

SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS IN THE UNITED STATES AND GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ABSTRACT

In this issue, Dr. Posadas compiled and summarized the economic contributions of fish and seafood markets in the entire U.S. and Gulf regional economies. The trends in the number, wages, salaries, and earnings of workers and owners of fish and seafood markets are presented. The socioeconomic characteristics of workers and owners in 2016 and 2020 are compared. These long-term data on fish and seafood markets illustrate the significance of the industry in the national and Gulf economies.

KEYWORDS

Fish and seafood markets; economic contributions; jobs and wages, salaries, and earnings; socioeconomic characteristics; workers and owners

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This newsletter is a contribution of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station and the Mississippi State University Extension Service. This material is based upon work that is supported in part by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Hatch project under accession number 081730 and NOAA (Office of Sea Grant, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, under Grant NA10OAR4170078, Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS

An economic contribution measures the gross change in economic activity associated with an industry, event, or policy in an existing regional economy. This newsletter presents two types of economic contributions – employment or jobs and output or sales. The output or sales contributions are expressed in dollars for a specified year. Employment or jobs contributions are expressed in terms of a mix of both full-time and part-time employment.

During the past seven years, the annual contributions of the industry averaged \$6.0 billion in sales and more than 90,000 jobs (Fig. 1). However, these data are over three years old. No recent updates are currently available from NOAA Fisheries.

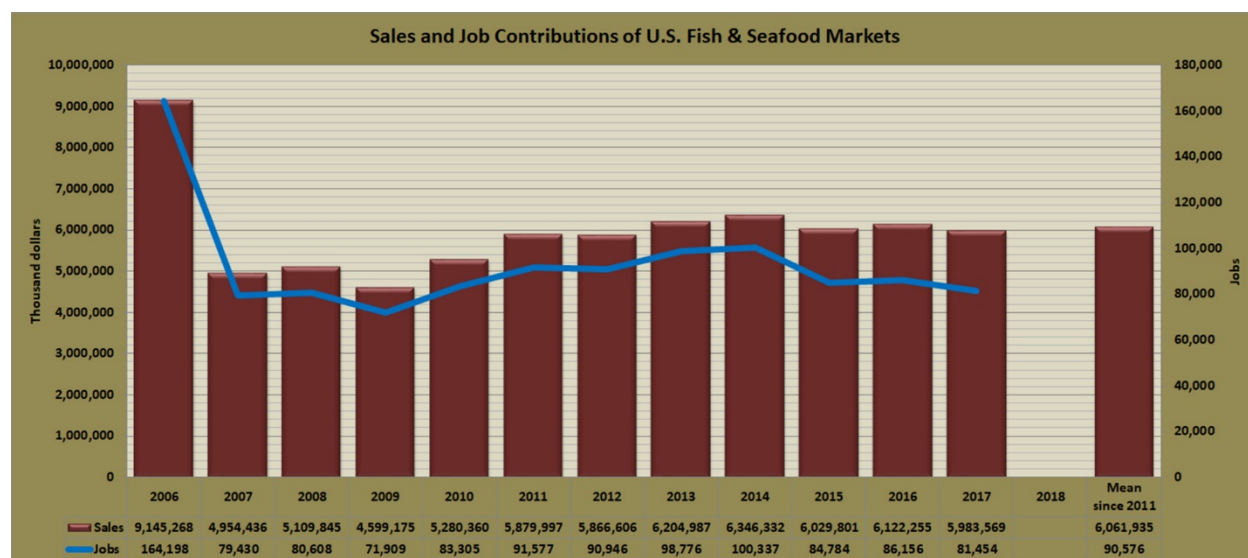


Figure 1. Sales and jobs contributions of the U.S. seafood and fish markets. Source of raw data: NOAA Fisheries. <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/>.

U.S. SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

The gross regional product (GRP), also called regional gross domestic product (GDP), is the market value of all goods and services produced within a given area over a specific period and is a good measure of the size, income, and productivity of a regional economy (EMSI, 2021). The GRP of the seafood and fish markets reached over \$1.0 billion per year during recent years (Fig 2).

Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution.

