South Atlantic Region Commercial and Recreational Trips 2000-08

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June 2009

Introduction

Data was collected from commercial logbooks and the MRIP website to see if there was any correlation between recent fuel price increases and the number of commercial and recreational fishing trips taken. A simple analysis indicates that between 2007 and 2008, the total number of recreational trips taken decreased in Florida, South Carolina, and North Carolina. The number of recreational trips taken in Georgia increased slightly. Detail on trips taken by headboats, charterboats, and private boats can be found below.

Commercial Trips

Commercial logbook data indicates that a total of 29,300 fishing trips for all federally permitted species were reported in 2007 compared to 27,900 trips in 2006 (see Figure 1). With regard to trips landing snapper grouper species only, there was an increase from 13,500 trips in 2006 to 14,800 trips in 2007 (see Figure 1).

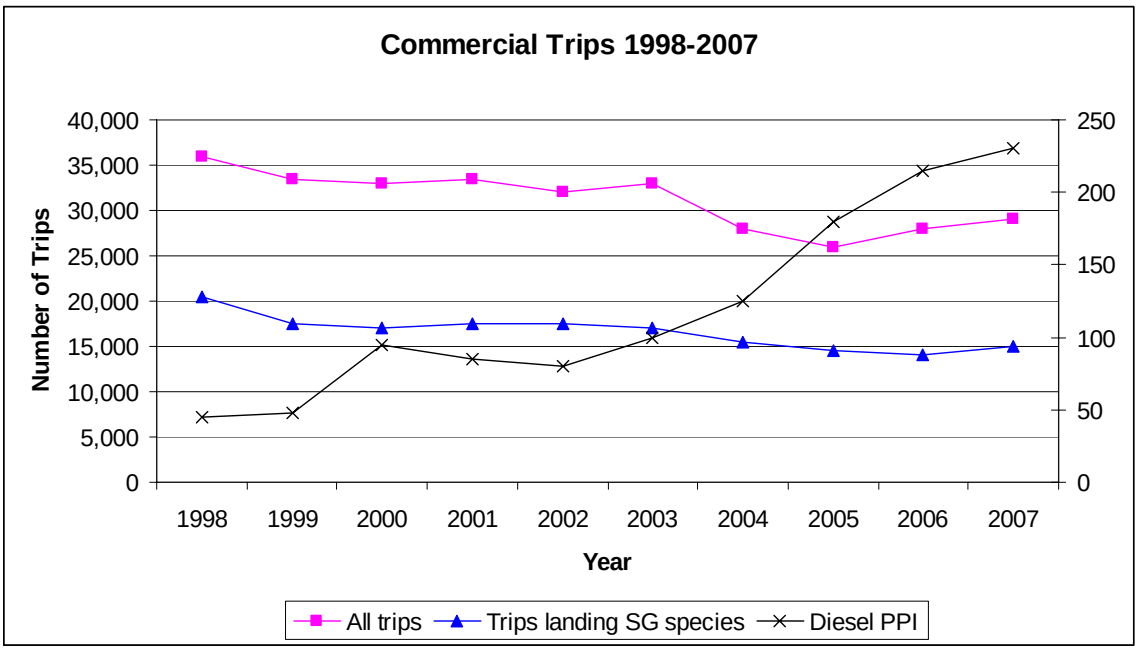

Figure 1. Commercial trips, 1998-2008.

Figures 2 and 3 show the average annual real retail price of gasoline and the average monthly real retail price of gasoline. Retail price for gasoline peaked in July 2008 but have declined since then.

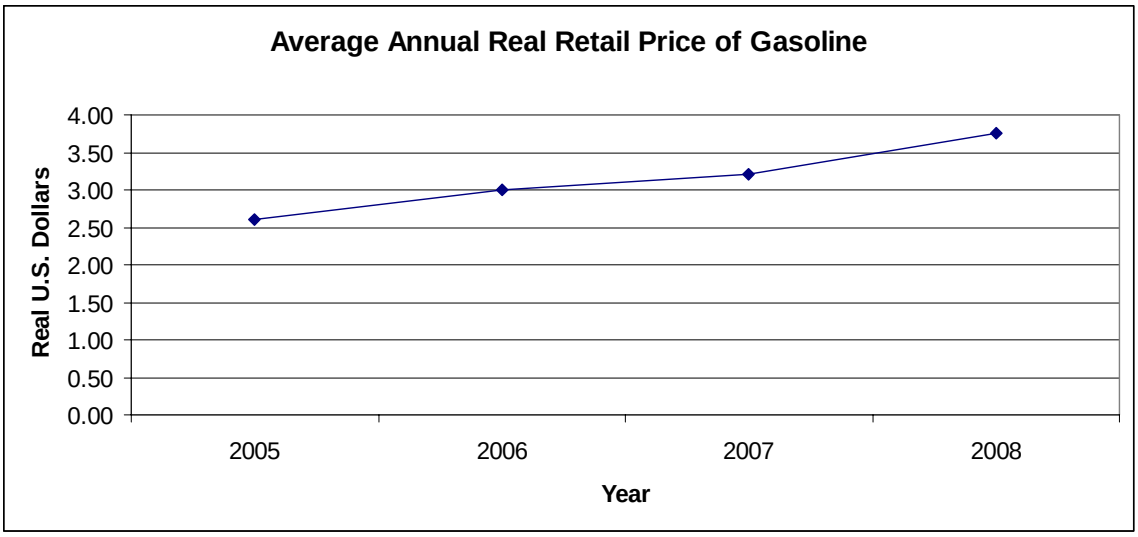

Figure 2. Average Annual Real Retail Price of Gasoline, 2005-2008.

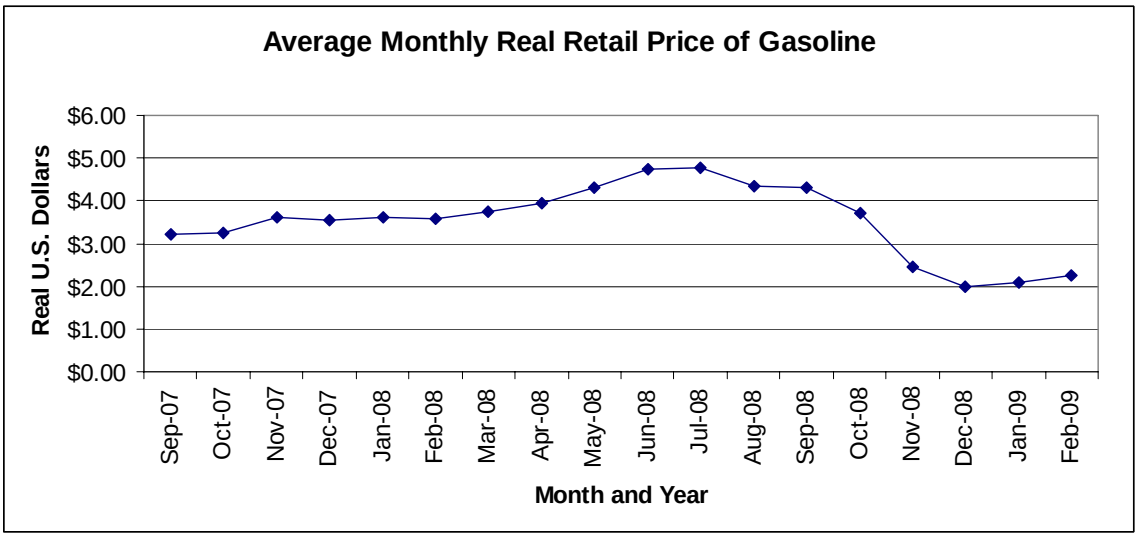

Figure 3. Average Monthly Real Retail Price of Gasoline, September 2007-February 2009.

