

**Range Map**

(Provided by Next Door Zoo)

AMERICAN LOBSTER

Homarus americanus

Stable

Conservation Status
Not threatened

FACT ONE



Lobsters are classified as crustaceans. Crustaceans include shrimp, crabs, krill and crayfish. Lobsters have a hard shell, long antennae, eight walking legs and two large claws

FACT TWO



Female lobsters are called hens and can carry 100,000 eggs on their tail. Only 2 of these eggs have to survive to keep the population stable.

FACT THREE



Lobsters can live up to 50 years old, and grow to be over 4 feet long! The largest recorded lobster weighed over 44 pounds!

FACT FOUR



American lobsters are commercial harvested in New England and Canada. This fishery is a multi-billion dollar industry. Globally, 200,000 tons of lobsters annually harvested.

For more information about lobsters:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration(NOAA)
[https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/american-lobster:](https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/american-lobster)



Overview

American lobsters are a cold water species of crustacean that live in a rocky, sandy or even muddy habitat. The large crushing claw is used for cracking and feeding on shellfish. People have been eating lobsters for centuries. The state of Maine is famous for its lobster fishery.

Life History

Lobsters have poor eyesight but have a highly developed sense of smell and taste. Codfish are the main predator of small lobsters. Lobsters will feed on fish, crabs, clams, worms, mussels, sea urchins and even sea stars.

Status

Today, lobsters are on the move. Due to increasing ocean water temperatures, lobsters are moving north. Due to various factors including warming waters, low oxygen levels, and disease, the lobster fishery collapsed in Long Island Sound in late 1990's.

How You Can Help

Lobsters need clean water like all marine life. Keep plastics and other pollutants out of our ocean waters. If you enjoy eating lobsters, ensure you purchase from a sustainable fishery source. If you catch lobsters, remember the laws on harvesting and especially throw back females with eggs.

Lobsters smell with their legs, can regrow lost limbs and their teeth are in their stomachs.



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