

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Introduction

This Appendix identifies “shrimp” communities throughout the U.S. Southeast and focuses on recent data regarding shrimp fishing, shrimp fishermen, and ultimately the potentially impacted communities themselves. These “shrimp” communities were identified based on factors such as commercial licenses held by local residents, the number of shrimp “dealers” in such communities as the value of the shrimp landed. Information for many of the South Atlantic community descriptions were referenced from the report, *Potential Fishing Communities in the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida: An effort in baseline profiling and mapping* by Jepson *et al.* (2006). Demographic data came from the U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census. Other fishery dependent data were derived from the Accumulated Landings System (ALS) database and licensing information from the NMFS Regional Office. Each state is addressed and communities are selected based on data from the Southeast Regional Office which highlight the number of licensed shrimp fishermen most likely impacted by potential policy changes. Communities from the Gulf were also included as many Gulf shrimpers and dealers from the region are also impacted by participation in the South Atlantic shrimp fisheries (the community descriptions are based on reports created by Impact Assessment Inc.). The potentially impacted communities are discussed on a state by state basis with individual communities listed in alphabetical order, no way reflecting on the relative importance of shrimp to the region, state or local economy.

North Carolina Shrimp Communities

Beaufort Community Description

Beaufort was built on a former Native American village, called Warelock which translates to “fish town” or “fishing village.” It is located near Cape Lookout and borders the southern portion of the Outer Banks. Because of its physical characteristics, especially the deep water harbor, it is an ideal home to vessels of all sizes and types and maintains a maritime infrastructure making it a favorite stop-over for transient boaters. Originally a fishing village and port of safety, it was known as “Fishtowne” until incorporated in 1722.¹ In addition to the fishing activities in Beaufort, a whaling community called Diamond City existed on Shackleford Banks, a barrier island six miles to the southeast by boat. This community was present during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The export economy of the areas centered round lumber, barrel staves, rum, and molasses. However, when the port declined as a trade center, commercial fishing gained greater importance and became the primary economic activity. Up until recently, Beaufort served as home port for a large menhaden fishing fleet and had numerous processing facilities for menhaden products.²

Currently, tourism, service industries, retail businesses and construction are the important mainstays of the area, with many shops and restaurants catering to visitors from outside the area. Beaufort’s population has slightly increased from 3,808 in 1990 to 4,216 in 2007 (Table 1). The community has some exclusive homes along the waterfront but overall most housing is modest. Even with modest housing Beaufort has seen its housing values more than double from \$65,400 in 1990 to \$128,500 in 2007 (Table 1). It is home to both the NOAA Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research and Duke Marine Sciences Center. Directly across the bridge from Morehead city is Radio Island, which is the commercial fishing hub for Beaufort. There are a few private boats along the waterfront in downtown Beaufort, but the commercial enterprises are predominantly located on Radio Island. The waterfront does have two tour/party boats, in addition to private boats, some of which may be smaller charter vessels. There are several marinas in the community and several businesses that provide support services for both the recreational and commercial fishing industries. According to one individual, Beaufort is a commercial fishing community, although less so now, than in the past. This seems to be largely due to fewer young people getting into the fishing business as it does not seem to pay well. This same individual has seven

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

trawlers and four small snapper/grouper boats as part of his business. There are accounts that during summer months three longline vessels travel from New York and dock at his facility. The majority of fish purchased is marketed in Virginia and farther north. Shrimp is a large part of the local seafood industry, but, like everywhere else throughout the southeast region imports are having an impact on the domestic market lowering prices.

Fish houses and facilities are commonly full service in that they serve as a fish house, with processing, ice, fuel, as well as gear and net repair. Like many facilities related to the commercial fishing industry, the glory days of fishing have past them by and many owners have sold-out or relocated leaving in their wake developers who have come to take advantage of the prime coastal real estate. During research in 2002 it was noted that there existed an ice plant across the bridge from Beaufort which has now become a condominium development. The pressure to redevelop has even affected the last shad factory in the state, located on Front St. in Beaufort. Popular fisheries such as the shad fishery have been eliminated and as one remaining owner suggests shad built the fishing industry in Beaufort. While there are efforts or forces to put it out of out of business due to the property valuable, he will hold on until it is time to retire. Asked if he would like his family to continue on the business when he retires, he said no, and that there was little future anymore in this type of fishing.

In 2002 fishermen estimate that on Radio Island there are 20 trawlers that dock there permanently. Another local fisherman said that his fish house used to process year round, but now only operates seven months of the year due to various seasonal closures. This has forced employment levels to change, as for one fish house owner who used to employ four people year round, he now only needs to employ two. It was in 1987 that Beaufort had its best year for shrimp. This benefit was said to have a positive impact on the local communities as most the fishermen involved in the fishery live in Beaufort or Morehead City. There are three fish houses in Beaufort, one of which deals primarily in bait. In 1987 there were about 25 larger commercial vessels (70-90') in addition to a lot of smaller boats; now there are approximately 11 large commercial vessels in Beaufort.³

Shrimp has always been an important and valuable species in Beaufort, currently second to summer flounder (Figure 1). In 2006 Beaufort landed 630,885 pounds of shrimp valued at \$914,602 (Table 2). There were only 10 federally permitted vessels in Beaufort in 2001 and those vessels held primarily coastal pelagic permits (Jepson *et al.* 2006). Most of the employment that is fishing related according to census business pattern data is related to boat building with 184 persons employed in that business. Others are employed in fish processing and fish and seafood. There are over 400 commercial vessels registered with the state from Beaufort with almost 300 standard commercial fishing licenses. There are 172 shellfish licenses and 32 dealer license (Jepson *et al.* 2006).

¹ www.clis.com/beaufortnc

² <http://www.beaufort-nc.com/history/bn-his02.html>

³ Interviews conducted by Ana Pitchon, May 2002

Table 1. Beaufort, NC, demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Beaufort, NC	1990	2000	2006
Population	3,808	3,771	4,261
Median Education Attainment	Some college, no degree	Some College less than 1 yr.	
White	2,852	2,861	
Black or African American	908	754	
American Indian & Alaska Native	18	4	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	14	16	
Some Other Race	16	90	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	25	134	
Total Housing Units	2,085	2,187	
Vacant	364	407	
Median Gross Rent	\$373	\$502	
Median Housing Value	\$65,400	\$119,200	\$128,500
Median Household Income	\$21,532	\$28,763	\$28,300
Per Capita Income	\$11,385	\$19,356	
Unemployment %	4.80%	2.60%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Retail Trade	24.20%	15%	
Public Administration	12.70%	DO	
Education, health and social services	15.20%	13.20%	
Manufacturing, durable goods	7.80%	DO	
Other Professional & related services	DO	9.30%	
Construction	DO	10%	
Accommodation & food services, art, entertainment	DO	18%	
Manufacturing, nondurable goods	5.80%	DO	
Transportation	5.80%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 2. Top five species by pounds caught in Beaufort, NC from 2006 data.

SPECIES	DEALERS	FISH RANK	POUNDS	TRIPS	VALUE
SUMMER FLOUNDER	7	1	992,888	146	\$2,103,158
SHRIMP	18	2	630,885	1,228	\$914,602
BLUE CRABS	7	3	297,597	624	\$157,908
SWORDFISH	*	4	*	30	*
STRIPED MULLET	7	5	183,268	247	\$104,226

* The number of dealers falls below the rule of three.

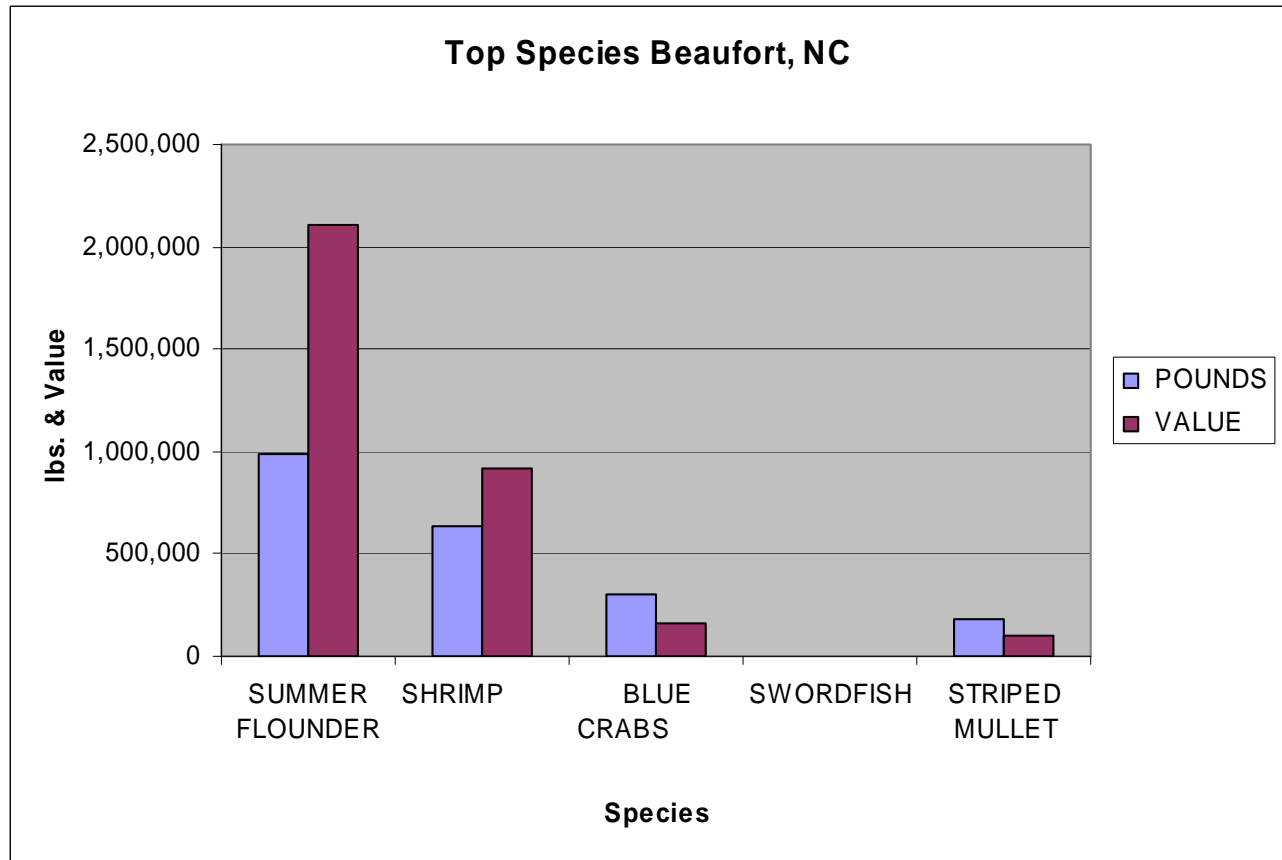


Figure 1. Value and pounds of top five species in Beaufort, NC for 2006.

Engelhard Community Description

Engelhard is located on the shore of Far Creek (Pamlico Sound) and is said to date as far back as 1650. It features a dredged channel that tailors to the many types of commercial fishing boats. The community is small (population), and described as having a laid back atmosphere. Its existence seems to depend equally on commercial fishing and agriculture.⁴ Between 1990 and 2000 the community has experienced a slight decrease in population and a decrease in unemployment (Table 3). Engelhard holds an annual Seafood Festival every May with this year, 2008, being the 21st year in existence.⁵ The event is described as family oriented with a blessing of the fleet, live music, a pageant, and of course local food. One of the most popular local species is shrimp. In fact, shrimp is the second most valuable commercial species in Engelhard, just after summer flounder (Figure 2). In 2006 Engelhard brought in 862,740 pounds of shrimp, taken during 427 trips (Table 4).

⁴ <http://www.vergie.com/engelhard.html>

⁵ <http://www.engelhardseafoodfestival.com>

Table 3. Engelhard, NC, demographic data from 1990-2006. (Source U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census.)

Engelhard/Lake Landing, NC	1990	2000
Population	2,027	1,852
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	High School Graduate
White	1,115	986
Black or African American	905	828
American Indian & Alaska Native	4	1
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	1	3
Some Other Race	2	22
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	4	62
Total Housing Units	956	1,018
Vacant	183	249
Median Gross Rent	\$262	\$387
Median Housing Value	\$35,900	\$64,000
Median Household Income	\$16,949	\$23,199
Per Capita Income	\$8,844	\$14,589
Unemployment %	6%	3%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Fisheries, agriculture, forestry	22%	11.50%
Retail Trade	23.20%	DO
Construction	8.60%	13.20%
Education, health and social services	7.20%	15.30%
Public Administration	DO	11.10%
Finance, insurance, real estate	6.30%	DO
Manufacturing, durable goods	DO	10.50%
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 4. Top five species by pounds caught in Engelhard, NC from 2006 data.

SPECIES	DEALERS	FISH RANK	POUNDS	TRIPS	VALUE
CROAKER	5	1	1,158,491	307	\$413,123
BLUE CRABS	8	2	869,991	1,635	\$452,866
SHRIMP	5	3	862,740	427	\$1,520,196
SUMMER FLOUNDER	3	4	811,893	89	\$1,721,099
SHARKS, DOGFISHES	*	5	*	52	*

* The number of dealers falls below the rule of three.

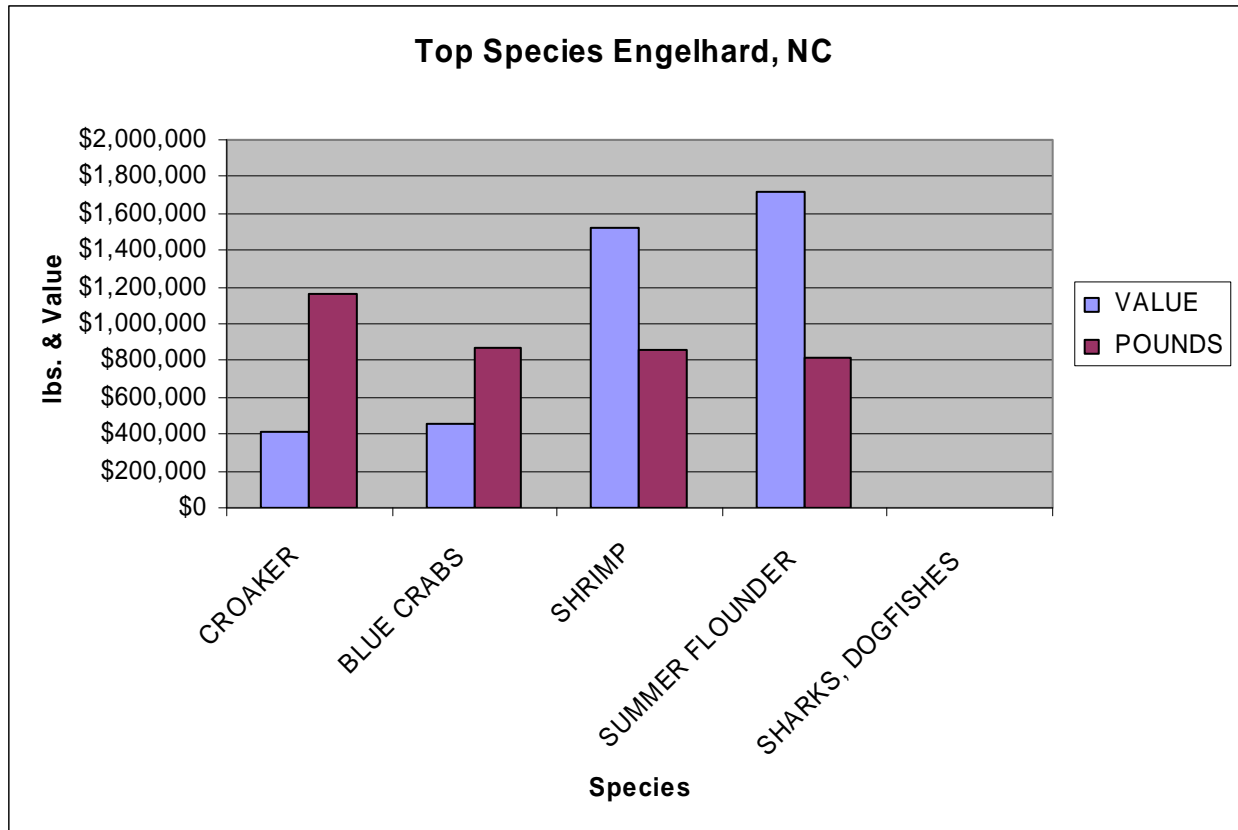


Figure 2. Value and pounds of top five species in Engelhard, NC for 2006.