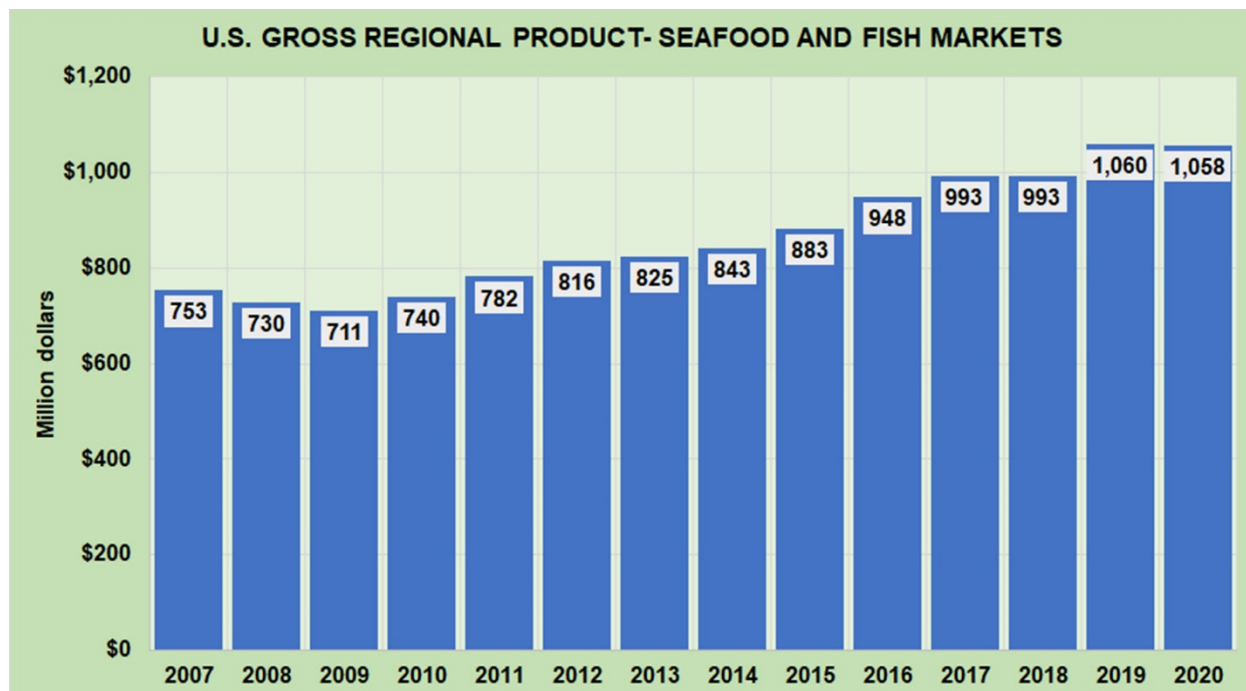


Figure 2. Gross regional product of U.S. seafood and fish markets. Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

The empirical relationship between sales contribution (S.C.) and gross regional product (GRP) was imputed from Figures 1 and 2. The SC-GRP ratio from 2011 to 2017 averaged 6.9:1.0. With this SC-GRP ratio, we estimated the annual sales contribution of the seafood and fish markets to exceed \$7.0 billion in recent years.

SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES, SALARIES, AND EARNINGS

The fish and seafood markets (NAICS code 445220) industry comprise of establishments primarily engaged in retailing fresh, frozen, or cured fish and seafood products (U.S. Bureau of Census. <https://www.census.gov/naics/>).

The industry directly provided about 18,000 jobs per year in the U.S. during the past decade (Fig. 3). The five Gulf of Mexico states (A.L., FL, LA, MS, and TX) contributed about 22 percent of the jobs during the same period.