Recreational Trips

For Hire Recreational Sector

Annual data on for-hire trips taken between 2000 and 2007 by state within the South Atlantic region are shown in Figures 4-7 (Table 2). The data indicate that trips by for-hire vessels decreased in all states from 2007 to 2008. Trips by headboats decreased in all states while trips by charterboats decreased in all states except Florida. Bi-monthly for-hire trips are shown in Figures 8-10 (Tables 4-7). A graph for Georgia is not included for confidentiality reasons.

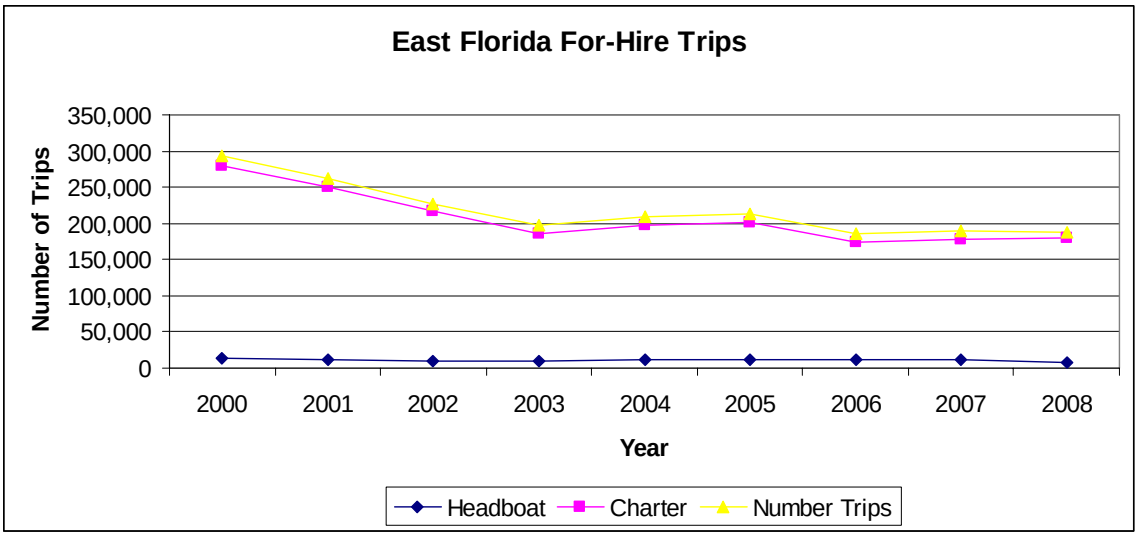

Figure 4. East Florida For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

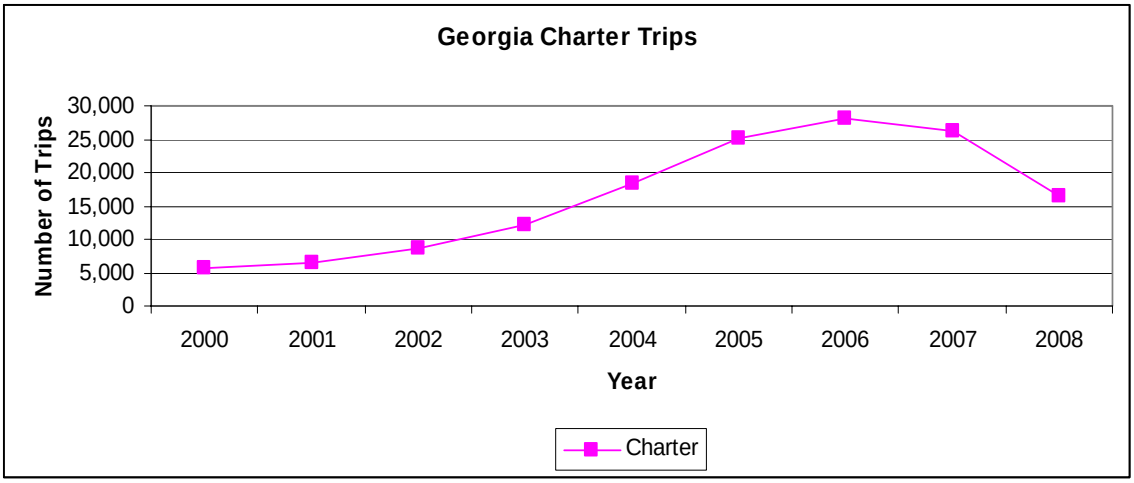

Figure 5. Georgia Charter Trips, 2000-08. *Note: Headboat trips are confidential.*

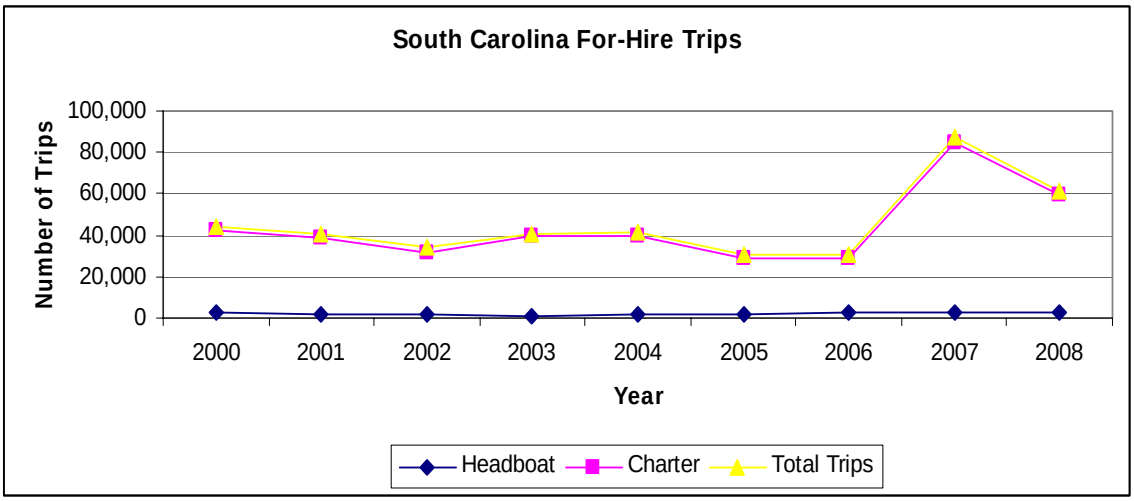

Figure 6. South Carolina For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