Swan Quarter Community Description

Swan Quarter is located in Hyde County and is one of the oldest counties in North Carolina. Swan Quarter was settled by Samuel Swann in the 1700’s near the head of Swan Bay, along the Pamlico Sound.⁷

Fishing, oystering, and crabbing have long been the principal occupations of Swan Quarter citizens. This salty duty is supplemented by farming the rich land about the town. Today, the village sees many more visitors than in times past. Tourists pass through on their way to and from the Ocracoke-Swan Quarter ferry, located nearby. The increased traffic doesn’t seem to have changed the town much, however.⁸ Swan’s Quarter has seen a steady population with a large increase in unemployment from 2.30% in 1990 to 5.30% in 2000 (Table 5).

Shrimp in Swan Quarter is second in value and pounds landed to blue crabs (Figure 3). Swan Quarter fishermen landed 346,887 pounds of shrimp valued at \$613,910 (Table 6).

⁷Lemme, Ingrid and Dominic Piosczyk-Lemme. Town of Swan Quarter, NC. Retrieved from <http://www.swanquarter.net/history.asp>.

⁸<http://www.albemarle-nc.com/hyde/CGNC/>

Table 5. Swan Quarter, NC demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census.)

Swan Quarter, NC	1990	2000
Population	985	958
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	High school graduate
White	594	592
Black or African American	385	337
American Indian & Alaska Native	0	2
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	2	2
Some Other Race	4	5
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	11	20
Total Housing Units	489	511
Vacant	120	143
Median Gross Rent	\$234	\$362
Median Housing Value	\$39,100	\$61,300
Median Household Income	\$13,140	\$31,136
Per Capita Income	\$8,219	\$12,776
Unemployment %	2.10%	5.30%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Fisheries, agriculture, forestry	26.70%	16.50%
Finance, insurance, real estate	19%	8.40%
Public Administration	13%	35.80%
Other Professional & related services	8%	DO
Construction	7.60%	DO
Education, health and social services	DO	16%
Retail Trade	DO	6.90%
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 6. Top five species by pounds caught in Swan Quarter, NC from 2006 data.

SPECIES	DEALERS	FISH RANK	POUNDS	TRIPS	VALUE
BLUE CRABS	3	1	1,131,113	2,647	\$714,654
SHRIMP	5	2	346,887	236	\$613,910
SHARKS, DOGFISHES	*	3	*	9	*
MENHADEN	*	4	*	38	*
OYSTERS	4	5	72,706	1,331	\$362,736

* The number of dealers falls below the rule of three.

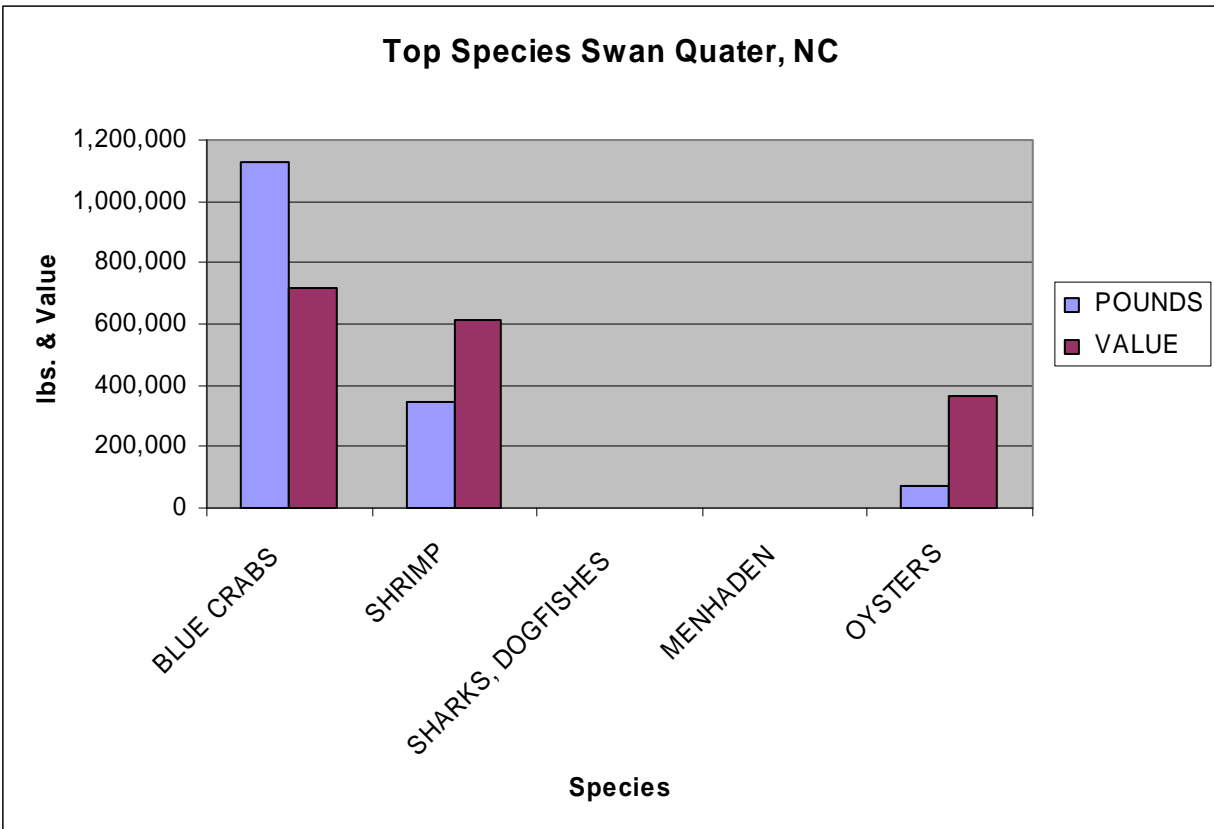


Figure 3. Value and pounds of top five species in Swan Quarter, NC for 2006.

South Carolina Community Descriptions**McClellanville Community Description**

The population of McClellanville dropped in the 1990 census but has since increased again in the 2000 census to 459 and is currently at 741 (Table 7). The median household income has almost doubled from 1990 to 2006 while the median housing value has increased from \$78,600 in 1990 to \$225,700 in 2006 (Table 7).

There are 4 vessels with federal permits homeported in McClellanville and all four have rock shrimp permits (Jepson *et al.* 2006). All employment in fishing related business is in fish and seafood and the percent employed through fishing has increased from 12.6% in 1990 to 18% in 2000 (Table 7). There are 133 state permits in McClellanville, with 52 of those being saltwater licenses. There are 27 trawler licenses, 16 handheld equipment licenses and 5 wholesale dealer licenses.

Table 7. McClellanville, SC, demographic data from 1990-2006. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

McClellanville, SC	1990	2000	2006
Population	333	459	471
Median Education Attainment	Some College, no degree	Some college, 1 or more years, no degree	
White	300	425	
Black or African American	33	34	
American Indian & Alaska Native	0	0	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0	0	
Some Other Race	0	0	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	0	10	
Total Housing Units	198	241	
Vacant	67	46	
Median Gross Rent	\$396	\$357	
Median Housing Value	\$78,600	\$147,200	\$225,700
Median Household Income	\$25,536	\$42,500	\$48,600
Per Capita Income	\$10,447	\$22,425	
Unemployment %	1.10%	0.50%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, Health, social services	27%	15.40%	
Accommodation, food services, entertainment	7%	DO	
Construction	15.30%	13%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt, administrative, waste services	10.20%	DO	
Public Administration	7%	9.50%	

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Table 7. Cont'd.

Fishing	12.60%	18%	
Retail Trade	DO	15.00%	
DO= Dropped Out			

Mt. Pleasant Community Description

The first inhabitants of the Mount Pleasant area were the Sewee Indians. The first English settlers arrived around 1680 under the leadership of Captain Florentia O' Sullivan. He had been granted 2,340 acres and each time a new family arrived, they were allotted several hundred acres. The first small settlement of the area was the village of Greenwich, which was adjacent to Jacob Motte's "Mount Pleasant" estate. Motte's estate was purchased in 1803 and divided into 35 large lots. In 1837, the village of Greenwich was merged with Mount Pleasant. Many of the families in this area had timber concerns and some maintained the ferries. Mount Pleasant also played a leading role in the first major military engagement of the Revolutionary War in 1775. After the war, the area was known as a resort town with many stores and rentals available. The area is still widely known as a vacation area and "model town" in South Carolina.¹⁰ Mount Pleasant has seen its population double every ten years from 1970 to 1990 and now has reached a high of 59,113 in 2006. The number of persons in the labor force has dropped slightly to 69.9 percent while percent unemployed has increased from 1.5% in 2000 to 3.3% in 2006. Average wage and salary has risen substantially but so has the number of persons living below the poverty level.

While there are only 6 vessels with federal permits homeported in Mount Pleasant, there are 12 persons listed as fishing and 28 persons employed in fish and seafood and markets (Jepson *et al.* 2006). There are 170 state permits in Mt. Pleasant with 57 saltwater licenses. There were 23 trawler licenses and 11 wholesale dealer licenses (Table 8).

¹⁰ www.townofmountpleasant.com/index.cfm?section=11&page=5

Table 8. Mt. Pleasant, SC demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Mt. Pleasant, SC	1990	2000	2006
Population	30,108	47,609	59,113
Median Education Attainment	Some College, no degree	Bachelor's degree	
White	27,075	42,515	
Black or African American	2,766	3,445	
American Indian & Alaska Native	39	67	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	190	561	
Some Other Race	38	386	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	279	635	
Total Housing Units	12,443	20,129	
Vacant	655	1,223	
Median Gross Rent	\$537	\$838	
Median Housing Value	\$96,900	\$185,500	\$284,400
Median Household Income	\$38,605	\$61,054	\$69,800
Per Capita Income	\$18,932	\$30,823	
Unemployment %	1.50%	1.50%	3.30%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, Health, social services	24%	26%	
Accommodation, food services, entertainment	DO	10.10%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt, administrative, waste services	DO	11.60%	
Retail Trade	15.40%	11.20%	
Finance, insurance, real estate	8.60%	8.20%	
Construction	8.40%	DO	
Other Related Professional services	8%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Murrells Inlet Community Description

Murrells Inlet is known as the Seafood Capital of South Carolina. The origin of its name remains a mystery, however Murrells Inlet was officially named by the post office in 1913. The first settlers of the area were Native American Tribes. It is stated that beginning in the 16th and 17th Centuries, Spanish and English colonists arrived in the area. The frequency of ships led to pirate activity and pirates were said to have utilized the Inlet's winding creeks for refuge and a hiding place. Historically, large tracts of land were cultivated into successful rice plantations. By 1850, almost 47 million pounds of rice were produced in this area. Murrells Inlet was used a port during the Civil War to sneak cotton and other products to England in exchange for war supplies, such as food and medicine. The Civil War led to the decline of the rice culture and in 1916, the last remaining commercial rice grower was out of business. By this time, commercial and recreational fishing became a popular industry. By 1914, captain-led fishing excursions cost \$5 per person for a day trip out of the Inlet on a 20-foot skiff. Today, charter, recreational and commercial fishing are still popular in Murrells Inlet. Murrells

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Inlet has seen its population increase to a high of 5,519 in 2000. The percent of the population in the labor force has remained practically the same while unemployment has risen from 3 percent in 1990 to 5.2 percent in 2000 (Table 9). The number of persons working in farm, fish and forestry occupations has seen a decline like most communities.

There are a total of 33 vessels with federal permits. The majority has king mackerel and snapper grouper class 1 permits. Almost half of those permitted vessels have charter permits for either coastal pelagics or snapper grouper (Jepson *et al.*2006). There are four federal dealers in the community. Most of the fishing employment is in fish and seafood markets with 10 persons employed in that sector out of the 16 total. There are 111 state permits issued to residents of Murrells Inlet. Forty-four of those permits are for saltwater licenses. Another 14 are for handheld equipment and 12 are for crab pots. There are 10 wholesale dealer licenses held by Murrells Inlet residents (Jepson *et al.*2006).

Table 9. Murrells Inlet, SC demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Murrells Inlet, SC	1990	2000	2006
Population	3,334	5,519	
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	Some college, less than 1 year	
White	2,904	5,055	
Black or African American	419	393	
American Indian & Alaska Native	4	9	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	7	18	
Some Other Race	0	44	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	14	34	
Total Housing Units	1,843	3,182	
Vacant	421	592	
Median Gross Rent	\$472	\$689	
Median Housing Value	\$95,600	\$198,500	\$162,800
Median Household Income	\$25,422	\$29,307	\$33,100
Per Capita Income	\$16,033	\$28,197	
Unemployment %	3.20%	5.20%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, Health, social services	DO	11%	
Accommodation, food services, entertainment	DO	16.70%	
Construction	10.20%	13%	
Retail Trade	28%	17.50%	
Finance, insurance, real estate	6%	8.80%	
Personal Services	12.70%	DO	
Business & Repair Services	10%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Wadmalaw Island Community Description

Wadmalaw Island was landed upon by Captain Robert Sandford and the crew of the Berkeley Bay in mid-June of 1666 after an excursion up the Bohicket Creek.¹² Wadmalaw Island is located southwest of Johns Island and more than halfway encircled by it. To the north it is bordered by Church Creek; to the northeast and east by Bohicket Creek; to the south by the North Edisto River; and to the west by the Bohicket Creek. The island's only connection to the mainland is via a bridge over the Wadmalaw River. The island is about 10 miles long by 6 miles wide. It has a land area of 108.502 km² (41.893 sq mi).¹¹ Wadmalaw Island has seen a decrease in unemployment from 5.90% in 1990 to 3% in 2000 (Table 10).

¹¹ Zepke, Terrance. 2006. *Coastal South Carolina*. Pineapple Press Inc. Publishing. p.157.

¹² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wadmalaw_Island_South_Carolina

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Table 10. Wadmalaw Island, SC demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Wadmalaw Island, SC	1990	2000	2006
Population	2,570	2,611	
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	High school graduate	
White	754	985	
Black or African American	1,788	1,589	
American Indian & Alaska Native	2	7	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0	2	
Some Other Race	26	28	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	58	108	
Total Housing Units	896	1,063	
Vacant	112	114	
Median Gross Rent	\$294	\$595	
Median Housing Value	\$57,800	\$92,100	\$141,200
Median Household Income	\$26,434	\$31,653	\$36,200
Per Capita Income	\$9,532	\$18,989	
Unemployment %	5.90%	3%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, Health, social services	22%	22%	
Accommodation, food services, entertainment	DO	10.40%	
Construction	11.40%	10.30%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt, administrative, waste services	DO	10.30%	
Retail Trade	11.10%	12.50%	
Fishing	12.60%	DO	
Transportation	6.50%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Georgia Community Descriptions**Midway Community Description**

Midway, located in Liberty County, was named after the Midway River in England and settled in 1754. Currently Midway has a major industrial park with nine manufacturing facilities.¹³ Midway has seen a slow population increase and a steady unemployment rate (Table 11). Blue, hard crabs were the number one caught species in 2006 (Table 12 and Figure 4).

