

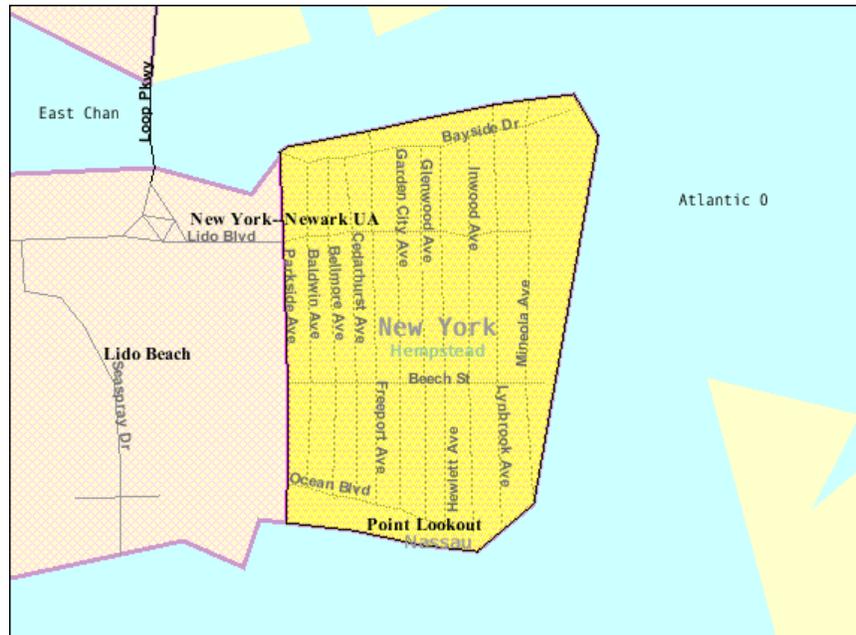
POINT LOOKOUT, NY¹

Community Profile²

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Regional orientation

Point Lookout, New York (40.59°N, 73.58°W) on Long Island, is a small village located on the eastern point of a barrier beach known as Long Beach, on the southern end of Long Island, about 20 miles southeast of Manhattan. To the east is Jones Inlet, which separates Point Lookout from Jones Beach. The community is only one-quarter square mile in area (USGS 2008).



Map 1. Location of Point Lookout, NY (US Census Bureau 2000)

Historical/Background

In 1721 there was a whaling “lookout” station established on what is now known as Point Lookout. Point Lookout was originally known as Nassau-by-the-Sea, and began as a summer colony established by the Nassau Cottage and Realty Company in the early 1900s. At its start, steamers carried vacationers here from Freeport (McTernan and Fiorillo 2001).

Point Lookout is primarily an upper-middle class community, which has shifted over the years from being primarily a summer community to primarily a year-round community today. At one time it was largely a retirement community, but today is popular with families with young children, fueled by its safe and small-town atmosphere (City-Data nd). Point Lookout is very

¹ These community profiles have been created to serve as port descriptions in Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for fisheries management actions. They also provide baseline information from which to begin research for Social Impact Assessments (SIAs). Further, they provide information relevant to general community impacts for National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and information on minorities and low income populations for Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 on Environmental Justice.

² For purposes of citation please use the following template: “Community Profile of *Town, ST*. Prepared under the auspices of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center. For further information contact Lisa.L.Colburn@noaa.gov.”

small; the community is eleven blocks by three blocks, or one-quarter square mile in area, and has one traffic light. Community members are also proud of a 15 mph speed limit throughout the entire community (Point Lookout Civic Association 2008). Point Lookout is one of 51 unincorporated villages located in the town of Hempstead, which is the largest town by population (population of 725,000) in the United States (Town of Hempstead nd).

Demographics³

According to Census 2000 data, Point Lookout CDP had a total population of 1,472 (1990 Census data was not available for Point Lookout). Of this 2000 total, 48.5% were males and 51.5% were females. The median age was 43.1 years and 76.8% of the population was 21 years or older while 21.6% was 62 or older.

