

20 years running, New Bedford is the nation's highest-grossing commercial fishing port

At one point in 1857, New Bedford was the richest city per capita in the world because of fishing, whaling to be precise. Back then there were 329 vessels worth over \$12 million. While whaling began to decline from that point on, New Bedford went on to textiles and lighting, before returning to the bounty of fishing again.

The National Marine Fisheries Service released its annual report yesterday and for the 20th year in a row, New Bedford is the nation's highest-grossing commercial fishing port with an astounding haul worth \$451 million, up from \$431 million in the previous year.

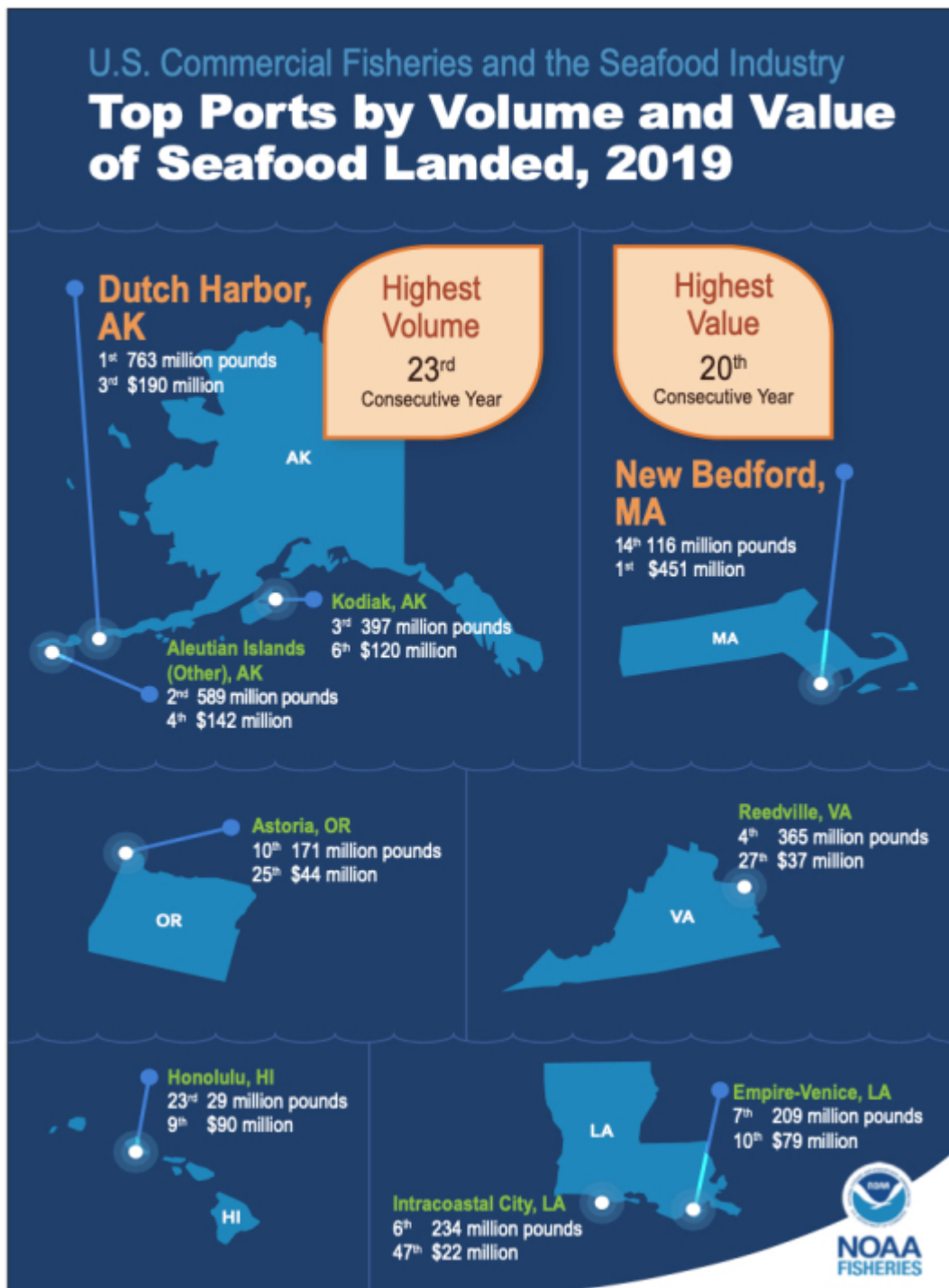
How far ahead is New Bedford when compared to other fishing ports around the world? No one is even close. Second place went to the Port of Naknek, Alaska, which landed a total catch that was "only" worth \$289 million. The popularity of TV shows has shined light on Dutch Harbor, but that port only brought in a total catch valued at only \$190 million, garnering them 3rd place.

