

**LOUISIANA COMMERCIAL FRESHWATER FINFISH DEALERS: ANALYZING  
POINT OF FIRST SALES DATA FOR THE LOUISIANA COMMERCIAL FINFISH  
SECTOR: 2000 - 2009 WITH AN EXAMINATION OF CHANGES IN FIRST RECEIVERS'  
ACTIVITIES AFTER HURRICANES KATRINA & RITA IN 2005 AND GUSTAV & IKE IN 2008**

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*The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries follows a non-discriminatory policy in programs and employment.*

## **Chapter 1.**

### **1.1 Introduction**

This report examines the participation and selected economic activities of licensed commercial seafood dealers that purchased all species of freshwater finfish directly from commercial fishermen between 2000 and 2009. The findings of this report are derived from data about commercial seafood dealers license holders from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and data obtained in the Louisiana trip ticket program, a mandated recording program in which seafood dealers report the quantity and value of seafood that they buy directly from commercial fishermen to the LDWF.

Data from the trip ticket program are regularly employed to determine the quantity of seafood species harvested commercially in the state. This report uses these data to compile a profile of the dealers who purchased freshwater finfish in Louisiana between 2000 and 2009. It also examines changes and trends in the volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish with special attention paid to changes experienced after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008.

This report is part of a series of reports that examines the activities of commercial seafood dealers in Louisiana. Other reports in this series include a general overview of commercial seafood dealers and separate studies of dealers that purchased shrimp, oysters, crabs, and saltwater finfish.

### **1.2 Purpose of This Study**

This study is part of an on-going project by LDWF to monitor the recovery of fisheries from the impacts of the hurricanes Hurricane Katrina and Rita in 2005. After the incidence of hurricanes Gustav and Ike in September 2008, the scope of the report was expanded to analyze the commercial seafood dealers' activities following all four hurricanes. Specifically, objectives of the study are:

1. To better understand the impacts of hurricanes on commercial seafood dealers operating in Louisiana's freshwater finfish sector by using the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries "trip ticket" data to track purchases by seafood dealers in the years before and after the hurricanes.

The report presents analysis related to the volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by seafood dealers from 2000 to 2009.

2. To analyze the variation in the amount of freshwater finfish that dealers purchased from commercial fishermen by dividing dealers into different finfish volume categories defined by the volume (in pounds) of freshwater finfish purchased. The report observes trends within and across categories from 2000 to 2009. Second, the study also explores the structure of the Louisiana freshwater finfish dealer sector by examining dealers that hold different types of commercial seafood dealer license issued by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish that they purchased (at the point of first sale) from commercial fishermen in Louisiana from 2000 to 2009.
3. Discussion of trends for four key freshwater finfish species from 2000 to 2009: buffalofish, blue catfish, channel catfish, and alligator gar.

The analyses will aid in understanding observable changes in Louisiana commercial seafood dealers' activities before and after the 2005 and 2008 hurricanes.

### **1.3. Commercial Seafood Dealers**

A commercial seafood dealer is defined conceptually by the function it performs in the marketing chain and technically by the type of license it holds that grants it the legal right to perform that function. Functionally, a commercial seafood dealer is defined as any person, business, or other entity that purchases seafood directly from commercial fishermen for later resale. The term "dealer" may be applied to a wide array of diverse individuals and firms including, but not limited to, docks that buy seafood from fishermen and sell it to processors; seafood processors that buy some portion of the raw product directly from fishermen; and roadside peddlers, seafood shops, restaurants, groceries, and other retailers who get some or all of their seafood products directly from fishermen. The common element is buying or obtaining seafood directly from commercial fishermen.

### **1.3.1. LDWF Licensed Commercial Fishermen**

In this report, a licensed commercial seafood dealer is defined as any person, business, or other entity that hold any of several types of commercial seafood retail/wholesale dealers license that grants them the legal privilege to buy seafood directly from commercial fishermen in Louisiana for later resale to another person, business, or other entity. The term “dealer” may also be applied to two additional license types, called “fresh products licenses”, for commercial fishermen or their spouses who sell some portion of their seafood harvests at retail or directly to the public.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) issues several different types of commercial seafood dealer licenses, a selected list of which may be found in Table 1.1. A more comprehensive discussion of the Louisiana seafood dealer licensing system is included in another report in this series: *Commercial Seafood Dealers in Louisiana, 2000-2009: Analyzing Point of First Sales Data from the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program with an Examination of Changes in First Receivers’ Activities after Hurricanes Katrina & Rita in 2005 and Gustav & Ike in 2008.*

### **1.4. Louisiana Trip Ticket Program**

Since 1999, commercial fishermen and licensed commercial seafood dealers have been required to report the volume and dockside value of commercial seafood landed in Louisiana as part of the Louisiana trip ticket program. Commercial seafood dealers and commercial fishermen must complete a record of the quantity and dockside value of the seafood exchanged at the “point of first sale”. Variables included in the trip ticket report of each transaction include the identification of the species, the volume landed, and the amount paid to the commercial fisherman among others. Dealers submit a copy of the report for each transaction to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

**Table 1.1. Selected List of Louisiana Commercial Seafood Dealer Licenses**

<b>License Title:</b>	<b>Appropriate for:</b>	<b>Label in This Report:</b>
Resident Seafood Wholesale/Retail Dealer License - Business	Louisiana land-based businesses that buy seafood directly from commercial fishermen for later resale	Resident business seafood dealer
Resident Seafood Wholesale/Retail Dealer License - Vehicle	Louisiana businesses that buy seafood directly from commercial fishermen and sell that seafood to the public out of a vehicle	Resident vehicle seafood dealer
Resident Fresh Products Dealer License	Louisiana resident licensed resident commercial fishermen who wishes to sell his or her catch directly to the public	Resident fresh products dealer
Resident Fresh Products Dealer - Spouse License	Spouse of a Louisiana resident licensed resident commercial fishermen who wishes to sell his or her spouse's catch directly to the public	Resident fresh products spouse dealer
Non-Resident Seafood Wholesale/Retail Dealer License - Business	Out of state land-based businesses that buy seafood directly from commercial fishermen for later resale	Non-resident business seafood dealer

The data examined in this report as measure of seafood dealer activity are derived from the trip ticket program. Data were analyzed using a variety of statistical packages: SAS, STATA and Microsoft Excel.

A more comprehensive discussion of the Louisiana trip ticket program and the data are included in another report in this series: *Commercial Seafood Dealers in Louisiana, 2000-2009: Analyzing Point of First Sales Data from the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program with an Examination of Changes in First Receivers' Activities after Hurricanes Katrina & Rita in 2005 and Gustav & Ike in 2008.*

### **1.5. Organization of the Study**

This report combines data pertaining to the quantity and dockside value of freshwater finfish in the Louisiana trip ticket program database with basic information from the LDWF license database regarding the licensed commercial seafood dealers that purchased those finfish. It compiles a profile of the licensed commercial seafood dealers that traded in the freshwater finfish and the volume and value of the freshwater finfish that they purchased during each year within the 2000-2009 study timeframe.

This report is divided into six chapters. Chapter one outlined the background and objective of this study. Chapter two provides changes and trends for dealer participation and the volume and dockside value of purchases of commercial freshwater finfish landings among all commercial seafood dealers from 2000 to 2009. Chapter three divides all commercial seafood dealers into finfish volume categories based on the volume of freshwater finfish that each purchased in a given year. Chapter four examines differences in dealer activity among dealers holding different types of commercial seafood dealer licenses. Chapter five examines dealers that handled four different key species of freshwater finfish. Chapter six includes a summary and conclusions. Appendices contain summary tables of data examined in the report.



## **Chapter 2.** **Commercial Seafood Dealers in Louisiana That Purchased** **Freshwater Finfish**

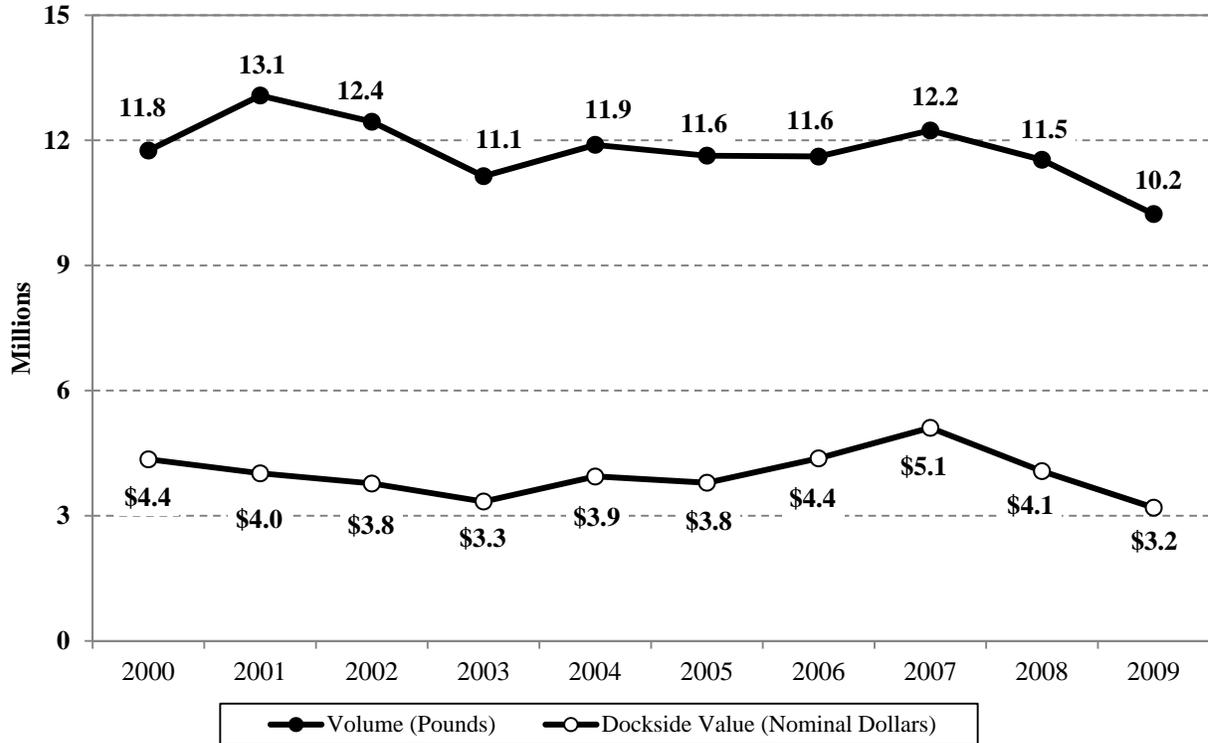
### **2.1. Introduction**

This chapter presents a discussion of three indicators of participation and activity among licensed commercial seafood dealers that reported purchased of any species of freshwater finfish in each year during the 2000 to 2009 study timeframe. It examines the cumulative volume (in pounds) of all freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by licensed seafood dealers in Louisiana in every year during the study timeframe and the dockside value (in nominal dollars) of the freshwater finfish that they purchased (that is, the amount of money they spent buying that fish). It also examines the number of dealers that reported buying freshwater finfish in each year to the Louisiana trip ticket program.

### **2.2. Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish**

The volume of freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by licensed commercial seafood dealers in Louisiana varied from 11.8 million pounds in 2000 to 13.1 pounds in 2001 down to 11.1 million pounds in 2003 (Figure 2.1). It rose to 11.9 million pounds in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and decreased to 11.6 million pounds in the hurricane year of 2005 and 2006. The volume rose to 12.2 million pounds in 2007 and then declined over the next two years to 10.2 million pounds in 2009.

The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by licensed seafood dealers in Louisiana declined to \$4.4 million in 2000 to \$3.3 million in 2003 and \$3.9 million in 2004 (Figure 2.1). In the hurricane year of 2005, dockside value was fairly stable at \$3.8 million pounds. Over the next two years, the dockside value rose to a period maximum of \$5.1 million before declining over the next two years to a period minimum of \$3.2 million.

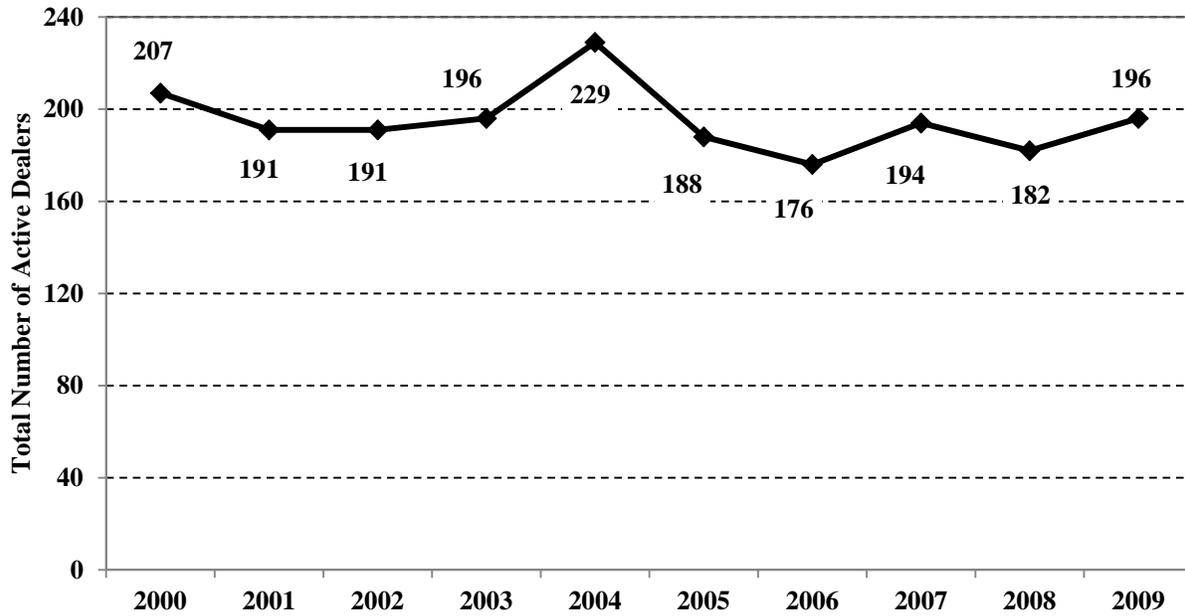


**Figure 2.1. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Louisiana Seafood Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

### 2.3. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers

In this report, an active freshwater finfish dealer is defined as any individual or business holding a commercial seafood license in Louisiana and reporting purchases of at least one pound of any species of freshwater finfish in a given year to the Louisiana trip ticket program. The term, “active freshwater finfish dealer”, is not an exclusive or perpetual designation. A dealer that bought freshwater finfish and saltwater finfish, for example, would be defined as both an “active freshwater finfish dealer” and an “active saltwater finfish dealer”. Further, a firm may be an “active finfish dealer” in one year but not in another if it did not buy freshwater fish in every year during the study timeframe.

The number of active freshwater finfish dealers decreased from 207 in 2000 to 191 in 2001 and 2002 to 196 in 2003 (Figure 2.2). In 2004, the number of active finfish dealers rose to a period maximum of 229.



**Figure 2.2. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealer, By Year: 2000-2009**

Thereafter, the number of active freshwater finfish dealers declined to 188 in the hurricane year of 2005 and 176 in 2006 (a decrease of 53 active dealers over two years). The number of active freshwater finfish dealers increased over the next few years but remained below 200 for each of the three remaining years in the study timeframe.

#### **2.4. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value**

The tables below (Tables 2.1, Table, 2.2, Table 2.3) show the percentage change of the relevant variable in one year (identified in the column header) relative to the “base year” identified at the start of each column. For example, in Table 2.1, the value in the “2006” row and the “2007” column (+10.2%) means the number of active freshwater finfish dealers in 2007 (194) was 10.2 percent greater than the number in 2006 (176). Similarly, in Table 2.2, the value in the “2004” row and the “2008” column (-3.0%) means the volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in 2008 (11,531,810 pounds) was 3.0 percent less than the volume in 2005 (11,631,747 pounds). (Table 2.2 and Table 2.2 also show that the freshwater finfish volume in 2004 was 1.4 percent less than the average volume during the 2000-2004 period and dockside value in 2004 was 1.4 percent greater than the average dockside value for 2000-2004.)

#### **2.4.1. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Changes in freshwater dealer participation and activity following hurricanes Katrina and Rita can be examined by observing the percentage changes in volume, dockside value, and the number of active dealers in the hurricane year of 2005 and afterward to the values prior to the storms. This section presents two ways of making such a comparison by expressing the percentage change relative to the measure in the single year before the storm (2004) and the percentage relative to the average values in the five-year period before the storm (2000 – 2004 average).

Relative to the number of dealers in 2004, the number of active freshwater finfish dealers was down in each of the three years following hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Table 2.1). In the hurricane year of 2005, the number of dealers buying freshwater finfish was 17.9 percent less than the number doing so in 2004. That number declined even further in the following year; in 2006, the number of active freshwater finfish dealers was 23.1 percent less than the number in 2004. In 2007 the number of active freshwater finfish dealers was 15.3 percent less than the number in 2004.