The population structure of Point Lookout (Figure 1) shows the largest percentage of residents to be between the ages of 40-49, followed by 50-59. There are a fair number of children ages 0-9 in Point Lookout, making this a family-oriented community, but also a relatively significant number of residents in the 60+ age categories, indicating that many of Point Lookout's residents may be retirees.

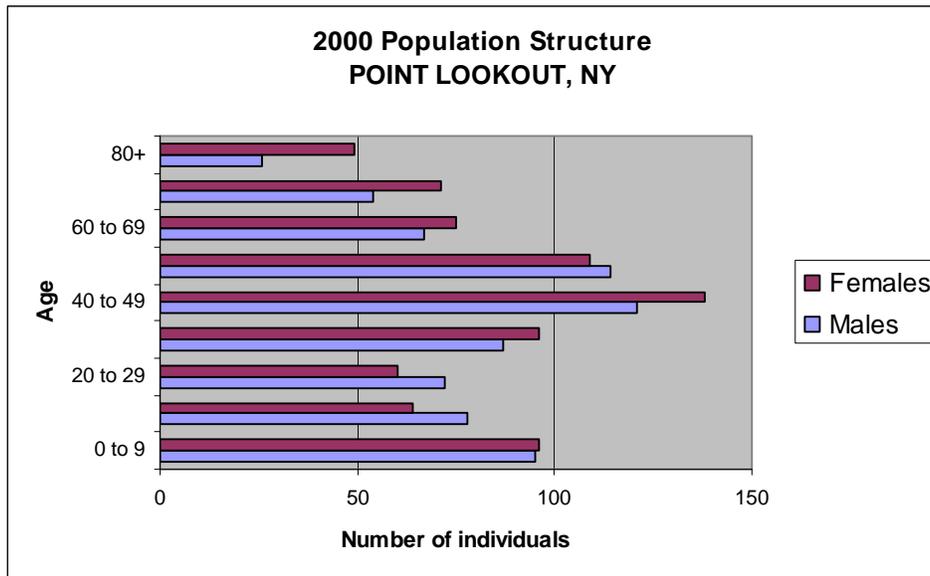


Figure 1. Point Lookout's population structure by sex in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

The majority of the population was white (97.3%), with 0.5% of residents black or African American, 0.7% Asian, 0.3% Native American, 0.2% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (Figure 2). Only 2.1% of the population identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino (Figure 3). Residents linked their backgrounds to a number of different ancestries including: Irish (46.4%), Italian (24.3%), German (16.7%), and English (9.7%). With regard to region of birth, 84.2% were born in New York, 8.7% were born in a different state and 6.2% were born outside of the U.S. (including 4.2% who were not United States citizens).

³ While mid-term estimates are available for some larger communities, data from the 2000 Census are the only data universally available for the communities being profiled in the Northeast. Thus for cross-comparability we have used 2000 data even though these data may have changed significantly since 2000 for at least some communities.

