



An Examination of Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Trip Ticket Data Regarding Commercial Fishers with Landings of Selected Seafood Types

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Chapter 1. Introduction

The Louisiana Trip Ticket Program, administered by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (L.D.W.F.) Data Management Section, collects data from commercial fishers and seafood dealers regarding commercial seafood harvest activity. It gathers fisheries-dependent data that informs fisheries operations and management, including species landed, weight (or volume), value, area fished, gear used, and other harvest-related parameters.

This report provides information about the commercial fishers who landed the principal types of seafood in Louisiana (shrimp, blue crabs, crawfish, and oysters), linking information from the Trip Ticket Program with L.D.W.F. Licensing Section records. Data from licensing databanks are used to illustrate the geographic distribution of active commercial fishers and to examine possible trends in the average age of commercial fishers with landings in recent years. Commercial license numbers in trip ticket records are used to generate measurements of year-over-year participation within single fisheries and concurrent participation in separate fishers.

Trip Ticket Summary Statistics: 2000 – 2024

Annual statistics for statewide commercial landings for shrimp, blue crabs, and oysters for 2000 and 2024 are presented throughout this report. Data were provided by the L.D.W.F. Data Management Section in June 2024 and April 2025 using Trip Ticket Program databanks.

The weight of shrimp, blue crabs, and crawfish is measured in pounds whole weight; the weight of oysters in pounds of meat. Current-dollar dockside values were converted into constant, inflation-adjusted 2024 dollars using the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis' Implicit G.D.P. Deflator. Estimates of dockside value per pound were calculated as the quotient of inflation-adjusted dockside pound divided by the weight of landings. (All dollar values mentioned within the text of this report are expressed in inflation-adjusted dollars.)

Previous Research - Trip Ticket Records: 2000 - 2018

Using data provided by the L.D.W.F. Data Management Section in 2019 and 2020, the L.W.D.F. Socioeconomic Research and Development Section examined individual commercial fishers who landed shrimp, blue crabs, crawfish, and oysters in calendar years 2000 through 2018. Estimates for average and median ages for participants in those fisheries included in this reports were derived from these previous works.

Two reports based on this previous research were published by the L.D.W.F. in 2020: *Louisiana Commercial Shrimp Harvesters: 2000 – 2018* and *An Examination of Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Trip Ticket Data Regarding Commercial Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs*. Both are available on the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries website.

Trip Ticket Records: 2019 - 2024

In April 2025, the L.D.W.F. Trip Ticket Section prepared summaries of commercial fishing activities for commercial fishers with trip ticket records of shrimp, blue crabs, crawfish, and oysters for the years 2019 through 2024. The summaries presented the commercial fishing license number, year of birth, and home ZIP code for each commercial fisher with commercial seafood landings and an indication of whether he or

she had landings of shrimp, blue crabs, crawfish, or oysters in calendar years 2019 through 2024. (No names, addresses, or landings statistics for individual fishers were included as part of this analysis.)

The variable “age” refers to the age that an individual commercial fisher achieved within the specified year. The age of a commercial fisher with a birth year of 1970 would be recorded as 52 in 2022 and 54 in 2024.

The ZIP code variable refers to that included in the mailing address maintained in current L.D.W.F. Licensing Section records. This report summarizes place of residence statistics for participants in each fishery at the parish level for 2024. Because of the way that license records are maintained, ZIP code data may not accurately reflect the places of residence for fishers in earlier years.

This analysis tracks the appearance of commercial license numbers across different years to examine the continued participation of fishers within the same fishery from year to year. It also compares commercial license numbers across different seafood categories to estimate the number of fishers who participate in different fisheries within the same year.

Data Limitations

Like all data sources, the L.D.W.F. Trip Ticket Program and Licensing Section records have restrictions and limitations that may affect the quality or accuracy of these statistics.

The ZIP code data used in this research to define place of residence may not accurately describe the actual place where some commercial fishers lived. Some fishers may have a mailing address in one ZIP code and a home address in another. Some records may be out of date for fishers who have moved without updating their address records. Further, because the ZIP code pertains to the current or most recent address, records may misrepresent the places of residence for some fishers in past years who changed their addresses at some point in the intervening years.

Perhaps more significantly, the method used to identify active commercial fishers – the occurrence of commercial seafood landings in association with an individual’s commercial fishing license number – overlooks people who participate in a fishery in some position that does not require the reporting of a commercial fishing license, such as serving as a deckhand or acting as a pilot. The statistics for commercial fishers in this report undercount the number of people who take part in the shrimp, blue crab, crawfish, and oyster fisheries.

Chapter 2. Commercial Fishers Who Landed Shrimp

The Louisiana shrimp fishery has been in a state of decline over most of the last few decades. In this section, the combined landings of the “principal shrimp species” – brown shrimp, white shrimp, and seabob – serve as a proxy for the state’s total commercial shrimp fishery. The L.D.W.F. Trip Ticket Section’s confidentiality standards prohibit the publication of statistics for the total fishery. The landings of these three species regularly constituted over 99 percent by weight of all shrimp landed commercially in Louisiana.

Landings of the principal shrimp species (Figure 2.1) declined from 148 million pounds (with an inflation-adjusted dockside value of \$438 million (Figure 2.2)) in 2000 to 74 million pounds and \$144.9 million in 2010. Landings rose to 115.8 million pounds and \$301 million in 2014 then resumed a downward path, reaching 60 million pounds and \$60 million in 2024.

Per-unit values have fluctuated over the same period but have demonstrated a downward trend since 2014 (Figure 2.3). Over the last five years, the inflation-adjusted dockside value per pound of shrimp declined by half from \$1.74 per pound in 2019 to \$1.02 per pound in 2024 (Table 2.3).

Commercial Fisher Demographics

The number of commercial fishers with shrimp landings has been in a long-term decline. The count declined from approximately 6,900 in 2000 and 2001 to 2,367 in 2009, rebounded over the next few years to approximately 3,600 in 2011 and 2014, but resumed a decline from 2015 onward (Figure 2.4). The number of shrimp harvesters in 2024 (1,390) was 44 percent below the number in 2019 (2,477).

The average age of commercial fishers with shrimp landings between 2019 and 2024 increased from 51.7 to 54.1 years old (Table 2.3) in an apparent continuation of a long-term trend that saw an increase in the average age from 42.9 years in 2000 (Figure 2.5).

In 2019, the majority of commercial shrimp harvesters (almost 53 percent) were in their forties or fifties, 19 percent were under 40, and 29 percent were 60 or older (Table 2.4). In 2024, 46 percent were in their forties or fifties, 16.1 percent were under 40 and 39 percent were 60 years old or older.

In 2024, commercial fishers with shrimp landings had recorded ZIP codes within 34 different parishes. About 60 percent resided in in three coastal parishes: Terrebonne, Plaquemines, and Jefferson (Table 2.5).

Year-over-Year Participation in the Commercial Shrimp Fishery

Nearly three-quarters of the commercial fishers who landed shrimp in 2019 also had shrimp landings one year later (Table 2.6). Fewer than 40 percent of the shrimpers with landings in 2019 also reported landings five years later in 2024.

The rate of year-over-year participation has declined as the number of shrimpers has decreased (Figure 2.6). About three quarters of the 2,339 shrimpers in 2020 also landed shrimp in 2021. Fewer than two thirds of the 1,708 shrimpers in 2023 also landed shrimp in 2024.

Table 2.1 Louisiana Commercial Landings of Principal Shrimp Species: 2019 - 2024

Year	Pounds [§]	Current Dollar Value	Inflation-Adjusted Value [†]	Value per Pound [†]
2019	84,030,100	\$121,497,252	\$146,348,895	\$1.74
2020	70,413,925	\$99,388,819	\$118,090,516	\$1.68
2021	74,490,371	\$131,689,371	\$149,663,514	\$2.01
2022	81,157,244	\$112,252,843	\$119,331,334	\$1.47
2023	73,200,858	\$60,928,502	\$61,633,049	\$0.85
2024	60,108,434	\$61,362,896	\$61,362,896	\$1.02

[§] Pounds of whole-weight shrimp
[†] Expressed in constant, inflation adjusted 2024 dollars.

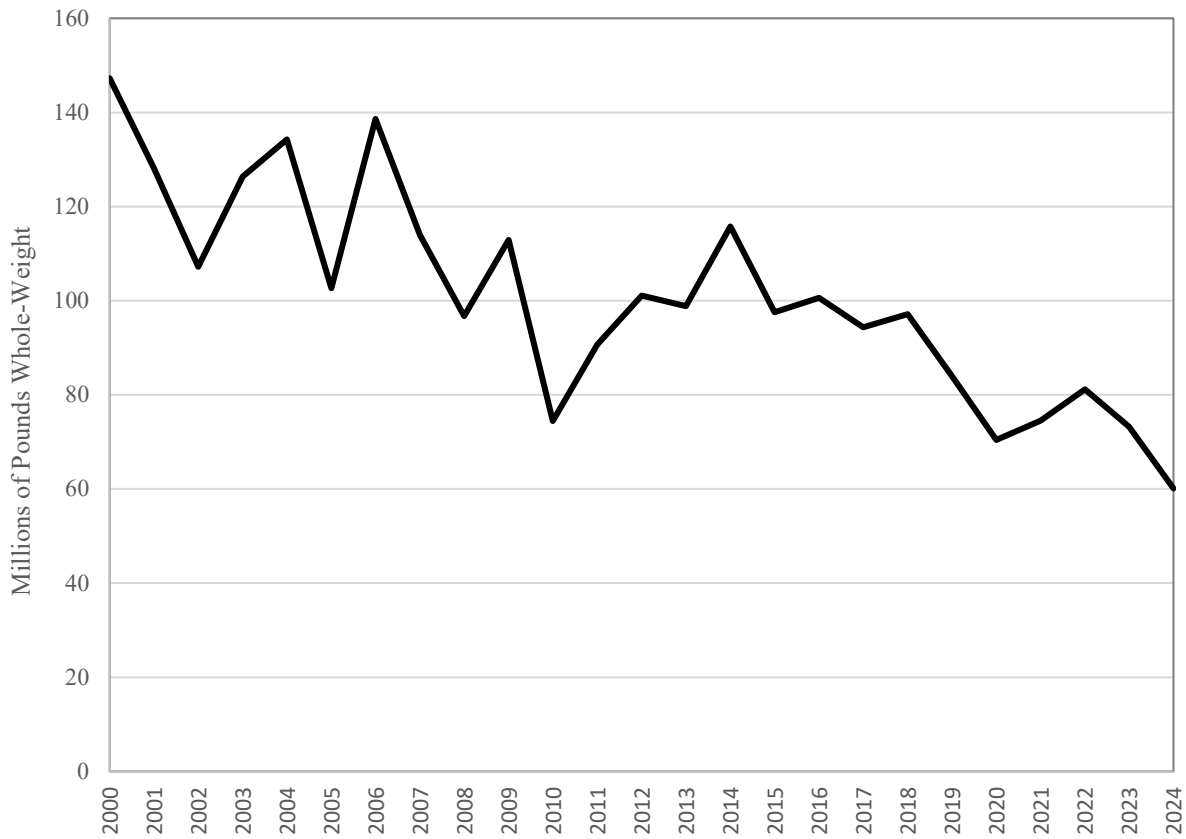


Figure 2.1. Louisiana Commercial Shrimp Landings: 2000 - 2024

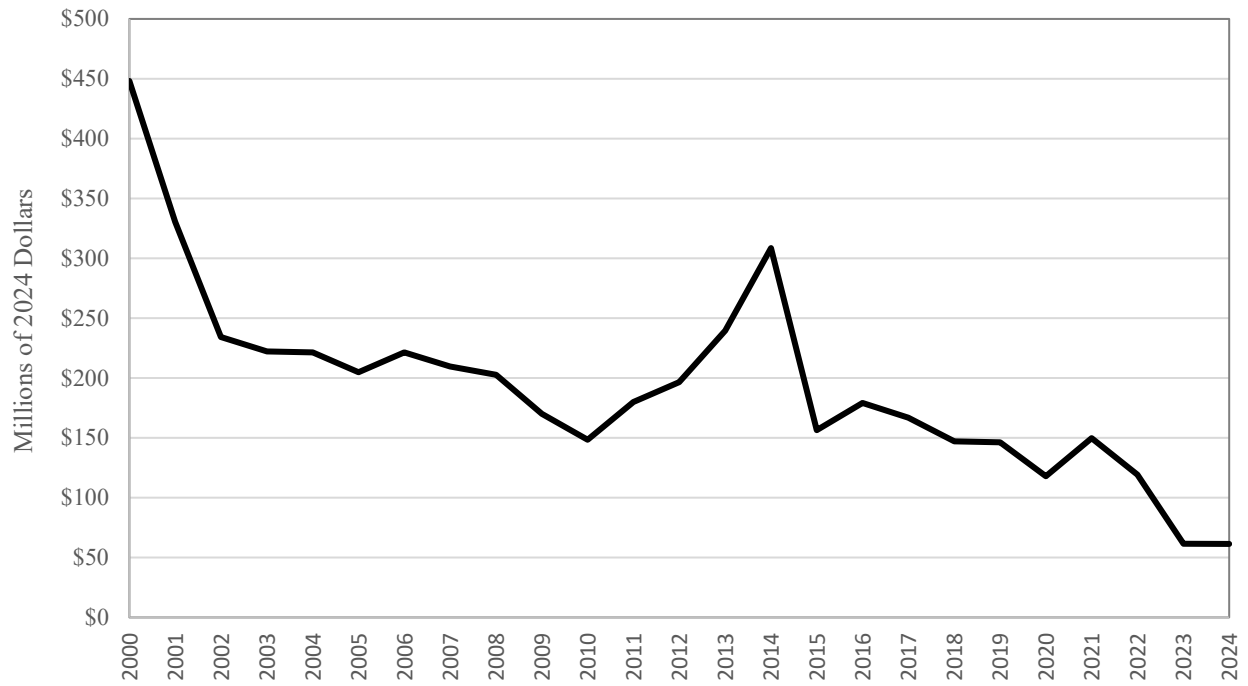


Figure 2.2. Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value of Louisiana Commercial Principal Shrimp Landings: 2000 - 2024