What makes the first place ranking even more special is that New Bedford isn't a top winner when it comes to volume. In fact, we didn't even make it into the top ten: New Bedford ranked 14th place with a total volume of 116 million pounds. Where we stand out is in the value, much of which comes from scallops.

New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell said "During the pandemic, we have strived to keep our waterfront workforce safe, and so it

is encouraging now to see seafood businesses alive with activity as the pandemic begins to subside.”

Also proud was Senator Warren for her role: “The fishing and seafood industry are a key part of the Commonwealth’s history, economy, and future, and I and my Massachusetts colleagues worked hard to provide them with federal COVID relief and we will continue to support our fishing community as we recover from this pandemic.”



Operation “Clean Sweep” seeking volunteers for Acushnet Avenue clean up

Meet at the public parking lot at Cotali Mar Restaurante at the corner of Acushnet and Sawyer Streets, New Bedford.

- Volunteers will clean up the surrounding areas in the North End.
- Free t-shirts to all volunteers
- Gloves and tools provided
- Wear closed-toe shoes
- Wear a mask

Review the safety notes [here](#).

Want to help? Sign up now!!!

**SATURDAY
MAY
22**



ACUSHNET AVE CLEANUP

9:00 am - 11:30 am

Public Parking Lot Behind Cotali Mar Restaurante
Corner of Acushnet Avenue and Sawyer St.



FREE T-Shirts to All Participants
Gloves and tools provided
WALK-INS WELCOME

Upcoming Cleanups

June 19: Me & Eds, South End, 30 Brock Avenue

July: No cleanup scheduled

August 21: ServPro, Purchase Street

September 18: AFC Urgent Care, Coggeshall Street

St. Anne's Credit Union Donates \$1,500 to Westport Food Pantry

St. Anne's is proud to support the Westport Food Pantry with a \$1,500 donation that will assist them in continuing to provide food and other essential household items to Westport residents in need. The Westport Food Pantry was created in April 2020 as an emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic and has continued to operate out of necessity.

"Extending our assistance to those who need a helping hand is at the core of our business," said Eileen M. Danahey, President & CEO of St. Anne's."

to display our commitment to the Westport Food Pantry who is doing a commendable job of supporting our shared community."

Located at the Westport Grange at 931 Main Road, Westport residents are able to pick up pre-packaged food and household goods through their convenient and contactless drive-through process. More details can be found at westport-ma.com/recreation-department.

St. Anne's is active in the communities in which it serves and is proud to partner with local organizations to create a positive impact. To learn more about St. Anne's philanthropic efforts, visit stannes.com/Community-Investment.

Massachusetts State Police, Fire Marshal announce fireworks enforcement efforts have begun

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and Massachusetts State Police Colonel Christopher Mason announced today fireworks enforcement efforts have started. The State Police Bomb Squad is part of the Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit (F&EIU) assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, which has already started working with local police and fire departments to enforce the fireworks laws and intercept fireworks being brought into the state illegally.

“It is illegal to bring fireworks into Massachusetts, even if they were legally purchased elsewhere,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey.

The State Police Bomb Squad had a 63% increase in response to fireworks calls in 2020 over 2019. During the F&EIU 2020 fireworks enforcement operation, there were 47 criminal summonses issued over a 4-day period. This year’s enforcement operation has already started and will last longer.

“In addition to special enforcement efforts to intercept fireworks coming into Massachusetts, troopers and local police will seize illegal fireworks they find during routine traffic stops,” said Colonel Mason. “We don’t want a repeat of the huge increase in resident complaints we experienced last year.”

In communities throughout the Commonwealth, there has been a significant rise in resident complaints regarding fireworks. Complaints to the Boston Police Department increased 1,518% from 1,504 in 2019 to 21,346 in 2020, and in calendar 2020,

the Springfield Police Department received 3,504 calls for fireworks. The peak was between May 1 and July 31 when 3,345 calls were received.

