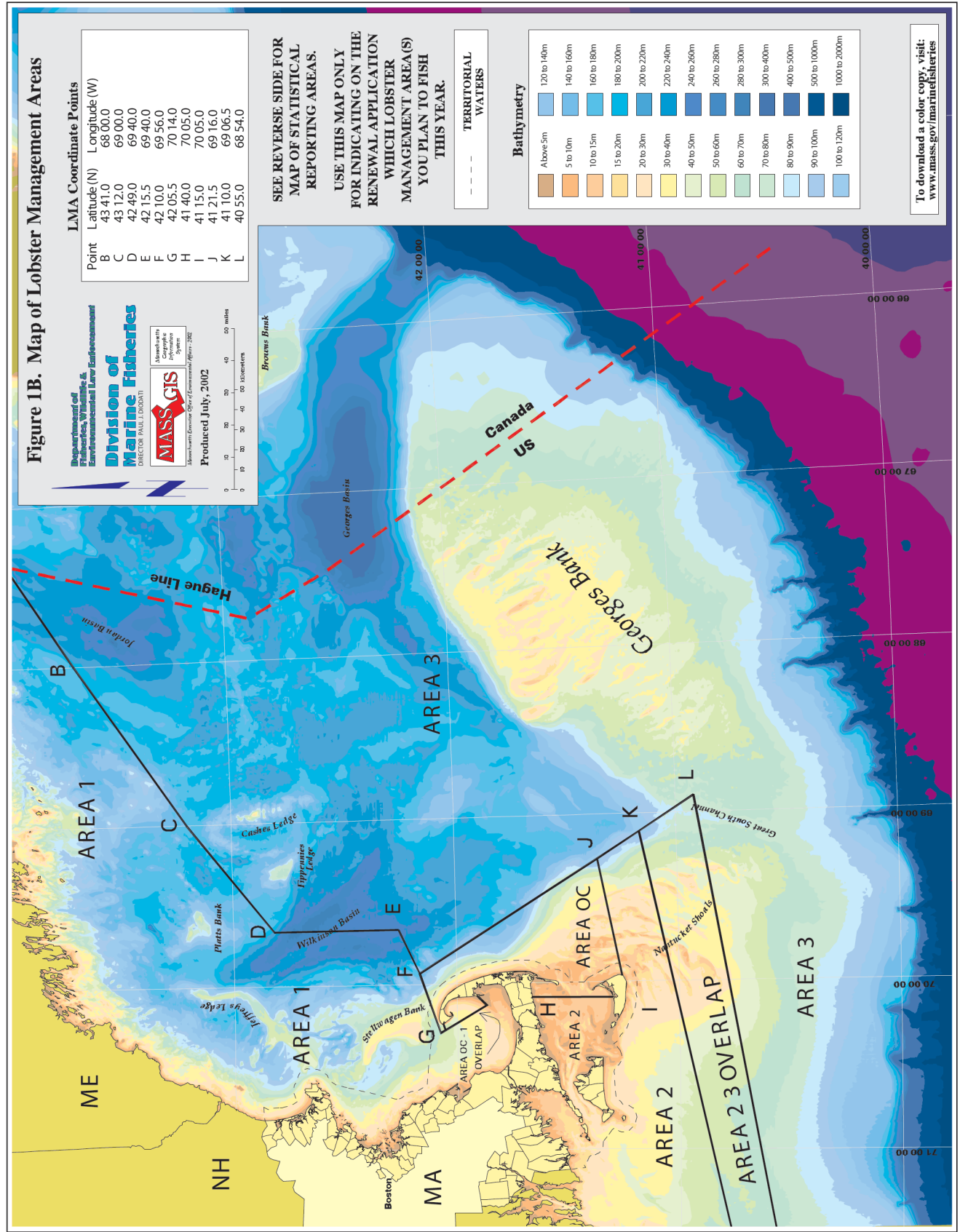
**Bathymetry**



**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
MAP OF  
LOBSTER MANAGEMENT  
AREAS**  
**USE THIS MAP FOR  
REPORTING CATCH ONLY**

To download a color copy, visit:  
[www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)





## Results and Discussion

Permits issued and reporting status. The Division of Marine Fisheries issues five types of lobster permits:

*Coastal Commercial:* Allows the holder to harvest lobster anywhere, most importantly inside territorial waters.

*Offshore Commercial:* Allows the holder to harvest lobster outside territorial waters only.

*Offshore Commercial (Non-trap):* Same as Offshore Permit, except the permit holder is restricted to non-trap gear types. This permit type was created for the 2004 fishing year. Prior to 2004, there was only one type of offshore permit, regardless of gear type.

*Seasonal Commercial:* Allows the holder, if he or she is a student, to harvest lobster anywhere, but with a maximum of 25 traps and only during the months of June - September.

*Recreational:* Allows the holder to harvest lobster anywhere using SCUBA gear, a maximum of 10 traps, or a combination of both. The catch may not be sold.

A total of 13,225 lobster permits were issued in 2004: 2,112 commercial and 11,113 recreational (Table 1). Of the commercial permits issued, 1,464 were coastal permits, a 2.7 percent decline over the previous year. This represents the 17th consecutive decline since a moratorium on new coastal permits was declared in 1988. The number of offshore permits issued decreased by less than 1 percent, while the number of seasonal permits decreased by 3.8 percent.

As of June 2006, 113 permitted commercial lobstermen (5.4 percent) failed to file a 2004 catch report with the Division. Of the 1,999 commercial fishermen who reported, 634 or 30 percent claimed they did not fish for lobster in 2004.

Recreational permits issued declined in 2004 by 2.5 percent, the third consecutive decrease. Compared to commercial permit holders, substantially more recreational fishermen failed to report at 25.4 percent; However, an annual reporting rate of 75 percent in the recreational fishery is not unusual. Seventy percent of the recreational permit holders that submitted catch reports declared that they

fished for lobster in 2004. Of those that reported fishing, 42.2 percent declared using pots, 26.2 percent used dive gear and 31.6 used a combination of the two (Table 2).

Permit fees collected in 2004 totaled \$962,440: \$514,540 for commercial permits and \$447,900 for recreational permits. The cost of Massachusetts lobster permits remained at \$260 for coastal or offshore permits (\$520 for non-residents), \$65 for seasonal permits (\$130 for non-residents) and \$40 for recreational permits (\$60 for non-residents). The last increase in permit fees was in 1989.

Coastal lobster permit transfer. During calendar year 2004, the Division authorized the transfer of 64 coastal licenses. Fourteen of the transfers went to captains who were previously authorized to fish another holder's license and who had fished that holder's license for at least twelve months prior to the transfer. Eighteen transfers were allowed within the holder's immediate family (and would have been allowed prior to the new regulation). Eleven transfers were made directly from the holder to a sternman with a documented fishing history. Thirty-six licenses were forfeited to the Division in 2004. Two of these coastal lobster permits were issued directly to waiting list applicants.

**Table 2.** Recreational lobster permit information for 2004

Permit Type:	Diver	Diver/Pot	Potman	Total
Issued	3,138	3,528	4,447	<b>11,113</b>
Reporting	2,248	2,701	3,336	<b>8,285</b>
Fished	1,520	1,831	2,445	<b>5,796</b>
Did Not Fish	728	870	891	<b>2,489</b>
Not Reporting	890	827	1,111	<b>2,828</b>

**Commercial Landings and Value.** In 2004, 11,784,110 pounds of lobster were reported landed by commercial lobstermen in Massachusetts, a 3.1 percent increase from 2003 (Table 3). Just over 60 percent of those landings were taken from Territorial Waters. The territorial fishery is predominantly a trap-fishery, with 98.8 percent of the landings coming from traps. In contrast, the non-territorial fishery landed 22.2 percent of its catch from non-trap gear types, such as bottom trawls and gillnets.

The state-wide weighted average ex-vessel price as taken from audited fishermen's records was \$4.50, a 3.2 percent increase over the previous year (Figure 2). The ex-vessel price followed a seasonal trend similar to prior years: prices increased steadily from the first of the year to a peak in April, then dropped sharply followed by a second smaller peak in mid-summer. The lowest prices of the year were seen in October and November, after which they

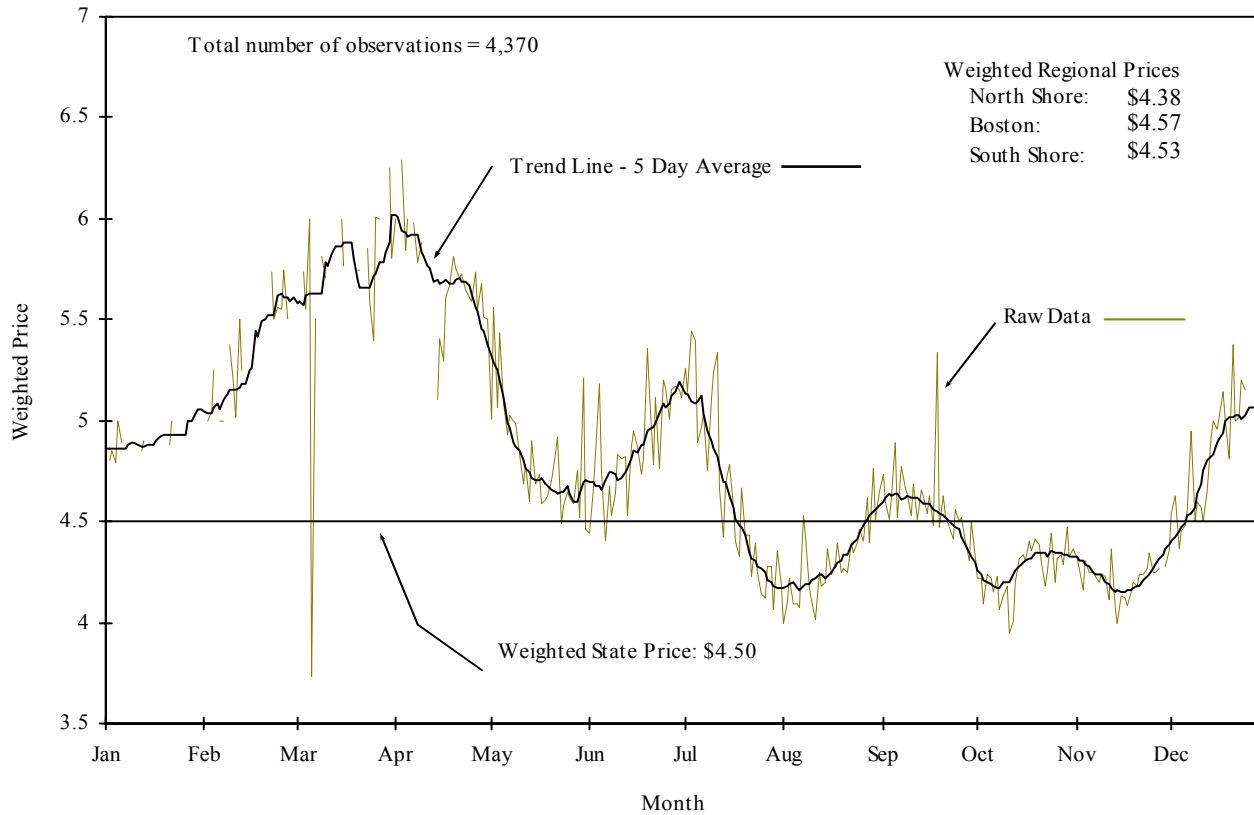
rebounded steadily to above-average prices by the end of the year. The estimated total value of the commercial catch rose by 6.4 percent to \$53,028,494 (total lbs x avg. price). This represents the highest value of commercial lobster landings since 2000 (Figure 3).