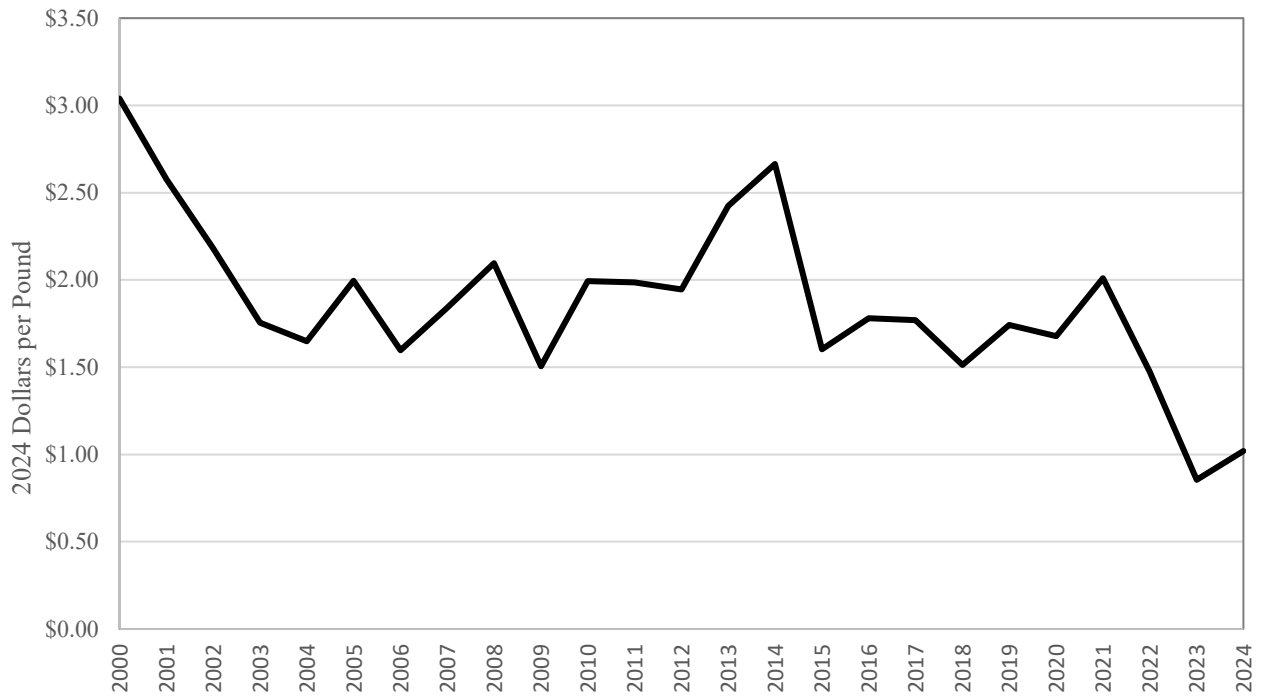


Figure 2.3. Estimated Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value per Pound for Louisiana Commercial Principal Shrimp Landings: 2000 - 2024

Table 2.2 Number of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Shrimp Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
2,477	2,339	2,184	1,982	1,708	1,390

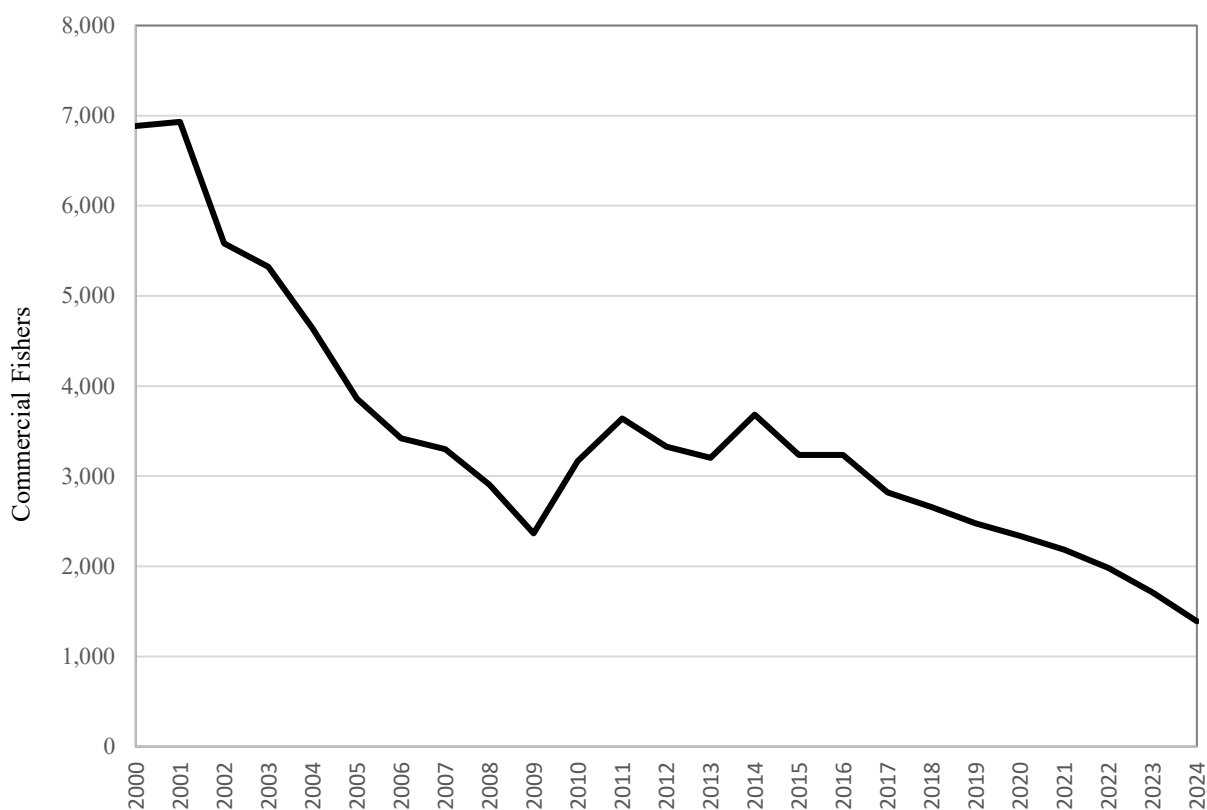


Figure 2.4. Number of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Shrimp in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 2.3 Age of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Shrimp Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average	51.7	51.5	52.1	52.2	52.9	54.1
Median	53	53	54	54	55	56

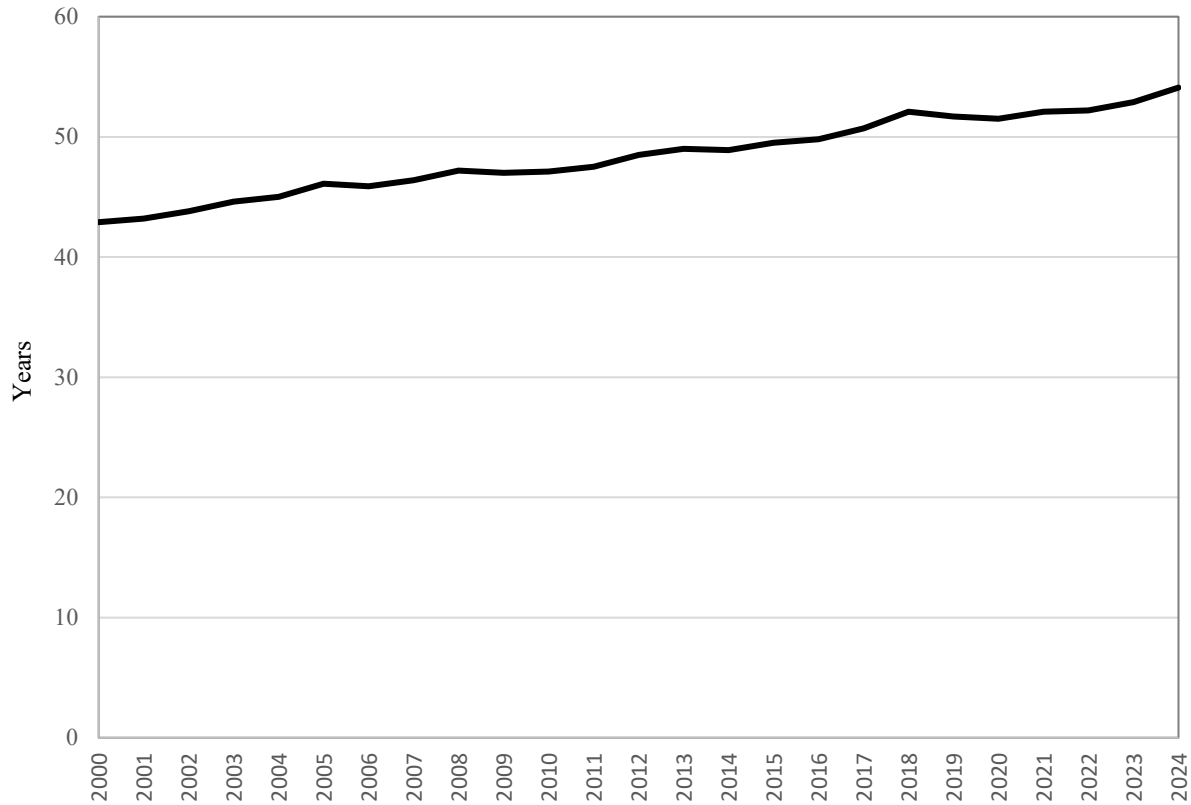


Figure 2.5. Average Age of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Shrimp in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 2.4 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Shrimp Landings within Age Categories in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Under 30	160	154	143	121	96	69
	6.5%	6.6%	6.5%	6.1%	5.6%	5.0%
30 – 39	308	311	273	259	203	140
	12.4%	13.3%	12.5%	13.1%	11.9%	10.1%
40 – 49	482	457	404	358	308	243
	19.5%	19.5%	18.5%	18.1%	18.0%	17.5%
50 – 59	824	742	694	618	514	393
	33.3%	31.7%	31.8%	31.2%	30.1%	28.3%
60 – 69	539	519	512	479	440	407
	21.8%	22.2%	23.4%	24.2%	25.8%	29.3%
70 – 79	145	133	139	133	133	118
	5.9%	5.7%	6.4%	6.7%	7.8%	8.5%
80 and Older	19	23	19	14	14	17
	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.8%	1.2%
Total	2,477	2,339	2,184	1,982	1,708	1,387

Table 2.5 Recorded Area of Residence for Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Shrimp Landings: 2024

Parish	2024		2024		2024
Acadia	59	Lafourche	88	St. Tammany	31
	4.3%		6.3%		2.2%
Ascension	6	Livingston	3	Tangipahoa	9
	0.4%		0.2%		0.6%
Calcasieu	25	Orleans	31	Terrebonne	364
	1.8%		2.2%		26.2%
Cameron	39	Plaquemines	222	Vermilion	21
	2.8%		16.0%		1.5%
East Baton Rouge	3	St. Bernard	121	Washington	8
	0.2%		8.7%		0.6%
Iberia	15	St. Charles	8	Other Parishes	16
	1.1%		0.6%		1.2%
Jefferson	231	St. James	4	Out of State	35
	16.7%		0.3%		2.5%
Jefferson Davis	3	St. John the Baptist	3	Total	1,387
	0.2%		0.2%		
Lafayette	13	St. Mary	29		
	0.9%		2.1%		
“Other Parishes” include Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberville, Ouachita, Sabine, St. Landry, St. Martin, and West Baton Rouge parishes.					

