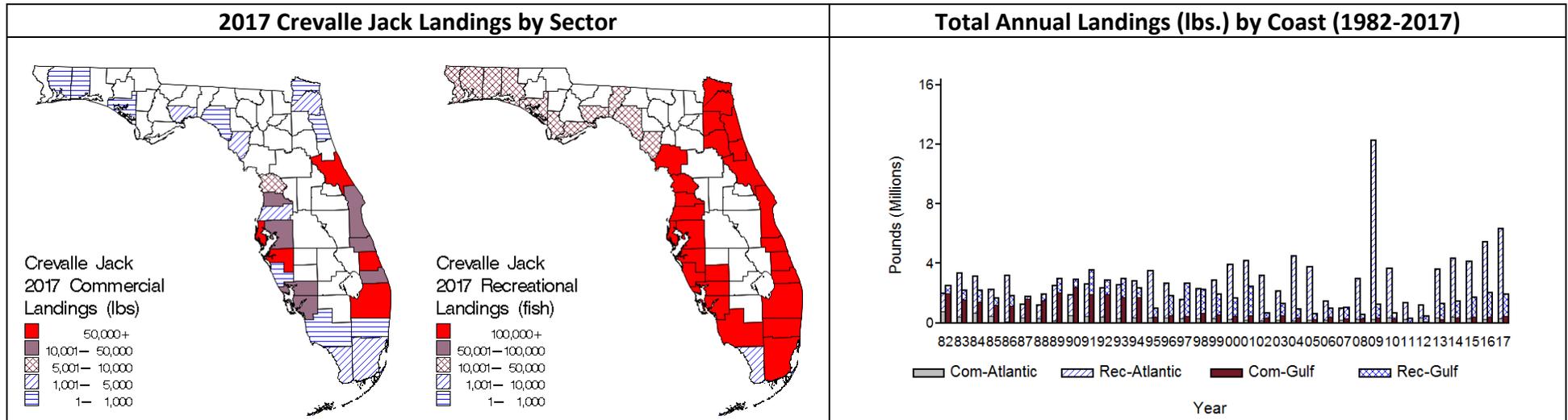


Crevalle Jack, *Caranx hippos* (Linnaeus, 1766)



