

## 1985-2007 June Monthly Summary

Preliminary summary of June fishing boat trips, fish harvested, and harvest rates per boat trip for trout and salmon and smallmouth bass among boats seeking these species, from the 1985-2007 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Lake Ontario fishing boat censuses.

	12-yr. avg.	5-yr avg.	5-yr avg.	Yearly Estimates				
	1985-96	1997-01	2002-06	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Fishing Boat Trips:	18,185	13,166	10,523	11,300	8,709	11,670	6,941	11,174
No. of Fish Harvested:								
Coho Salmon	693	405	231	521	50	357	178	2,515
Chinook Salmon	3,276	977	924	820	1,314	1,747	586	3,584
Rainbow Trout	5,029	2,390	937	2,124	653	1,038	526	1,112
Atlantic Salmon	77	6	18	0	0	0	0	14
Brown Trout	5,271	3,327	2,575	2,460	4,497	3,867	1,068	4,052
Lake Trout	9,382	2,081	1,162	868	557	940	560	1,142
Total Trout & Salmon	23,727	9,186	5,847	6,793	7,071	7,949	2,919	12,419
Smallmouth Bass	6,614	13,007	6,686	6,886	4,281	7,186	3,392	2,651
Yellow Perch	1,001	2,024	3,044	708	1,464	2,933	7,360	7,566
Walleye	53	35	80	108	280	0	0	1,112
Harvest Rates Per Boat Trip Among Boats Fishing for Trout & Salmon:								
Coho Salmon	0.050	0.068	0.049	0.093	0.010	0.067	0.065	0.429
Chinook Salmon	0.225	0.175	0.198	0.147	0.275	0.326	0.214	0.611
Rainbow Trout	0.407	0.379	0.192	0.376	0.137	0.194	0.192	0.190
Atlantic Salmon	0.005	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002
Brown Trout	0.391	0.568	0.514	0.404	0.940	0.721	0.357	0.658
Lake Trout	0.648	0.372	0.232	0.156	0.116	0.175	0.205	0.195
Total Trout & Salmon	1.724	1.564	1.188	1.176	1.478	1.482	1.035	2.085
Harvest Rates Per Boat trip Among Boats Fishing for Smallmouth Bass:								
Smallmouth Bass	1.826	2.029	1.500	1.576	1.679	1.474	1.069	0.885

Fishing effort for the Lake Ontario boat fishery in June 2007 was an estimated 11,174 fishing boat trips, comparable to the previous 5-year and 10-year averages (2002-06: +6.2% and 1997-06: -5.7%), and a 61.0% increase compared to the record low June 2006 estimate. Boats targeting trout and salmon accounted for 5,862 boat trips; a 114.5% increase compared to June 2006 and the highest June estimate since 2001. An estimated 2,879 boat trips targeted smallmouth bass from June 16 (season opener) through June 30; a 27.6% decrease compared to the 2002-2006 June average, and the ninth lowest June estimate among years censused.

The total estimated trout and salmon harvest was 12,419 fish; a 112.4% increase over the previous 5-year average and a 65.2% increase over the previous 10-year average. Estimated harvest of each trout and salmon species more than doubled in June 2007 compared to June 2006. The most noted increase occurred with coho and Chinook salmon. Coho salmon harvest was also well above average in April and May 2007. Smallmouth bass harvest in June 2007 was estimated at 2,651 fish, the third lowest June estimate among the 23 years censused. Yellow perch harvest in June 2007 was estimated at 7,599 fish, the fifth highest monthly estimate among all months and years censused. Yellow perch harvest estimates are influenced by only a few boats which specifically target yellow perch and frequently have very high harvest rates. The probability of interviewing these boats is fairly low; therefore, the yellow perch harvest estimates can be highly variable with wide confidence intervals. The same situation exists for walleye, and the estimated record high walleye harvest is largely due to the inclusion of a survey day coincident with the Cabelas Masters Walleye Circuit derby at Henderson Harbor.

Fishing quality for trout and salmon, as measured by harvest rates, was excellent in June 2007. The trout and salmon harvest rate among boats seeking trout and salmon was 2.1 fish per boat trip, the highest June rate observed since 1990 and the third highest June salmonine harvest rate among the 23 years censused. June 2007 harvest rates were above their respective 2002-2006 averages for coho salmon (+778.5%), Chinook salmon (+209.3%) and brown trout (27.9%), was average for rainbow trout (-1.2%), and were below average for lake trout (-16.1%) and Atlantic salmon (-24.9%). Fishing quality for smallmouth bass was poor in June 2007. Bass harvest rate for boats targeting smallmouth bass during the open season was 0.9 fish per boat trip, the lowest June harvest rate among the 23 years censused.

