

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
Division of Marketing and Development

2023 Florida Seafood Report  
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Prepared and Submitted for Review By:

Bureau of Strategic Development  
Email: [marketing.reports@fdacs.gov](mailto:marketing.reports@fdacs.gov)

# Contents

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>US Commercial Fisheries Overview .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Pacific Fishery .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Atlantic Fishery.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Gulf Fishery.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Florida Economic Impacts .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Florida West Coast Leading Species .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Florida East Coast Leading Species .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Seasonality .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Counties.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Ports.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Exports.....</b>	<b>15</b>

## Definitions & Explanations:

**US Landings:** Statistics for each state represent a census of the volume and value of finfish and shellfish landed and sold at the dock at wholesale value, an amount lower than retail or exported market value.

**Transshipment:** The exportation of a product or products that did not originate from the state or location of the port from where it is exported. (e.g. seafood caught in the Bahamas that reach the port of Miami before shipping to another location).

**Exports vs. US Landings:** The \$412.4 million in Florida Seafood Products Exports is much higher than the \$267.9 million in Florida seafood landings due to transshipments from other locations and due to US landings representing wholesale value and not retail or exported market value.

## Sources:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/resources-fishing/commercial-fishing>

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Florida/Publications](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications)

<https://apps.fas.usda.gov/gats/default.aspx>

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/sustainable-fisheries/commercial-fisheries-landings>

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Florida Seafood Landings & Economic Impact:

- In 2022, Florida fishermen landed 109.3 million pounds of fish worth \$269.7 million (wholesale value), a 1.9% increase over 2021 and an 11.5% increase over the past decade, representing 4.6% of US total value.
  - Florida ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in 2022 dockside value. Alaska ranked 1<sup>st</sup> with \$2.1 billion.
  - Florida ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in 2022 price per pound at \$2.66 per pound.
  - The \$269.7 million in Florida total dockside value:
    - Supported 3,344 jobs.
    - More than \$9.9 million in business tax revenues.
    - Generated more than \$404.5 million in total economic impact.
- Both Florida's East Coast and West Coast have increased in value over the past decade.
  - Florida's East Coast is driven by growth in production (pounds).
  - Florida's West Coast is driven by growth in value (price per pound).

## Florida's West Coast (Gulf Fishery):

- Florida's West Coast has decreased production (landing pounds) by 13.7% over the past decade, while the price per pound increased by 26.4% from 2013 to 2022, indicating an overall 9.1% increase in Florida's West Coast value.
  - The top 10 most valuable species landed on Florida's West Coast during 2022 were stone crab (\$45.8 mil), spiny lobster (\$41.1 mil), Pink Shrimp (\$21.5 mil), red snapper (\$15.3 mil), red grouper (\$14.7 mil), blue crab (\$9.6 mil), bait shrimp (\$8.7 mil), yellowtail snapper (\$7.4 mil), gag grouper (\$4.8 mil), and striped mullet (\$4.6 mil).

## Florida's East Coast (Atlantic Fishery):

- Florida's East Coast has increased production (landing pounds) by 83.5% over the past decade, while the price per pound decreased by 45.6% from 2013 to 2022, indicating an overall 20.5% increase in Florida's East Coast value.
  - The top 10 most valuable species landed on Florida's East Coast during 2022 were white shrimp (\$10.1 mil), marine shrimp (\$7.5 mil), king mackerel (\$6.7 mil), rock shrimp (\$5.9 mil), blue crab (\$5.7 mil), spiny lobster (\$3.4 mil), Spanish mackerel (\$2.0 mil), tilefish (\$1.4 mil), and stone crab (\$1.2 mil).

## Florida's Seafood Exports

- Florida Seafood Products exports for 2022 were \$412.4 million and have increased by 21.7% in 2022 over 2021. This value can be inflated due to transshipment.
  - The \$412.4 million in Florida Seafood Products Exports is much higher than the \$267.9 million in Florida seafood landings due to transshipments from other locations and due to US landings representing wholesale value and not retail or exported market value.
- Canada is Florida's leading Seafood Products export partner with over \$150.0 million, representing 36.4% of all Seafood Products exported from Florida.

## US Commercial Fisheries Overview

In 2022, US fishermen in 31 states landed 8.4 billion pounds of fish worth \$5.9 billion (wholesale value), which is the fewest pounds in the past decade. However, the 2022 price per pound is at \$0.70/pound, the second highest it's been in a decade (*Figure 1*).

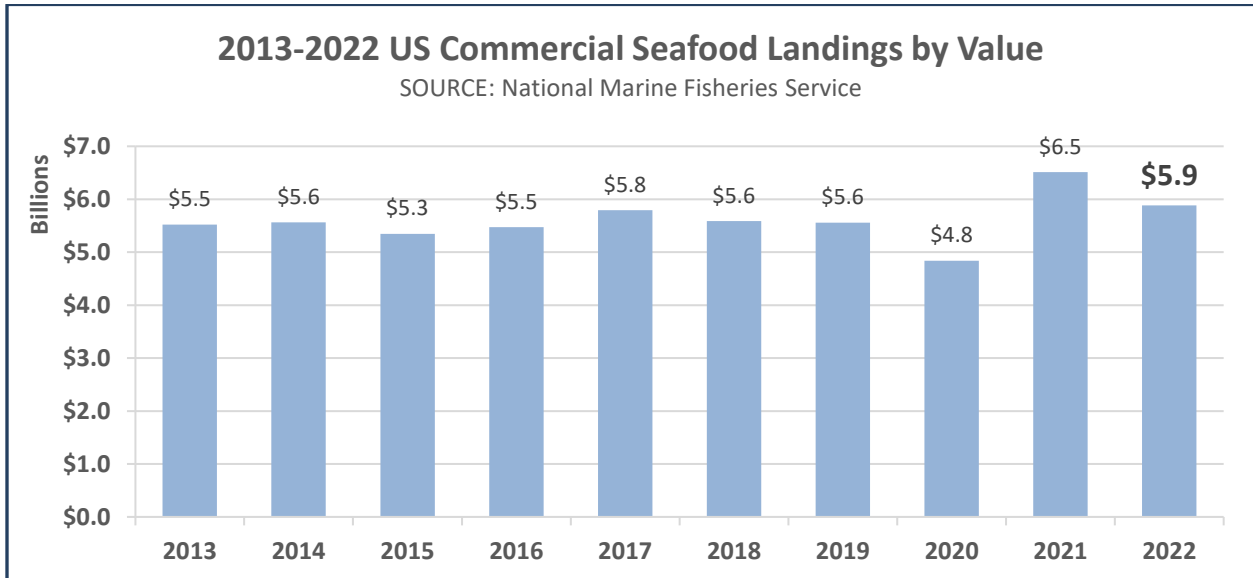


Figure 1 – 2013-2022 US Commercial Seafood Landings by Value

The United States consists of three main fisheries: the Pacific, Atlantic, and Gulf (*Figure 2*). In 2022, the Pacific fishery accounted for most of the total landing values in the US with 46%. The Atlantic fishery, made up of all states bordering the Atlantic fishery, including the East Coast of Florida, accounted for 32% of the total value landed in the US for 2022. The Gulf fishery, which includes the West Coast of Florida, accounted for 22% of all 2022 US landing values.