A decrease in the number of active freshwater finfish dealers represents a decrease in the number of firms buying freshwater finfish in a particular year. It should not be interpreted as a permanent cessation of business. Some dealers may have shut down only temporarily and resumed buying freshwater finfish in later years. Other firms may have ceased buying freshwater finfish from commercial fishermen but may have bought freshwater finfish from alternative sources, such as other dealers or distributors, in transactions that do not require trip ticket reporting. Other firms may have ceased buying freshwater finfish but continued buying and trading other species of seafood (such as shrimp or oysters) or any other products from almonds to ziti.

**Table 2.1. Change in Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Number in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+12.9%	-7.3%	-13.2%	-4.3%	-10.3%	-3.4%
	2004		-17.9%	-23.1%	-15.3%	-20.5%	-14.4%
	2005			-6.4%	+3.2%	-3.2%	+4.3%
	2006				+10.2%	+3.4%	+11.4%
	2007					-6.2%	+1.0%
	2008						+7.7%

**Table 2.2. Change in the Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-1.4%	-3.6%	-3.7%	+1.4%	-4.4%	-15.2%
	2004		-2.2%	-2.4%	+2.9%	-3.0%	-13.9%
	2005			-0.2%	+5.2%	-0.9%	-12.0%
	2006				+5.4%	-0.7%	-11.9%
	2007					-5.8%	-16.4%
	2008						-11.3%

**Table 2.3. Change in the Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Dockside Value in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+1.4%	-2.4%	+12.7%	+31.5%	+4.7%	-17.8%
	2004		-3.8%	+11.1%	+29.7%	+3.3%	-18.9%
	2005			+15.4%	+34.8%	+7.3%	-15.8%
	2006				+16.7%	-7.0%	-27.0%
	2007					-20.4%	-37.5%
	2008						-21.5%

In the two years following the impact of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the volume of freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by dealers in Louisiana was down by fairly moderate percentages. Relative to the volume purchased in 2004, the volume purchased in 2005 was down by 2.2 percent and the volume in 2006 was down 2.4 percent (Table 2.2). The volume dealers purchased in 2007 was 2.9 percent greater than the volume they purchased in 2004. These changes in the volume of freshwater finfish may not be a result of hurricane damage alone. Other market and environmental factors may have contributed to the change in finfish production.

Compared to the dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by finfish dealers in 2004, the dockside value in the hurricane year was down by 3.8 percent (Table 2.3). Dockside values in 2006 and 2007, however, were 11.1 percent and 29.7 percent greater than the dockside value of 2004.

Dockside value is the product of volume, which may vary due to a variety of natural and market factors, and price, which may also be related to national and international market forces quite separate from the hurricanes or other local conditions. Further, an increase (or decrease) in the dockside value of freshwater finfish signifies an increase (or decrease) in the value of the fish that dealers bought, an expenditure. The change in dockside value of freshwater finfish may not be attributed to hurricane-related elements alone. A change in dockside value does not indicate a change in revenue or profit among commercial seafood dealers.

#### **2.4.2. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value Following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike**

Changes in freshwater finfish dealer participation and activity connected to hurricanes Gustav and Ike may be considered by examining the percentage changes in the number of active dealers and volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchases in the hurricane year of 2008 and 2009 relative to the values for 2007, the year before hurricanes Gustav and Ike. The comparison is complicated by a number of factors, including the possibility that dealer variables in 2007 were themselves affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.

Following Gustav and Ike, active dealer numbers and volume were down for two consecutive years. In the number of freshwater finfish dealers (Table 2.1) and the volume (Table 2.2) and dockside value (Table 2.3) of the freshwater finfish they bought were 6.2 percent, 5.8 percent, and 20.4 percent below their respective 2007 measures. In 2009, the number of active freshwater finfish dealers was slightly (1.0 percent) above the number in 2007 but volume and dockside value were 16.4 percent and 37.5 percent lower than their 2007 measures.

## **Chapter 3.** **Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Finfish Volume Categories**

### **3.1. Delineation of Finfish Volume Categories**

There is a considerable amount of variation in the volume and value of freshwater finfish that dealers report purchasing directly from commercial fishermen. A relatively large number of active freshwater finfish dealers collectively account for a relatively small percentage of the total volume of freshwater purchased by all dealers. Conversely, a relatively small number of active dealers purchase a relatively large percentage of the total volume of finfish.

To explore this issue, this report divides all active freshwater finfish dealers into five “finfish volume” categories defined by the quantity of freshwater finfish that dealers reported purchasing in a given year in the Louisiana trip ticket program:

- (1) Less than 5,000 Pounds Category – All active freshwater finfish dealers that purchased 5,000 pounds or less in a particular calendar year
- (2) 5,000 – 25,000 Pounds Category– All active freshwater finfish dealers that purchased between 5,000 pounds and 25,000 pounds in a particular year
- (3) 25,000 – 100,000 Pounds Category - All active freshwater finfish dealers that purchased between 25,000 pounds and 100,000 pounds in a particular year
- (4) 100,000 – 500,000 Pounds Category - All active freshwater finfish dealers that purchased between 100,000 pounds and 500,000 pounds in a particular year
- (5) More than 500,000 Pounds Category- All active finfish dealers that purchased more than 500,000 pounds in a particular year

The remainder of this section explores the number of active freshwater finfish dealers within each finfish volume category, the cumulative volume and nominal dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers within each category, and the average dockside price per pound that they paid for freshwater finfish.

### **3.2. Dealers in the “Less than 5,000 Pounds” Category**

The total volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by the freshwater finfish dealers in the “less than 5,000 pounds” finfish volume category amounted to 1.0 percent of the total volume and 2.2 percent of the total dockside value of all freshwater finfish purchased by all dealers between 2000 and 2009.

The number of freshwater finfish dealers in the “less than 5,000 pounds” finfish volume category slipped from 104 in 2000 to 88 in 2001 then climbed to a period maximum of 129 in 2004 (Table 3.1). The number dropped to 93 in the hurricane year of 2005 and to 85 in 2006. The count increased to 102 in 2007, decreased to 90 in the hurricane year of 2008, and then increased again to 114.

The volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “less than 5,000 pounds” finfish volume category was greater than 100,000 pounds in each year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Volume declined to 94.1 thousand pounds in the hurricane year of 2005 and 98.6 in 2006. Volume jumped to a period maximum of 143.0 pounds in 2007 and then decreased to 117.7 thousand pounds in 2009.

The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “less than 5,000 pounds” category varied from \$78.7 thousand in 2000 to \$63.6 in 2001. Dockside value increased to \$96.9 thousand in the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita then dropped to \$59.3 thousand in the hurricane year and \$67.7 thousand in 2006. Dockside value rose to levels above \$100 thousand for each of the three remaining years, reaching a period maximum of \$122.3 thousand in 2009.

**Table 3.1. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Finfish Volume Categories, By Year:  
2000 – 2009**

	<b>Less than 5,000 lb.</b>	<b>5,000 – 25,000 lb.</b>	<b>25,000 – 100,000 lb.</b>	<b>100,000 – 500,000 lb.</b>	<b>More than 500,00 lb.</b>
<b>2000</b>	104	48	27	25	3
<b>2001</b>	88	45	34	18	6
<b>2002</b>	97	49	18	19	8
<b>2003</b>	96	46	29	20	5
<b>2004</b>	129	49	26	19	6
<b>2005</b>	93	38	34	17	6
<b>2006</b>	85	38	30	17	6
<b>2007</b>	102	48	20	19	5
<b>2008</b>	90	44	21	23	4
<b>2009</b>	114	43	18	17	4

**Table 3.2. Cumulative Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Active Finfish Dealers in Finfish Volume  
Categories, By Year: 2000 – 2009**

	<b>Less than 5,000 lb.</b>	<b>5,000 – 25,000 lb.</b>	<b>25,000 – 100,000 lb.</b>	<b>100,000 – 500,000 lb.</b>	<b>More than 500,00 lb.</b>
	Thousands of Pounds				
<b>2000</b>	119.6	587.5	1,430.6	6,907.2	*
<b>2001</b>	102.8	521.1	1,711.8	5,055.2	5,683.2
<b>2002</b>	132.6	635.1	903.6	4,349.7	6,424.9
<b>2003</b>	114.9	496.3	1,324.8	4,774.6	4,428.2
<b>2004</b>	141.1	632.3	1,295.9	4,728.2	5,092.8
<b>2005</b>	94.1	502.6	1,662.1	3,961.0	5,411.7
<b>2006</b>	98.6	417.6	1,413.0	3,715.4	5,966.1
<b>2007</b>	143.0	619.8	1,160.7	4,269.3	6,042.7
<b>2008</b>	111.1	548.5	1,257.6	5,077.0	*
<b>2009</b>	117.7	483.5	895.5	3,946.4	*

**Table 3.3. Cumulative Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Active Finfish Dealers in Finfish  
Volume Categories, By Year: 2000 – 2009**

	<b>Less than 5,000 lb.</b>	<b>5,000 – 25,000 lb.</b>	<b>25,000 – 100,000 lb.</b>	<b>100,000 – 500,000 lb.</b>	<b>More than 500,00 lb.</b>
	Thousands of Dollars				
<b>2000</b>	\$78.7	\$348.7	\$576.4	\$2,231.3	*
<b>2001</b>	\$63.6	\$286.7	\$716.5	\$1,689.3	\$1,261.1
<b>2002</b>	\$82.9	\$363.0	\$424.9	\$1,340.4	\$1,562.0
<b>2003</b>	\$75.4	\$266.9	\$589.8	\$1,380.4	\$1,028.1
<b>2004</b>	\$96.9	\$472.0	\$505.9	\$1,377.1	\$1,488.3
<b>2005</b>	\$59.3	\$341.6	\$711.4	\$1,063.0	\$1,616.0
<b>2006</b>	\$67.7	\$336.2	\$569.1	\$1,557.5	\$1,845.9
<b>2007</b>	\$110.0	\$410.4	\$524.1	\$2,174.1	\$1,890.2
<b>2008</b>	\$105.0	\$361.8	\$658.3	\$1,641.4	*
<b>2009</b>	\$122.3	\$335.7	\$433.9	\$1,204.9	*

### **3.3. Dealers in the “5,000 – 25,000 Pounds” Category**

Purchases by freshwater finfish dealers in the “5,000 – 25,000 pounds” finfish volume accounted for 4.6 percent of the total volume and 8.8 percent of the total dockside value of all freshwater finfish purchased by all freshwater finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009.

The number of freshwater finfish dealers in the “5,000 – 25,000 pounds” finfish volume category varied in the range of 46 to 49 in the first five years of the study timeframe (Table 3.1). The count dropped to 38 in the hurricane year of 2005 and in 2006. It rose to 48 in 2007 and decreased slightly to 43 in 2009.

The cumulative volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “5,000-25,000 pounds” finfish category initially declined from 587.5 thousand pounds in 2000 to 521.1 thousand pounds in 2001 and rose to 632.3 thousand pounds in 2004 (Table 3.1). The volume of freshwater finfish dropped to 502.6 thousand pounds in the hurricane year of 2005 and decreased further to 417.6 thousand pounds in 2006.

The cumulative volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in this category rose to 619.8 thousand pounds in 2007, the year before hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Volume decreased to 548.5 thousand pounds in the hurricane year of 2008 and 483.5 thousand pounds in 2009.

The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by finfish dealers in the “5,000-25,000 pounds” category rose from \$348.7 thousand in 2000 to \$472.0 thousand pounds in 2004. The dockside value for this category decreased over the succeeding two years to \$341.6 thousand in 2005 and \$336.2 thousand in 2006. Dockside value rose to \$410.0 thousand in 2007 but then decreased again to \$361.8 thousand in the hurricane year of 2008 and \$335.7 thousand in 2009.

### **3.4 Dealers in the “25,000 – 100,000 Pounds” Category**

Freshwater finfish dealers in the “25,000 – 100,000 pounds” finfish volume purchased 11.1 percent of the total volume and 14.3 percent of the total dockside value of all freshwater finfish purchased by all freshwater finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009.

Freshwater finfish dealers in the “25,000 – 100,000 pounds” finfish volume category numbered 34 in 2001, 18 in 2002, 29 in 2003, and 26 in 2004 (Table 3.1). In the hurricane year of 2005, there were 34 freshwater finfish dealers in the “25,000 – 100,000 pound” finfish volume category. The count dropped to 21 in the hurricane year of 2008 and 18 in 2009.

The volume (Table 3.2) and dockside value (Table 3.3) of freshwater finfish in the “25,000-100,000 pound” category rose from 1.43 million pounds and \$576.4 thousand in 2000 to 903.6 thousand pounds and \$424.9 thousand in 2002 and then climbed to 1.27 million pounds and \$505.9 thousand in 2004. In the hurricane year of 2005, both volume and dockside value rose to 1.66 million pounds and \$711.4 thousand among dealers in this category. After 2005, volume and dockside value decreased to 1.16 million pounds and \$524.1 thousand dollars in 2007; 1.26 million pounds and 658.3 thousand in the hurricane year of 2008; and 895.5 thousand pounds and \$433.9 thousand in 2009.

### **3.5. Dealers in the “100,000 – 500,000 Pounds” Category**

Purchases of freshwater finfish by dealers in the “100,000 – 500,000 pounds” finfish volume represented 39.8 percent of the total volume and 39.1 percent of the total dockside value of all freshwater finfish purchased by all freshwater finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009.

The number of freshwater finfish dealers in the “100,000 – 500,000 pounds” finfish volume category ranged between 18 and 25 in the first five years of the study timeframe (Table 3.1). The number in 2005 and 2006 was slightly beneath this range: 17. Thereafter the number varied between 17 and 23.

The volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “100,000-500,000 pounds” category (Table 3.2) decreased from 6.91 million pounds in 2000 to 4.7 million pounds in 2003 and 2004. The volume among dealers in this category then declined to 3.96 million pounds in the hurricane year of 2005 and 3.72 million pounds in 2006. Volume rose to 5.08 million pounds in the hurricane year of 2008 but declined to 3.95 million pounds in 2009.

The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in this category (Table 3.3) fell from \$2.23 million in 2000 to \$1.38 million in 2003 and 2004 to \$1.06 million, a period low, in the hurricane year of 2005. Dockside value in 2007 at \$2.17 was near the period maximum. Dockside value among dealers in this category decreased to \$1.64 million in the hurricane year of 2008 and to \$1.20 million in 2009.

### **3.6. Dealers in the “More than 500,000 Pounds” Category**

Though few in number (eight or less in any year in the study timeframe), freshwater finfish dealers in the “more than 500,000 pounds” finfish volume category collectively purchased 43.5 percent of the total volume and 35.6 percent of the total dockside value of all freshwater finfish purchased by all freshwater finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009.

The volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in this category are presented only for 2001 through 2007. Because there were fewer than five active freshwater finfish dealers in this category in 2000, 2008, and 2009, this report does not present volume and value statistics for those years as a measure to protect the confidentiality of the source.

### **3.7. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value in Selected Finfish Volume Categories**

To gain an appreciation of changes in freshwater finfish dealer activity following hurricanes Katrina and Rita and hurricanes Gustav and Ike among dealers of different sizes, this section examines changes in the volume and dockside value among dealers in the two largest finfish volume categories: dealers in the “100,000 – 500,000 pounds” category and the “more than 500,000” pounds category. The percentage changes in the number of dealers are not presented because the number of dealers was relatively small. As a result, relatively modest changes in the absolute number of dealers could produce relatively large percentage changes in the number of active dealers.

Other finfish volume categories are excluded because they account for relatively small portions of total dealer purchases. Changes observed among these categories may not be representative of the broader freshwater finfish dealer sector.

**3.7.1. Percentage Changes in Volume and Dockside Value among Select Volume Categories Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Among dealers in the “100,000-500,000 pounds finfish volume category, the volume of freshwater finfish purchases following hurricanes Katrina and Rita was down 16.2 percent in 2005, 21.4 percent in 2006, and 9.7 percent in 2007 (Table 3.4) compared to the 2004 volume of freshwater finfish. Dockside value (Table 3.5) among dealers in the “100,000-500,000 pounds” category was down 22.8 percent, 13.1 percent, and 57.9 percent relative to the 2004 level.