Table 11. Midway, GA demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Midway, GA	1990	2000	2006
Population	863	1,100	1,037
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	High School Graduate Degree	
White	480	647	
Black or African American	370	409	
American Indian & Alaska Native	1	6	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	7	16	
Some Other Race	5	5	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	7	26	
Total Housing Units	322	396	
Vacant	57	64	
Median Gross Rent	\$311	\$550	
Median Housing Value	\$49,400	\$85,400	\$89,300
Median Household Income	\$20,938	\$29,205.00	\$28,200
Per Capita Income	\$8,620	13,078	
Unemployment %	2.40%	2.80%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Retail Trade	18.20%	17.70%	
Manufacturing	10%	11.90%	
Construction	10.30%	14.50%	
Educational, health, social services	23.30%	15.10%	
Accommodation, food services, recreation, entertainment, art		10.40%	
Personal Services	11%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 12. Top species by pounds caught in Midway, GA from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	120,542	\$101,785	74
SHRIMP	2	9,044	\$53,831	33
OYSTERS	3	512	\$2,120	*
CRAB,BLUE,PEELER	4	179	\$497	*

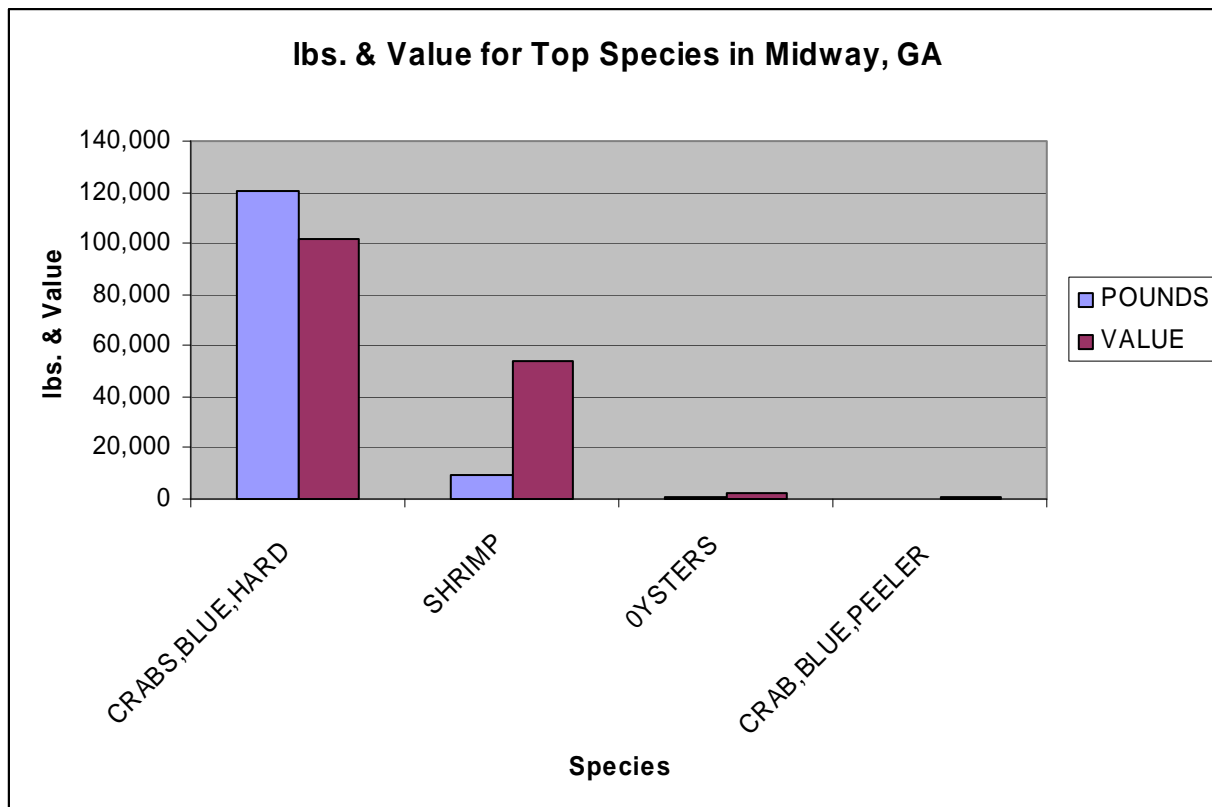


Figure 4. Value and pounds of top species in Midway, GA for 2006.

Richmond Hill Community Description

Richmond Hill, found in Byron County, is located 20 miles from Savannah on Georgia’s coast with a total area of 10 square miles. Richmond Hill has a history that is similar to that of our nation: Exploration, Indian and Colonial settlements, the American Revolution, the War Between the States, Henry Ford Era, and recent military conflicts.¹⁵ For centuries, the Guale people inhabited the shores of the Ogeechee River, taking advantage of the seafood and temperate climate. Spanish exploration in the late 1500s led to English settlement by 1792.¹⁵ Then in 1862 Fort McAllister was built for the civil war and was the site of the end of Sherman’s March to the Sea in 1864.¹⁵ During this time the town was known as Ways Station. It was renamed in 1939 to its current name, Richmond Hill, after Henry Ford moved into the town and built an estate. The Ford era transformed this town through their philanthropic efforts, turning the backwater town of Ways Station into a vibrant community with new schools and employment opportunities.¹⁵

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

The next major development in Richmond Hill was Fort Stewart Military Reservation that was built prior to World War II and is still in operation.¹⁴ More recently the J.F. Gregory City Park opened in 1999 in Richmond Hill where the first annual “Great Ogeechee Seafood Festival” was celebrated.¹⁴

Richmond Hill has seen an increase a moderate increase in population from 1990 to 2006 and a slight decrease in unemployment from 2.60% in 1990 to 1.80% in 2000 (Table 13). Blue, hard crabs were the number one species caught by pounds in 2006 (Table 14 and Figure 5).

¹⁴<http://www.richmondhillga.com/>.

¹⁵<http://www.richmondhill-ga.gov/AboutRichmondHill/History/tabid/55/Default.aspx>

Table 13. Richmond Hill, GA demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Richmond Hill, GA	1990	2000	2006
Population	2,934	6,959	9,806
Median Education Attainment	Some college no degree	Some College Less than 1 yr.	
White	2,771	5,656	
Black or African American	119	953	
American Indian & Alaska Native	5	42	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	26	102	
Some Other Race	13	89	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	42	26	
Total Housing Units	1,047	2,639	
Vacant	47	140	
Median Gross Rent	\$277	\$547	
Median Housing Value	\$67,600	\$97,100	\$101,500
Median Household Income	\$32,917	\$47,061	\$45,400
Per Capita Income	\$12,156	18,891	
Unemployment %	2.60%	1.80%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Retail Trade	20.80%	13%	
Manufacturing	10.70%	12.40%	
Educational, health, social services	DO	18.10%	
Accommodation, food services, recreation, entertainment, art	DO	11.30%	
Transportation & warehousing, & utilities	DO	7.70%	
Construction	8.80%	DO	
Public Administration	9.30%	DO	
Wholesale Trade	6.30%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 14. Top species by pounds caught in Richmond Hill, GA from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	137,849	\$94,790	55
SHRIMP	2	53,756	\$153,663	51

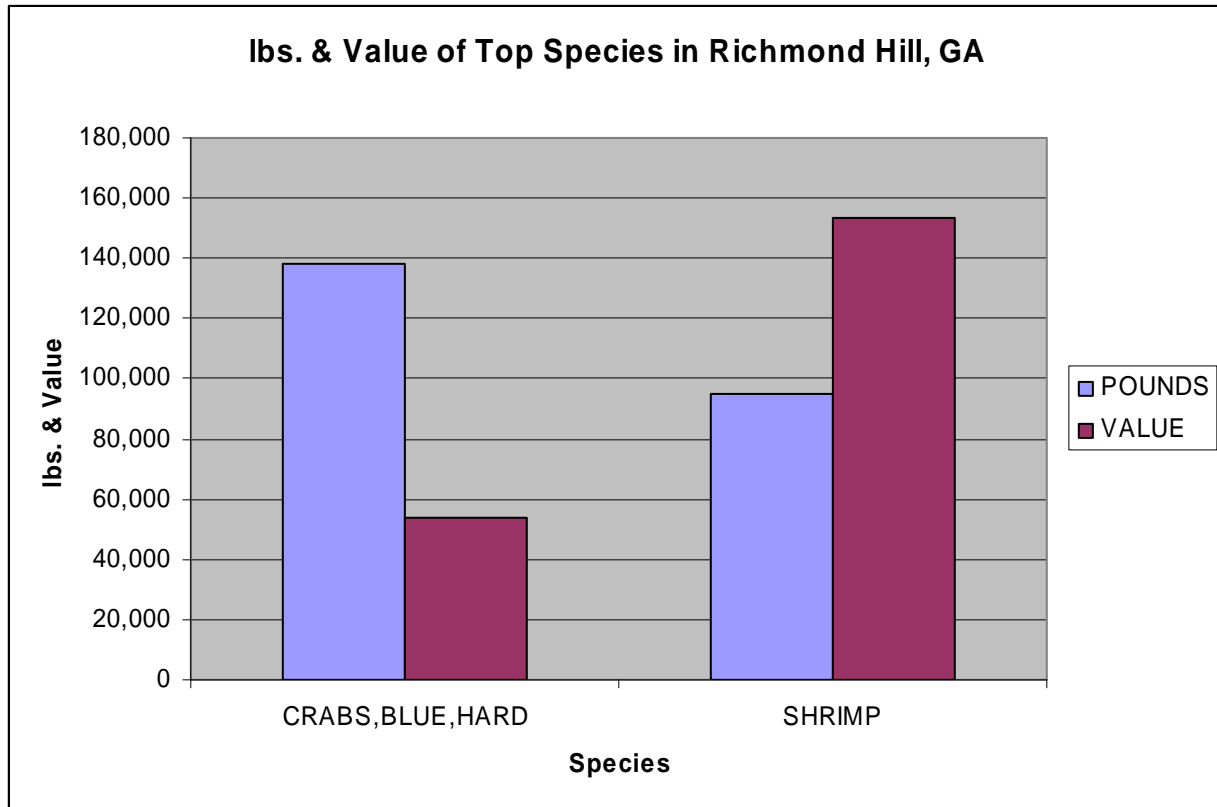


Figure 5. Value and pounds of top species in Richmond Hill, GA for 2006.

St. Mary's Community Description

St. Mary's has seen steady population growth since 1970. The percent of the population in the labor force has remained fairly constant while unemployment has risen to 3.9 percent (Table 15). Average wage and salary has risen consistently over the years along with a rising median housing value. Those employed in farm, fish and forestry sector have seen a steady decline in their numbers since 1970 also.

There were only 2 vessels registered with federal permits from the community (Jepson *et al.* 2006) but there were 42 persons listed in the fishing. The state has 19 vessels registered with 9 of those having shrimp gear and 13 of those owners considered full time fishermen (Jepson *et al.* 2006). Blue, hard crabs were the top species caught in 2006 in St. Mary's (Table 16 and Figure 6).

Table 15. St. Mary’s, GA demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

St. Mary’s, GA	1990	2000	2006
Population	8,187	13,761	15,967
Median Education Attainment	Some college no degree	Some college no degree	
White	6,478	10,267	
Black or African American	1,407	2,751	
American Indian & Alaska Native	42	65	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	173	176	
Some Other Race	87	214	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	228	614	
Total Housing Units	3,166	5,307	
Vacant	284	514	
Median Gross Rent	\$393	\$556	
Median Housing Value	\$66,400	\$85,300	\$89,200
Median Household Income	\$28,552	\$42,087.00	\$40,600
Per Capita Income	\$11,189	18,099	
Unemployment %	3%	3.90%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Retail Trade	17.20%	10.80%	
Manufacturing	11.60%	13.20%	
Educational, health, social services	DO	19%	
Accommodation, food services, recreation, entertainment, art	DO	14.30%	
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, & waste mgmt.	DO	13%	
Construction	7.60%	DO	
Public Administration	17.30%	DO	
Other Professional Services	7.30%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 16. Top species by pounds caught in St. Mary’s, GA from 2006 data

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	60,949	\$32,590	23
SHRIMP	2	30,648	\$77,744	45
SNAILS(CONCHS)	3	776	\$932	*

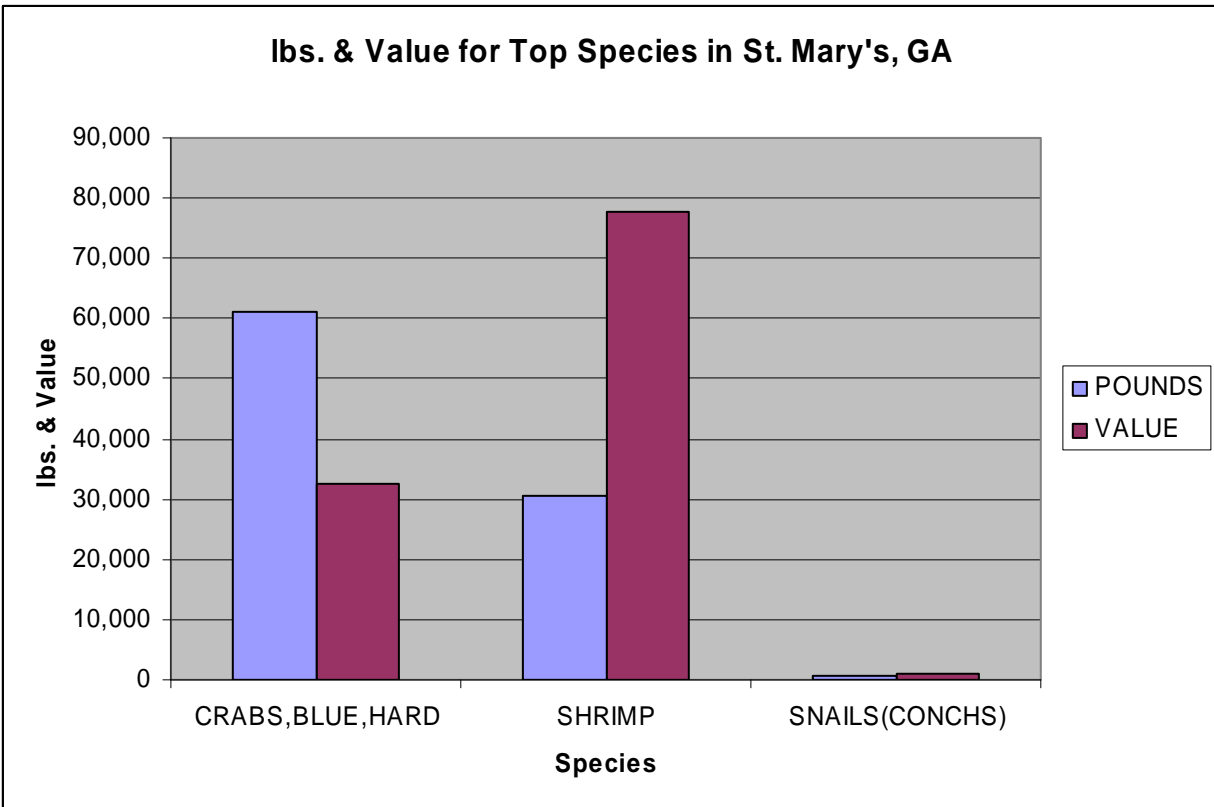


Figure 6. Value and pounds of top species in St. Mary's, GA for 2006.

Townsend Community Description

Townsend has seen a slight increase in population and steady unemployment rates (Table 17). Median household income has only slightly risen from \$23,324 in 1990 to \$32,300 in 2006 while median housing value has greatly increased from \$33,000 in 1990 to \$102,600 in 2006 (Table 17). Blue, hard, crabs were the number one species caught in 2006 with 538,127 lbs. (Table 18 and Figure 7).