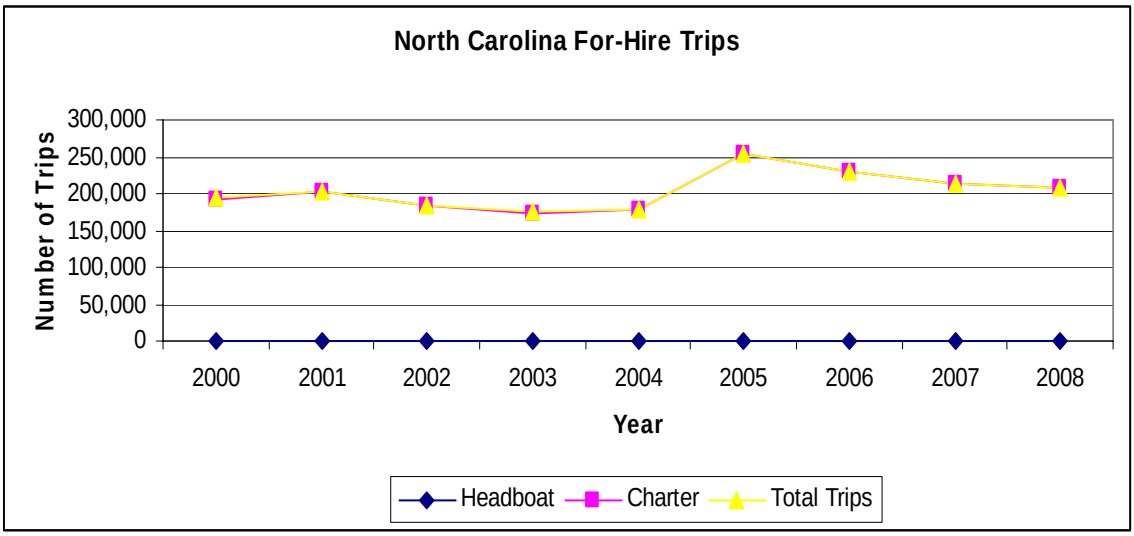

Figure 7. North Carolina For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

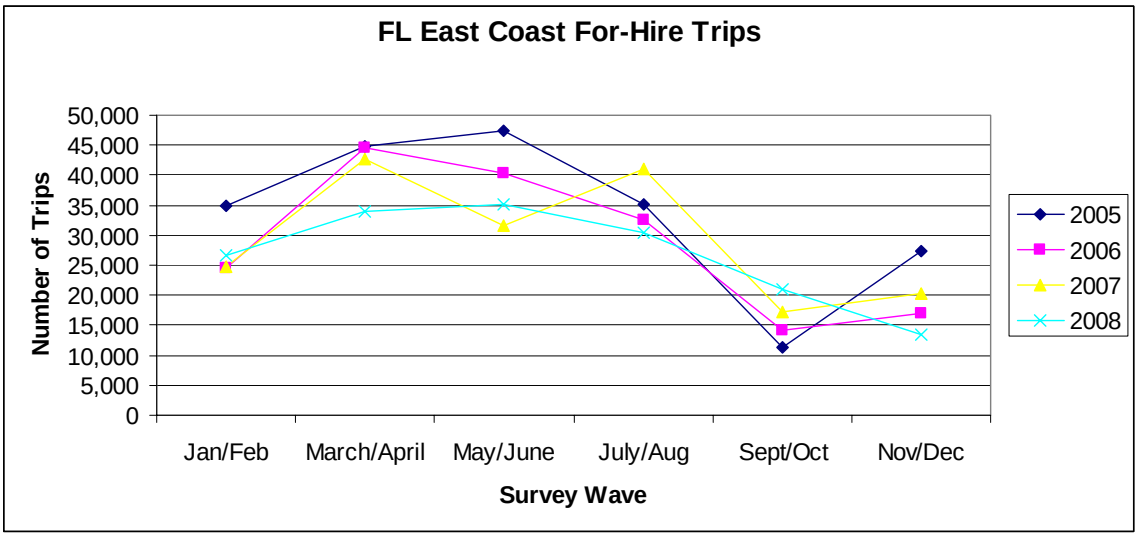

Figure 8. Bi-Monthly Florida East Coast For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

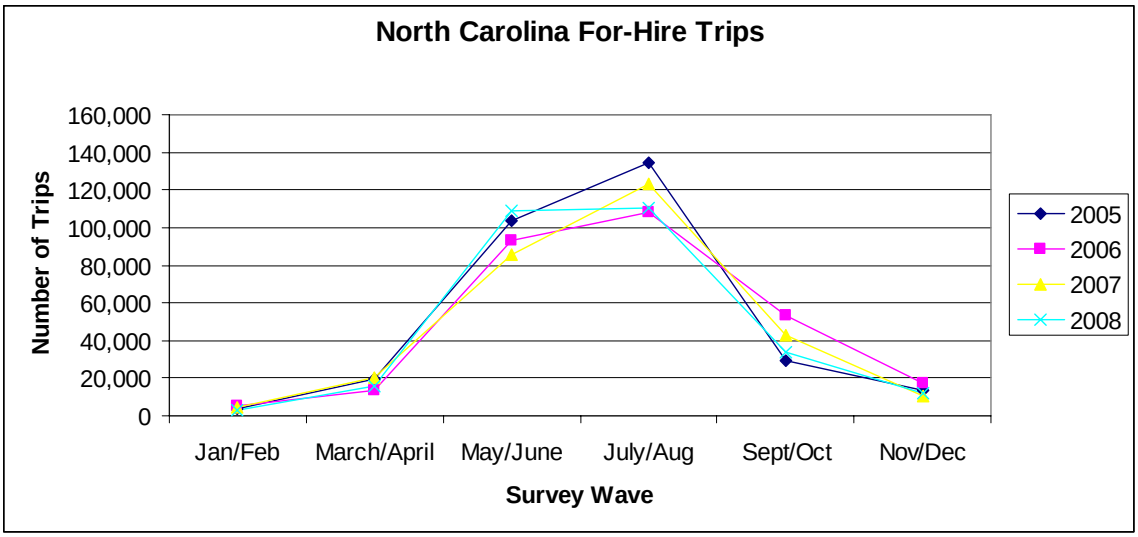

Figure 9. Bi-Monthly North Carolina For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

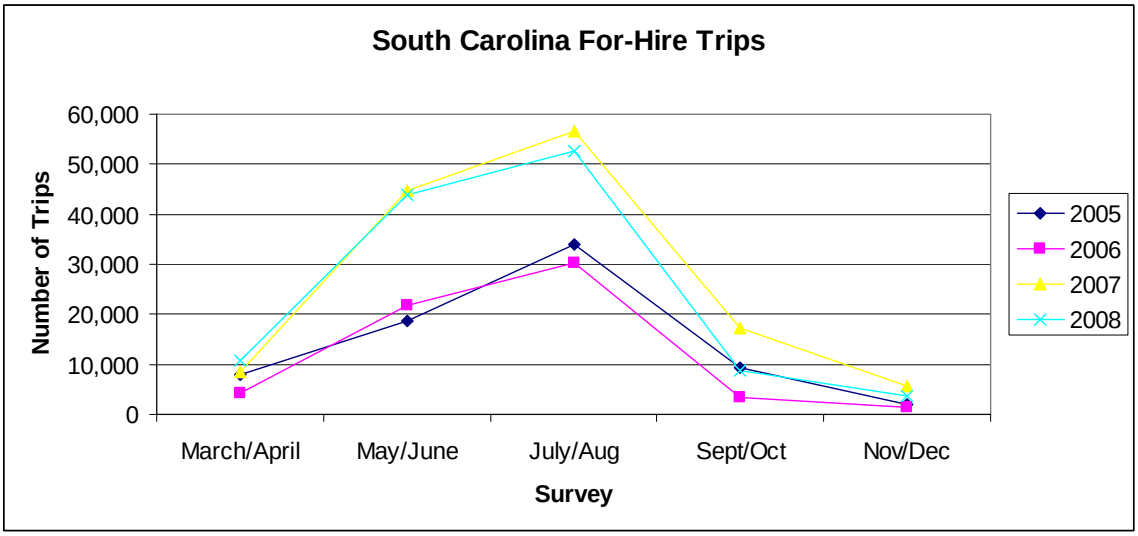

Figure 10. Bi-Monthly South Carolina For-Hire Trips, 2000-08.

