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## Fisheries Landings for the Eastern Shore of Virginia (ESVA) 2021

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## **Fisheries Landings for the Eastern Shore of Virginia (ESVA) 2021.**

VIMS ESL Technical Report #10.

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<http://www.vims.edu/esl/>

6 April 2021

Virginia (VA) landings data were requested from VMRC (Table 1) and analyzed by Richard Snyder at VIMS ESL. Landings data reflect where seafood entered market systems, and so may have different origins that will blur categorizing economic activity ascribed to the act of harvest and the act of processing for market. For example, almost all menhaden are landed in Deltaville, VA, some of the conch/welks and dogfish recorded for Accomack may have originated elsewhere to be processed in Wachapreague, and visiting Maryland crabbers early in the season contribute to blue crab landings. Shellfish data (oysters and clams) are separated as “public” and “private” to indicate the origin of the shellfish on public grounds or on private lease grounds. Aquacultured oysters and clams are embedded in the “private” designation, which includes harvest of wild shellfish on private leases, hatchery-based extensive culture (spat on shell), and intensive aquaculture (containerized).

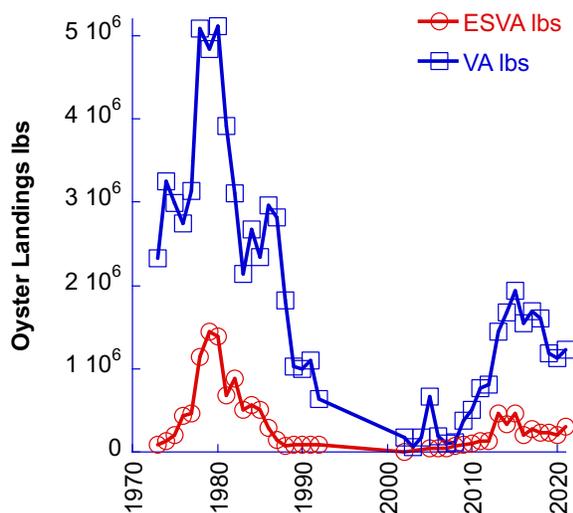
Table 1. Fisheries data request criteria supplied by VMRC data management staff.

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Date; 3/21/22  
 Dept: Plans and Statistics - JD  
 Database: FSMRPT (Trip level and Historical database)  
 Criteria:  
 Year(s): 1929-2021  
 Species: All Species  
 County: 1 (Accomack), 45 (Northampton)  
 Systems: 1-9 All Virginia Waters  
 \*2020 & 2021 Offshore landings not available

Trends in oyster and clam landings over time are shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2. After a period of low harvests 1990 to 2005, both public and private oyster landings have increased, with landings from private lease holdings exceeding the public grounds harvest. Some of this is undoubtedly due to the emergence of intensive aquaculture. The clam landings almost entirely represent aquaculture production, with a spike seen in 2021 doubling the previous year’s landings. For 2021, ESVA oyster landings were 23.1% of the total VA public and 16.5% of the total VA private landings. The clam landings for ESVA are 99.9% of the total for Virginia (Tables 2, 3, & 4), with 16.6% coming into Accomack County and 83.4% coming into Northampton County (Tables 3 & 4). The divergence in the 2019 and 2020 clam data are likely misallocations of data by year that would offset each other. Clam data does not include “Ocean” or “Public” harvest which is a small fraction of the total.