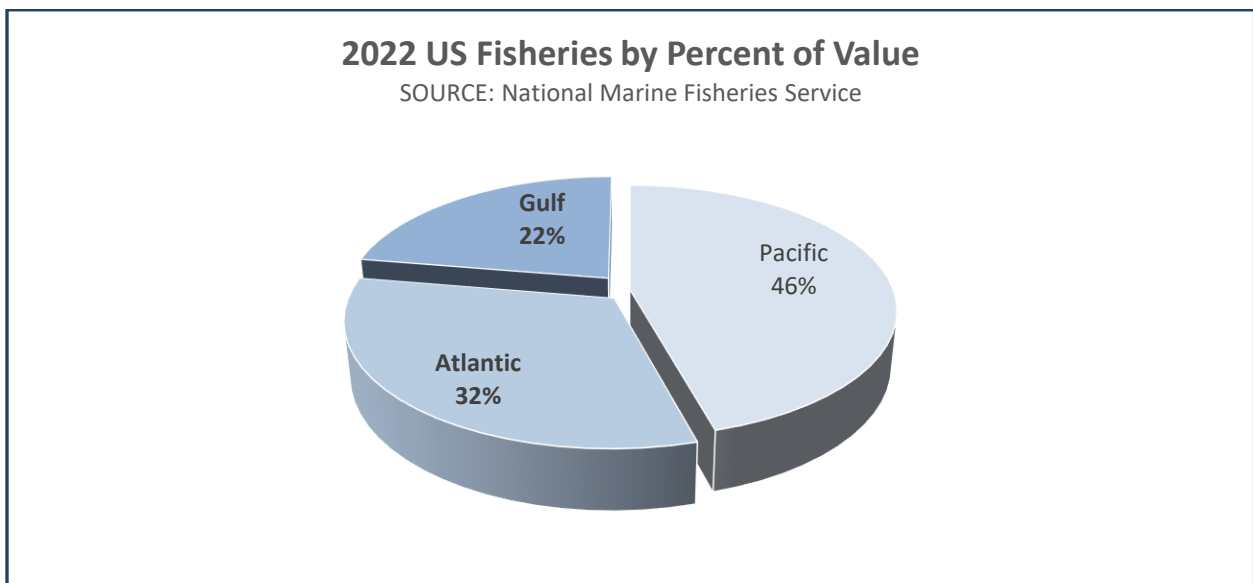


Figure 2 – 2022 US Fisheries by Percent of Value

## Pacific Fishery

The Pacific fishery is the largest in the nation, with 46% of the total value landed in 2022 (Figure 3). It consists of the states bordering the Pacific Ocean, including Alaska and Hawaii. Both 2021 and 2022 produced the highest value in landings for the Pacific fishery in the past decade, while Alaska accounted for 81.8% of all Pacific fish caught by weight and 71.0% of the value in 2022.

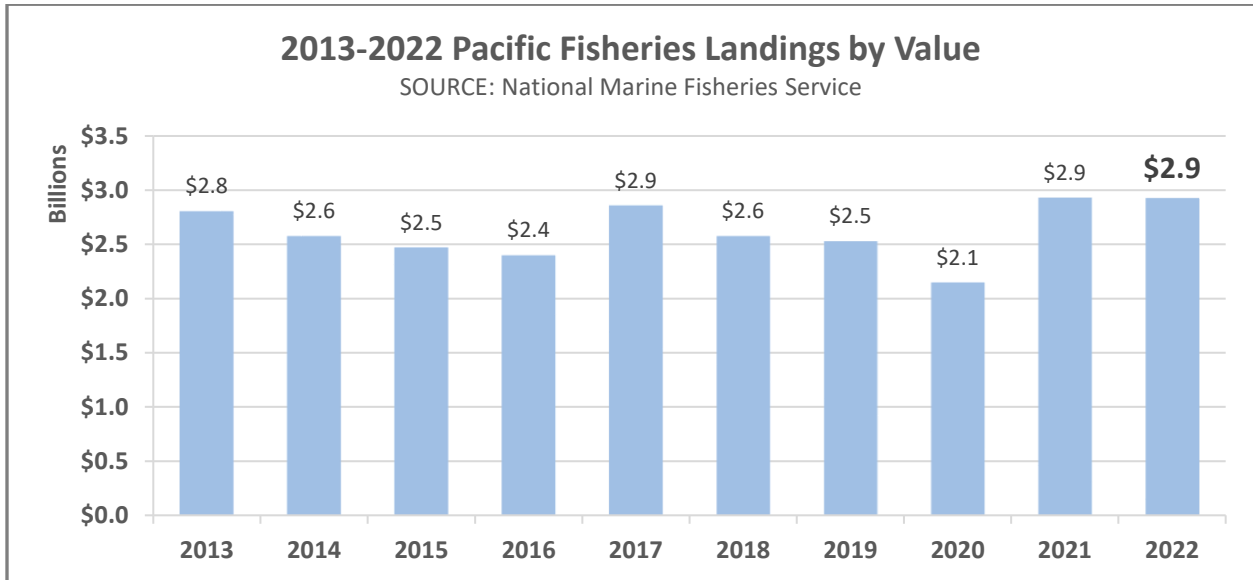


Figure 3 – 2013-2022 Pacific Fisheries Landings by Value

## Atlantic Fishery

The Atlantic fishery has seen a decline in pounds landed from a peak of 1.3 billion in 2013 to 1.1 billion in 2022. However, the value of the catch has increased 50.9% from 2013 to 2021, despite a slight downturn in 2022 to \$2.0 billion (Figure 4).

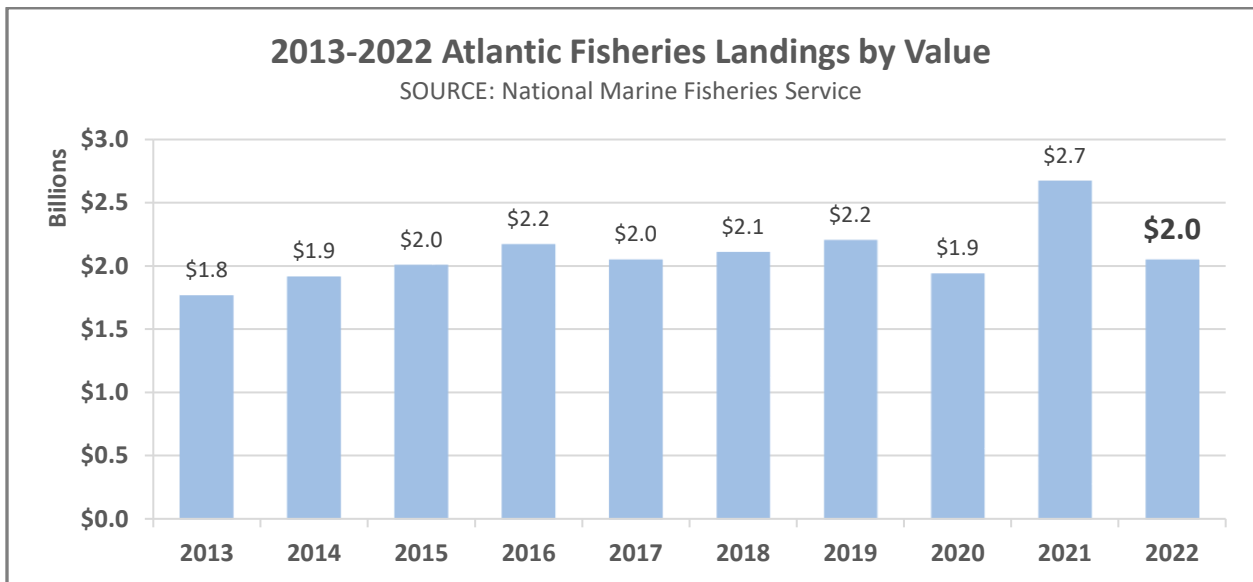


Figure 4 – 2013-2022 Atlantic Fisheries Landings by Value

## Gulf Fishery

The Gulf of Mexico fishery is comprised of all the states bordering the Gulf, including Florida’s West Coast, and contributed 22% of the total US value in 2022. Landings and value have varied throughout the past decade, reaching a peak in pounds landed in 2016 and a peak in value in 2014 (Figure 5). The Gulf fishery is yearly impacted by hurricanes and environmental events.