Table 17. Townsend, GA demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Townsend, GA	1990	2000	2006
Population	2,413	3,538	
Median Education Attainment	High School Graduate	High School Graduate	
White	1,465	2,437	
Black or African American	947	1,048	
American Indian & Alaska Native	1	7	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0	8	
Some Other Race	0	13	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	2	27	
Total Housing Units	1,548	2,308	
Vacant	740	867	
Median Gross Rent	\$158	\$431	
Median Housing Value	\$33,000	\$98,100	\$102,600
Median Household Income	\$23,314	\$33,531	\$32,300
Per Capita Income	\$9,965	17,261	
Unemployment %	2.70%	2.80%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Retail Trade	16.20%	17.30%	
Manufacturing	19%	16.20%	
Construction	10.60%	13.60%	
Educational, health, social services	15%	12.30%	
Accommodation, food services, recreation, entertainment, art	DO	7.50%	
Transportation	6.50%	DO	
DO= dropped out			

Table 18. Top 5 species by pounds caught in Townsend, GA from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	538,127	\$331,928	308
SHRIMP	2	120,699	\$266,743	114
SNAPPER,VERMILION	3	100,283	\$287,411	52
SHAD,BUCK	4	49,621	\$49,600	11
CLAM,HARD	5	32,842	\$22,485	34

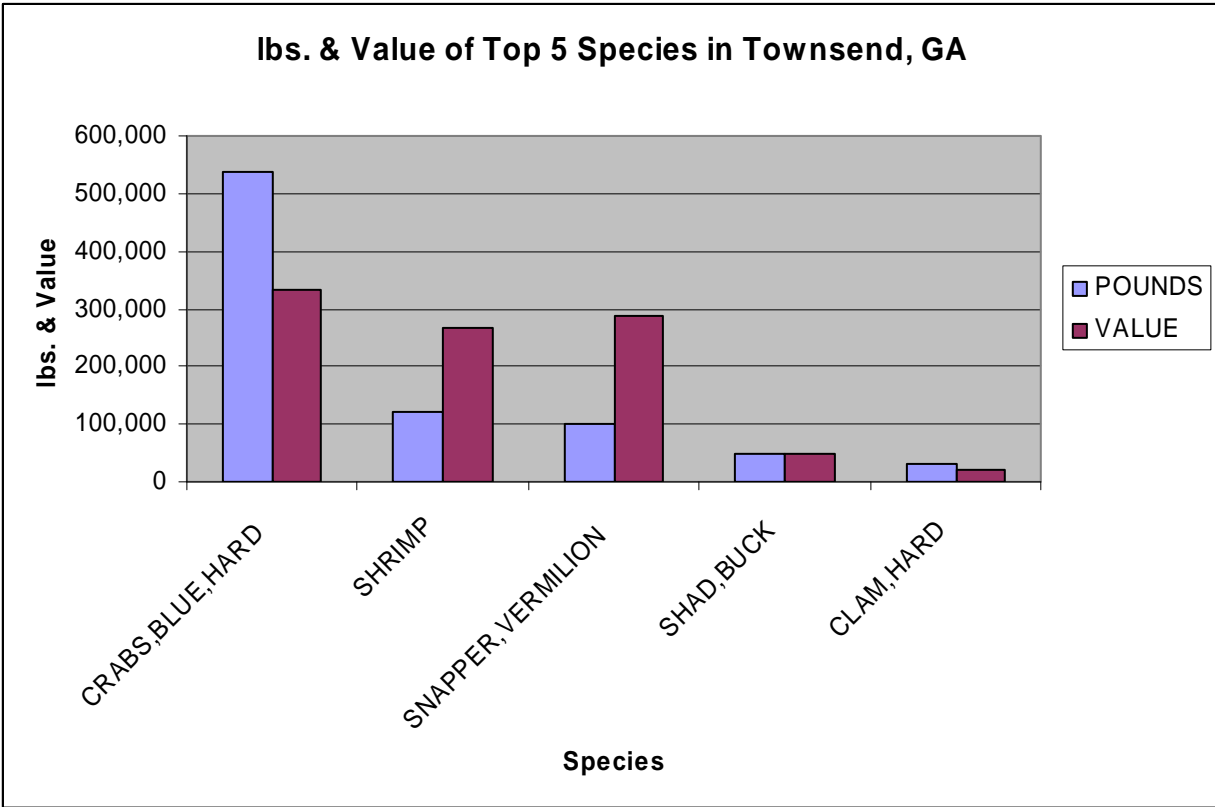


Figure 7. Value and pounds of top 5 species in Townsend, GA for 2006.

Florida Community Descriptions

Atlantic Beach Community Description

The community of Atlantic Beach has remained fairly small throughout its history. The arrival of Henry Flagler's Florida East Coast Railroad in 1900 helped spur development and prominence within this coastal community. However, it was not until the construction of the Mayport Naval Station in the 1940s and the completion of the Matthews Bridge in the 1950s that the area truly became ready for development. Beginning in the 1990s, the Atlantic Beach community embarked on environmental endeavors regarding their aquatic resources. They created the Tideviews Preserve and the Dutton Island Preserve.

Preserve, fishing off the pier is a popular activity for park visitors. Atlantic Beach has seen steady growth in its population. There has been a decline in the percent of the population in the labor force and unemployment has dropped to 2.1 percent in 2000 (Table 19). Average wage and salary rose significantly between 1980 and 1990, but only slightly in 2000. Jobs in the sector of farm, fish and forestry have fluctuated over the past three decades, but dropped to low levels in 2000. Although there is only one vessel with federal permits in Atlantic Beach (Jepson *et al.* 2006) there are 56 persons employed in the fish and seafood sector. In 2006 blue, hard crabs were the top species by pound (Table 20 and Figure 8).

Table 19. Atlantic Beach, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Atlantic Beach, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	11,636	13,368	13,268
Median Education Attainment	Some College no degree	Some College no degree	
White	9,333	10,992	
Black or African American	1,792	1,697	
American Indian & Alaska Native	34	35	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	383	329	
Some Other Race	94	150	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	355	559	
Total Housing Units	4,948	6,003	
Vacant	407	380	
Median Gross Rent	\$412	\$722	
Median Housing Value	\$96,900	\$169,800	\$282,000
Median Household Income	\$35,486	\$48,353	\$53,100
Per Capita Income	\$19,291	\$28,618	
Unemployment %	3.10%	2.10%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, health and social services	18.80%	17.50%	
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	DO	12.60%	
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	DO	13.20%	
Retail Trade	21.50%	9.90%	
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	9.50%	9.70%	
Public Administration	6.40%	DO	
Construction	6.30%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 20. Top five species by pounds caught in Atlantic Beach, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	37,561	\$48,749	34
SHRIMP	2	17,387	\$35,732	35
MULLET	3	13,030	\$16,791	14
MENHADEN	4	10,343	\$2,089	5
GROUPE	5	5,158	\$17,505	25

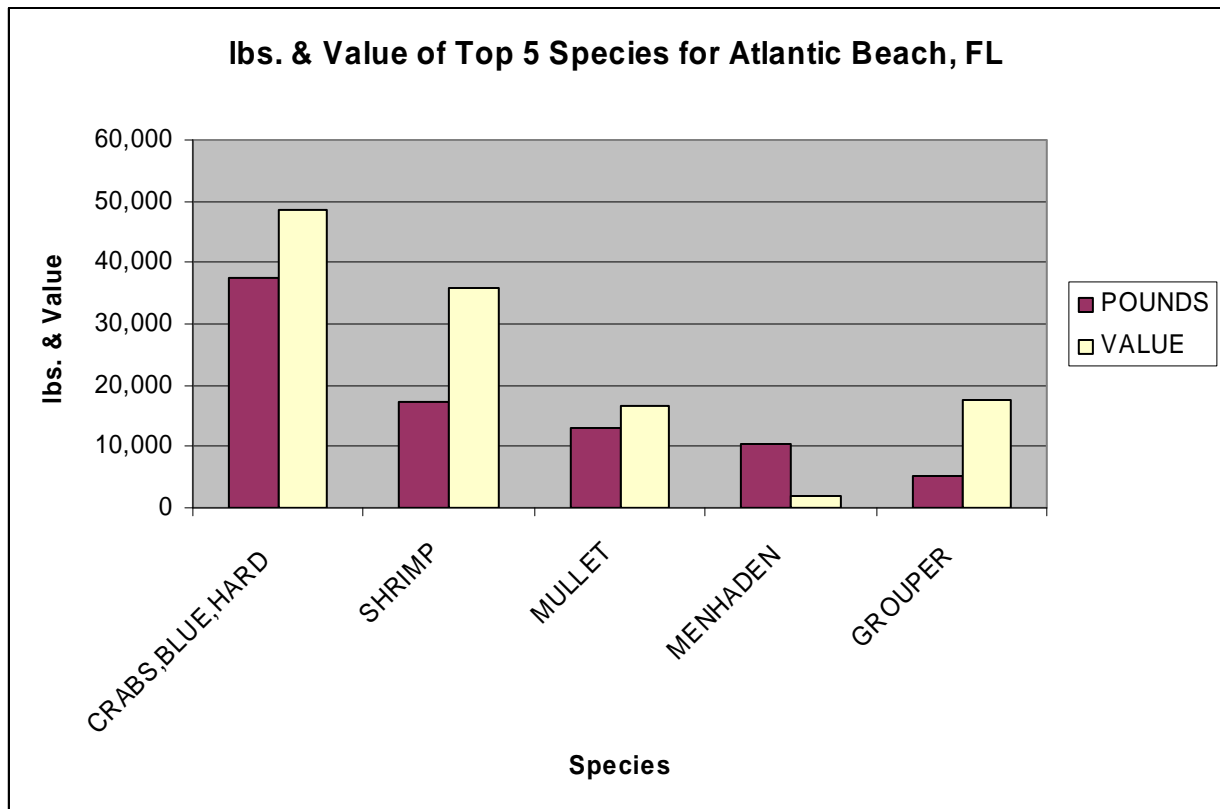


Figure 8. Value and pounds of top five species in Atlantic Beach, FL for 2006.

Cocoa Beach Community Description

Cocoa Beach is six miles long and not more than a mile wide located on a barrier island between the Atlantic Ocean and the Banana River Lagoon on Florida’s Central East Coast. Cocoa Beach is a residential community and a tourist destination with 12,800 permanent residents increasing to 30,000 persons during peak tourist season.²⁰

Cocoa Beach has seen a fairly steady population while the median housing value has almost tripled from \$127,000 in 1990 to \$308,000 in 2006 (Table 21). In 2006 King Mackerel were the top species caught by pound (Table 22 and Figure 9).

²⁰<http://www.ci.cocoa-beach.fl.us/>.

Table 21. Cocoa Beach, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Cocoa Beach, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	12,123	12,482	12,800
Median Education Attainment	Some College, no degree	Some college, 1 or more years, no degree	
White	11,882	12,062	
Black or African American	61	78	
American Indian & Alaska Native	31	28	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	110	141	
Some Other Race	39	38	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	334	314	
Total Housing Units	8,266	8,686	
Vacant	2,245	2,206	
Median Gross Rent	\$549	\$631	
Median Housing Value	\$127,000	\$150,100	\$308,000
Median Household Income	\$35,862	\$42,372	\$45,700
Per Capita Income	\$23,359	\$28,968	
Unemployment %	1.80%	2.60%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Food services, accommodation, recreation, entertainment, arts	DO	16.10%	
Educational, health, social services	DO	13.50%	
Retail Trade	19%	12.10%	
Manufacturing	13.50%	11.40%	
Finance, Insurance, real estate	8.90%	DO	
Other professional related services	8.50%	9.80%	
Public Administration	7.50%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 22. Top five species by pounds caught in Cocoa Beach, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
KING MACKEREL	1	1,277,396	\$2,145,204	149
SPANISH MACKEREL	2	1,264,886	\$792,271	215
SHARK,SANDBAR	3	269,203	\$90,889	50
SHARK,ATLANTIC,SHARPNOSE	4	148,707	\$49,691	58
TILEFISH	5	134,242	\$303,894	34

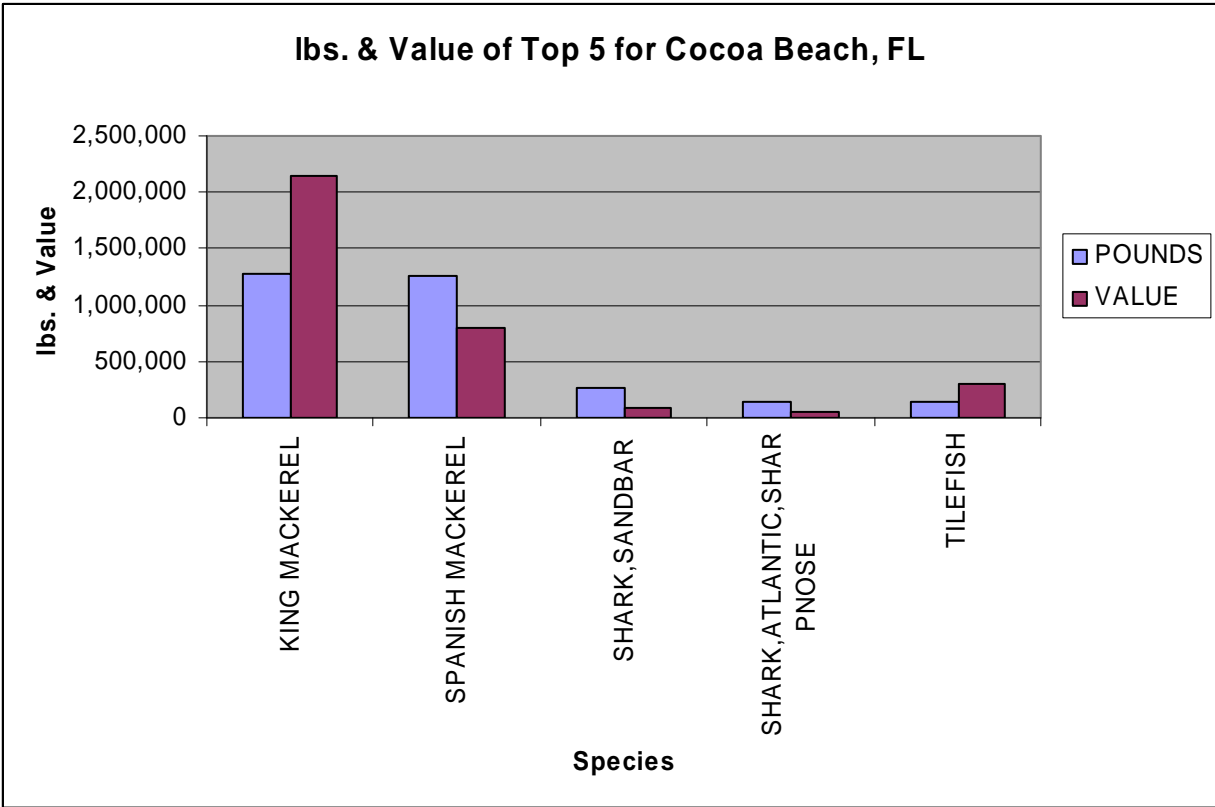


Figure 9. Value and pounds of top five species in Cocoa Beach, FL for 2006.

Fort Pierce Community Description

The Spanish built Fort Santa Lucia on the Jupiter Inlet in 1565 from which the county now draws its name-St. Lucie County.²¹ Permanent U.S. inhabitation of Ft. Pierce dates back to the Seminole Indian War. US Army Lt. Col. Benjamin Kendrick Pierce, for whom the town is named, built a fort in 1837 to use as the army’s headquarters. The war ended in the early 1840s, making way for settlement and development: “Water transportation, fishing and canning fish were key to the area’s early economy.”²² The arrival of Henry Flagler’s railroad in the early 1900s opened Ft. Pierce’s economy to the rest of the east coast. Ft. Pierce beach was used as a naval base during World War II.²³

The culture of fishing has been in the area since its inception. Anecdotes passed down from one generation to the next of Ft. Pierce residents describe the abundance of fish in the area in the late 1800s and early 1900s. One such story, told by Newman (1953) in her book, *Early Life Along the Beautiful Indian River*, tells of a man who bound his shirt at the sleeves and waist and cut a plunging neckline. He would then stand in the water until the shirt was full of fish and then empty it out into a bucket on the shore. In the late 1800s, a man from the nearby town of Titusville helped to create the commercial fishing sector in Ft. Pierce. He would bring the fish to Titusville for shipping to the rest of the east coast. The first icehouse for packaging fish was built in 1900 (Newman, 1953).