## 1985-2007 April-June Monthly Summary

Preliminary summary of April-June fishing boat trips, fish harvested, and harvest rates per boat trip for trout and salmon among boats seeking these species, from the 1985-2007 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Lake Ontario fishing boat censuses.

	12-yr avg.	5-yr avg.	5-yr avg.	Yearly Estimates				
	1985-96	1997-01	2002-06	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Fishing Boat Trips:	64,373	30,834	24,728	21,646	21,741	29,306	20,968	26,569
No. of Fish Harvested:								
Coho Salmon	8,059	3,293	2,688	1,942	725	3,016	6,686	10,308
Chinook Salmon	16,554	2,949	8,067	5,673	9,961	16,036	5,480	8,021
Rainbow Trout	15,182	5,692	3,035	3,818	4,841	2,617	2,584	4,036
Atlantic Salmon	481	53	40	18	19	15	0	14
Brown Trout	36,810	18,821	13,388	13,624	11,452	19,517	10,464	20,582
Lake Trout	24,463	5,699	2,300	1,750	1,166	1,204	1,948	2,042
Total Trout & Salmon	101,557	36,507	29,518	26,824	28,165	42,406	27,166	45,004
Smallmouth Bass	6,714	13,018	6,693	6,886	4,281	7,220	3,392	2,651
Yellow Perch	2,302	2,834	3,443	1,086	1,493	4,521	7,360	8,786
Walleye	113	287	139	172	280	106	73	1,112
Harvest Rates Per Boat Trip Among Boats Fishing for Trout & Salmon:								
Coho Salmon	0.137	0.144	0.147	0.124	0.042	0.136	0.383	0.504
Chinook Salmon	0.256	0.131	0.431	0.363	0.576	0.723	0.340	0.392
Rainbow Trout	0.288	0.248	0.173	0.243	0.280	0.117	0.160	0.197
Atlantic Salmon	0.008	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.001
Brown Trout	0.638	0.817	0.718	0.847	0.658	0.879	0.643	0.997
Lake Trout	0.380	0.253	0.123	0.112	0.068	0.054	0.121	0.100
Total Trout & Salmon	1.708	1.595	1.593	1.690	1.625	1.910	1.647	2.191

Open lake fishing effort for the months of April-June 2007 (3-month total) was estimated at 26,569 fishing boat trips, the fourth lowest April-June effort estimate among the 23 years censused. Boats targeting trout and salmon accounted for 20,453 fishing boat trips, 77% of the total 2007 April-June effort. This was the fifth lowest April-June effort estimate for trout and salmon anglers among the years censused, however, was 26.8% above the estimate for the same time period in 2006 and 11.0% above the 2002-06 April-June average.

The total number of trout and salmon harvested in April-June 2007 was estimated at 45,004 fish, the highest estimate since 1996 and higher than previous 5-year and 10-year April-June averages (2002-06: +36.3% and 1997-06: +52.5%, respectively). Brown trout was the most commonly harvested salmonine species, comprising 46% of the 2007 April-June total, while coho and Chinook salmon contributed 23% and 18%, respectively. Yellow perch harvest in April-June 2007 was estimated at 8,786 fish, the second highest 3-month total observed among the years censused (only April-June 1985 was higher). The estimated record high walleye harvest is largely due to the inclusion of a survey day coincident with the Cabelas Masters Walleye Circuit derby at Henderson Harbor..

Creel survey data indicate that fishing quality has been excellent in 2007. Trout and salmon harvest rate among boats targeting trout and salmon in the months of April-June 2007 was estimated at 2.2 salmonines per boat trip. This is the highest estimated harvest rate for the April-June period among the 23 years censused and is 32.3% higher than the long-term average. Comparisons by species show that 2007 April-June harvest rates were above their respective 2002-06 April-June averages for brown trout (+38.9%), coho salmon (+242.4%), and rainbow trout (+14.3%) and below their respective 2002-06 April-June averages for Atlantic salmon (-65.4%), lake trout (-18.7%), and Chinook salmon (-8.9%). The harvest rates for both brown trout and coho salmon were the highest April-June estimates among the 23 years censused.