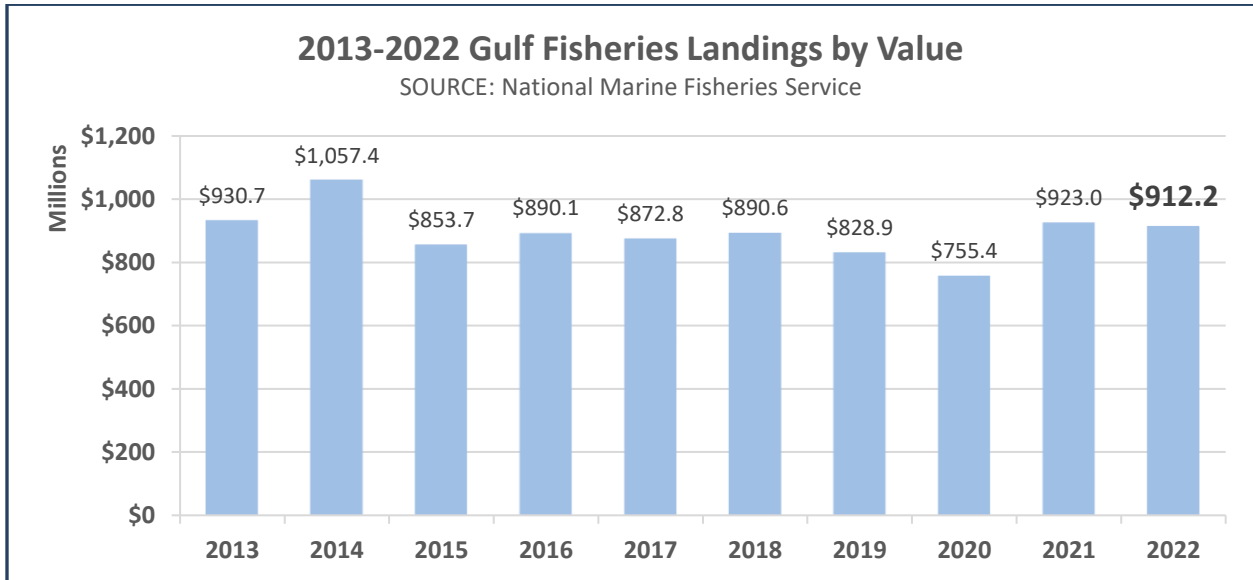


Figure 5 – 2013-2022 Gulf Fisheries Landings by Value

## Florida Economic Impacts

In 2022, Florida fishermen landed 109.3 million pounds of fish worth \$269.7 million (wholesale value), a 1.9% increase over 2021 and an 11.5% increase over the past decade (Figure 6). The price per pound in 2022 is also up to \$2.47 per pound, up 3.7% from 2021.

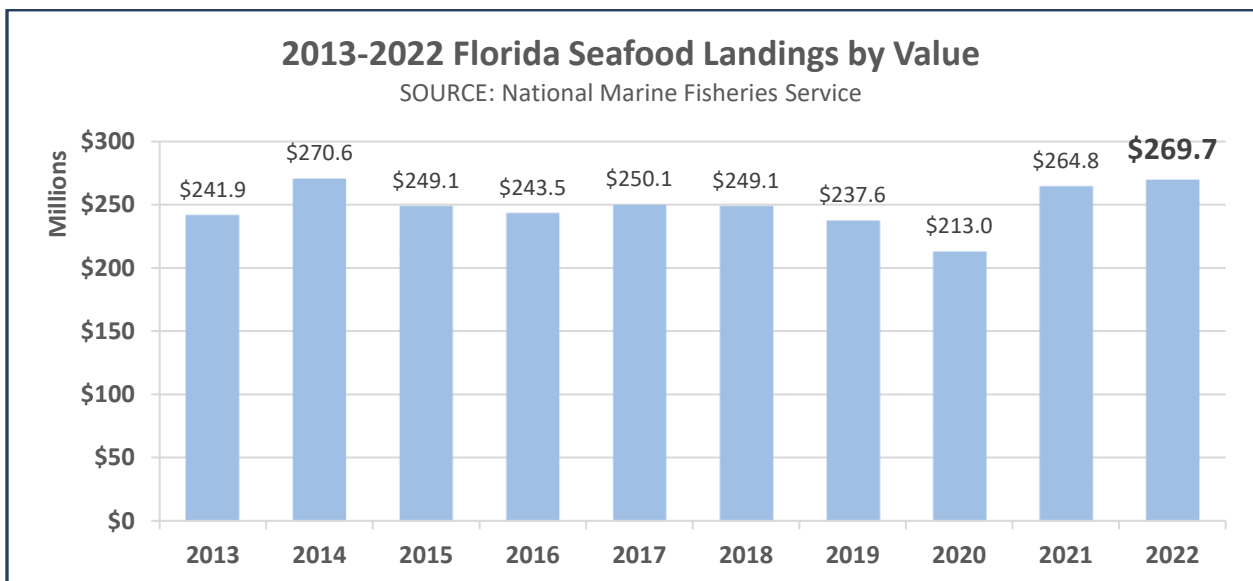


Figure 6 – 2013-2022 Florida Seafood Landings by Value

With a total dockside value of \$269.7 million in 2022, Florida ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the value of seafood landed (*Figure 7*). Fellow Gulf states Louisiana (\$416.5 million) and Texas (\$169.4 million) ranked 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> respectively, while Alaska topped the list at \$2.1 billion. The commercial fishing industry in Florida is all-encompassing, supporting jobs in shipbuilding and maintenance, marinas, restaurants, marine equipment, retail stores, and many other statewide industries.

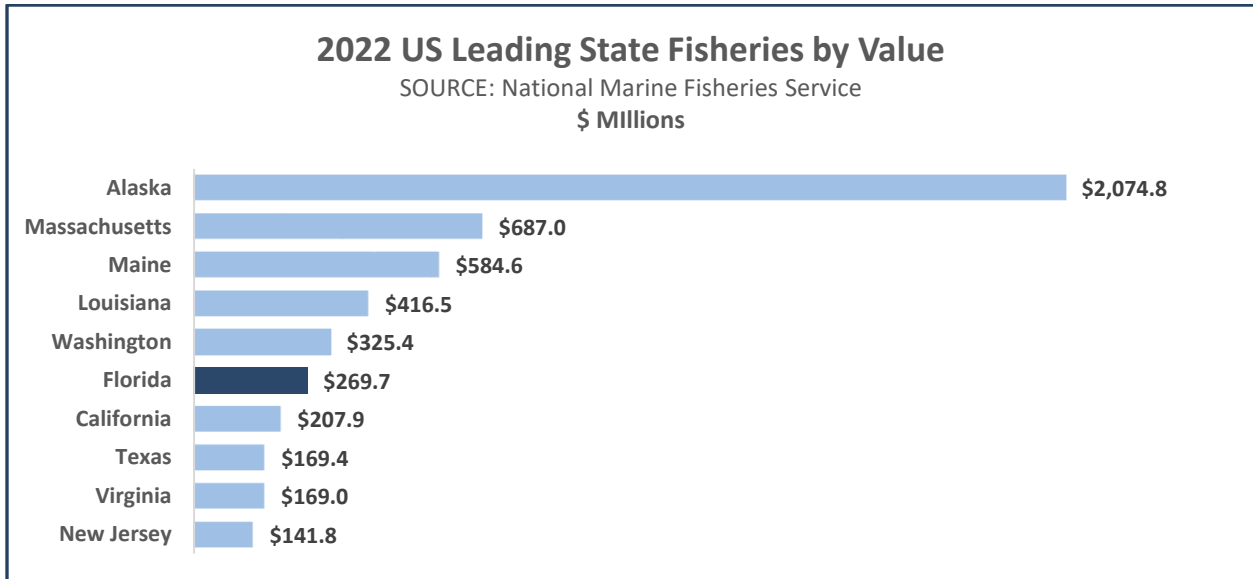


Figure 7 – 2022 US Leading State Fisheries by Value

The 2022 total dockside value of \$269.7 million contributed to more than:

- 3,344 Florida jobs, \$9.9 million in business tax revenues, and a total economic impact of \$404.5 million.

In 2022, Hawaii replaced Maine as the most valuable fishery in revenue per pound at \$4.63 per pound, while Florida is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> at \$2.66 per pound (*Figure 8*).