Recreational fishing has also become a popular pastime in Ft. Pierce and the rest of St. Lucie County. This is due in large part to the fleet of Spanish galleons that sunk off the St. Lucie and Martin Counties coastline. These artificial reefs have created excellent fishing and diving spots for locals and tourists. The reefs attract spiny lobsters, marlin, snook, flounder, and grouper.²⁴ Some of the more popular fish in the St. Lucie River

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

include channel bass, snook, ladyfish, jack crevalle, and trout. Black bass is another famous catch in the area.²⁵ Most charter fishing boats in the area offer half, three-quarter, and full-day trips for dolphin, sailfish, wahoo, amberjack, tuna, kingfish, snapper, and grouper. Fort Pierce has seen moderate population growth over the past three decades while unemployment has increased from 4.90% percent in 2000 to 11.5% percent in 2006 (Table 23). Average wage and salary has grown slowly over the past ten years while the number of persons living under the poverty level has risen significantly. The number of people working in farm, fish and forestry has remained relatively high for both occupation and industry over the years with both categories having over 1000 persons in each. There are over 100 vessels with federal permits homeported in Ft. Pierce and most of those have coastal pelagic permits (Jepson *et al.* 2006). There are over 260 persons employed in the boat building sector of fishing related employment. In 2006 Spanish Mackerel were the top species caught by pound (Table 24 and Figure 10).

²⁴www.flausa.com/destinations/location.php/location=ci-fpi

²⁵<http://www.visitstluciefla.com/marinas.html>

²¹ www.rootsweb.com/~flstluci/slchistory.htm

²²http://plato.stlucie.k12.fl.us/html/ft_pierce.html

²³www.cityoffortpierce.com/fp000.html

Table 23. Ft. Pierce, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Ft. Pierce, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	36,830	37,516	39,365
Median Education Attainment	High School graduate	High school graduate	
White	19,772	18,585	
Black or African American	15,604	15,326	
American Indian & Alaska Native	118	122	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	198	328	
Some Other Race	1,138	2,011	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	2,370	5,629	
Total Housing Units	17,250	17,213	
Vacant			
Median Gross Rent			
Median Housing Value	\$56,100	\$62,800	\$142,400
Median Household Income	\$18,913	\$25,121	\$29,600
Per Capita Income	\$9,961	\$14,345	
Unemployment %	6.80%	4.90%	11.50%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Food services, accommodation, recreation, entertainment, arts	DO	10.80%	
Educational, health, social services	17%	16.90%	
Retail Trade	20.90%	12.50%	
Manufacturing	DO	8%	
Construction	8.16%	12.60%	
Fisheries, agriculture, forestry	9.80%	DO	
Public administration	6%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 24. Top five species by pounds caught in Ft. Pierce, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
SPANISH MACKEREL	1	1,223,602	\$838,232	123
KING MACKEREL	2	415,045	\$693,181	63
MULLET WITH ROE	3	198,949	\$109,192	31
MULLET,STRPED	4	122,394	\$57,611	84
MULLET,SILVER	5	100,073	\$45,001	63

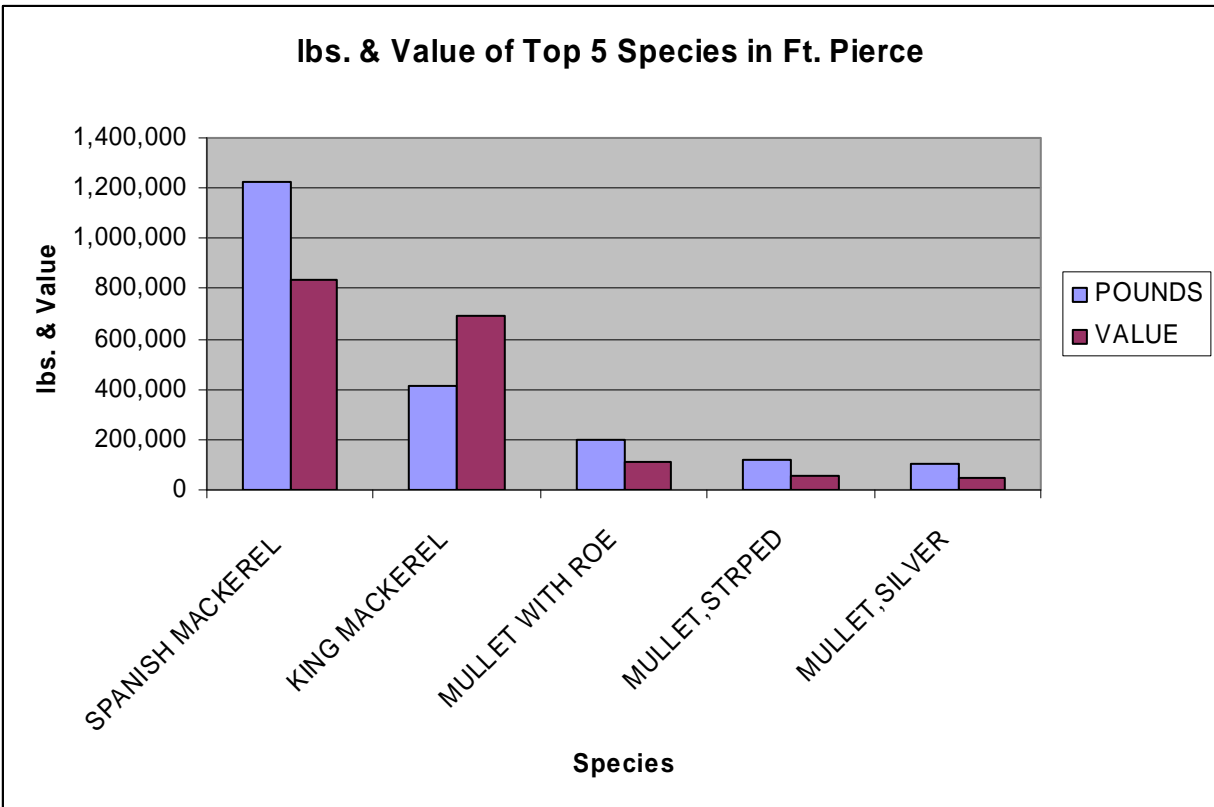


Figure 10. Value and pounds of top five species in Ft. Pierce, FL for 2006.

Melbourne Community Description

The city of Melbourne is located on east central Florida's Space Coast in Brevard County. The contemporary city of Melbourne is the result of the 1969 merger of the separate communities of Melbourne and Eau Gallie.²⁷ Today Melbourne is also part of the Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville metropolitan area.²⁸ The city is close to 40 square miles in size, with about 75% of that land in use with a population of approximately 77,000 that is continuing to grow at a modest rate.²⁶ While most of Melbourne is located on the Florida mainland, a small portion is located on a barrier island. The Indian River Lagoon separates the mainland from the island.²⁶ Melbourne's industry is centered on defense and technology companies with a high concentration of high-tech workers.²⁸

Melbourne has seen its population rise greatly from 59,649 in 1990 to 76,963 to 2006 (Table 25). Unemployment has slightly risen from 3.20% in 2000 to 4.40% in 2006.

The Banana and Indian Rivers run through Brevard County and offer excellent flats fishing for a wide variety of species. The popular Mosquito Lagoon is located at the north end of Brevard County and offers good redfish fishing. Brevard has two inlets: the Sebastian Inlet which is located at the south end of the Indian River and Port Canaveral which is located at the north end of the Banana River. These inlets offer fishing for snook, redfish, tarpon, and flounder.²⁹ In 2006 hard, blue crab were the top species by pound (Table 26 and Figure 11).

²⁶<http://www.melbourneflorida.org/info/>

²⁷<http://www.melbourneflorida.org/info/history.htm>.

²⁸http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melbourne,_Florida

²⁹http://www.fishmore.com/local_fishing.htm

Table 25. Melbourne, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Melbourne, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	59,649	71,382	76,963
Median Education Attainment		Some College no degree	
White	52,145	60,339	
Black or African American	5,666	6,658	
American Indian & Alaska Native	192	245	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	1,224	1,671	
Some Other Race	419	858	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	2,075	3,958	
Total Housing Units	28,070	33,678	
Vacant	3,005	2,890	
Median Gross Rent	391	\$588	
Median Housing Value	\$65,100	\$85,400	\$167,100
Median Household Income	\$25,893	\$34,571	\$40,471
Per Capita Income	\$13,224	\$19,175	
Unemployment %	3.90%	3.20%	4.40%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, health and social services	13.80%	17.10%	
Retail Trade	20%	15.60%	
Manufacturing	DO	14.30%	
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	DO	10.90%	
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	DO	9.90%	
Manufacturing	17.80%	DO	
Construction	8%	DO	
Business & repair services	6.60%	DO	
DO= Dropped out			

Table 26. Top five species by pounds caught in Melbourne, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRAB,BLUE,HARD	1	32,147	\$40,079	50
MULLET,STRIPED	2	8,605	\$8,035	20
POMPANO	3	6,628	\$29,431	38
MOJARRAS	4	3,933	\$2,677	13
PINFISH	5	2,769	\$13,290	18

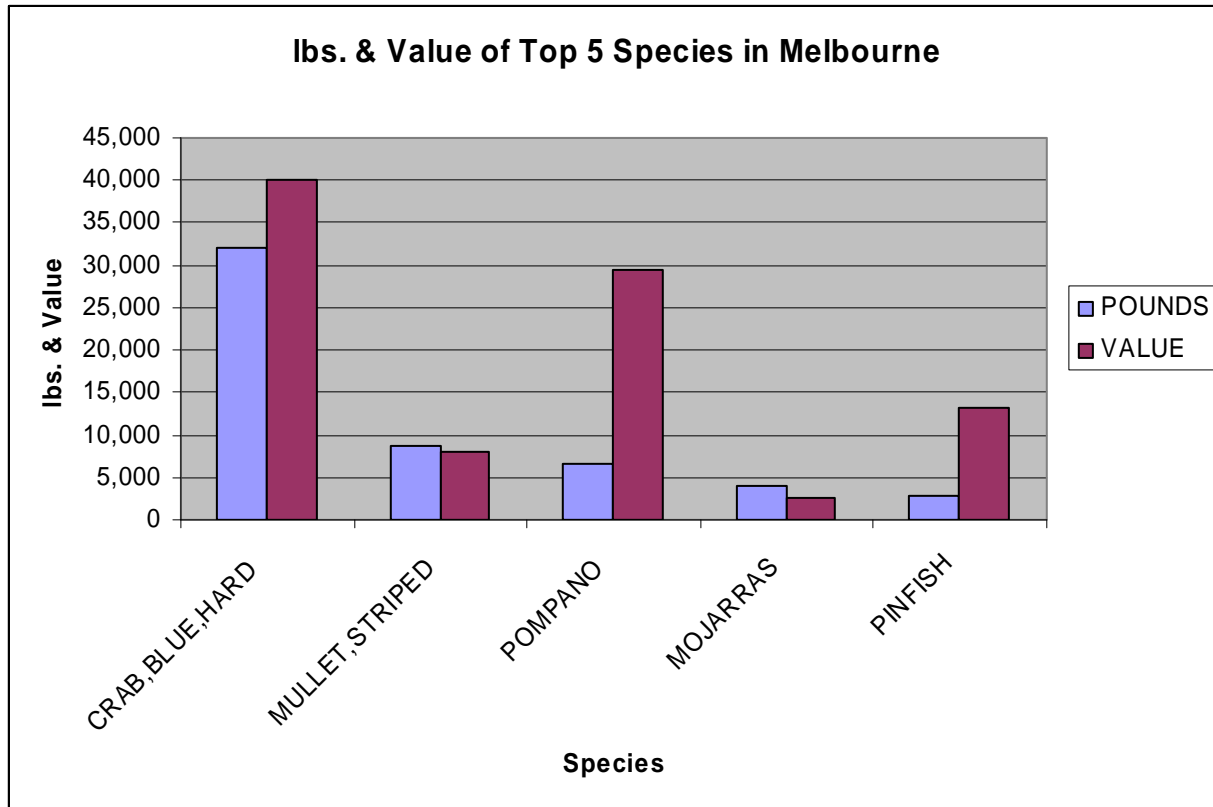


Figure 11. Value and pounds of top five species in Melbourne, FL for 2006.

Merritt Island Community Description

Merritt Island’s population has grown slowly over the past three decades. The percent of the population in the labor force has dropped slightly over the past ten years, but unemployment has increased slightly (Table 27). Average wage and salary have increased to over \$40,000 for the year 2000, but the number of persons living under the poverty level has also grown considerably. As for most coastal communities the number of people working in the farm, fish and forestry sector of the economy has dropped significantly over the past decade but has shown a steady decline prior to the 2000 census. Merritt Island has only 8 vessels with federal permits and half of them have charter permits (Jepson *et al.* 2006). There is substantial employment represented in the fishing related sector of boat building with over 1100 persons employed in that sector according to (Jepson *et al.* 2006). In 2006 blue, hard crab were the top species by pound (Table 28 and Figure 12).

Table 27. Merritt Island, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Merritt Island, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	32,886	36,090	
Median Education Attainment	Some college, no degree	Some college, no degree	
White	30,397	32,560	
Black or African American	1,786	1,918	

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Table 27. Cont'd.

American Indian & Alaska Native	121	149	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	428	618	
Some Other Race	154	246	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	909	1,381	
Total Housing Units	14,424	15,813	
Vacant	1,044	858	
Median Gross Rent	\$395	\$566	
Median Housing Value	\$91,400	\$118,300	\$242,700
Median Household Income	\$35,803	\$43,532	\$47,000
Per Capita Income	\$17,400	\$23,961	
Unemployment %	2.70%	2.90%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Educational, health and social services	DO	17.10%	
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	8%	12.40%	
Retail Trade	19%	13.30%	
Manufacturing	16.70%	12.60%	
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	DO	10.80%	
Public Administration	7.20%	DO	
Finance, insurance, & real estate	6.70%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 28. Top five species by pounds caught in Merritt Island, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRAB,BLUE,HARD	1	59,222	\$59,222	13
COBIA	2	2,250	\$6,124	15
TRIPLETAIL	3	2,124	\$4,677	12
SHEEPSHEAD,ATLANTIC	4	1,828	\$2,412	10
GROUPER,RED	5	1,271	\$4,047	7

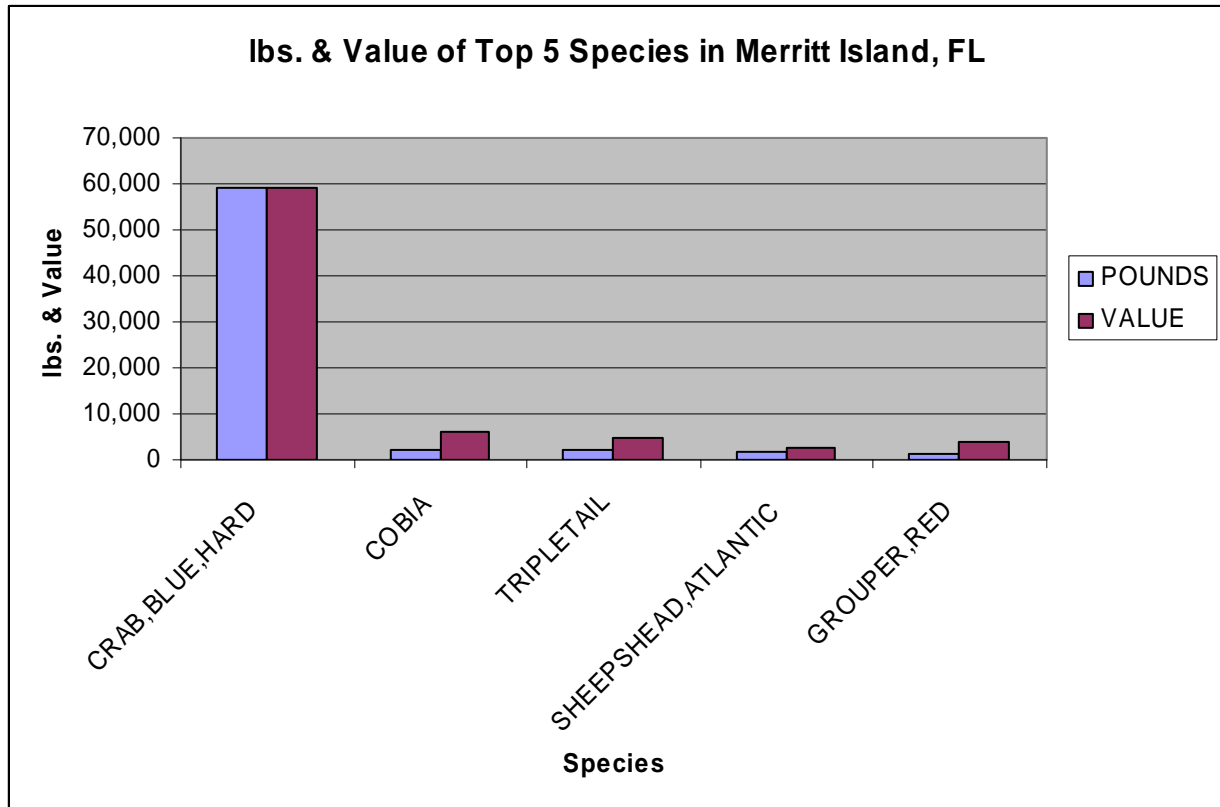


Figure 12. Value and pounds of top five species in Merritt Island, FL for 2006.