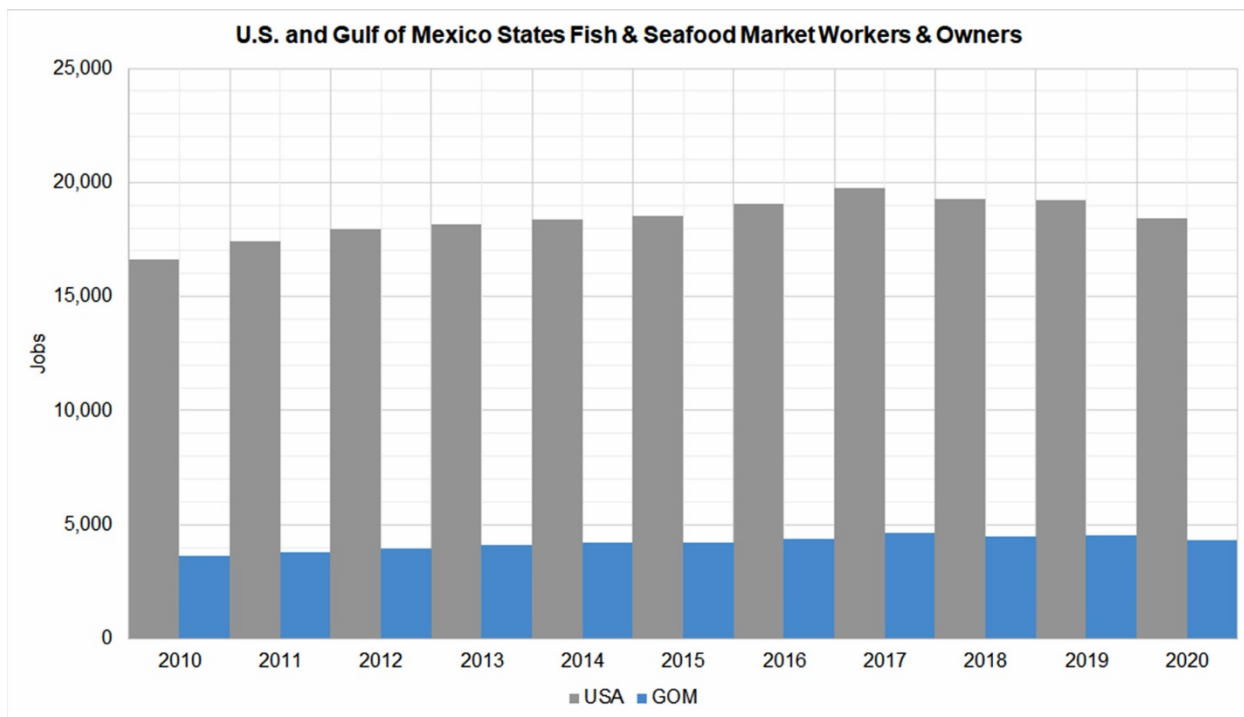


Figure 3. U.S. and Gulf of Mexico States seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors. Source of raw data: EMSI.
<https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

The combined wages, salaries, and proprietor earnings of all the QCEW employees, non-QCEW employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors averaged \$32,000 per person in the past decade (Fig. 4).

The annual pay of workers and owners of these businesses in the five Gulf of Mexico States averaged almost \$25,700 per person or 79 percent of the national average.

