

The blue crab population is divided into different age categories based on size and maturity. The estimated number of crabs in 1000 meters squared, or density, is calculated for each category, giving managers a more detailed picture of the population. The densities of each category are listed in the tables below:

Year	All crabs	All crabs smaller than 2.4 inches	All crabs bigger than 2.4 inches
1990	82.16	47.34	34.82
1991	85.53	36.43	49.11
1992	38.14	10.69	27.44
1993	88.32	51.27	37.05
1994	53.55	30.94	22.61
1995	50.43	30.71	19.72
1996	76.50	51.82	24.68
1997	69.76	52.16	17.59
1998	36.42	16.87	19.54
1999	31.93	22.76	9.17
2000	30.49	13.90	16.59
2001	26.64	15.86	10.76
2002	32.35	19.81	12.54
2003	39.80	17.88	21.91
2004	29.27	14.58	14.68
2005	41.55	24.89	16.66
2006	32.56	19.98	12.68
2007	26.88	11.41	15.47
2008	30.14	16.90	13.24
2009	41.90	17.51	24.39
2010	72.92	36.55	36.38
2011	51.25	21.03	30.22
2012	79.20	59.53	18.68
2013	31.80	11.32	20.47
2014	31.47	20.43	11.03
2015	49.62	30.72	18.90
2016	57.49	27.79	29.70
2017	46.88	12.77	34.11
2018	40.45	17.22	23.24
2019	61.68	33.04	28.64
2020	41.39	18.86	22.53
2021	29.52	8.74	20.78
2022	23.94	10.33	13.61
2023	32.99	11.88	21.11

The different size categories are further investigated by breaking down size categories by sex and maturity:

Year	Mature Females	Females bigger than 2.4 inches (immature and mature) <i>Females that will spawn this year</i>	Males bigger than 2.4 inches	Males bigger than 5 inches
1990	9.01	14.73	20.09	8.84
1991	18.59	24.43	24.67	12.14
1992	15.52	18.26	9.18	4.86
1993	6.21	18.86	18.19	6.21
1994	9.28	12.09	10.52	4.56
1995	4.36	8.62	11.10	4.01
1996	10.07	13.76	10.92	5.30
1997	7.48	10.23	7.36	3.40
1998	8.27	11.25	8.29	3.89
1999	4.73	5.94	3.22	2.01
2000	10.71	12.18	4.41	2.11
2001	4.24	6.20	4.58	1.93
2002	4.40	5.87	6.67	3.82
2003	7.69	11.04	10.87	4.90
2004	8.18	9.88	4.80	2.30
2005	9.94	11.77	4.88	2.58
2006	8.23	9.05	3.62	2.17
2007	8.11	9.89	5.58	2.74
2008	7.59	9.33	3.90	1.68
2009	16.83	18.00	6.39	3.76
2010	25.75	28.21	8.16	4.47
2011	20.57	22.10	8.12	4.84
2012	7.87	9.93	8.74	4.52
2013	14.64	15.45	5.02	3.16
2014	6.74	7.57	3.46	2.07
2015	10.47	12.73	6.19	2.51
2016	18.63	20.32	9.33	5.40
2017	24.64	26.20	7.90	4.71
2018	15.21	16.71	6.53	3.88
2019	17.61	19.83	8.81	5.24
2020	12.75	14.45	8.08	3.86
2021	15.58	16.49	4.29	2.72
2022	9.82	10.58	3.04	2.00
2023	14.10	15.49	5.62	3.46