Table 2.6 Number of Fishers with Shrimp Landings in Specified Year Who Also Had Shrimp Landings in Subsequent Year

Base Year	Landed Shrimp in Base Year	Also Landed Shrimp				
		One Year Later	Two Years Later	Three Years Later	Four Years Later	Five Years Later
2019	2,477	1,820	1,604	1,380	1,207	972
		73.5%	64.8%	55.7%	48.7%	39.2%
2020	2,339	1,718	1,441	1,244	1,010	
		73.5%	61.6%	53.2%	43.2%	
2021	2,184	1,545	1,304	1,041		
		70.7%	59.7%	47.7%		
2022	1,982	1,379	1,084			
		69.6%	54.7%			
2023	1,708	1,109				
		64.9%				

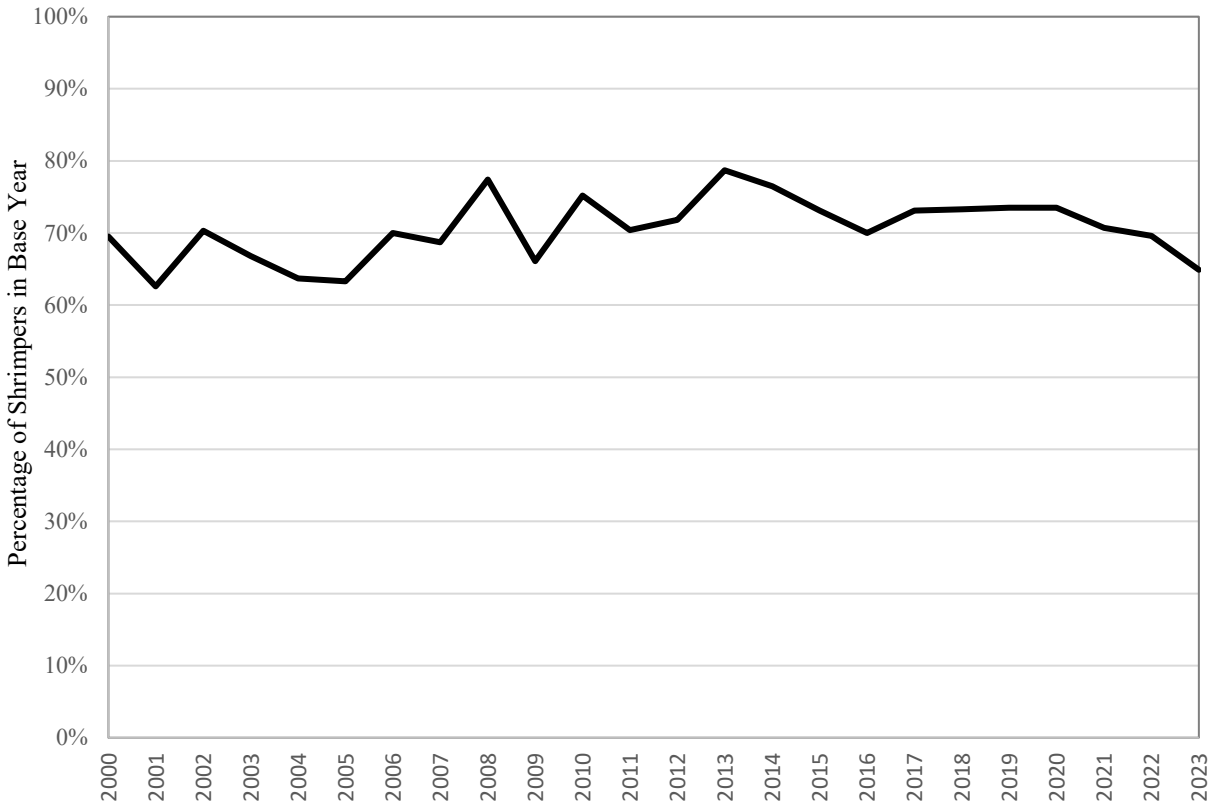


Figure 2.6. Percentage of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Shrimp in Specified Year Who Also Had Landings One Year Later

Participation in Other Commercial Fisheries by Fishers Who Landed Shrimp

Approximately 13 percent of the commercial fishers who landed shrimp in 2019 and 15.8 percent of those who landed shrimp in 2024 also had trip ticket records of blue crab landings within the same year (Table 2.7). Three to four percent of shrimp harvesters also landed oysters. Approximately one percent landed crawfish.

Table 2.7 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Shrimp Landings in the Specified Year Who Also Reported Landings of Blue Crabs, Crawfish, or Oysters in the Same Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Blue Crabs	328	336	292	285	265	220
	13.2%	14.4%	13.4%	14.4%	15.5%	15.8%
Crawfish	25	22	27	27	19	11
	1.0%	0.9%	1.2%	1.4%	1.1%	0.8%
Oysters	114	72	69	82	70	41
	4.6%	3.1%	3.2%	4.1%	4.1%	2.9%

Chapter 3. Commercial Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs

Commercial landings and dockside value of blue crabs over the last five years rose from 40.3 million pounds and \$65.5 million in 2019 to 52.1 million pounds and \$96.4 million in 2022 and dropped to 39.8 million pounds and \$72.3 million in 2024 (Table 3.1). The estimated dockside value per pound also rose from \$1.62 per pound in 2019 to \$2.10 per pound in 2021 before falling to \$1.82 per pound in 2024.

Louisiana commercial blue crab landings fluctuated widely during the 2000-2024 study period between a minimum of 31 million pounds in 2010 and maxima of 53 million pounds in 2006 and 55 million pounds in 2009 (Figure 3.1). Statewide dockside value fluctuated along a generally upward trend over the last 25 years from \$54million in 2009 to a maximum of \$108 million in 2022 with a drop to \$72 million in 2024 (Figure 3.2). The per-unit value rose as well from \$0.99 per pound in 2009 to \$2.15 in 2021 with a slide to \$1.82 per pound in 2024 (Figure 3.3).

Commercial Fisher Demographics

Approximately 1,400 commercial fishers landed blue crabs in each of the last three years (Table 3.2). Earlier in the century, the number had declined from approximately 2,200 in 2000 and 2001 to 1,349 in 2006 and afterwards climbed to 1,837 in 2011 (Figure 3.4). The number of fishers participating in the blue crab fishery has followed a generally downward trajectory since 2012. The decrease in the number of participants in the fishery coincides with the establishment of the blue crab apprenticeship and sponsorship program in 2014.

The average age of a commercial fisher with blue crab landings has remained approximately 49 years old over the last five years (Table 3.3). Approximately 48 percent of the commercial fishers who landed blue crabs in Louisiana were in their forties or fifties (Table 3.4). In each of the last four years, approximately 42 percent were in their forties or fifties.

An apparent trend in the age of commercial crab harvesters evident in the early part of the twenty-first century appears to have moderated in recent years. The average age rose from 41.3 years old in 2000 to over 52 years old in 2013 (Figure 3.5). The average dipped below 50 years old in 2017 but rose to 50 years old in 2024 (Figure 3.5).

Commercial fishers who landed blue crabs reported ZIP codes in 32 parishes in 2024. Thirty-five percent resided in Terrebonne, Lafourche, or Jefferson parish (Table 3.5). Approximately 27 percent lived in St. Bernard, Plaquemines, St. Tammany, or Tangipahoa parish and 15 percent in Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, or Vermilion parish.

Year-over-Year Participation in the Commercial Crab Fishery

Commercial fishers who landed blue crabs demonstrated a relatively high rate of year-over-year participation. Over 80 percent of the fishers who landed blue crabs in 2019 also landed crabs in 2020 (Table 3.4). Sixty percent also landed crabs in 2024, five years later.

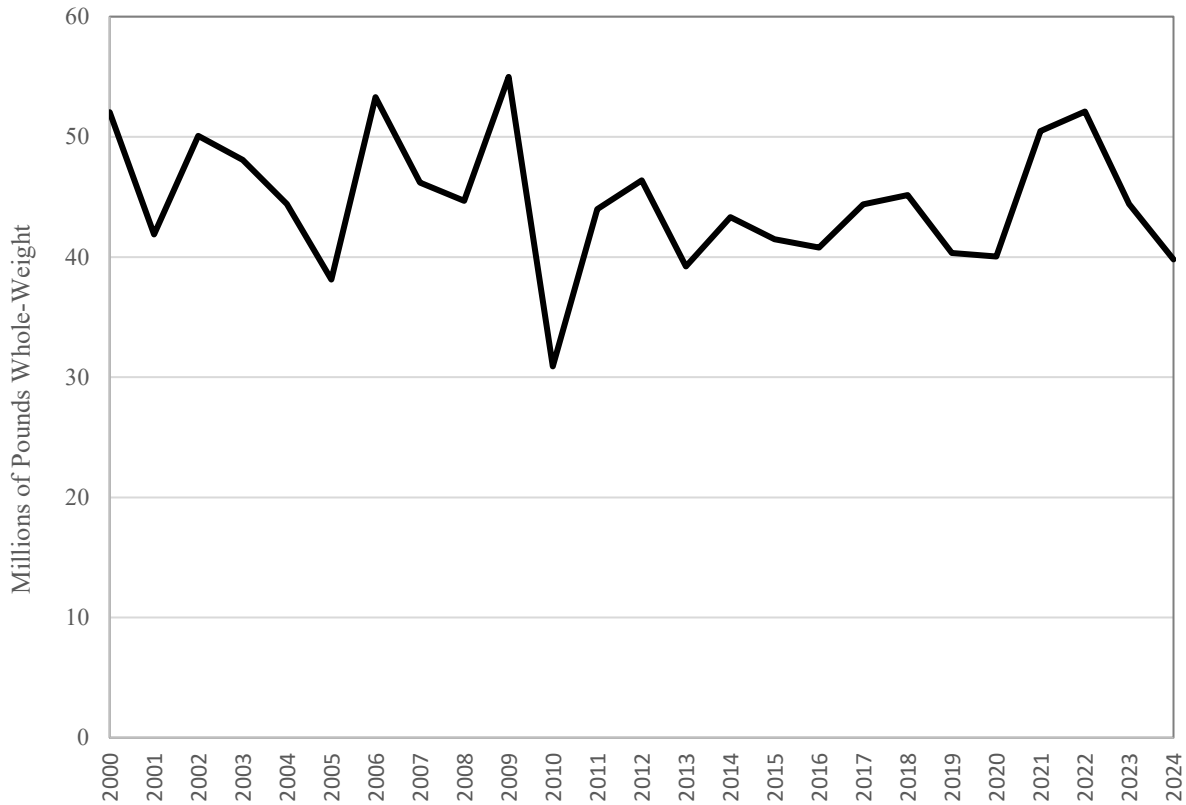
The rate of year-over-year participation fluctuated along a generally increasing trend from 65.1 percent in 2000 to 76.7 percent in 2013 (Figure 3.6). Year-over-year participation dipped to 72.1 percent in 2014, the first year of the apprenticeship and sponsorship program, and increased to over 80 percent in the following years.

Table 3.1 Louisiana Commercial Blue Crab Landings: 2019 - 2024

Year	Pounds [§]	Current Dollar Value	Inflation-Adjusted Value [†]	Value per Pound [†]
2019	40,334,712	\$55,733,149	\$65,520,531	\$1.62
2020	40,034,593	\$63,729,722	\$73,945,249	\$1.85
2021	50,483,631	\$95,420,710	\$105,862,072	\$2.10
2022	52,090,108	\$92,992,285	\$96,381,763	\$1.85
2023	44,400,130	\$79,233,024	\$79,233,024	\$1.78
2024	39,760,581	\$72,337,389	\$72,337,389	\$1.82

[§] Pounds of whole-weight crabs

[†] Expressed in constant, inflation adjusted 2024 dollars.