Miami Community Description

In 1891 Julia Tuttle moved to Florida and purchased 640 acres of land on the north bank of the Miami River. Tuttle then talked railroad builder Henry Flagler into extending his railroad into Miami, building a luxury hotel and laying out a new town. These developments resulted in the birth of a new city. The city of Miami was incorporated on July 28, 1896.³¹

The city of Miami is located in Miami-Dade County on the Miami River, between the Florida Everglades and the Atlantic Ocean. The population of Miami has steadily increased from 358,548 in 1990 to 404,048 in 2006 (Table 29). In 1990 the median household income was only \$16,925 and has only slightly risen to \$25,211 in 2006 while the median housing value has increased from \$79,200 in 1990 to \$248,500 in 2006. Unemployment remains high but has decreased from 6.50% in 1990 to 4.4% in 2006. In 2006 shrimp were the top species caught by pound (Table 30 and Figure 13).

³⁰<http://www.miamigov.com/press/pressreleases/miami/AbouttheCity.asp>.

³¹<http://www.miamigov.com/press/pressreleases/miami/history.asp>

Table 29. Miami, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Miami, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	358,548	362,470	404,048
Median Education Attainment	9-12th grade, no diploma	High School Graduate	
White	235,358	241,470	
Black or African American	98,207	80,858	
American Indian & Alaska Native	545	810	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	2,272	2506	
Some Other Race	22,166	19644	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	223,964	238,351	
Total Housing Units	144,550	148,554	
Vacant	14,298	14,195	
Median Gross Rent	\$404	\$535	
Median Housing Value	\$79,200	\$120,100	\$248,500
Median Household Income	\$16,925	\$23,483	\$25,211
Per Capita Income	\$9,799	\$15,128	
Unemployment %	6.50%	5.90%	4.4.%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Food services, accommodation, recreation, entertainment, arts	DO	12%	
Educational, health, social services	7.60%	15%	
Retail Trade	18.50%	11%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt., administrative, waste mgmt. services	DO	11.80%	
Construction	7.90%	10%	
Manufacturing, durable goods	7.60%	DO	
Personal Services	7.80%	DO	
DO= Dropped Out			

Table 30. Top five species by pounds caught in Miami, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
SHRIMP	1	411,462	\$706,225	104
LOBSTER,SPINY	2	253,105	\$1,575,878	104
BALLYHOO	3	79,450	\$62,724	35
SHARKS	4	74,561	\$16,223	14
KING MACKEREL	5	72,048	\$128,327	153

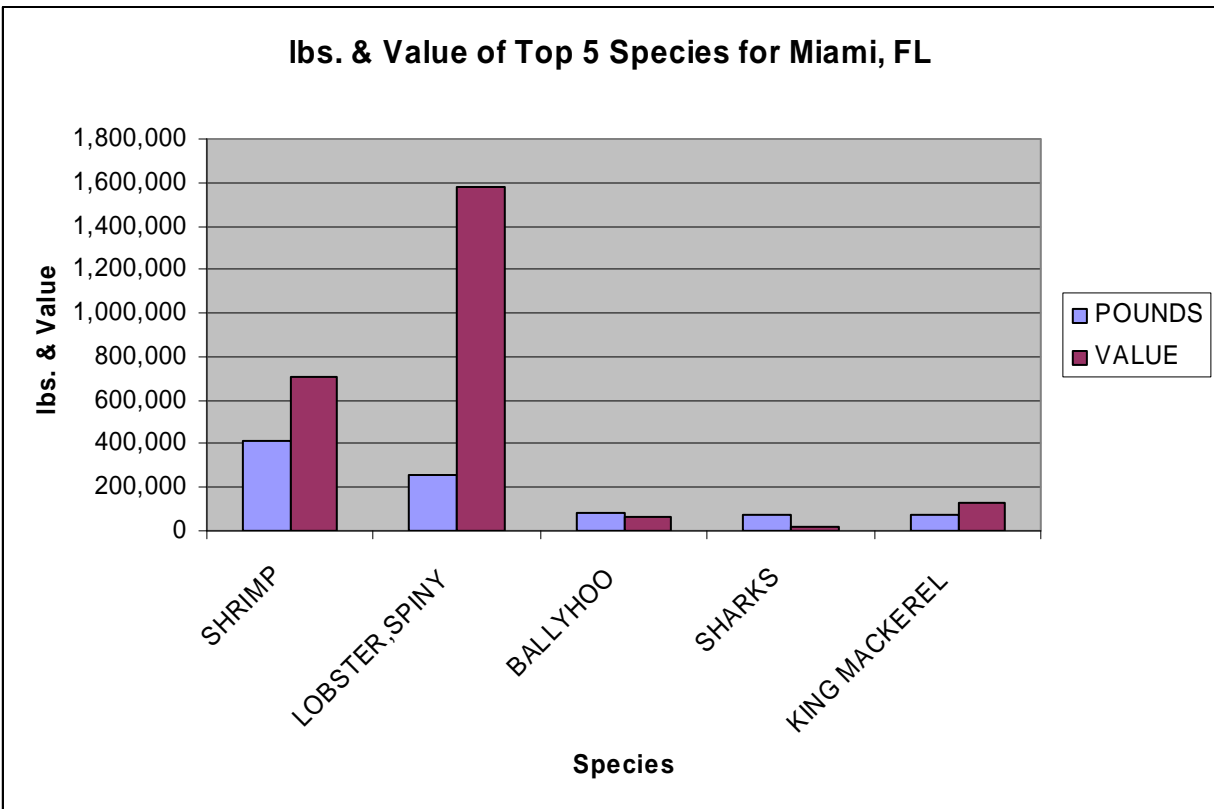


Figure 13. Value and pounds of top five species in Miami, FL for 2006.

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

Port Orange Community Description

On April 26, 1867 the community of Port Orange was established on the banks of the Halifax River. It was not until the mid 1970s when Dunlawton Avenue was extended from the FEC railroad to Nova Road did Port Orange start to see the early growth that would happen in the mid 1980s. According to the 1970 US Census, there were only 3,871 calling Port Orange home (Cardwell & Cardwell, 2000). With the second western extension of Dunlawton all the way out to Interstate 95, did Port Orange begin to blossom into the large metropolitan community that we know today.³² Now some 140 years later, Port Orange is a community of 54,851 people extending 28 square miles (Table 31). In 2006 sandbar shark were the top species caught by pound (Table 32 and Figure 14).

³²<http://www.port-orange.org/>

Cardwell, Harold D. Sr. and Priscilla D. Cardwell. 2000. Port Orange. Arcadia Publishing.

Table 31. Port Orange, FL demographic data from 1990-2006 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Port Orange, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	35,317	45,823	54,851
Median Education Attainment	High School graduate	Some college, less than 1 year	
White	34,512	43,803	
Black or African American	354	722	
American Indian & Alaska Native	97	121	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	275	533	
Some Other Race	79	245	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	689	1,151	
Total Housing Units	17,019	20,845	
Vacant	2,055	1,415	
Median Gross Rent	\$547	\$682	
Median Housing Value	\$78,900	\$95,500	\$176,300
Median Household Income	\$26,472	\$38,783	\$42,400
Per Capita Income	\$13,391	\$20,628	
Unemployment %	2.60%	1.60%	3.40%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Food services, accommodation, recreation, entertainment, arts	DO	11.30%	
Educational, health, social services	7.23%	20.10%	
Retail Trade	21.30%	15.60%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt., administrative, waste mgmt. services	DO	9.30%	
Construction	9.70%	8.40%	
Manufacturing, durable goods	8%	DO	
Finance, Insurance, real estate	9.90%	DO	
DO = Dropped Out			

Table 32. Top five species by pounds caught in Port Orange, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
SHARK,SANDBAR	1	109,003	\$36,484	12
TILEFISH	2	105,174	\$236,068	18
SHRIMP	3	91,414	\$208,683	21
MULLET with ROE	4	60,476	\$49,870	14
GLOUNDER,ATLANTIC	5	37,683	\$85,035	90

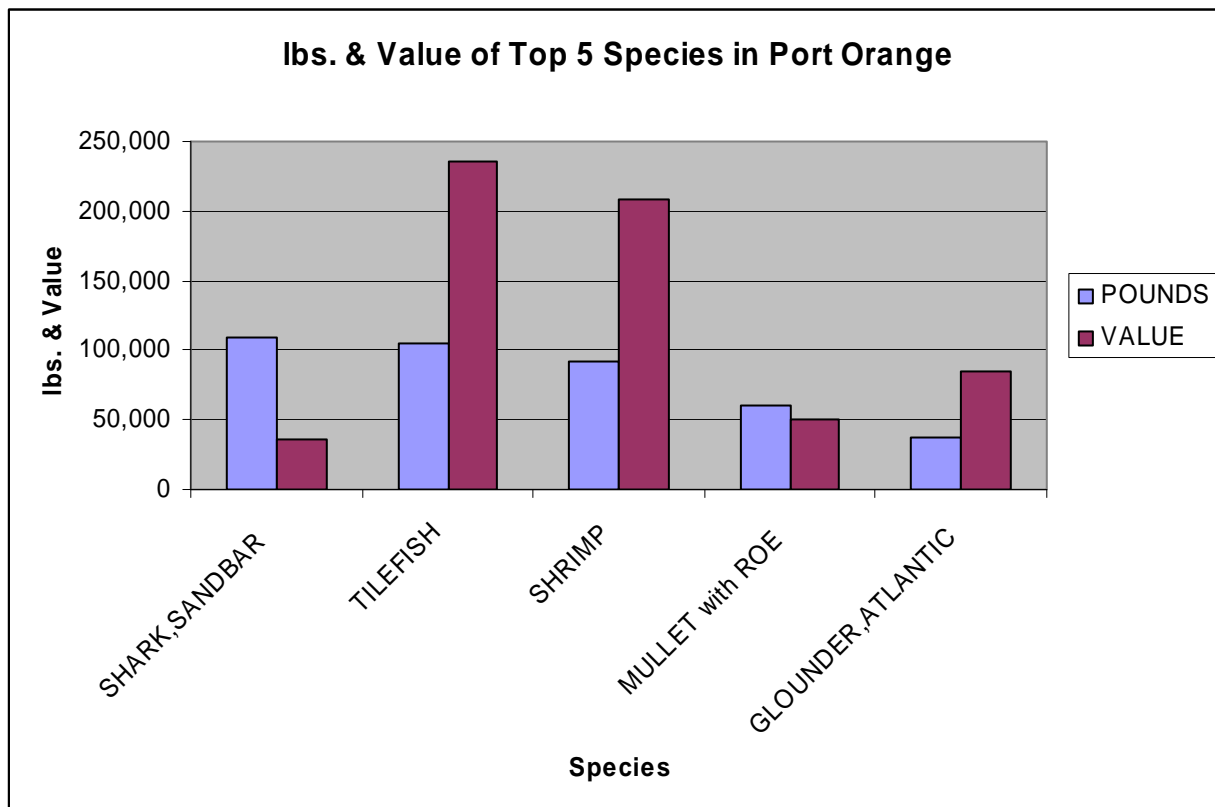


Figure 14. Value and pounds of top five species in Port Orange, FL for 2006.

St. Augustine Community Description

St. Augustine has the distinction of being the oldest European city in the United States. First sighted by the Spanish explorer Don Juan Ponce de Leon in 1513, it was not settled until 1565 by Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles, a Spanish admiral, in the name of King Phillip II.³³ The town's boom did not occur until the 1880s with the arrival of Henry M. Flagler. His goal was to turn St. Augustine into a winter resort for wealthy Americans. It was this thinking that transformed the town. The construction of the railroad linked the city with much of the east coast. Flagler built three large hotels to help fulfill his dream of a tourist mecca. By the mid-1900s, St. Augustine's local economy was dominated by tourism.³⁴ The commercial fishing industry began in the St. Augustine/Fernandina area around 1900 with the arrival of a Sicilian immigrant named Sallecito Salvador. He placed an engine on his boat that allowed him to pull a shrimp seine across the ocean floor in 1902, and in 1906, he began his company, S. Salvador & Sons. Salvador moved his business to St. Augustine in 1922, where it

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

thrived until 1929. Shrimp catch levels soared from about 1934 to 1940.³⁵ These stories illustrate the longstanding culture of fishing in the St. Augustine area and the importance it holds for many of the fishing families there. Commercial fishing still continues at the port, the oldest continuously active port in the United States. Boat building, tourism, and recreational activities are also important to St. Augustine's port.³⁶

St. Augustine has seen a steady decline in its population since 1970 until recently in 2006 (Table 33). Both the percent of population in the labor force and unemployment have remained relatively stable over the years. Average wage and salary has grown steadily, while the number of person living below the poverty level has dropped. The number of people employed in farm, fish and forestry has also dropped significantly over the past three decades, with the most pronounced decline from 1990 to 2000. St. Augustine has 28 vessels with federal permits and the majority of them have charter permits for either snapper grouper or coastal pelagics (Jepson *et al.* 2006). There is significant employment in fishing related business as there are over 370 people employed in boat building (Jepson *et al.* 2006) and another 75 in the seafood processing sector. In 2006 blue, hard crab were the number one species caught by pound (Table 34 and Figure 15).