**Table 3.4. Change in the Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the 100,000-500,000 Pounds Finfish Volume Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-8.4%	<b>-23.3%</b>	<b>-28.0%</b>	<b>-17.3%</b>	-1.7%	-23.6%
	2004		<b>-16.2%</b>	<b>-21.4%</b>	<b>-9.7%</b>	+7.4%	-16.5%
	2005			-6.2%	+7.8%	+28.2%	-0.4%
	2006				+14.9%	+36.6%	+6.2%
	2007					<b>+18.9%</b>	<b>-7.6%</b>
	2008						<b>-22.3%</b>

**Table 3.5. Change in the Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the 100,000-500,000 Pounds Finfish Volume Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Dockside Value in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-14.1%	<b>-33.7%</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>+35.6%</b>	+1.1%	-24.9%
	2004		<b>-22.8%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>+57.9%</b>	+17.7%	-12.5%
	2005			+46.5%	+104.5%	+52.5%	13.3%
	2006				+39.6%	+4.1%	-22.6%
	2007					<b>-25.4%</b>	<b>-44.6%</b>
	2008						<b>-25.7%</b>

The volume (Table 3.6) and dockside value (Table 3.7) of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “more than 500,000 pounds” category increased for three consecutive years following hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Compared to the volume in 2004, volume was 6.3 percent higher in the hurricane year of 2005, 17.1 percent higher in 2006, and 18.7 percent higher in 2007. The dockside value of freshwater finfish among dealers in this category was 8.6 percent higher than 2004 dockside value in 2005, 24.0 percent higher in 2006, and 27.0 percent higher in 2007. The dockside value of freshwater finfish among dealers in this category was 8.6 percent higher than 2004 dockside value in 2005, 24.0 percent higher in 2006, and 27.0 percent higher in 2007.

**Table 3.6. Change in the Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the More than 500,000 Pounds Volume Finfish Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+4.6%	<b>+11.2%</b>	<b>+22.6%</b>	<b>+24.1%</b>	-6.8%	-1.6%
	2004		<b>+6.3%</b>	<b>+17.1%</b>	<b>+18.7%</b>	-10.9%	-6.0%
	2005			+10.2%	+11.7%	-16.2%	-11.5%
	2006				+1.3%	-23.9%	-19.7%
	2007					<b>-24.9%</b>	<b>-20.7%</b>
	2008						<b>5.6%</b>

**Table 3.7. Change in the Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the More than 500,000 Pound Finfish Volume Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Dockside Value in Various Base Years**

		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+15.2%	<b>+25.1%</b>	<b>+42.9%</b>	<b>+46.4%</b>	2.4%	-15.1%
	2004		<b>+8.6%</b>	<b>+24.0%</b>	<b>+27.0%</b>	-11.1%	-26.3%
	2005			+14.2%	+17.0%	-18.2%	-32.1%
	2006				+2.4%	-28.4%	-40.6%
	2007					<b>-30.0%</b>	<b>-42.0%</b>
	2008						<b>-17.1%</b>

### **3.7.2. Percentage Changes in Volume and Dockside Value among Select Volume Categories Following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike**

Following hurricanes Gustav and Ike, volume among dealers in the “100,000-500,000 pounds” finfish volume category in the hurricane year of 2008 was 18.9 percent above the volume of 2007, the year before the hurricanes (Table 3.4). In the following year, volume among those in this category was 7.6 percent less than the 2007 volume. The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the

“100,000-500,000 pounds” category in 2008 and 2009 were 25.4 percent and 44.6 percent less than the dockside value among dealers in this category in 2007 (Table 3.5).

Among dealers in the “more than 500,000 pounds” category, both volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish were down relative to 2007 measures. The volume of freshwater finfish among dealers in the “more than 500,000 pounds” category in 2009 was 24.9 percent less than the volume in 2007. The volume in 2009 was 20.7 percent less than the volume in 2007.

Similarly, the dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the “more than 500,000 pounds” category in 2008 was 30.0 percent less and dockside value in 2009 was 42.0 percent less than the 2007 dockside value.



**Chapter 4.**  
**Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers by Commercial Seafood Dealer License Category**

**4.1. Introduction**

This chapter will examine the participation and activity of active freshwater finfish dealers in three specific categories of commercial seafood dealer licenses: active resident business freshwater finfish dealers, active resident vehicle freshwater finfish dealers, and active resident vehicle freshwater finfish dealers (Table 4.1). Active freshwater finfish dealers holding other types of commercial seafood licenses will not be examined because the number of individuals and businesses in those individual license categories was often too few to facilitate the public disclosure while maintaining confidentiality standards.

**Table 4.1. Definition of Various Types of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers**

Active Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealer	An individual or business that held a resident wholesale/retail dealer – business license and reported buying at least one pound of freshwater finfish directly from a commercial fishermen on trip ticket reports in a particular year
Active Resident Vehicle Freshwater Finfish Dealer	An individual or business that held a resident wholesale/retail dealer – vehicle license and reported buying at least one pound of freshwater finfish directly from a commercial fishermen on trip ticket reports in a particular year
Active Resident Fresh Products Freshwater Finfish Dealer	An individual or business that held a resident fresh products dealer license and reported buying at least one pound of freshwater finfish directly from a commercial fishermen on trip ticket reports in a particular year

**4.2. Active Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealers**

Resident business freshwater finfish dealers purchased 93.4 percent of the volume of all freshwater finfish purchased by all finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009. Resident business freshwater finfish dealers were more numerous than any other type of freshwater finfish dealer in every year during the study timeframe.

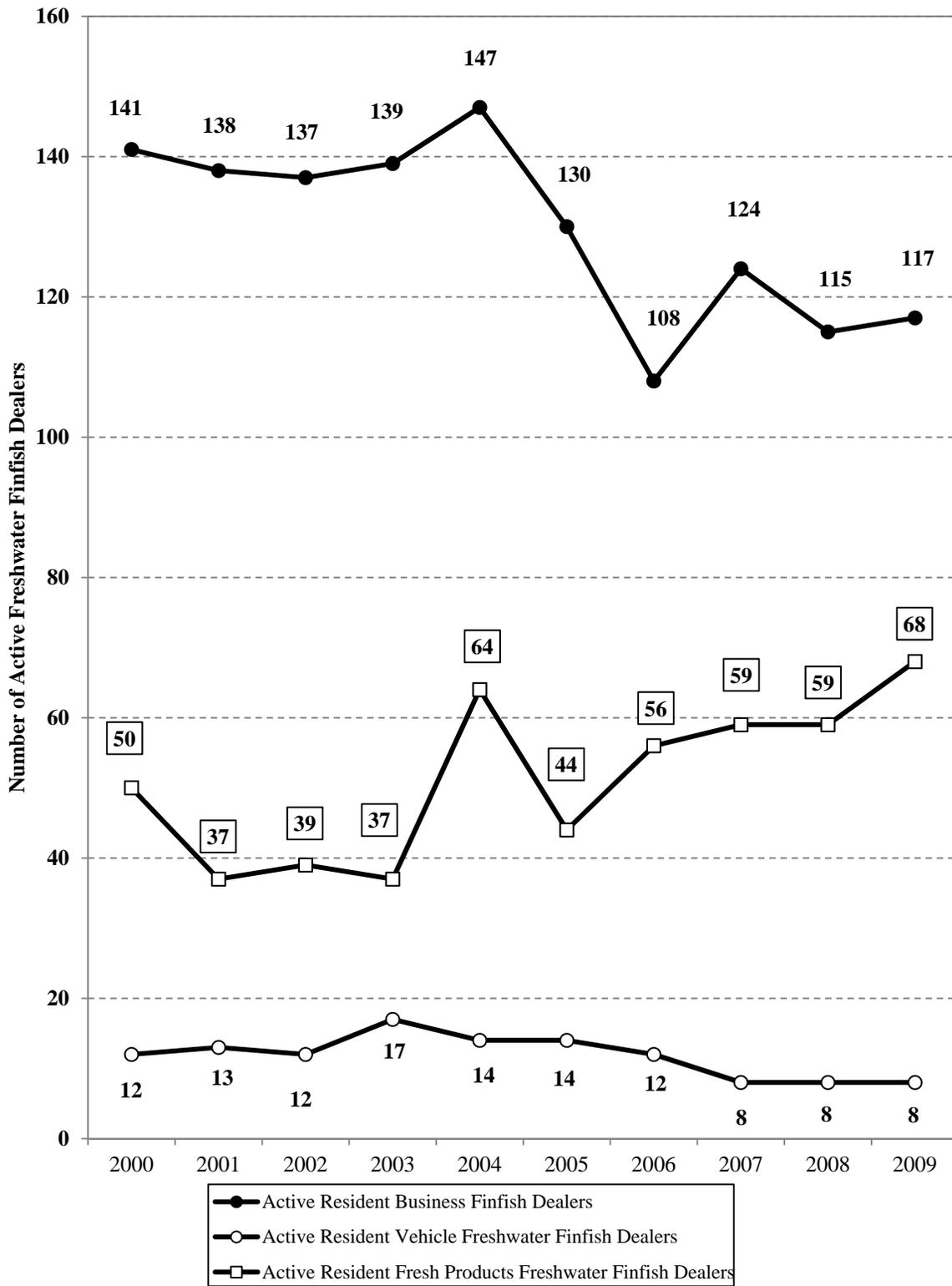
Active resident business freshwater finfish dealers numbered around 140 in each of five year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Figure 4.1). The number dropped to 130 in the hurricane year of 2005 and to 108 (a period minimum) in the following year. Though the number of active business freshwater finfish increased in the following three years, the count did not reach pre-hurricane levels.

The volume of freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by resident business freshwater finfish dealers (Figure 4.2) fell from 12.3 million pounds in 2001 to 10.4 million pounds in 2003. Volume remained fairly stable for the remaining four years even as hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit the state and the number of active dealers in this category dropped. In 2007 volume was 11.4 million and dropped to a period minimum of 9.5 million pounds in 2009.

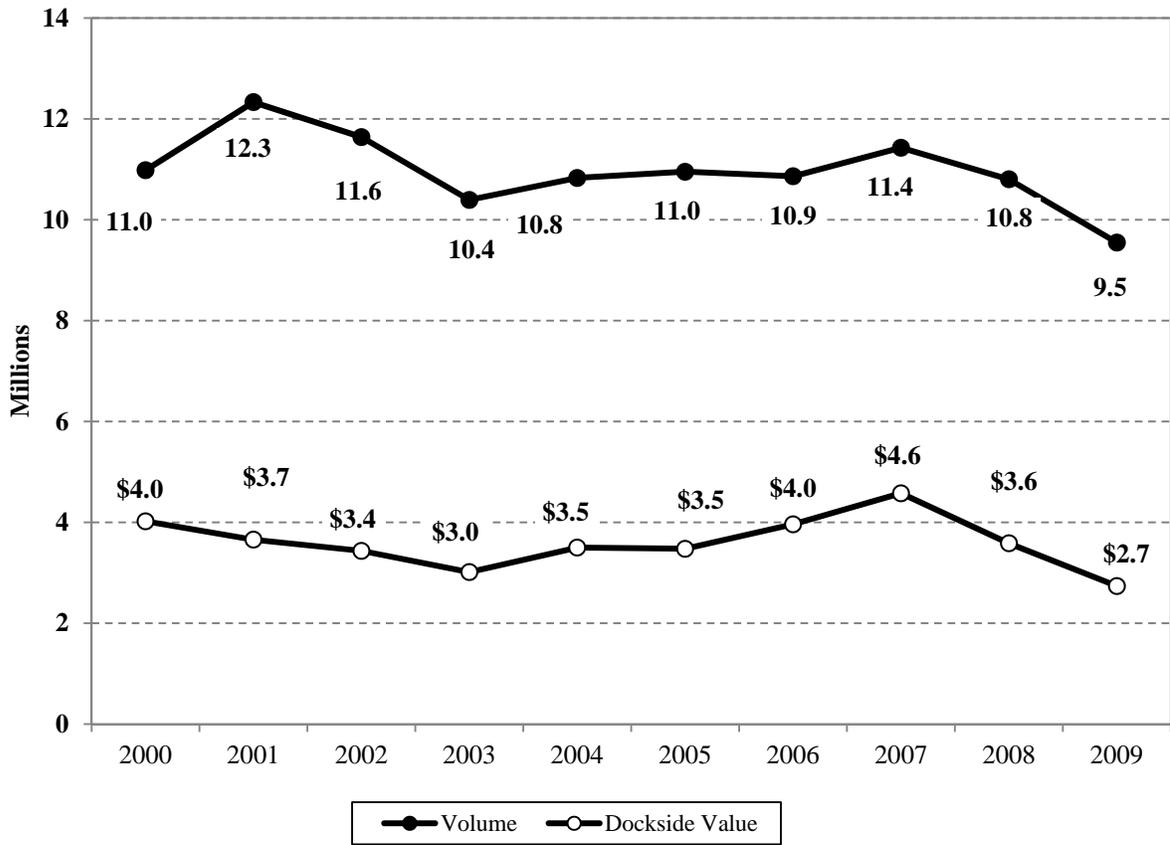
The dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by resident business freshwater finfish dealers (Figure 4.2) declined moderately from \$4.0 million in 2000 to \$3.5 million in 2004 and 2005. Dockside value increased to \$4.6 million in 2006 and \$4.7 million in 2007. The dockside value of freshwater finfish bought by resident business dealers in Louisiana decreased to a period minimum of \$2.7 million in 2009.

#### **4.3. Active Resident Vehicle Freshwater Finfish Dealers**

Active resident vehicle freshwater finfish dealers purchased 4.4 percent of the total volume of freshwater finfish purchased by all active freshwater finfish dealers from 2000 to 2009. The number of dealers in this category rose from 12 or 13 in the first three years of the study timeframe to 17 in 2003 (Figure 4.1). The count declined to 14 in 2004 and 2005, 12 in 2006, and eight in every year through the rest of the study timeframe.

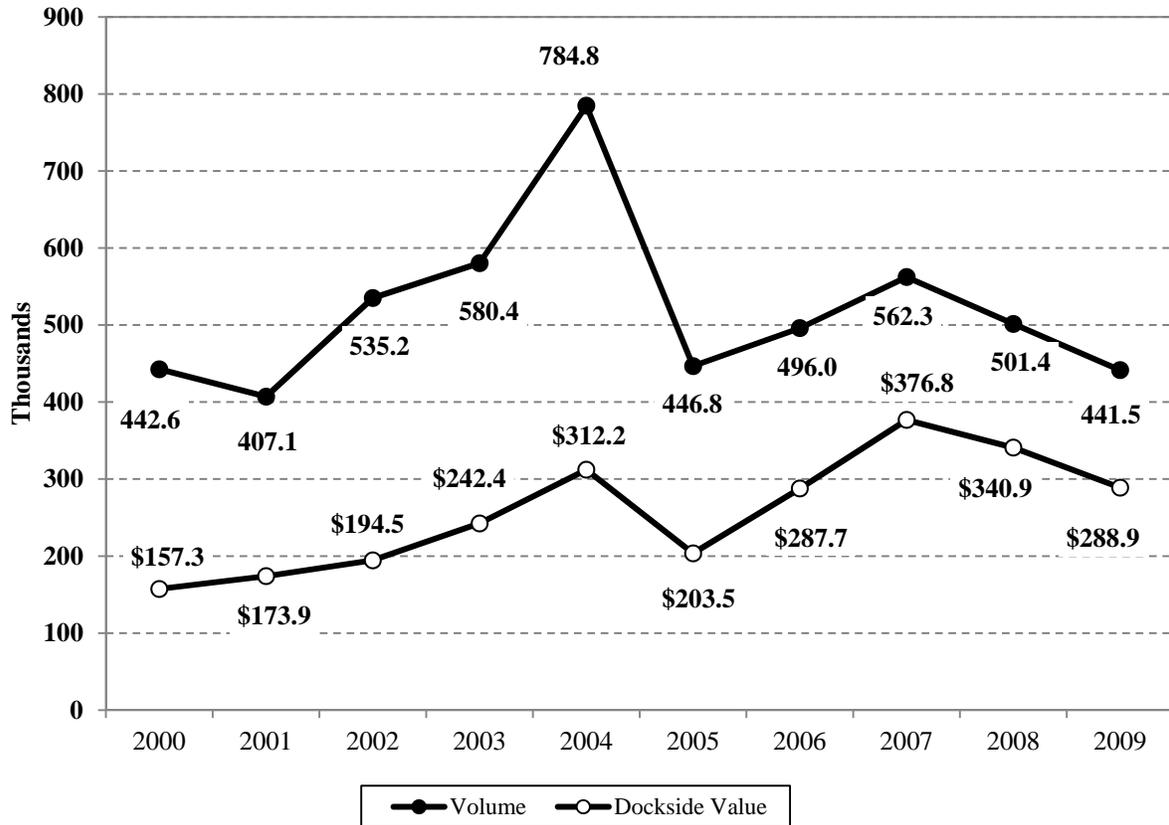


**Figure 4.1. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers by Seafood Dealer License Type, By Year: 2000-2009**



**Figure 4.2. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Active Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealers: 2000 - 2009**

The volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by resident vehicle freshwater finfish dealers rose from 442.6 thousand pounds and \$157.3 thousand to 784.6 thousand pounds and \$312.2 thousand pounds in 2004 (Figure 4.3). Volume dropped to 446.8 thousand pounds and \$203.5 thousand in the hurricane years of 2005. Volume rose to 562.3 thousand pounds and dockside value to \$376.8 thousand. Both measures dropped to 441.5 thousand pounds and \$288.9 thousand in 2009.