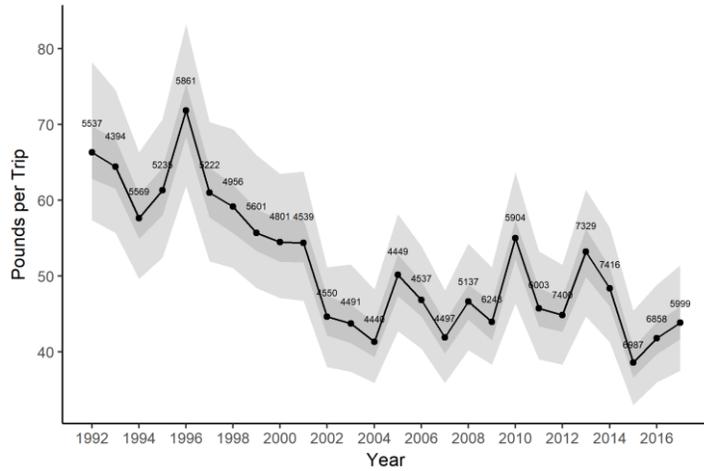
Life History

Crevalle Jack are found throughout the Gulf of Mexico and southern U.S. Atlantic coast across a wide range of depths from shallow inshore to oceanic waters (Benson 1982). Except for the development and ecology of juveniles, little is known about their life history (Berry 1959; McBride 1995). Larvae and early juveniles are pelagic; they are found, occasionally in association with jellyfish, in offshore waters. From April through November, juveniles and small adults inhabit estuaries that exhibit moderate to high salinities (Springer and Woodburn 1960). Occasionally, adults occur in estuaries, but they are more often found on the continental shelf. Crevalle Jack reach about 7.9 inches fork length after one year. Females appear to get older and grow larger than males. The maximum age observed in Florida was 19 years (Snelson 1992). Few fish greater than age 5 have been collected from Florida. Females mature at age 5 or 6; males mature at age 4 or 5. Spawning apparently occurs during the period April–June. Stomach content data of Crevalle Jack clearly indicate that they are a major predator on small schooling fishes in the coastal zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the southern U.S. Atlantic coast (Saloman and Naughton 1984). Small jacks prey mostly on clupeids; medium-sized fish usually eat clupeids and sparids, and large fish consume various clupeids, carangids, and sparids (Saloman and Naughton 1984). Large fish appear to be more opportunistic than smaller ones, but food availability, which changes between sizes, seasons, areas, and years, seems to be a major factor in determining diet. Other food items include Gulf menhaden, scaled sardine, anchovies, Spanish sardine, Atlantic bumper, pinfish, Atlantic thread herring, Crevalle Jack, and Atlantic cutlassfish.

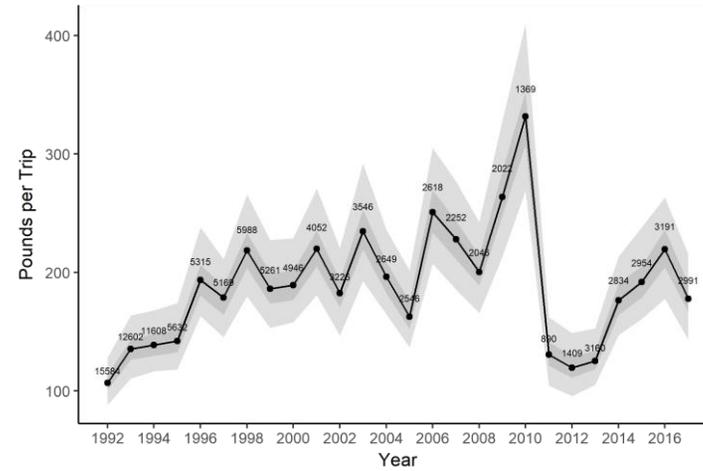


Fishers landed 8,207,918 pounds in 2017 which were 60.5% higher than the previous 5-year average (2012–2016). Coastwide, 77% of these were from the Atlantic and 23% were from the Gulf. Recreational landings constituted 91.3% of the total landings.

