

EXPLANATION OF TABLES

Source of Data

Oregon law requires commercial fishers to sell their catch to a licensed wholesale fish or bait dealer. At time of sale, the dealer must record certain information on a Fish Receiving Ticket form supplied by the Department. This information includes date of landing, port of landing, gear used to take the fish or shellfish, pounds landed by species and price per pound paid to the fisher. The fish tickets are returned to the Department and edited by staff specialists and management biologists for accuracy and completeness prior to final tabulation.

Landings

Commercial landings are reported for the Columbia River (Oregon landings only), ports along the coast, and by county for freshwater species. Landings at the coastal ports include ocean and bay/estuary-caught fish or shellfish. For ocean-caught species, port of landing does not necessarily indicate general area of catch. Boats can fish coast wide and return to their home port (or any other port) to land their catch.

Landings by month reflect the date of purchase by the dealers. This may not necessarily be the date the fish were caught, as many vessels have the capability of holding fish for extended periods of time before returning to port.

All fish and shellfish landings, unless otherwise indicated, are reported as round (whole) weight. Certain species may be dressed or filleted prior to landing and the following values were used to convert these landings to pounds round weight:

Halibut, dressed, head-on	X	1.15
“ dressed, head-off	X	1.35
Salmon, troll dressed, head-on	X	1.15
Sablefish, dressed, head-off	X	1.60
Scallop, shucked	X	12.20
Pacific Whiting, filleted	X	2.35
“ “ headed and gutted	X	1.56
“ “ surimi	X	6.25
Lingcod, gilled and gutted	X	1.10

Fish dealers are required to record each species landed; however, this is not always possible due to the difficulty identifying certain species. Some species are combined and reported under a market category, i.e. “Rockfish, other sp.” includes several different species of rockfish that are combined and reported only as “rockfish” by the dealers.

The pounds of rockfish listed by species in the tables are as reported on fish tickets by the dealers but the data does not reflect the actual species pounds caught. Each species group and complex has contamination of other rockfish species at the point of landing. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists routinely sample each of the species and complex categories of rockfish at the dock to determine species composition for each. This market sample data is applied to the fish ticket data to obtain more accurate estimates of annual landings of rockfish by species. This information is not included in this report, but an annual summary table is available and can be obtained by contacting ODFW. The trends portrayed in the ten year history table are the result of many factors such as regulations, abundance of fish, market demand and technical advances. Most fisheries reflect the effect of all these factors and caution should be used in interpreting or projecting trends.

Value of Catch

Beginning in 1992, dealers were required to report price per pound on all species purchased and compute landing fees based on the value of the catch. The reported value is derived from fish tickets and is based on the ex-vessel price per pound paid to the fisherman.