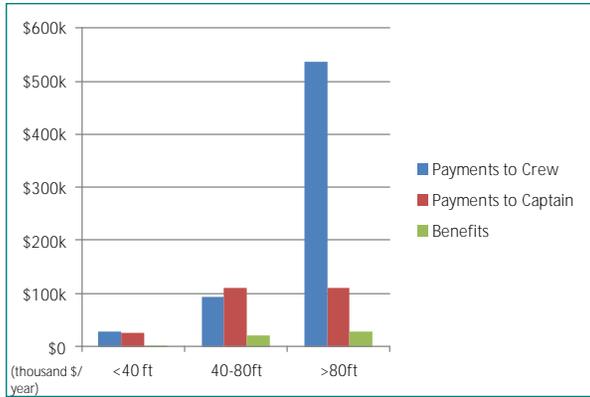


Crew Cost Data

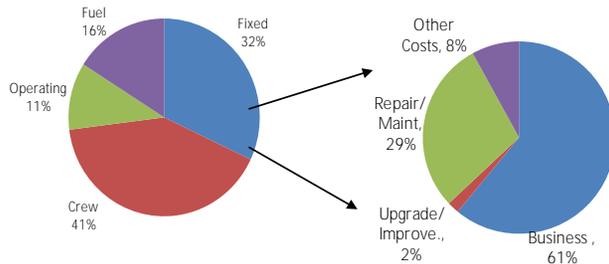
Crew costs include crew pay, hired captain pay and benefits.

Large vessels are primarily operated by hired-captain and small vessels are primarily owner-operated. The average crew cost is much higher for larger vessels (\$673,969) than medium (\$224,789) and small (\$54,851) vessels.



Cost Allocation Among Major Groups

The total cost of fishing includes repair/maintenance costs, upgrade/improvements costs, business costs, crew costs, and operating costs. A major part of operating costs is the cost of fuel. The following diagram shows percentage shares of major cost components of total fishing cost.



Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact our Survey Team.

Survey Team

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We want to ensure that fisheries managers *understand* the costs your fishing business faces.

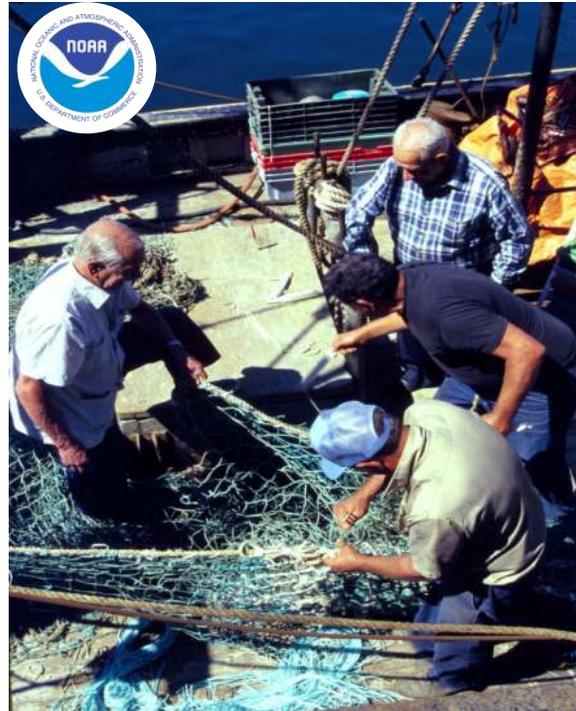


Photo Credit: Ecosystems Surveys Branch, NEFSC/NOAA

We realize the information provided is limited. If you would like a further breakdown of the survey results, please contact our Survey Team.

