

New England Aquarium at a Glance

Our Impact: What Sets the Aquarium Apart?

The New England Aquarium combines education, entertainment and action to address the most challenging problems facing the oceans. We aim to create a new generation of ocean stewards, while providing regional, national and global leadership in marine conservation. The Aquarium is the only Boston-based cultural institution with a mission focused primarily on the environment, promoting the importance of protecting the blue planet through innovative exhibits and educational programs.

Innovative Solutions in Marine Conservation and Research

- **Scientific leader of North American aquariums**—more than 230 peer-reviewed scientific publications since 2000
- **One of the longest-running marine mammal research programs in the U.S.**—reducing threats to right whales through research and partnerships with governments, shipping and fishing industries
- **Sustainable Seafood Programs**—working with the global seafood supply chain, including partnerships with Ahold USA, Gorton's, Darden Restaurants and other major seafood suppliers, to inspire greater ocean stewardship
- **Habitat protection**—led creation of one of the world's largest marine protected areas in the Pacific (Phoenix Islands Protected Area)
- **Regional leader in rescue and rehabilitation of endangered sea turtles**, including Kemp's ridley, green and leatherback
- **Cutting-edge research on the effects of human activities on the oceans**, including studies on lobster shell disease, the effects of noise on whales and the impact of commercial fishing on sharks

Far-Reaching Education Programs

- **75,000 – 100,000 school children** reached annually through K-12 programs
- **Leading a nationwide network of aquariums, ocean scientists** and social scientists to build capacity for climate change education
- **Providing unique opportunities for inner city youth** through innovative Teen Internships
- **Partnering with schools to integrate students' Aquarium visits** and coastal field exploration with curriculum
- **Aquarium Lecture Series** attended by more than 2,000 people in 2012
- **Provided professional development workshops and marine science** resources to 1,800 teachers in 2012



Photo: S. Cheng

Diverse and Highly Informative Exhibits

- **1.37 million visitors in 2012**
- **The Trust Family Foundation Shark and Ray Touch Tank**—the largest of its kind on the East Coast
- **New Balance Foundation Marine Mammal Center**, connecting visitors to Boston Harbor while showcasing Northern fur seals and California sea lions in an innovative open-air exhibit
- **A revitalized 200,000-gallon Caribbean Coral Reef exhibit** featuring a redesigned reef with a greater diversity of species than ever before
- **The Yawkey Coral Reef Center**, providing visitors with closer looks at a wide range of coral biodiversity
- **The Blue Planet Action Center**—engaging visitors in the Aquarium's education, conservation and research efforts
- **One of the largest penguin exhibits in the U.S.**, illustrating major threats to four species
- **27,000 animals and more than 70 exhibits** representing unique habitats worldwide



Aquarium Operations

- **1.37 million visitors in 2012**
- **20,000 members**
- **225 full-time, 122 part-time staff**
- **930 volunteers** serving a total of 109,521 hours each year
- **Whale Watch**—68,000 passengers annually
- **Fully accredited** by Association of Zoos and Aquariums and American Association of Museums

2013 Budget

- **Operating revenue**—\$41.3 million
- **Operating expenses**—\$40.3 million
 - Exhibits and animal care—\$23.5 million
 - Conservation and research—\$6.1 million
 - Education and community outreach—\$4.0 million
 - Development—\$3.4 million
 - Administration—\$3.3 million
- **Operating reserve**—\$1 million