



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES CATCH GAINS IN 1939

About 663,866,000 pounds of fish and shellfish, valued at \$19,509,000, comprised the commercial catch of fishery products in the New England States for 1939, according to information released today in Statistical Bulletin No. 1421 by the Division of Fishery Industries, Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

Compared with 1938, these figures represent an increase of 32,346,000 pounds, or 5 percent, in volume, and \$1,234,000, or 7 percent, in value.

Based on value to the fishermen, haddock was again the most important species, amounting to 157,812,000 pounds, valued at \$3,840,000. Following, in order, were: cod (105,417,000 pounds, valued at \$2,321,000); rosefish (77,375,000 pounds, worth \$1,096,000); mackerel (27,999,000 pounds, valued at \$706,000); sea herring (75,188,000 pounds, worth \$639,000); and pollock (36,787,000 pounds, at \$568,000).

Among shellfish, lobsters led in value, totaling 11,312,000 pounds, valued at \$1,964,000, followed by clams (hard, soft and razor), 20,126,000 pounds, valued at \$1,810,000; oysters, 7,806,000 pounds, worth \$1,563,000; and scallops (bay and sea) with 7,766,000 pounds, valued at \$1,221,000.

By states, the catch for Massachusetts led—521,097,000 pounds, valued at \$14,242,000. Second in abundance was Maine, with 116,167,000 pounds, worth \$2,695,000; followed by Connecticut with 13,868,000 pounds, at \$1,463,000; Rhode Island, with 11,856,000 pounds, worth \$1,002,000; and New Hampshire, with 877,000 pounds, valued at \$106,000.

During 1939, 31,792 persons received employment through the fisheries of New England. They consisted of 18,712 fishermen, 12,884 in wholesale and manufacturing establishments, and 196 on transporting craft. This compares with 32,716 persons so employed in 1938. Salaries and wages paid amounted to \$7,368,000 while the value of the output of manufactured products totaled \$26,033,000.