



*Suffolk County's rich maritime heritage* spans more than 400 years and is a major contributor to the high quality of life we enjoy on Long Island. Our docks, marinas, ports and fisheries provide sustainable fresh fish that feed people regionally and afar, supporting our local restaurants and service industries. Our beautiful Atlantic ocean, bays and abundant freshwater streams, ponds and lakes provide for a host of bathing, boating and fishing activities that generate important tourism dollars.

### Did You Know?

Ocean-related businesses accounted for over 35,000 jobs, or 5% of all jobs in Suffolk County, and \$2.1 billion in goods and services. This is a 79% increase since 2006. (Source: 2016 NOAA)

In 2019, 361 Suffolk County commercial fishing establishments landed over 19 million pounds of fish valued at over \$27 million. This is an increase of 7% in pounds of fish caught and a 10% increase in value since 2018. (Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program)

These revenues generated an additional \$47.4 million in economic activity, additional earnings of \$15.4 million, and 656 additional jobs. (Source: Economic activity as calculated by Planning using a modified RIMS II multiplier model and data from the U.S. Census County Business Patterns 2014, U.S. Census Nonemployer Statistics)

Montauk is our state's top port, the 68th largest in the US, and seventh largest in the Mid-Atlantic, landing over 11 million pounds of fish worth over \$17 million at the dock in 2019. (Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program)

Our top two ports, Montauk and Hampton Bays, landed over 16 million pounds of fish, worth over \$23 million combined in 2019. (Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program)

Fisheries contribute to the longevity and attractiveness of Long Island's \$6.1 billion tourism industry. (Source: Discover Long Island)

### Recreational Fishing in Suffolk County

Suffolk County has many charter and party boats that will take passengers for a full day or just several hours of recreational fishing. On most boats, fishing gear and bait is provided for hassle-free fun. If you are looking for a party or charter boat, a bait and tackle shop, or just want more information about fresh and saltwater fishing and related topics please visit Sea Grant New York: [seagrant.sunysb.edu/nysportfishing](http://seagrant.sunysb.edu/nysportfishing)

Additional sites for information on fishing and other recreational activities on Long Island:

Destination Marketing Organization: [DiscoverLongIsland.com](http://DiscoverLongIsland.com)

Department of Environmental Conservation: [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov)



Steve Bellone - Suffolk County Executive  
Natalie Wright - Commissioner, Economic Development and Planning

### Top 5 Species Landed in New York State

(Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program 2019)

#### Rank by Weight

1. Scup • 4,070,216 LBS • \$3,204,337
2. Longfin Squid • 4,031,224 LBS • \$6,800,847
3. Goosefish • 1,527,296 LBS • \$1,032,211
4. N. Quahog Clam • 1,481,295 LBS • \$6,090,839
5. Silver Hake • 1,407,482 LBS • \$1,269,264

#### Rank by Value

1. Longfin Squid • \$6,800,847 • 4,031,224 LBS
2. N. Quahog Clam • \$6,090,839 • 1,481,295
3. Golden Tilefish • \$4,049,855 • 1,122,384 LBS
4. Scup • \$3,204,337 • 4,070,216 LBS
5. Eastern Oyster • \$1,420,012 • 269,754 LBS



**Shellfish Farming** provides an opportunity to produce seafood in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. Our waters once provided a substantial portion of the world's hard clams, scallops and oysters. As Suffolk County works to restore our waterways and bays to their former ecological balance, we are also focused on reviving our shellfish industry and restoring it to its former glory. Suffolk is currently ranked the number one county in NY State in market value of aquaculture products sold - \$5.3 million, which represents more than 80% of all shellfish aquaculture production in the state.



If you are in the marine and fishing industry, there are many government programs and non-profit organizations dedicated to preserving our *seaside culture*.

**Choose LI – Local & Independent** is a collaborative initiative to raise awareness, advocate and inspire the community to support local and independent businesses by spending 10% of their weekly food allowance on local and seasonal food goods across Suffolk County, Long Island. New Yorkers spend \$176 a week on Food (US Bureau of Labor Statistics). Suffolk County, NY has 474,311 households. If 10% of Suffolk County households commits to spending 10% of their weekly food allowance on local food goods over a typical harvest season for Suffolk County, that spending would add \$19 million into the Suffolk County economy. \$19 million in direct spending will create \$33 million in total economic activity and create nearly 1,000 local jobs. [ChooseLI.org](http://ChooseLI.org) includes a map of every fish market in Suffolk County. Please contact Choose Long Island at [chooseli@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:chooseli@suffolkcountyny.gov) to have your fish market listed.

**Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Program** provides access to county-owned underwater lands for private, commercial shellfish aquaculture in Peconic and Gardiners Bays. The program expands the marine-based economy by increasing private investment in shellfish aquaculture businesses at secure locations that do not pose conflicts with commercial fishermen and other bay users.

The production of large numbers of oysters, hard clams and bay scallops augment the spawning of shellfish populations. Shellfish farms also exert a positive influence on water quality by helping to control nutrient cycling and contributing to the prevention of noxious plankton blooms. These and other ecosystem services associated with shellfish farms are provided on a sustainable basis at little or no cost to the general public.

**New York Sea Grant (NYSG)** offers research grants to physical oceanographers, food scientists, benthic ecologists, aquatic toxicologists, fisheries modelers, geochemists, and others in the fishing industry. [seagrant.sunysb.edu](http://seagrant.sunysb.edu)

**Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County (CCE)** works directly with fishermen who rely on their research, guidance and assistance to protect the environment and to promote the economic health of this vital heritage industry. CCE partners with all levels of government, Cornell University and various non-profits and community groups to help. [ccesuffolk.org/marine](http://ccesuffolk.org/marine)

**NOAA Small Business Innovation Research** invests in aquaculture R&D which encourages small businesses to leverage federal funds to invest in innovative technologies and next-generation products and processes that may lead to commercialization. [techpartnerships.noaa.gov/SBIR.aspx](http://techpartnerships.noaa.gov/SBIR.aspx)

**Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency** encourages job growth by providing economic incentives to attract, retain and grow businesses. Value-added farm and fishing projects such as processing and packaging facilities are eligible as well as are aquaculture projects. [suffolkida.org](http://suffolkida.org)

**Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program (SKGP)** funds projects that encourage the development of an environmentally and economically sustainable U.S. fishing industry. [nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial\\_services/skhome.htm](http://nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial_services/skhome.htm)

**NOAA Fisheries Finance Program** provides financing up to 25 years in the form of direct loans for up to 80% of the cost of construction, reconstruction, expansion and purchase of aquaculture and commercial fishing facilities. The program may also refinance existing loans and there are no early repayment penalties. [nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial\\_services/ffp.htm](http://nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial_services/ffp.htm)

**Empire State Development (ESD)** promotes a growing state economy, business investment, and job creation through the efficient use of loans, grants, tax credits, real estate development, marketing and other forms of assistance. [esd.ny.gov](http://esd.ny.gov)

**Long Island Development Corporation (LIDC)** is a nonprofit economic development organization that provides low cost loans, free technical assistance and seminars to small businesses and commercial fishermen throughout Long Island. [lidc.org](http://lidc.org)



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