

Interviewer's Name: _____

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**Social Sciences Branch
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Woods Hole, MA**

Survey on the Socio-Economic Aspects of Commercial Fishing Crew in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic



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*In this survey, please tell us about your fishing in 2011.
The information you provide will remain strictly confidential.
You will not be identified with your answers.*

1. Please look at the following list of fisheries and indicate which three fisheries you consider to be your top 3 fisheries, with #1 indicating the fishery that is most important to you, #2 indicating the fishery that is second most important to you, and #3 indicating the fishery that is third most important to you.

	#1 (Most Important Fishery)
	#2 (Second Most Important Fishery)
	#3 (Third Most Important Fishery)

<input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea Bass <input type="checkbox"/> Herring <input type="checkbox"/> Lobster <input type="checkbox"/> Mackerel <input type="checkbox"/> Monkfish <input type="checkbox"/> Multispecies, sectors <input type="checkbox"/> Multispecies, common pool <input type="checkbox"/> Red Crab <input type="checkbox"/> Scallop, general category IFQ <input type="checkbox"/> Scallop, general category non-IFQ <input type="checkbox"/> Scallop, limited access	<input type="checkbox"/> Scup <input type="checkbox"/> Skate <input type="checkbox"/> Spiny Dogfish <input type="checkbox"/> Squid, Illex <input type="checkbox"/> Squid, Loligo <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Flounder <input type="checkbox"/> Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog <input type="checkbox"/> Tilefish <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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2. Why do you consider it to be your primary fishery?

3. What port did you primarily work out of in 2011?

Port _____ State _____ Country _____

4. Please list all major sources of household income in 2011, including fishing, starting with the most important. Please include sources of incomes such as investments and unemployment payments. Estimate the percentage that each contributed to your total household income. Please consider all sources of income from everyone that lives in your house.

	Source	% Household Income
1 st most important		
2 nd most important		
3 rd most important		
4 th most important		
5 th most important		
6 th most important		
7 th most important		
8 th most important		
9 th most important		
10 th most important		
11 th most important		
12 th most important		

5. Are any members of your family (for example, parents, children, siblings, uncles/aunts, cousins, in-laws) involved in commercial fishing or other fishing-related activities (for example, book-keeping, provisioning vessels, marketing)?

1. YES
2. NO
3. I DON'T KNOW.

Within your primary fishery, consider the vessel you worked on the most in 2011. Please answer the following questions based on your fishing activities on that primary vessel.

6. In what port did your vessel usually moor between fishing trips during 2011?

Port _____ State _____ Country _____

7. What was the main port of landing for that vessel in 2011?

Port _____ State _____ Country _____

8. How many days (24 hour periods) did a typical trip last before returning to port?

_____ Days

9. What was the average size of the crew in 2011 (including the captain)?

_____ Members

10. How many hours per day (24 hour period) did you usually work while on a fishing trip?

_____ Hours

11. Was the vessel you worked on most in 2011 owner-operated? (Please circle one response).

1. YES
2. NO
3. UNCERTAIN

*Please think about the expenditures for your primary fishery on your primary vessel.
Please tell us about how revenues and expenses are distributed amongst crew.*

12. For your vessel in 2011, please indicate which of the following describes how the crew was paid? If more than one payment system was used, please indicate all that apply.

- 1. A share system (revenues and expenses were shared between the boat and crew)
- 2. Per-trip
- 3. Hourly wage
- 4. Other (please specify) _____
- 5. I don't know.

If your answer to Question #12 included payments to crew through a share system, please continue to Question #13.

If not, please go to Question #16.

13. For share systems, what were the typical percentages distributed to the boat (the vessel owner) and crew?

_____ % Boat (owner) share

_____ % Crew share

100 %

_____ I don't know.

14. For share systems, how is payment to the captain of the boat usually handled if the captain is a hired captain (not the vessel owner)? [If the vessel you worked on most in 2011 was owner-operated, please go to Question #15].

_____ I don't know.

*Question #15 is about how expenses are handled under share systems.
Please help us to understand how expenses for each of the following items are deducted.*

15. A. For 2011, what expenses did you and other crew members pay a portion of? Please include expenses that were deducted from the crew's share and expenses that crew may have been asked to pay for separately (outside a share system).

_____ I don't know.

B. For this vessel, were there new expenses in 2011 that crew members were asked to pay that they were not asked to pay before?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. I don't know

C. If you responded "YES" to Question #15, Part B, above, please tell us what new expenses you, as a crew member, have been asked to pay in 2011 that you were not asked to pay in 2010. If you responded "NO" to Question #15, Part B, above, please continue to Question #16.