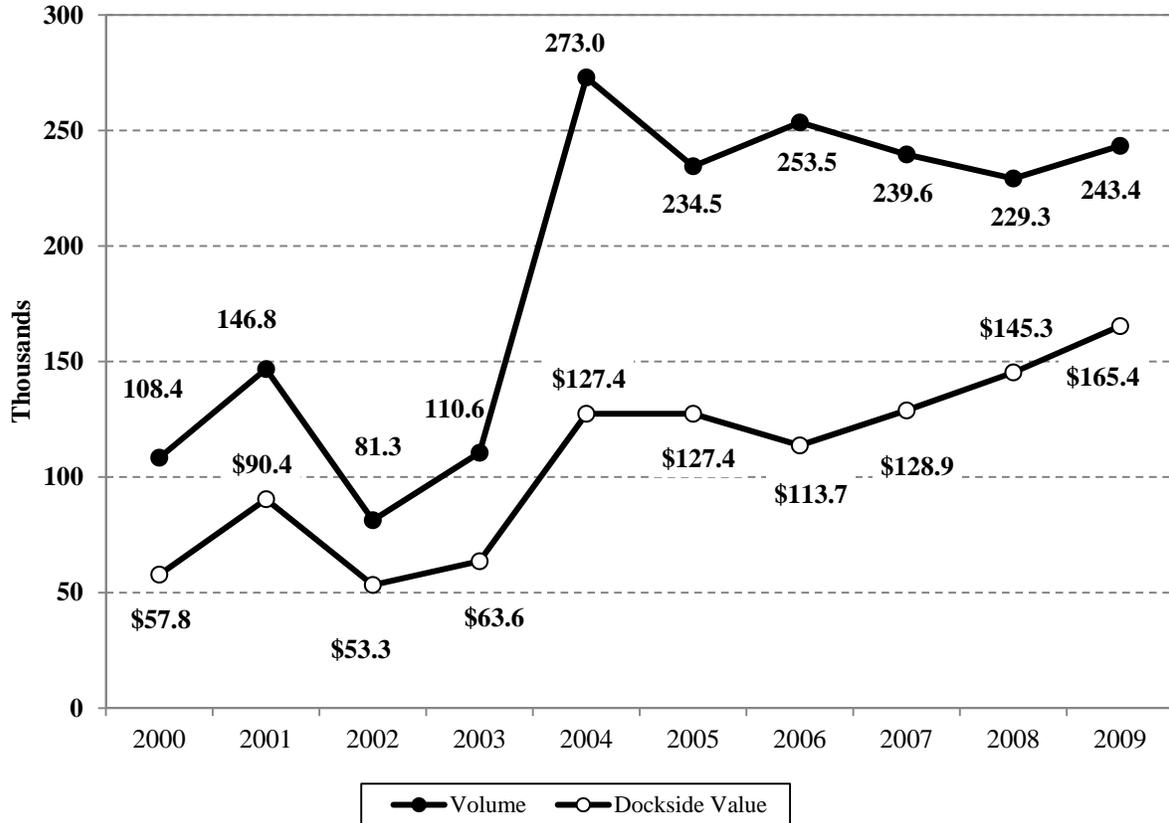
**Figure 4.3. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Active Resident Vehicle Freshwater Finfish Dealers, By Year: 2000 - 2009**

#### 4.4. Active Fresh Products Freshwater Finfish Dealers

Active resident fresh products freshwater finfish dealers purchased 1.6 percent of the total volume of all freshwater finfish bought by freshwater finfish dealers between 2000 and 2009. The number of active resident fresh products freshwater finfish dealers fluctuated from 50 in 2000 to 37 in 2003 to 64 in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Figure 4.1). The count dropped to 44 in the hurricane year of 2005 and subsequently increased to 56 in 2006 and 68 at the end of the study timeframe.

The volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by resident fresh products freshwater finfish dealers from commercial fishermen varied throughout the study timeframe (Figure 4.4).

Between 2003 and 2004, volume and dockside value increased to 273.0 thousand pounds and \$127.4



**Figure 4.4. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Active Resident Fresh Products Freshwater Finfish Dealers, By Year: 2000 - 2009**

thousand from 110.6 thousand pounds and \$63.6 thousand in the previous year. In the hurricane year of 2005, volume of freshwater finfish dropped to 234.6 thousand pounds and dockside value remained constant at \$127.4 thousand. Volume varied over the next few years to 243.4 thousand pounds in 2009. Dockside value of freshwater finfish rose to a period maximum of \$165.4 thousand at the end of the study timeframe.

**4.5. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealer Category**

This section presents tables for considering the possible changes in dealer participation and activity only among resident business freshwater finfish dealers. Changes for dealers in other dealer license categories are not presented because they accounted for relatively small portions of the freshwater finfish dealer

sector. Changes observed for these categories may not be representative of broader changes reflecting the freshwater finfish dealer sector in general.

**4.5.1. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Category Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Following hurricanes Katina and Rita, the volume of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in the resident business dealer category were moderately higher than the volume purchased in 2004 (Table 4.3):

1.1 percent higher in 2005, 0.3 percent higher in 2006, and 5.5 percent higher in 2007.

In the hurricane year of 2005, the dockside value of freshwater finfish was 0.7 percent less than the value purchased in 2004 (Table 4.4). Dockside values in 2006 and 2007 were 13.2 percent and 30.8 percent above the dockside value in 2004.

**Table 4.2. Change in the Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the Resident Business Dealer Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Number in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+4.7%	<b>-7.4%</b>	<b>-23.1%</b>	<b>-11.7%</b>	-18.1%	-16.7%
	2004		<b>-11.6%</b>	<b>-26.5%</b>	<b>-15.6%</b>	-21.8%	-20.4%
	2005			-16.9%	-4.6%	-11.5%	-10.0%
	2006				+14.8%	+6.5%	+8.3%
	2007					<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
	2008						<b>+1.7%</b>

**Table 4.3. Change in the Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealer Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-3.6%	<b>-2.5%</b>	<b>-3.3%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	-3.9%	-15.0%
	2004		<b>+1.1%</b>	<b>+0.3%</b>	<b>+5.5%</b>	-0.3%	-11.8%
	2005			-0.8%	+4.3%	-1.4%	-12.8%
	2006				+5.2%	-0.6%	-12.1%
	2007					<b>-5.5%</b>	<b>-16.5%</b>
	2008						<b>-11.6%</b>

**Table 4.4. Change in Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Dealer Category in Specified Year as a Percentage of Dockside Value in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-0.8%	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>+12.3%</b>	<b>+29.8%</b>	+1.6%	-22.4%
	2004		<b>-0.7%</b>	<b>+13.2%</b>	<b>+30.8%</b>	+2.4%	-21.8%
	2005			+14.0%	+31.7%	+3.1%	-21.2%
	2006				+15.6%	-9.5%	-30.9%
	2007					<b>-21.7%</b>	<b>-40.2%</b>
	2008						<b>-23.6%</b>

**4.5.2. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Category Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Following hurricanes Gustav and Ike, volume (Table 4.3) and dockside value (Table 4.4) in the hurricane year of 2008 were 5.5 percent and 21.7 percent less, respectively, than their corresponding measures in 2007 among resident business freshwater finfish dealers. In 2009, volume was 16.5 percent below the volume of 2007 and the dockside value was 40.2 percent less than the 2007 dockside value.

## **Chapter 5.**

### **Dealer Participation and Activity Related to Key Species or Types of Freshwater Finfish**

#### **5.1. Introduction**

Previous chapters of this report examined selected groups of commercial seafood dealers that purchased freshwater finfish, category that encompasses many different types or species of finfish. Though analysis under this broad term may have illuminated some general trends, it was not able to examine changes in participation, volume, and dockside value peculiar to particular types or species.

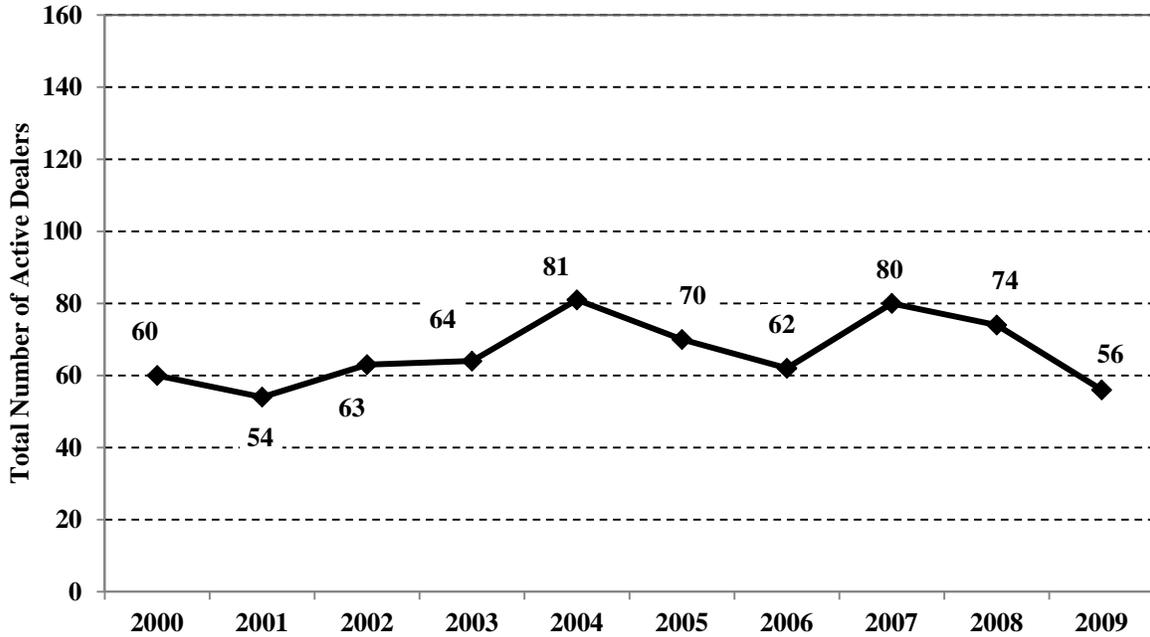
This chapter examines the volume and dockside value of four key species of freshwater finfish: buffalofish, blue catfish, channel catfish, and alligator gar. These four species collectively account for 69.2 percent of the volume and 78.8 percent of the dockside value) of all freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in Louisiana from 2000 to 2009.

#### **5.2. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Purchasing Buffalofish**

The volume of buffalofish purchased by dealers was higher than the volume of any of the three other specific species examined here in nine of the 10 years in the study timeframe. The volume of this species averaged 3.28 million pounds per year.

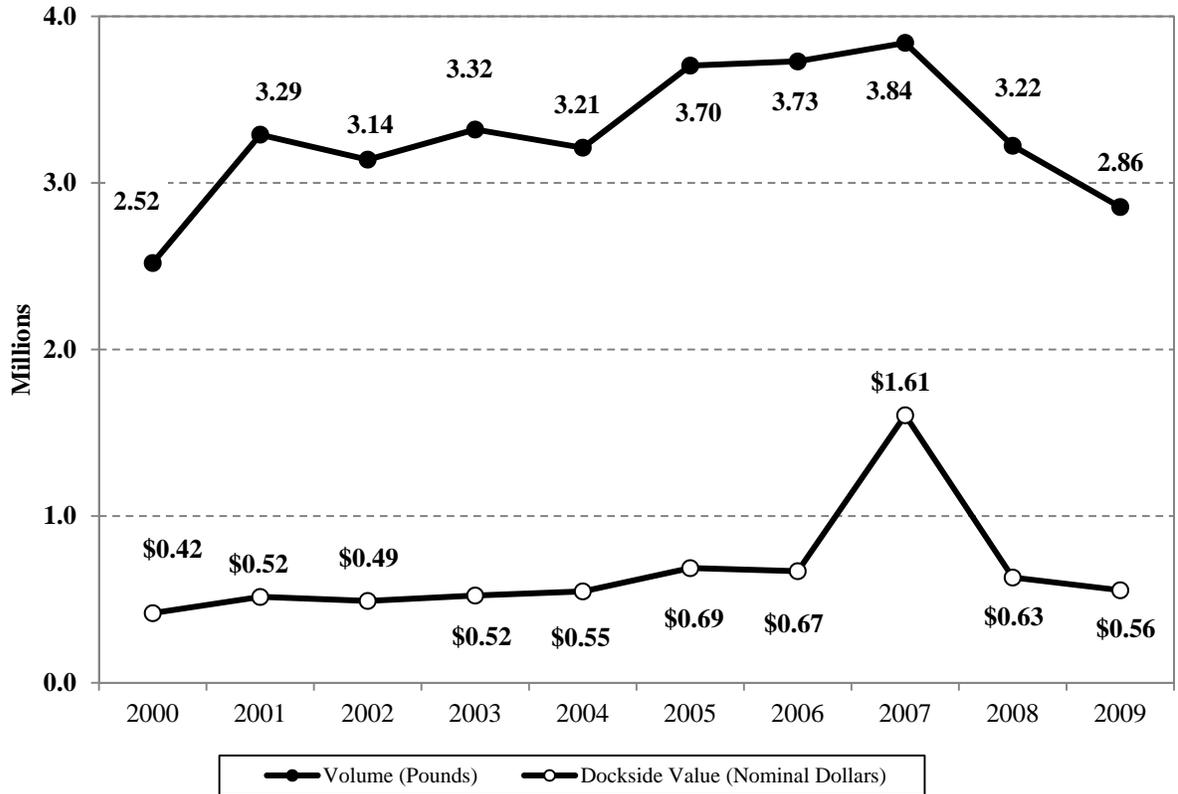
The number of freshwater finfish reported purchases of buffalofish directly from commercial fishermen in Louisiana (Figure 5.1) climbed from 60 in 2000 to 81 in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The count dropped to 70 in the hurricane year of 2005 and to 62 in 2006. The number rose to 80 in 2007 but decreased to 74 in the hurricane year of 2008 and to 56 in 2009.

The volume of buffalofish purchased by freshwater finfish dealers directly from commercial fishermen (Figure 5.2) increased over the first eight year of the study timeframe from 2.52 million pounds in 2000 to 3.70 million pounds in the hurricane year of 2005 and 3.84 million pounds in 2007. Volume decreased to 3.22 million pounds in the hurricane year of 2008 and 2.86 million pounds in 2009.

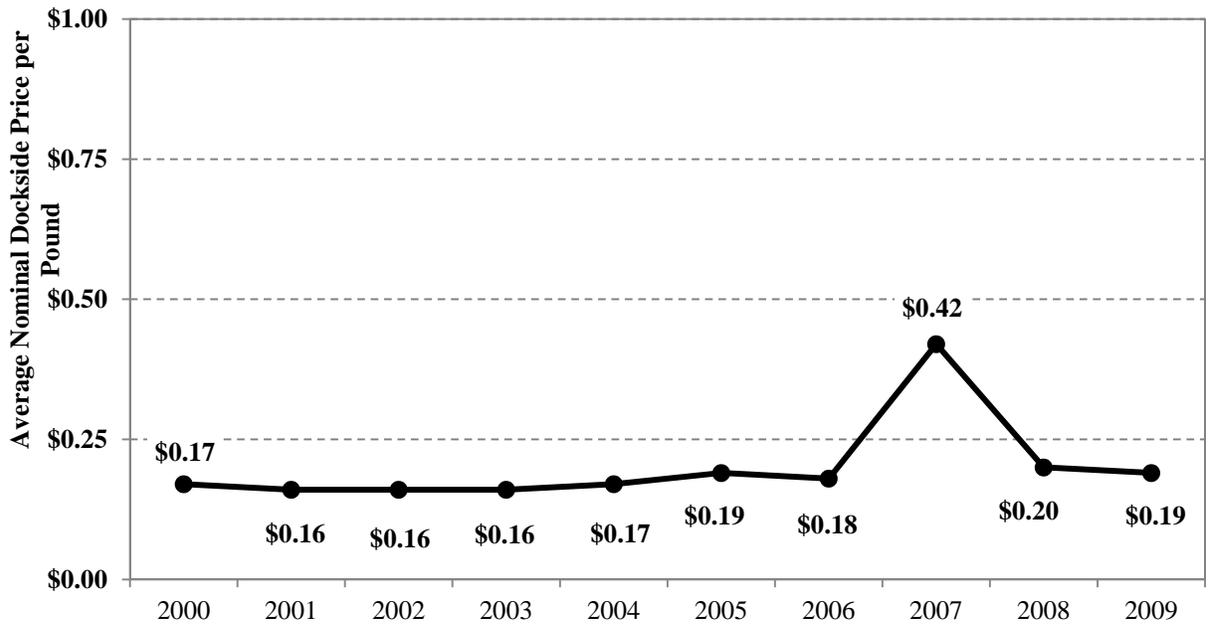


**Figure 5.1. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reporting Buffalofish Purchases, By Year: 2000-2009**

The dockside value of buffalofish purchased by freshwater finfish dealers (Figure 5.2) rose moderately from \$418 thousand in 2000 to \$669 thousand in 2006. Dockside value spiked upward to \$1.61 million in 2007 but then dropped to \$632 thousand in 2008 and \$555 thousand in 2009. Average dockside price per pound (Figure 5.3) was relatively stable at \$0.16 per pound to \$0.19 per pound from 2000 to 2006, jumped to \$0.42 per pound in 2007, and then declined to \$0.20 per pound in 2008 and \$0.19 per pound in 2009.



