

PRELIMINARY Table 1. Permit Information for the Massachusetts Lobster Fishery, 2016-2023¹

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Coastal Permits								
Issued	1,116	1,088	1,081	1,066	1,047	1,031	1,011	989
Fished	704	714	712	698	661	663	654	622
Did Not Fish	317	308	309	315	319	296	283	300
Incomplete	15	8	10	11	11	16	9	11
Not Reporting	82	58	50	42	56	56	65	56
Offshore Permits								
Issued	154	171	156	150	137	133	131	121
Fished	66	66	73	70	65	59	52	51
Did Not Fish	8	9	7	7	6	9	9	9
Incomplete	2	1	0	2	2	2	0	0
Not Reporting	78	95	74	71	64	63	70	61
Offshore Non-Trap Permits								
Issued	242	236	236	242	246	231	237	233
Fished	90	83	75	70	80	74	72	76
Did Not Fish	13	10	8	8	8	6	6	9
Incomplete	0	3	3	1	1	0	0	0
Not Reporting	139	140	150	163	157	151	159	148
Seasonal (Student) Permits								
Issued	88	96	100	104	102	101	105	81
Fished	51	46	52	46	58	54	50	42
Did Not Fish	17	31	23	10	14	9	11	27
Incomplete	2	1	1	25	19	18	22	0
Not Reporting	18	18	24	23	11	20	22	12
Recreational Permits²								
Issued	6,535	6,427	6,118	6,481	6,244	5,771	5,555	5,245
Fished	3,782	3,599	3,412	3,353	3,343	3,026	2,844	2,642
Did Not Fish	1,125	1,099	1,107	1,032	1,104	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not Reporting	1,628	1,729	1,599	2,096	1,797	n/a	n/a	n/a

Data Sources:¹ Trip-Level Reports (DMF and NMFS VTR data)² Beginning in 2021, reporting methods for recreational harvest changed and it is no longer possible to differentiate between non-fishing activity, and non-reporting

PRELIMINARY Table 3. Massachusetts Commercial Lobster Landings, Traps Fished, and Estimated Value for 2017-2023

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Landings	17,218,843	18,439,451	17,866,857	16,797,873	17,029,592	15,499,957	15,904,951
Total Estimated Value	\$81,170,506	\$88,821,161	\$95,491,339	\$78,307,441	\$125,383,208	\$83,030,006	\$99,087,846
Total Traps Fished	403,339	398,148	380,402	369,029	361,481	346,923	363,842
Average Price (\$) / Lb	\$4.71	\$4.82	\$5.54	\$4.66	\$7.36	\$5.36	\$6.23
Ave. Lbs. Trap-Haul	1.4922	1.6931	1.4850	1.5697	1.5542	1.3256	1.5339
Ave. Lbs. /Trap	40.57	44.35	44.59	43.29	44.57	42.19	41.56
Territorial (State Waters)							
Landings	10,226,598	10,753,269	10,271,565	9,039,659	9,573,878	8,303,038	8,128,114
Estimated Value	\$48,208,705	\$51,797,522	\$54,897,482	\$42,140,607	\$70,489,275	\$44,477,625	\$50,638,151
Trap Landings	10,125,850	10,630,391	10,167,760	8,997,134	9,521,291	8,279,102	8,097,264
Traps Fished	292,928	290,279	274,322	259,546	258,626	241,952	253,979
Non-Trap Landings	100,748	122,879	103,895	42,525	52,588	23,936	30,850
Non Territorial (Federal Waters)							
Landings	6,992,245	7,686,181	7,595,292	7,758,214	7,455,713	7,196,919	7,776,837
Estimated Value	\$32,961,801	\$37,023,639	\$40,593,857	\$36,166,834	\$54,893,933	\$38,552,381	\$48,449,695
Trap Landings	6,238,456	7,029,161	6,892,240	6,976,830	6,589,814	6,358,003	7,023,386
Traps Fished	110,411	107,869	106,080	109,483	102,855	104,971	109,863
Non-Trap Landings	753,789	657,020	703,052	781,384	865,899	838,916	753,451

Data Sources:

Trip-Level Reports (DMF and NMFS VTR data), SAFIS Dealer Database

Table 4. Number of active commercial lobstermen and lobster landings, not including seasonal permits, by homeport for 2023. Homeport data taken from vessel information on permit applications. In cases where no vessel or homeport was specified, the primary 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 number of fishermen, total catch, or total effort. Some cities and towns are combined to protect the confidential nature of the data.