**Public Oyster Harvest**



**Private Oyster Harvest**

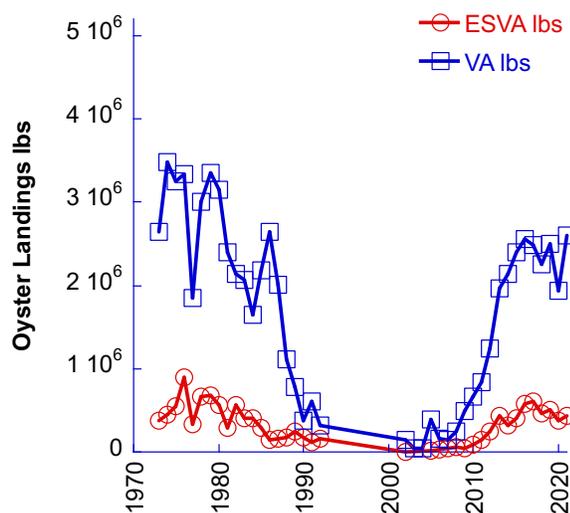
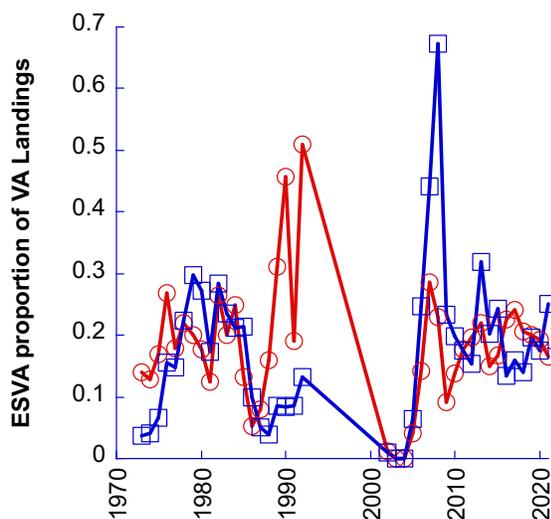


Figure 1. Oyster landings for Virginia from public grounds and private leases.

**ESVA Portion of VA Oyster Landings**  
 Red = Private Harvest  
 Blue = Public Harvest



**Private Hard Clam Harvest**

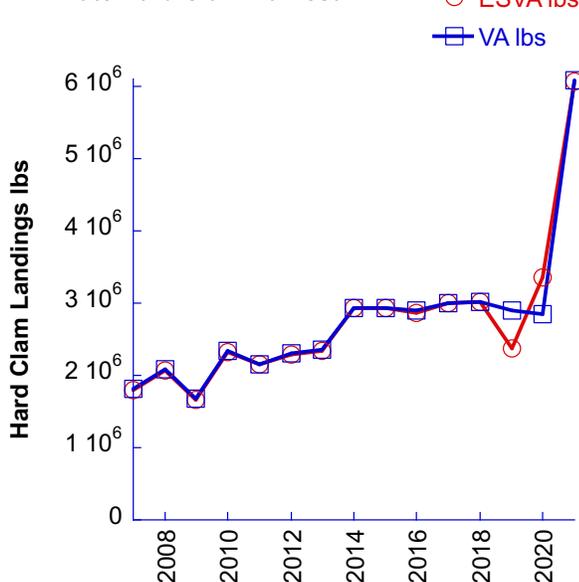


Figure 2. ESVA (Accomack and Northampton Counties) portion of Virginia total oyster landings from public and private grounds (left) and private grounds clam landings for ESVA and all of Virginia (right).

Table 2. Landings of all species for 2021 in all Virginia waters sorted by value (\$; left) and by total weight (lbs; right)