In total pounds of lobster landed, Essex County continues to be ranked first, Barnstable County second and Plymouth County third (Appendix A, Table A1). Gloucester was the number one port in total pounds landed followed by Sandwich, Beverly and Plymouth, in that order (Table 5). In terms of active commercial lobstermen, Essex County ranked first with 528, Plymouth County second with 254 and Bristol County third with 207. Among the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, Gloucester ranked first in active fishermen followed by Plymouth, Rockport and New Bedford in that order.

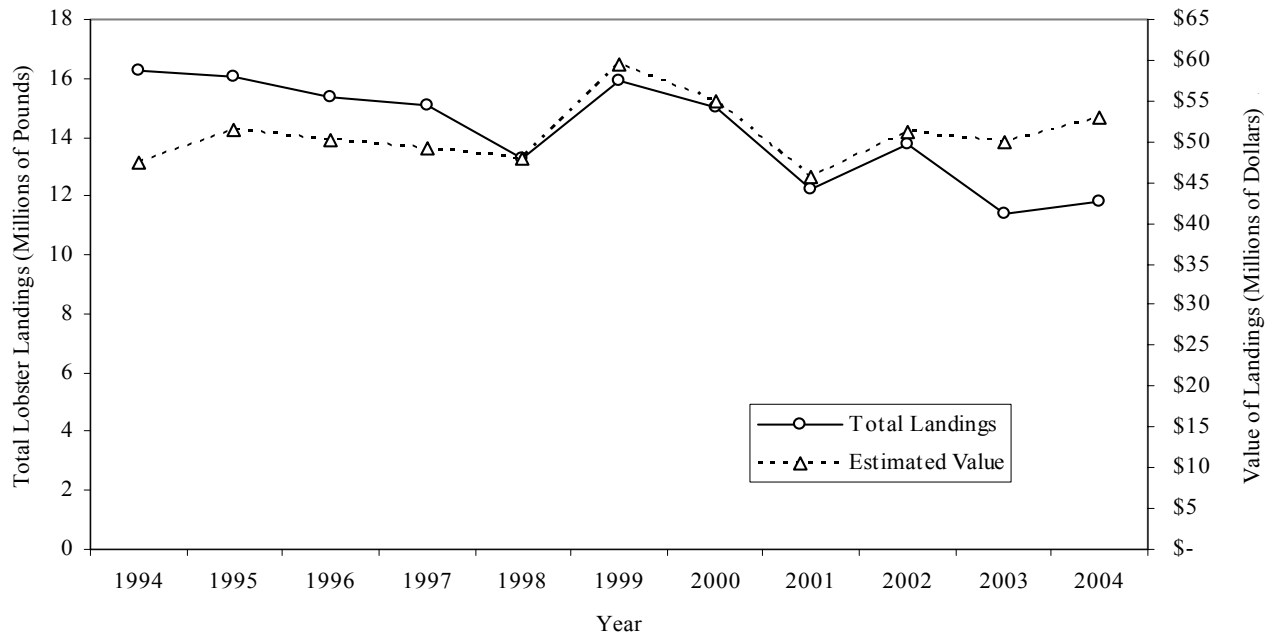
**Table 3.** Massachusetts commercial landings, traps fished and estimated value of landings for 2000-2004. "Total Traps" is calculated by summing each individual's maximum traps fished for the year. For the purposes of this table, all of an individual's maximum traps are considered "Territorial" if the majority of their landings come from Territorial Waters. Value is estimated by multiplying total landings by the state-wide average ex-vessel price per pound.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Landings	15,031,538	12,237,121	13,776,018	11,429,379	11,784,110
Total Estimated Value	\$54,865,114	\$45,766,833	\$51,246,785	\$49,832,092	\$53,028,494
Total Traps Fished	482,218	473,027	507,891	480,484	448,844
Average Price (\$) / Lb	\$3.65	\$3.74	\$3.72	\$4.36	\$4.50
Ave. Lbs. / Trap-Haul	0.7763	0.6697	0.7006	0.6052	0.6714
Ave. Lbs. / Trap	29.67	24.22	25.27	21.45	23.75
<b>Territorial</b>					
Landings	9,859,453	7,175,335	8,189,365	6,884,885	7,100,620
Estimated Value	\$35,987,002	\$26,835,751	\$30,464,437	\$30,018,099	\$31,952,788
Trap Landings	9,837,213	7,163,730	8,159,401	6,831,179	7,016,460
Traps Fished	382,711	370,907	407,317	388,479	366,129
Non-Trap Landings	22,240	11,605	29,964	53,706	84,159
<b>Non-Territorial</b>					
Landings	5,172,085	5,061,787	5,586,653	4,544,494	4,683,490
Estimated Value	\$18,878,111	\$18,931,082	\$20,782,348	\$19,813,993	\$21,075,707
Trap Landings	4,468,805	4,293,430	4,675,725	3,473,630	3,641,366
Traps Fished	99,507	102,120	100,574	92,005	82,715
Non-Trap Landings	703,280	768,357	910,928	1,070,864	1,042,124

**Figure 2.** 2004 weighted ex-vessel price derived from audited lobstermen's records.



**Figure 3.** Total commercial lobster landings and estimated value for 1994—2004.



**Table 4.** Number of active commercial lobstermen and lobster landings by homeport for 2004 (does not include seasonal permits). Homeport data is taken from vessel information on the permit applications. In cases where no vessel or homeport was specified, the port of landing was used. Catch data encompasses all reported landings, regardless of gear type, while effort data represents only trap effort. Shaded areas denote towns which rank in the top 10 for either number of fishermen, total catch, or total effort. Some cities and towns are combined to protect the confidentiality of the data.

City / Town	Fishermen		Catch (Pounds)					Effort *		
	Number	Rank	Territorial	Non-Territorial	Total	Percent	Rank	Traps	Percent	Rank
Amesbury-Newbury-Rowley	4	45	3,609	200	3,809	0.03%	48	450	0.10%	47
Barnstable-Yarmouth	7	35	35,794	231,343	267,137	2.30%	15	3,905	0.88%	28
Beverly	40	9	472,020	120,328	592,348	5.10%	7	20,558	4.62%	7
Boston	57	6	351,659	471,959	823,618	7.10%	2	21,161	4.76%	6
Bourne	3	48	3,433	0	3,433	0.03%	49	355	0.08%	49
Chatham	44	8	202,300	263,063	465,363	4.01%	10	10,595	2.38%	14
Chilmark	13	24	11,840	14,292	26,132	0.23%	39	2,948	0.66%	30
Cohasset	29	13	274,293	71,709	346,002	2.98%	12	13,405	3.01%	11
Danvers	8	34	45,933	0	45,933	0.40%	31	2,660	0.60%	33
Dartmouth	10	28	14,980	1,420	16,400	0.14%	43	1,800	0.40%	39
Dennis	14	23	63,323	0	63,323	0.55%	28	4,999	1.12%	24
Duxbury-Kingston	9	30	40,500	7	40,507	0.35%	34	2,809	0.63%	31
Edgartown-Oak Bluffs	3	48	1,363	0	1,363	0.01%	50	305	0.07%	50
Essex	5	41	15,365	0	15,365	0.13%	44	1,760	0.40%	40
Fairhaven	29	13	91,888	115,887	207,775	1.79%	18	11,590	2.61%	13
Falmouth	9	30	5,612	26,282	31,894	0.27%	35	610	0.14%	45
Gloucester	202	1	902,527	843,334	1,745,861	15.05%	1	61,228	13.77%	1
Gosnold	3	48	5,172	0	5,172	0.04%	46	411	0.09%	48
Harwich	7	35	4,350	24,250	28,600	0.25%	36	1,236	0.28%	43
Hingham	13	24	165,753	19,265	185,018	1.59%	21	6,381	1.43%	22
Hull	18	22	243,021	41,492	284,513	2.45%	14	9,535	2.14%	17
Ipswich	10	28	24,363	0	24,363	0.21%	40	2,342	0.53%	37
Lynn	4	45	21,427	5,475	26,902	0.23%	38	1,615	0.36%	41
Manchester	26	16	193,018	1,032	194,050	1.67%	20	9,543	2.15%	16
Marblehead	35	12	278,720	31,231	309,951	2.67%	13	16,049	3.61%	9
Marion	5	41	6,276	39,051	45,327	0.39%	32	2,590	0.58%	34
Marshfield	61	5	461,695	104,407	566,102	4.88%	8	28,661	6.44%	3
Mattapoisett	11	27	61,127	14,293	75,420	0.65%	26	5,045	1.13%	23
Nahant	20	20	254,169	6,736	260,905	2.25%	16	11,775	2.65%	12
Nantucket	6	38	12,214	34,349	46,563	0.40%	30	1,181	0.27%	44
New Bedford	117	2	49,070	418,531	467,600	4.03%	9	7,285	1.64%	21
Newburyport	20	20	53,516	21,296	74,812	0.64%	27	4,563	1.03%	26
Orleans	21	19	192,228	7,778	200,006	1.72%	19	7,385	1.66%	20
Plymouth	83	3	646,019	36,452	682,471	5.88%	5	37,666	8.47%	2
Provincetown	36	11	232,844	9,381	242,225	2.09%	17	8,811	1.98%	18
Quincy	5	41	22,990	0	22,990	0.20%	41	1,830	0.41%	38
Rockport	64	4	483,275	128,329	611,604	5.27%	6	22,274	5.01%	5
Salem	6	38	28,165	0	28,165	0.24%	37	2,400	0.54%	36
Salisbury	9	30	19,113	1,130	20,243	0.17%	42	2,460	0.55%	35
Sandwich	40	9	278,641	460,685	739,326	6.37%	4	23,187	5.21%	4
Saugus-Revere	22	17	157,758	1,248	159,006	1.37%	22	10,294	2.31%	15
Scituate	46	7	215,546	188,834	404,381	3.48%	11	19,480	4.38%	8
Swampscott	22	17	152,103	4,595	156,697	1.35%	23	7,537	1.69%	19
Tisbury	5	41	5,807	738	6,545	0.06%	45	1,245	0.28%	42
Truro	9	30	42,382	200	42,582	0.37%	33	2,680	0.60%	32
Wareham	4	45	3,982	0	3,982	0.03%	47	505	0.11%	46
Wellfleet-Eastham	7	35	80,111	0	80,111	0.69%	25	3,460	0.78%	29
Westport-Fall River	27	15	27,765	719,716	747,481	6.44%	3	15,288	3.44%	10
Weymouth	6	38	56,351	45,402	101,753	0.88%	24	4,815	1.08%	25
Winthrop	13	24	62,418	0	62,418	0.54%	29	4,077	0.92%	27
Statewide Total	1,267		7,077,826	4,525,719	11,603,546			444,744		
Out Of State	45		0	163,678	163,678			1,860		