City / Town	Fishermen		Catch (Pounds)					Effort ¹		
	Number	Rank	Territorial	Non-Territorial	Total	Percent	Rank	Traps	Percent	Rank
Barnstable-Falmouth ²	8	20	*	*	44,779	0.28%	32	2,025	0.57%	33
Beverly	20	14	476,754	142,795	619,549	3.90%	6	12,062	3.39%	10
Boston	30	8	309,137	57,696	366,833	2.31%	11	12,298	3.45%	9
Chatham	29	9	189,667	402,546	592,213	3.72%	7	10,404	2.92%	13
Cohasset	21	13	*	*	269,445	1.69%	16	8,676	2.44%	14
Danvers-Salem	10	18	*	*	223,521	1.41%	18	3,793	1.07%	24
Dartmouth-Westport	11	17	25,486	281,614	307,100	1.93%	13	4,687	1.32%	21
Dennis	10	18	9,899	0	9,899	0.06%	39	2,388	0.67%	29
Duxbury	5	23	*	*	25,720	0.16%	35	1,075	0.30%	36
Eastham	8	20	157,008	0	157,008	0.99%	22	2,491	0.70%	28
Essex-Ipswich	6	22	9,596	0	9,596	0.06%	40	748	0.21%	39
Fairhaven	9	19	57,226	19,458	76,684	0.48%	29	2,863	0.80%	27
Gloucester	138	1	1,441,886	2,631,003	4,072,889	25.61%	1	63,438	17.82%	1
Harwich	5	23	32,680	85,560	118,240	0.74%	24	2,178	0.61%	30
Hingham	6	22	*	*	88,245	0.55%	26	3,074	0.86%	26
Hull	23	11	232,208	114,757	346,965	2.18%	12	11,493	3.23%	12
Islands	20	14	21,299	56,547	77,847	0.49%	28	5,119	1.44%	20
Manchester	14	15	137,671	3,378	141,049	0.89%	23	5,248	1.47%	18
Marblehead	38	6	*	*	581,887	3.66%	8	17,034	4.78%	6
Marion-Mattapoissett	7	21	*	*	22,141	0.14%	36	1,791	0.50%	34
Marshfield	47	4	671,256	270,754	942,011	5.92%	4	25,528	7.17%	2
Nahant	10	18	242,840	0	242,840	1.53%	17	5,130	1.44%	19
New Bedford	39	5	67,052	2,021,203	2,088,255	13.13%	2	23,794	6.68%	4
Newburyport	8	20	64,727	20,747	85,475	0.54%	27	2,178	0.61%	30
Orleans	5	23	27,913	0	27,913	0.18%	33	907	0.25%	37
Plymouth	54	2	618,683	94,782	713,465	4.49%	5	24,478	6.87%	3
Provincetown	30	8	357,925	116,429	474,354	2.98%	9	16,633	4.67%	7
Quincy	3	24	16,381	0	16,381	0.10%	37	772	0.22%	38
Revere-Winthrop	9	19	76,071	0	76,071	0.48%	30	3,553	1.00%	25
Rockport	53	3	838,706	464,912	1,303,618	8.20%	3	20,829	5.85%	5
Salisbury	5	23	63,301	103,811	167,112	1.05%	20	2,080	0.58%	32
Sandwich	22	12	181,237	116,606	297,843	1.87%	14	11,774	3.31%	11
Saugus	13	16	*	*	116,716	0.73%	25	6,280	1.76%	16
Scituate	35	7	253,668	200,060	453,728	2.85%	10	13,993	3.93%	8
Swampscott	9	19	*	*	190,812	1.20%	19	5,377	1.51%	17
Truro	6	22	16,093	0	16,093	0.10%	38	2,151	0.60%	31
Wellfleet	7	21	85,038	77,145	162,183	1.02%	21	4,086	1.15%	22
Weymouth	5	23	*	*	66,657	0.42%	31	3,800	1.07%	23
Yarmouth	3	24	*	*	27,066	0.17%	34	1,516	0.43%	35
Out Of State	26	10	2,106	282,645	284,751	1.79%	15	8,340	2.34%	15
Statewide Totals	807		8,128,114	7,776,837	15,904,951			356,084		

¹ The number of "Traps" for each city/town represents the sum of each individual's maximum traps fished for the year

² Barnstable includes Hyannis; Falmouth includes Woods Hole and Cuttyhunk

³ The town of Edgartown, Menemsha, Nantucket, Tisbury and Vineyard Haven are all included under "Islands"

