

MASSACHUSETTS COMMERCIAL FISHING PORT PROFILES

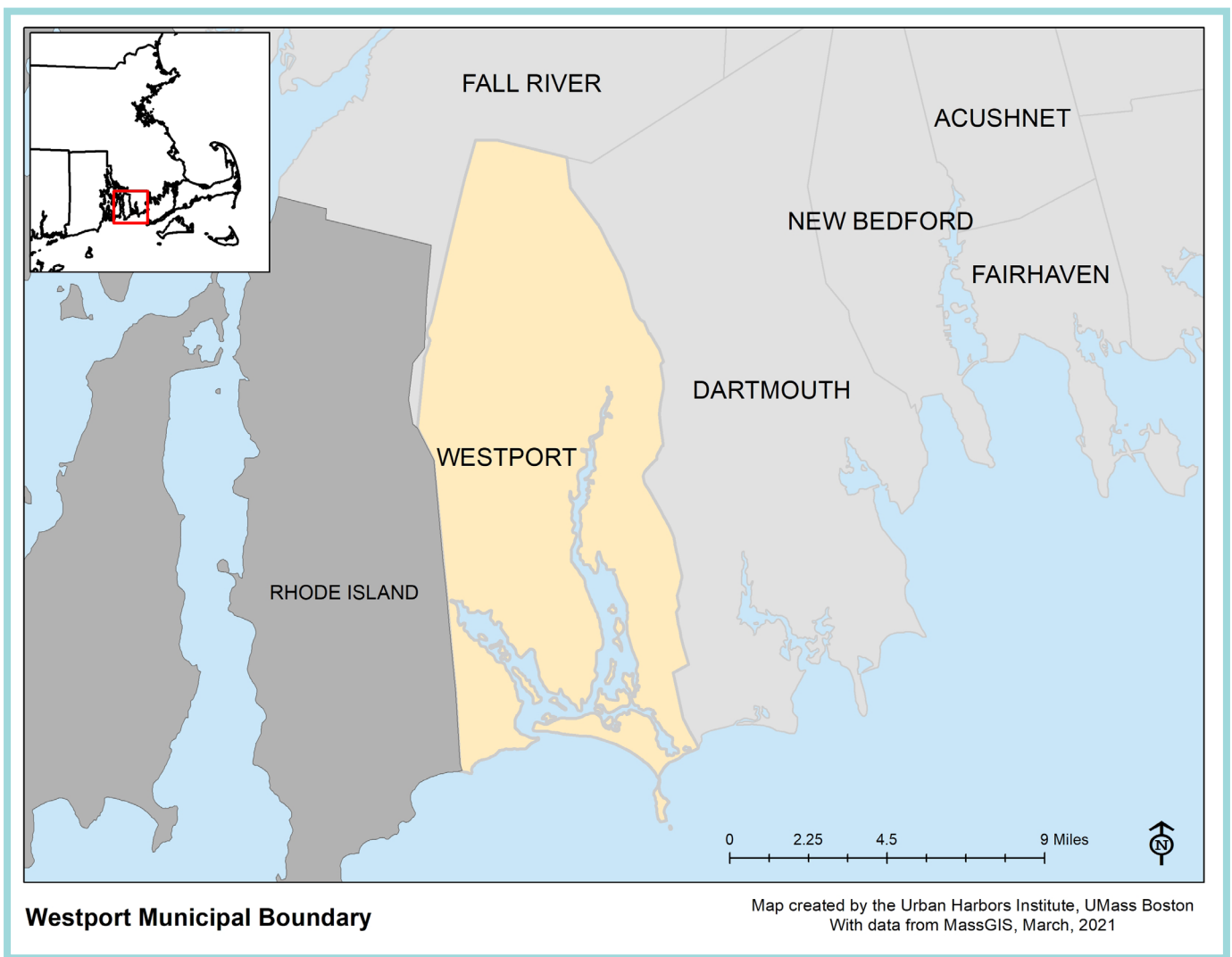
The **Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Port Profiles** were developed through a collaboration between the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, the University of Massachusetts Boston's Urban Harbors Institute, and the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance. Using data from commercial regional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

WESTPORT

Located on the South Coast, Westport has three main harbors: Westport Harbor/River, East Branch, and West Branch.

Permitted commercial fisheries, which may or may not be active during the survey period, include: Lobster Pot, Shellfish (by hand), Gillnetter, Scallop Dredge, Rod & Reel, Aquaculture, and For Hire/ Charter.