³³<http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/history/history.html>

³⁴http://www.ci.st-augustine.fl.us/visitors/history_fullprint.html

³⁵<http://www.fl-seafood.com/water/places/fernidina.htm>

³⁶http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/maritime/ports/port.cfm?name=St_Augustine

Table 34. St. Augustine, FL demographic data from 1990-2000 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

St. Augustine, FL	1990	2000	2006
Population	11,692	11,592	12,604
Median Education Attainment	Some College, no degree	Some college, 1 or more years, no degree	
White	9,135	9,414	
Black or African American	2,365	1,747	
American Indian & Alaska Native	26	48	
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	84	94	
Some Other Race		102	
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	82	361	
Total Housing Units	5,181	5,619	
Vacant	580	670	
Median Gross Rent	\$380	\$645	
Median Housing Value	\$61,800	\$153,700	\$193,400
Median Household Income	\$21,722	\$32,358	\$37,000
Per Capita Income	\$12,012	\$21,225	
Unemployment %	3.10%	3.30%	
Employment by Industry (Top 5)			
Food services, accommodation, recreation, entertainment, arts	DO	17.10%	
Educational, health, social services	22.10%	19.10%	
Retail Trade	24.10%	15.70%	
Manufacturing	DO	7.40%	
Professional, scientific, mgmt., administrative, waste mgmt. services	6.30%	7.70%	
Personal Services	6%	DO	
Public administration	5.70%	DO	
DO = Dropped Out			

Table 35. Top five species by pounds caught in St. Augustine, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE	DEALERS
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	1	219,975	\$234,279	115
SHRIMP	2	189,946	\$419,478	63
DOLPHINFISH	3	43,310	\$72,850	20
OYSTER	4	52,686	\$187,164	34
SNAPPER,VERMILION	5	37,258	\$101,296	40

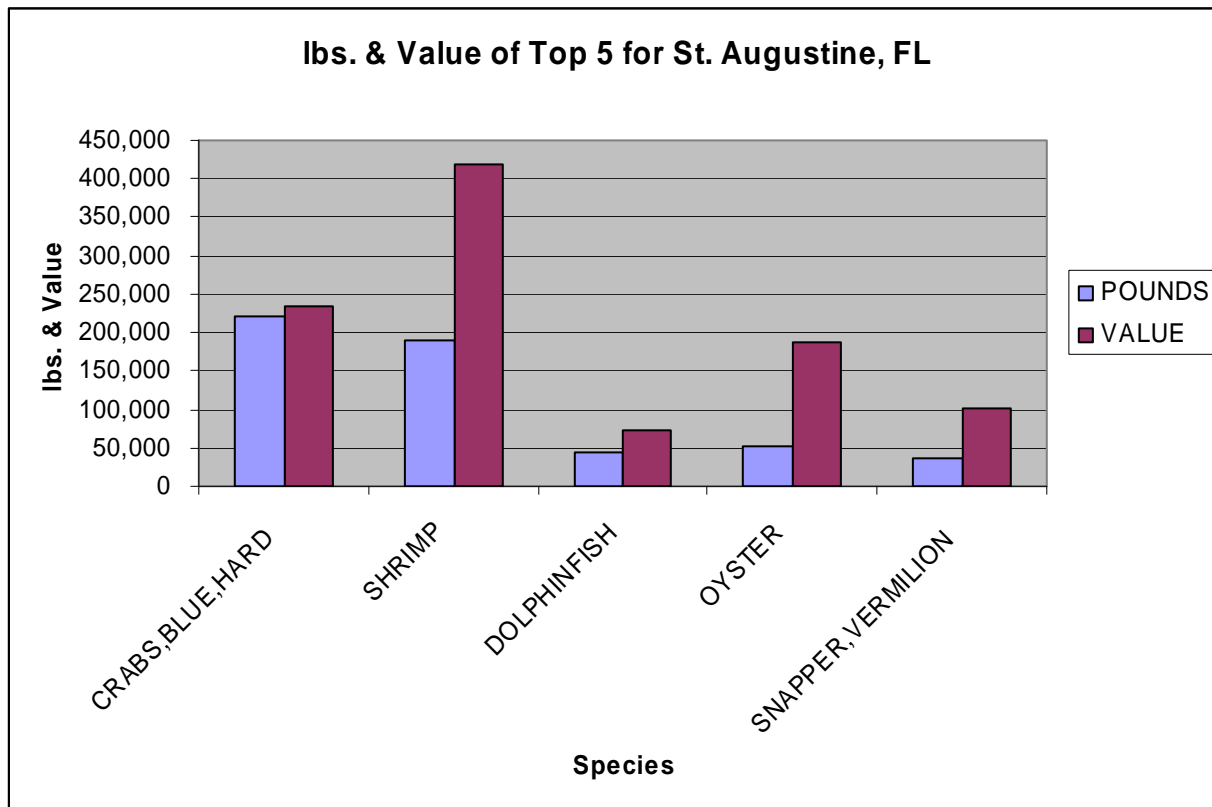


Figure 15. Value and pounds of top five species in St. Augustine, FL for 2006.

Fort Myers Community Description

Fort Myers is located on the east banks of the Caloosahatchee River in central Lee County. Access to the Gulf of Mexico can be over ten miles via the Caloosahatchee River to San Carlos Bay. Fort Myers served as a military operations base during the Seminole Indian Wars in the mid-1800s. Following the platting of the town in 1876, Fort Myers’ economic focus turned from defense to agriculture (tomatoes, castor beans, and avocados), cattle, and logging.

The year 2000 census counted 48,208 persons in Fort Myers, an increase of 3,002 persons from the 1990 census (Table 35). Shrimp is the principal landing for the commercial fleet in Lee County, though a wide range of species are landed, including some pelagics (Table 37). There are numerous seafood dealers, marinas, and various other fishing-related businesses active in Fort Myers throughout the course of the year. Charter fishing is popular here.

Table 35. Fort Myers, FL demographic data from 1990-2000 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Fort Myers, FL	1990	2000
Population	45,206	48,208
Education Attainment	High school graduate	High school graduate
White	27,091	27,166
Black or African American	14,183	6,095
American Indian & Alaska Native	83	181
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	334	520
Some Other Race	26	2,745
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	3,489	6,984
Total Housing Units	21,388	21,836
Vacant	3,244	2,729
Median Gross Rent	\$373	\$272
Median Housing Value	\$60,500	\$76,700
Median Household Income	\$22,102	\$28,514
Per Capita Income	\$12,329	\$17,312
Unemployment %	3.90%	3.70%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Educational, health & social services	11%	18.90%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	DO	13%
Professional, scientific, mgmt. administrative, & waste mgmt. services	DO	12%
Retail trade	30.20%	15.60%
Construction	7%	11.30%
Personal services	10%	DO
Public administration	9.20%	DO
DO= Dropped Out		

Fort Myers Beach Community Description

Fort Myers Beach is located on the northern tip of Estero Island in western Lee County. It is surrounded by water: the Gulf of Mexico to the west, Estero Bay to the east, and San Carlos Bay to the north.

Anglo homesteaders arrived in the late 1800s and quickly developed the island's commercial fishing industry; mullet was the primary catch. Investors gradually bought up the majority of available subdivisions on the island during the 1920s; however, commercial development remained slow through the 1960s. In the meantime, the island's fishing industry continued to thrive. In particular, the Coquina clam— the area's most common shellfish— was a popular pre-war product. By the 1950s, Fort Myers Beach was an important shrimp port. In the 1960s, recreational fishing became popular in the area, with snook, trout, ladyfish, jacks, mackerel, kingfish,

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

bonito, grouper, and tarpon being the primary species of interest. Fort Myers Beach incorporated in 1995 (Town of Fort Myers Beach).

The year 2000 population of Fort Myers Beach was 6,561, down from 9,284 in 1990 (Table 36). Fort Myers Beach is primarily a beach/tourist destination island. Numerous fishing-associated businesses are located here, and sightseeing and diving tours are popular activities. There is substantial recreational fishing infrastructure, as marinas, docking facilities, head boat operations, and charter boats are all available here. Fort Myers Beach is the site of docking facilities for about 60 or more Gulf shrimp vessels. Some trawler captains and crew are local, while many are transient and come from as far away as Texas. Offloading facilities, fuel, and maintenance (including net building and repair) are available at the docks.

Table 36. Fort Myers Beach, FL demographic data from 1990-2000 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Fort Myers Beach, FL	1990	2000
Population	9,284	6,561
Education Attainment	High school graduate	Some college, no degree
White	9,248	6,380
Black or African American	7	5
American Indian & Alaska Native	12	25
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	11	21
Some Other Race	6	65
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	110	227
Total Housing Units	9,977	8,429
Vacant	5,643	5,004
Median Gross Rent	\$476	\$700
Median Housing Value	\$137,100	\$193,900
Median Household Income	\$28,536	\$48,045
Per Capita Income	\$19,445	\$34,703
Unemployment %	6.80%	1.40%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	DO	24.90%
Construction	12.30%	11.30%
Retail Trade	25.10%	12.10%
Finance, insurance, real estate, & rental and leasing	7.50%	15%
Educational, health & social services	10.80%	12.10%
Personal services	8.20%	DO
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 37. Top five species by pounds caught in Lee County, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE
SHRIMP	1	5,590,206	\$13,541,584
BLUE,HARD,CRABS	2	2,441,161	\$1,813,104
MULLET, STREIPED	3	627,608	\$389,977
MULLET with ROE	4	500,034	\$426,617
GROUPEP	5	282,323	\$723,041

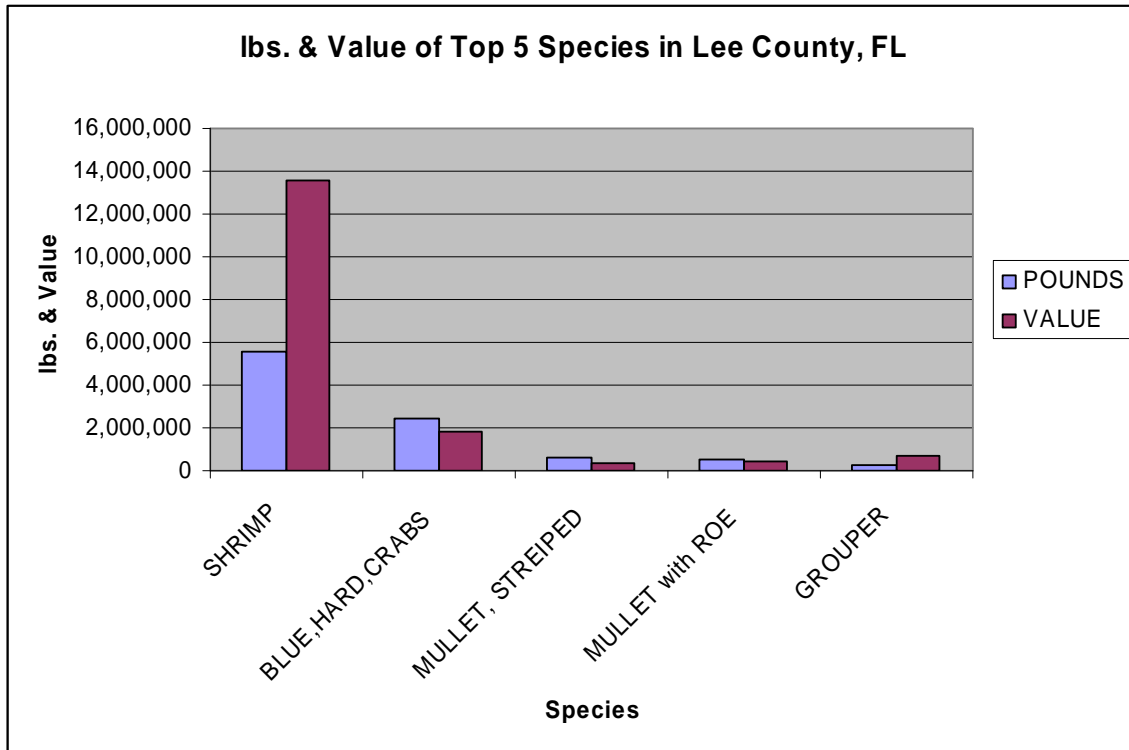


Figure 16. Value and pounds of top five species in Lee County, FL for 2006.

Tarpon Springs Community Description

Tarpon Springs is located about 25 miles northwest of Tampa, adjacent to a well-protected anchorage near the mouth of the Anclote River. The town has roots in the commercial sponge-diving industry and still supports the largest natural sponge operation in the country. Tarpon Springs was incorporated in 1887 in Hillsborough County, but became part of Pinellas County in 1911. According to city historians, from 1905 to 1945, and again during the 1980's, a local fleet of 180 sponge boats worked from Apalachicola to Key West, bringing in \$3 million annually to the local economy. A commercial fishing industry developed around 1920, with several fish houses and wholesale retail operations that continue today near the Sponge Docks. There were as many as eight fish houses operating in Tarpon Springs.

The year 2000 census enumerated 21,066 persons in Tarpon Springs, a 17 percent increase from 1990 (Table 38). Today, there are three active sponge factories and four active wholesale fish houses in Tarpon Springs. Local fleet participants report that the number of active fishing vessels has decreased by half in the past ten

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

years, going from approximately 100 to 50 vessels. They attribute the decrease to regulatory pressures, diminishing docking space, and the recent national and regional economic downturn. Most vessel owners feel that it is too expensive to rent docking space in the immediate area, and free space (that is, attached to fish house properties) is decreasing due to the increasing value and sale of waterfront property. Meanwhile, the number of recreational vessels moored at the local marinas has increased significantly. The town now has seven marinas that allow only recreational clientele. This number has increased over the past ten years, and marina owners now feel pressure to expand their docking space. One marina owner stated that he could not keep up with the number of recreational vessels coming into the community. Grouper are the top species landed in Pinellas County (Table 39 and Figure 17).

Table 38. Tarpon Springs, FL demographic data from 1990-2000 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Tarpon Springs, FL	1990	2000
Population	17,906	21,003
Education Attainment	High School graduate or higher, no college degree	Some College, no degree
White	16,277	18,918
Black or African American	1,439	1,292
American Indian & Alaska Native	39	61
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	124	232
Some Other Race	77	171
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	323	909
Total Housing Units	9,116	10,759
Vacant	1,718	1,692
Median Gross Rent	\$355	\$528
Median Housing Value	\$80,700	\$107,100
Median Household Income	\$25,380	\$38,251
Per Capita Income	\$13,557	\$21,504
Unemployment %	6.90%	4.10%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Retail trade	24.10%	13.70%
Professional, scientific, mgmt. administrative, & waste mgmt. services	6.50%	14.40%
Educational, health & social services	16.10%	18.90%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	DO	9.80%
Construction	10.40%	8.80%
Finance, insurance, and real estate	6.40%	DO
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 39. Top five species by pounds caught in Pinellas County, FL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE
GROUPE	1	3,628,451	\$8,898,020
MULLET WITH ROE	2	1,271,936	\$1,278,168
SHRIMP	3	886,845	1,918,293
SHARKS	4	685,124	193,605
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	5	584,000	\$643,708

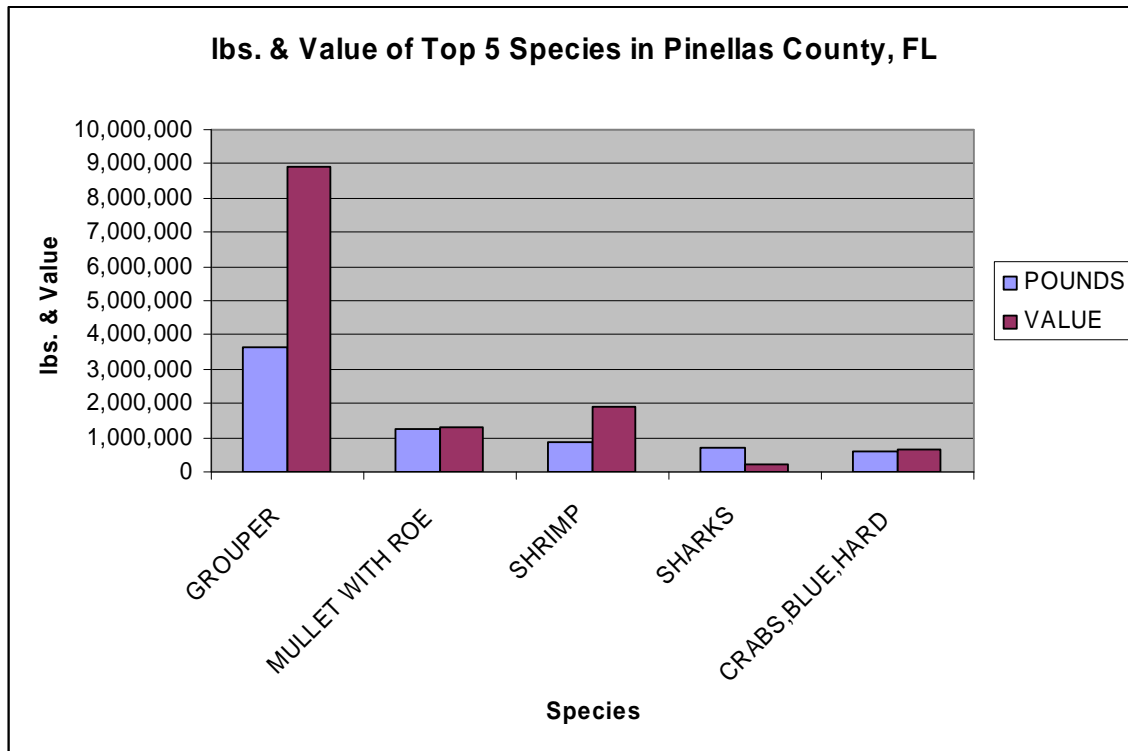


Figure 17. Value and pounds of top five species in Pinellas County, FL for 2006.

Alabama Communities

Grand Bay Community Description

Grand Bay is located in Mobile County, 25 miles south of the Gulf of Mexico. Grand Bay was founded in 1870 and in 2000 had a population of 3,918 (Table 40). Two wholesale seafood dealers are based here. One processes primarily oysters and the other crab. Most commercial fishermen who live in Grand Bay work from Bayou La Batre. The fleet is highly productive in shrimp, crabs, and oysters. Four Gulf shrimp permit holders were working from the area in 2003.