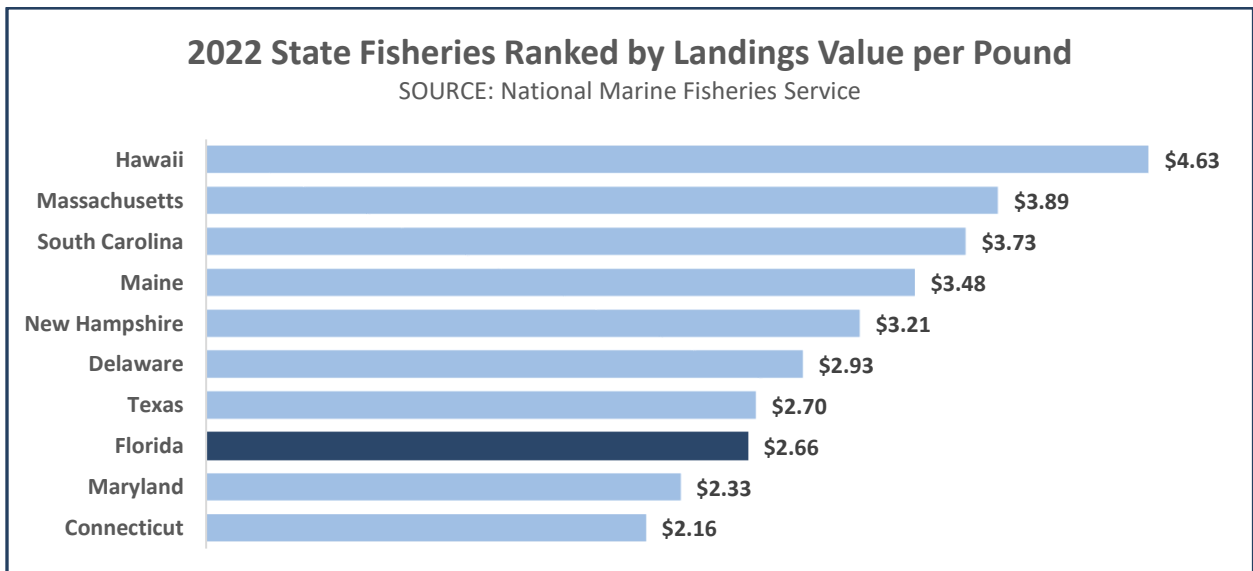


Figure 8 – 2022 State Fisheries Ranked by Landings Price per Pound

Both Florida’s West Coast (Gulf Fishery) and East Coast (Atlantic Fishery) have increased in value over the past decade (Figure 9). However, Florida’s East Coast is driven by production growth, while Florida’s West Coast is driven by growth in value.

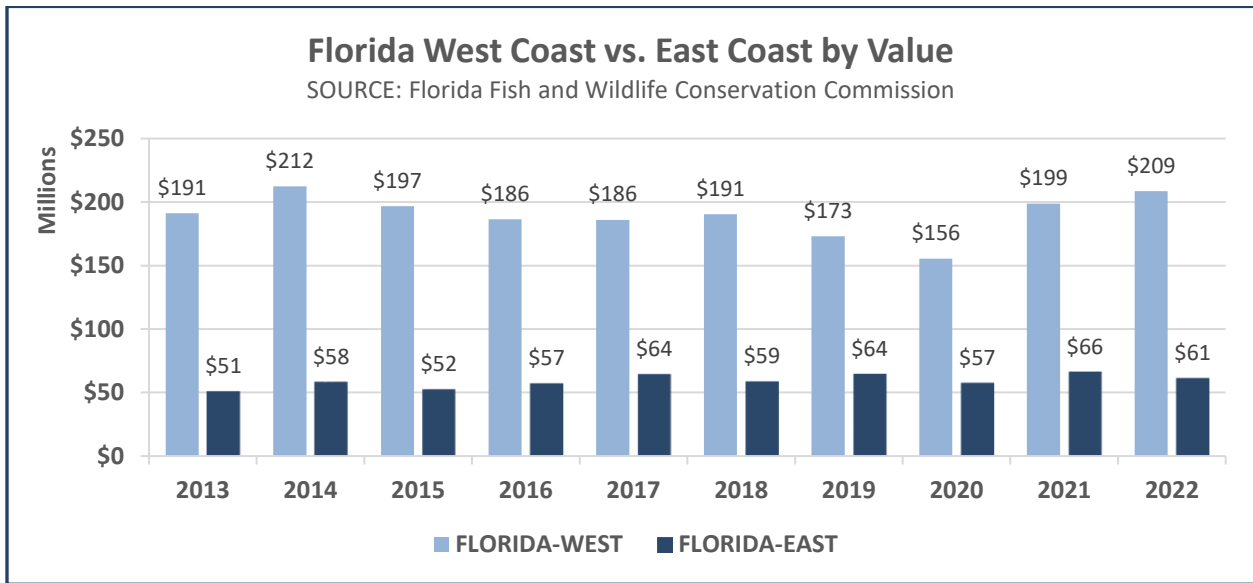


Figure 9 – Florida West Coast vs. East Coast by Value

Florida’s East Coast has increased production (landing pounds) by 83.5% over the past decade, while the price per pound decreased by 45.6% from 2013 to 2022, indicating an overall 20.5% increase in Florida’s East Coast value (Figure 10).

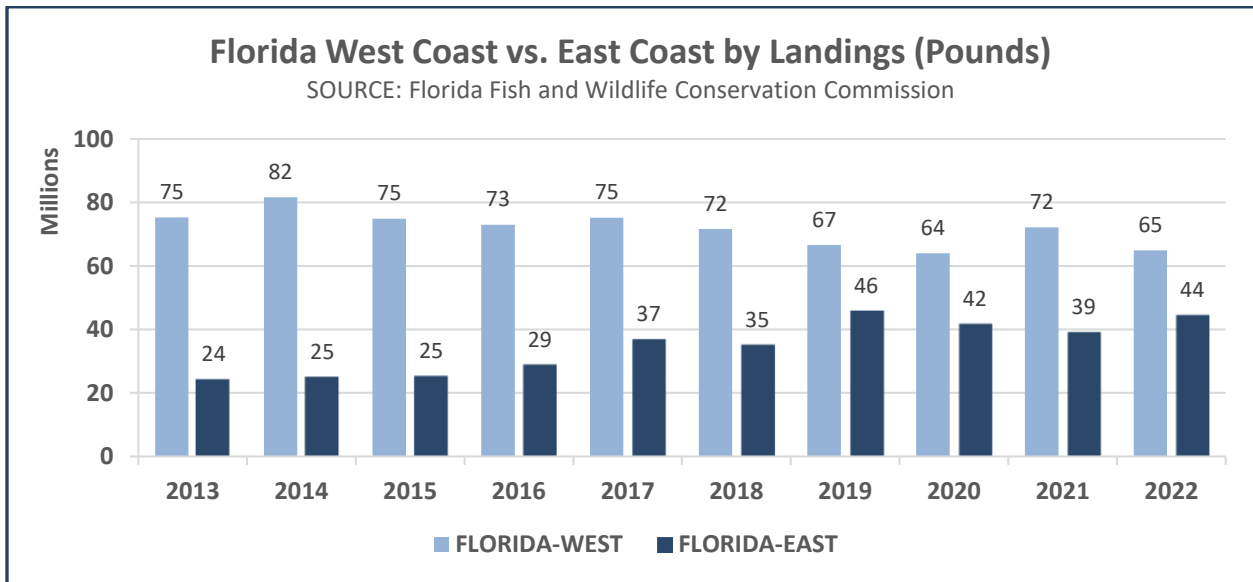


Figure 10 – Florida West Coast vs. East Coast by Landings (Pounds)



Florida’s West Coast has decreased production by 13.7% over the past decade, while the price per pound increased by 26.4% from 2022 over 2013, indicating an overall 9.1% increase in Florida’s West Coast value (Figure 11).