\* The number of "Traps" for each city/town represents the sum of each individual's maximum traps fished for the year.



Territorial landings by commercial lobstermen showed a distinct seasonal trend (Figure 4; Table 5). Landings increased steadily from a low of 40,019 pounds in February to a high of 1,223,601 pounds in October and then dropped off again to 270,864 pounds in December. Commercial landings from non-territorial waters showed a slightly different seasonal trend, with the low in May and the peak in November. These annual patterns in territorial and non-territorial landings are similar to previous years.

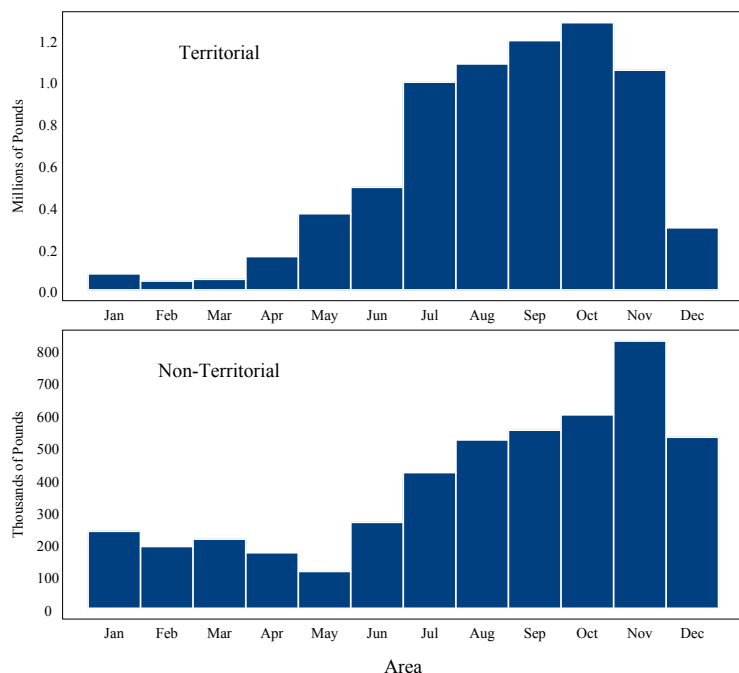
The greatest harvest of lobster from territorial waters came from the Cape Ann vicinity (Statistical Reporting Area 2), where approximately 22 percent of the state's territorial harvest was caught (Figure 4). Reporting Areas 4, 3 and 5 had the next highest territorial landings, respectively, with over 80 percent of the territorial harvest came from areas north of Cape Cod (Statistical Reporting Areas 1-7). In all, territorial landings were down 16.5 percent

from 2002.

Reporting area 19 saw the highest non-territorial landings, which were dominated by Coastal permit holders (Figures 5 and 6; Table 6). Offshore permit holders, which are not permitted to harvest lobsters from territorial waters, had their highest landings from Georges Bank (reporting areas 25, 22 and 23 in decreasing order).

Some misreporting has occurred in the past due to lobstermen reporting by Lobster Management Area (Figure 1B) as opposed to Statistical Reporting Area (Figure 1A), thereby artificially inflating landings in Reporting Areas 1, 2 and 3. However, we feel this problem has been minimized since 2002, due to a redesigned catch report form and visual screening of effort data prior to data entry.

**Figure 4.** 2004 commercial lobster landings by month for territorial and non-territorial areas

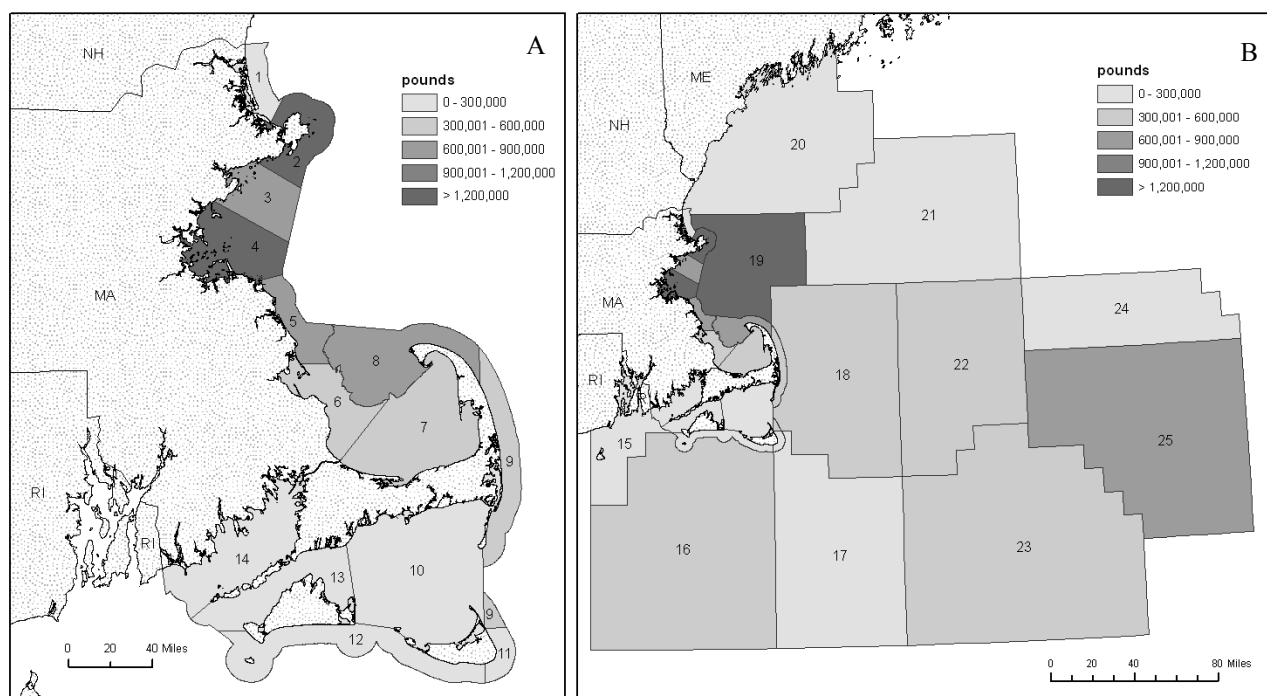


**Table 5.** 2004 commercial lobster landings by month for territorial and non-territorial areas

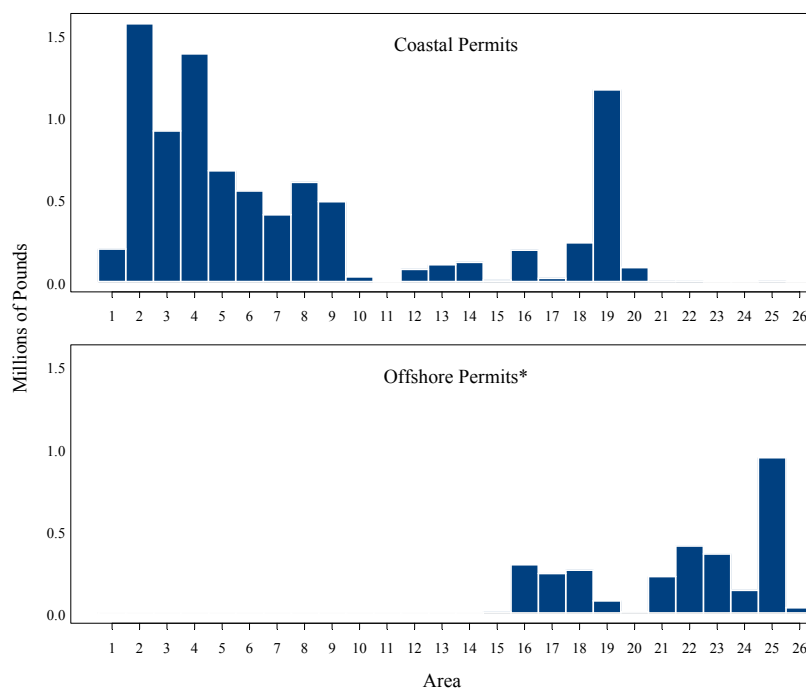
Month	Territorial	Non-Territorial
January	71,343	246,219
February	37,498	198,064
March	52,120	215,745
April	159,699	176,212
May	369,470	114,148
June	492,514	270,449
July	999,471	421,442
August	1,081,958	524,063
September	1,196,081	548,143
October	1,284,443	601,753
November	1,056,663	832,123
December	299,360	535,128
Total	7,100,620	4,683,490



**Figure 5.** 2004 total commercial lobster landings from all permit types by statistical reporting area (A - territorial areas; B- non-territorial areas).