2021 All VA by \$	\$	Lbs	2021 All VA by lbs	\$	Lbs
QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$57,759,879	6,078,173	CRAB, BLUE	\$31,908,190	16,920,630
CRAB, BLUE	\$31,908,190	169,20,630	QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$57,759,879	6,078,173
OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$21,647,262	2,594,187	MENHADEN	\$713,465	5,321,554
OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$8,371,194	1,224,481	OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$21,647,262	2,594,187
SPOT	\$3,467,514	1,156,127	CATFISH, BLUE	\$1,331,697	2,563,897
BASS, STRIPED	\$2,806,056	836,158	DOGFISH, SPINY	\$407,014	2,414,282
CATFISH, BLUE	\$1,331,697	2,563,897	OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$8,371,194	1,224,481
CONCHS	\$1,248,373	438,600	SPOT	\$3,467,514	1,156,127
MENHADEN	\$713,465	5,321,554	BASS, STRIPED	\$2,806,056	836,158
SHRIMP (PENAEID)	\$599,917	239,967	CONCHS	\$1,248,373	438,600
CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$509,920	272,932	CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$422,128	347,386
CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$422,128	347,386	CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$509,920	272,932
DOGFISH, SPINY	\$407,014	2,414,282	SHAD, GIZZARD	\$42,830	270,253
BASS, BLACK SEA	\$333,828	129,019	SHRIMP (PENAEID)	\$599,917	239,967
MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$288,346	143,318	MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$288,346	143,318
QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$132,164	20,753	FISH, BAIT	\$104,647	143,016
BUTTERFISH	\$126,191	22,374	BASS, BLACK SEA	\$333,828	129,019
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$120,599	51,594	CATFISH, NK	\$60,961	115,916
COBIA	\$110,888	29,425	BLUEFISH	\$74,386	75,555
FISH, BAIT	\$104,647	143,016	DRUM, BLACK	\$31,670	63,340
WHITING, KING	\$82,537	36,343	SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$120,599	51,594
BLUEFISH	\$74,386	75,555	CARP	\$6,738	50,509
CATFISH, NK	\$60,961	115,916	EEL, AMERICAN	\$60,432	40,288
EEL, AMERICAN	\$60,432	40,288	ALEWIFE	\$4,456	39,555
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$52,336	32,315	RIBBONFISH	\$36,433	36,894
DRUM, RED	\$50,364	17,788	WHITING, KING	\$82,537	36,343
SEATROUT, GREY	\$49,810	27,884	MINNOW	\$36,463	34,053
SHAD, GIZZARD	\$42,830	270,253	FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$52,336	32,315
MINNOW	\$36,463	34,053	COBIA	\$110,888	29,425
RIBBONFISH	\$36,433	36,894	SEATROUT, GREY	\$49,810	27,884
DRUM, BLACK	\$31,670	63,340	DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$9,630	25,416
MULLET	\$20,543	14,642	BUTTERFISH	\$126,191	22,374
PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$15,875	5,951	QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$132,164	20,753

SPADEFISH	\$10,898	9,926	DRUM, RED	\$50,364	17,788
PERCH, WHITE	\$10,366	15,942	PERCH, WHITE	\$10,366	15,942
DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$9,630	25,416	MULLET	\$20,543	14,642
HARVESTFISH	\$8,211	3,227	SPADEFISH	\$10,898	9,926
CARP	\$6,738	50,509	SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$4,792	6,389
TAUTOG	\$6,255	2,145	PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$15,875	5,951
TRIGGERFISHES	\$4,820	2,124	HARVESTFISH	\$8,211	3,227
SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$4,792	6,389	SHAD, AMERICAN	\$668	2,184
ALEWIFE	\$4,456	39,555	TAUTOG	\$6,255	2,145
TOADFISH, OYSTER	\$4,029	1,791	TRIGGERFISHES	\$4,820	2,124
POMPANO, COMMON	\$3,449	832	SHAD, HICKORY	\$750	1,955
MACKEREL, KING	\$3,200	1,421	WHELK, KNOBBED	\$2,291	1,909
WHELK, KNOBBED	\$2,291	1,909	TOADFISH, OYSTER	\$4,029	1,791
WHITING, KING	\$1,624	706	REDFISH	\$731	1,475
PERCH, YELLOW	\$1,051	876	MACKEREL, KING	\$3,200	1,421
SHEEPSHEAD	\$943	472	SHAD, AMERICAN	\$497	1,158
SHAD, HICKORY	\$750	1,955	MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$442	1,000
REDFISH	\$731	1,475	PERCH, YELLOW	\$1,051	876
CREVALLE	\$711	711	POMPANO, COMMON	\$3,449	832
SHAD, AMERICAN	\$668	2,184	PIGFISH	\$245	817
SHAD, AMERICAN	\$497	1,158	CREVALLE	\$711	711
MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$442	1,000	WHITING, KING	\$1,624	706
PIGFISH	\$245	817	SHEEPSHEAD	\$943	472
CREVALLE	\$181	181	GARFISH	\$30	203
AMBERJACK	\$150	120	CREVALLE	\$181	181
GARFISH	\$30	203	AMBERJACK	\$150	120

Total 2021 VA: \$133,111,071 and 41,892,137 lbs

Table 3. Landings data from Accomack and Northampton Counties, 2021, sorted by value (\$).