**Figure 5.2. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Buffalofish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**



**Figure 5.3. Average Dockside Price per Pound for Buffalofish Purchased by Seafood Dealers in Louisiana According to the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

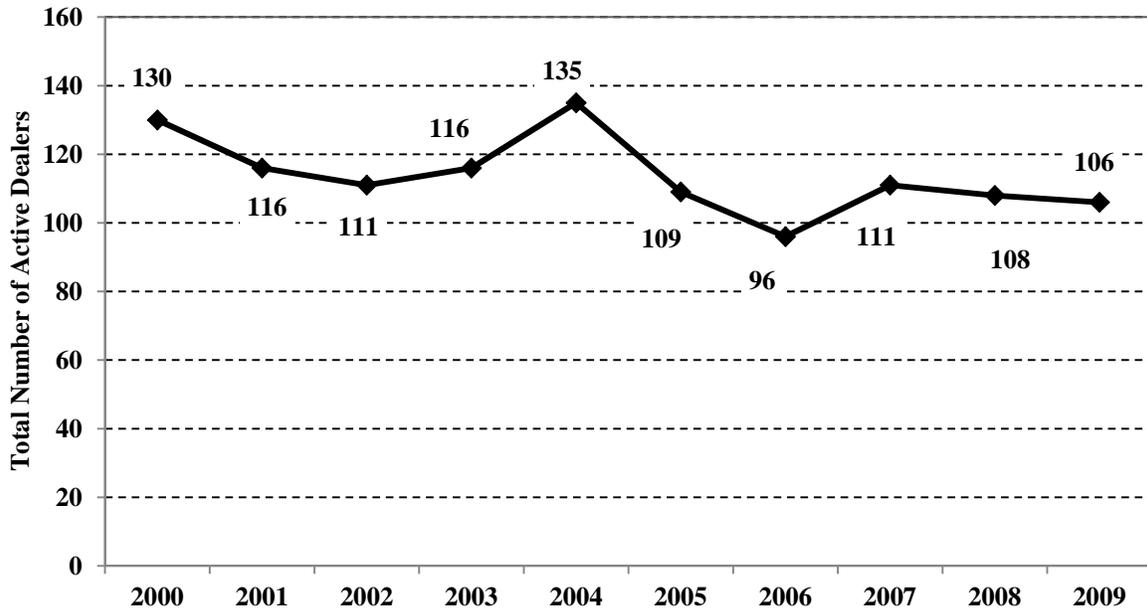
### **5.3. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Purchasing Blue Catfish**

The average volume of blue catfish purchased by freshwater finfish dealers directly from commercial fishermen in Louisiana was 3.21 million pounds per year, second highest among the individual freshwater finfish species specified in this report.

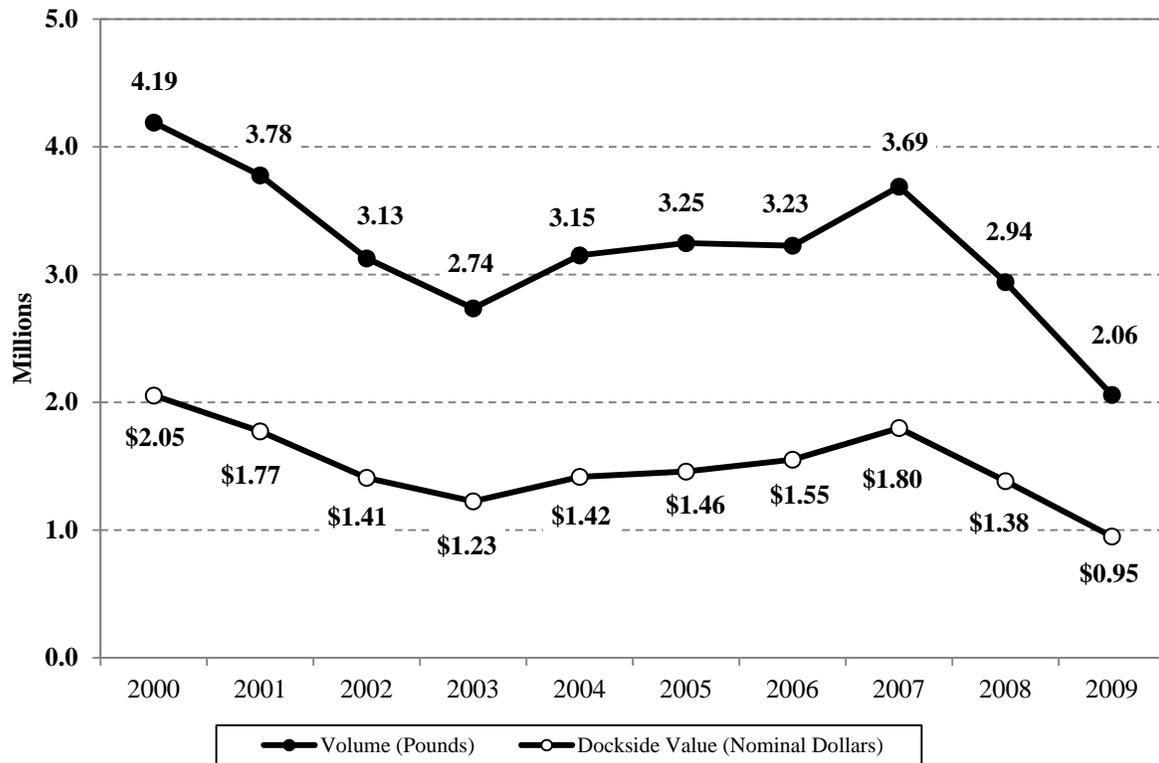
In the portion of the study timeframe before hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the number of active freshwater finfish dealers that reported purchases of blue catfish (Figure 5.4) decreased from 130 in 2000 to 111 in 2002 and then increased to a period maximum of 135 in 2004. The number dropped by nearly 20 percent to 109 in the hurricane year of 2005 and then dropped to a period minimum of 96 in 2006. The number rose to 111 in 2007 and remained below pre-hurricane levels throughout the remainder of the study timeframe, reaching 106 in 2009.

The volume and dockside value of blue catfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by freshwater finfish dealers in Louisiana decreased from 4.19 million pounds and \$2.05 million in 2000 to 2.74 million pounds and \$1.23 million in 2003 (Figure 5.5). Both measures increased over the next four years, reaching 3.25 million pounds and \$1.46 million in the hurricane year of 2005 and 3.69 million pounds and \$1.80 million in 2007. Volume and dockside value decreased to 2.94 million pounds and \$1.38 million in the hurricane year of 2008 and 2.06 million pounds and 950 thousand in 2009.

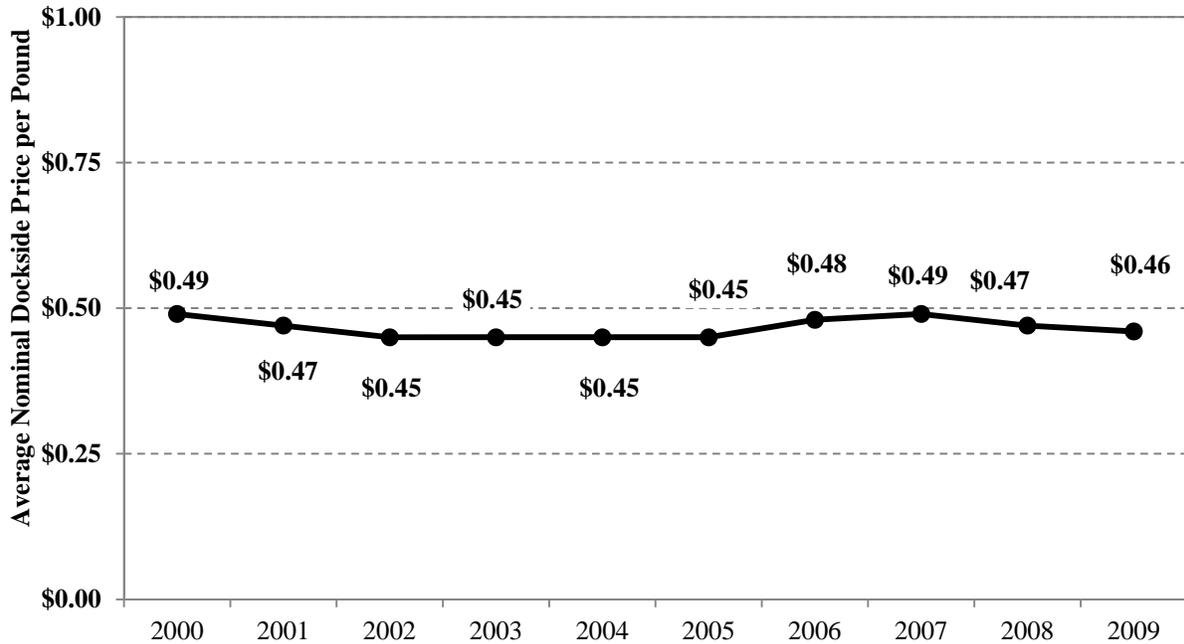
The average dockside price per pound paid by dealers for blue catfish was fairly stable throughout the study timeframe (Figure 5.6), varying between \$0.45 per pound and \$0.49 per pound.



**Figure 5.4. Number of Active Finfish Dealers Reporting Blue Catfish Purchases, By Year: 2000-2009**



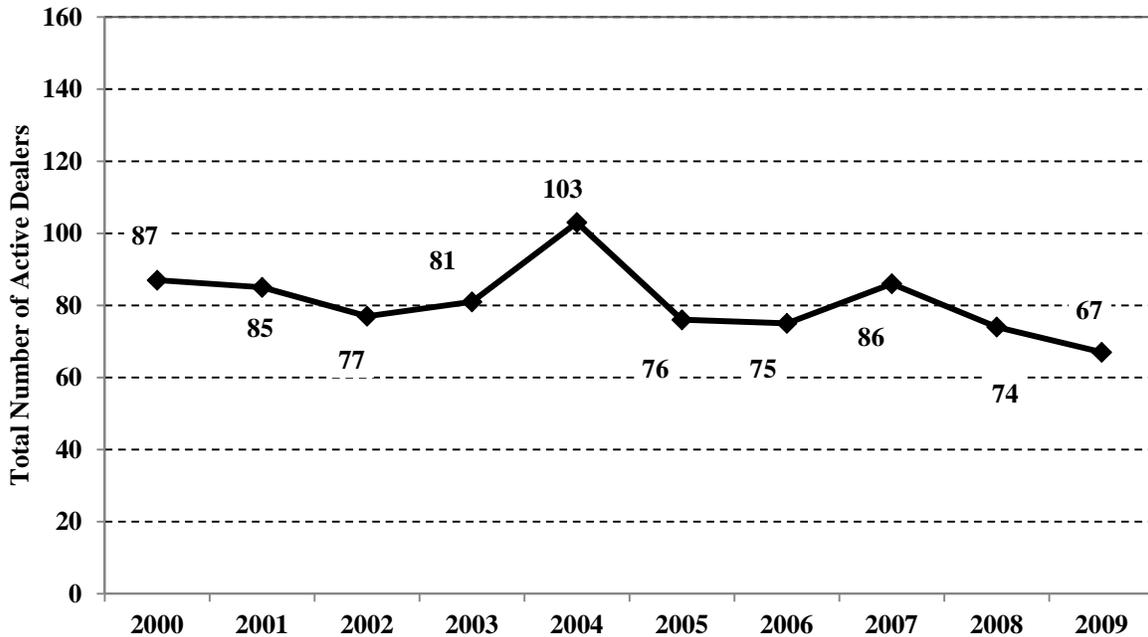
**Figure 5.5. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Blue Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**



**Figure 5.6. Average Dockside Price per Pound for Blue Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Louisiana According to the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

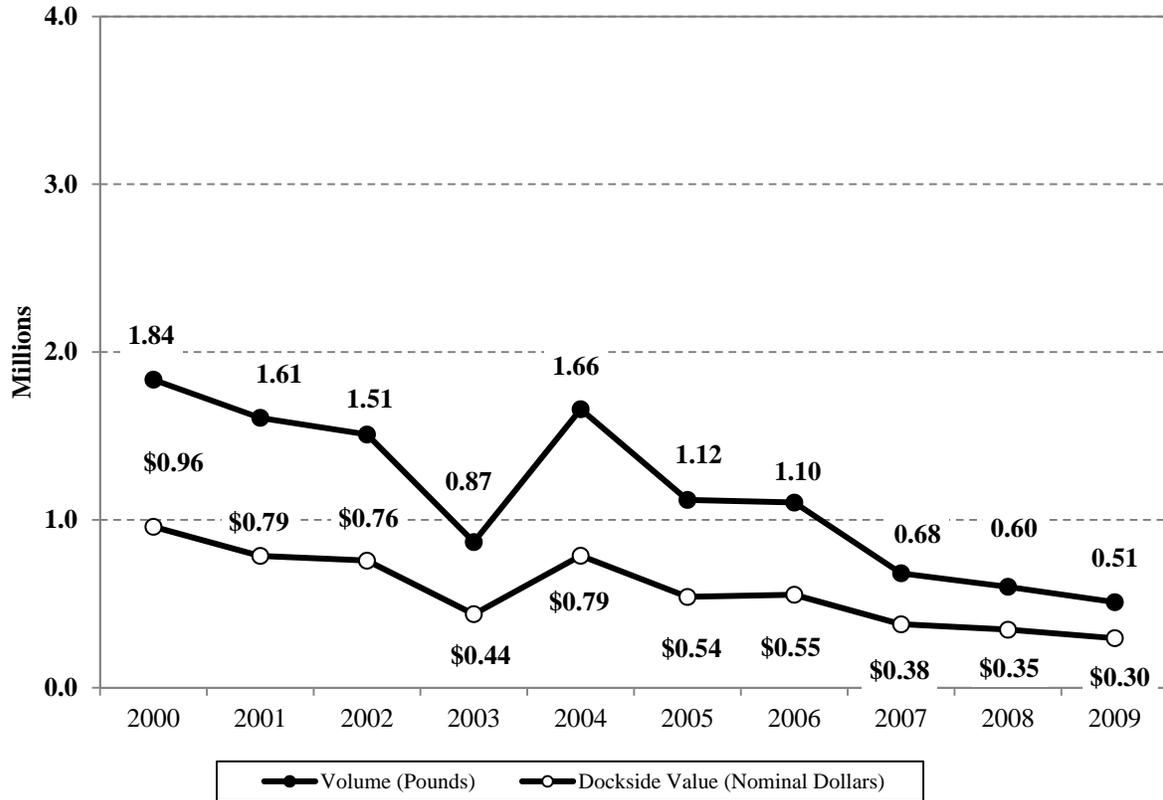
#### **5.4. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Purchasing Channel Catfish**

The average volume of channel catfish purchased from commercial fishermen by freshwater finfish dealers in Louisiana was 1.15 million pounds per year, third among the individual freshwater finfish species examined individually in this report. The number of freshwater finfish dealers reporting purchases of channel catfish (Figure 5.7) dropped from 87 in 2000 to 77 in 2002 and then climbed to a period high of 103 in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The number of such dealers decreased to 76 in the hurricane year of 2005 and 75 in 2006. The number increased by 10 to 86 in 2007 but decreased to 74 in the hurricane year of 2008 and to a period low of 67 in 2009.

