

## **Commercial Red Grouper Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States**

According to NOAA Fisheries (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/red-grouper>), the red grouper (*Epinephelus morio*) fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is sustainably managed and responsibly harvested under U.S. regulations.

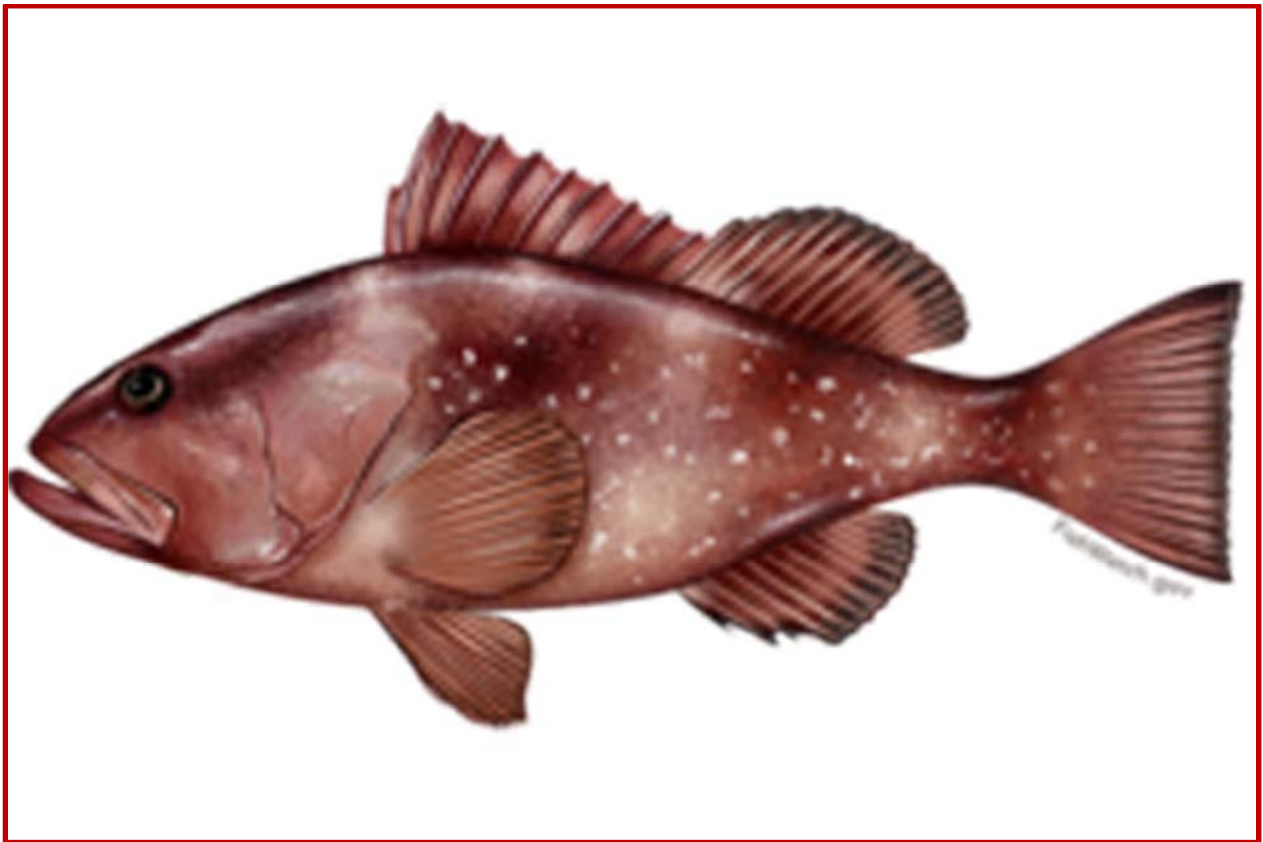


Figure 1. Red grouper (*Epinephelus morio*). Also known as Grouper, Cherna americana, and Negre.  
Source: FishWatch (<https://www.fishwatch.gov/profiles/red-grouper>).

The species' range extends from New England south to Florida and throughout the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean. Like other grouper species, red grouper are protogynous hermaphrodites: they begin their lives as females, and some transform into males when they reach the ages of 7-15.

Commercial fishermen must have a permit to fish, land, or sell red grouper. Managers limit the number of available permits to control the number of fishermen harvesting red grouper. There are annual catch limits for red grouper for the commercial and recreational fisheries.