Fireworks complaints to the Lawrence Police Department increased 409% in 2020 from 2019, and there were 159 fireworks complaints in 2019 and 810 in 2020. In the summer period (May 1 – August 31), fireworks complaints increased by 420% from 148 in 2019 to 769 in 2020. In Brockton, resident complaints about fireworks to the Brockton Police Department increased 611% from 209 in 2019 to 1,486 in 2020.

“There will be supervised displays of fireworks this year unlike last year, so we encourage you to leave the fireworks to the professionals,” said Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “Fireworks are illegal because they are dangerous. Fires started by fireworks in Massachusetts increased 180% in 2020 from 2019.”

In the past decade (2011-2020), there have been 941 major fire and explosion incidents involving illegal fireworks reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS). The incidents caused 12 civilian injuries, 42 fire service injuries, and an estimated dollar loss of \$2.1 million, which is high considering most fireworks fires are outdoor brush fires.

Additionally, 32 people were treated at Massachusetts emergency rooms for severe burn injuries from fireworks (burns covering 5% or more of the body) according to the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System. This does not include visits to hospital emergency rooms for eye injuries, amputations, puncture wounds or smaller burns. Forty-one percent (41%) of fireworks-related burn injuries reported by hospitals to the Office of the State Fire Marshal in the last 10 years (2011-2020) were to children under age 18. Twenty-six percent, (26%) were children under age 10.

Fireworks should be left to the professionals. To learn more

the dangers of illegal fireworks, [click here](#).

Town of Dartmouth awarded grant for seat belt use

The Dartmouth Police Department was awarded a grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research (OGR) to increase the number of patrols and to remind drivers and passengers about the lifesaving benefits of wearing a seat belt. Dartmouth police will join other departments across the state and the Massachusetts Department of State Police in the national Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign.

"Seat belts are the single most important safety item in our vehicles," said Chief Brian P. LEVESQUE of the Dartmouth Police Department. "We see firsthand the devastating consequences of drivers and their passengers not buckling up. These funds will increase our traffic enforcement presence to help end these preventable tragedies."

"Seat belts are the best way to protect yourself from dangerous drivers," said Kevin Stanton, Executive Director of the OGR. "You might be an excellent driver, but not everyone else is. Seat belts are your best defense against impaired, aggressive, and distracted drivers."

"Seat belts save lives. It's as simple as that," said Jeff Larason, Division Director of the OGR's Highway Safety Division. "Massachusetts has one of the lowest seat belt use rates in the nation. We need to change that."

DATA:

- Massachusetts' seat belt use rate is consistently lower than the national average, ranking 45th in the 2019 seat belt observational study.
 - At 81.6% use, over 1.2 million Bay Staters still are not regularly buckling up. The national seat belt use rate is 90.7% (2019).
 - In Massachusetts, a larger percentage of pickup trucks (71%) and SUVs (65%) fatalities are unrestrained compared to passenger cars (60%).
 - According to NHTSA, seat belts saved an estimated 61 lives in Massachusetts in 2018.
 - 68% of nighttime fatalities are unrestrained in Massachusetts compared to 55% of unrestrained daytime fatalities.
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New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 24, 2021 – May 28, 2021

The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 24, 2021 – May 28, 2021 and they are as follows:

Eversource will be working on the gas main relays and services at:

- Replacing gas services on Pleasant St. working in the area from Bedford St. to Walnut St.

- Replacing gas services on Chestnut St. working in the area from Sycamore St. to Robeson St.
- Replacing gas services on Calumet St. working 86 to 98 towards Brock Ave.
- Replacing gas services on Phillips Ave. working in the area from Oneka Ln. to Riverside Ave.
- Replacing gas services on Nelson St. working in the area from South Second St. to Riverside Ave.
- Working on gas mains on Cove Rd. toward Crapo St.
- Relaying gas main on Phillips Rd. starting at from 1884 Phillips Rd. to Holly Tree Ln.
- Working on the regulator on Holly St @ Belleville Ave.