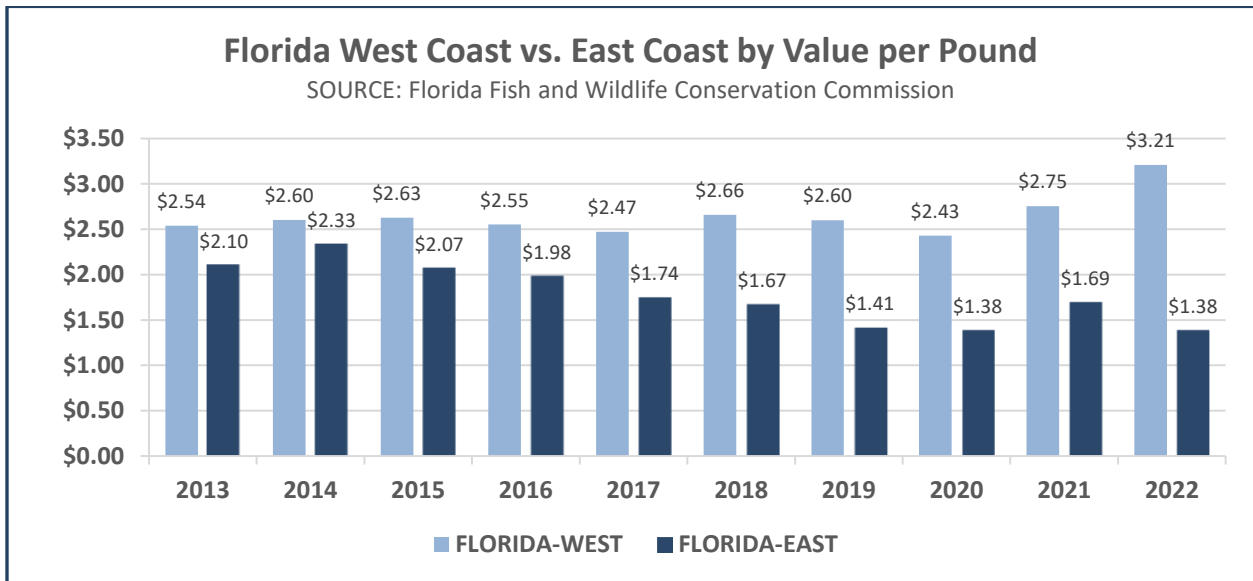


Figure 11 – Florida West Coast vs. East Coast by Value per Pound

## Florida West Coast Leading Species

In 2022, Florida’s commercial landings made up 22.9% of the total value of the Gulf Coast fishery, behind Louisiana with 45.7% and ahead of Texas with 18.6% (Figure 12).

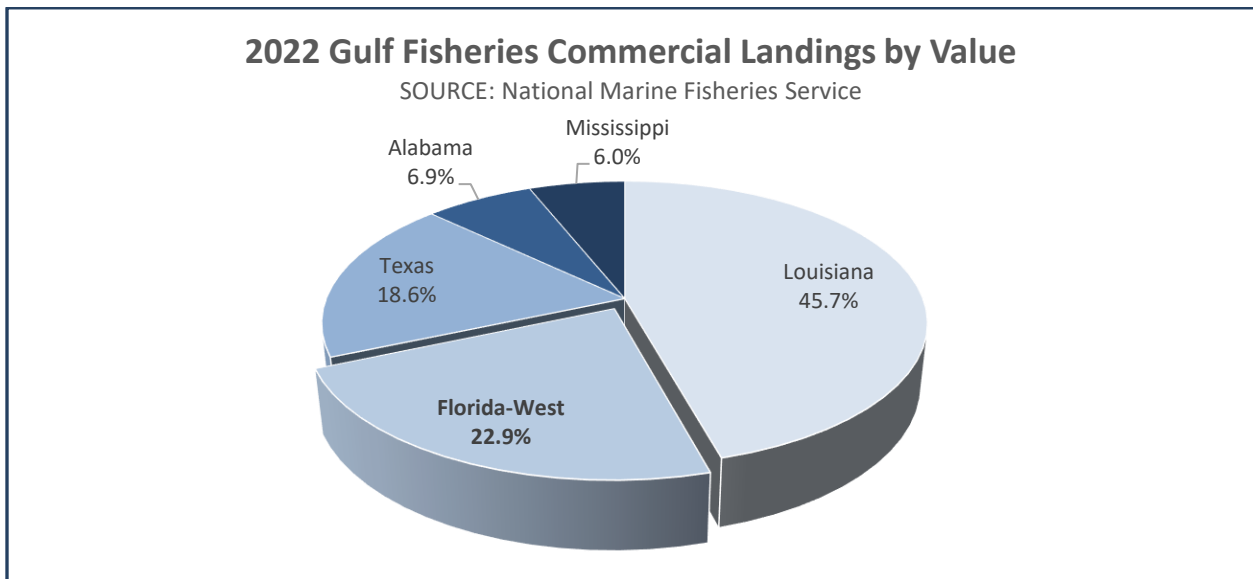


Figure 12 – 2022 Gulf Fisheries Commercial Landings by Value

The most valuable species that landed on Florida’s West Coast during 2022 was stone crab at \$45.8 million, followed by spiny lobster and pink shrimp (Figure 13). These three species totaled \$108.4 million and accounted for 52.0% of all Florida West Coast by value. The top 10 species totaled \$173.4 million, or 83.2% of all Florida West Coast landings by value.

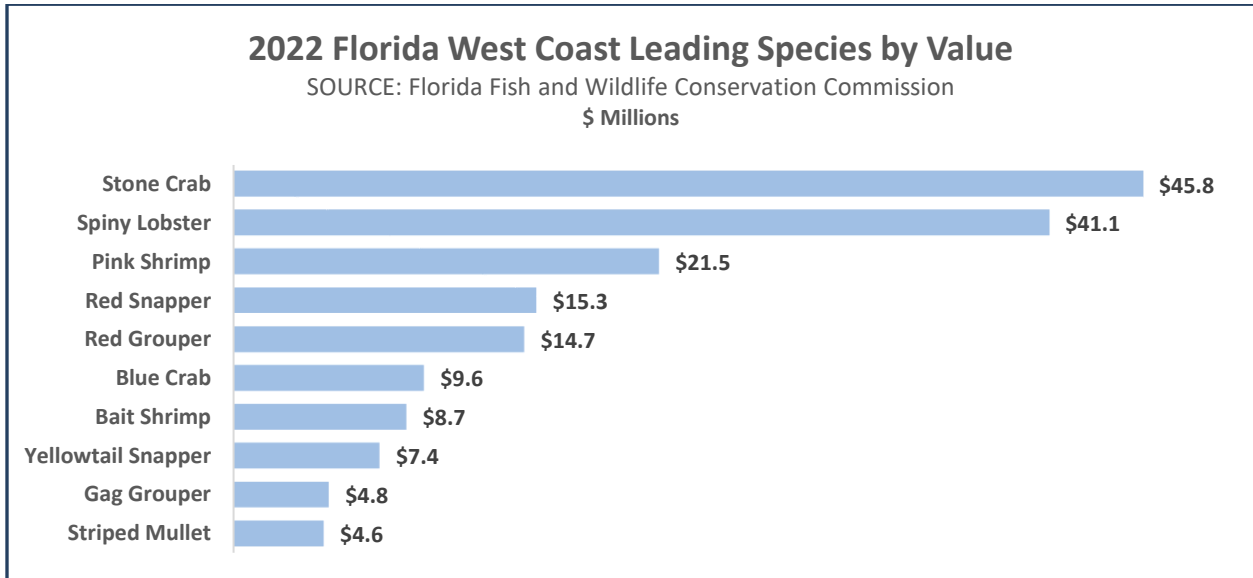


Figure 13 – 2022 Florida West Coast Leading Species by Value

The leaders by weight list is similar to the list of leading species by value, sharing seven of the top 10 spots (Figure 14). Crustaceans, marine shrimp, and turban snails joined the top 10.

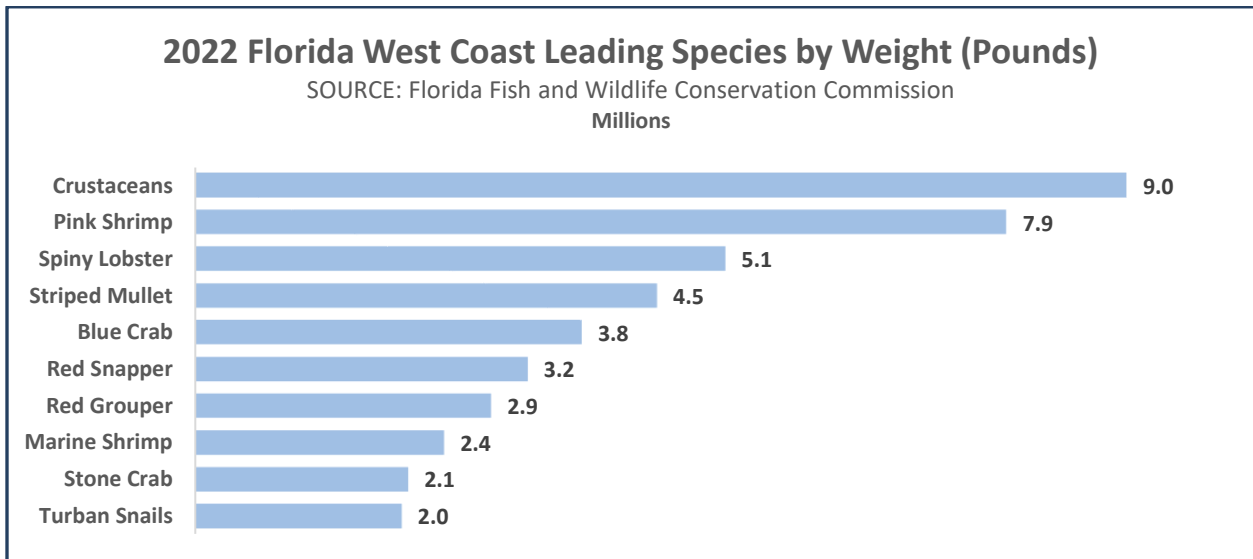


Figure 14 – 2022 Florida West Coast Leading Species by Weight (Pounds)

In terms of value per pound for all species valued at more than \$1 million in 2022, stone crab maintains the top spot (Figure 15). Sharks rank among the lowest value per pound.