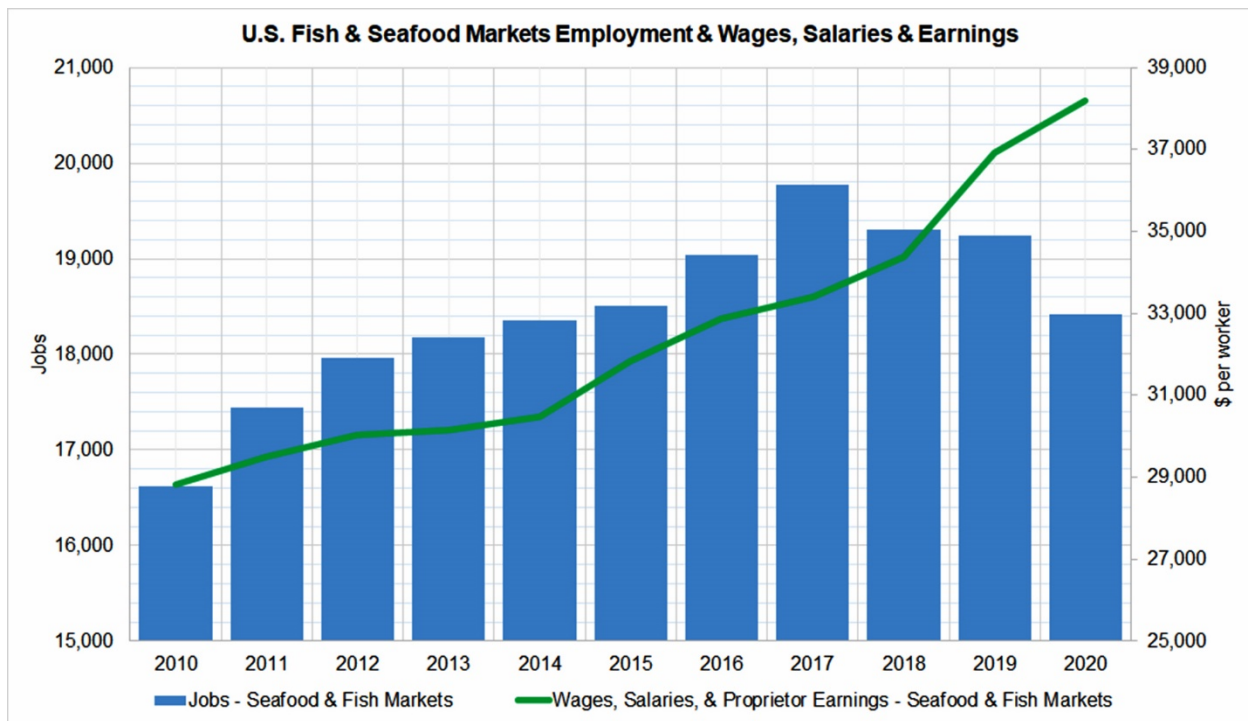


Figure 4. U.S. seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors and wages, salaries, and earnings. Source of raw data: EMSI.
<https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

In summary, the economic indicators shown above indicated that the seafood and fish markets in the entire U.S. and the Gulf of Mexico States were growing during the past decade. However, the Covid-19 global pandemic undoubtedly caused a significant decline in workers' and owners' sales, jobs, and incomes in 2020.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' EMPLOYEES AND OWNERS BY GENDER

The 2020 industrial overview released by EMSI (April 2021) showed that approximately 46.6 percent were males (Table 1). About 53.4 percent of the workers and owners were females. In the Gulf States, 45.6 percent are males, while 54.4 percent are females.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fish and Seafood Markets				
Industry Gender Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Gender	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent
Males	8,577	46.6%	1,962	45.6%
Females	9,835	53.4%	2,340	54.4%
Total	18,411	100.0%	4,302	100.0%

Table 1. Distribution of U.S. and Gulf of Mexico States seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by gender. Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