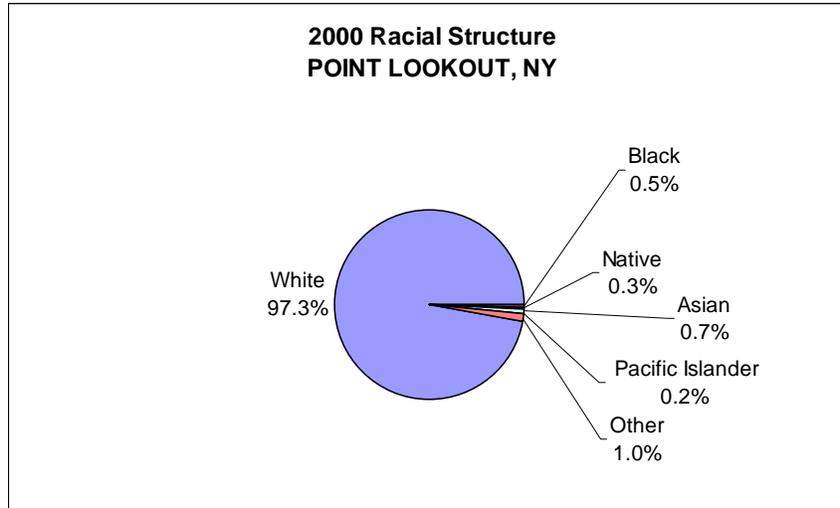


Figure 2. Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

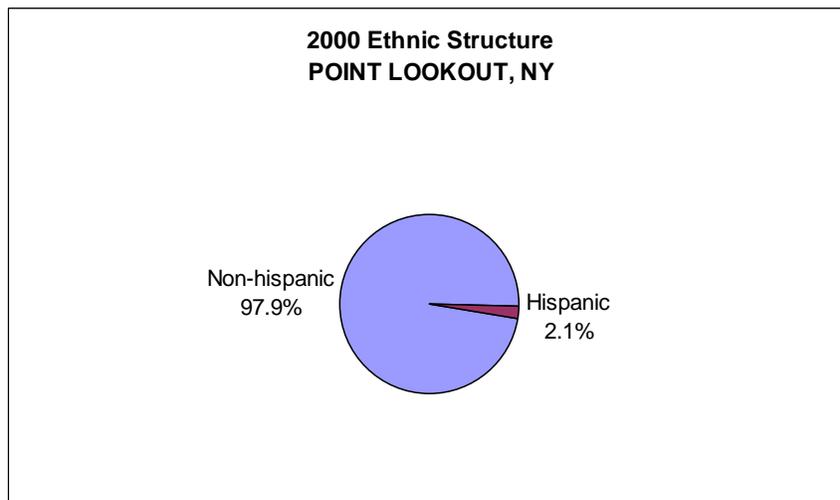


Figure 3. Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 90.5% of the population 5 years old and higher, only English was spoken in the home, leaving 9.5% in homes where a language other than English was spoken, and including 1.0% of the population who spoke English less than “very well” according to the 2000 Census.

Of the population 25 years and over, 95.6% were high school graduates or higher and 49.6% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. Again of the population 25 years and over, 0.5% did not reach ninth grade, 3.9% attended some high school but did not graduate, 21.3% completed high school, 19.0% had some college with no degree, 5.6% received an associate’s degree, 27.0% earned a bachelor’s degree, and 22.6% received a graduate or professional degree.

Although religion percentages are not available through the U.S. Census, according to the Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA) in 2000, the religion with the highest number of adherents in Nassau County was Catholic with 67 congregations and 694,389 adherents. Other prominent congregations in the county were Jewish (141 with 207,000 adherents), Evangelical Lutheran Church (39 with 19,528 adherents), United Methodist (40 with 17,284 adherents), Episcopal (42 with 16,153 adherents), and Muslim (9 with 11,164). The total number of adherents to any religion was down 6.6% from 1990 (ARDA 2000).

There are two churches listed in Point Lookout: Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church and the Point Lookout Community Church (McTernan and Fiorillo 2001).

Issues/Processes

The beaches of Point Lookout are badly eroded, and the safety of the community is threatened by ocean storms and encroaching sea level rise. This area has lost 600,000 cubic yards of sand in recent years. Residents have been trying for years to secure funding for a beach re-nourishment project, which will be accomplished by dredging Jones Inlet, and a 50-year Army Corps of Engineers project which finds sand offshore. Jones Inlet is badly in need of dredging, as it has become hazardous to boaters (Anon 2006a). Three lives have been lost within the last 10 years.⁴

Cultural attributes

Jones Beach State Park offers a fishing clinic for children (NY State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation 2008). Ted's Fishing Station in Point Lookout has a children's fishing derby (McTernan and Fiorillo 2001). Point Lookout hosts a Family Festival by the Sea (Anon 2006b). Nearby Captree Island State Park annually hosts the Fall Harvest and Seafood Festival. This nautical themed, family-oriented event features seafood specialties, fresh Long Island produce, free boat rides, crab rides, pony rides, magic shows, interactive pirate shows, and more (NY State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation 2008).

INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Economy

The [Doxsee Sea Clam Company](#) has been located at the same location in Point Lookout since 1933. It was originally founded in 1865 as the Doxsee Clam and Seafood Canning Company in Islip, NY. Today the company is family-owned and operated, run by Bob Doxsee Jr., the third generation owner. The Doxsee family has been a leader in the seafood industry of the mid-Atlantic for over a century, and the Doxsee name is synonymous with clams. They produce a variety of fresh and frozen prepared clam products, such as clam chowder, clam chili, stuffed clams, and clam sauces. One of the other sons of the original founder started a Doxsee clam company in Ocracoke, North Carolina that is still in operation today (NYSC 2008). An employee at Doxsee couldn't say how many employees the company had; it varies depending on how many clams they need to process at a given time.⁵

The Point Lookout Fish Dock sells seafood wholesale to over 100 restaurants locally; the rest of its product goes to Fulton Fish Market (McCay and Cieri 2000). The owners of the wholesaler also operate the Fisherman's Catch restaurant, as well as a retail seafood shop and clam bar; 40-50 percent of the seafood sold in the restaurant is caught locally (Starkey 1999).

Many Point Lookout residents work in New York City, which is a 47-minute train ride from the nearby Long Beach, Freeport, or Merrick train stations (MTA nd).

According to the U.S. Census 2000⁶, 58.6% (776 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force (Figure 4), of which 3.2% were unemployed, 0.5% were in the Armed Forces, and 54.9% were employed.

⁴ Profile review comment, Ron Masters, Department of Conservation and Recreation, PO Box 180, Lido Boulevard, Point Lookout, NY 11569, October 5, 2007

⁵ Personal Communication, John, Doxsee Sea Clam Co., PO Box 120 Point Lookout, NY 11569, August 7, 2006

⁶ Again, Census data from 2000 are used because they are universally available and offer cross-comparability among communities. Some statistics, particularly median home price, are likely to have changed significantly since 2000.

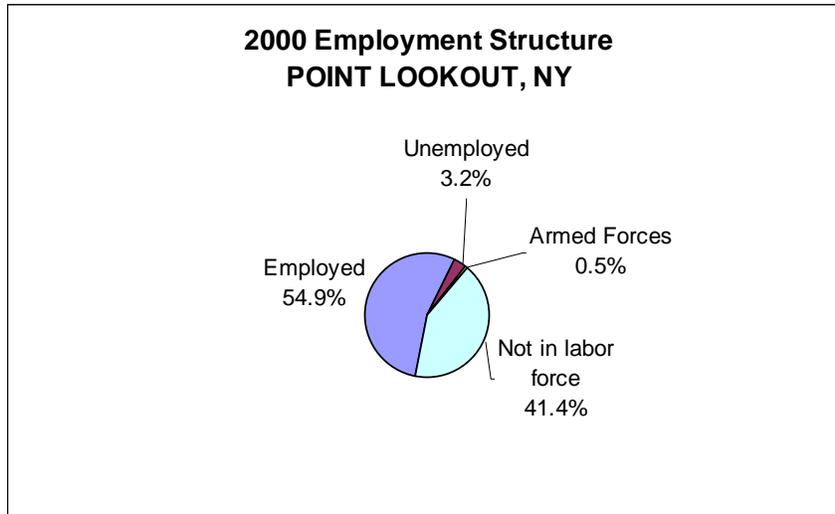


Figure 4. Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

According to Census 2000 data, jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for no positions. Self employed workers, a category where fishermen might be found, accounted for 74 positions or 10.2% of jobs. Educational, health and social services (20.6%), professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services (16.6%), finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing (14.6%), and retail trade (10.6%) were the primary industries.

Median household income in Point Lookout was \$95,215 (1990 Census data was not available for Point Lookout) and per capita income was \$39,953. For full-time year round workers, males made approximately 42.2% more per year than females.

The average family in Point Lookout consisted of 2.91 persons. With respect to poverty, 4.6% of families (1990 Census data was not available for Point Lookout) and 12.6% of individuals earn below the U.S. Census poverty threshold. This threshold is \$8,794 for individuals and ranges from \$11,239 through \$35,060 for families, depending on number of persons (2-9) (US Census Bureau 2000b). In 2000, 27.2% of all families (of any size) earned less than \$35,000 per year.