Other:

- Contractor (PA Landers) will continue road reconstruction on Cottage St. from Parker St. to Sycamore St.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be repaving various sections of roadway citywide.
- Contractor (PA Landers) to begin road reconstruction on Purchase St. from Clark St. to Linden St.
- Contractor (K.R. Rezendes, Inc.) to continue work at MassDOT Project #606718, roadway reconstruction and related work (including traffic signal installation) along a section of Hathaway Rd., Nauset St. and Mt. Pleasant St. Road closure scheduled for June 3rd – June 7th and June 10th – June 14th, due to work at the railroad grade crossing. Detour signage for alternate routes will be posted.
- Contractor (PA Landers) to continue MassDOT Project #606709 for roadway reconstruction and related work along a section of Kings Highway and Tarkiln Hill Rd.
- Contractor (North Turf) will be on site at Hazelwood Park continuing installation of the new bowling greens.
- DPI will be filling potholes city-wide on a continuous basis.
- DPI will be street sweeping all roadways city-wide on a weekly basis.

- Contractor (Baystate WinSupply) is scheduled to continue large water meter replacements at various locations throughout the city. There are no anticipated traffic controls for this work.
- Due to ongoing construction at the High Hill Reservoir residents may experience discolored water. The water is safe, and the discoloration will be temporary. We recommend allowing the water to settle for a few hours and then flushing your service line by letting the bathtub run for a few minutes until the water clears.
- Contractor (SCR Constructors) will continue site work at the future South Coast Rail station platform locations in the City. If you have questions, please email the project team at SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us

*** Please note: Contractors will continue to follow guidelines and protocol regarding COVID-19 social distancing while conducting work in construction zone.*

Due to the current COVID-19 situation the Department of Public Infrastructure will be closed to the public entry. Office staff is available to assist by email and telephone.

New Bedford Police Department awarded grant to increase seat belt use

The NBPD was awarded a \$ 6 ,000 grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research (OGR) to increase the number of patrols and to remind drivers and passengers about the lifesaving benefits of wearing a seat belt. New Bedford police will join other

departments across the state and the Massachusetts Department of State Police in the national Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign.

“Seat belts are the single most important safety item in our vehicles,” said Acting Chief Paul Oliveira. “We see firsthand the devastating consequences of drivers and their passengers not buckling up. These funds will increase our traffic enforcement presence to help end these preventable tragedies.”

“Seat belts are the best way to protect yourself from dangerous drivers,” said Kevin Stanton, Executive Director of the OGR. You might be an excellent driver, but not everyone else is. Seat belts are your best defense against impaired, aggressive, and distracted drivers.”

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- According to NHTSA, seat belts saved an estimated 61 lives in Massachusetts in 2018.
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fatalities.

New Bedford awarded major Travel & Tourism recovery grant to fund “Summer in the Seaport” campaign

Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism Grant to Fund Summer in the Seaport Campaign.

A partnership of local arts and culture organizations has been awarded a major grant by the Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism for an effort to promote tourism in the city's downtown this summer and foster recovery in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic.

“New Bedford has a resilient spirit at its core,” said AHA! Director Lee Heald. “We are excited to reopen the city after the pandemic and are grateful to the Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism for funding our partnership of arts and culture organizations to develop this marketing campaign, Summer in the Seaport. We welcome community members and visitors alike to a summer of new exhibitions and enhanced outdoor activities.”

The \$45,531 Travel and Tourism Recovery Grant was awarded to AHA! (Art, History, Architecture) for Summer in the Seaport, a marketing campaign to promote New Bedford as an arts, culture and maritime heritage destination through a combination of website redesign, advertising, lamppost banners, and social media promotion. The campaign will encourage visitors from 50-

plus miles away to explore the city's vibrant culture for an afternoon, a "daycation", or an overnight or long weekend stay this summer.

Other partners in the effort are DATMA (Design Art Technology Massachusetts) and the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center. "New Bedford's arts, culture, and maritime heritage are rich resources, and we look forward to sharing them with visitors this summer," said Laura Orleans, Executive Director of the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center. "We are thankful to the Mass. Office of Travel and Tourism for funding this effort and helping us spread the word."

Additional tourism and marketing collaborators include the Southeastern Massachusetts Convention & Visitors Bureau, One SouthCoast Chamber of Commerce, the Seaport Cultural District, New Bedford Creative, and Destination New Bedford.

"On behalf of One SouthCoast Chamber and Southeastern Massachusetts Visitors Bureau, we are so very pleased that AHA! and its many partners are recipients of the grant from Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism," said Rick Kidder, Co-CEO of One SouthCoast Chamber. "This award reflects the great professionalism of the partners to help bring our region back from the economic devastation of the pandemic."