**Figure 6.** 2004 Commercial lobster landings by permit type and area



\* Offshore and Offshore Non-Trap landings combined

**Table 6.** 2004 Commercial lobster landings by permit and area.

Area	Coastal	Offshore*
1	197,548	947
2	1,564,542	4,002
3	914,199	803
4	1,381,955	234
5	671,873	360
6	549,233	285
7	405,425	1,074
8	601,556	0
9	485,407	508
10	27,796	0
11	0	0
12	74,163	0
13	102,303	324
14	115,933	150
15	9,510	5,654
16	190,368	293,087
17	19,302	240,150
18	235,785	259,942
19	1,163,475	74,054
20	84,514	7,186
21	520	221,374
22	3,635	406,368
23	0	357,524
24	0	137,302
25	179	942,054
26 †	0	31,508
Total	8,799,221	2,984,889

† Area 26 includes any landings from outside the MA Statistical Reporting Areas

**Recreational Landings.** Recreational lobstermen reported landing 197,136 lobsters in 2004, a 2.7 percent increase from 2003 (Table 7). This represents the first increase in recreational landings since 1999 (Figure 7). Although recreational landings are reported in numbers of lobsters harvested, a rough estimate of total pounds harvested can be made by multiplying by an average size of 1.27 pounds per lobster. Therefore, estimated recreational landings of 250,363 pounds represents approximately 2.1 percent of the total commercial landings.

The total number of recreational traps-fished decreased by 1.9 percent to 24,849 and the number

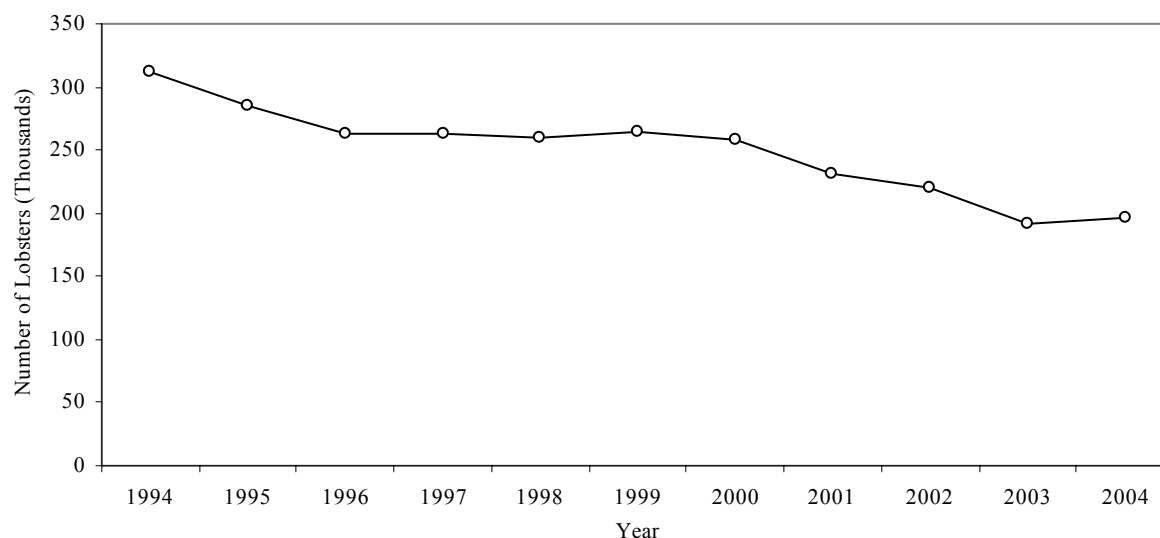
of hours diving decreased by 6.2 percent to 42,423 (Figure 8). The average number traps fished by potmen was 4.1 traps, while the average numbers of hours diving was 6.5 hours.

**Table 7.** Reported catch and effort information for 2004 Massachusetts recreational lobster fishery

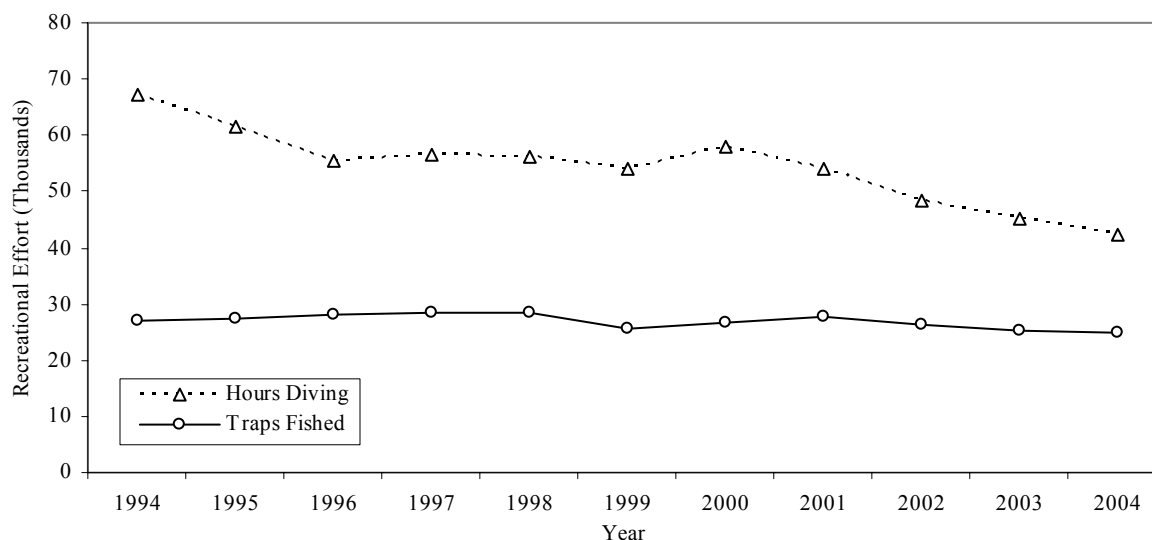
	Diver	Diver/Pot	Potman	Total
Number of Lobsters	28,469	66,190	102,477	197,136
Pounds of Lobster *	36,156	84,061	130,146	250,363
Traps Fished		7,113	17,736	24,849
Hours Diving	20,456	21,967		42,423

\* Based on 1.27 Pounds per Lobster.

**Figure 7.** Reported recreational lobster landings for 1994-2004



**Figure 8.** Reported recreational lobster effort for 1994-2004



**Catch rates.** The average catch per trap-haul for coastal lobstermen in 2004 was 0.662 pounds, a 2.2% increase from 2003. Catch rates gradually increased with respect to set-over-days, up to about 7 days (Figure 9). Beyond 7 days, catch rates became more variable. This relationship between catch rate and soak time is consistent with years past.

For offshore lobstermen, the average catch per trap-haul was 1.977 pounds, a 6.4% increase from 2003. Catch rates for offshore lobstermen were higher than those of their coastal counterparts, yet far more variable. In consequence, the relationship

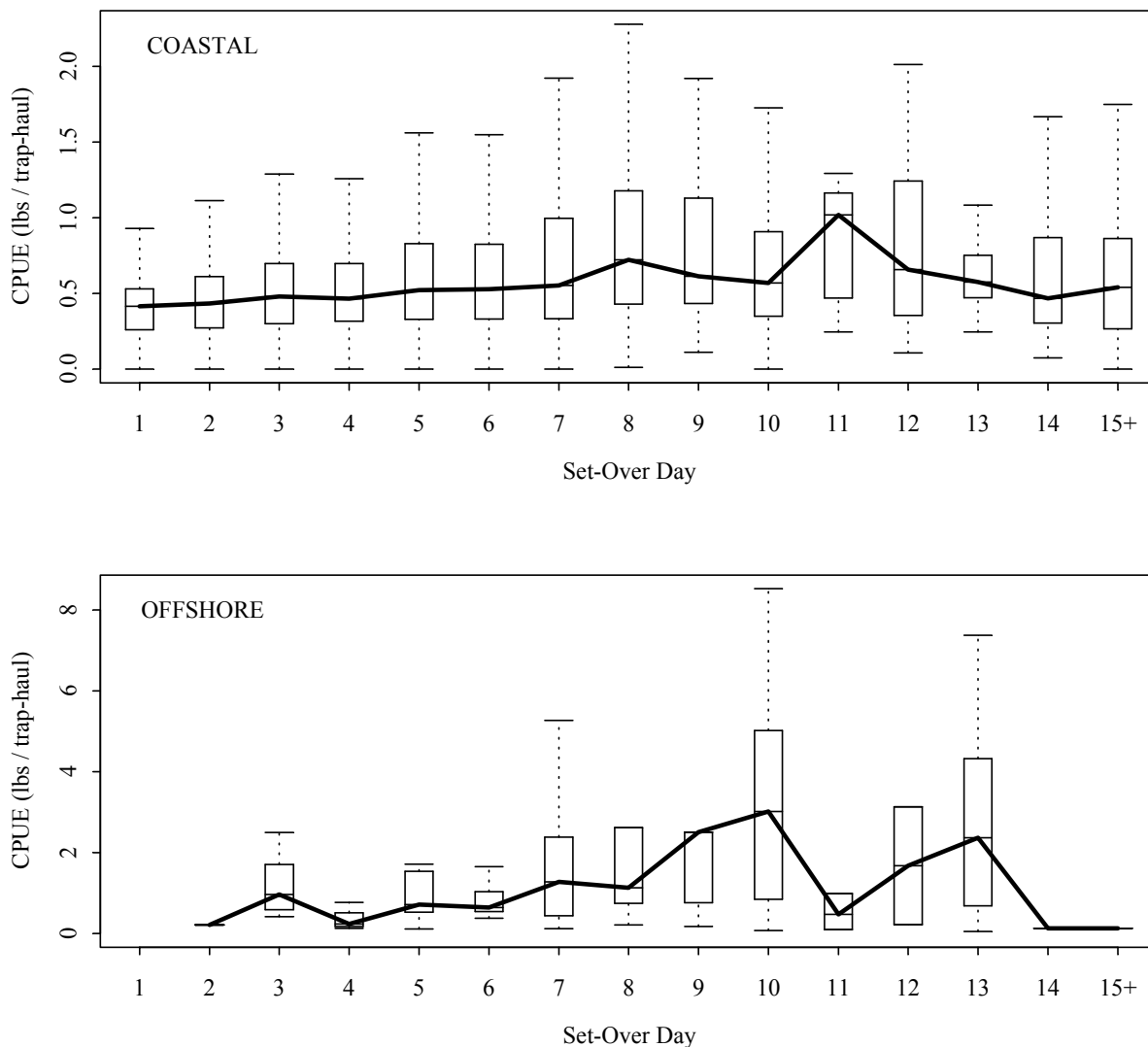
between catch rates and soak time is less well defined for offshore permit holders

Figures 10 through 12 show the average catch rate with set-over-day factored into the effort (pounds per trap-haul\*set-over-day).