Photo Source: Google Earth

2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



Westport's commercial fishery had:

- 155** permitted harvesters with a Westport address
- 116** vessels with a Westport homeport
- 2,056** trips landing in Westport
- 148** active permitted harvesters landing in Westport
- 27** active dealers purchasing in Westport



Commercial harvesters landed the following in Westport in 2018:

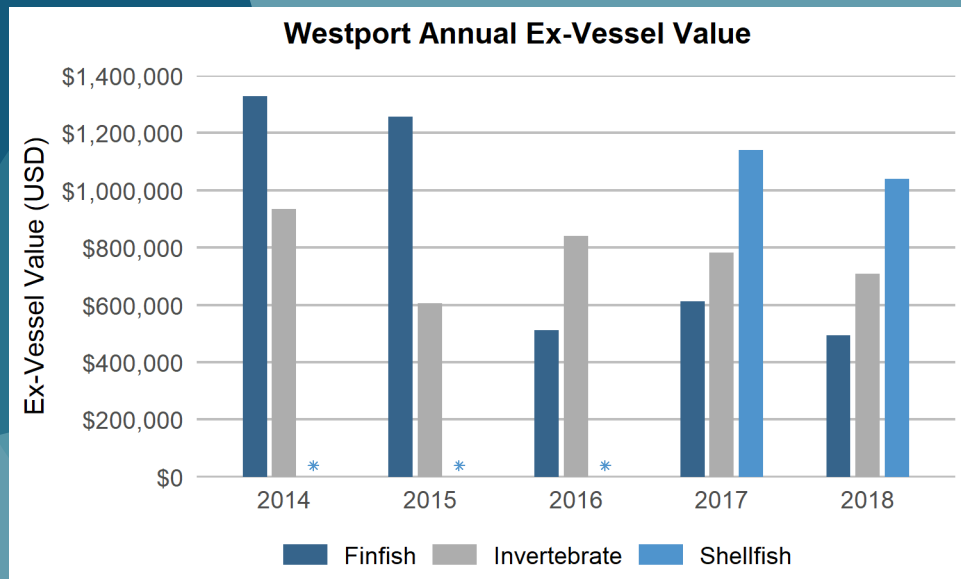
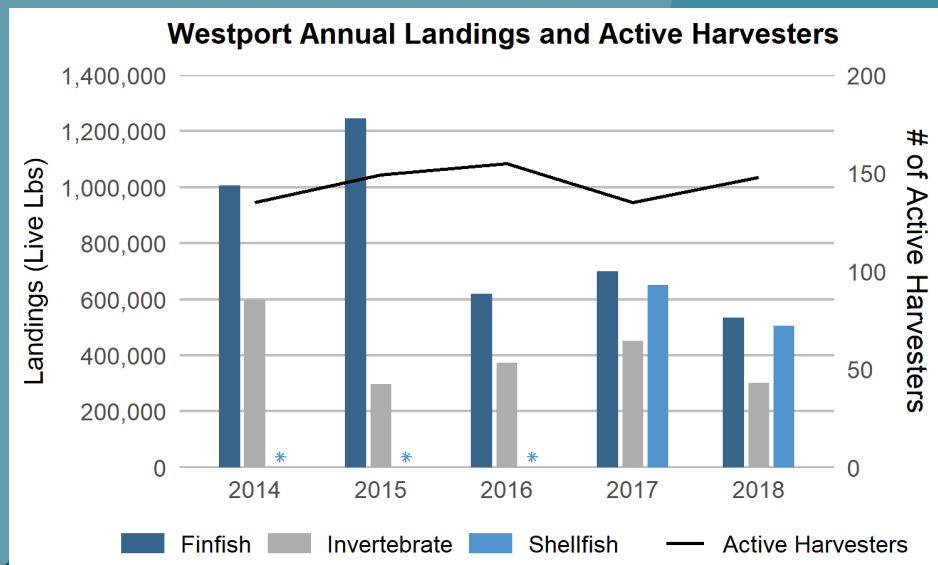
1,339,424 pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$2,243,472**

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

- Eastern Oyster
- American Lobster
- Jonah Crab

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

Westport's commercial fishing fleet consists mostly of trailered vessels, with some non-trailered vessels. In the last 10 years, Westport has seen a decline in the amount of lobstering due to harvesters selling licenses to participate in other fisheries.

Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



Infrastructure upgrades in last ten years:

- New and repaired ramp and docks
- Electric for boats
- Dredging



Current infrastructure:

Challenges

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

Needs

- Dredging
- Town dock improvements
- Parking
- Dumpster for derelict fishing gear
- Markets near port for selling fish



Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

- Moorings: None
- Slips: Town dock has 1,000 feet of space for commercial fishing vessels
- Broadside berthing: None



In 2018, the municipality charged for the following services:

- Moorings: \$4.50/foot
- Slips: \$24/foot per year
- Launch: \$5/day



Photo Source: Google Earth

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