**Figure 3.1. Louisiana Commercial Blue Crab Landings:
2000 - 2024**

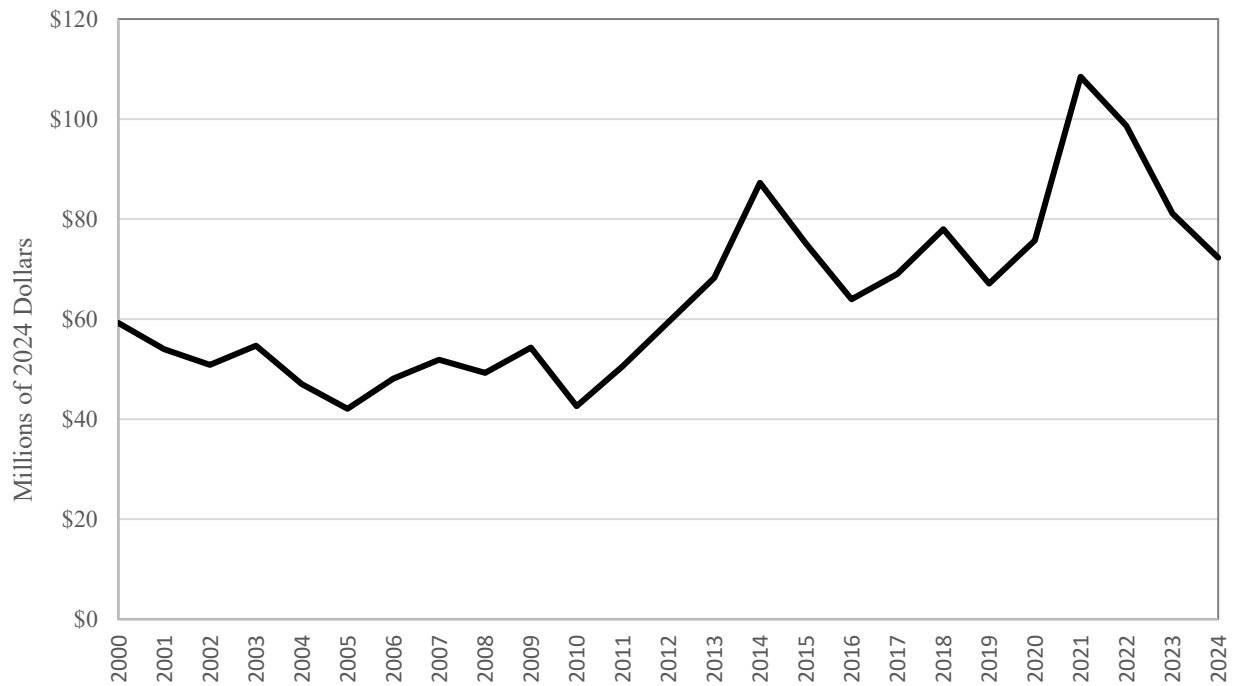


Figure 3.2. Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value of Louisiana Commercial Blue Crab Landings: 2000 - 2024

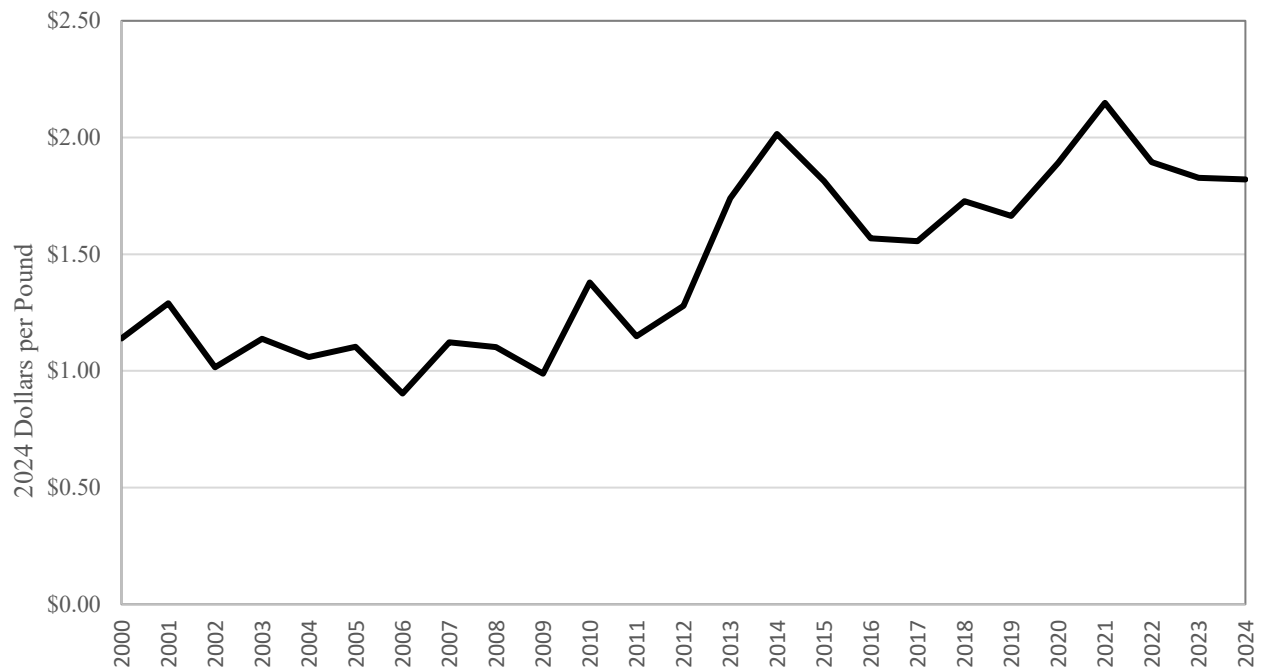


Figure 3.3. Estimated Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value per Pound for Louisiana Commercial Blue Crab Landings: 2000 - 2024

Table 3.2 Number of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Blue Crabs Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1,361	1,381	1,432	1,452	1,417	1,288

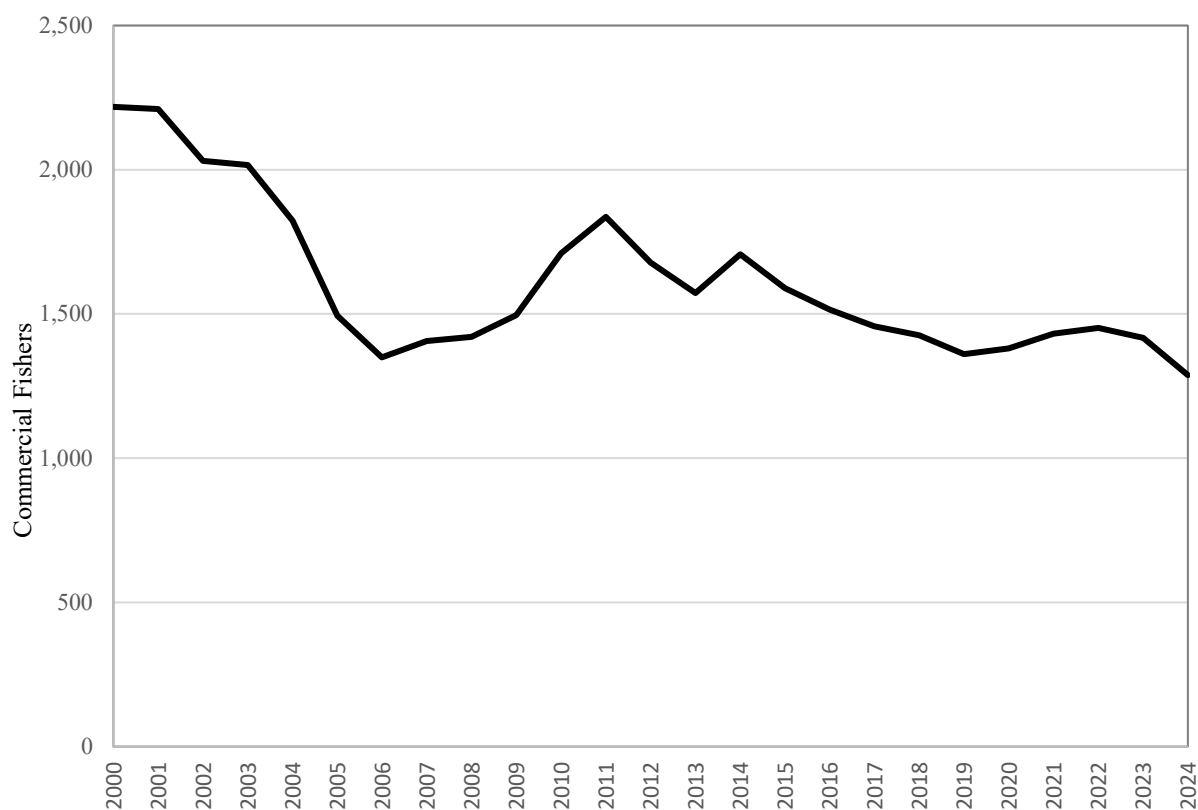


Figure 3.4. Number of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 3.3 Age of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Blue Crab Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average	48.6	48.9	48.9	48.4	49.0	50.0
Median	50	50	50	49	50	51

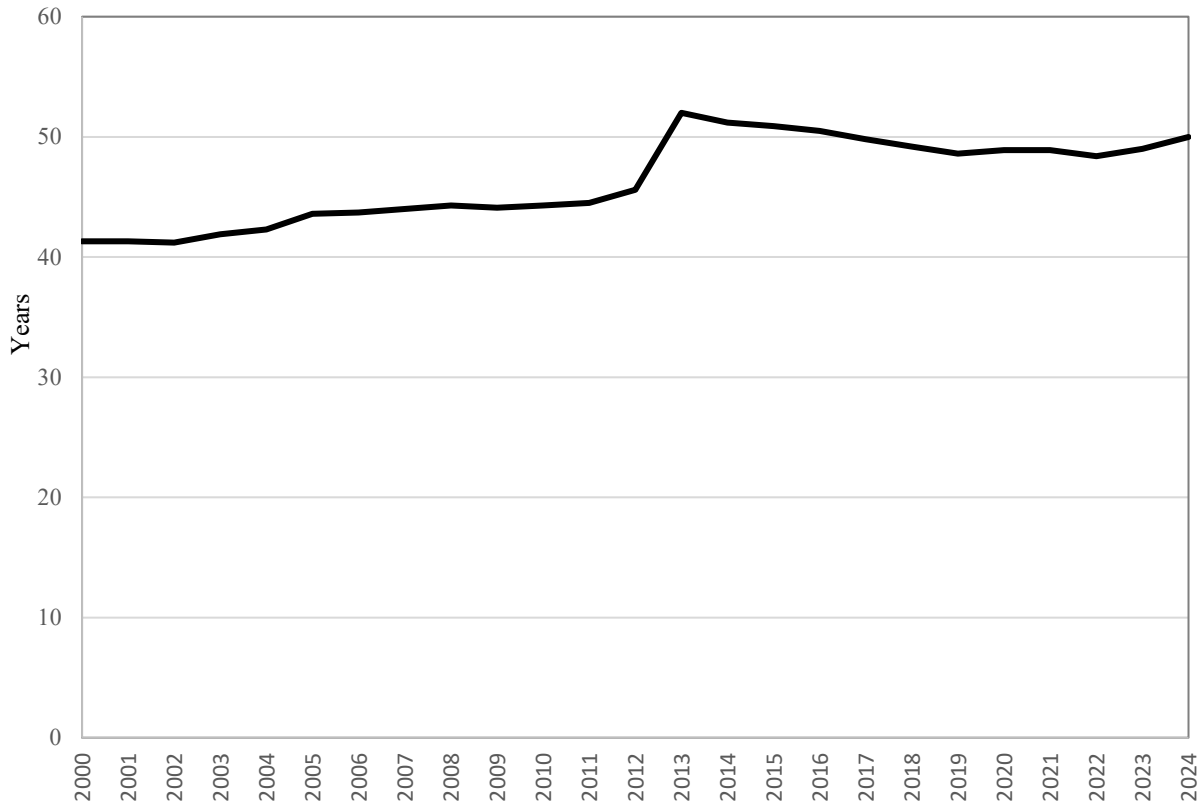


Figure 3.5. Average Age of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 3.4 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Blue Crab Landings within Age Categories in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Under 30	150	147	115	181	160	130
	11.0%	10.6%	8.0%	12.5%	11.3%	10.2%
30 – 39	250	249	237	285	261	220
	18.4%	18.0%	16.6%	19.6%	18.4%	17.2%
40 – 49	271	282	281	265	261	250
	19.9%	20.4%	19.6%	18.3%	18.4%	19.5%
50 – 59	377	358	325	348	331	296
	27.7%	25.9%	22.7%	24.0%	23.4%	23.1%
60 – 69	216	244	334	266	282	267
	15.9%	17.7%	23.3%	18.3%	19.9%	20.9%
70 – 79	77	79	111	89	102	94
	5.7%	5.7%	7.8%	6.1%	7.2%	7.3%
80 and Older	20	22	29	18	20	22
	1.5%	1.6%	2.0%	1.2%	1.4%	1.7%
Total	1,361	1,381	1,432	1,452	1,417	1,279

Table 3.5 Recorded Area of Residence for Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Blue Crab Landings: 2024

Parish	2024		2024		2024
Acadia	48	Lafayette	8	St. Mary	60
	1.8%		0.6%		4.7%
Ascension	6	Lafourche	117	St. Tammany	84
	0.5%		9.1%		6.6%
Assumption	14	Livingston	9	Tangipahoa	59
	1.1%		0.7%		4.6%
Beauregard	4	Orleans	16	Terrebonne	245
	0.3%		1.35		19.2%
Calcasieu	46	Plaquemines	53	Vermilion	46
	3.6%		4.1%		3.6%
Cameron	54	St. Bernard	153	Washington	3
	4.2%		12.0%		0.2%
Iberia	53	St. Charles	65	Other Parishes	15
	4.1%		5.1%		1.2%
Iberville	6	St. James	5	Out of State	15
	0.5%		0.4%		1.2%
Jefferson	88	St. John the Baptist	3		
	6.9%		0.2%		
Jefferson Davis	3	St. Martin	7	Total	1,279
	0.2%		0.5%		
“Other Parishes” include Allen, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, and St. Landry.					