In 2000, Point Lookout had a total of 792 housing units of which 77.6% were occupied and 95.1% were detached one unit homes. More than forty percent (42.6%) of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes, boats, RVs, vans, etc. accounted for 0.9% of the total housing units; 92.1% of detached units have between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area was \$400,700. Of vacant housing units, 17.3% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units 19.8% were renter occupied.

Government

Point Lookout is governed by the town of Hempstead and by Nassau County. Hempstead is run by a six-member Town Board (Town of Hempstead nd).

Fishery involvement in the government

The town of Hempstead has a shellfish management program through the Department of Conservation and Waterways, run by the Bay Constables. A permit is required to harvest shellfish (Town of Hempstead nd).

The Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve Council is made up of representatives from South Shore towns and villages and oversees the South Shore Estuary Reserve, created by the New York State Legislature. Point Lookout falls within the Estuary Reserve (South Shore Estuary Reserve Council nd).

Institutional

Fishing associations

The New York Seafood Council is the larger association representing fishing interests in the state. “The New York Seafood Council (NYSC) is an industry membership organization comprised of individuals, businesses, or organizations involved in the harvesting, processing, wholesale, distribution or sale of seafood products or services to the seafood industry in New York” (NYSC 2008). Bob Doxsee of Doxsee Sea Clam Company is on the Board of Directors (NYSC 2008).

The [Freeport Tuna Club](#) is dedicated to promoting rod and reel fishing and protecting the interests of rod and reel fishermen targeting a variety of species. They have over 200 members and participate in and sponsor numerous fishing tournaments. Also relevant to this area is the Long Island Commercial Fishing Association, which promotes commercial fishing throughout Long Island (Oles 2005). The [Freeport Hudson Anglers Club](#) hosts a yearly shark fishing tournament out of Freeport.

Fishing assistance centers

Information on fishing assistance centers in Point Lookout is unavailable through secondary data collection.

Other fishing related organizations

[Operation SPLASH](#) (Stop Pollution Littering And Save our Harbors) is a non-profit organization chartered by the town of Hempstead addressing waterfront pollution (Village of Freeport nd). The [Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research and Preservation](#) is dedicated to preserving the marine environment of Long Island through education, research, and rehabilitation. They operate seal watching tours from Point Lookout in conjunction with the Lady JV Charters. The [Rockaway Surf Anglers Association](#) lists Jones Inlet/Point Lookout as one of their primary locations for surf fishing.

The [New York Marine Trades Association](#) is based in Amityville, near Point Lookout. The association seeks to promote the general welfare of the marine industry, and hosts two boat shows during the year.

Physical

The [Long Island Railroad](#) runs between New York City and the nearby towns of Freeport, Long Beach, and Merrick (MTA nd). JFK Airport is 24 miles from Freeport, La Guardia Airport is 31 miles away, and Long Island MacArthur Airport is 38 miles away. Point Lookout is about 8 miles from Freeport, 20 miles from Captree Island, 31 miles from Brooklyn, and 38 miles from Manhattan by car (MapQuest nd). Point Lookout is accessible by the Loop Parkway, an extension of the Meadowbrook Parkway, or by Lido Boulevard, which runs the length of the barrier island. Many major areas of Long Island are just a short drive away.

Point Lookout is surrounded on water by three sides, with the Atlantic Ocean to the south, Jones Inlet to the east, and Reynolds Channel to the north. Point Lookout has two public

marinas operated by the town of Hempstead; East Marina and West Marina. East Marina has 184 slips, including four dedicated for use by commercial fishing vessels, and West Marina has 152 slips. There is also a fishing pier at West Marina (Town of Hempstead nd). [Scotty's Marina and Fishing Station](#) offers boat rentals, bait, tackle, and fuel, as well as boat repairs. [Ted's Fishing Station](#) also provides boat rentals and bait and tackle. There is a boat ramp located at the Hempstead Town Marina West (Fishing Line 2008). There is a small dock at the Point Lookout Fish Dock for tie-ups as well, located in Reynolds Channel (Starkey 1999).