The average catch per trap-haul\*set-over-day for offshore lobstermen was 0.237 pounds, a 3.3% decrease from 2003 (Figure 10). Coastal lobstermen landed 0.162 pounds per trap-haul\*set-over-day, a 14% increase from 2003. This represents the highest catch rate for Coastal lobstermen since 2000.

Catch rates also followed a distinct annual trend

**Figure 9.** Catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul) by set-over day for coastal and offshore potmen in 2004. The solid line represents the median values, the boxes represent 50% of the observations at each SOD, and the “whiskers” indicate the minimum and maximum values; outliers are not shown.

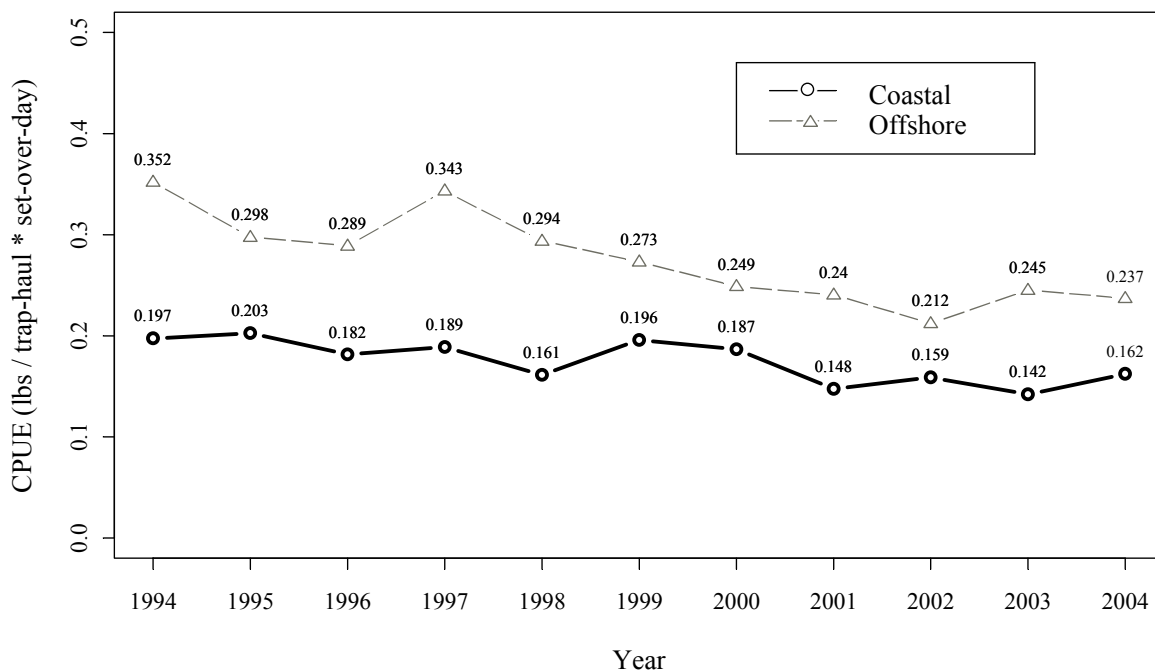


(Figure 11). Offshore lobstermen experienced their lowest catch rates in April and their highest in July. This general annual pattern is similar to previous years, but differs from 2003 in that the highest catch rates occurred in September in that year. Average catch rates for Coastal permit holders hit their low in February and high in November. Although offshore lobstermen had higher catch rates for most of the

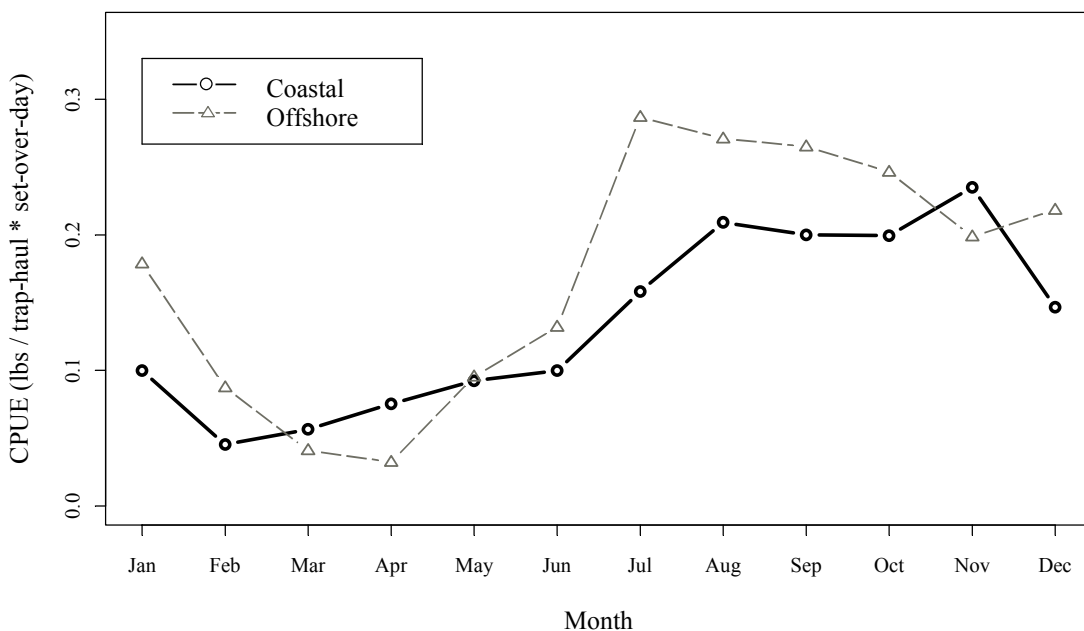
year, coastal permit holders were more productive in March and April.

The highest catch rates occurred in non-territorial waters in 2004 (Figures 12 and 13). However, catch rates in these areas were more variable than in territorial waters, as is indicated by the width of the box and whisker plots in Figure 12. Within territorial waters,

**Figure 10.** Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul \* set-over-day) for coastal and offshore potmen for the last 10 years.

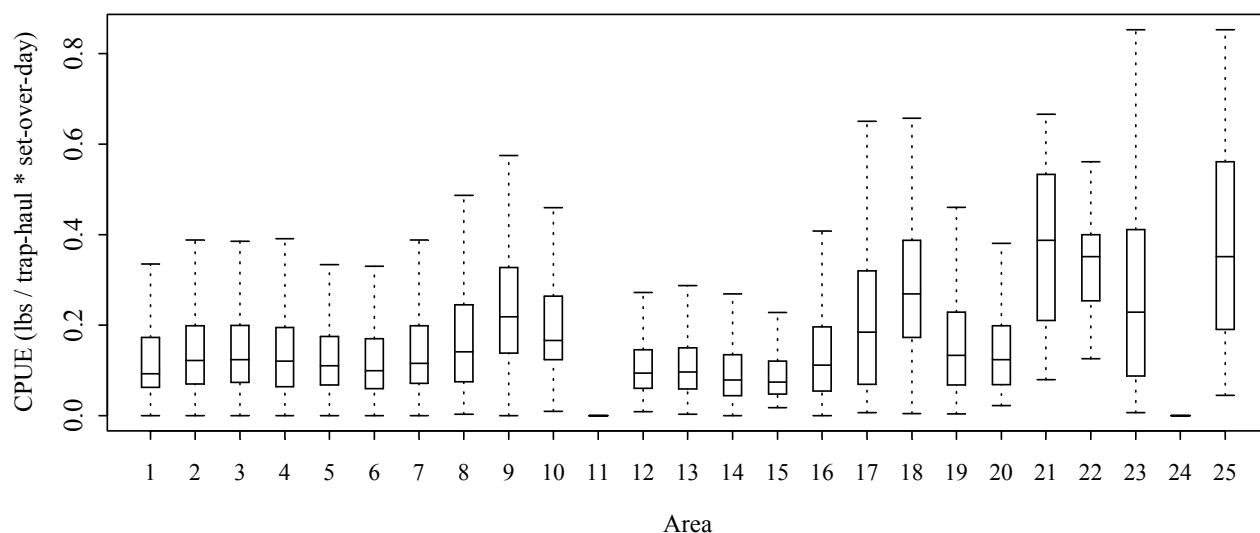


**Figure 11.** Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul \* set-over-day) for coastal and offshore potmen by month in 2004