Private Recreational Sector

Annual data on private and rental recreational trips taken between 2000 and 2008 by state within the South Atlantic region are shown in Figures 11-14 (Table 3). The data indicate that all states within the South Atlantic jurisdiction, except Georgia experienced decreases in the number of private recreational trips taken from 2007 to 2008. Figures 15-18 (Tables 4-7) show bi-monthly number of trips for each of the four states.

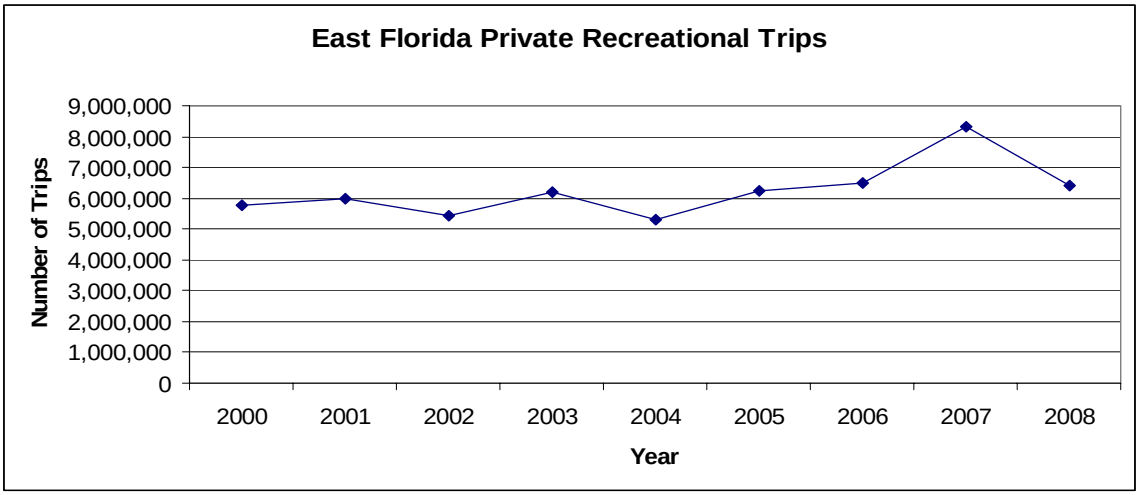

Figure 11. East Florida Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

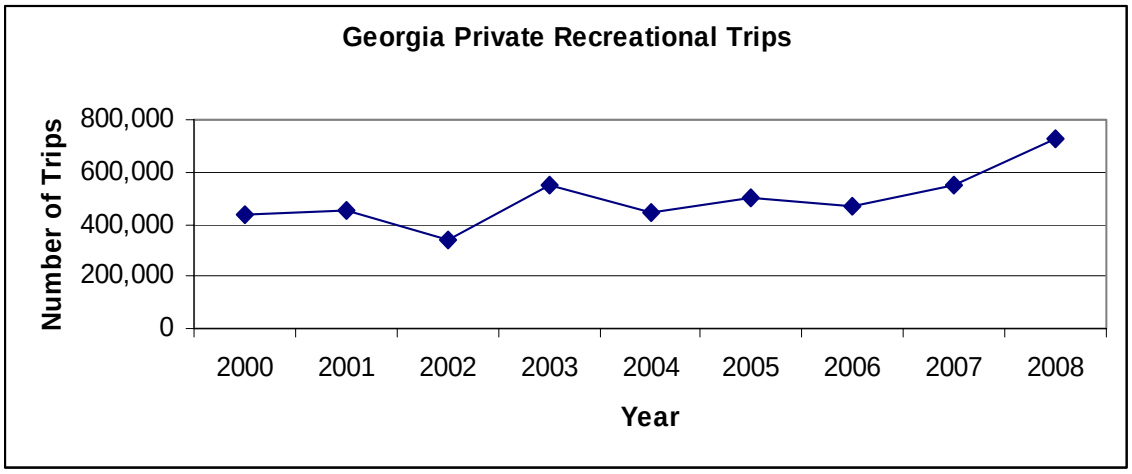