Table 40. Grand Bay, AL demographic data from 1990-2000.(Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Grand Bay, AL	1990	2000
Population	3,383	3,918
Education Attainment	High School graduate or higher, no college degree	High School graduate or higher, no college degree
White	2,998	3,487
Black or African American	665	348
American Indian & Alaska Native	13	9
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	12	33
Some Other Race	5	5
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	33	34
Total Housing Units	12,454	1,441
Vacant	113	77
Median Gross Rent	\$238	\$521
Median Housing Value	\$53,600	\$76,500
Median Household Income	\$26,651	\$38,941
Per Capita Income	\$11,046	\$15,741
Unemployment %	4.30%	6.20%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Retail Trade	18%	10.80%
Construction	11.70%	9.20%
Manufacturing	20.40%	26.50%
Educational, health services	13%	11.40%
Wholesale Trade	7.20%	DO
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	DO	6.80%
DO = Dropped Out		

Fairhope Community Description

Fairhope is located along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay in west-central Baldwin County, approximately 25 miles northeast of the Gulf of Mexico. Fairhope was established as a “utopian” community by “single-tax colonists” in 1894. These political idealists embraced theories advanced by Henry George, advocating no taxes other than a single land tax. One of the first local endeavors was to build a municipal pier, completed in 1885.

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

The year 2000 population of Fairhope was 12,480 persons, up from 8,485 in 1990 (Table 41). Several locally-owned shrimp boats are docked at one marina; according to the manager, the owners are retired and fish only occasionally. Two marina managers stated that most of their customers are interested in pleasure boating rather than fishing. Four charter operations are based here, as is a small group of commercial license holders. Shrimp were the principal commercial landings during 2002 (Table 42 and Figure 18).

Table 41. Fairhope, AL demographic data from 1990-2000. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census).

Fairhope, AL	1990	2000
Population	8,485	12,480
Education Attainment	High School graduate or higher, no college degree	High School graduate or higher, no college degree
White	7,850	11,259
Black or African American	580	972
American Indian & Alaska Native	17	25
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	26	82
Some Other Race	12	26
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	91	130
Total Housing Units	3,808	6,000
Vacant	258	655
Median Gross Rent	\$307	\$710
Median Housing Value	\$70,100	\$149,900
Median Household Income	\$28,824	\$42,913
Per Capita Income	\$14,987	\$25,237
Unemployment %	3.80%	2.40%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Educational, health, social services	16%	25%
Retail Trade	16.80%	11.20%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, food services	DO	9.20%
Professional, scientific, mgmt. administrative, waste mgmt. services	DO	9.20%
Manufacturing	12.60%	7.20%
Other professional and related services	7.60%	DO
Finance, insurance, and real estate	7.20%	DO
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 42. Top five species by pounds caught in Baldwin County, AL from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE
SHRIMP	1	3,068,199	\$6,069,491
STRIPED MULLET	2	712,763	\$383,117
TENPOUNDER	3	639,138	\$383,626
SHARK	4	472,678	\$170,426
SPANISH MACKEREL	5	591,629	\$375,066

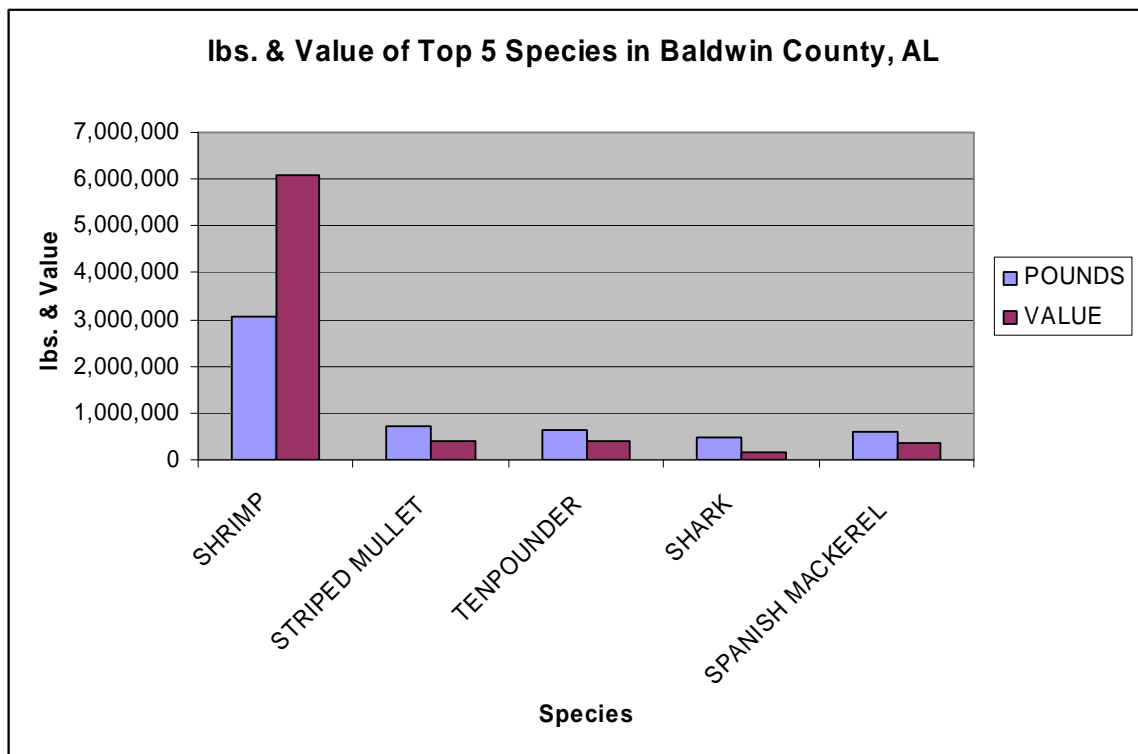


Figure 18. Value and pounds of top five species in Baldwin County, AL for 2006.

Mississippi Communities

Pascagoula Community Description

Pascagoula is located in Jackson County and is bordered by three bodies of water: Pascagoula Bay to the west, Mississippi Sound to the south, and Point aux Chenes Bay to the east. The Gulf of Mexico is roughly ten miles south.

This city is home to the Naval Station Pascagoula and one of Mississippi’s leading and busiest deepwater ports, the Port of Pascagoula. The shipbuilding industry is very active in Pascagoula, as are the oil and petrochemical industries. The year 2000 census enumerated 26,200 persons in Pascagoula, an increase of 301 from 1990 (Table 43). The Pascagoula seafood industry is an important source of local jobs and income. The shipbuilding industry is particularly important, however, and one of the larger shipbuilding operations in the area employees more than 11,000 persons. The operation is the largest employer in the state. As of the year 2000, six seafood

Appendix B. Community Descriptions

processors employed an average of 24 persons each. Some 12.4 million pounds of seafood totaling 8.2 million dollars were processed in Pascagoula that year. A large fleet of small boat commercial operators is also based here; most pursue shrimp and various finfish in the inshore and nearshore waters of the sound and Gulf. Menhaden is the number one species landed (Table 44 and Figure 19).

Table 43. Pascagoula, MS demographic data from 1990-2000. (Source U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census.)

Pascagoula, MS	1990	2000
Population	25,899	26,200
Education Attainment	High School graduate or higher, no college degree	High School graduate or higher, no college degree
White	19,998	17,594
Black or African American	5,557	7,590
American Indian & Alaska Native	49	47
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	239	259
Some Other Race	56	437
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	252	1,019
Total Housing Units	11,053	10,942
Vacant	1,279	
Median Gross Rent	\$265	\$486
Median Housing Value	\$49,100	\$69,000
Median Household Income	\$24,986	\$32,042
Per Capita Income	\$9,056	\$16,891
Unemployment %	7.80%	9.30%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Retail Trade	17.50%	11.40%
Manufacturing	31.50%	24.40%
Education, health services	14.80%	18.70%
Other professional & related services	6%	5.70%
Construction	5.60%	8.20%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	DO	8.10%
DO= Dropped Out		

Table 44. Top five species by pounds caught in Jackson County, MS from 2006 data.

	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE
MENHADEN	1	211,163,171	\$8,446,609
BUTTERFISH	2	537,636	\$134,412
SCADS	3	104,391	\$36,539
STRIPED MULLET	4	65,358	\$22,924
TUNA, LITTLE	5	54,999	\$19,248

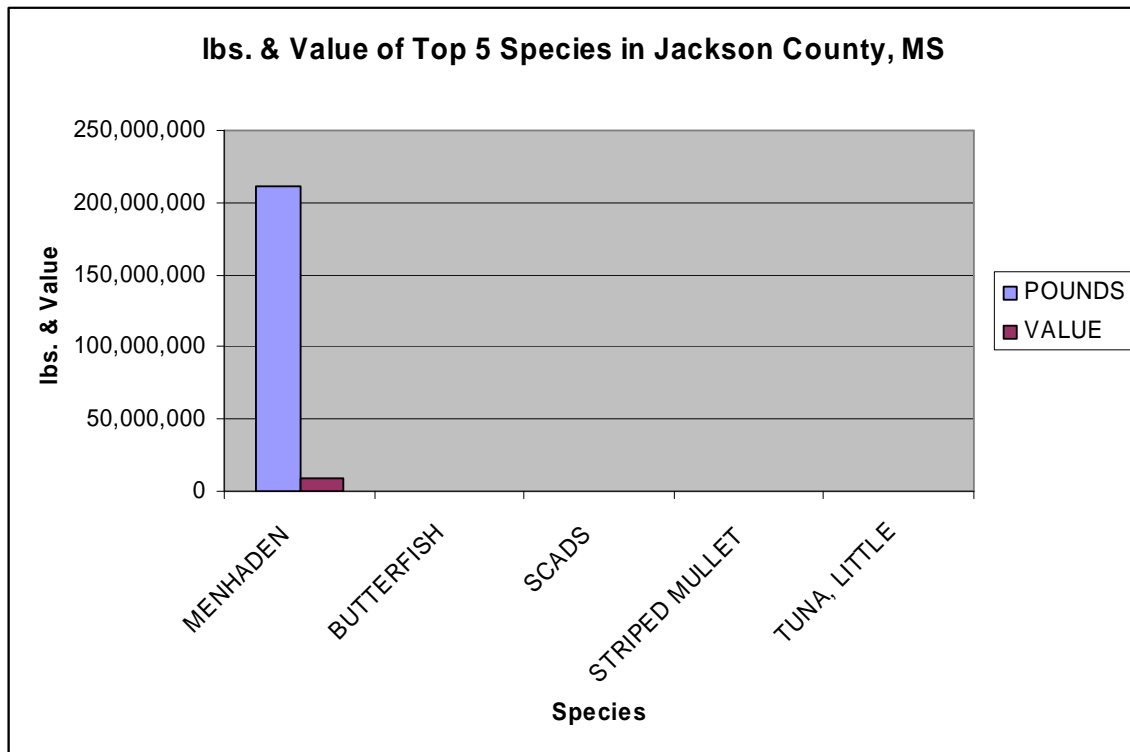


Figure 19. Value and pounds of top five species in Jackson County, MS for 2006.

Texas Communities

Port Arthur Community Description

Port Arthur is located along the Intracoastal Waterway and Sabine Lake in eastern Jefferson County. Port Arthur is about 14 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulfgate Bridge connects it with Pleasure Island and provides access to the Sabine Lake Causeway. The town of Port Arthur was founded in the late 1800s by railroad pioneer Arthur E. Stilwell, with financial support from Dutch investors. Growth occurred in the early 1900s after the port opened for shipping. Economic prosperity was closely tied to the Spindletop oil field in nearby Beaumont. The Gulf Oil Corporation and Texaco established refineries in Port Arthur. The year 2000 census reported a population of 57,755 persons, a loss of 969 from 1990 (Table 45). Extensive fishing-related infrastructure is in place here, including numerous boat builders and brokers, marinas, processors, and retail and wholesale seafood dealers. A fleet of charter vessels is also based here. A relatively large fleet of trawlers is based here, with 35 persons holding Gulf shrimp permits in 2003. Shrimp are the number one species landed (Table 46 and Figure 20).

Table 45. Port Arthur, TX demographic data from 1990-2000. (Source U.S. Census Bureau Decennial census.)

Port Arthur, TX	1990	2000
Population	58,724	57,755
Education Attainment	High School graduate or higher, no college degree	High School graduate or higher, no college degree
White	28,955	22,528
Black or African American	24,778	25,240
American Indian & Alaska Native	147	260
Asian, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	2,825	3,413
Some Other Race	2,019	5,127
Hispanic or Latino (or any race)	4,829	10,081
Total Housing Units	25,746	24,713
Vacant	3,420	2,874
Median Gross Rent	\$226	\$405
Median Housing Value	\$30,400	\$35,900
Median Household Income	\$18,548	\$26,455
Per Capita Income	\$9,706	\$14,183
Unemployment %	6.90%	7.00%
Employment by Industry (Top 5)		
Educational, health & social services	19.20%	22%
Manufacturing	17.60%	13.10%
Retail Trade	20.50%	12.60%
Construction	8.40%	9.50%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	DO	7.20%
Business & repair services	5.40%	DO
DO=Dropped Out		

Table 46. Top five species by pounds caught in Jefferson County, TX from 2006 data.

SPECIES	FISH RANK	POUNDS	VALUE
SHRIMP	1	24,504,592	\$42,546,350
CRABS,BLUE,HARD	2	504,105	\$303,813
CATFISH	3	48,747	\$44,143
SNAPPER	4	28,278	\$77,571
SUCKERS	5	2,748	\$1,648

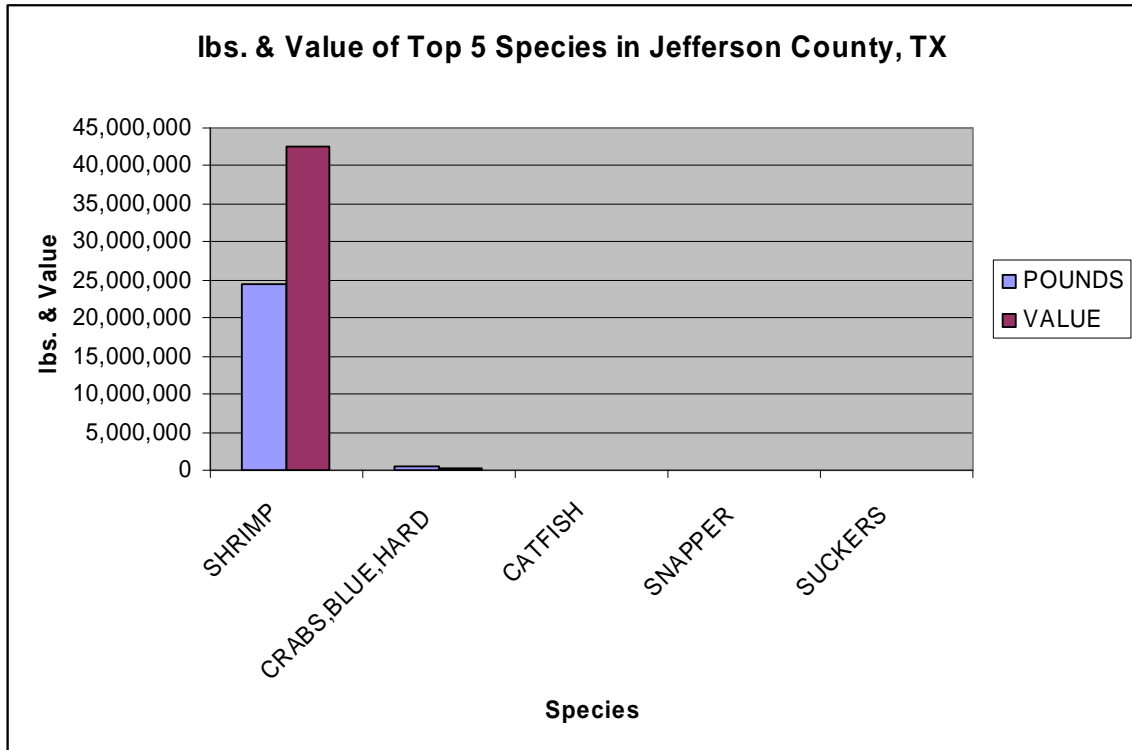


Figure 20. Value and pounds of top five species in Jefferson County, TX for 2006.