Accomack 2021 by value (\$)			Northampton 2021 by value (\$)		
SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS	SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS
QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$8,177,127	1,124,802	QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$49,503,027	4,945,649
CRAB, BLUE	\$6,176,515	3,075,611	CRAB, BLUE	\$5,514,163	3,494,388
OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$2,152,765	301,541	OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$1,839,749	207,604
OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$2,043,169	222,959	CONCHS	\$403,219	131,244
SPOT	\$998,725	332,909	BASS, STRIPED	\$157,401	44,580
BASS, STRIPED	\$639,582	188,016	CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$62,788	35,952
CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$375,029	303,363	CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$47,100	44,022
CONCHS	\$197,328	70,474	SPOT	\$44,895	14,965
DOGFISH, SPINY	\$156,439	819,709	OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$39,900	5,588
CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$141,749	68,432	FISH, BAIT	\$25,564	17,443
MINNOW	\$33,275	31,456	RIBBONFISHES	\$24,418	24,460
BLUEFISH	\$26,679	17,090	DRUM, BLACK	\$13,767	27,534
QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$25,278	3,995	MENHADEN	\$11,538	90,477
MENHADEN	\$23,940	206,048	SPADEFISH	\$9,805	8,938
MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$22,469	10,162	BLUEFISH	\$8,058	4,112
FISH, BAIT	\$19,842	26,302	COBIA	\$7,873	2,080
DRUM, BLACK	\$17,724	35,449	QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$6,462	2,439
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$13,341	7,129	SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$6,004	2,492
WHITING, KING	\$11,845	5,180	BUTTERFISH	\$5,768	824
DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$8,837	23,433	SEATROUT, GREY	\$4,994	2,863
DRUM, RED	\$7,691	2,030	FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$4,446	1,972
PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$7,053	2,015	WHITING, KING	\$3,133	1,368
SEATROUT, GREY	\$5,899	3,159	DRUM, RED	\$2,732	1,187
MACKEREL, KING	\$3,180	1,413	MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$2,609	1,267
BUTTERFISH	\$1,858	1,268	WHELK, KNOBBED	\$1,550	1,292
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$647	232	POMPANO, COMMON	\$1,470	323
SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$322	429	TAUTOG	\$513	179
MULLET	\$280	278	SHEEPSHEAD	\$242	121
SHEEPSHEAD	\$182	91	MULLET	\$161	142
RIBBONFISHES	\$61	61			
PERCH, WHITE	\$44	106			
MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$36	67			

Table 4. Landings data from Accomack and Northampton Counties, 2021, sorted by weight (lbs).

Accomack 2021 by weight (lbs)			Northampton 2021 by weight (lbs)		
SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS	SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS
CRAB, BLUE	\$6,176,515	3,075,611	QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$49,503,027	4,945,649
QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$8,177,127	1,124,802	CRAB, BLUE	\$5,514,163	3,494,388
DOGFISH, SPINY	\$156,439	819,709	OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$1,839,749	207,604
SPOT	\$998,725	332,909	CONCHS	\$403,219	131,244
CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$375,029	303,363	MENHADEN	\$11,538	90,477
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BASS, STRIPED	\$639,582	188016	DRUM, BLACK	\$13,767	27,534
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CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$141,749	68,432	FISH, BAIT	\$25,564	17,443
DRUM, BLACK	\$17,724	35,449	SPOT	\$44,895	14,965
MINNOW	\$33,275	31,456	SPADEFISH	\$9,805	8,938
FISH, BAIT	\$19,842	26,302	OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$39,900	5,588
DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$8,837	23,433	BLUEFISH	\$8,058	4,112
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QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$25,278	3,995	FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$4,446	1,972
SEATROUT, GREY	\$5,899	3,159	WHITING, KING	\$3,133	1,368
DRUM, RED	\$7,691	2,030	WHELK, KNOBBED	\$1,550	1,292
PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$7,053	2,015	MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$2,609	1,267
MACKEREL, KING	\$3,180	1,413	DRUM, RED	\$2,732	1,187
BUTTERFISH	\$1,858	1,268	BUTTERFISH	\$5,768	824
SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$322	429	POMPANO, COMMON	\$1,470	323
MULLET	\$280	278	TAUTOG	\$513	179
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$647	232	MULLET	\$161	142
PERCH, WHITE	\$44	106	SHEEPSHEAD	\$242	121
SHEEPSHEAD	\$182	91			
MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$36	67			
RIBBONFISHES	\$61	61			

Table 5. ESVA counties total landings value and weight.