Table 3.6 Number of Fishers with Blue Crab Landings in Specified Year Who Also Had Blue Crab Landings in Subsequent Year

	Landed Blue Crabs	Also Landed Blue Crabs				
Base Year	in Base Year	One Year Later	Two Years Later	Three Years Later	Four Years Later	Five Years Later
2019	1,361	1,103	1,034	941	908	823
		81.0%	76.0%	69.1%	66.7%	60.5%
2020	1,381	1,121	1,017	959	867	
		81.2%	73.6%	69.4%	62.8%	
2021	1,432	1,158	1,062	938		
		80.9%	74.2%	65.5%		
2022	1,452	1,192	1,016			
		82.1%	70.0%			
2023	1,417	1,104				
		77.9%				

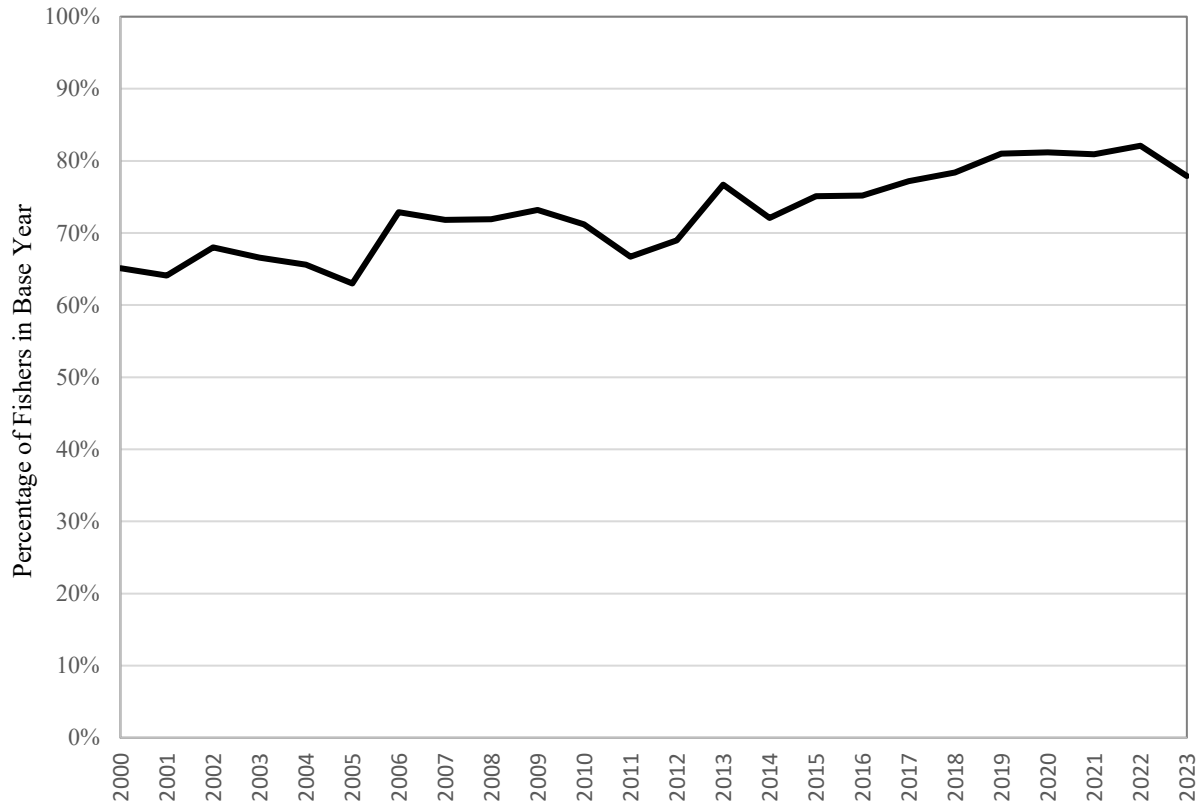


Figure 3.6. Percentage of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs in Specified Year Who Also Had Landings One Year Later

Participation in Other Commercial Fisheries by Fishers Who Landed Blue Crabs

In each of the last five years, four to five percent of the commercial fishers who landed blue crabs also landed crawfish within the same year (Table 3.7). Two to 3.5 percent also landed oysters. The percentage of crab-harvesting fishers who also landed shrimp dropped from 24 percent in 2019 and 2020 to 17 percent in 2024.

Table 3.7 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Blue Crab Landings in the Specified Year Who Also Reported Landings of Crawfish, Oysters, or Shrimp in the Same Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Crawfish	63	69	67	75	73	57
	4.6%	5.0%	4.7%	5.2%	5.2%	4.4%
Oysters	48	27	25	41	31	22
	3.5%	2.0%	1.7%	2.8%	2.1%	1.7%
Shrimp	328	336	292	285	265	220
	24.1%	24.3%	20.4%	19.6%	18.7%	17.1%
§ Values withheld to maintain confidentiality standards.						

Chapter 4. Commercial Fishers Who Landed Crawfish

Louisiana's commercial wild crawfish production is concentrated in one area of the state, the Atchafalaya River Basin. Output is connected to a variety of local environmental factors, mainly the timing, magnitude, and duration of the flood pulse in the basin during the spring, and is subject to wide fluctuations as those conditions vary. Landings over the last five years varied considerably in terms of both weight and dockside value (Table 4.1). Fluctuations in the weight (Figure 4.1) and inflation-adjusted dockside value (Figure 4.2) were also pronounced. Landings fluctuated more broadly with a minimum of 393 thousand pounds in 2000 and a maximum of 19.4 million pounds in 2009. Per-unit value (inflation-adjusted dockside value per pound) also varied widely (Figure 4.3).

Commercial Fisher Demographics

The number of commercial fishers participating in the wild crawfish fishery varied widely (Figure 4.4). The number of commercial fishers with landings of wild crawfish varied along a generally downward path from over 1,100 in 2009 to 855 in 2012 and 680 in 2024 (Table 4.2).

An apparent aging trend evident in the early portion of the century appears to have moderated in recent years (Figure 4.5). The average age of a commercial fisher with crawfish landings rose from 43.8 in 2000 and 2001 to 51.2 in 2018 but dropped to approximately 50 years old over the last five years (Table 4.3). About 26 percent of the commercial crawfish harvested in each of the past five years were under 40 years old (Table 4.4). Forty percent were in their forties or fifties and about one third were sixty or older.

Most of the commercial fishers who landed wild crawfish lived in or near the Atchafalaya Basin. Approximately three-quarters in each of the past six years had a recorded ZIP code within Assumption, Iberville, St. Martin, or St. Mary parish (Table 4.5).

Year-over-Year Participation in the Commercial Wild Crawfish Fishery

The rate of year-over-year participation has varied widely. For example, while 76 percent of the fishers who landed crawfish in 2022 also landed them in 2023 and 71 percent who landed them in 2020 also did so in 2021, fewer than 60 percent of the fishers with crawfish landings in 2023 also had landings in 2024 (Table 4.6).

The rate of year-over-year participation varied widely (Figure 4.6). In most years, however, a majority of those who landed crawfish in a particular year also landed them in the following year.

Participation in Other Commercial Fisheries by Fishers Who Landed Wild Crawfish

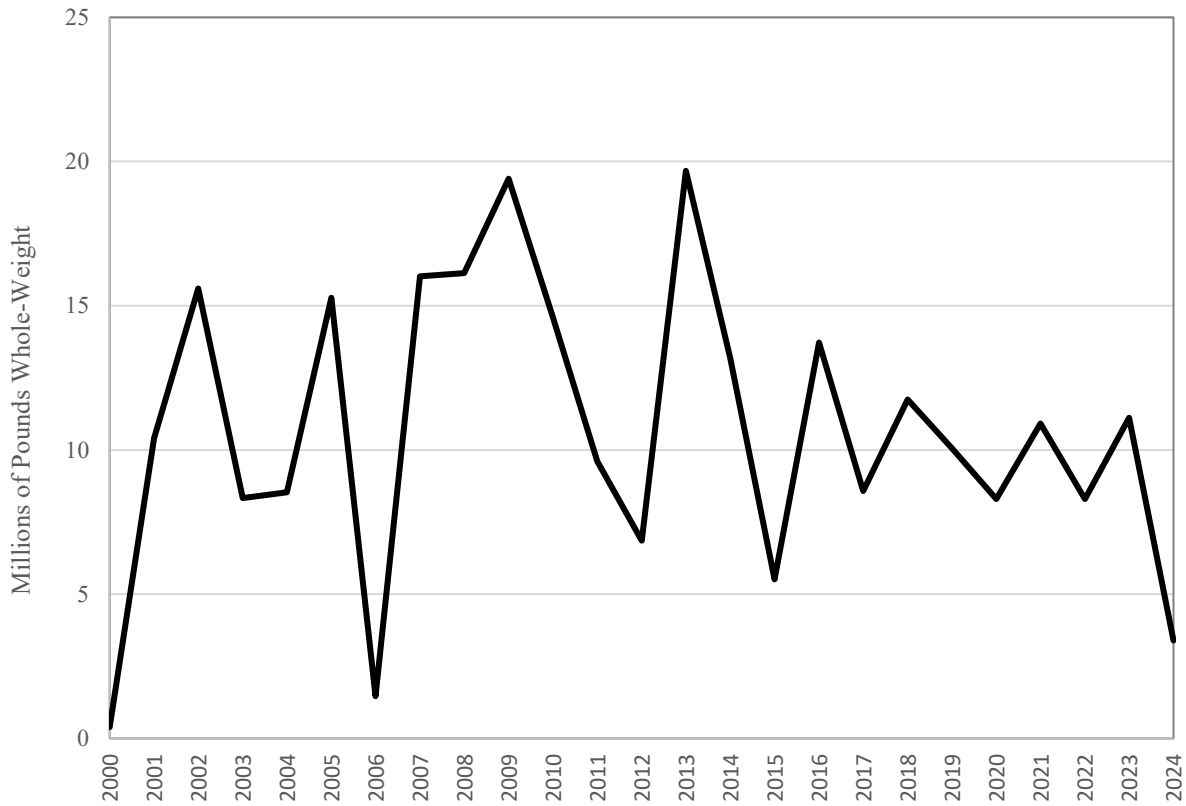
Relatively few commercial fishers who landed wild crawfish in a given year also had trip ticket records of landings for shrimp or blue crabs within the same year (Table 4.7). The number of crawfish harvesters with oyster landings was three times too low to report publically.

Table 4.1 Louisiana Commercial Wild Crawfish Landings: 2019 - 2024

Year	Pounds[§]	Current Dollar Value	Inflation-Adjusted Value[†]	Value per Pound[†]
2019	10,063,742	\$14,339,927	\$16,858,183	\$1.68
2020	8,298,969	\$11,486,451	\$13,327,666	\$1.61
2021	10,919,291	\$14,301,657	\$15,866,608	\$1.45
2022	8,298,408	\$14,301,949	\$14,823,241	\$1.79
2023	11,114,361	\$15,001,289	\$15,001,289	\$1.35
2024	3,383,209	\$6,759,074	\$6,759,074	\$2.00

[§] Pounds of whole-weight crawfish

[†] Expressed in constant, inflation adjusted 2024 dollars.



**Figure 4.1. Louisiana Commercial Crawfish Landings:
2000 - 2024**

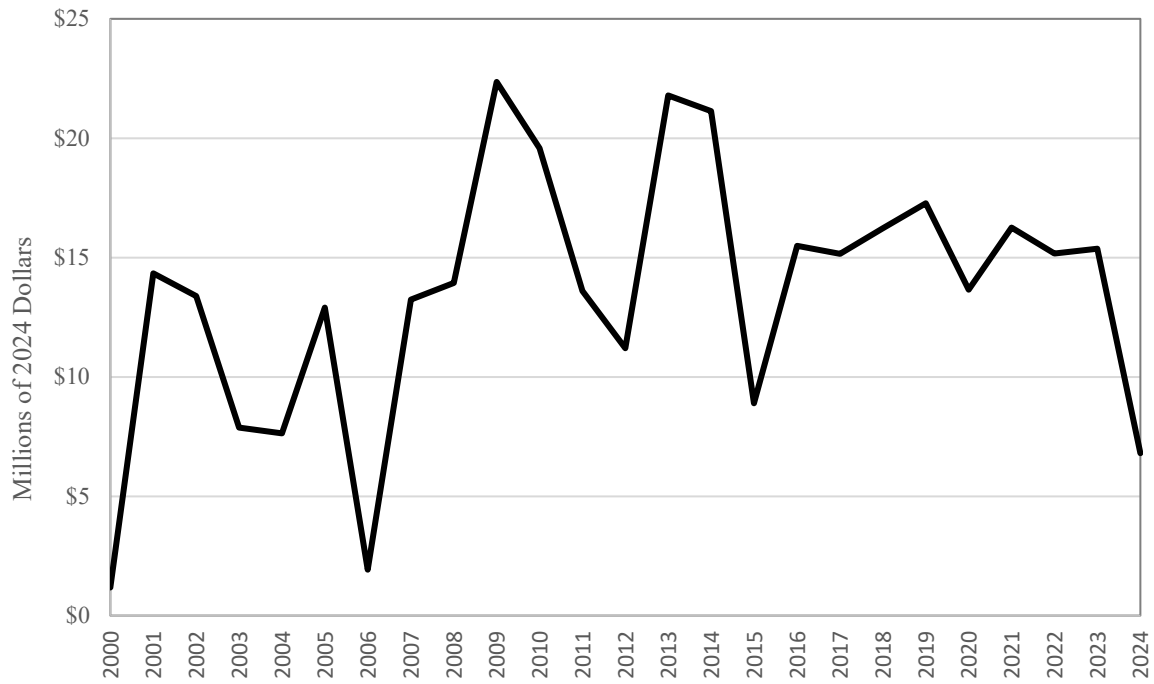


Figure 4.2. Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value of Louisiana Commercial Crawfish Landings: 2000 - 2024