### Recipe

Chef Chris Hastings' Grouper with Tomato, Avocado, and Grilled Vidalia Onions with Basil-Lime Vinaigrette



Figure 2. This recipe is courtesy of Alabama Gulf Seafood. For the ingredients and cooking instructions, please visit <https://eatalabamaseafood.com/cook-it/recipes/grouper-with-basil-lime-vinaigrette/>.

### Commercial Landings

Figure 3 shows the commercial landings of red grouper from the Gulf of Mexico Region. Since 2011, the Gulf States supplied 98.3 % of the entire red grouper domestic landings averaging 5.8 million pounds and valued at \$17.7 million annually. Florida West Coast is the largest producing state in the Gulf of Mexico, supplying 98.3% of all domestically-caught red grouper and almost all of the landings in the Gulf of Mexico region.

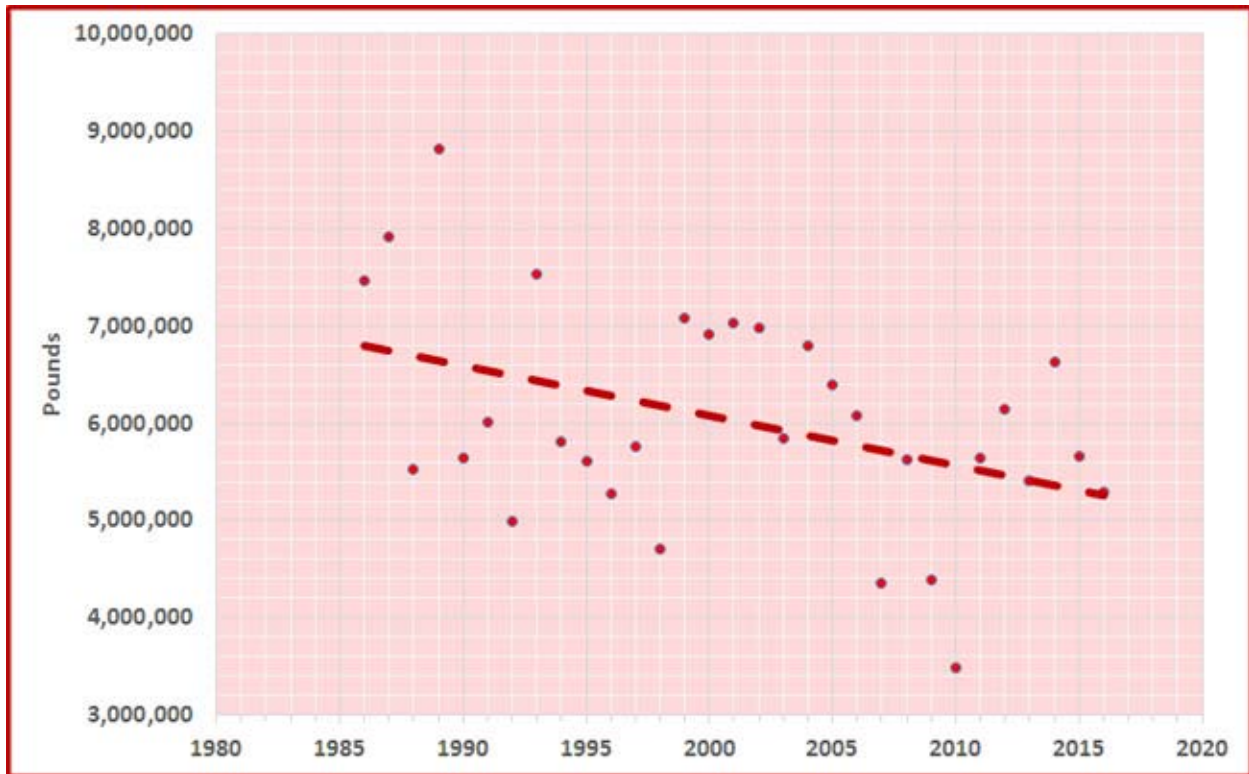


Figure 3. Annual commercial landings of red grouper in the Gulf of Mexico Region. Source of raw data: NOAA Fisheries (<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/>).

### Fish Businesses Registered in MarketMaker

In 2016, the Gulf-wide commercial landings of red grouper reached 5.3 million pounds. This fish species was caught year-round with most of the landings occurring during the fall-spring months (Figure 4).