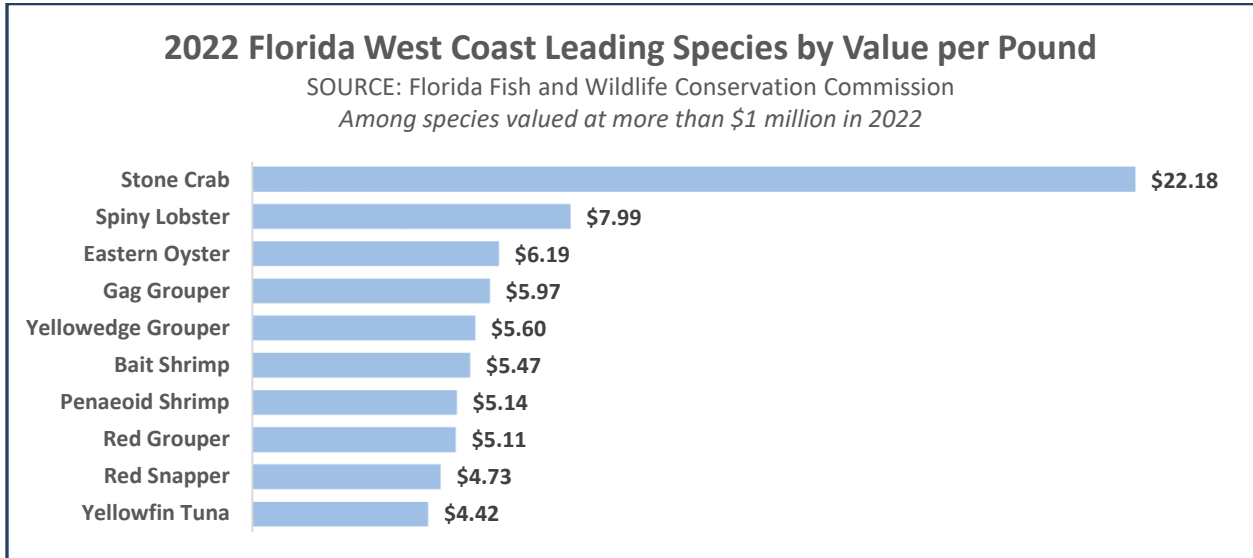


Figure 15 – 2022 Florida West Coast Leading Species by Value per Pound

## Florida East Coast Leading Species

In 2022, the East Coast Florida fishery represented 3.0% of the total value of the Atlantic fishery (Figure 16). Massachusetts and Maine, two New England states with rich maritime histories, accounted for 62.0% of commercial landings. Although Florida’s East Coast only accounted for 3.0% of the Atlantic Fishery, it accounted for 22.7% of all Florida commercial landings by value.

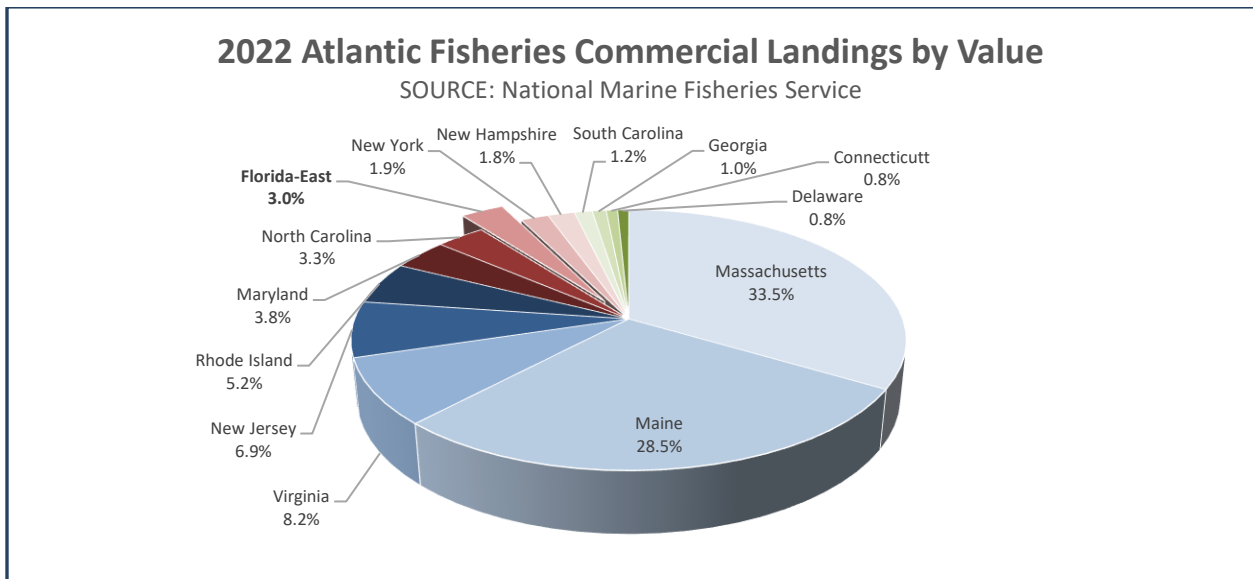


Figure 16 – 2022 Atlantic Fisheries Commercial Landings by Value

The most valuable species that landed on Florida’s East Coast in 2022 was white shrimp at \$10.1 million, followed by marine shrimp and king mackerel (Figure 17). These three species totaled \$24.3 million and accounted for 39.8% of all Florida East Coast value. The top 10 species totaled \$47.3 million, or 77.3% of all Florida East Coast landings by value.

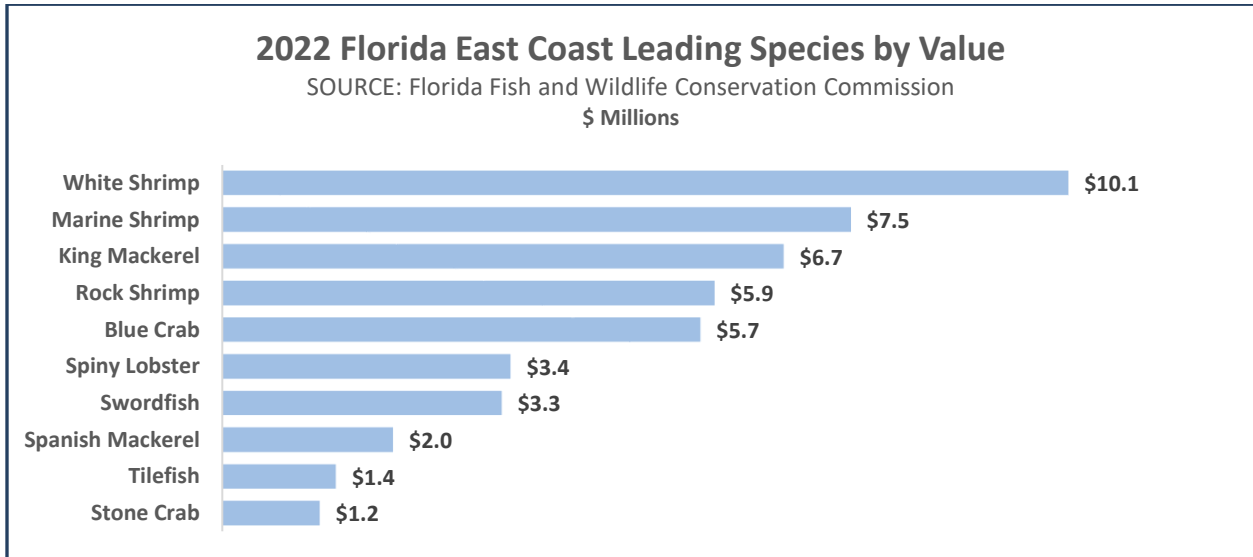


Figure 17 – 2022 Florida East Coast Leading Species by Value

The leaders by weight list is similar to the list of leading species by value, sharing eight of the top 10 spots (Figure 18). Striped mullet and brown shrimp joined the top 10.