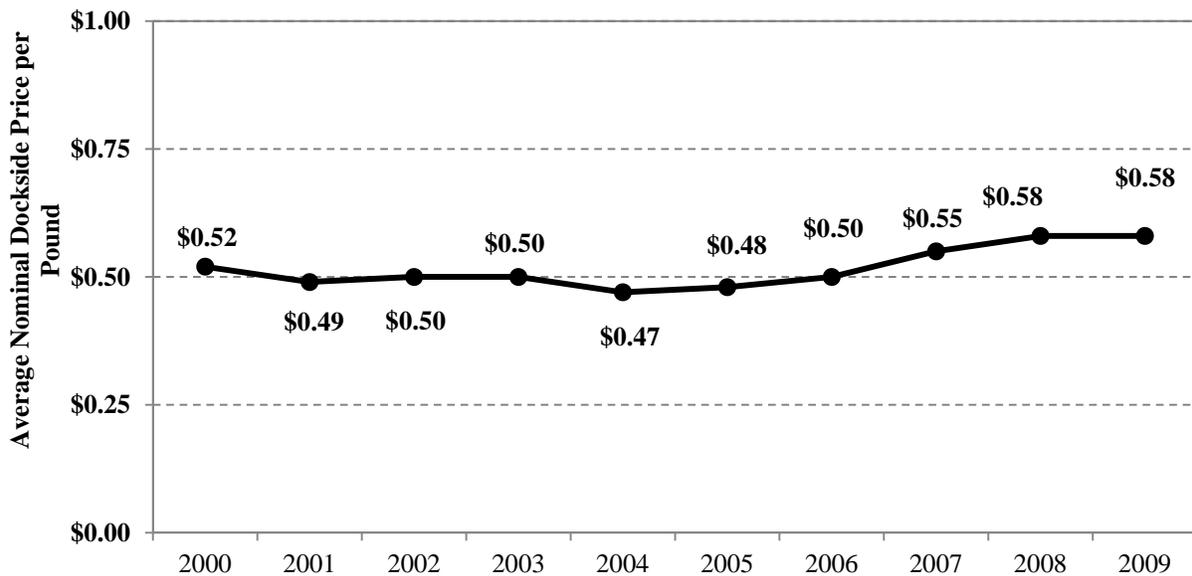


**Figure 5.7. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reporting Channel Catfish Purchases, By Year: 2000-2009**

The volume and dockside value of channel catfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by freshwater finfish in Louisiana (Figure 5.8) decreased from 1.84 million pounds and \$959 thousand in 2000 to 869 thousand pounds and \$439 thousand in 2003 but then increased to 1.66 million pounds and \$787 thousand in 2004. The volume and dockside value of channel catfish then declined to 1.20 million pounds and \$541 thousand in the hurricane year of 2005, 1.10 million pounds and \$554 thousand in 2006, and 510 thousand pounds and \$295 thousand in 2009. The average dockside price paid by freshwater finfish dealers for channel catfish (Figure 5.9) decreased from \$0.52 per pound in 2000 to \$0.47 per pound in 2004. For the remainder of the study timeframe, average dockside price per pound rose from \$0.48 per pound in 2005 to \$0.58 per pound in 2009.



**Figure 5.8. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Channel Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**



**Figure 5.9. Average Nominal Price per Pound for Channel Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Dealers, By Year: 2000-2009**

### 5.5. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Purchasing Alligator Gar

The number of freshwater finfish dealers that reported purchases of alligator gar directly from commercial fishermen in Louisiana decreased from 66 in 2000 to 51 in 2005, 46 in the hurricane year of 2005, and 34 in 2006 (Figure 5.10). The count gradually increased to 48 in 2009. Freshwater finfish dealers purchased an average of 515 thousand pounds of alligator gar per year.

The volume of alligator gar purchased directly from commercial fishermen by freshwater finfish dealers in Louisiana increased from 475 thousand pounds to 656 thousand pounds in 2003. Dockside value rose from \$389 thousand in 2000 to \$493 thousand in 2004 (Figure 5.11). In the hurricane year of 2005, volume and dockside value decreased to period minima: 331 thousand pounds and \$239 thousand. Both measures increased over the next two years to 572 thousand pounds and \$492 thousand in 2007. Volume declined to 475 thousand pounds and dockside value to \$386 thousand in 2009.

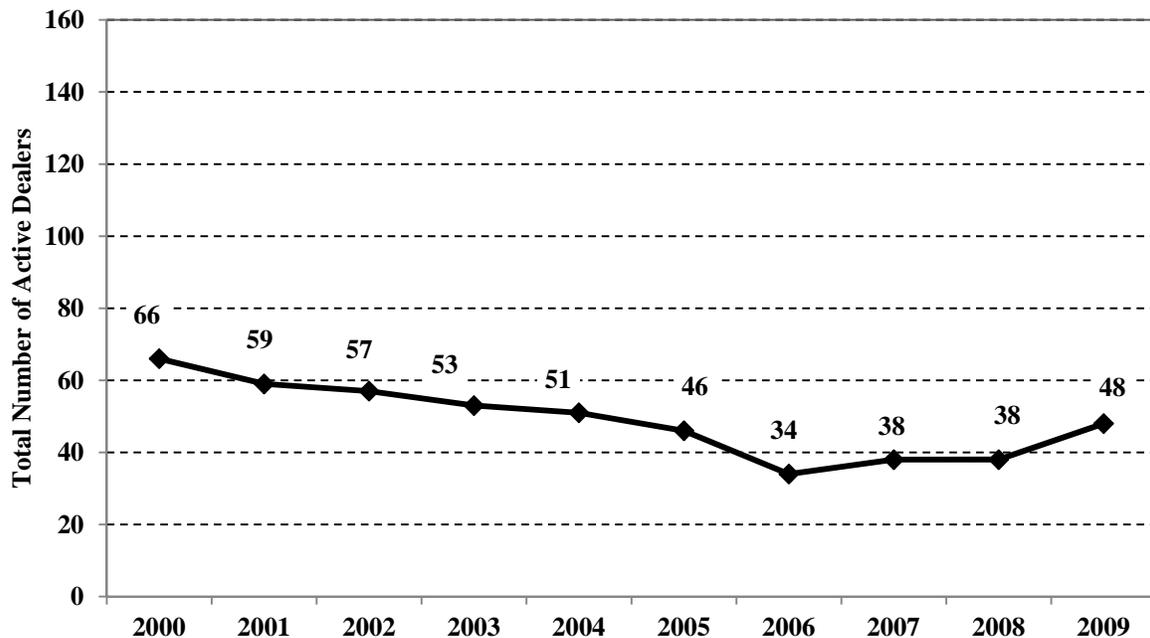
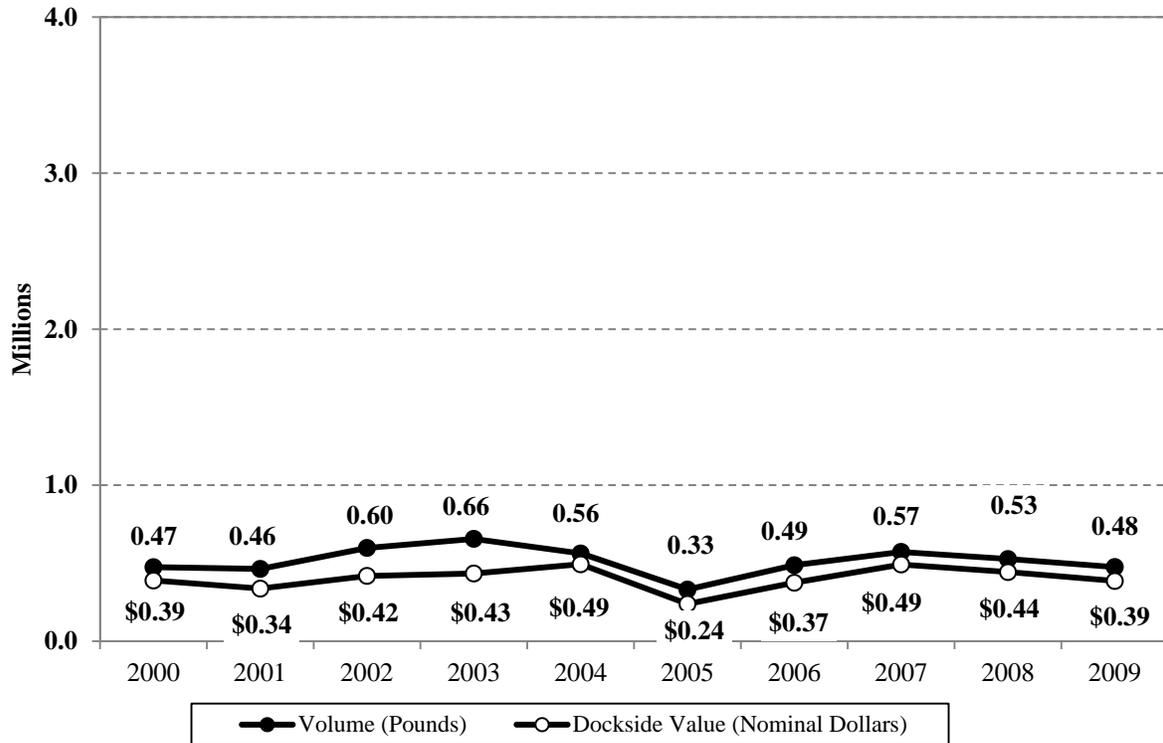
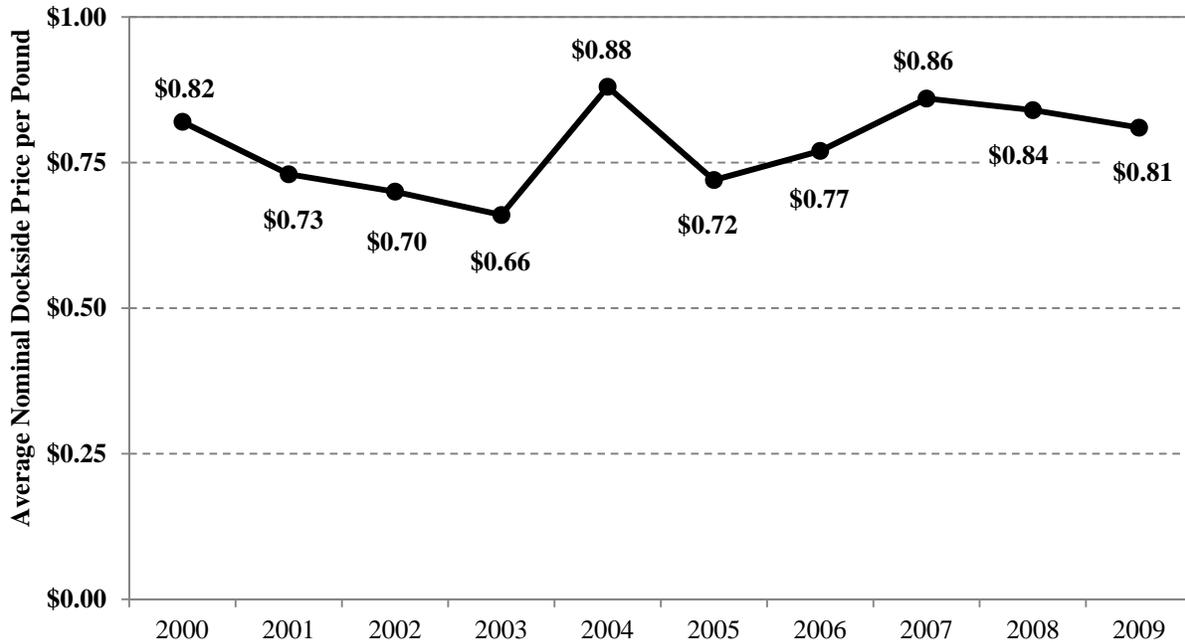


Figure 5.10. Number of Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reporting Alligator Gar Purchases, By Year: 2000-2009



**Figure 5.11. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Alligator Gar Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

The average dockside price per pound of alligator gar fluctuated through the study timeframe (Figure 5.12). The average dockside price per pound that freshwater finfish dealers paid for alligator gar decreased from \$0.82 per pound in 2000 to \$0.66 per pound in 2003 and increased to \$0.88 per pound in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Average dockside price per pound dropped to \$0.72 per pound in the hurricane year of 2005. The average price per pound rose to \$0.86 per pound in 2007 and decreased to \$0.81 per pound in 2009.



**Figure 5.12. Average Dockside Price per Pound for Alligator Gar Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Louisiana According to the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

#### 5.6. Volume and Value of Key Species as a Percentage of All Freshwater Finfish Purchases

The previous section examined the volume and dockside value of four key species of freshwater finfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by licensed commercial seafood dealers in Louisiana from 2000 to 2009. This section investigates changes in each of these key species' relative share of the total volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish purchased by dealers in every year within the 2000-2009 study timeframe.

The volume of buffalofish as a percentage of the volume of all freshwater finfish purchased from commercial fishermen by seafood dealers in Louisiana (Figure 5.13) increased from 21 percent in 2000 to 32 percent in 2005 and 2006 and decreased somewhat to 28 percent in 2009. At the same time, the percentage of the dockside value of this species of fish as a percentage of the dockside value of all freshwater fish (Figure 5.14) increased from 10 percent in 2000 to 18 percent in 2005 and 15 percent in

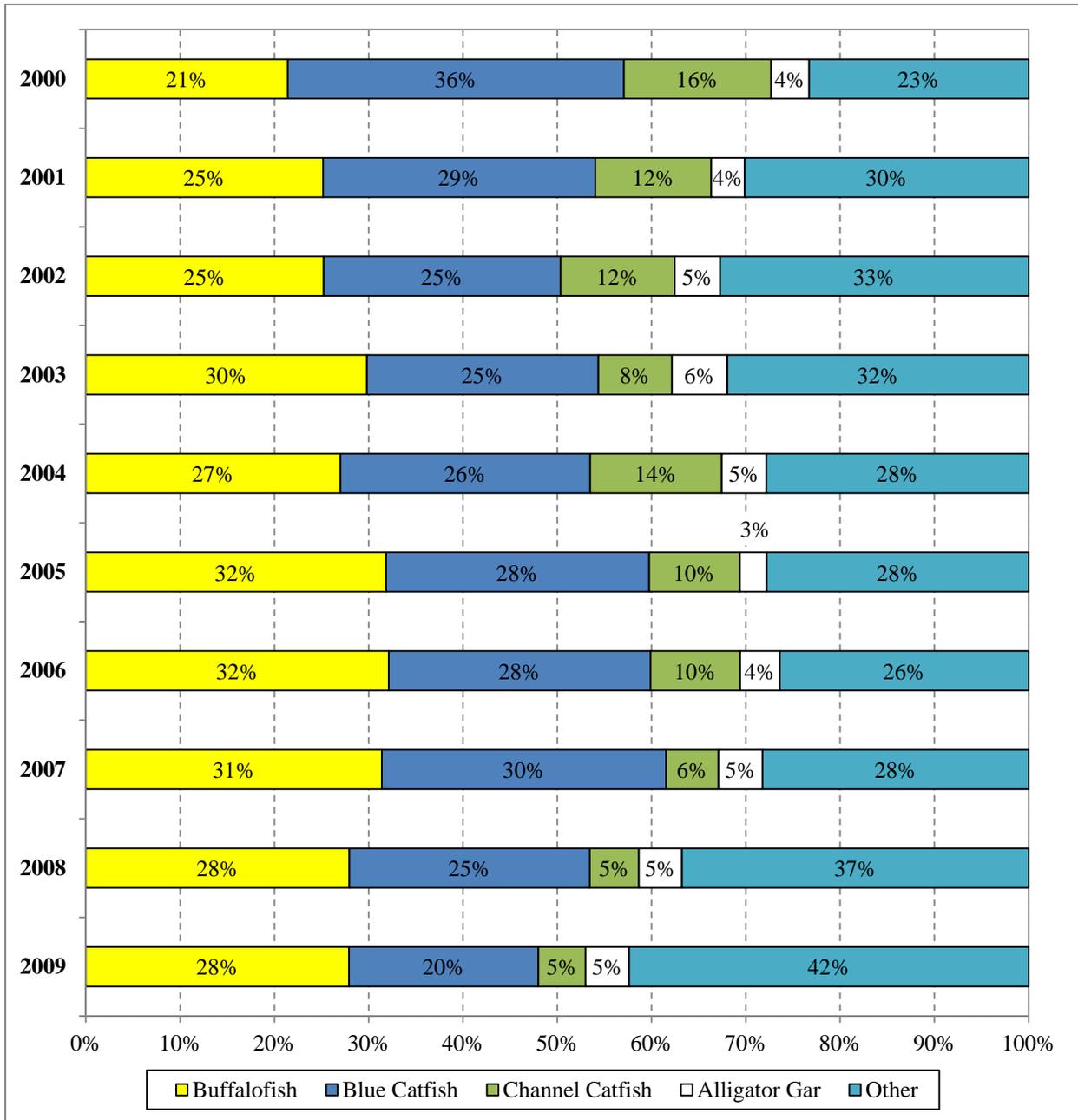
2006. The percentage share spiked to 31 percent of the value of all freshwater finfish in 2007 (when the price per pound rose to \$0.42 per pound) but then decreased to 17 percent in 2009.

The volume of blue catfish comprised 36 percent of the volume of all freshwater finfish in 2000, 28 percent in 2005, 25 percent in 2008, and 20 percent in 2009 (Figure 5.13). The dockside value of blue catfish as a percentage of the dockside value of all freshwater finfish (Figure 5.14) likewise decreased from 36 percent in 2000 to 28 percent in 2005 to 20 percent in 2009.