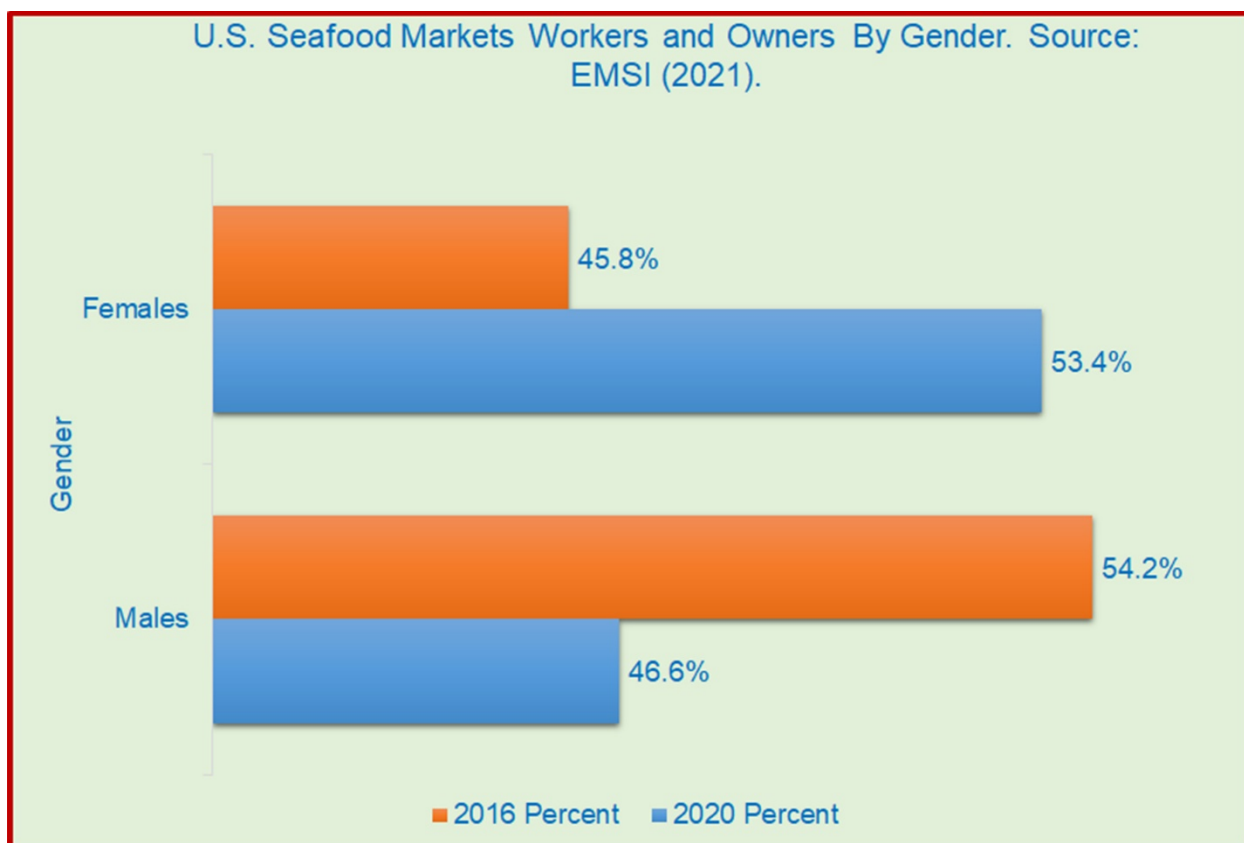


Figure 5. Comparative distribution of U.S. seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by gender in 2016 and 2020. Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

The proportion of male workers and owners of seafood and fish markets decreased from 54 to 47 percent from 2016 to 2020 in the entire industry (Fig. 5). There were more women workers and owners in 2020 compared to 2016.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' EMPLOYEES AND OWNERS BY RACE OR ETHNICITY

The 2020 industrial overview disseminated by EMSI (April 2021) also categorized the workers and owners by race or ethnicity (Table 2). Most of the workers are White (60%), followed by Hispanic (19%), Asian (11%), and African American (8%). The rest are with two or more races (1.2%), Native Hawaiian (0.2%), and American Indian (0.1%).

In the Gulf States, relatively more Hispanic and African American workers and owners are involved in the industry. Fewer White and Asian workers and owners are engaged in the industry in the Gulf States.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fish and Seafood Markets				
Industry Race Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Race/Ethnicity	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent
White	11,172	60.7%	2,573	59.8%
Hispanic or Latino	3,438	18.7%	904	21.0%
Asian	2,105	11.4%	303	7.0%
Black or African American	1,413	7.7%	475	11.0%
Two or More Races	230	1.2%	39	0.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	29	0.2%	0	0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	26	0.1%	8	0.2%
Total	18,411	100.0%	4,302	100.0%

Table 2. Distribution of seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by race or ethnicity. Source of raw data: EMSI.

<https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Relatively higher percentages of workers and owners were observed among Hispanic and Asian workers and owners in 2020 (Fig. 6). Lower proportions were detected among White and African American workers and owners in 2020.

