



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

### OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

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More than a quarter of all the fish and shellfish caught by U. S. fishermen in 1943 were landed at the ports of a single State - California, the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries reported today.

Far surpassing all other States and Territories both in the quantity and value of its fishery products, California's production amounted to at least 1,200,000,000 pounds out of a total U. S. catch estimated as slightly less than four billion pounds.

Alaska ranked second in volume with a catch of about 600,000,000 pounds, while Massachusetts came third with approximately 500,000,000 pounds.

California's fisheries are based almost entirely on three kinds of fish - the pilchard or California sardine, tuna, and mackerel. These three normally make up nearly 95 percent of the catch.

Landings of pilchards, which are canned as sardines and are also used to make meal and oil for stock feeding, totalled 958,238,000 pounds in 1943, while 114,886,000 pounds of tuna were caught. The year was an unusually good one for mackerel, the total catch amounting to 82,155,000 pounds.

Figures on minor California species, including sharks, salmon, barracuda, flounders, and rockfishes, are not yet available but landings of these species usually amount to about 60,000,000 to 65,000,000 pounds.