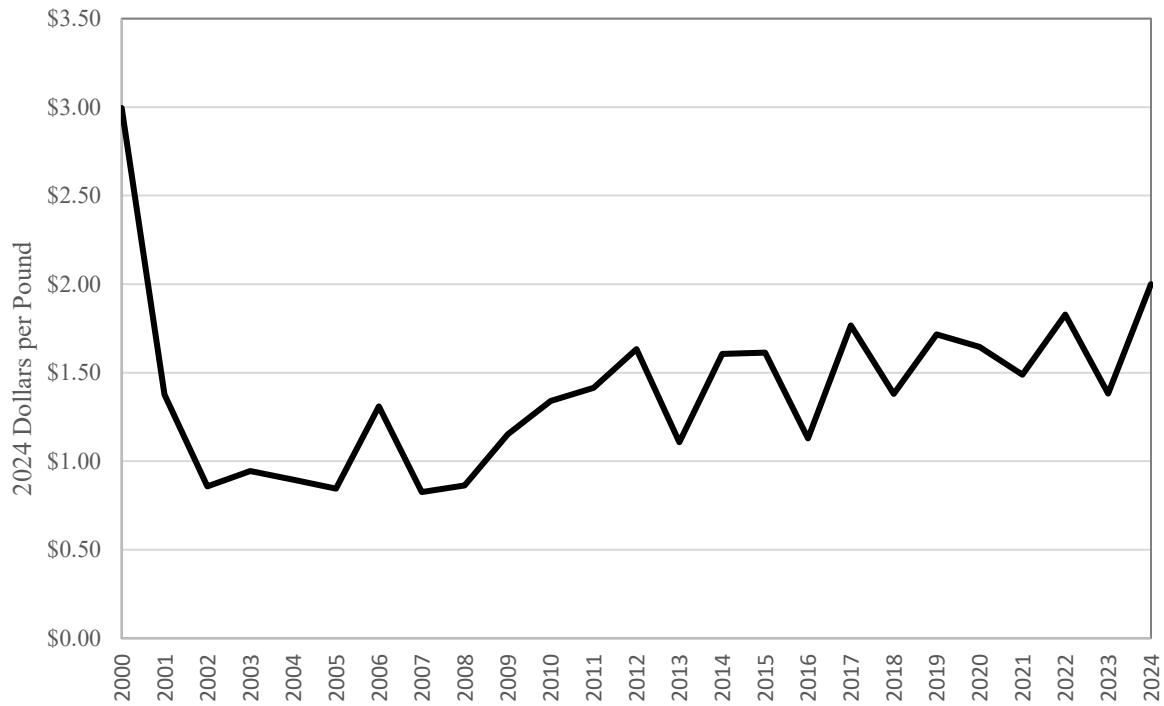


Figure 4.3. Estimated Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value per Pound for Louisiana Commercial Wild Crawfish Landings: 2000 - 2024

Table 4.2 Number of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Wild Crawfish Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
979	640	955	858	913	680

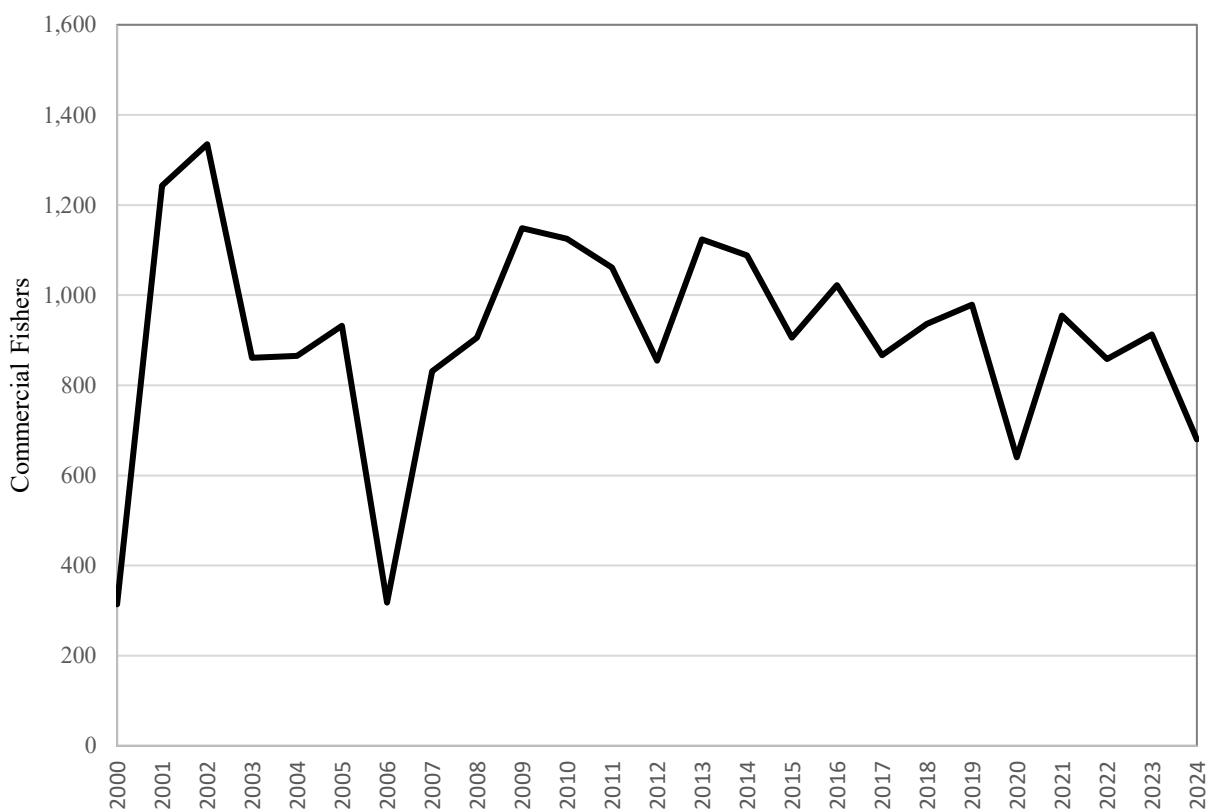


Figure 4.4. Number of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Wild Crawfish in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 4.3 Age of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Crawfish Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average	49.1	48.9	48.9	49.5	49.5	50.8
Median	50	49	49	51	51	52

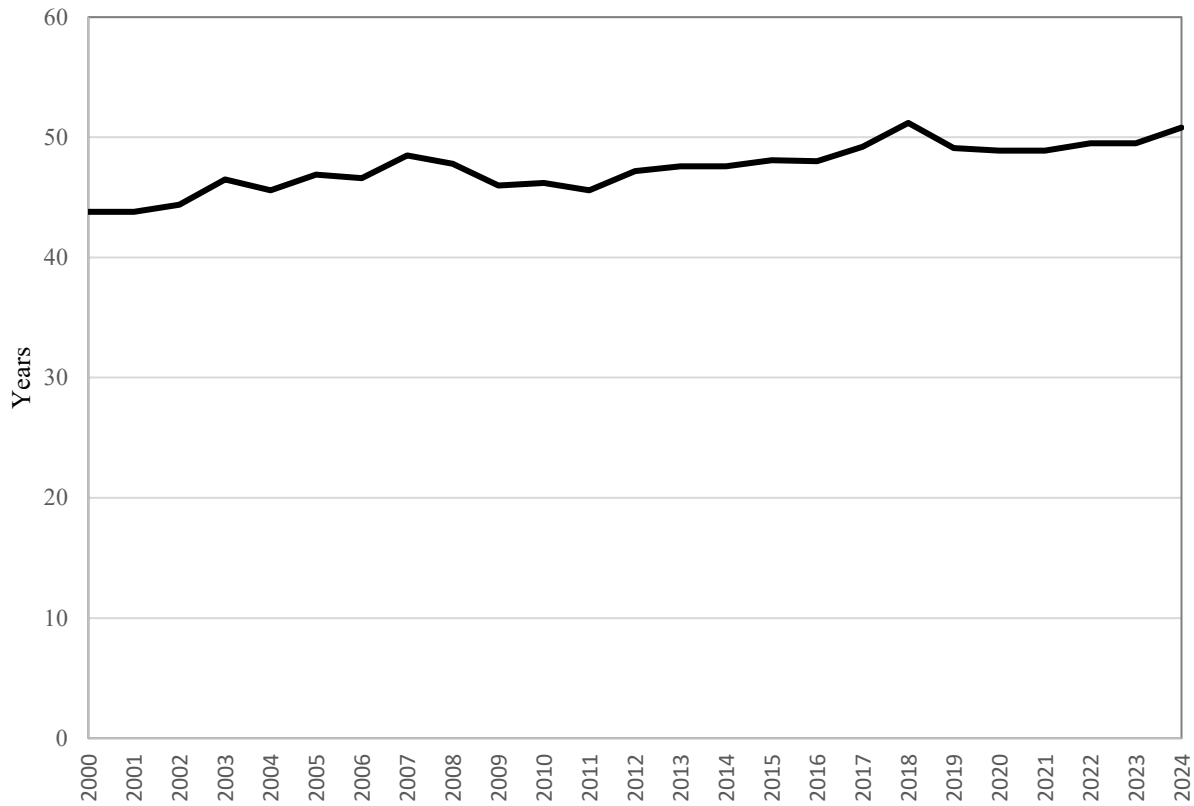


Figure 4.5. Average Age of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Crawfish in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 4.5 Recorded Area of Residence for Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Crawfish Landings: 2024

Parish	2024		2024		2024
Acadia	15	Iberville	144	St. Martin	98
	2.2%		21.2%		14.4%
Ascension	15	Lafayette	5	St. Mary	127
	2.2%		0.7		18.7%
Assumption	181	Livingston	10	Terrebonne	12
	26.7%		1.5%		1.8%
Avoyelles	3	Point Coupee	5	West Baton Rouge	7
	0.7%		0.7%		1.0%
East Baton Rouge	6	St. James	5	Other Parishes & States	14
	0.9%		0.7%		2.1%
Iberia	18	St. Landry	14	Total	679
	2.7%		2.1%		
“Other Parishes” include. Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, St Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa.					

Table 4.6 Number of Fishers with Crawfish Landings in Specified Year Who Also Had Crawfish Landings in Subsequent Year

Base Year	Landed Crawfish in Base Year	Also Landed Crawfish				
		One Year Later	Two Years Later	Three Years Later	Four Years Later	Five Years Later
2019	979	471	568	494	485	374
		48.1%	58.0%	50.5%	49.5%	38.2%
2020	640	454	391	365	289	
		70.9%	61.1%	57.0%	45.2%	
2021	955	618	580	436		
		64.7%	60.7%	45.7%		
2022	858	654	489			
		76.2%	57.0%			
2023	913	541				
		59.3%				

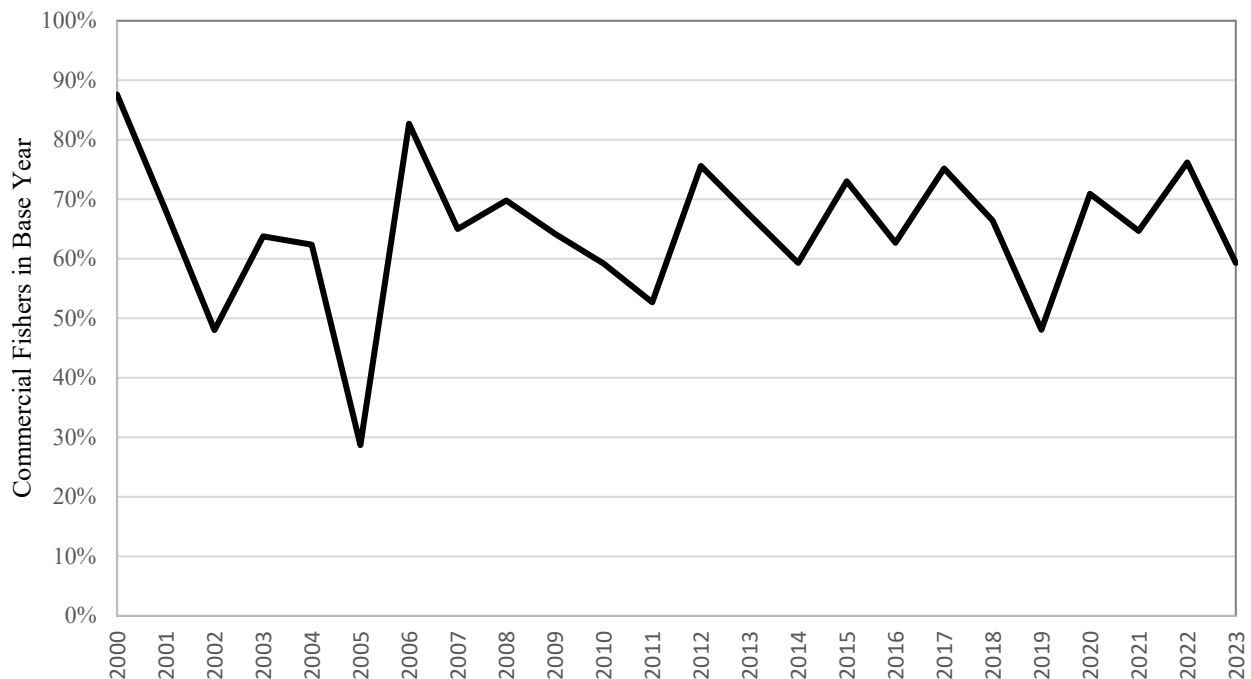


Figure 4.6. Percentage of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Crawfish in Specified Year Who Also Had Landings One Year Later

Table 4.7 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Wild Crawfish Landings in the Specified Year Who Also Reported Landings of Blue Crabs, Oysters, or Shrimp in the Same Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Blue Crabs	63	69	67	75	73	57
	6.4%	10.8%	7.0%	8.7%	8.0%	8.4%
Oysters	6	4	§	§	3	§
	0.6%	0.6%	-	-	0.3%	-
Shrimp	25	22	27	27	19	11
	2.6%	3.4%	2.8%	3.1%	2.1%	1.6%

§ Values withheld to maintain confidentiality standards.