INVOLVEMENT IN NORTHEAST FISHERIES⁷

Commercial

Many fishing boats may move back and forth between Freeport and Point Lookout; both are frequently coded as "Freeport" (McCay and Cieri 2000). Some fishermen will also refer to "Jones Inlet" as the area encompassing Point Lookout, Freeport, and other nearby communities. Combined, these communities form the largest concentration of commercial fishing in the New York City vicinity (Jones Inlet Community Profile 2003). Commercial vessels in Point Lookout generally offload their catch at the Point Lookout Fish Dock; many Freeport vessels offload here as well. There are one dozen gillnetters estimated between Freeport and Point Lookout; most of these are retirees or part-time fishermen (MAC/FDIC nd). There are an estimated 55 baymen harvesting clams in the Freeport/Jones Inlet area, including Point Lookout.⁸ Most work from small 20-30 foot boats using hand-powered techniques. The surf clam boats fish primarily in state waters, and thus their landings do not appear in federal landings data (MAC/FDIC nd).

The [Doxsee Sea Clam Company](#), founded in 1865, has been in Point Lookout since 1933. They have been harvesting surf clams since 1944, and today have two surf clam vessels based at their Point Lookout plant, the Bright Eye IV and the Day Star. These clams are processed at the Doxsee Plant, along with others shipped here from around the nation (NYSC 2008). The plant mostly processes its own clams, but from time to time they will buy clams from other boats in the area;⁹ some of the surf clam boats which sell to Doxsee's are located in Freeport (MAC/FDIC nd). At the Fisherman's Catch restaurant in Point Lookout, 40-50 percent of the seafood sold here, including fluke, clams, calamari, striped bass, sea bass, and tuna, is harvested by vessels belonging to the restaurant (Starkey 2003). There are two vessels belonging to the restaurant; other vessels will sell exclusively to them as well. The Town of Hempstead provides

⁷ In reviewing the commercial landings data several factors need to be kept in mind. 1) While both federal and state landings are included, some states provide more detailed data to NMFS than others. For example, shellfish may not be included or data may be reported only by county and not by port. 2) Some communities did not have individual port codes until more recently. Before individual port codes were assigned, landings from those ports were coded at the county level or as an aggregate of two geographically close small ports. Where landings were coded at the county level they cannot be sorted to individual ports for those earlier years, e.g., prior to 2000. 3) Where aggregated codes were used, those aggregate codes may still exist and be in use alongside the new individual codes. Here the landings which are still assigned to the aggregate port code cannot be sorted into the individual ports, so port level data are only those which used the individual port code. 4) Even when individual port codes exist, especially for small ports, landings may be coded at the county level. Here again it is impossible to disaggregate these to a port level, making the port level landings incomplete. 5) In all these cases, the per port data in this profile may under report the total level of landings to the port, though all landings are accounted for in the overall NMFS database.

⁸ Profile review comment, Ron Masters, Department of Conservation and Recreation, PO Box 180, Lido Boulevard, Point Lookout, NY 11569, October 5, 2007

⁹ Personal Communication, John, Doxsee Sea Clam Co., PO Box 120 Point Lookout, NY 11569, August 7, 2006

permits for the commercial and non-commercial harvesting of shellfish (Town of Hempstead nd).

The landings listed for Point Lookout are variable. Landings were not reported at the port level for 1997-2000. The years 2001-2003 had few landings if any, but three years, 2004-2006, each had over \$500,000 in landings in Point Lookout. This data is not necessarily consistent with what is reported above. The most valuable species category on average for 2001-2006 was butterfish, mackerel, and squid, followed by summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass (Table 1). Point Lookout has a wide variety of species landed in 2006. The level of home port fishing was more consistent than landings, with a high of over \$1.1 million in value in 1998. This had dropped to \$566,000 by 2004. The number of vessels home ported experienced a slight decline in this period, from a high of 13 to a low of 9. There are far fewer vessel owners living in the city than there are vessels home ported, meaning most vessel owners are likely to live elsewhere, possibly because of the high median home price in Point Lookout (Table 2).

