

Fisheries of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan

Created: October 1, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Commercial and recreational fisheries are experiencing a declining trend across performance and participation metrics.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY CHARACTERIZATION

Fishery trends

Overall declining trend

Management uncertainty in the fishery

The default management uncertainty buffer of 5% is applied to allocated stocks in the commercial groundfish fishery, unless otherwise stated in the following risk policy matrices.

Commercial fishing communities

The top 5 ports based on the Groundfish-Specific Commercial Engagement Indicator (2004-2023) are Gloucester, MA; New Bedford, MA; Boston, MA; Narragansett, RI; and Portland, ME.

Dealer Activity between 2019-2023

The number of registered dealers buying allocated groundfish: Decreased to 46 dealers

The number of dealers buying any species on groundfish trips: Decreased to 79 dealers

Reliance on other species quota

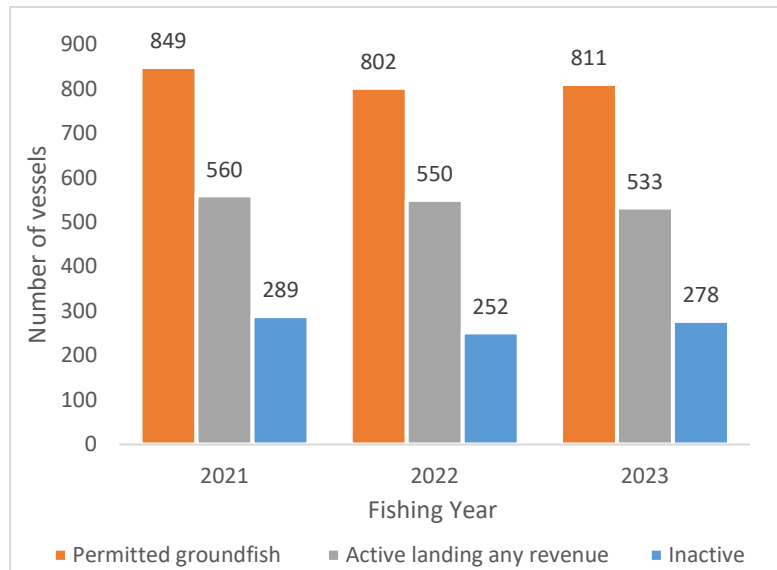
The groundfish fishery on a whole relies on quota within the multispecies complex.

Fishing Year	Total groundfish landings (mil lbs.)	Groundfish revenue (\$ mil)	Average groundfish ex-vessel prices (\$/lb)
2021	36.88	\$ 56.13	\$ 1.38
2022	33.26	\$ 46.14	\$ 1.34
2023	32.53	\$ 41.60	\$ 1.28

Pounds and revenue reflect total landings (landed lbs.) on groundfish trips in millions of pounds and dollars, respectively.

Ex-vessel prices are averaged across all observations of landed fish (dressed and whole).

Source: Human Communities section in Groundfish Framework 69.



Source: Human Communities section in Groundfish Framework 69.

RECREATIONAL FISHERY CHARACTERIZATION

Fishery trends

Overall declining trend

Management uncertainty in the fishery

The default management uncertainty buffer of 7% is applied to stocks with a recreational component in the groundfish fishery, unless otherwise stated in the following risk policy matrices.

Recreational fishing communities

Most of the top communities are in the Mid-Atlantic region, except for Narragansett/Point Judith, RI. Recreational fishermen in these communities are unlikely to rely on Northeast Multispecies.