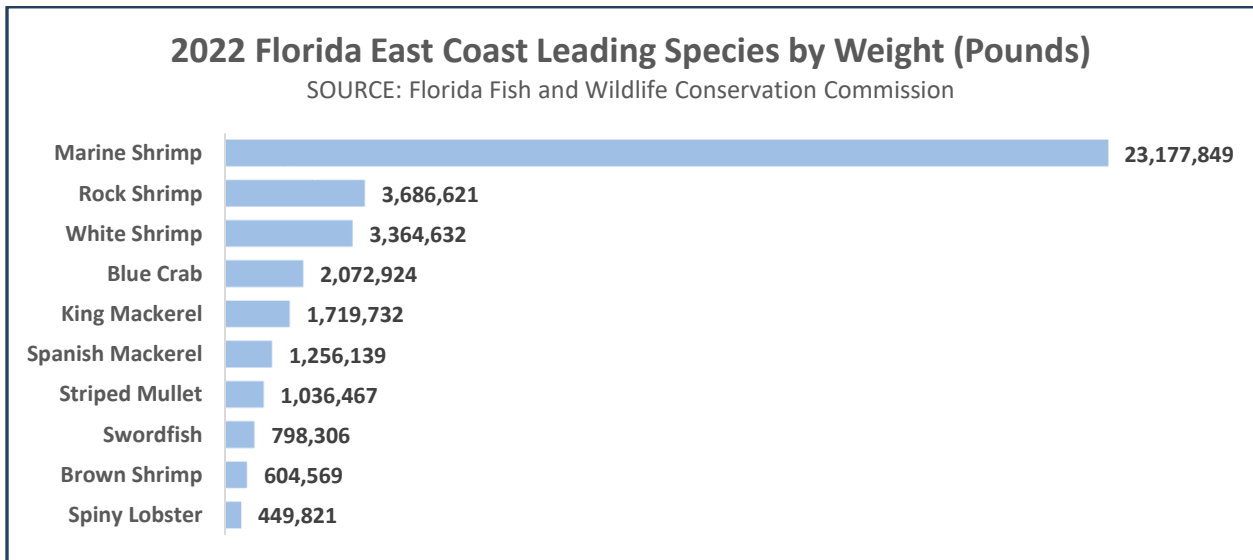


Figure 18 – 2022 Florida East Coast Leading Species by Weight (Pounds)

In terms of value per pound for all species valued at more than \$1 million in 2022, stone crab maintains the top spot (*Figure 19*). Snails, sardines, and sharks rank among the lowest value per pound.

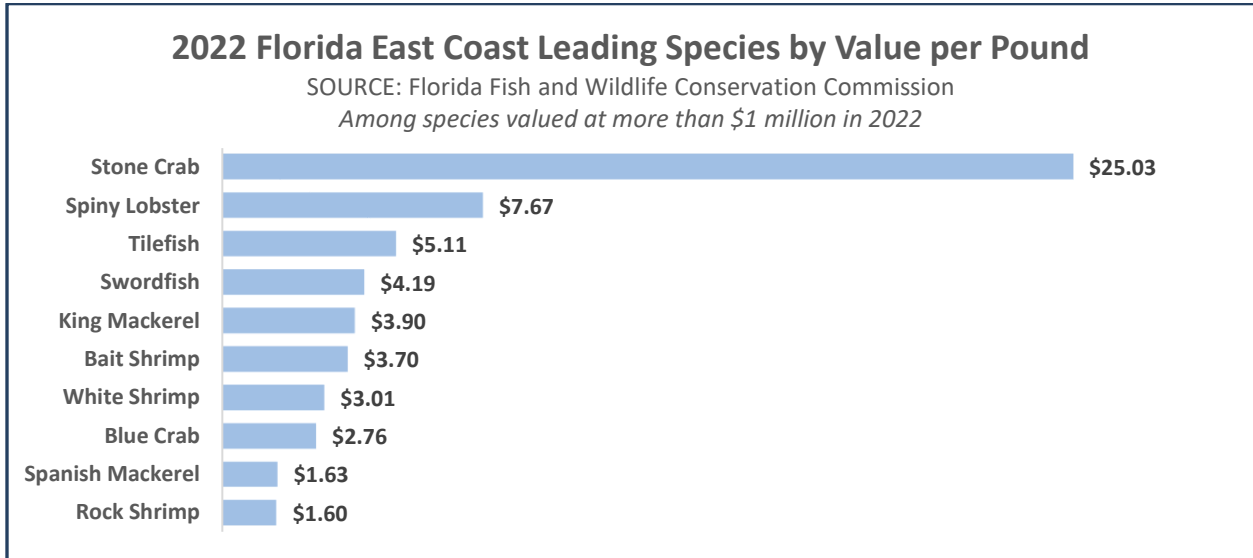


Figure 19 – 2022 Florida East Coast Leading Species by Value per Pound

## Seasonality

As with all fisheries, Florida has busy and slow seasons, and certain species are more plentiful during certain parts of the year (*Figure 20*). In 2022, the period from October through February was the busiest of the year. Those five months combined for 51.4% of the value of all seafood landed in Florida. Those five months were the busiest for crab, lobster, shrimp, and mullet.

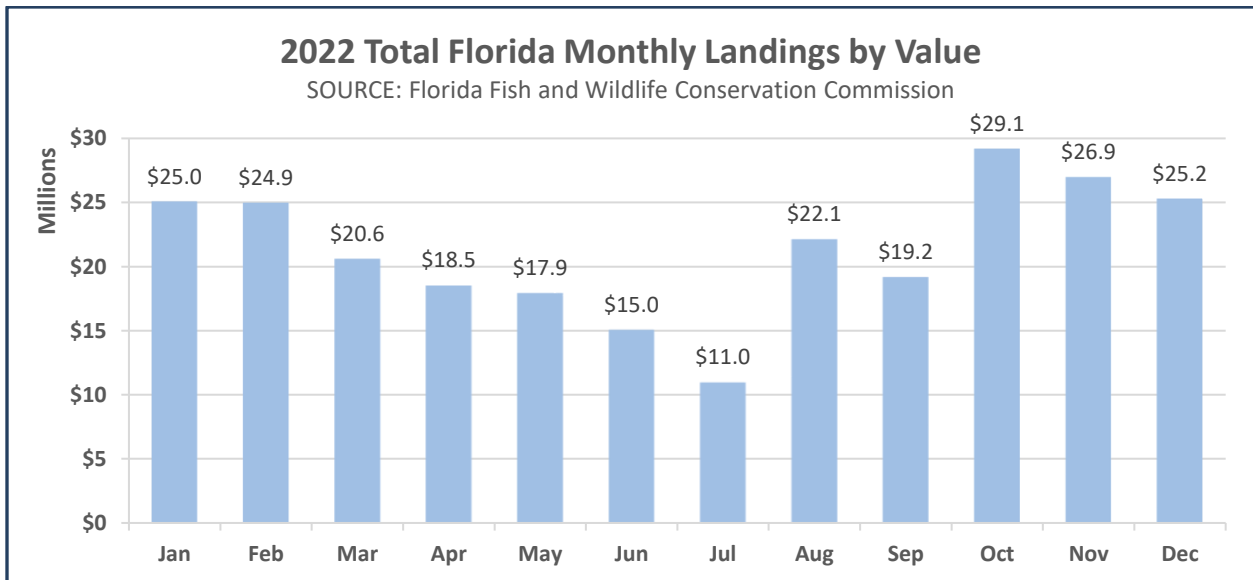


Figure 20 – 2022 Total Florida Monthly Landings by Value

## Counties

Out of the top 10 seafood-producing counties in 2022, seven are in the southern half of the state, Monroe leads by a nearly 3-to-1 margin over Pinellas County. This 3-to-1 margin is primarily due to multi-million-dollar hauls of spiny lobster, snapper, crab, shrimp, and mackerel (Figure 21). Monroe accounted for 28.7% of all of Florida’s seafood production.