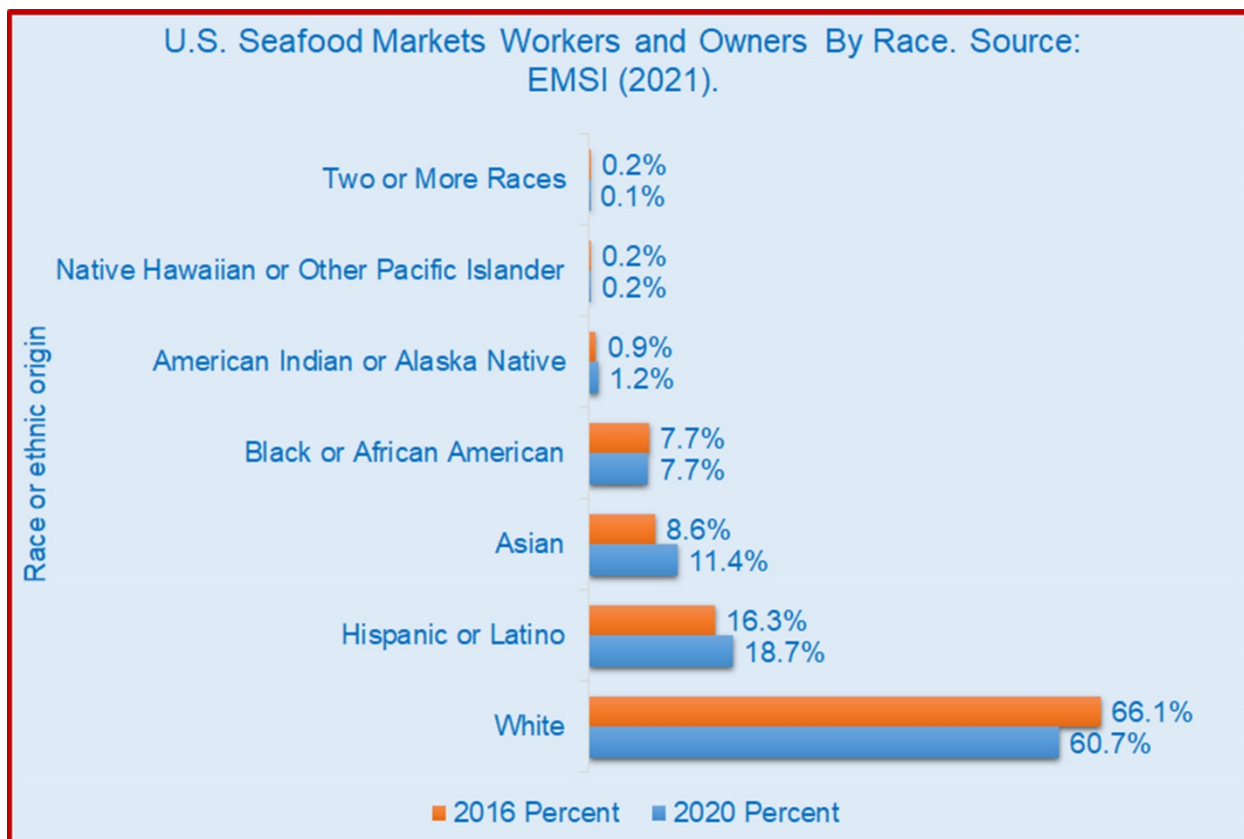


Figure 6. Comparative distribution of seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by racial origin in 2017 and 2020. Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' EMPLOYEES AND OWNERS BY AGE

The 2020 industrial overview published by EMSI (April 2021) also classified the workers and owners by age (Table 3). About 7.6 percent of the workers and owners are 65 years old and above. Around 18.1 percent of the workers and owners were 55-64 years old. The 45-54 years old group added 21.1 percent. Approximately 16.1 percent belonged to the 35-44 years old group. The 25-34 years old added 17.4 percent. Younger employees and owners comprised the rest.

Workers and owners in the Gulf States are of similar ages as the national average. U.S and Gulf workers and owners averaged 41.7 years old.

Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fish and Seafood Markets				
Industry Age Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Age	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent	2020 Jobs	2020 Percent
14-18	1,340	7.3%	287	6.7%
19-24	2,303	12.5%	538	12.5%
25-34	3,197	17.4%	715	16.6%
35-44	2,959	16.1%	738	17.2%
45-54	3,877	21.1%	987	22.9%
55-64	3,330	18.1%	737	17.1%
65+	1,405	7.6%	299	7.0%
Total	18,411	100.0%	4,302	100.0%
Average Age (yr)	41.7		41.7	

Table 3. Distribution of seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by age group. Source of raw data: EMSI.

<https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Relatively more 65 and above, 55-64, 35-44, and 14-18 years-old workers and owners were reported in 2020 (Fig. 7). However, there was a decline among 45-54, 25-34, and 19-24 years-old workers and owners. On average, U.S. workers and owners were relatively older in 2020 (41.4 years old) compared to 2016 (40.6 years old).