16. What was your position on the vessel in 2011? (Please circle all that apply).

- 1. Captain
- 2. Deck hand
- 3. Engine mechanic
- 4. Cook
- 5. Other _____

17. If you were the captain, did you have anyone from your immediate family help you with your duties (such as provisioning the vessel, selling the catch, etc.)?

1. YES

2. NO

18. What was the first crew position you ever had when you began fishing (for example cook, mechanic, deckhand, electrician)?

19. Please list your top three primary activities on the vessel you worked on in 2011, with #1 representing your most important activity, #2 representing your second most important activity and #3 representing your third most important activity.

#1 _____ First Most Important Activity

#2 _____ Second Most Important Activity

#3 _____ Third Most Important Activity

20. How were you hired for the vessel you worked on in 2011? (Please circle one response).

1. Word of mouth
2. Referred by a friend
3. Related to owner
4. Related to non-owner crew member (may include hired captain).
5. Previous work with the same vessel
6. Advertisement
7. Other _____

21. How difficult was it for you to find your employment on a vessel in 2011? (Please circle one response).

1. Very easy
2. Easy
3. Neither easy nor difficult
4. Difficult
5. Very difficult

22. As of December 31, 2011, how many consecutive years had you worked on your vessel? If you had worked on this vessel for less than 1 year as of December 31, 2011, please indicate the number of months you had worked on this vessel.

_____ Years

_____ Months

23. How many different vessel owners did you work for in 2011?

_____ Vessel owners

Responses to Question #24 below help us understand the value of time for commercial fishermen.

24. Imagine for a moment that you were not a commercial fisherman.

A. For the year 2011, what is your best estimate of how much you would earn per year?

_____ Dollars Per Year

B. Please indicate whether this estimate is based on full-time or part-time work.

1. Full-time
2. Part-time

In the following questions, please tell us how you feel about the regulations in your primary fishery.

25. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the rules and regulations in your primary fishery. (Please circle one response for each item).

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Information about the rules and regulations that govern my primary fishery is easy to find.	1	2	3	4	5
b. The rules and regulations are easy to comply with in practice.	1	2	3	4	5
c. The rules and regulations change so quickly-it is hard to keep up.	1	2	3	4	5
d. We are told about any changes to the rules and regulations in plenty of time to be able to make any necessary adjustments.	1	2	3	4	5
e. The fines that are associated with breaking the rules and regulations of my primary fishery are fair.	1	2	3	4	5
f. I feel that the regulations in my primary fishery are too restrictive.	1	2	3	4	5
g. I think most of the regulations in my primary fishery are unfair.	1	2	3	4	5

26. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the management of your primary fishery. (Please circle one response for each item).

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Opportunities for existing fishermen should not be reduced by new fishermen entering the fishery.	1	2	3	4	5
b. Management should aim to maximize the possible number of fishermen.	1	2	3	4	5
c. Fishing areas should belong to the fishermen who use them and should be off limits to other users (for example, fishermen from another fishery or wind farm activity).	1	2	3	4	5
d. Management can change quickly when conditions (income, stock levels, safety) change.	1	2	3	4	5
e. I think the goals of the management plan for my primary fishery are being met.	1	2	3	4	5
f. My captain in this fishery thinks the management plan for my primary fishery helps protect the number of fish.	1	2	3	4	5
g. My fishing captain is able to fish when he wants.	1	2	3	4	5
h. My fishing captain is able to fish where he wants.	1	2	3	4	5

27. For your primary fishery please indicate if you think the current levels of each of the following items are high, medium or low. (Please circle one response for each item).

a. Level of bycatch (catch of non-target species)	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	I don't know
b. Level of discards (live and dead catch of target or non-target species that is thrown overboard)	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	I don't know
c. Level of highgrading (low value fish thrown overboard in order to keep higher value fish)	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	I don't know

28. For your primary fishery please indicate the extent to which you think each of the following items is increasing, decreasing or staying the same (Please circle one number for each item or circle “I don’t know”).

	Significantly decreasing	Decreasing	Not Changing	Increasing	Significantly Increasing	I DON'T KNOW
a. Level of bycatch (catch of non-target species)	1	2	3	4	5	I DON'T KNOW
b. Level of discards (live or dead catch of target or non-target species that is thrown overboard)	1	2	3	4	5	I DON'T KNOW
c. Level of highgrading (low value fish thrown overboard in order to keep higher value fish)	1	2	3	4	5	I DON'T KNOW

29. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about the responsibilities fishermen have. (Please circle one number for each item).

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Fishermen have a responsibility to participate in the fisheries management process.	1	2	3	4	5
b. I make every effort to ensure my actions do not harm the fishery unnecessarily.	1	2	3	4	5
c. The ocean is very large, there is no way we can over fish it.	1	2	3	4	5
d. The natural environment is important to me because that is how I make my living.	1	2	3	4	5

The following sections include questions to help us to collect data on fishermen well-being.