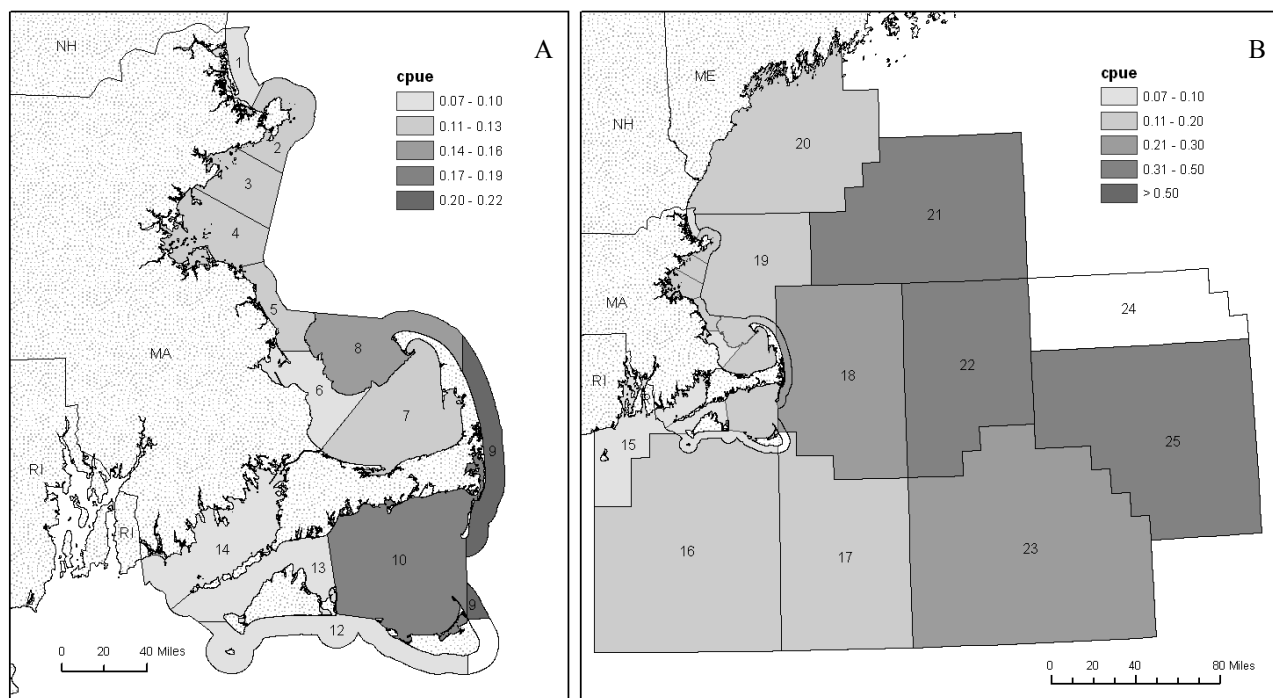


the highest catch rates occurred in areas 9 (Outer 22 and 25) and area 21. Area 15, directly off the Cape Cod), 10 (Nantucket Sound) and 8 (Cape Cod coast of Rhode Island, had the lowest catch rates for Bay). The lowest catch rates for territorial waters non-territorial waters. No traps were fished in areas occurred in areas 14 (Buzzards Bay), 12 (South of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket) and 13 (Vineyard Sound). In non-territorial waters, the highest catch rates occurred in the vicinity of Georges Bank (areas

**Figure 12.** 2004 catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul \* set-over-day) for all license types by area fished. The center line of each box represents the median value for that area. The box represents 50% of the observed values, while the “whiskers” show the minimum and maximum values; outliers are not shown.



**Figure 13.** 2004 median catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul \* set-over-day) for all license types by area fished (A - territorial areas; B- non-territorial areas).



Fishing gear and vessels. In the commercial fishery, traps were valued at \$31,742,670 (Table 8), diving gear at \$88,650 and power and non-power boats at \$66,910,710 (Table A3) yielding a total gear value of \$98,742,120, a 2.7% increase over last year. Combined with the ex-vessel value of lobster sold, \$53,028,494 (Table 4), this gives a total fishery value of \$151,770,614, a 4.1% increase over last year.

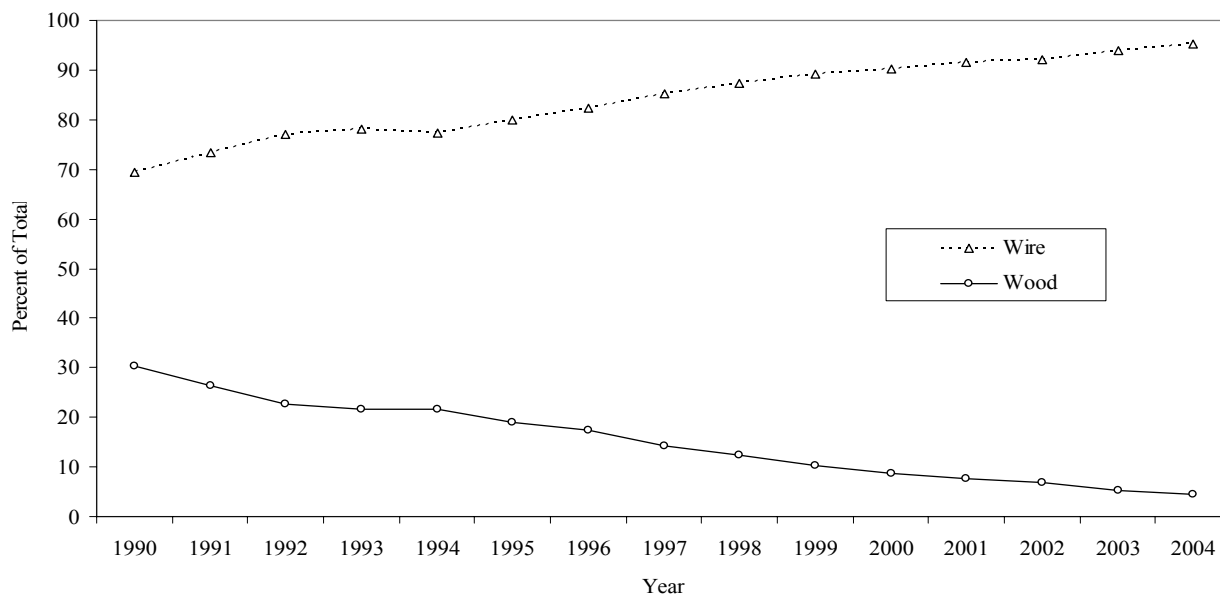
Overall, 95.25 percent of the traps fished in the commercial fishery were wire framed, with 4.43% percent being wooden framed and approximately 0.31 percent categorized as "other." This represents the 10th consecutive increase in the percentage of wire-framed traps (Figure 14). Average value (including warp and buoy) ranged from \$35.00 to \$175.00 with an overall average value of \$70.72. See Table 9.

**Table 8.** Types of lobster traps fished and value by permit type for 2004

	Coastal	Offshore	Seasonal	Total for Trap Type	Percent of Total
Wooden Framed Traps	18,620	1,280	4	<b>19,904</b>	4.43%
Value	\$1,256,618	\$164,566	\$140	<b>\$1,421,324</b>	
Value/Trap	\$60.71	\$144.25	\$35.00	<b>\$71.41</b>	
Wire Framed Traps	390,958	35,546	1,036	<b>427,540</b>	95.25%
Value	\$25,975,435	\$4,122,764	\$54,929	<b>\$30,153,128</b>	
Value/Trap	\$62.84	\$99.91	\$53.27	<b>\$70.53</b>	
Other Trap Types	533	867	0	<b>1,400</b>	0.31%
Value	\$34,613	\$133,605	\$0	<b>\$168,218</b>	
Value/Trap	\$65.00	\$175.00	\$0.00	<b>\$120.16</b>	
Total for License Type	<b>410,111</b>	<b>37,693</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>448,844</b>	
Value	<b>\$27,266,666</b>	<b>\$4,420,935</b>	<b>\$55,069</b>	<b>\$31,742,670</b>	
Value/Trap	<b>\$66.49</b>	<b>\$117.29</b>	<b>\$52.95</b>	<b>\$70.72</b>	

Value of trap includes warp and buoy. These figures include out-of-state fishermen.

**Figure 14.** Percent of total traps fished by trap construction type; 1990 - 2004.



Validity of data. Each year 150 coastal license holders are selected for audit and asked to submit the records they used to complete the harvest portion of their catch report. The Division does this to help estimate the amount of error involved in the reporting process. Selection is done randomly except when fishermen fail an audit. In these cases, they are audited again the following year. Over the last five years the lobstermen selected for audit reported landing 5,862,255 pounds. The audit of their records revealed a harvest of 5,768,534 pounds or a difference of 1.60 percent.

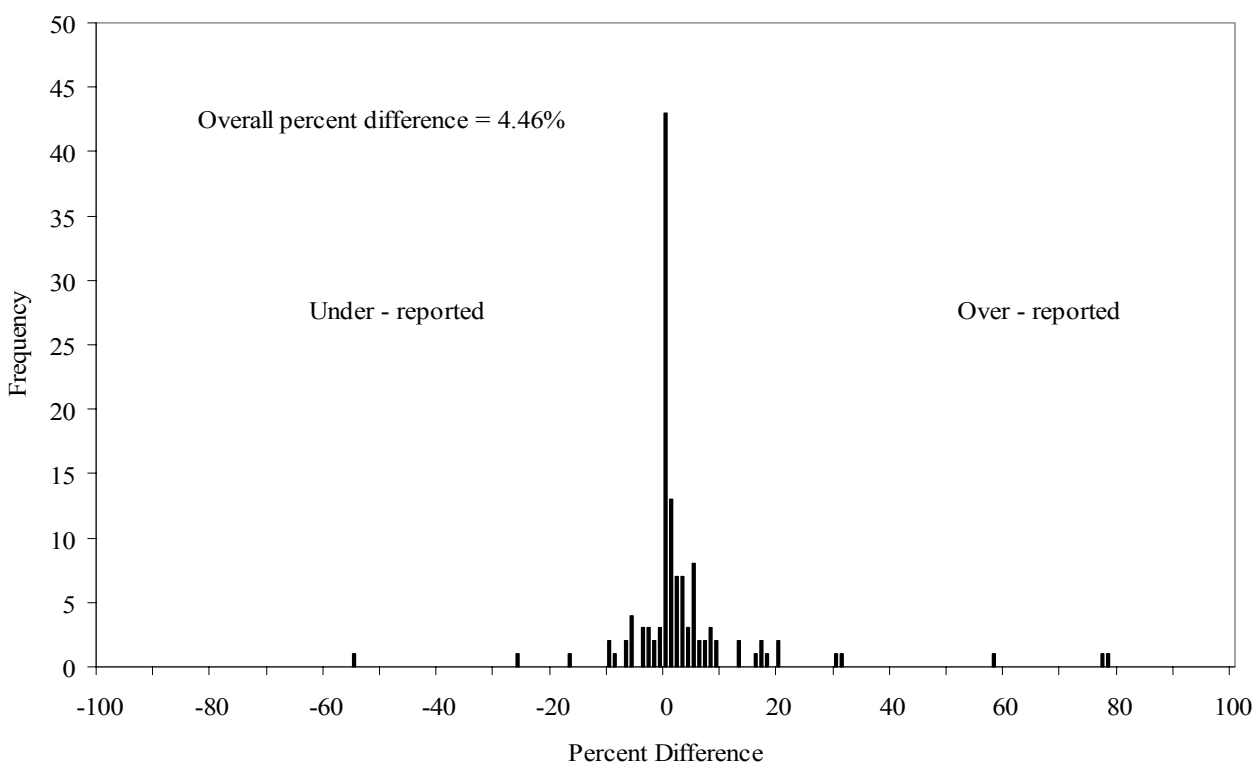
Last year the fishermen selected for audit reported harvesting 770,567 pounds of lobster on their 2004 catch reports. The audit of actual records showed total landings of 736,224 pounds, a difference of 34,343 pounds or 4.46 percent. Six of the randomly selected fishermen have yet to respond to the audit request. Figure 15 shows the distribution of the percent difference between the selected fishermen's reported catch and their audited records. In general, reported landings are very well documented by dealer receipts and/or personal records, especially by the so-called "high-liners" in the fishery. Most of the lobstermen have had licenses for several years and know what is required in terms of report-

ing their fishing activities and have been informed of the value of accurate reporting in the development of management plans. They also know that their reported information is kept strictly confidential and published only in aggregate form. These factors all contribute to a conscientious and responsible reporting constituency.