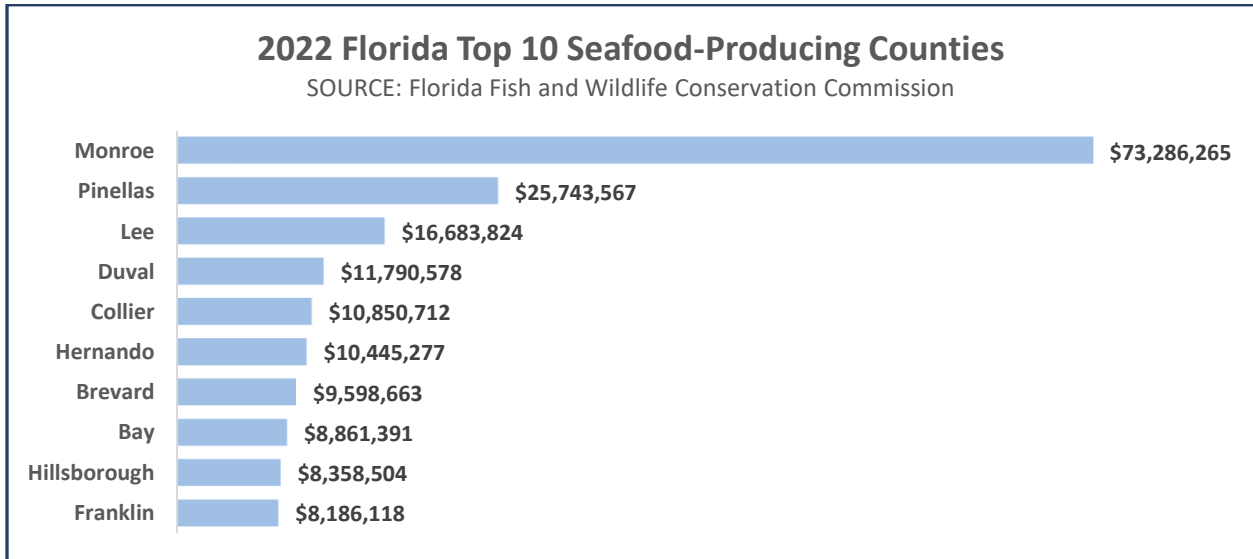


Figure 21 – 2022 Florida Top 10 Seafood-Producing Counties

## Ports

Florida is home to numerous fishing ports with more than 1,300 miles of coastline. Leading the ports in terms of landings by value are Key West, Tampa Bay, Fort Myers and Mayport (Figure 22). The ports listed by the National Marine Fisheries Service do not include all Florida ports.

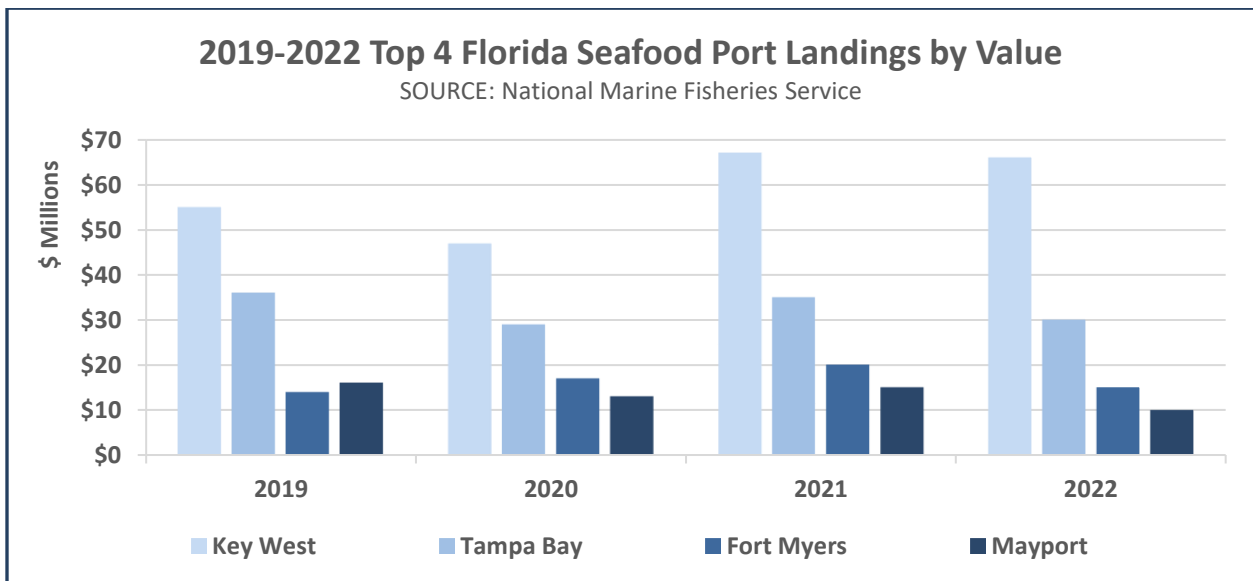


Figure 22 – 2019-2022 Top 4 Florida Seafood Port Landings by Value

## Exports

Florida Seafood Products include fish, shrimp, crabs, lobsters, and other seafood-related products. Florida Seafood Products exports for 2022 were \$412.4 million and have increased by 21.7% in 2022 over 2021 (Figure 23). The \$412.4 million in Florida Seafood Products Exports is much higher than the \$267.9 million in Florida seafood landings due to transshipments from other locations and due to US landings representing wholesale value and not retail or exported market value.



Figure 23 – 2013-2022 Florida Seafood Products Exports

Canada is Florida’s leading Seafood Products export partner, with over 36.4% of all Seafood Products exported from Florida, importing Atlantic salmon, shrimp, tilapia, trout, and mackerel from Florida. Canada’s import of Florida Seafood Products increased by 6.1% in 2022 over 2021 (Figure 24).

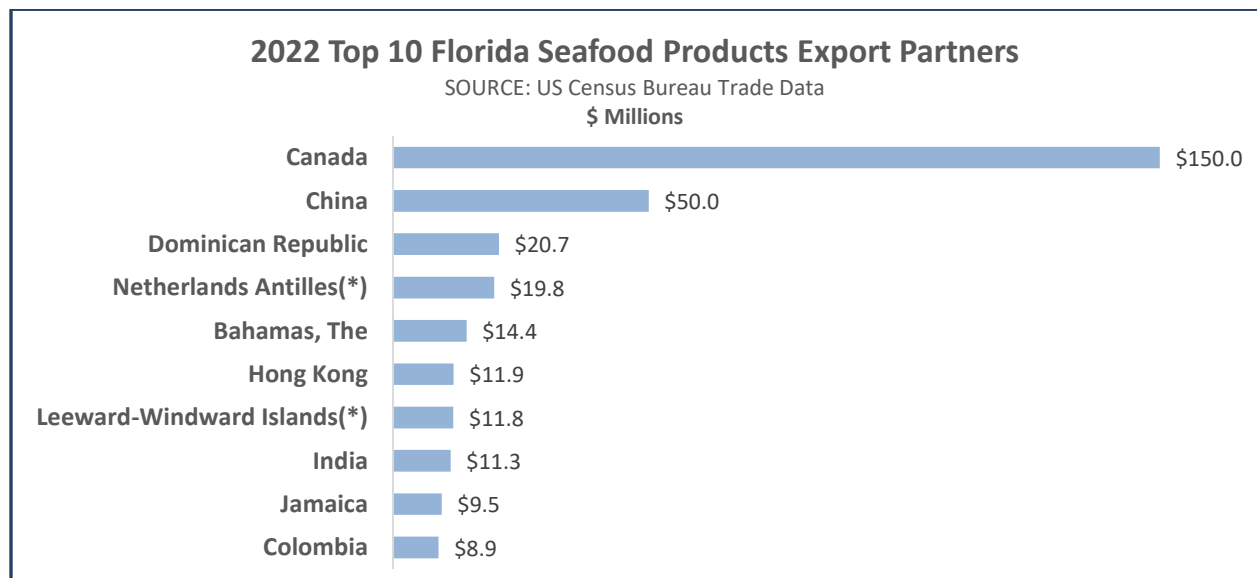


Figure 24 – 2022 Top 10 Florida Seafood Products Export Partners  
 (\*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.