Figure 12. Georgia Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

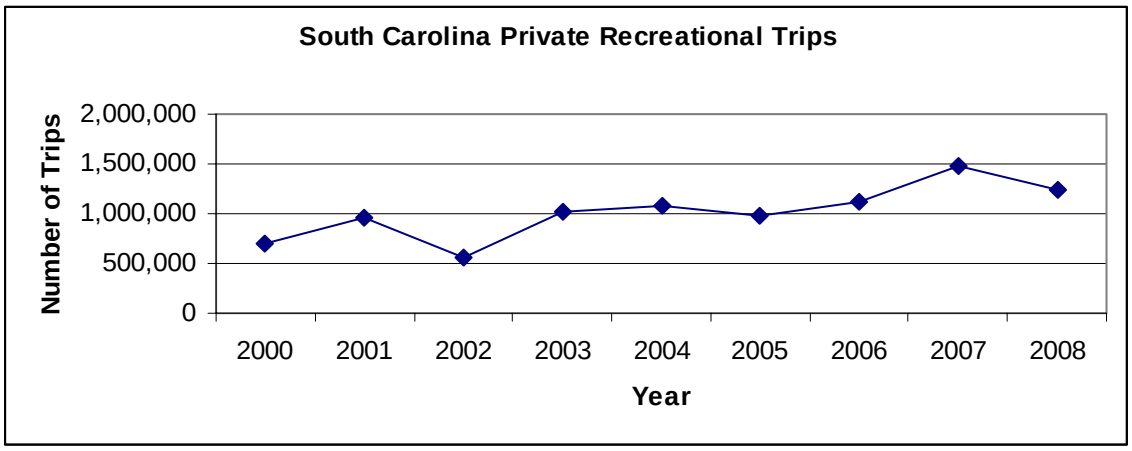

Figure 13. South Carolina Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

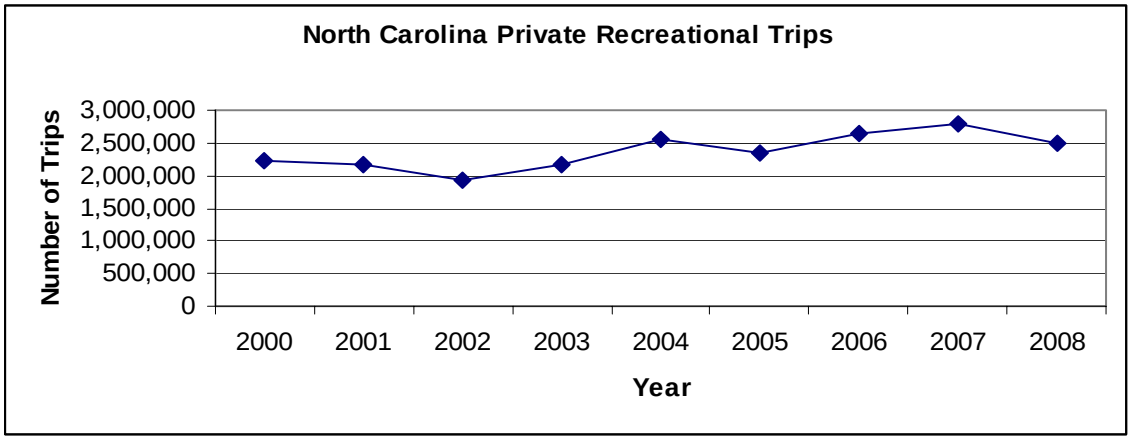

Figure 14. North Carolina Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

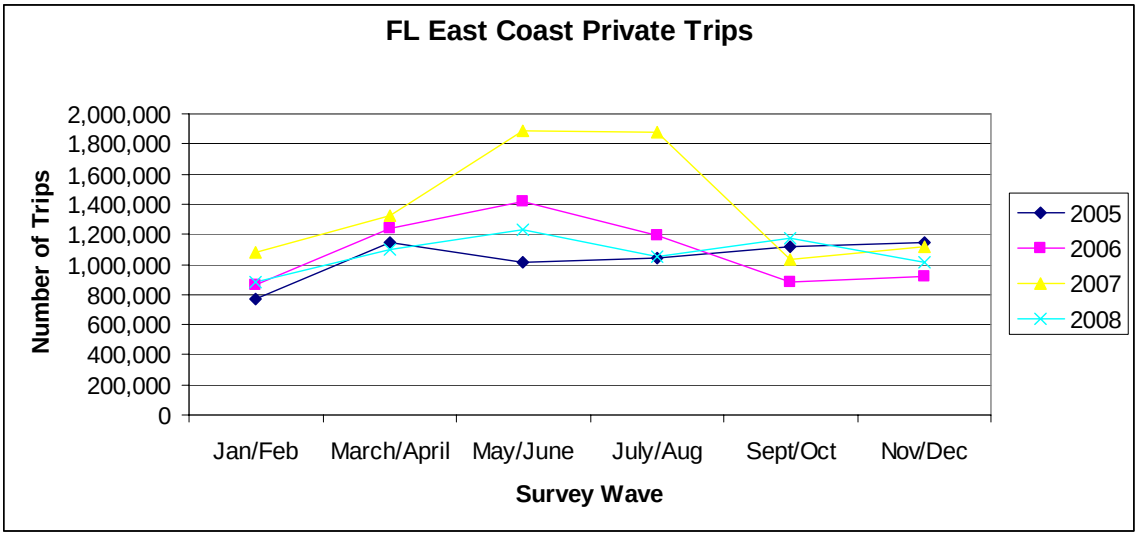

Figure 15. Florida East Coast Private Trips, 2005-08.

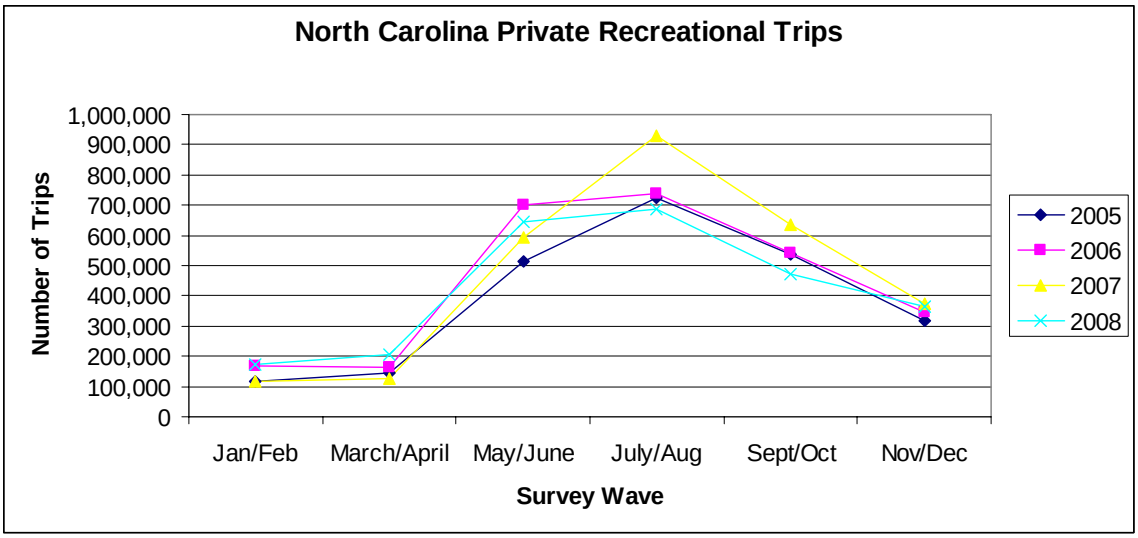

Figure 16. Bi-Monthly North Carolina Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

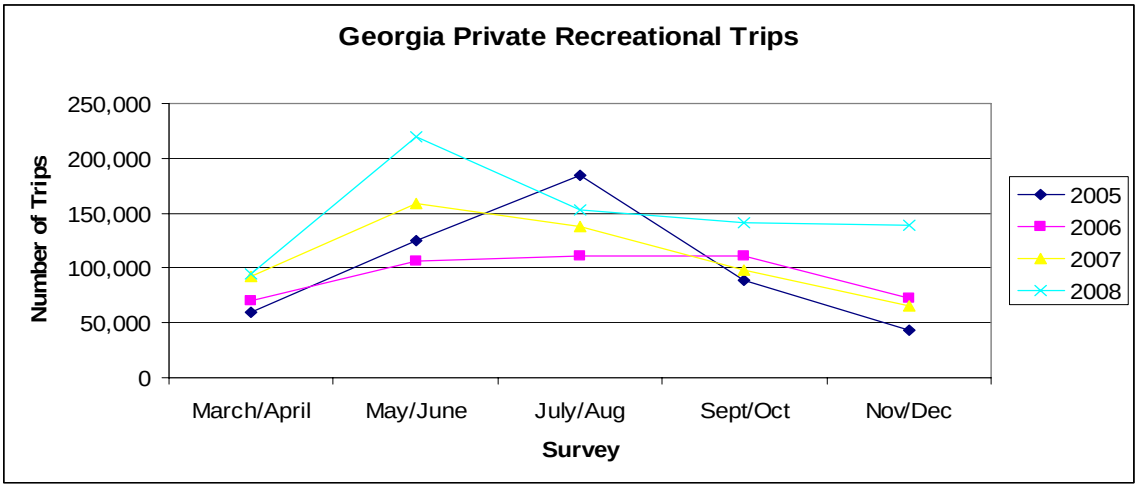

Figure 17. Bi-Monthly Georgia Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