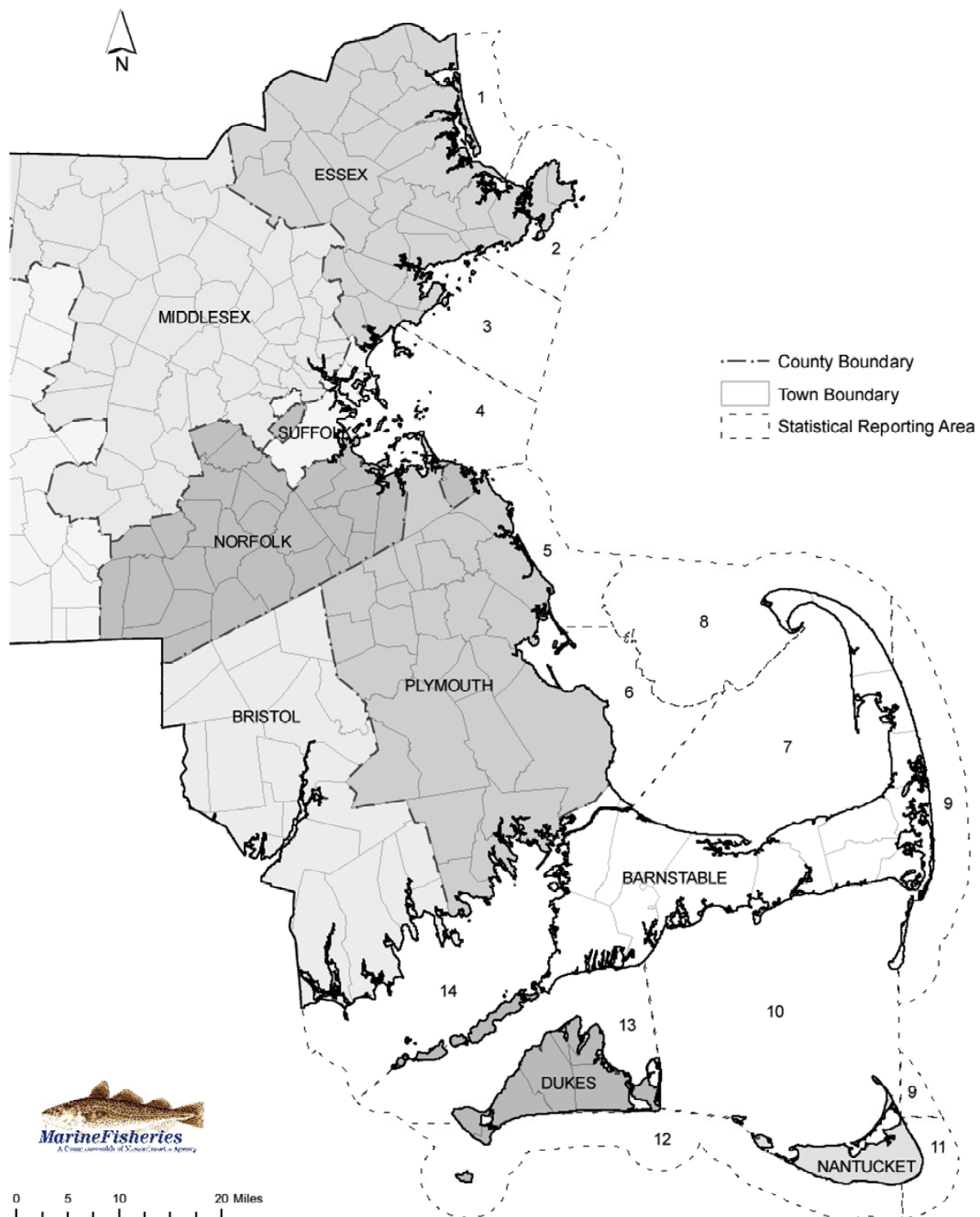
### Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by personnel of the Division of Marine Fisheries MIS and Fisheries Statistics Project, funded jointly by the Commonwealth and the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (Public Law 11-407; Project IJ-NA05NMF4071027). The preparation of this report would not have been possible without the cooperation of licensed lobstermen who provided the information on their annual reports. The authors also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Maryann Fletcher, who helped interpret and key-punch the catch reports, as well as the assistance of Kerry Allard and Cecil French from our permitting office.

**Figure 15.** Frequency distribution of the percent difference between fishermen's reported catch and their audited records for 2004 commercial lobster fishery.



**Figure 16.** Map of coastal Massachusetts showing county boundaries and statistical reporting areas.





## APPENDIX A - SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

**Table A1.** Number of fishermen, landings (pounds) and value for 2004 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery.

AREA:	INSHORE (Areas 1 - 14)					OFFSHORE (Areas 15 - 25)					TOTAL OFFSHORE	GRAND TOTAL
	COASTAL		Trawl/ Gillnet		SEASONAL	COASTAL		Trawl/ Gillnet		SEASONAL		
LICENSE TYPE:	Dive	Pots	Combined*	Pots	TOTAL INSHORE	Pots	Combined*	Pots	Combined*	Pots	SEASONAL	
GEAR TYPE:												
-- COUNTY --												
BARNSTABLE												
Fishermen	4	135		8	148 +							204
Pounds	20,090	1,085,244		1,592	1,121,995							2,165,591
Value (\$)	90,405	4,883,599		7,162	5,048,977							9,745,159
BRISTOL												
Fishermen		53			54 +							186
Pounds		206,242			206,392							1,442,649
Value (\$)		928,089			928,764							6,491,919
DUKES												
Fishermen		18		3	21							27
Pounds		23,771		314	24,085							39,526
Value (\$)		106,968		1,413	108,382							177,867
ESSEX												
Fishermen		368	5	31	411							525
Pounds		3,010,458	24,659	5,780	3,103,041							4,275,655
Value (\$)		13,547,061	110,966	26,010	13,963,685							19,240,448
NANTUCKET												
Fishermen		5			5							7
Pounds		17,172			17,172							57,484
Value (\$)		77,274			77,274							258,678
NORFOLK												
Fishermen		37			37							39
Pounds		392,535			392,535							470,744
Value (\$)		1,766,409			1,766,409							2,118,350
PLYMOUTH												
Fishermen		209	5	3	220 +							250
Pounds		1,869,711	19,848	753	1,918,742							2,288,474
Value (\$)		8,413,701	89,316	3,390	8,634,338							10,298,134
SUFFOLK												
Fishermen		45			47 +							71
Pounds		436,985			437,082							886,273
Value (\$)		1,966,430			1,966,867							3,988,226
STATE TOTAL												
Fishermen	5 +	870	7 +	48 +	943							1,309
Pounds	20,488	7,042,118	52,690	8,686	7,221,044							11,626,396
Value (\$)	92,196	31,689,533	237,105	39,088	32,494,696							52,318,781
OUT OF STATE												
Fishermen					0							45
Pounds					0							157,714
Value (\$)					0							709,713

\* Combined gear type means the use of more than one gear type in a year (i.e. pots & dive)

+ Row and column totals may not equal the sum of the rows or columns due to rounding of the data.

Value is based on an ex-vessel price of \$4.50 per pound see Figure 2.

**Table A2. Number of fishing vessels and pots fished for 2004 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery**

AREA :	INSHORE (Areas 1 - 14)					OFFSHORE (Areas 15 - 25)					GRAND TOTAL	
	LICENSE TYPE:	COASTAL			SEASONAL	TOTAL INSHORE	COASTAL			SEASONAL		TOTAL OFFSHORE
GEAR TYPE:	Dive	Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots		Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots		
-- COUNTY --												
BARNSTABLE												
Pots Fished	0	49,341	0	50	178	49,569	4,760	0	0	0	13,072	0
Power Boat	5	151	0	1	8	165	8	0	0	3	11	32
Non Power Boat	1	39	0	0	1	41	5	0	0	0	0	3
BRISTOL												
Pots Fished	0	17,753	0	0	25	17,778	7,157	0	0	0	11,753	0
Power Boat	0	57	0	0	1	58	13	0	0	0	11	100
Non Power Boat	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUKES												
Pots Fished	0	3,434	0	0	59	3,493	1,075	0	0	0	400	0
Power Boat	0	19	0	0	3	22	3	1	0	0	1	1
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
ESSEX												
Pots Fished	0	151,037	0	2,911	661	154,609	17,410	0	3,200	0	2,934	0
Power Boat	0	396	5	8	31	440	25	7	4	3	4	70
Non Power Boat	0	105	0	2	2	109	4	2	0	0	0	1
NANTUCKET												
Pots Fished	0	881	0	0	0	881	800	0	0	0	0	0
Power Boat	0	7	0	0	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	1
Non Power Boat	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORFOLK												
Pots Fished	0	17,535	0	0	0	17,535	800	0	0	0	1,715	0
Power Boat	0	42	0	0	0	42	1	0	0	0	1	0
Non Power Boat	0	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLYMOUTH												
Pots Fished	0	98,498	0	1,765	75	100,338	8,000	0	0	800	3,609	0
Power Boat	1	255	2	4	4	266	18	2	2	1	5	9
Non Power Boat	0	49	0	2	0	51	0	0	0	0	1	0
SUFFOLK												
Pots Fished	0	21,904	0	0	22	21,926	1,800	0	0	0	1,550	0
Power Boat	0	49	0	0	2	51	1	0	0	0	1	21
Non Power Boat	0	9	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL												
Pots Fished	0	360,383	0	4,726	1,020	366,129	41,802	0	3,200	800	35,033	0
Power Boat	6	976	7	13	49	1,051	71	10	6	7	34	234
Non Power Boat	1	220	0	4	4	229	9	2	0	0	1	4
OUT OF STATE												
Pots Fished	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\* Combined gear type means the use of more than one gear type in a year (i.e. pots & dive)



## APPENDIX B - COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORTS

# 2004 COASTAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

1

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES  
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153

CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2005

PRINT IN INK ONLY

PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** THIS REPORT IS SUBJECT TO A RANDOM STATISTICAL AUDIT BY THE DIVISION, YOU SHOULD MAINTAIN ALL RECEIPTS, DEALER SLIPS, PERSONAL RECORDS, ETC. USED TO COMPLETE THIS REPORT FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR FOLLOWING THE DATE OF SUBMISSION IN CASE YOU ARE CHOSEN.