Science, Service, Stewardship



Social Sciences Branch
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

Northeast Commercial Fishing Business Cost Survey 2012

SELECTED RESULTS

Purpose of Study

The Social Sciences Branch (SSB) of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center advocates for increased attention to economic and social impacts to fishing communities in the fisheries management process. We work hard to provide complete and accurate information on these impacts to decision makers. *We want your experiences and knowledge to be heard.*

Survey Structure

- I. Vessel Information
- II. Repair/Maintenance/Upgrade/Improvement Costs
- III. Fishing Business Costs
- IV. Operating Costs
- V. Crew Payment System
- VI. Other Costs

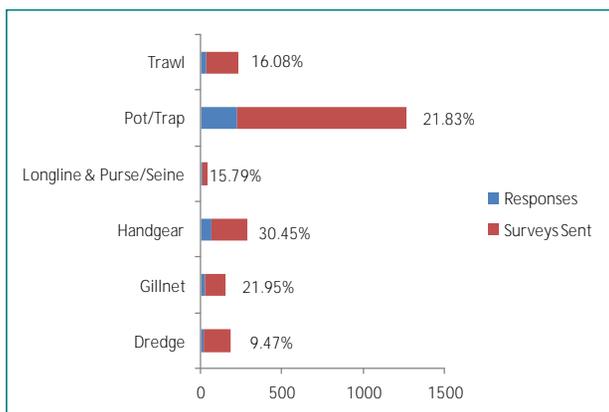
We have been surveying business owners about their total fishing costs every few years since 2007. This cost information helps the SSB improve our analyses and in turn helps policy makers better understand the economic and social impacts of their management decisions. Our cost data has been used to inform:

- Economic impacts of shifting at sea monitoring costs from NMFS to ground-fish sectors
- Three-year performance review for the limited access general category IFQ scallop fishery
- Estimation of fixed costs for the limited access general category scallop fishery (included in Amendment 19 and Framework 27 to the Scallop FMP)
- Modeling of profitability, capacity utilization and efficiencies associated with scale

If you have participated in this study in years past, *thank you*. We are listening and we are working hard to do a better job for fishermen.

Survey Administration and Participation Data

Surveys were sent to 1,789 fishermen in the Northeast. We received a total of 312 returned by mail and 55 returned through our web survey. Response frequencies by primary gear group are summarized below.



Average Respondent Vessel Characteristics

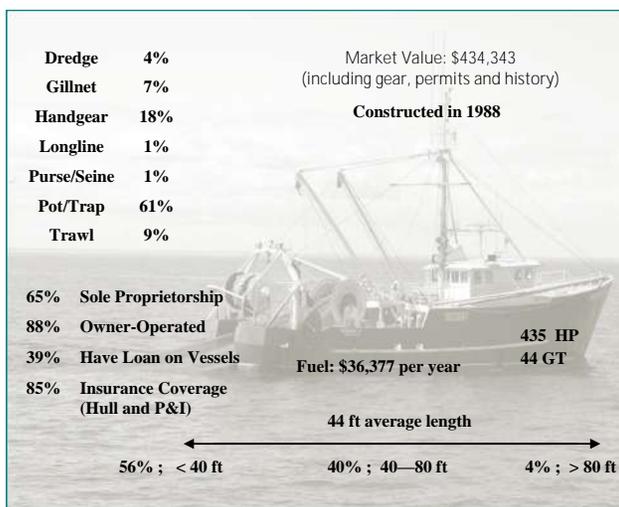


Photo Credit: Ecosystems Surveys Branch, NEFSC/NOAA

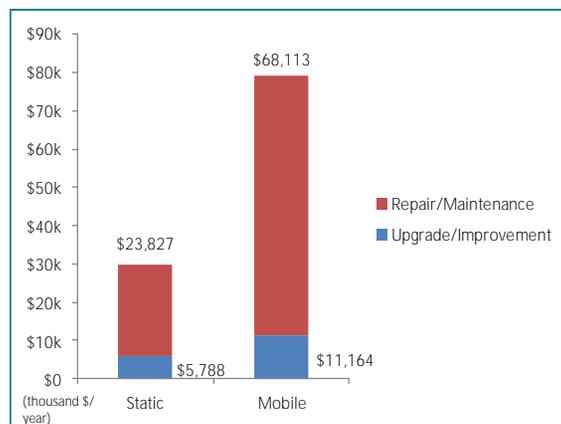
Please note: the summary characteristics above are for our sample only and do not necessarily reflect the characteristics of the population.