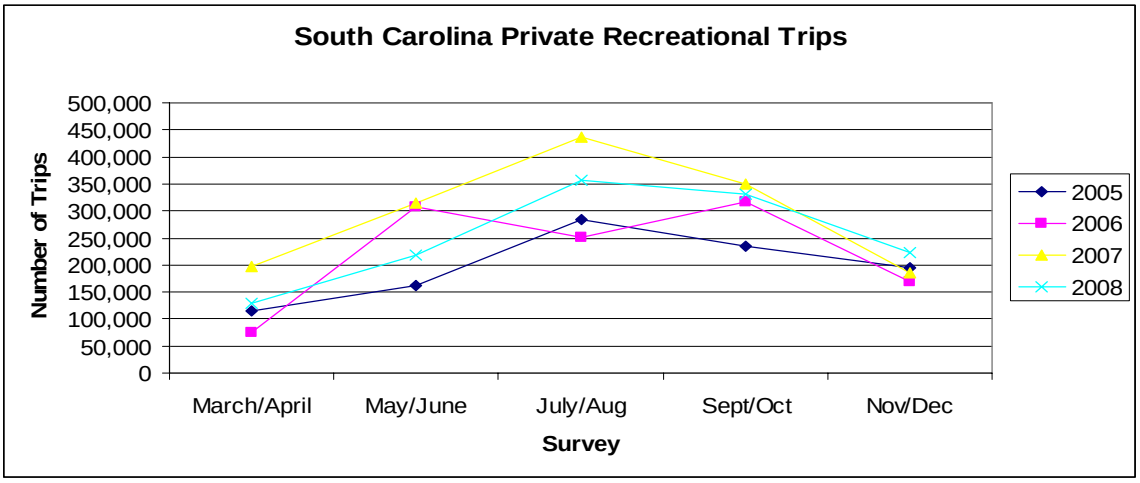

Figure 18. Bi-Monthly South Carolina Private Recreational Trips, 2000-08.

EEZ

Annual and bi-monthly data was also compiled for recreational vessels making fishing trips to the EEZ. Figures 19-21 (Tables 8 and 9) show the number of recreational trips made to the EEZ on an annual and bi-monthly basis. The data indicate that on an annual basis, both for-hire and private trips to the EEZ have decreased from 2007-2008 (Figure 19).

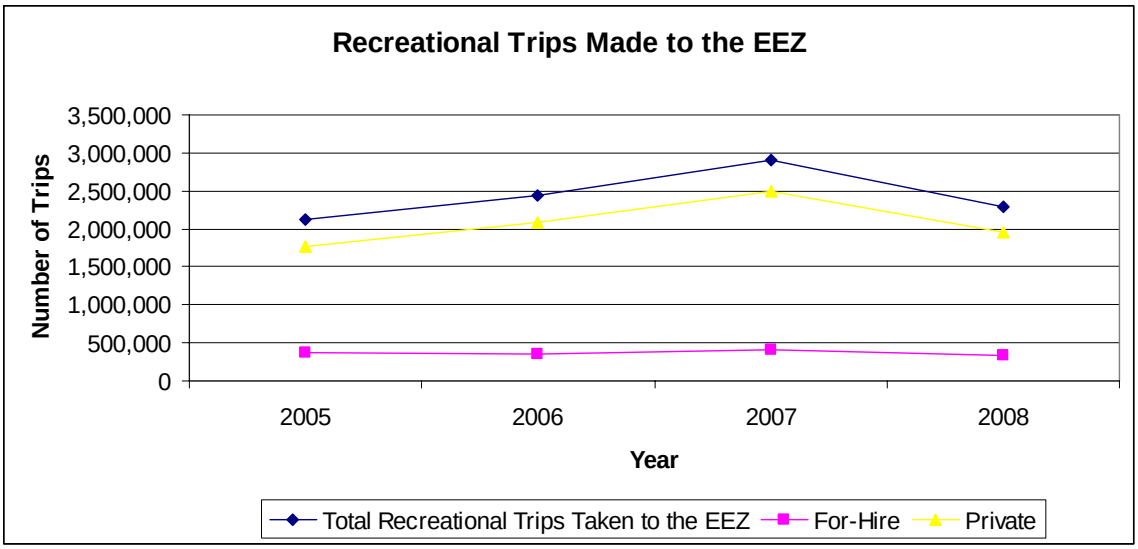

Figure 19. Recreational Trips Made to the EEZ, 2005-08.

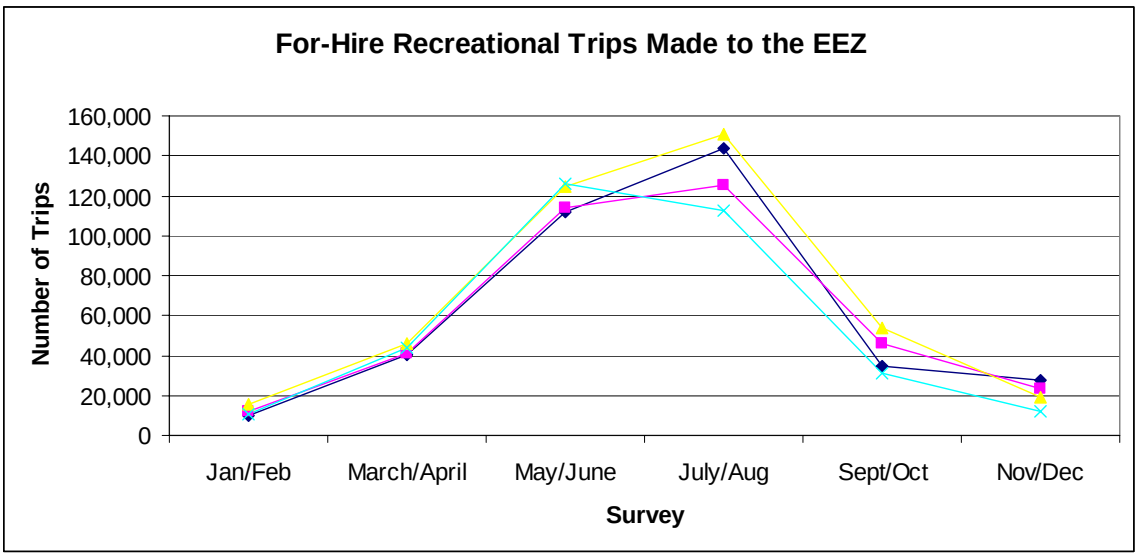

Figure 20. For-Hire Trips Made to the EEZ, 2005-08.