There are more than 100 fishing businesses, seafood processing plants, seafood and fish markets, and seafood restaurants registered in MarketMaker nationwide which harvest, process, sell, and serve grouper in the United States.

Click this [LINK](#) to view the search results online. Relevance, distance and alphabetically can be used to sort the online database of fishing businesses. You can also limit online searches by state, county, city or number of miles from a specified location, and type of business.

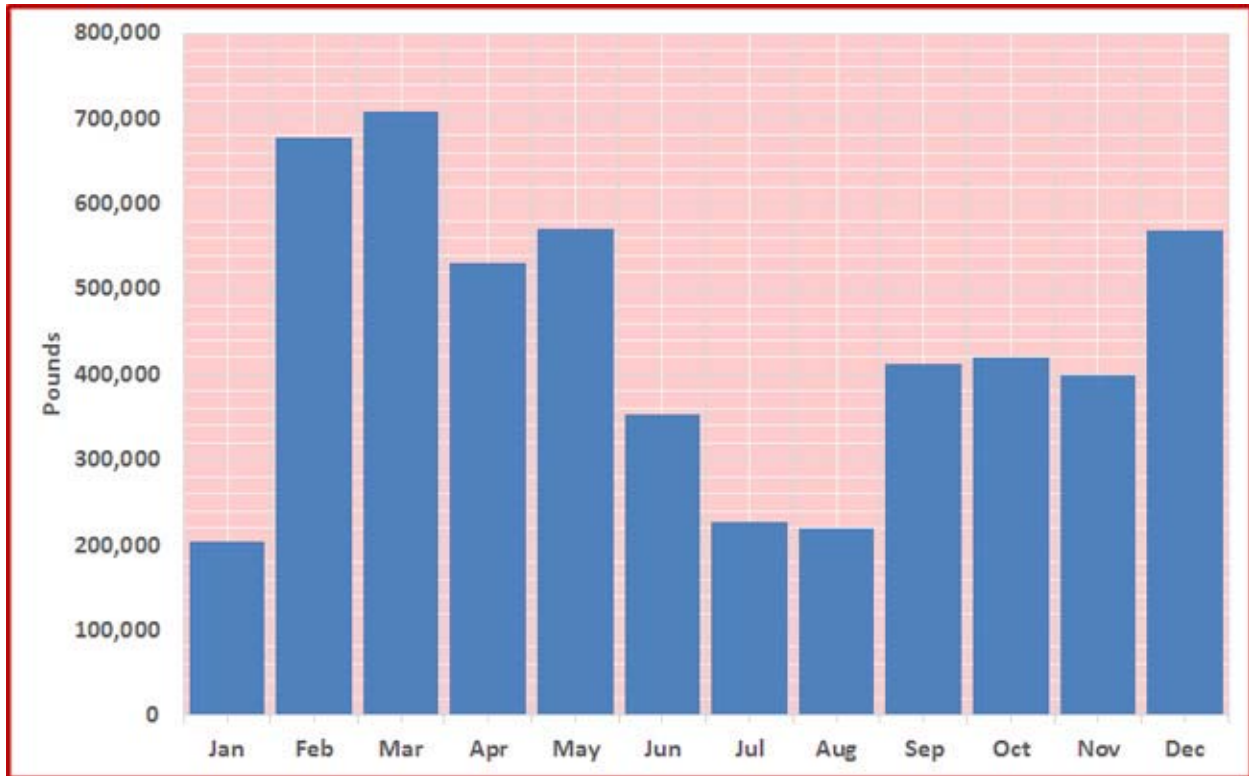


Figure 4. Monthly distribution of commercial landings of red grouper in the Gulf of Mexico Region in 2016. Source of raw data: NOAA Fisheries (<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/>).

### Economic Contributions of Commercial Fishing Industry

The economic contribution an industry makes locally, region-wide, nation-wide, or globally is crucial information in making private investment decisions, formulating government policy, and developing research and extension programs for the fishing industry. The IMPLAN (<http://implan.com/>) software and the 2013 input-output data for the five Gulf States were used to estimate the economic contribution of commercial fishing to the Gulf of Mexico regional economy in 2016. The economic analysis used sector 17 or commercial fishing of the 2013 IMPLAN input-output data.