PLEASE PRINT IN INK ONLY

**IDENTIFICATION:** DMF ID No: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears  
on permit application: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (MI)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(No.) (Street) (City/Town) (Zip Code)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CATCH STATUS & PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION:

- A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2004, check the box ☐ **AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.**
- B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2004, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this license must be reported on this report, even if taken incidentally, unless reported on another report via a partnership.
- C. Did you fish in a Partnership during 2004? ☐ YES (If yes, complete D & E) ☐ NO (If no, go to GEAR section)
- D. Check the box which matches how you and your partner are reporting (check one box only):
1. I am reporting for both me and my partner: ☐
2. My partner is reporting for both of us: ☐
3. My partner and I are reporting separate catches even though we fished together: ☐
- E. PARTNERS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DMF I.D. No: \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT No: \_\_\_\_\_

## GEAR:

- A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET
- B) If you fished traps in 2004, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$
- C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2004:
1. Wood Framed     % 2. Wire Framed     % 3. Other                          %
- D) If you dove for lobster in 2004, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:
- Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$      Percent Used for Catching Lobsters:      %

## PORT(S) OF LANDING:

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.

	PORT NAME	PERCENT
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. <u>                    </u>	<u>    </u> %
	2. <u>                    </u>	<u>    </u> %
	3. <u>                    </u>	<u>    </u> %

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

**COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2004**

# 2004 COASTAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

2

## VESSELS:

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY VESSEL OWNER OR PRINCIPAL USER ONLY. BE SURE TO INCLUDE TENDERS USED.

### Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel with inboard or outboard engine)

1) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): \_\_\_\_ Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Percent Used for Lobstering: \_\_\_\_

2) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): \_\_\_\_ Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Percent Used for Lobstering: \_\_\_\_

### Non-Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel without engine, including tenders/dinghies)

1) Length (ft): \_\_\_\_ Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Percent Used for Lobstering: \_\_\_\_

2) Length (ft): \_\_\_\_ Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Percent Used for Lobstering: \_\_\_\_

## FUEL:

Total gallons of fuel used for the year to catch lobster: Gasoline: \_\_\_\_\_

Diesel: \_\_\_\_\_

## TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:

Counting yourself, what was the maximum number of people fishing for lobster on your vessel at any one time in 2004? \_\_\_\_

\* For example, if you employed one sternman, you would answer two (2).

## HARVEST TABLE:

\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\*

REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE AREA(S) FISHED PORTION OF HARVEST TABLE

DO NOT INDICATE LMA'S (Lobster Management Areas) IN AREA(S) FISHED IN TABLE BELOW

		FILL IN SHADED AREA ONLY IF YOU USED TRAPS AS YOUR GEAR				REFER TO MAP OF STASTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE →→→→→							
	GEAR USED TO HARVEST LOBSTER	MAX TRAPS FISHING	SET OVER DAYS	AVERAGE TRAPS HAULED PER TRIP WHEN FISHING	TOTAL TRIPS WHEN TRAPS HAULED	POUNDS HARVESTED LOBSTER CRABS		FIRST AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	SECOND AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	THIRD AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH
EX.	TRAPS	400	2	200	28	2240	0	5	75	7	25		
JAN													
FEB													
MAR													
APR													
MAY													
JUN													
JUL													
AUG													
SEP													
OCT													
NOV													
DEC													
TOTAL:													

# 2004 OFFSHORE LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

1

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES  
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153

**CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2005**

**PRINT IN INK ONLY**

**PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT**

## IDENTIFICATION:

DMF ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit No: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears  
on license application: \_\_\_\_\_

(Last)

(First)

(MI)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(No.)

(Street)

(City/Town)

(Zip Code)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CATCH STATUS & PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION:

- A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2004, check the box ☐ AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.
- B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2004, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this license must be reported on this report, even if taken incidentally, unless reported on another report via a partnership.
- C. Did you fish in a Partnership during 2004? ☐ YES (If yes, complete D & E) ☐ NO (If no, go to GEAR section)
- D. Check the box which matches how you and your partner are reporting (check one box only):
1. I am reporting for both me and my partner: ☐
  2. My partner is reporting for both of us: ☐
  3. My partner and I are reporting separate catches even though we fished together: ☐
- E. PARTNERS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DMF I.D. No: \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT No: \_\_\_\_\_

## GEAR:

- A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET
- B) If you fished traps in 2004, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2004:
1. Wood Framed \_\_\_\_\_%
  2. Wire Framed \_\_\_\_\_%
  3. Other \_\_\_\_\_%
- D) If you dove for lobster in 2004, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:
- Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Percent Used for Catching Lobsters: \_\_\_\_\_ %

## PORT(S) OF LANDING:

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.**

	<u>PORT NAME</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. _____	_____%
	2. _____	_____%
	3. _____	_____%

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

**COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2004**



# 2004 OFFSHORE LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

2

## VESSELS:

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY VESSEL OWNER OR PRINCIPAL USER ONLY. BE SURE TO INCLUDE TENDERS USED.

### Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel with inboard or outboard engine)

1) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

2) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

### Non-Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel without engine, including tenders/dinghies)

1) Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

2) Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

## FUEL:

Total gallons of fuel used for the year to catch lobster: Gasoline: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Diesel: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

## TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:

Counting yourself, what was the **maximum** number of people fishing for lobster on your vessel at any one time in 2004? -----> [ ] [ ]

\* For example, if you employed one sternman, you would answer two (2).

## HARVEST TABLE:

\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\*

REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE AREA(S) FISHED PORTION OF HARVEST TABLE

DO NOT INDICATE LMA'S (Lobster Management Areas) IN AREA(S) FISHED IN TABLE BELOW

		FILL IN SHADED AREA ONLY IF YOU USED TRAPS AS YOUR GEAR				REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE →→→→→							
	GEAR USED TO HARVEST LOBSTER	MAX TRAPS FISHING	SET OVER DAYS	AVERAGE TRAPS HAULED PER TRIP WHEN FISHING	TOTAL TRIPS WHEN TRAPS HAULED	POUNDS HARVESTED		FIRST AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	SECOND AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	THIRD AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH
						LOBSTER	CRABS						
EX.	TRAPS	400	2	200	28	2240	1200	19	75	18	25		
JAN													
FEB													
MAR													
APR													
MAY													
JUN													
JUL													
AUG													
SEP													
OCT													
NOV													
DEC													
TOTAL:													

# 2004 SEASONAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

1

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES  
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153

**CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2005**

**PRINT IN INK ONLY**

**PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT**

## IDENTIFICATION:

DMF ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit No: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears  
on license application: \_\_\_\_\_

(Last)

(First)

(MI)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(No.)

(Street)

(City/Town)

(Zip Code)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CATCH STATUS & PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION:

- A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2004, check the box ☐ AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.
- B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2004, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this license must be reported on this report, even if taken incidentally, unless reported on another report via a partnership.
- C. Did you fish in a Partnership during 2004? ☐ YES (If yes, complete D & E) ☐ NO (If no, go to GEAR section)
- D. Check the box which matches how you and your partner are reporting (check one box only):
1. I am reporting for both me and my partner: ☐
  2. My partner is reporting for both of us: ☐
  3. My partner and I are reporting separate catches even though we fished together: ☐
- E. PARTNERS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DMF I.D. No: \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT No: \_\_\_\_\_

## GEAR:

- A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET
- B) If you fished traps in 2004, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$
- C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2004:
1. Wood Framed       %    2. Wire Framed       %    3. Other                            %
- D) If you dove for lobster in 2004, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:
- Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$           Percent Used for Catching Lobsters:        %

## PORT(S) OF LANDING:

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.**

	<u>PORT NAME</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. <u>                    </u>	<u>  </u> %
	2. <u>                    </u>	<u>  </u> %
	3. <u>                    </u>	<u>  </u> %

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

**COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2004**

# 2004 SEASONAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

2

## VESSELS:

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY VESSEL OWNER OR PRINCIPAL USER ONLY. BE SURE TO INCLUDE TENDERS USED.

### Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel with inboard or outboard engine)

1) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

2) Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

### Non-Power Boat(s) Used For Lobstering - (Any vessel without engine, including tenders/dinghies)

1) Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

2) Length (ft): [ ] [ ] [ ] Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel: \$ [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] Percent Used for Lobstering: [ ] [ ] [ ]

## FUEL:

Total gallons of fuel used for the year to catch lobster: Gasoline: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Diesel: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

## TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:

Counting yourself, what was the maximum number of people fishing for lobster on your vessel at any one time in 2004? -----> [ ] [ ]

\* For example, if you employed one sternman, you would answer two (2).

## HARVEST TABLE:

\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*\*\*

REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE AREA(S) FISHED PORTION OF HARVEST TABLE

DO NOT INDICATE LMA'S (Lobster Management Areas) IN AREA(S) FISHED IN TABLE BELOW

		FILL IN SHADED AREA ONLY IF YOU USED TRAPS AS YOUR GEAR				REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE →→→→→							
	GEAR USED TO HARVEST LOBSTER	MAX TRAPS FISHING	SET OVER DAYS	AVERAGE TRAPS HAULED PER TRIP WHEN FISHING	TOTAL TRIPS WHEN TRAPS HAULED	POUNDS HARVESTED		FIRST AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	SECOND AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	THIRD AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH
						LOBSTER	CRABS						
EX.	TRAPS	25	2	12	30	95	10	5	75	6	25		
JUN													
JUL													
AUG													
SEP													
TOTAL:													