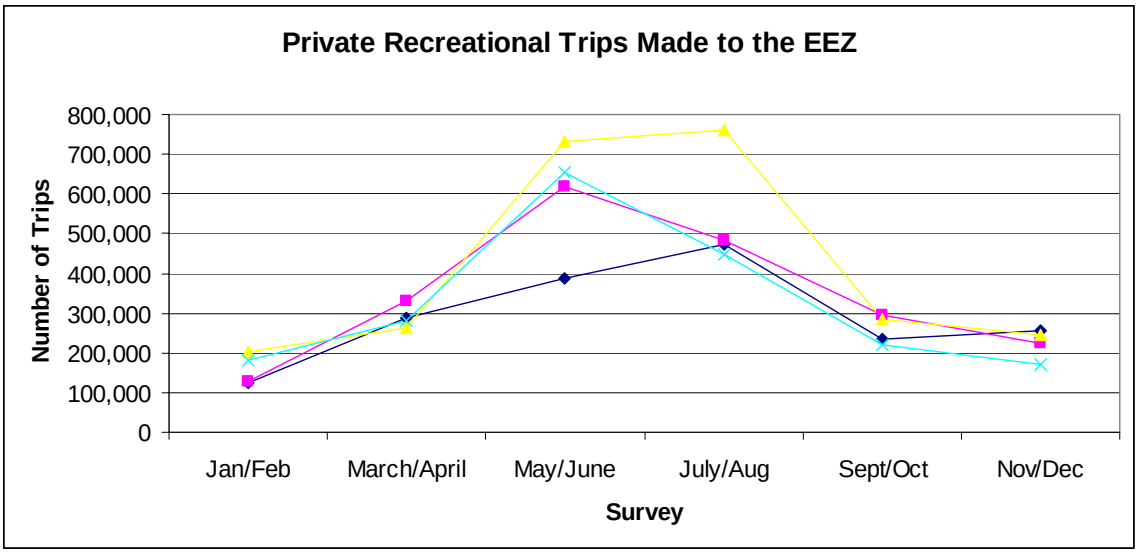

Figure 21. Private Recreational Trips Made to the EEZ, 2005-08.

Appendix

Table 1. Annual Number of Commercial Trips in the South Atlantic Region, 1993-2008.

Year	Trips landing SG species	Total trips
1993	14,700	17,800
1994	17,200	20,800
1995	16,800	20,900
1996	17,900	22,800
1997	20,600	26,000
1998	20,200	35,600
1999	18,000	32,900
2000	17,000	32,000
2001	17,600	32,800
2002	17,600	31,500
2003	16,900	31,900
2004	15,400	28,000
2005	14,000	25,600
2006	13,500	27,900
2007	14,800	29,300
2008		

Table 2. Annual Number of For-Hire Trips by State, 2000-08.

State	Year	Headboat	Charter	Number Trips
East Florida	2000	13,650	278,989	292,639
East Florida	2001	11,602	250,508	262,110
East Florida	2002	10,209	216,451	226,660
East Florida	2003	9,942	186,678	196,620
East Florida	2004	11,725	198,004	209,729
East Florida	2005	11,885	200,910	212,795
East Florida	2006	11,733	173,465	185,198
East Florida	2007	11,166	177,725	188,891
East Florida	**2008**	**8,376**	**179,459**	**187,835**
Georgia	2000	Confidential	5,688	Confidential
Georgia	2001	Confidential	6,453	Confidential
Georgia	2002	Confidential	8,609	Confidential
Georgia	2003	Confidential	12,190	Confidential
Georgia	2004	Confidential	18,511	Confidential
Georgia	2005	Confidential	25,081	Confidential
Georgia	2006	Confidential	28,003	Confidential
Georgia	2007	Confidential	26,302	Confidential
Georgia	**2008**	**Confidential**	**16,409**	Confidential
South Carolina	2000	2,275	42,299	44,574
South Carolina	2001	2,155	38,434	40,589
South Carolina	2002	1,881	31,948	33,829
South Carolina	2003	1,318	39,290	40,608
South Carolina	2004	2,133	39,279	41,412
South Carolina	2005	1,684	28,889	30,573
South Carolina	2006	2,441	28,592	31,033
South Carolina	2007	2,954	84,307	87,261
South Carolina	**2008**	**2,439**	**59,184**	**61,623**
North Carolina	2000	1,037	193,056	194,093
North Carolina	2001	1,012	201,731	202,743
North Carolina	2002	1,017	183,262	184,279
North Carolina	2003	857	173,573	174,430
North Carolina	2004	958	178,335	179,293
North Carolina	2005	1,117	253,162	254,279
North Carolina	2006	889	229,179	230,068
North Carolina	2007	907	212,284	213,191
North Carolina	**2008**	**606**	**207,261**	**207,867**

Note: Data on charter trips provided by the state of South Carolina differs significantly from data provided through MRFSS. MRFSS estimates that about 29,000 charter angler trips were taken in 2006 and about 84,000 trips taken in 2007. The state logbook indicates that 38,978 charter trips were taken in 2006 and 39,551 in 2007.

Table 3. Annual Number of Private and Rental Trips, 2000-08.

State	Year	Number Trips
East Florida	2000	5,752,689
East Florida	2001	5,994,125
East Florida	2002	5,429,728
East Florida	2003	6,212,067
East Florida	2004	5,313,366
East Florida	2005	6,230,328
East Florida	2006	6,502,930
East Florida	2007	8,317,491
East Florida	**2008**	**6,398,748**
Georgia	2000	435,250
Georgia	2001	448,507
Georgia	2002	338,104
Georgia	2003	549,099
Georgia	2004	442,083
Georgia	2005	500,607
Georgia	2006	471,562
Georgia	2007	552,638
Georgia	**2008**	**730,585**
South Carolina	2000	707,203
South Carolina	2001	953,558
South Carolina	2002	557,165
South Carolina	2003	1,020,784
South Carolina	2004	1,070,368
South Carolina	2005	988,887
South Carolina	2006	1,118,469
South Carolina	2007	1,483,233
South Carolina	**2008**	**1,234,055**
North Carolina	2000	2,224,041
North Carolina	2001	2,168,925
North Carolina	2002	1,940,880
North Carolina	2003	2,180,687
North Carolina	2004	2,542,824
North Carolina	2005	2,353,569
North Carolina	2006	2,656,155
North Carolina	2007	2,783,516
North Carolina	**2008**	**2,493,246**

Table 4. Bi-Monthly Number of Trips for the East Coast of Florida, 2000-08.

Wave and Year	Private Trips	For-Hire Trips	Total Rec Trips (for-hire and private)
2005			
Jan/Feb	768,535	34,827	**803,362**
March/April	1,147,134	44,702	**1,191,836**
May/June	1,014,775	47,487	**1,062,262**
July/Aug	1,042,797	35,256	**1,078,053**
Sept/Oct	1,115,816	11,322	**1,127,138**
Nov/Dec	1,141,270	27,315	**1,168,585**
TOTAL 2005	**6,230,327**	**200,909**	**6,431,236**
2006			
Jan/Feb	859,664	24,599	**884,263**
March/April	1,235,491	44,682	**1,280,173**
May/June	1,413,515	40,311	**1,453,826**
July/Aug	1,193,190	32,561	**1,225,751**
Sept/Oct	885,478	14,217	**899,695**
Nov/Dec	915,591	17,095	**932,686**
TOTAL 2006	**6,502,929**	**173,465**	**6,676,394**
2007			
Jan/Feb	1,080,368	24,795	**1,105,163**
March/April	1,327,349	42,705	**1,370,054**
May/June	1,888,023	31,637	**1,919,660**
July/Aug	1,873,922	40,996	**1,914,918**
Sept/Oct	1,035,095	17,318	**1,052,413**
Nov/Dec	1,112,733	20,274	**1,133,007**
TOTAL 2007	**8,317,490**	**177,725**	**8,495,215**
2008			
Jan/Feb	886,157	26,684	**912,841**
March/April	1,097,218	33,982	**1,131,200**
May/June	1,227,617	35,144	**1,262,761**
July/Aug	1,051,383	30,351	**1,081,734**
Sept/Oct	1,170,229	20,954	**1,191,183**
Nov/Dec	1,018,777	13,415	**1,032,192**
TOTAL 2008	6,451,381	160,530	**6,611,911**

Table 5. Bi-Monthly Number of Trips for the North Carolina, 2000-08.