The grants were announced recently by Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy, and Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Executive Director Keiko Orrall during a virtual press conference. The program aims to strengthen the economy of Massachusetts through the development and enhancement of the state's tourism industry. The grant will be administered by AHA!, a fiscal agent project of the SouthCoast Community Foundation; additional support has been provided by the Southeastern Mass. Convention & Visitors Bureau, One SouthCoast Chamber of Commerce, and the New Bedford Seaport Cultural District.

“Summer in the Seaport is the perfect campaign to celebrate the reopening of safe, in-person arts and cultural events, shopping and retail, restaurants and tours in the Seaport Cultural District downtown and throughout the City of New Bedford,” added Margo Saulnier, Creative Strategist with New Bedford Creative. “Kudos to AHA! New Bedford, DATMA, and NB Fishing Heritage Center for stepping up to represent the best of what our city has to offer visitors and tourists.”

Daily commercial service to resume at New Bedford Regional Airport

New Bedford Regional Airport has announced that daily Commercial service with Southern Airways and Cape Air will resume Wednesday, May 26.

Both Cape Air and Southern Airways offer non-stop service to Nantucket, with Cape Air also offering cargo services and weekly flights to Martha’s Vineyard. The new daily schedule will include several flight options, giving travelers a number of convenient arrival and departure times. Tickets for flights to Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket are available for purchase now.

“Southern Airways Express is excited to be re-launching our New England service. We are expanding our New Bedford to Nantucket service from one to two daily roundtrip flights, perfect for vacationers, second homeowners and even day-trippers. Fares begin at just \$59 each way,” said Southern Airways Express Chief Commercial Officer, Mark Cestari.

“We are looking forward to a strong summer in New Bedford and the Cape and islands! To inspire safe and healthy summer travel, Cape Air is thrilled to be launching a variety of multimedia campaigns in New Bedford. We encourage you to tune into local favorites like FUN 107, Country 102.5 and WCAI to hear directly from radio influencers about the ease and benefits of flying Cape Air from New Bedford Regional Airport,” said Cape Air Northeast Regional Marketing Director, Kelly Collopy.

In addition, both Cape Air and Southern Airways Express are hiring for part-time and full-time positions based at New Bedford Regional Airport.

To apply or to book your reservation, please visit iflysouthern.com or capeair.com.

UMass Dartmouth to reinstate women's tennis and women's swimming & diving

Due to changing demographics within the UMass Dartmouth student population and given the current collegiate sports environment, the University has revisited its July 2020 decision to discontinue eight of the University's 25 intercollegiate athletic programs – women's equestrian, men's golf, men's lacrosse, co-ed sailing, men's and women's swimming and diving, and men's and women's tennis.

In the first of several anticipated changes as part of an overall strategy to better align athletic participation opportunities for women with the female undergraduate

population, UMass Dartmouth is reinstating Women's Tennis and Women's Swimming and Diving as varsity intercollegiate programs, effective immediately.

The University's July 2020 decision was based on outside reviews of the University's intercollegiate athletics program to provide the best possible competitive and co-curricular experiences for student-athletes. The reviews analyzed major aspects of the current Department of Athletics & Recreation structure and metrics such as available resources, gender equity, enrollment, and facilities to formulate a long-term strategic plan for athletic competition at UMass Dartmouth.

"We will move quickly over the next week to meet with student-athletes and staff to ensure our intent is clear. Our commitment to enhance the quality and increase the number participating in our tennis and swimming/diving programs is a priority," said Athletic Director Amanda Van Voorhis.

With this decision, the University will work to address the needs of student-athletes that will compete in the reinstated programs, including medical clearance, training, and scheduling contests for fall 2021. The Department of Athletics & Recreation and Human Resources are currently working to address coaching needs to ensure student-athletes in these programs have the necessary level of support. Student-athletes from the tennis and swimming and diving programs have been contacted by Van Voorhis via email. A virtual meeting will be scheduled to allow student-athletes to ask questions, as well as discuss the details surrounding the transition back to varsity programs.

"Providing opportunities for student-athletes is always a priority," said David Gingerella, Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance at UMass Dartmouth. "The University is committed to making this transition as smooth as possible and commit the necessary resources to allow our students to succeed both on and off the playing field."