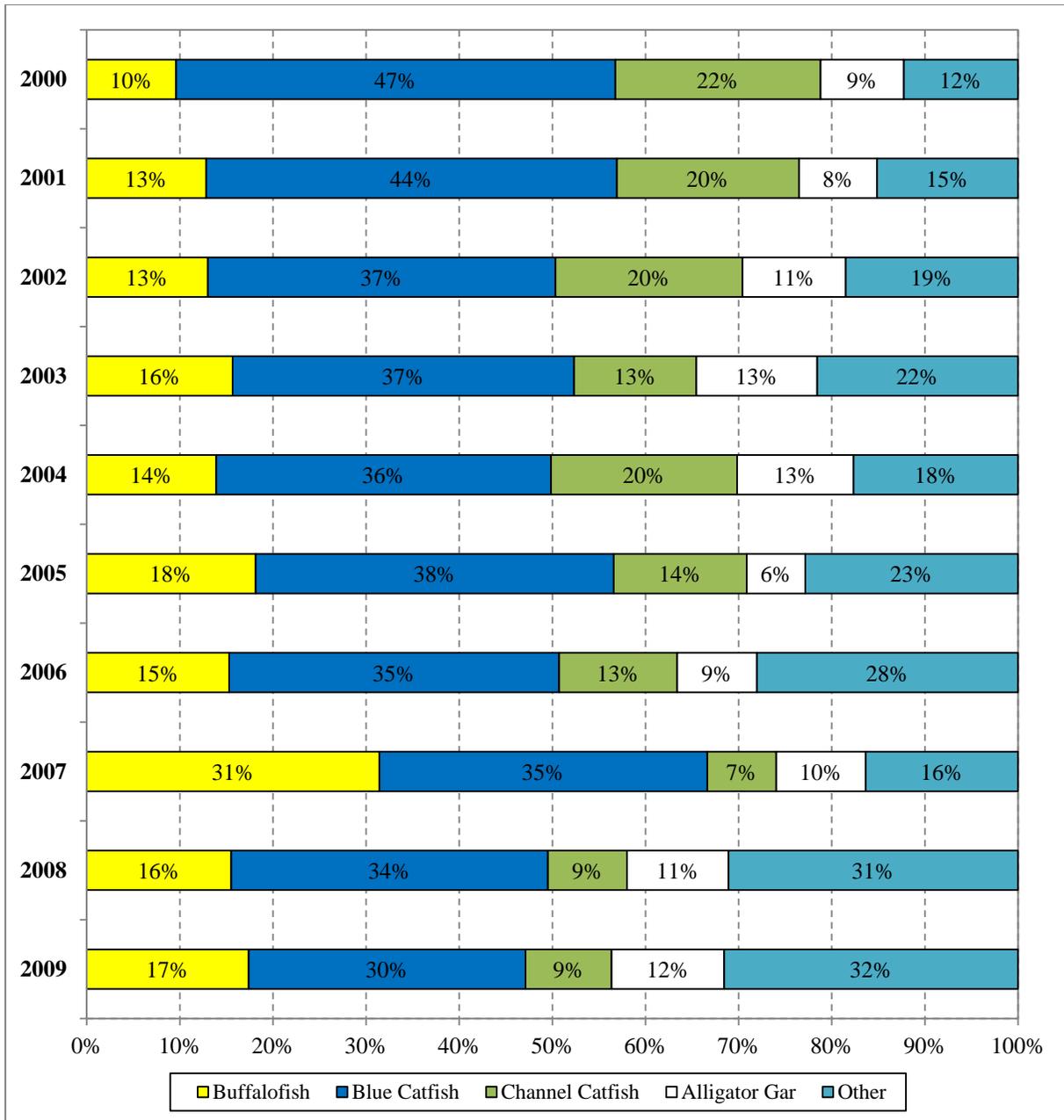
The volume of channel catfish accounted for 16 percent of the volume of all freshwater finfish in Louisiana in 2000, 10 percent in 2005, six percent in 2007, and five percent in 2008 and 2009 (Figure 5.13). The dockside value of channel catfish as a percentage of the dockside value of all freshwater finfish (Figure 5.14) decreased from 22 percent in 2000 to 14 percent in 2005 to nine percent in 2008 and in 2009.

The volume of alligator gar as a percentage of the volume of all freshwater finfish remained relative stable throughout the period. The dockside value of this species as a percentage of the dockside value of all freshwater finfish fluctuated from nine percent in 2000 up to 13 percent in 2004 down to nine percent in 2005, 11 percent in 2008, and 12 percent in 2009.

The volume and dockside value of other types of freshwater finfish (that is, all freshwater finfish other than buffalofish, blue catfish, channel catfish, and alligator gar) increased from 23 percent of the volume and 12 percent of the dockside value of all freshwater finfish in 2000 to 42 percent of the total volume and 32 percent of the total dockside value in 2009.



**Figure 5.13. Volume of Specific Types of Freshwater Finfish as a Percentage of the Total Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers, By Year: 2000 – 2009**



**Figure 5.14. Dockside Value of Specific Types of Freshwater Seafood as a Percentage of the Total Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers, By Year: 2000 - 2009**

### **5.7. Active Freshwater Finfish Dealers Purchasing Wild-Caught Crawfish**

This section examines the participation and activity of commercial seafood dealers that reported buying wild crawfish within the 2000-2009 study timeframe. Dealer activity for this type of freshwater crustacean species is included in this chapter (although it is not, of course, a freshwater finfish species) because it is a valuable seafood that is in some ways seen as emblematic of Louisiana with a dockside value that is frequently comparable to the dockside value of all freshwater finfish species combined. (Estimates of the volume and dockside value of freshwater finfish species previously examined in this chapter do not include wild crawfish.)

There are two general sources of crawfish harvests in Louisiana: farm-raised crawfish and wild-caught crawfish. Wild-caught crawfish, examined in this chapter, typically account for a relatively small portion of the total Louisiana crawfish harvest. About 12 percent of the volume of all crawfish in Louisiana in 2008, for example, was wild-caught (Isaacs and Lavergne, 2010).

The number of dealers buying crawfish and the volume and dockside value of the wild-caught crawfish that they purchased varied widely throughout the study timeframe. The number of dealers buying crawfish (Figure 5.15) varied from 30 in 2000 to 105 in 2002 to 85 in 2004, the year before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The count of dealers climbed to 104 in the hurricane year of 2005 but then dropped to 44 in 2006. The number buying crawfish subsequently climbed to 124 in 2007, 123 in 2008, and 128 in 2009.

In a similar manner, the volume and dockside value of wild-caught crawfish purchased directly from commercial fishermen by commercial seafood dealers in Louisiana (Figure 5.16) varied by millions of pounds and millions of dollars in the five-year period before hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In the hurricane year of 2005, the volume and dockside value of wild-caught crawfish (the bulk of which in a typical year normally takes place earlier than the month of September when the storms hit) were relatively high: 15.16

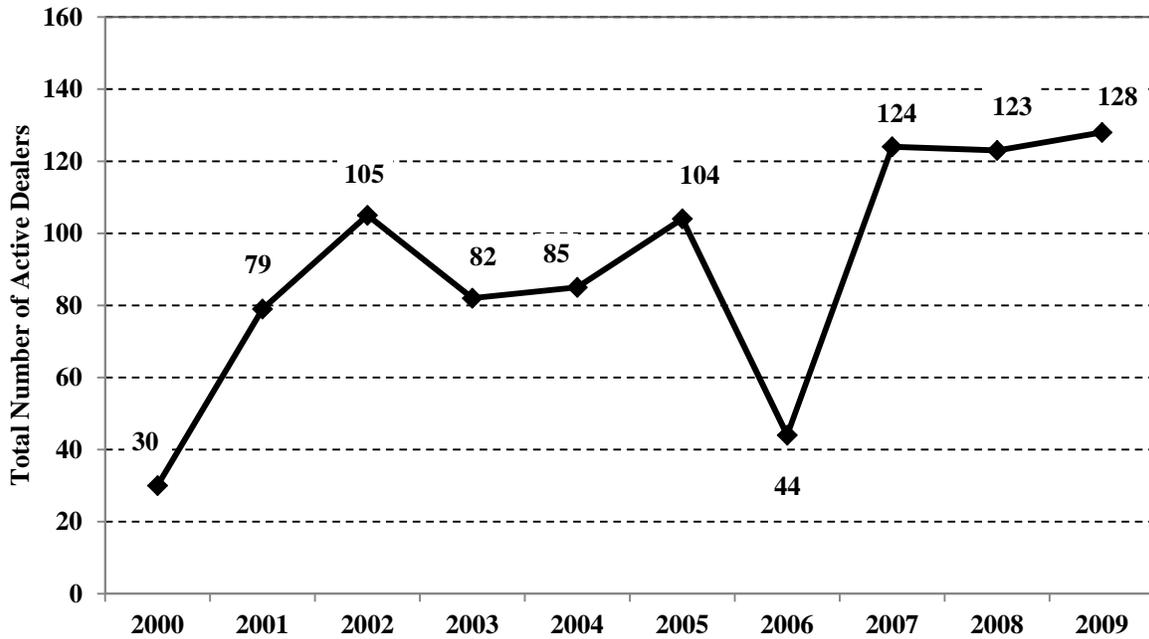


Figure 5.15. Number of Commercial Seafood Dealers Reporting Wild-Caught Crawfish Purchases, By Year: 2000-2009

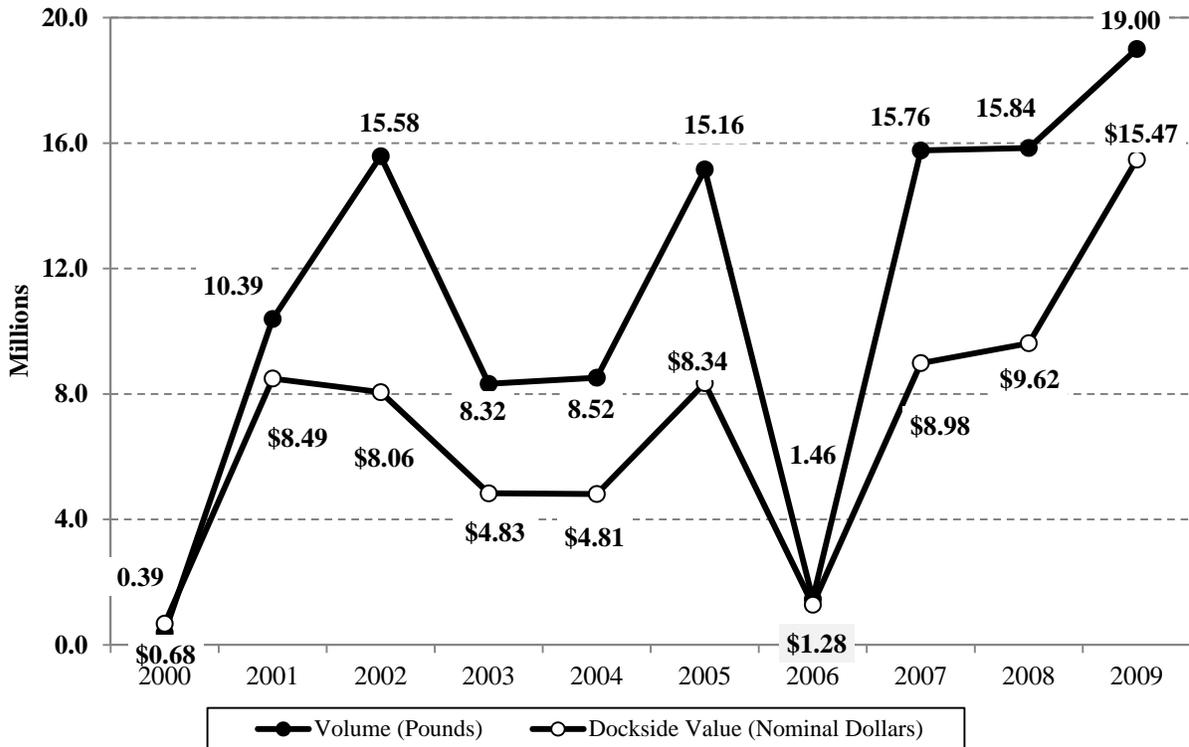
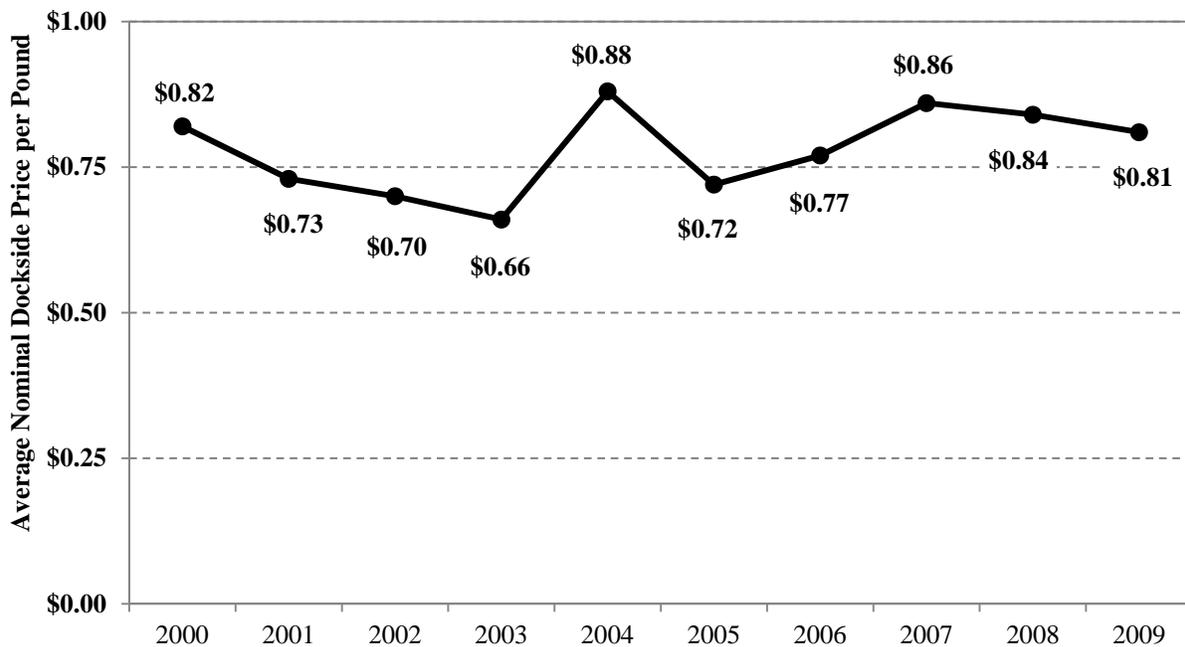


Figure 5.16. Cumulative Volume and Dockside Value of Wild-Caught Crawfish Purchased by Louisiana Seafood Dealers Reported in Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009

million pounds and \$8.34 million. In 2006, volume plummeted to 1.46 million pounds and dockside value dropped to \$1.28 million. Thereafter, volume was 15 million pounds or more and dockside value \$8.0 million or more in each of the remaining three years in the study timeframe.

Price per pound of wild-caught crawfish (Figure 5.17) varied from \$0.82 per pound in 2000 to \$0.66 per pound in 2003 and \$0.88 per pound in 2004. Price per pound fell to \$0.72 per pound in 2005 then rose to \$0.86 per pound in 2007, \$0.84 per pound in 2008, and \$0.81 per pound in 2009.



**Figure 5.17. Average Nominal Price per Pound for Wild-Caught Crawfish Purchased by Seafood Dealers in Louisiana According to the Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, By Year: 2000-2009**

**5.8. Percentage Changes in the Volume of Key Freshwater Finfish Species and Wild-Caught Crawfish**

The tables in this section present percentage changes in the volume of four individual freshwater finfish species in each year of the study period relative to the volume in previous years (buffalofish (Table 5.1), blue catfish (Table 5.2), channel catfish (Table 5.3), and alligator gar (Table 5.4)) and wild-caught

crawfish. The percentage change in volume relative to 2004 (and the 2000-2004 average) may be used to gain an understanding of the effect of hurricanes Katrina and Rita on the dealers' purchases of selected species. Caution is urged in interpreting the results because a variety of biological, environmental, and economic factors unrelated to the hurricanes may also have affected the harvests and purchases of these species. This may be especially true for freshwater finfish species which are frequently harvested by commercial fishermen and purchased by seafood dealers in areas of Louisiana outside the coastal regions that were most dramatically affected by the hurricanes. Further, because the volume of some species is relatively small in some years (notably alligator gar), fairly modest absolute changes in the volume of some species in particular years may produce large percentage changes in volume.

#### **5.8.1. Percentage Changes in the Volume of Specific Freshwater Finfish Species and Wild-Caught Category Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Following hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the volume of channel catfish and alligator gar in the hurricane year of 2005 were 32.6 percent and 41.2 percent lower, respectively, than the volumes purchased by dealers in 2004. The volume of blue catfish and buffalofish were 3.0 percent and 15.3 percent higher than the corresponding volumes purchased in 2004. In 2006 and 2007, the volume of channel catfish remained below its 2004 volumes while the volume of buffalofish and blue catfish remained above their 2004 volumes. Compared to the volume purchased in 2004, the volume of alligator gar was down by 13.4 percent in 2006 and up 1.7 percent in 2007.

The volume of wild-caught crawfish in the hurricane year of 2005 was 77.9 percent above the volume in 2004. The volume in 2006, however, was 82.9 percent less than the volume purchased in 2004. The volume of wild-caught crawfish in 2007 was more than 80 percent greater than the volume purchased in 2004.