Average Repair/Maintenance and Upgrade/Improvement Costs

Survey respondents were asked to report these costs by eight different categories: engine, deck equipment, hull, gear, wheel house/gear electronics, processing/refrigeration, safety equipment and other. Average costs per year by vessel length are reported below.

	vessel < 40 ft		vessel 40 - 80 ft		vessel > 80 ft	
	Upgrade/Improv.	Repair/Maint.	Upgrade/Improv.	Repair/Maint.	Upgrade/Improv.	Repair/Maint.
Gear	\$1,213	\$5,713	\$1,689	\$12,104	\$1,907	\$30,024
Hull	\$451	\$1,295	\$1,189	\$4,236	n.a.	\$25,813
Other	\$234	\$1,833	\$458	\$4,385	n.a.	\$20,526
Engine	\$1,423	\$2,594	\$2,731	\$7,313	\$7,024	\$15,716
Deck	\$334	\$1,340	\$1,144	\$5,132	\$3,390	\$7,273
Processing/Refrig.	n.a.	\$332	\$335	\$5,708	\$687	\$4,946
Wheelhouse	\$347	\$1,012	\$666	\$2,145	\$549	\$4,406
Safety Equip.	\$163	\$976	\$248	\$1,467	\$907	\$2,054
TOTAL	\$4,165	\$15,095	\$8,460	\$42,490	\$14,464	\$110,758

Vessels with mobile gear (average length: 68 ft) incur significantly greater repair/maintenance costs than vessels with static gear (average length: 38 ft). Average repair/maintenance and upgrade/improvement costs by vessel gear type are shown below.

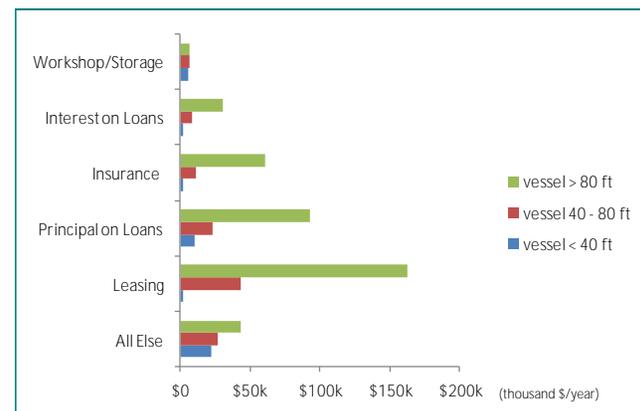


Data Analysis Notes

- Categories with less than 3 responses are not reported.
- The mobile gear category includes those whose primary gear type is dredge or trawl (the static gear category includes gillnet, longline, handgear, pot/trap, purse/seine).
- Only non-zero values are considered for calculating averages and cost distributions.
- All costs are in 2012 dollars.

Average Fishing Business Costs

Fishing business costs are expenses for things like workshop/storage, association fees, office expenses, professional fees, loan payments and leasing costs. The averages for five of the largest cost categories are summarized by vessel size below.



Average Operating Costs

Fuel is the largest operating cost, accounting for 31% (\$14,223) and 57% (\$102,213) of operating costs for static and mobile vessel groups respectively. Below are averages for the remaining operating cost categories per year.

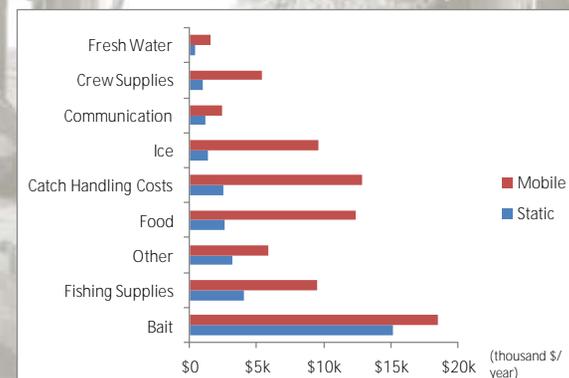


Photo Credit: Ecosystems Surveys Branch, NEFSC/NOAA