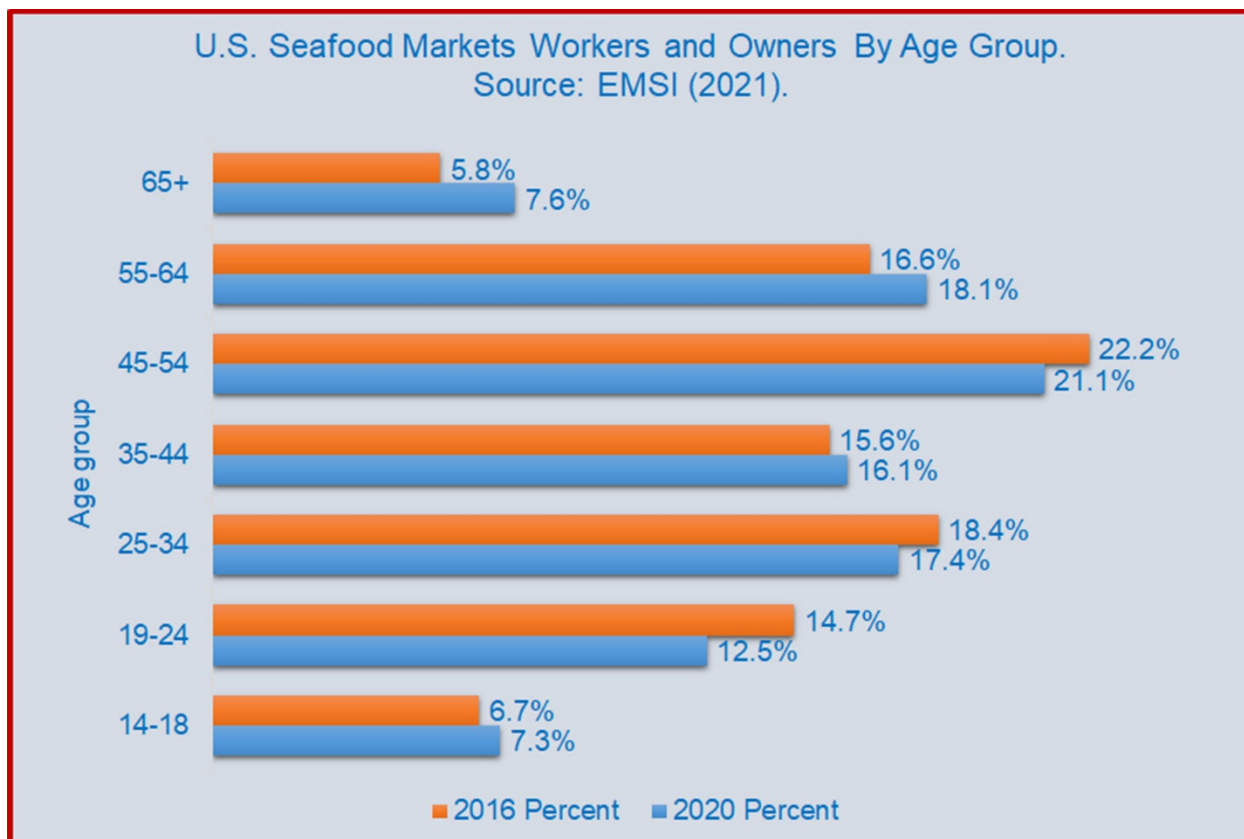


Figure 7. Comparative distribution of seafood and fish markets' employees, self-employed, and extended proprietors by age group in 2017 and 2020. Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

MY SEAFOOD AND FISH MARKETS' ECONOMICS OUTREACH

1. Posadas, B.C. **Seafood and Fish Markets in the United States and Gulf of Mexico Region.** Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 11, No. 8. August 10, 2021. <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>.
2. Posadas, B.C. **Economic Impacts of the Global Covid-19 Pandemic on U.S. Retail Prices of Selected Shellfish Species.** Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 11, No. 1. January 6, 2021. <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>.
3. Posadas, B. C. **Economic Impacts of the Global Covid-19 Pandemic on U.S. Retail Prices of Selected Shellfish Species,"** Mississippi State University, Coastal Research and Extension Center, Virtual Presentation. (January 5,

Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution.

2021). <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLB0D9oT09EZIQGjeX6QSBg-Lk5QQfeJ6m>.

4. Posadas, B.C. **Economic Impacts of the Global Covid-19 Pandemic on U.S. Retail Prices of Selected Fish Species.** Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 10, No. 11. December 8, 2020. <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>.
 5. Posadas, B. C. **Economic Impacts of the Global Covid-19 Pandemic on U.S. Retail Prices of Selected Fish Species,"** Mississippi State University, Coastal Research and Extension Center, Virtual Presentation. (December 8, 2020). <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLB0D9oT09EZIQGjeX6QSBg-Lk5QQfeJ6m>.
 6. Posadas, B.C. **Economic Contribution of Fish and Seafood Markets in Coastal Mississippi.** Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 11. November 5, 2019. <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>.
 7. Posadas, B.C. **Fish and Seafood Markets Employment and Incomes in the Gulf of Mexico and the United States.** Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 7, No. 22, November 30, 2017.
-

SUGGESTED CITATION

Posadas, B.C. Seafood and Fish Markets in the United States and Gulf of Mexico Region. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 11, No. 8. August 10, 2021. <http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>.