*The information you provide us will remain strictly confidential.
Your name will never be associated with your responses.*

*In the following section we are interested in
commercial fishing as a lifestyle
and how satisfied you are.*

30. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about fishing as a career. (Please circle one number for each item).

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I feel like I am a leader in my local <i>community</i> .	1	2	3	4	5
b. I feel like I am a leader in my primary <i>fishery</i> .	1	2	3	4	5
c. I am proud to identify myself as a fisherman.	1	2	3	4	5
d. I feel a strong connection to other fishermen in the community.	1	2	3	4	5
e. I enjoy fishing.	1	2	3	4	5
f. Fishing is just a job to me.	1	2	3	4	5
g. Leaving the fishing industry is something that I have considered.	1	2	3	4	5
h. Right now, I want to continue fishing but only part-time until I retire.	1	2	3	4	5

31. Would you advise a young person to enter fishing?

1. YES
2. NO

WHY? _____

32. Would you still be a commercial fisherman if you had your life to live over?

1. YES
2. NO

WHY? _____

33. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following items relating to the job of fishing? (Please circle one number for each item).

	Extremely dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Extremely satisfied
a. Your actual earnings	1	2	3	4	5
b. The predictability of your earnings	1	2	3	4	5
c. Job safety (e.g. risks to you physically from working as a fisherman)	1	2	3	4	5
d. The amount of time spent away from home	1	2	3	4	5
e. Physical fatigue of the job	1	2	3	4	5
f. Healthfulness of the job (e.g., how your job as a fisherman may impact your physical and mental health)	1	2	3	4	5
g. Adventure of the job	1	2	3	4	5
h. Challenge of the job	1	2	3	4	5
i. Opportunity to be your own boss	1	2	3	4	5

34. In general, how satisfied are you with: (Please circle one number for each part).

	Extremely dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Extremely satisfied
a. Your life	1	2	3	4	5
b. Your physical health	1	2	3	4	5
c. The overall health of the marine environment	1	2	3	4	5

We realize the next question may seem odd or personal. There is evidence that a person's level of happiness affects their physical health, mental health and overall well-being.

35. How often do you feel happy?

1. Never
2. Not often
3. Neutral
4. Often
5. All the time

In the following questions, please tell us about any health insurance you may have.

36. Did you or members of your family have health insurance in 2011?

1. YES (If YES, Continue with Question #37, below)
2. NO (If NO, Go to Question #39, below)

37. If YES, did this health insurance cover (please check all that apply).

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| a. Yourself | YES <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| b. Your spouse or another adult | YES <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| c. Your or your spouse's children | YES <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> | |

38. If YES, where did the insurance come from?

1. From my employer (the vessel owner)
2. From another employer I have
3. Spouse's/Partner's place of employment
4. Own Private Insurance
5. Federal or State Insurance Program
6. Other

39. Were you or members of your family offered health insurance through your boat (by the vessel owner)?

1. YES
2. NO

*As a reminder, the information you provide to us will remain strictly confidential.
Your name will never be associated with your answers.*

40. What year were you born in? _____

*Below, please respond to each question about Hispanic origins, race, and ethnicity.
For this survey, Hispanic origins are not races.*

41. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? “Hispanic or Latino” refers to a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

1. No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
2. Yes: Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano
3. Yes: Puerto Rican
4. Yes: Cuban
5. Yes: Other Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin

42. Which racial category describes you? (Please check all that apply).

1. White
2. Black or African American
3. American Indian or Alaska Native
4. Asian
5. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
6. Some other race (alone)
7. Person of two or more races

43. What is your ancestry or ethnic origin? (For example: Norwegian, Portuguese, Polish, Brazilian etc)

44. What is the primary language you speak at home? _____

45. Where were you born?

1. In the United States - print the name of the State _____
2. Outside the United States - print the name of the foreign country _____

46. Where did you live in 2011?

_____Town

_____State

47. What was your marital status in 2011? (Please check the response that best describes you).

1. Married
2. Widowed
3. Divorced
4. Separated
5. Never Married
6. Living with an unmarried partner

48. How many people lived in your primary household in 2011?

_____Adults and _____children under 18

49. As of December 31, 2011, how long had you been involved in commercial fishing? If, as of December 31, 2011, you had been involved in commercial fishing less than one year, then please indicate the number of months.

_____ YEARS

_____ MONTHS

50. How many generations of your family have fished commercially including yourself?

_____Generations

51. Which category best describes the highest level of education that you have completed? (Please circle one response).

1. Did not complete high school: please indicate the highest grade completed: _____
2. High school diploma/equivalency
3. Associate's/ two year degree
4. Bachelor's/ four year degree
5. Graduate degree