Chapter 5. Commercial Fishers Who Landed Oysters

Louisiana commercial oyster landings totaled 6.9 million pounds of meat in 2024 with a dockside value of \$52.9 million (Table 5.1). Landings in three of the previous four years ranged between seven and eight million pounds of meat while inflation-adjusted dockside value varied between \$59 and \$80 million. Landings in 2020, coinciding with the COVID pandemic and the 2019 historic flood impacts, represented a 24-year minimum in terms of both weight (Figure 5.1) and inflation-adjusted dockside value (Figure 5.2). Prior to 2020, the minimum for the twenty-first century was observed in 2010 with landings of 6.9 million pounds of meat and a dockside value of \$35.0 million.

Though landings in terms of weight and statewide dockside value have varied, the per-unit value of commercial oyster landings have increased steadily for most of the period. The inflation-adjusted value per pound rose from \$3.72 per pound in 2000 to \$11.25 per pound in 2022 with a slide to \$7.63 in 2024 (Figure 5.3).

Commercial Fisher Demographics

The number of commercial fishers with oyster landings has ranged between 643 and 393 during the last six years (Table 5.2). The number participating in the fishery has taken a generally downward path from a period maximum of 1,029 commercial fishers in 2015 (Figure 5.4).

The average age of commercial fishers with oyster landings rose from about 44 or 45 years old in 2019 through 2022 to 46.7 years old in 2024 (Table 5.3), a continuation of an aging trend suggested by rising average ages since 2000 (Figure 5.5). In 2019, 47.0 percent of the oyster harvesters were in their forties and fifties, forty percent were under 40 years old, and 13 percent were 60 or older (Table 5.4). In 2024, 45 percent were in their forties and fifties, 35 percent were under 40, and 19 percent were 60 or older.

Commercial fishers with oyster landings had trip ticket records with ZIP codes in 16 different parishes in 2024. Nearly two-thirds resided in three parishes: Terrebonne, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard (Table 5.5). Approximately 16 percent resided in states other than Louisiana.

Year-over-Year Participation in the Commercial Oyster Fishery

The rate of year-over-year participation in the oyster fishery is considerably variable. For example, while over 71 percent of the commercial fishers with oyster landings in 2023 also had landings one year later in 2024, fewer than half of the fishers with oyster landings in 2019 recorded oyster landings in 2020 (Table 5.6). This decline in year-over-year participation is probably related to the drop in harvester numbers overall.

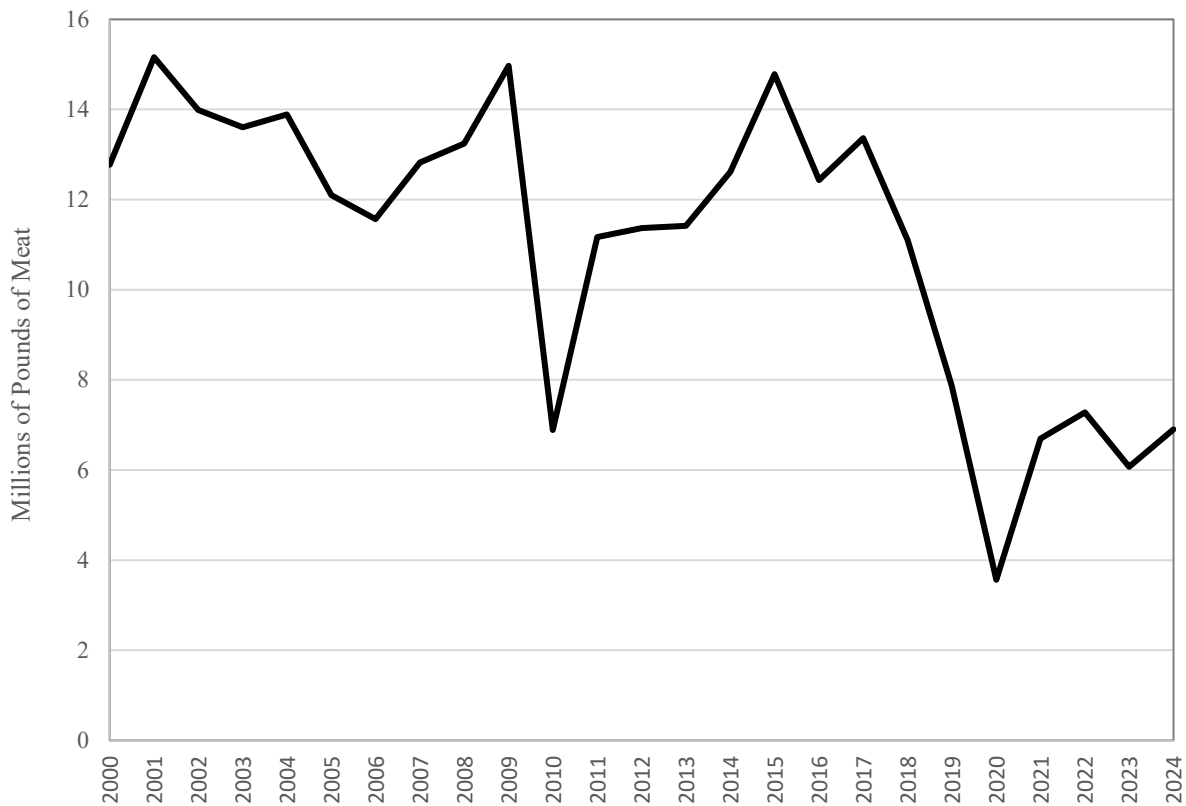
Participation in Other Commercial Fisheries by Fishers Who Landed Oysters

In each of the last five years, approximately one out of six commercial fishers who landed oysters also landed shrimp within the same year (Table 5.7). About six to nine percent also landed blue crabs. The number of oyster harvesters who also landed crawfish was minor, three times so low as to prohibit public release of the statistic.

Table 5.1 Louisiana Commercial Oyster Landings: 2019 - 2024

Year	Pounds[§]	Current Dollar Value	Inflation-Adjusted Value[†]	Value per Pound[†]
2019	7,862,783	\$55,394,220	\$65,122,082	\$8.28
2020	3,565,059	\$26,817,142	\$31,115,783	\$8.73
2021	6,699,299	\$52,885,793	\$58,672,793	\$8.76
2022	7,280,507	\$77,227,210	\$80,042,066	\$10.99
2023	6,068,981	\$61,404,971	\$61,404,971	\$10.12
2024	6,928,204	\$52,853,949	\$52,853,949	\$7.63

[§] Pounds of oyster meat
[†] Expressed in constant, inflation adjusted 2024 dollars.

**Figure 5.1. Louisiana Commercial Oyster Landings:
2000 - 2024**

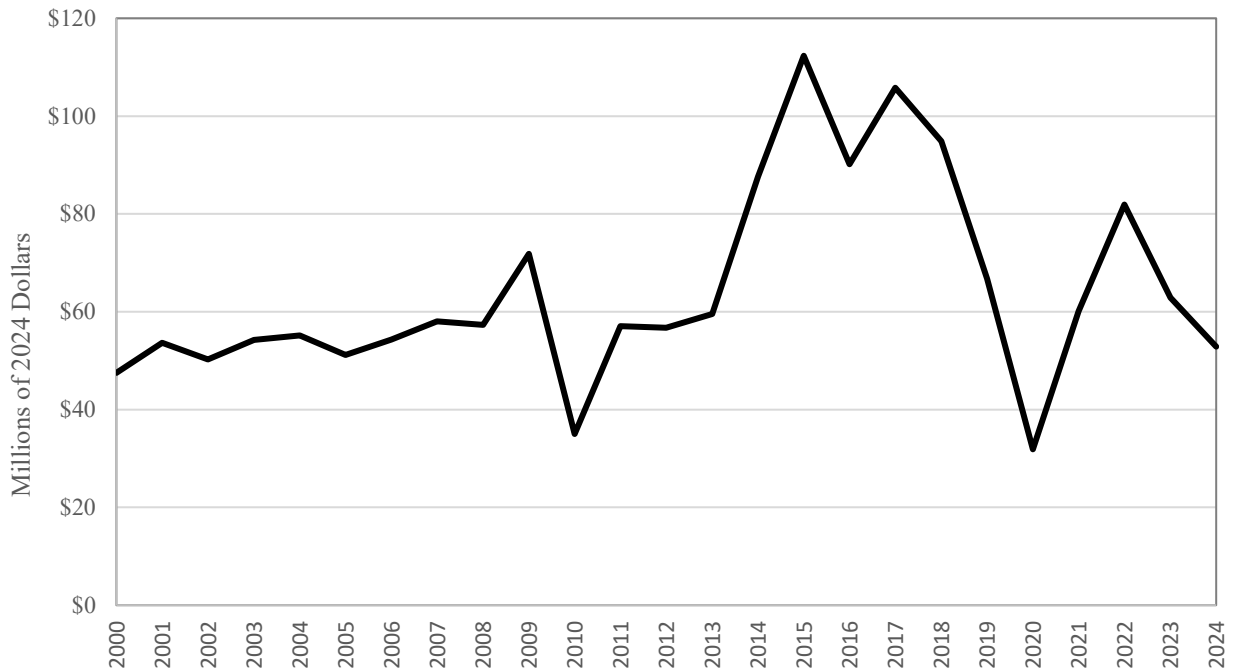


Figure 5.2. Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value of Louisiana Commercial Oyster Landings: 2000 - 2024

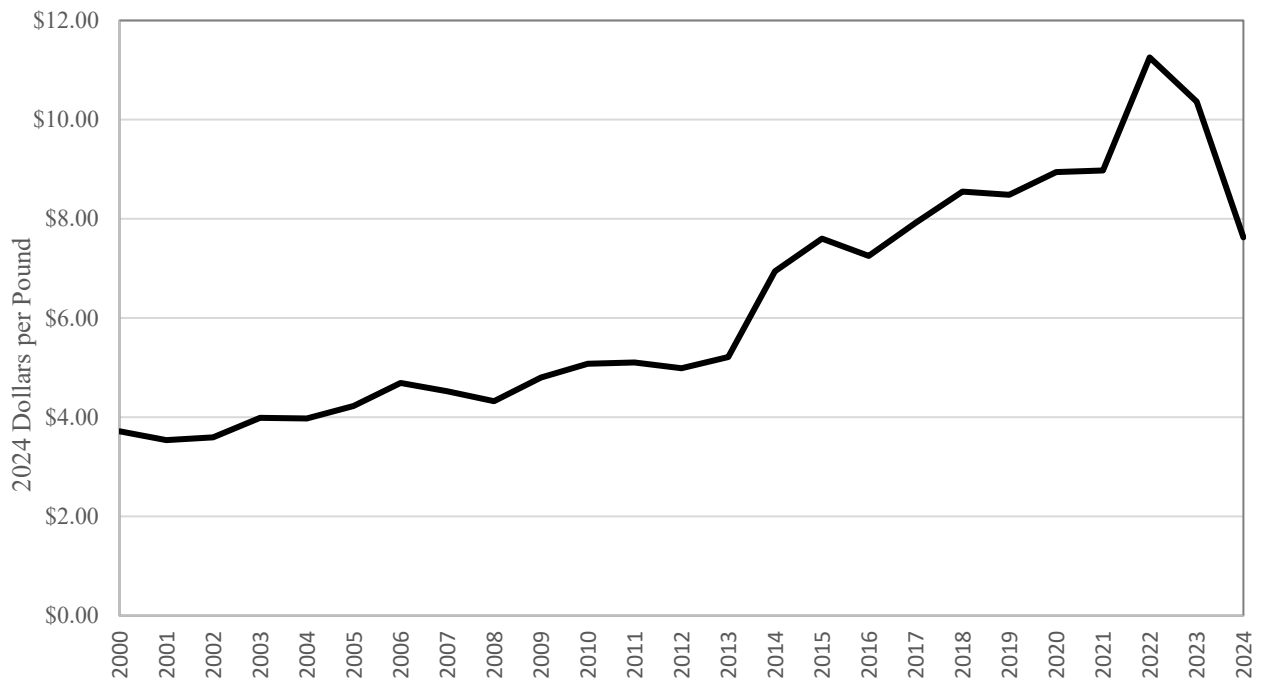


Figure 5.3. Estimated Inflation-Adjusted Dockside Value per Pound for Louisiana Commercial Oyster Landings: 2000 - 2024

