People -Demographics and Productivity in Fishing Industry

Session 3 – Industry Operations

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Applied Research In Economics

Some Assumptions

- The "industry" is composed of three sectors, a harvesting sector, a processing sector, and an aquaculture sector.
- In the harvesting sector, inputs include the natural resource as well as capital and labour services.
- The processing sector takes the output from the harvesting sector as inputs and adds value to it. It too uses capital and labour.
- The aquaculture sector has aspects of the first two sectors and may interact in the processing sector with the capture fishery.

Harvesting Sector

Number of Fishing Enterprises by Fleet Sector

Fleet Sector	Number in 2008	Number in 2013
Inshore (<40')		
4R North of Point Riche	236	194
4R3Pn South of Point Riche	449	379
3Ps Fortune Bay and West (FBW)	370	293
3Ps Placentia Bay (PB)	378	297
3L	807	725
ЗК	649	536
2J	83	69
Total Inshore	2,972	2,493
Nearshore (>40')		
4R Shrimp	64	50
3Ps Supplementary Crab	90	75
2J3K Supplementary Crab with Shrimp	99	80
2J3K Supplementary Crab without Shrimp	151	101
2J3K Full-time Crab	30	29
3L Small Supplementary Crab without Shrimp	205	174
3L Large Supplementary and Full-time Crab	112	81
Other	112	84
Total Nearshore	863	674
Total	3,835	3,167

Registered Fish Harvesters



Source: Professional Fish Harvesters Certification Board

Wage-Earning Fish Harvesters



Special Taxfiler Tabulations from STC for NLSA, GoNL

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Aquaculture: Harvesting & Processing

- Workers in the aquaculture are probably included in wage-earning fish harvesters!
- Growing in importance.

Fish Landings by Species Group

000's tonnes



Source: DFA & DFO

Total Value of Landed Catch



Source: DFA & DFO

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Value \$/worker Using 2013\$



Processing Sector

Number of Processing Plants in NL



Source: DFA, GoNL

Peak Employment of Plant Workers in NL



Source: DFA, GoNL

Average Annual Hours Worked By Fish Plant Workers



Source: Tabulation by author from DFA data

Hours

Supply Side Considerations

Ages of Self-Employed Fish Harvesters



Special Taxfiler Tabulations from STC for NLSA, GoNL

Ages of Wage-Earning Fish Harvesters

Number



Special Taxfiler Tabulations from STC for NLSA, GoNL

Ages of Plant Workers



Special Taxfiler Tabulations from STC for NLSA, GoNL

Observations and Forecasts

- Number of harvesters have declined and this will likely continue until equilibrium is reached around 4-5 thousand.
- The number of plant workers has also declined. Expect this number to decline to about the same levels as above for harvesters.
- In all sectors the workers are aging and it seems as though younger workers are leaving.

Fish Processing Plant Labour Productivity in LBS/Hour

Lbs/Hour



Labour Market Outcomes

Dollars

Annual Incomes: Self-Employed Fish Harvesters



Special Taxfiler Tabulations from STC for NLSA, GoNL

Annual Incomes: Wage-Earning Fish Harvesters

Dollars



Annual Incomes by Major Source: Plant Workers



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Incomes: Plant Workers (Inflation adjusted: Constant 2010\$)



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The Demographic Future



Community Accounts



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Population Pyramid Newfoundland and Labrador Census 1991, Total Population: 568,475



Newfoundland Labrador

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Recent Population Trends

2012	10	34,884,137	527,653
2013	1	34,940,975	527,754
2013	4	35,025,296	527,690
2013	7	35,158,304	526,702
2013	10	35,295,770	527,464
2014	1	35,344,962	526,896
2014	4	35,427,524	525,378

Potential Entrants

■ 15-24 Year Olds ■ 55-64 Year Olds



Source: Statistics Canada (population estimates 1986-2010); Economic Research and Analysis Division, Dept of Finance (projections 2011-2025).

Demographic Forecast

- Population is currently falling and is expected to continue to fall over the next 10-20 years.
- Provincial out-migration will accelerate as major projects wind down especially after 2017.
- While net in-migration will occur past 2020, the natural decrease in population, which is already occurring, will accelerate as boomers die.
- Urbanization will continue especially into the St. John's CMA.
- Older residents will move closer to hospitals and children.
- There is the opportunity to adjust to a more efficient market economy from the social one in which governments feel forced to provide jobs.

Implications of Evidence (1/2)

- Employment in the harvesting and processing sectors of the industry will continue to fall.
- Demographics and other more stable and lucrative employment opportunities will make it harder to employ local talent. Additionally, working families, with higher levels of education will be attracted to urban centres.
- Political support for EI and the industry will slowly diminish because of business and public concern over labour "shortages".
- The industry will have to find new "levels" (wages) and paths of labour compensation (fringe benefits) in order to attract and keep workers.

Implications (2/2)

- Under the current conditions we are moving away from a "social" fishing industry to a more competitive, market-based one.
- Increased market opportunities in Europe and elsewhere will expand demand with an increasing emphasis on fresh, quality products.
- These forces will spell more rapid **technologica**l change (more capital intensive as machines replace people) within the industry with increased productivity and consolidation.
- For the survivors of this changing environment, the economic future looks bright!
- **BUT** who survives, that is, who is in the group photo may look quite different from what it is today! There are major managerial challenges on the horizon.

What we should note BUT Don't!

- TFP and the unit costs by establishment in harvesting and processing by species for the province, other provinces and countries both as levels and growth rates!
- Where's capital services??
- How do we treat resource quantity and quality as an input in TFP?? Statistical agencies and productivity experts are struggling with this!
- We also need to know TFP and unit costs by establishment anonymously. Management is important! Not all managers are equal.

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- Thanks to NLSA and DFA for the data and guidance.
- Presentation is available at www.mun.ca/care
- Additional readings:

http://www.fishaq.gov.nl.ca/publications/SYIR_2013.pdf<u>htt</u> p://www.fishaq.gov.nl.ca/publications/dunne_report.pdf http://www.fishaq.gov.nl.ca/publications/archives/repor t the special panel on corporate concentration.pdf