

Blue Crab



Juvenile Blue Crab



Adult Blue Crab

While the trawl survey primarily catches finfish, 6.31% of the total catch for all years has been blue crabs. The blue crabs are measured from point to point. The smallest juvenile crab caught was only 4 mm, while the largest caught was 186 mm (7.4 inches). Over the years, the average number of blue crabs caught increased until 1997, when the average peaked at 35 crabs per tow. Since then, the averages have fluctuated. There were peaks in the averages in 2001 (23 crabs/tow), 2006 (32 crabs/tow) and 2007 (29 crabs/tow). While not as high, 2011 was a relatively good year for blue crabs in the survey – averages reached 18 crabs per tow. The lowest recorded averages were in 2003 (2 crabs/tow) and 2004 (3 crabs/tow).