The IMPLAN economic model estimates of the economic contributions regarding output or sales, employment or jobs, labor income, value added and tax revenues. The income, value-added, and output contributions are expressed in dollars for the year specified by the user. Output or sales are the gross sales by businesses within the economic region affected by an activity. Labor income includes personal income including wages and salaries and proprietors' income or income from self-employment. Employment contributions are expressed in terms of a mix of both full-time and part-time jobs. Value-added is the contribution made to the value of seafood products at each stage of harvesting, processing, and distribution.

The total economic contribution is the sum of direct, indirect and induced effects. The direct effects express the economic impacts in the sector in which the expenditure was initially made. Indirect effects result from changes in the economic activity of other industrial sectors which supply goods or services to



the commercial fishing industry. Induced effects are the product of personal consumption expenditures by industry employees.

The annual commercial dockside values of red grouper in the Gulf of Mexico Region in 2016 reached \$17.8 million, which was 0.9% more than the average annual dockside values since 2011. The total output contribution of commercial red grouper fishing in 2016 amounted to \$34 million (Figure 5). The red grouper commercial fishing created 473 jobs and generated labor income amounting to \$12.2 million in the Gulf regional economy.

<b>Economic contribution of commercial red grouper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States</b>				
Impact Type	Employment (Jobs)	Labor Income (\$M)	Total Value Added (\$M)	Output (\$M)
Direct Effect	385	7.5	9.2	17.8
Indirect Effect	29	1.9	3.7	7.9
Induced Effect	59	2.8	5.1	8.3
<b>Total Effect</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>

Figure 5. The total economic contribution includes direct, indirect and induced effects estimated by using 2016 annual landing values and 2013 IMPLAN data. The local purchases percentage was set to 100%. The number of jobs is rounded off.

The red grouper commercial fishing industry generates annual tax revenues for the Gulf States and the U.S. federal government. About \$2.1 million was estimated to have been paid by households and businesses in 2016 to the federal government as social insurance tax, tax on production and imports, corporate profit tax, and personal income tax. The Gulf States were expected to have collected taxes from households and businesses in 2016 amounting to \$1.0 million as social insurance tax, tax on production and imports, corporate profits tax, and personal tax.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is MarketMaker?

**MarketMaker** is the most extensive and most in-depth database of its kind featuring a diverse community of food-related businesses: buyers, farmers/ranchers, fisheries, farmers markets, processors/packers, wineries, restaurants and more. **MarketMaker** provides simple yet powerful search tools to connect with others across the production and distribution chain (<http://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/>).

#### Where can you find Mississippi MarketMaker?

MarketMaker is located at <http://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/>. Ask Siri or Cortana to search for “Mississippi MarketMaker” on your smartphone.

### **How do you register your food business in Mississippi MarketMaker?**

Click [Register](#) and type your email address and a password in the spaces under Register. Be prepared to enter information (and pictures) about your business.

### **What are the benefits of registering your food business in Mississippi MarketMaker?**

Producers register their businesses in [MarketMaker](#) because food buyers of all types access our database to find products and services to meet their specific needs. Through [MarketMaker](#), producers can reach more customers and more efficient form successful business alliances.

### **How do you search for your business profile in Mississippi MarketMaker?**

Click [Search](#) and type the name of your company in the space under Search MarketMaker.

### **How do you update your business profile in Mississippi MarketMaker?**

Click [Register](#) and then click UPDATE YOUR PROFILE. Type your email address and password in the spaces under Account Login. Be prepared to enter updated information (and pictures) about your business.

### **MarketMaker Training Workshops**

This training workshop is available upon request by a group of 6-12 producers, extension agents, state regulatory agencies staff, and teachers. Each workshop will best fit the needs of the participants. Email Dr. Ben Posadas for details at [ben.posadas@msstate.edu](mailto:ben.posadas@msstate.edu).

### **How do you search for local food businesses in Mississippi MarketMaker?**

Click [Search](#) and type a keyword in the space under Search MarketMaker.

### **What is the Market Research tool of MarketMaker?**

The MarketMaker research tool is an interactive mapping resource for identifying target markets, developing customized census profiles, and mapping food related businesses over demographic maps.

### **Where do you find the Market Research tool in MarketMaker?**

Look for the Market Research section in MarketMaker and click [Research your market now](#) or [Use the previous version](#).

### **Suggested citation:**

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