Landings by Species

Table 1. Dollar value by Federally Managed Groups of landings for Point Lookout

	Average from 2001-2006	2006 only
Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish	170,190	347,785
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass	94,822	291,291
Smallmesh Groundfish¹⁰	45,175	194,330
Other¹¹	28,603	42,796
Surf Clams, Ocean Quahog	13,220	0
Bluefish	9,866	17,602
Scallop	9,192	12,150
Monkfish	7,325	15,235
Largemesh Groundfish¹²	7,099	39,773
Lobster	3,382	8,765
Skate	1,690	3,808
Tilefish	893	0
Herring	101	66
Dogfish	46	110

¹⁰ Smallmesh multi-species : red hake, ocean pout, mixed hake, black whiting, silver hake (whiting)

¹¹ “Other” species includes any species not accounted for in a federally managed group

¹² Largemesh groundfish: cod, winter flounder, yellowtail flounder, American plaice, sand-dab flounder, haddock, white hake, redfish, and pollock

Vessels by Year¹³

Table 2. All columns represent vessel permits or landings value combined between 1997-2006

Year	# Vessels (home ported)	# Vessels (owner's city)	Level of fishing home port (\$)	Level of fishing landed port (\$)
1997	12	4	907,553	NOT RECORDED
1998	13	4	1,123,486	NOT RECORDED
1999	13	4	1,065,557	NOT RECORDED
2000	12	4	966,152	NOT RECORDED
2001	11	3	746,275	546
2002	11	3	839,072	12,813
2003	10	3	858,525	0
2004	9	2	566,154	530,962
2005	10	2	775,616	831,573
2006	9	2	692,959	973,711

(Note: # Vessels home ported = No. of permitted vessels with location as homeport

Vessels (owner's city) = No. of permitted vessels with location as owner residence¹⁴

Level of fishing home port (\$) = Landed value of fisheries associated with home ported vessels

Level of fishing landed port (\$) = Landed value of fisheries landed in location)

Recreational

Recreational fishing is very popular in Point Lookout, as it is surrounded by water on three sides (Point Lookout Civic Association 2008). Fluke is the main business here for for-hire fishing boats (MAC/FDIC n.d.). The 70' *Lady JV* is a charter fishing boat which also serves as a party boat. They offer ¾ day trips for fluke, as well as charter fishing for bluefish, flounder, tuna, blackfish, seabass, and lingcod. The Super Hawk fleet has two party boats, the *Super Hawk* and the *Princess Marie*, which make half-day fluke trips twice a day, with some full-day trips for sea bass, and some night trips for bluefish. The *Super Hawk* sometimes makes offshore canyon trips in search of tuna (Super Hawk Fishing Fleet nd). Capt. Al's party boat also departs from Point Lookout (Fishing Line nd).

Between 2001-2005 there were a total of 6 charter and party boats which logged trips in Point Lookout, carrying a total of 78,979 anglers on 2,678 different trips. [Scotty's](#) and Ted's Fishing Station provides bait and tackle as well as boat rentals for anyone looking to fish from Point Lookout (Point Lookout Civic Association 2008). The municipal West Marina also has a public fishing pier (Town of Hempstead nd). Nearby Jones Beach is a popular spot for surf fishing (Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau nd), as is Point Lookout.¹⁵

¹³ Numbers of vessels by owner's city and homeport are as reported by the permit holder on permit application forms. These may not correspond to the port where a vessel lands or even spends the majority of its time when docked.

¹⁴ The Owner-City from the permit files is technically the address at which the owner receives mail concerning their permitted vessels, which could reflect the actual location of residence, the mailing address as distinct from residence, owner business location, or the address at which a subsidiary receives mail about the permits.

¹⁵ Profile review comment, Ron Masters, Department of Conservation and Recreation, PO Box 180, Lido Boulevard, Point Lookout, NY 11569, October 5, 2007

Subsistence

Information on subsistence fishing in Point Lookout is either unavailable through secondary data collection or the practice does not exist.

FUTURE

Information on plans for the future in Point Lookout is unavailable through secondary data collection.

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