

36 Commercial Fisherman/Fisherwoman

Types of commercial fishing:

Commercial fishing can be divided into the following three categories:

- **Coastal fishing:** Fishing in coastal waters that involves being on the ocean for a day at a time
- **Offshore fishing:** Fishing in offshore waters that involves being on the ocean for 2 to 3 days at a time
- **Deep-sea fishing:** Fishing in waters across the world that involves being on the ocean for long periods of time



What do fishermen/fisherwomen do?

Fishermen/fisherwomen catch fish, trap shellfish or harvest seaweed. A fisherman/fisherwoman's catch will vary based on where they fish and what catching methods they use. Fishermen/fisherwomen may also work for businesses that farm fish, shellfish or seaweed. Onshore duties, such as cleaning of fishing vessels, maintenance of fishing gear etc. are also part of their everyday work.

Becoming a fisherman/fisherwoman:

No specific academic background or certification is required to become a fisherman or fisherwoman. You will build your experience by starting your fishing career as a crew member of a fishing organization. To start up your own business as an independent fisherman or fisherwoman, or meet employment requirements for certain organizations, you may need to become certified as a ship captain or radio operator.