Wave and Year	Private Trips	For-Hire Trips	Total Rec Trips (for-hire and private)
2005			
Jan/Feb	114,597	3,446	**118,043**
March/April	146,197	19,720	**165,917**
May/June	513,351	103,382	**616,733**
July/Aug	722,164	134,487	**856,651**
Sept/Oct	538,722	29,302	**568,024**
Nov/Dec	318,538	13,467	**332,005**
TOTAL 2005	**2,353,569**	**303,804**	**2,657,373**
2006			
Jan/Feb	166,948	5,217	**172,165**
March/April	162,487	13,234	**175,721**

May/June	701,445	92,800	**794,245**
July/Aug	736,589	108,348	**844,937**
Sept/Oct	541,922	53,342	**595,264**
Nov/Dec	346,765	16,974	**363,739**
TOTAL 2005	**2,656,156**	**289,915**	**2,946,071**
2007			
Jan/Feb	118,457	4,316	**122,773**
March/April	127,737	20,102	**147,839**
May/June	594,080	85,969	**680,049**
July/Aug	931,994	123,031	**1,055,025**
Sept/Oct	637,243	42,468	**679,711**
Nov/Dec	374,004	10,237	**384,241**
TOTAL 2007	**2,783,515**	**286,123**	**3,069,638**
2008			
Jan/Feb	175,229	3,157	**178,386**
March/April	206,702	15,594	**222,296**
May/June	645,234	108,685	**753,919**
July/Aug	686,652	110,117	**796,769**
Sept/Oct	473,542	33,632	**507,174**
Nov/Dec	362,848	11,773	**374,621**
TOTAL 2007	**2,550,207**	**282,958**	**2,833,165**

Table 6. Bi-Monthly Number of Trips for the South Carolina, 2000-08.

Wave and Year	Private Trips	For-Hire Trips	Total Rec Trips (for-hire and private)
2005			
March/April	114,530	7,822	**122,352**
May/June	162,056	18,550	**180,606**
July/Aug	283,166	33,912	**317,078**
Sept/Oct	234,210	9,404	**243,614**
Nov/Dec	194,925	1,842	**196,767**
TOTAL 2005	**988,887**	**71,530**	**1,060,417**
2006			
March/April	75,409	4,293	**79,702**
May/June	307,707	21,830	**329,537**
July/Aug	250,583	30,168	**280,751**
Sept/Oct	315,939	3,338	**319,277**
Nov/Dec	168,832	1,368	**170,200**
TOTAL 2005	**1,118,470**	**60,997**	**1,179,467**
2007			
March/April	196,160	8,511	**204,671**
May/June	314,864	44,677	**359,541**
July/Aug	436,368	56,502	**492,870**
Sept/Oct	349,576	17,205	**366,781**
Nov/Dec	186,265	5,555	**191,820**
TOTAL 2007	**1,483,233**	**132,450**	**1,615,683**
2008			
March/April	130,253	10,877	**141,130**
May/June	219,171	43,900	**263,071**

July/Aug	355,955	52,741	**408,696**
Sept/Oct	332,084	8,677	**340,761**
Nov/Dec	222,692	3,638	**226,330**
TOTAL 2007	**1,260,155**	**119,833**	**1,379,988**

Table 7. Bi-Monthly Number of Trips for the Georgia, 2000-08.

Wave and Year	Private Trips	For-Hire Trips	Total Rec Trips (for-hire and private)
2005			
March/April	59,002	Confidential	Confidential
May/June	125,453	Confidential	Confidential
July/Aug	184,372	Confidential	Confidential
Sept/Oct	88,680	Confidential	Confidential
Nov/Dec	43,100	Confidential	Confidential
TOTAL 2005	**500,607**	Confidential	Confidential
2006			
March/April	70,517	Confidential	Confidential
May/June	106,356	Confidential	Confidential
July/Aug	111,365	Confidential	Confidential
Sept/Oct	110,606	Confidential	Confidential
Nov/Dec	72,718	Confidential	Confidential
TOTAL 2005	**471,562**	Confidential	Confidential
2007			
March/April	92,328	Confidential	Confidential
May/June	158,912	Confidential	Confidential
July/Aug	137,454	Confidential	Confidential
Sept/Oct	98,654	Confidential	Confidential
Nov/Dec	65,290	Confidential	Confidential
TOTAL 2007	**552,638**	Confidential	Confidential
2008			
March/April	94,988	Confidential	Confidential
May/June	220,165	Confidential	Confidential
July/Aug	152,562	Confidential	Confidential
Sept/Oct	140,876	Confidential	Confidential
Nov/Dec	138,720	Confidential	Confidential
TOTAL 2007	**747,311**	Confidential	Confidential

Table 8. Annual Number of Trips Taken to the EEZ, 2005-08.

For-hire				
Wave	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**
Jan/Feb	10,094	11,915	15,634	10,506
March/April	40,022	41,086	46,343	44,063
May/June	111,914	114,254	124,269	126,096
July/Aug	143,466	125,005	150,551	112,521
Sept/Oct	34,445	46,196	53,650	30,938
Nov/Dec	27,555	23,488	18,955	12,101
Private				
Wave	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**
Jan/Feb	123,704	126,777	202,260	180,485
March/April	288,038	330,492	264,206	281,634
May/June	386,240	619,015	730,686	653,837
July/Aug	471,147	482,134	761,521	448,507
Sept/Oct	236,412	295,252	284,815	221,872
Nov/Dec	256,557	222,872	244,362	170,553
Total Recreational Trips Taken to the EEZ	2,129,594	2,438,486	2,897,252	2,293,113

Table 9. Bi-Monthly For-Hire, Private, and Total Trips Taken to the EEZ, 2005-08.

Wave	**Sector**	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**
Jan/Feb	For-Hire	10,094	11,915	15,634	10,506
Jan/Feb	Private	123,704	126,777	202,260	180,485
Jan/Feb	**TOTAL**	**133,798**	**138,692**	**217,894**	**190,991**
March/April	For-Hire	40,022	41,086	46,343	44,063
March/April	Private	288,038	330,492	264,206	281,634
March/April	**TOTAL**	**328,060**	**371,578**	**310,549**	**325,697**
May/June	For-Hire	111,914	114,254	124,269	126,096
May/June	Private	386,240	619,015	730,686	653,837
May/June	**TOTAL**	**498,154**	**733,269**	**854,955**	**779,933**
July/Aug	For-Hire	143,466	125,005	150,551	112,521
July/Aug	Private	471,147	482,134	761,521	448,507
July/Aug	**TOTAL**	**614,613**	**607,139**	**912,072**	**561,038**
Sept/Oct	For-Hire	34,445	46,196	53,650	30,938
Sept/Oct	Private	236,412	295,252	284,815	221,872
Sept/Oct	**TOTAL**	**270,857**	**341,448**	**338,465**	**252,810**
Nov/Dec	For-Hire	27,555	23,488	18,955	12,101
Nov/Dec	Private	256,557	222,872	244,362	170,553
Nov/Dec	**TOTAL**	**284,112**	**246,360**	**263,317**	**182,654**