

Since the FFMC is strictly a processing and marketing organization, the amount it markets depends on the harvests of a large number of independent fishermen. The figures provided in Table 1 are not an indication of the area's capabilities for producing fish for market since they represent only the amount of product delivered to the FFMC. They do not therefore include the catch sold directly to the final consumer by fishermen within their own provinces, or the quantities of fish being marketed privately in Alberta and Saskatchewan, where intra-provincial fish marketing regulations were recently relaxed.

2.3 Landings in the Ontario Region

Except in the northwestern part of Ontario, where fishermen market their catch (approximately 1% of the total Ontario harvest) through the FFMC, there is no single organization in Ontario responsible for either processing or marketing the province's freshwater fish. Nearly all the fish harvested in Ontario under the 931 authorized commercial licences is processed and marketed through private, in-house or cooperative services.

In 1984, the harvest of fish from Ontario waters amounted to approximately 22.7 thousand tonnes (50 million lb.). This compares to a 10-year average of 25.2 thousand tonnes (55.5 million lb.) and a high of 34.1 thousand tonnes (75.2 million lb.) achieved in 1982. Table 2 provides six-year landings figures for the Ontario freshwater fisheries, broken down by major species.

Table 2
LANDINGS OF THE ONTARIO COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
BY SPECIES, 1979-84
(quantities in tonnes, round weight)

Species	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Smelt	7,485	4,351	19,809	13,901	11,427	10,883
Whitefish (Lake and Round)	1,927	2,271	1,814	1,800	1,771	1,417
Bass (Rock and White)	2,035	259	1,626	936	960	828
Perch (White and Yellow)	5,165	3,575	5,042	4,816	6,344	6,022
Yellow Pickerel	2,280	1,855	1,379	1,471	1,353	1,059
Northern Pike	111	281	324	295	269	314
Lake Herring	915	594	1,131	1,451	1,476	998
Chub	745	524	311	393	450	503
Sucker (Mullet)	273	488	631	604	572	636
Freshwater Drum	261	190	232	256	180	166
Bullhead	215	223	205	233	243	238
Lake Trout	193	264	260	226	280	168
Carp	132	182	160	208	122	181
Sunfish	105	112	131	126	119	129
Eel	114	70	32	111	169	228
Catfish	97	112	96	116	86	97
Burbot (Ling)	39	73	81	181	109	130
Sturgeon	8	22	20	20	22	15
Sauger	15	20	28	20	17	16
Other	554	1,027	177	907	735	1,109
Total Landings	22,667	27,538	34,110	28,072	26,701	25,137

Source: Ontario Department of Natural Resources.