**Table 5.1. Change in Volume of Buffalofish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+3.7%	<b>+19.6%</b>	<b>+20.5%</b>	<b>+24.0%</b>	+4.1%	-7.8%
	2004		<b>+15.3%</b>	<b>+16.1%</b>	<b>+19.6%</b>	+0.4%	-11.1%
	2005			+0.7%	+3.7%	-13.0%	-22.9%
	2006				+3.0%	-13.6%	-23.4%
	2007					<b>-16.1%</b>	<b>-25.7%</b>
	2008						<b>-11.4%</b>

**Table 5.2. Change in Volume of Blue Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-7.2%	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>+8.6%</b>	-13.4%	-39.4%
	2004		<b>+3.0%</b>	<b>+2.4%</b>	<b>+17.1%</b>	-6.7%	-34.7%
	2005			-0.6%	+13.6%	-9.4%	-36.6%
	2006				+14.3%	-8.9%	-36.2%
	2007					<b>-20.3%</b>	<b>-44.2%</b>
	2008						<b>-30.0%</b>

**Table 5.3. Change in Volume of Channel Catfish Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+10.9%	<b>-25.2%</b>	<b>-26.3%</b>	<b>-54.4%</b>	-59.8%	-65.9%
	2004		<b>-32.6%</b>	<b>-33.5%</b>	<b>-58.9%</b>	-63.8%	-69.3%
	2005			-1.4%	-39.0%	-46.3%	-54.4%
	2006				-38.2%	-45.5%	-53.8%
	2007					<b>-11.8%</b>	<b>-25.2%</b>
	2008						<b>-15.2%</b>

**Table 5.4. Change in Volume of Alligator Gar Purchased by Freshwater Finfish Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	+2.1%	<b>-39.9%</b>	<b>-11.6%</b>	<b>+3.9%</b>	-4.3%	-13.7%
	2004		<b>-41.2%</b>	<b>-13.4%</b>	<b>+1.7%</b>	-6.4%	-15.6%
	2005			+47.1%	+72.8%	+59.2%	+43.5%
	2006				+17.4%	+8.2%	-2.5%
	2007					<b>-7.9%</b>	<b>-16.9%</b>
	2008						<b>-9.8%</b>

**Table 5.5. Change in Volume of Wild-Caught Crawfish Purchased by Dealers in Specified Year as a Percentage of Volume in Various Base Years**

		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Base Years</b>	2000-2004 Average	-1.4%	<b>+75.4%</b>	<b>-83.1%</b>	<b>+82.5%</b>	+83.4%	+119.9%
	2004		<b>+77.9%</b>	<b>-82.9%</b>	<b>+85.1%</b>	+86.0%	+123.0%
	2005			-90.4%	+4.0%	+4.5%	+25.3%
	2006				+980.3%	+985.6%	+1,201.8%
	2007					<b>+0.5%</b>	<b>+20.5%</b>
	2008						<b>+19.9%</b>

**5.8.2. Percentage Changes in Active Dealer Numbers, Volume, and Dockside Value in the Resident Business Freshwater Finfish Category Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

Following hurricanes Gustav and Ike, the volume of all four key individual freshwater finfish species in the hurricane year was down relative to the volumes purchased in 2007, ranging from a 7.9 percent decline for alligator gar to a 20.3 percent decline for blue catfish. The volumes for all four species in 2009 were again below their respective volumes in 2007.

The volume of wild-caught crawfish in the hurricane year of 2008 was roughly equivalent to the volume purchased by dealers in the year before hurricanes Gustav and Ike. The volume in 2009, a period maximum at 19.0 million pound was 20.5 percent greater than the 2007 volume.

## **Chapter 6.**

### **Summary and Conclusions**

#### **6.1 Introduction**

This report has presented estimates and trends for various parameters related to the participation and activities of commercial seafood dealers that purchased SWFF in Louisiana during the 2000-2009 timeframe using data from the LDWF trip ticket program and associated LDWF commercial dealer license datasets. It examined changes in the number of active dealers purchasing SWFF and the volume and dockside value of SWFF that they purchased directly from commercial fishermen. It included analyses of relative changes in dealer activities following two hurricanes in 2005 (hurricanes Katrina and Rita) and two hurricanes in 2008 (hurricanes Gustav and Ike).

The number of active SWFF dealers is a count of the number of commercial seafood dealer license holders that reported purchasing SWFF directly from commercial fishermen in a particular year. The number of active crab dealers dropped 21.2 percent in the hurricane year of 2005 compared to 2004 and was 36.5 percent below the 2004 level in 2007, the year before hurricanes Gustav and Ike. In the hurricane year of 2008, the number of active crab dealers was 8.1 percent below the number in 2007. In 2009, the number of dealers purchasing SWFF directly from commercial fishermen was 6.1 percent below the number in 2007 and 40.4 percent below the number active in 2004.

The volume of SWFF purchased directly from commercial fishermen by seafood dealers in Louisiana in 2005 was 41.9 percent below the volume in 2004. In 2007, the volume of SWFF was 38.2 percent below the volume of 2004. The volume in the hurricane year of 2008 was 20.0 percent below the volume of 2007. In 2009, the volume of SWFF purchased directly from commercial fishermen was 14.1 percent below the volume of 2007 and 46.9 percent below the volume of 2004.

The dockside value of SWFF purchased by seafood dealers according to trip ticket data in the hurricane year of 2005 was 27.7 percent below the dockside value of 2004. In 2007, SWFF' dockside value was

28.1 percent below the 2004 value. In the hurricane year of 2008, dockside value was 1.7 percent below the dockside value of 2007 and in 2009 dockside value was 25.4 percent below the 2007 dockside value and 38.2 percent below the 2004 dockside value.

SWFF dealers are a diverse group of individuals and firms that display great variety in the quantity of SWFF that they purchase. SWFF dealers that purchase less than 5,000 pounds in a year usually made up about fifty to sixty percent of the total number of active SWFF dealers in a year. Their total purchases across the 2000-2009 study timeframe represented about 0.2 percent of the combined total volume of all active SWFF dealers in that time period. In contrast, the SWFF dealers that purchased above 500 thousand pounds of SWFF in a year at no time numbered as high as 12 during the study timeframe but their purchases accounted for two-thirds of the combined total volume of all SWFF purchased by all active SWFF dealers from 2000 to 2009.

Resident business dealers bought about 90.9 percent of the combined total volume of SWFF purchased by resident SWFF dealers during the study timeframe. Non-resident business dealers purchased about 4.1 percent and resident vehicle dealers purchased about one percent of the volume of SWFF purchased by seafood dealers from 2000 to 2009.

## **6.2. Data Limitations and Topics for Further Study**

This report used the extensive data derived from the LDWF trip ticket program and the LDWF commercial dealer license dataset to illustrate changes in the number of seafood dealers buying SWFF and the volume and dockside value of the SWFF they purchased directly from commercial fishermen in every year during the 2000 to 2009 study timeframe. This report was unable to discern to what extent any observed fluctuations in any of the examined parameters were attributable to hurricanes Katrina and Rita or hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

This report also presented the number of SWFF dealers purchasing a volume of SWFF within defined SWFF volume categories in every year within the study timeframe. The placement of a dealer within a

particular volume category was not a permanent assignment. A dealer might be in one volume category in one year and in a different volume category in subsequent years as its volume fluctuated. This report did not examine the extent of inter-category mobility of the sort described above.

This report employed a fairly broad definition of “active SWFF dealer”, any individual or business that purchased at least one pound of SWFF directly from commercial fishermen in a year. It was unable to distinguish those firms for which buying and selling SWFF was the business’ primary function from those for which buying SWFF was one perhaps relatively minor function among many different business activities.

This report did not examine the diversity of SWFF dealers’ seafood operations. It did not look at the variety, volume, and dockside value of other sorts of seafood that these firms may have purchased directly from commercial fishermen. Further, it was unable to determine the total expenditures these businesses incurred in buying SWFF (and other types of seafood) from sources other than commercial fishermen, such as processors, distributors, and other dealers.

Further, this report examined the volume and dockside value of SWFF, one of many expenditures incurred by the dealers that participated in the trip ticket program. It contains no information regarding total expenditures or revenues and thus implies nothing regarding the profitability or economic viability of these firms.



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## Appendix A

### Freshwater Finfish

- Table A.1**    **Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Commercial Seafood Dealers in Louisiana, By Year: 2000-2009**
- Table A.2**    **Number of Dealers Buying Freshwater Finfish in Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**
- Table A.3**    **Cumulative Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**
- Table A.4**    **Cumulative Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers within Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table A.1 Volume and Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Commercial Seafood Dealers in Louisiana, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Volume	11,756,167	13,074,107	12,445,849	11,138,969	11,890,325	11,631,474	11,610,593	12,235,487	11,531,810	10,232,785
Dockside Value	\$4,352,637	\$4,017,287	\$3,773,255	\$3,340,548	\$3,940,056	\$3,791,249	\$4,376,421	\$5,108,812	\$4,069,009	\$3,193,594

**Table A.2 Number of Dealers Buying Freshwater Finfish in Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	(Number of active dealers)									
Less than 5,000 Pounds	104	88	97	96	129	93	85	102	90	114
5,000-25,000 Pounds	48	45	49	46	49	38	38	48	44	43
25,000- 100,000 Pounds	27	34	18	29	26	34	30	20	21	18
100,000-500,000 Pounds	25	18	19	20	19	17	17	19	23	17
More than 500,000 Pounds	3	6	8	5	6	6	6	5	4	4
Total Number of Dealers	207	191	191	196	229	188	176	194	182	196

**Table A.3 Cumulative Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	(pounds)									
Less than 5,000 Pounds	119,608	102,815	132,557	114,946	141,112	94,082	98,567	143,010	111,108	117,673
5,000-25,000 Pounds	587,545	521,099	635,112	496,335	632,345	502,566	417,592	619,805	548,523	483,535
25,000- 100,000 Pounds	1,430,643	1,711,770	903,612	1,324,846	1,295,857	1,662,067	1,412,951	1,160,672	1,257,581	895,483
100,000-500,000 Pounds	6,907,186	5,055,191	4,349,705	4,774,606	4,728,225	3,961,030	3,715,353	4,269,344	5,077,028	3,946,373
More than 500,000 Pounds	2,711,186	5,683,232	6,424,863	4,428,236	5,092,786	5,411,729	5,966,130	6,042,658	4,537,570	4,789,722

**Table A.4 Cumulative Dockside Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers within Different Finfish Volume Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	(nominal dollars)									
Less than 5,000 Pounds	\$78,681	\$63,616	\$82,945	\$75,445	\$96,884	\$59,297	\$67,720	\$110,021	\$104,955	\$122,278
5,000-25,000 Pounds	\$348,673	\$286,744	\$363,017	\$266,924	\$471,980	\$341,568	\$336,173	\$410,392	\$361,796	\$335,744
25,000- 100,000 Pounds	\$576,415	\$716,534	\$424,885	\$589,759	\$505,852	\$711,439	\$569,134	\$524,074	\$658,306	\$433,857
100,000-500,000 Pounds	\$2,231,325	\$1,689,294	\$1,340,392	\$1,380,320	\$1,377,074	\$1,062,994	\$1,557,501	\$2,174,141	\$1,621,443	\$1,204,891
More than 500,000 Pounds	\$1,117,542	\$1,261,100	\$1,562,016	\$1,028,100	\$1,488,267	\$1,615,952	\$1,845,893	\$1,890,184	\$1,322,510	\$1,096,824

## **Appendix B**

**Table B.1 Number of Dealers Buying Freshwater Finfish in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table B.3 Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table B.3 Nominal Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table B.1 Number of Dealers Buying Freshwater Finfish in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Resident Business Dealers (Resident Wholesale/Retail-Business License)	141	138	137	139	147	130	108	124	115	117
Resident Vehicle Dealers (Resident Wholesale/Retail-Vehicle License)	12	13	12	17	14	14	12	8	8	8
Resident Fresh Product Dealers	50	37	39	37	64	44	56	59	59	68
Others	4	3	3	3	4	0	0	3	0	3
Total Dealers	207	191	191	196	229	188	176	194	182	196

**Table B.3 Volume of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	(Pounds)									
Resident Business Dealers	10,980,227	12,330,059	11,639,024	10,392,336	10,828,246	10,950,168	10,861,064	11,426,360	10,801,107	9,546,234
Resident Vehicle Dealers	442,591	407,146	535,175	580,397	784,798	446,776	496,018	562,295	501,446	441,506
Resident Fresh Product Dealers	108,372	146,760	81,321	110,566	272,987	234,531	253,511	239,630	229,258	243,384
Others	224,983	190,147	190,331	55,674	4,295	0	0	7,202	0	1,658

**Table B.3 Nominal Value of Freshwater Finfish Purchased by Dealers in Different License Categories, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	(Nominal Dollars)									
Resident Business Dealers	\$4,020,664	\$3,665,632	\$3,433,269	\$3,012,179	\$3,498,995	\$3,474,023	\$3,959,821	\$4,576,713	\$3,582,833	\$2,736,118
Resident Vehicle Dealers	\$157,288	\$173,931	\$194,507	\$242,406	\$312,188	\$203,522	\$287,742	\$376,802	\$340,894	\$288,940
Resident Fresh Product Dealers	\$57,780	\$90,396	\$53,292	\$63,591	\$127,381	\$113,712	\$128,881	\$145,020	\$145,300	\$165,361
Others	\$116,908	\$87,337	\$92,202	\$22,382	\$1,752	\$0	\$0	\$10,283	\$0	\$3,188

Others include non-resident wholesale/retail business, nonresident wholesale/retail vehicle, nonresident fresh products and missing.

## Appendix C

### Key Individual Freshwater Species

**Table C.1**      **Number of Dealers Buying Buffalofish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table C.2**      **Number of Dealers Buying Blue Catfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table C.3**      **Number of Dealers Buying Channel Catfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year:  
2000-2009**

**Table C.4**      **Number of Dealers Buying Alligator Gar and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

**Table C.5**      **Number of Dealers Buying Wild-Caught Crawfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year:  
2000-2009**

**Table C.1 Number of Dealers Buying Buffalofish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of Dealers	60	54	63	64	81	70	62	80	74	56
Volume (pounds)	2,519,063	3,289,389	3,139,424	3,320,320	3,211,140	3,703,864	3,729,164	3,840,409	3,223,013	2,855,264
Value (nominal dollars)	\$417,778	\$515,088	\$490,894	\$523,378	\$548,014	\$687,756	\$669,308	\$1,605,486	\$631,579	\$555,429
Average Price per pound	\$0.17	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.17	\$0.19	\$0.18	\$0.42	\$0.20	\$0.19

**Table C.2 Number of Dealers Buying Blue Catfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of Dealers	130	116	111	116	135	109	96	111	108	106
Volume (pounds)	4,190,181	3,776,375	3,126,299	2,735,683	3,149,860	3,245,914	3,225,720	3,687,892	2,940,204	2,057,084
Value (nominal dollars)	\$2,052,843	\$1,771,970	\$1,408,600	\$1,225,037	\$1,416,226	\$1,457,625	\$1,550,866	\$1,798,426	\$1,383,269	\$949,229
Average Price per pound	\$0.49	\$0.47	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.45	\$0.48	\$0.49	\$0.47	\$0.46

**Table C.3 Number of Dealers Buying Channel Catfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of Dealers	87	85	77	81	103	76	75	86	74	67
Volume (pounds)	1,835,654	1,607,949	1,509,312	868,549	1,659,686	1,118,875	1,103,280	682,028	601,390	510,170
Value (nominal dollars)	\$959,197	\$785,268	\$757,284	\$438,528	\$786,894	\$541,164	\$554,239	\$378,373	\$345,872	\$295,117
Average Price per pound	\$0.52	\$0.49	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.47	\$0.48	\$0.50	\$0.55	\$0.58	\$0.58

**Table C.4 Number of Dealers Buying Alligator Gar and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of Dealers	66	59	57	53	51	46	34	37	38	48
Volume (pounds)	474,534	463,394	597,990	656,419	562,857	331,169	487,276	572,265	527,082	475,289
Value (nominal dollars)	\$389,140	\$337,058	\$418,225	\$433,501	\$493,213	\$238,787	\$374,889	\$491,616	\$443,440	\$386,378
Average Price per pound	\$0.82	\$0.73	\$0.70	\$0.66	\$0.88	\$0.72	\$0.77	\$0.86	\$0.84	\$0.81

**Table C.5 Number of Dealers Buying Wild-Caught Crawfish and Volume, Dockside Value, and Price per Pound, By Year: 2000-2009**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of Dealers	30	79	105	82	85	104	44	124	123	128
Volume (pounds)	389,371	10,391,549	15,579,595	8,321,364	8,517,732	15,156,884	1,459,251	15,764,015	15,841,304	18,996,069
Value (nominal dollars)	\$678,152	\$8,491,128	\$8,058,522	\$4,832,869	\$4,810,510	\$8,344,236	\$1,281,144	\$8,983,450	\$9,618,345	\$15,470,193
Average Price per pound	\$1.74	\$0.82	\$0.52	\$0.58	\$0.56	\$0.55	\$0.88	\$0.57	\$0.61	\$0.81