<b>Accomack</b>	<b>SUM VALUE</b>	<b>SUM POUNDS</b>	<b>Northampton</b>	<b>SUM VALUE</b>	<b>SUM POUNDS</b>
	\$21,288,907	6,885,210		\$57,753,347	9,115,504

Table 6. ESVA (Accomack + Northampton Counties) 2021 landings totals sorted by value (left) and weight (right)

SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS	SPECIES NAME	SUM VALUE	SUM POUNDS
QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$57,680,154	6,070,450	CRAB, BLUE	\$11,690,677	6,569,999
CRAB, BLUE	\$11,690,677	6,569,999	QUAHOG, PRIVATE	\$57,680,154	6,070,450
OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$3,882,918	430,563	DOGFISH, SPINY	\$156,439	819,709
OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$2,192,665	307,129	OYSTERS, PRIVATE	\$3,882,918	430,563
SPOT	\$1,043,620	347,874	SPOT	\$1,043,620	347,874
BASS, STRIPED	\$796,983	232,596	CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$422,128	347,386
CONCHS	\$600,547	201,719	OYSTERS, PUBLIC	\$2,192,665	307,129
CRAB, HORSESHOE	\$422,128	347,386	MENHADEN	\$35,478	296,525
CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$204,537	104,384	BASS, STRIPED	\$796,983	232,596
DOGFISH, SPINY	\$156,439	819,709	CONCHS	\$600,547	201,719
FISH, BAIT	\$45,406	43,745	CROAKER, ATLANTIC	\$204,537	104,384
MENHADEN	\$35,478	296,525	DRUM, BLACK	\$31,492	62,983
BLUEFISH	\$34,737	21,202	FISH, BAIT	\$45,406	43,745
MINNOW	\$33,275	31,456	MINNOW	\$33,275	31,456
QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$31,740	6,434	RIBBONFISHES	\$24,479	24,521
DRUM, BLACK	\$31,492	62,983	DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$8,837	23,433
MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$25,078	11,429	BLUEFISH	\$34,737	21,202
RIBBONFISHES	\$24,479	24,521	MACKEREL, SPANISH	\$25,078	11,429
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$17,787	9,101	FLOUNDER, SUMMER	\$17,787	9,101
WHITING, KING	\$14,978	6,548	SPADEFISH	\$9,805	8,938
SEATROUT, GREY	\$10,893	6,022	WHITING, KING	\$14,978	6,548
DRUM, RED	\$10,422	3,217	QUAHOG, PUBLIC	\$31,740	6,434
SPADEFISH	\$9,805	8,938	SEATROUT, GREY	\$10,893	6,022
DOGFISH, SMOOTH	\$8,837	23,433	DRUM, RED	\$10,422	3,217
COBIA	\$7,873	2,080	SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$6,651	2,724
BUTTERFISH	\$7,626	2,092	BUTTERFISH	\$7,626	2,092
PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$7,053	2,015	COBIA	\$7,873	2,080
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	\$6,651	2,724	PUFFER, NORTHERN	\$7,053	2,015
MACKEREL, KING	\$3,180	1,413	MACKEREL, KING	\$3,180	1,413
WHELK, KNOBBED	\$1,550	1,292	WHELK, KNOBBED	\$1,550	1,292
POMPANO, COMMON	\$1,470	323	SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$322	429
TAUTOG	\$513	179	MULLET	\$441	420
MULLET	\$441	420	POMPANO, COMMON	\$1,470	323
SHEEPSHEAD	\$424	212	SHEEPSHEAD	\$424	212
SHARK, BLACKTIP	\$322	429	TAUTOG	\$513	179
PERCH, WHITE	\$44	106	PERCH, WHITE	\$44	106
MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$36	67	MACKEREL, ATLANTIC	\$36	67
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$79,042,254</b>	<b>16,000,714</b>			