* Confidential Data

2022 Lobster Trap Vertical Line Density

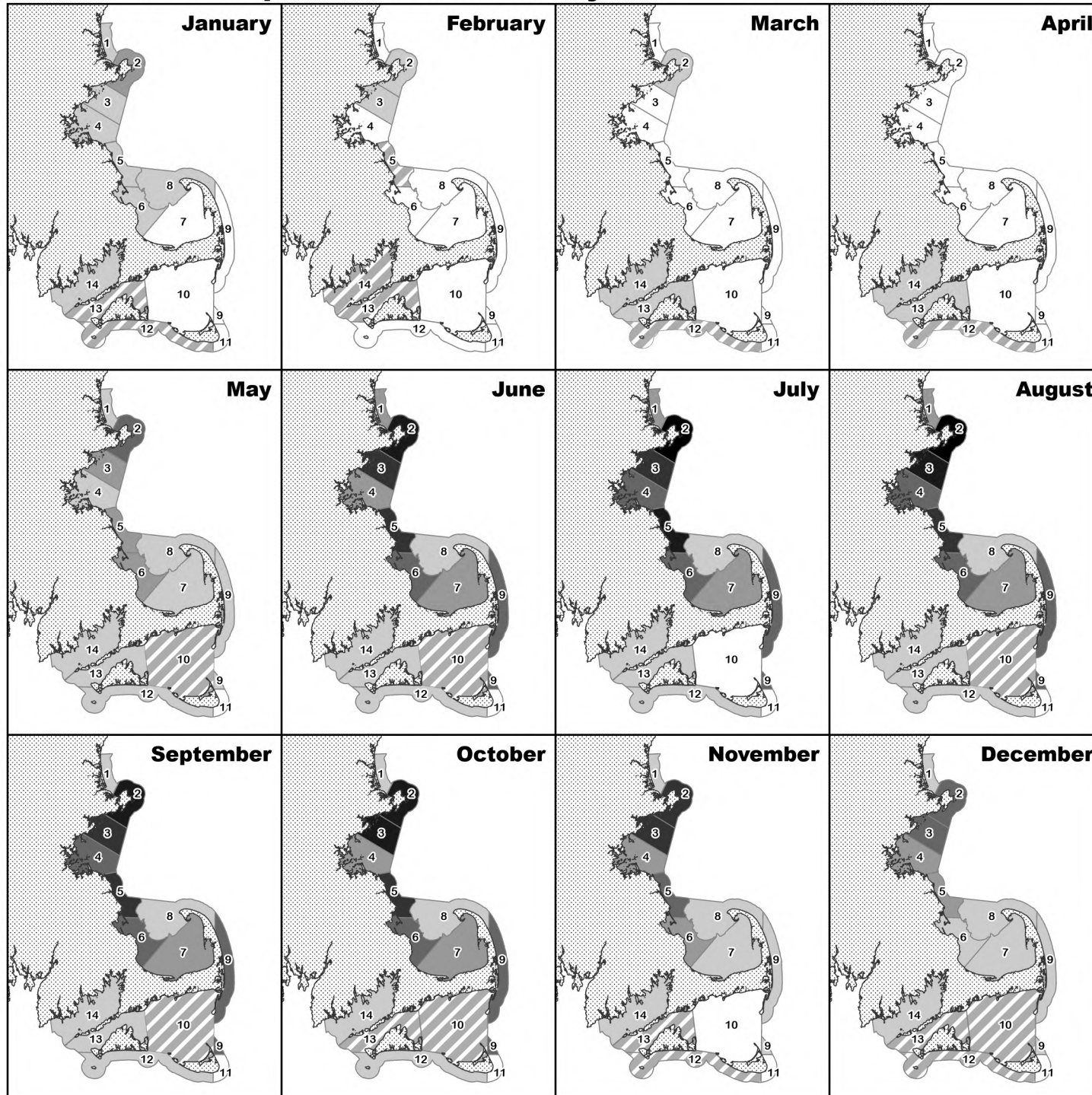


Figure 1. 2022 vertical line density (lines per square mile) across state waters Statistical Reporting Areas (SRAs) by month. The Massachusetts Bay Restricted Area closure affecting SRAs 1-9 was in effect from February 1st through May 15th this year. In 2022, the South Islands Restricted Area was implemented for the first time from February 1st until April 30th, primarily impacting SRA12 in state waters. Any fishing activity reported during the closures was closely monitored and is under review. Non-compliance within a closure was largely characterized by fishing activity on or near the federal-state waters boundary line and/or potential reporting errors.

Confidential

Lines per Square Mile

- 0
- >0-15
- >15-30
- >30-45
- >45-60
- >60-75
- >75

Spatial Reference
 Name: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 19N
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Map Units: Meter
 Scale: 1:3,295,327
 0 10 20 40 Miles
 Updated: 12/6/2024