Table 5.2 Number of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Oyster Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
643	434	406	466	442	393

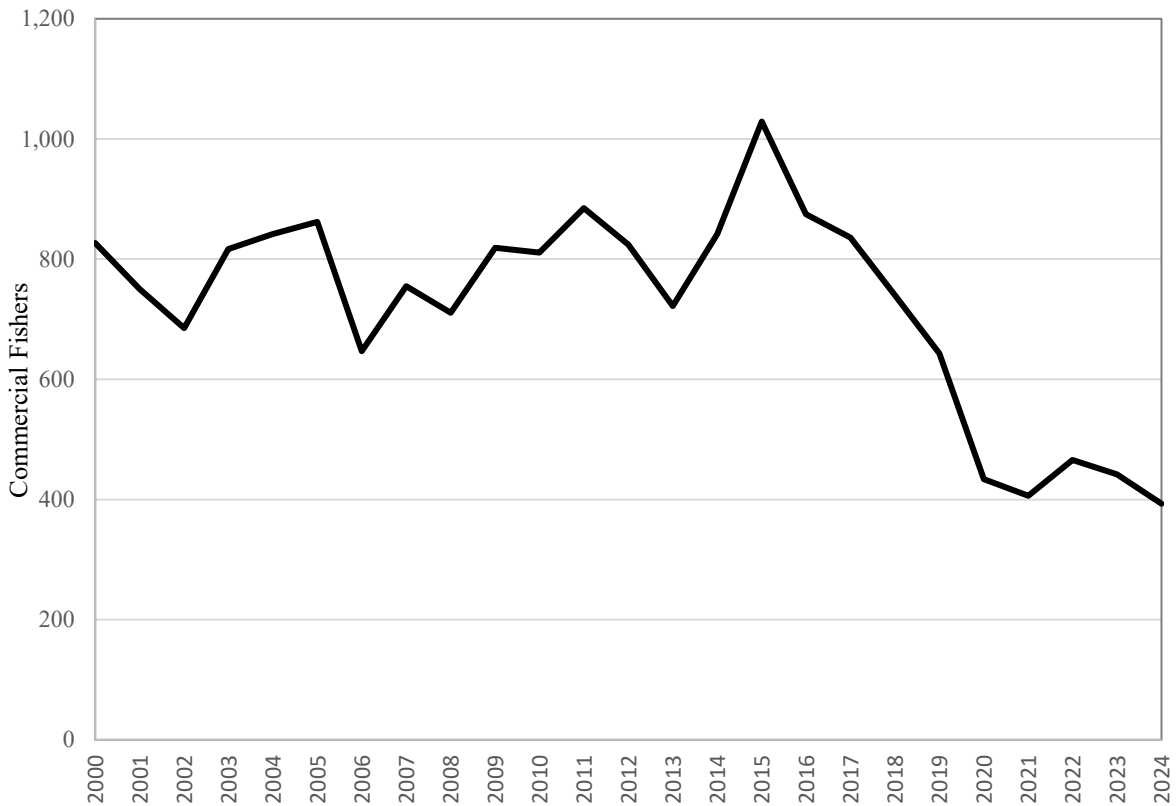


Figure 5.4. Number of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Oysters in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 5.3 Age of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Oyster Landings in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average	43.8	44.6	44.4	44.8	46.7	46.7
Median	44	45	45	45	47	47

Table 5.4 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Oyster Landings within Age Categories in Specified Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Under 30	116	68	64	63	49	44
	18.0%	15.7%	15.8%	13.5%	11.1%	11.3%
30 – 39	142	96	98	113	107	95
	22.1%	22.1%	24.1%	24.2%	24.2%	24.4%
40 – 49	140	102	90	96	90	84
	21.8%	23.5%	22.2%	20.6%	20.4%	21.6%
50 – 59	162	106	96	119	112	91
	25.2%	24.4%	23.6%	25.5%	25.3%	23.4%
60 – 69	69	49	45	50	57	53
	10.7%	11.3%	11.1%	10.7%	12.9%	13.6%
70 and Older	14	13	13	25	27	22
	2.2%	3.0%	3.2%	5.4%	6.1%	5.7%
Total	643	434	406	466	442	389

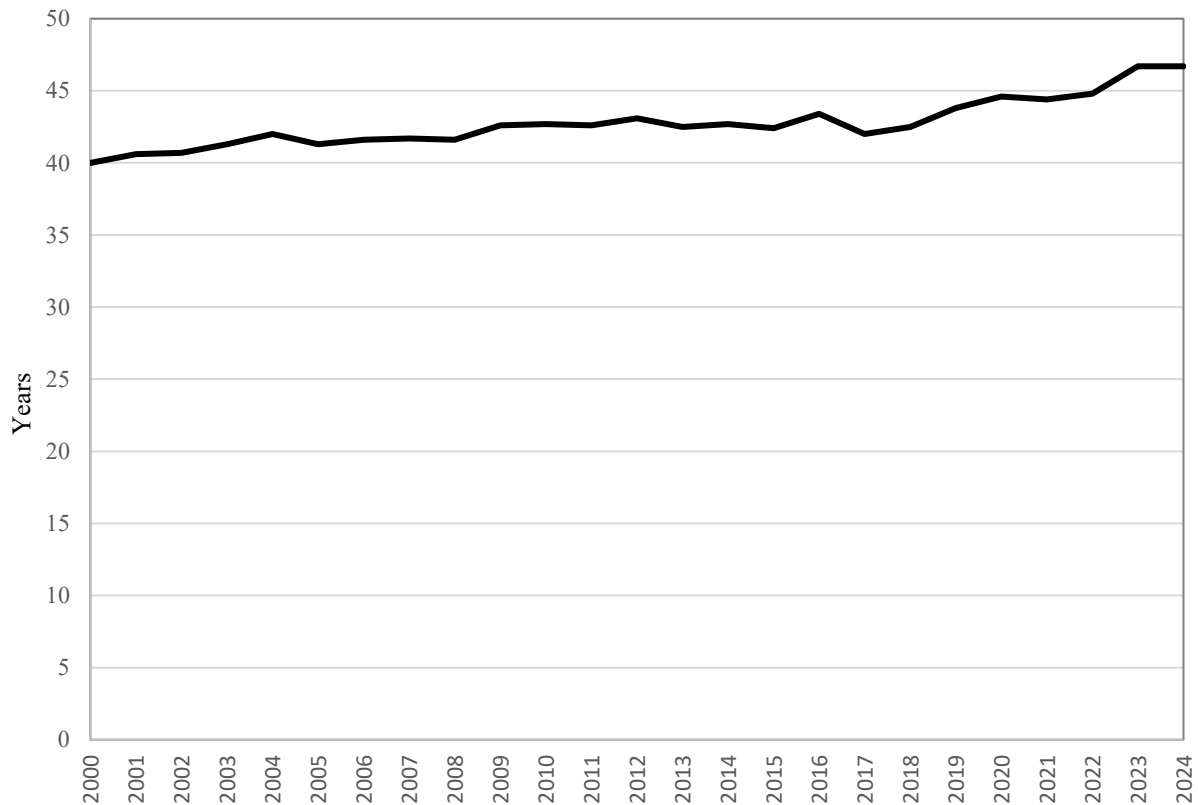


Figure 5.5. Average Age of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Oysters in Louisiana: 2000 - 2024

Table 5.5 Recorded Area of Residence for Commercial Fishers with Trip Ticket Records of Oyster Landings: 2024

Parish	2024		2024		2024
Acadia	15 3.9%	Orleans	3 0.8%	Terrebonne	115 29.6%
Calcasieu	5 1.3%	Plaquemines	74 19.0%	Other Parishes	7 1.8%
Cameron	15 3.9%	St. Bernard	58 14.9%	Out of State	61 15.7%
Jefferson	16 4.1%	St. Tammany	10 2.6%		
Lafourche	6 1.5%	Tangipahoa	4 1.0%	Total	389
“Other Parishes” include Assumption, Iberia, St. Charles, St. Landry, and Washington.					

Table 5.6 Number of Fishers with Oyster Landings in Specified Year Who Also Had Oyster Landings in Subsequent Year

	Landed Oysters in Base Year	Also Landed Oysters				
Base Year		One Year Later	Two Years Later	Three Years Later	Four Years Later	Five Years Later
2019	643	376	310	322	298	248
		58.5%	48.2%	50.1%	46.3%	38.6%
2020	434	288	277	242	209	
		66.4%	63.8%	55.8%	48.2%	
2021	406	297	259	223		
		66.4%	63.8%	54.9%		
2022	466	348	274			
		74.7%	58.8%			
2023	442	314				
		71.0%				

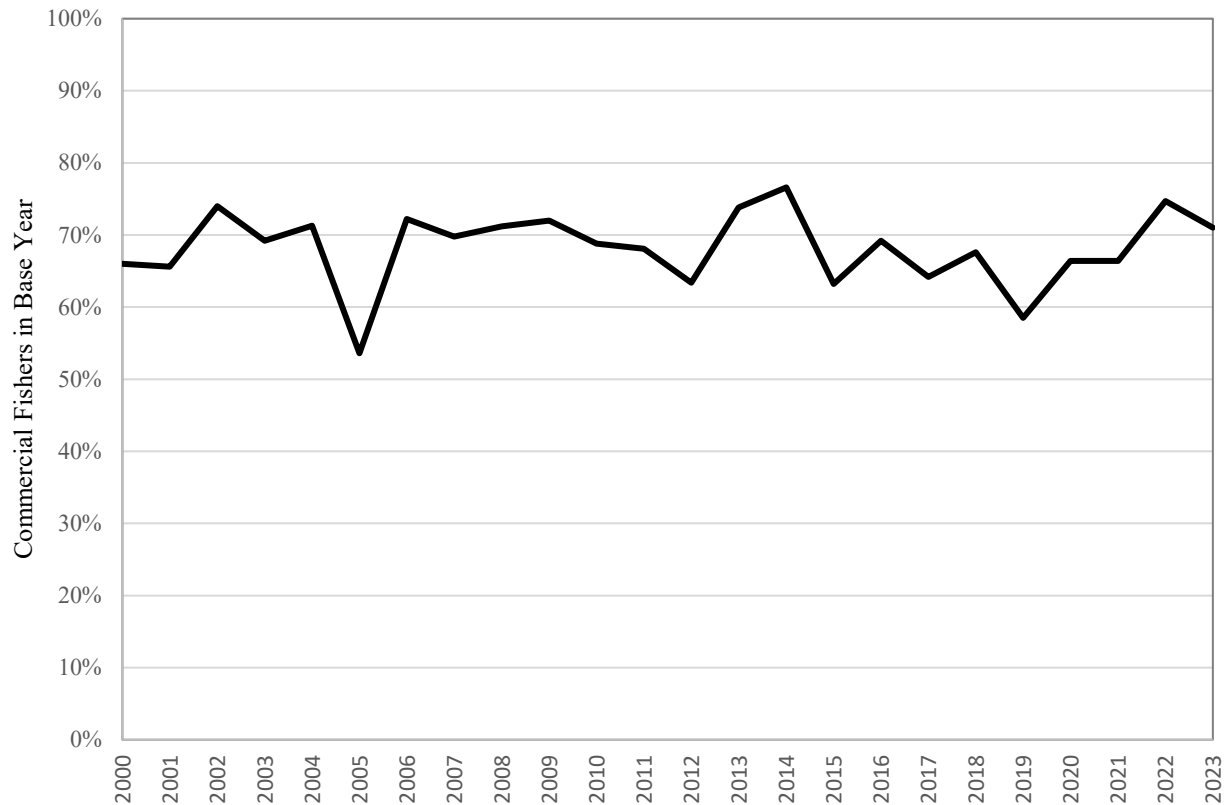


Figure 5.6. Percentage of Commercial Fishers Who Landed Oysters in Specified Year Who Also Had Landings One Year Later

Table 5.7 Number and Percentage of Commercial Fishers with Oyster Landings in the Specified Year Who Also Reported Landings of Blue Crabs, Crawfish, or Shrimp in the Same Year: 2019 - 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Blue Crabs	48	27	25	41	31	22
	7.5%	6.2%	6.2%	8.8%	7.0%	5.6%
Crawfish	6	4	§	§	3	§
	0.9%	0.9%	-	-	0.7%	-
Shrimp	114	72	69	82	70	41
	17.7%	16.6%	17.0%	17.6%	15.8%	10.4%

§ Values withheld to maintain confidentiality standards.