

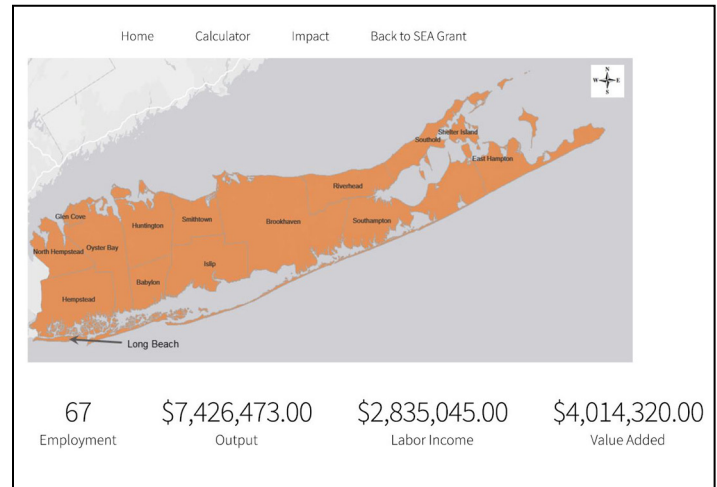
## Building Capacity to Assess Economic Impacts in Long Island's Coastal Communities

Tools to help Long Island community leaders to answer basic questions about economic impacts from various sectors are lacking. Town planners and other decision makers must consider several factors in order to assess the full extent of proposed actions before making investments. In fact, fishing communities are often concerned about the cost to their livelihood if they are to be displaced by other sectors.

New York Sea Grant (NYSG) funded researchers at the School of Business at Farmingdale State College of the State University of New York (SUNY) to develop a tool to allow users to gauge economic impacts in Long Island's coastal communities.

The Sea Grant Impact Calculator is an online tool that may be used to generate a snapshot of the impacts from monetary investments or losses associated with a conglomeration of industries that are prevalent on Long Island. This calculator uses static IMPLAN economic databases and includes fishing and agriculture statistics. This capability did not exist in Long Island communities prior to this time.

NYSG and the SUNY Farmingdale School of Business facilitated a round table panel to present this tool to 35 members of the Melville Chamber of Commerce. Chamber members also learned about



*Town Planners and other decision makers can use the simple Sea Grant Impact Calculator to obtain a snapshot of economic impacts on Long Island. Graphic: NYSG*

the basic framework being used to manage wild harvest fisheries and the Choose Long Island campaign.

***“In terms of strictly numbers, it seems like the recreational fisheries and the commercial fisheries are very small in comparison to the region’s economy, but they are a strong attractor of tourists and improve the quality of life for residents.”***

**– Dr. Richard Vogel, Dean, SUNY Farmingdale School of Business  
Newsday 10/11/18**

### Partners:

- Farmingdale State College School of Business
- Melville Chamber of Commerce
- Suffolk County Government

### ***The Sea Grant Focus Area for this project is NY Sustainable Fisheries & Aquaculture***

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.

New York Sea Grant Extension,  
112 Rice Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

*This project summary was written by  
Marine Fisheries Specialist Antoinette Clemetson,  
631-632-8730, aoc5@cornell.edu, www.nyseagrant.org*

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*The new Sea Grant Impact Calculator helps Long Islanders to assess the value of investments. Photo: Richard Vogel, Farmingdale State College School of Business*