Atlantic Coast

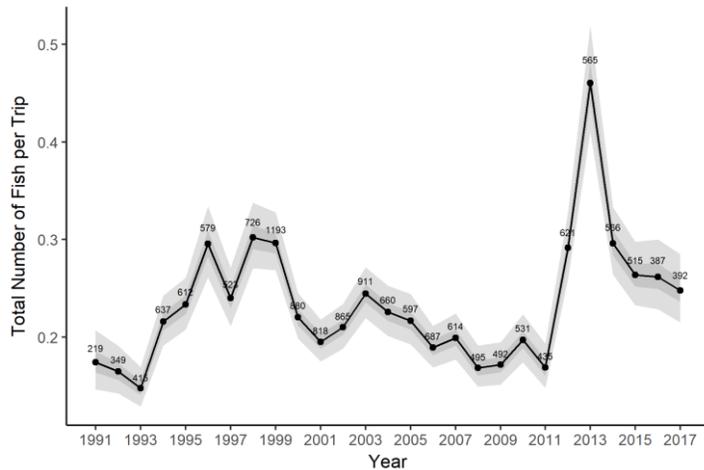


Gulf Coast

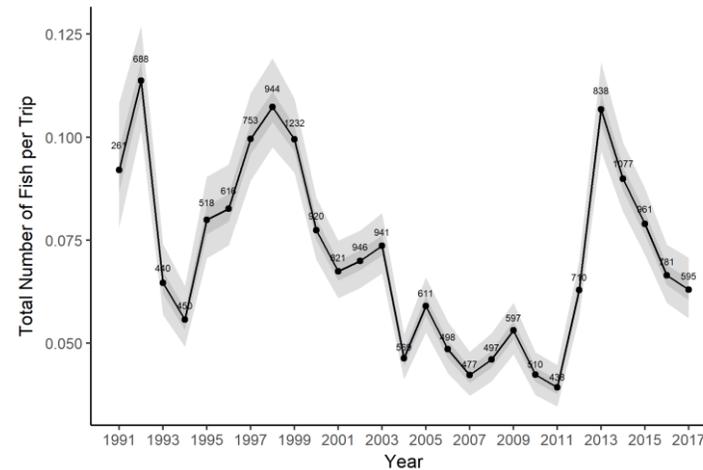


Standardized Commercial Catch Rates: On the Atlantic coast, commercial landings rates trended downward from 1996-2004. Landing rates have since remained stable through 2014 with a slight decrease observed in 2015. Gulf coast commercial landings rates showed a general increase between 1992 and 2010, a sharp decline in 2011, followed by another gradual increase through 2017. Dark grey figure lines represent first and third quartiles while the light grey lines represent the 2.5% – 97.5% quantiles.

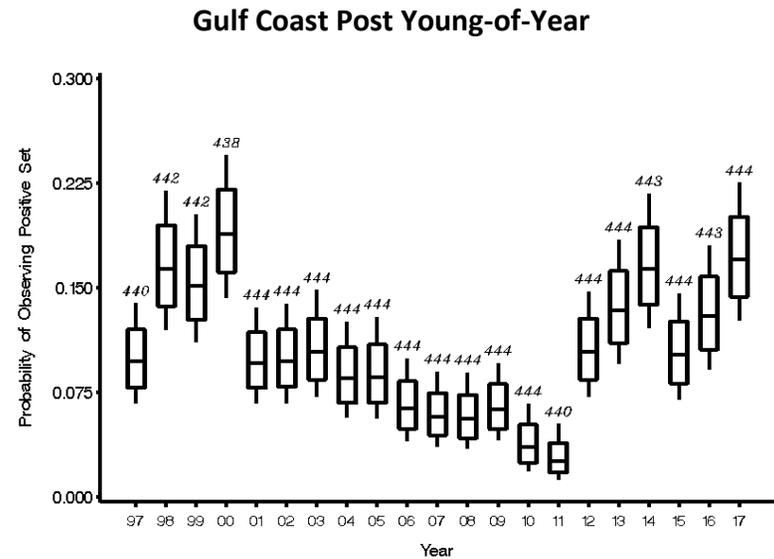
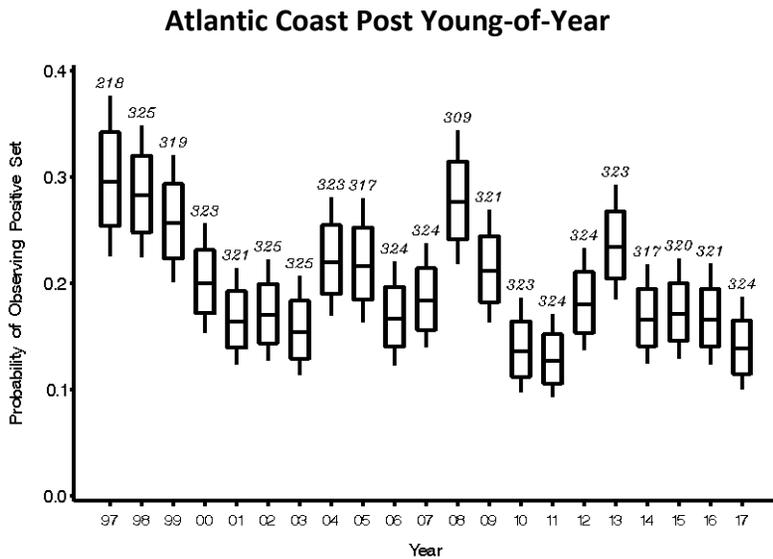
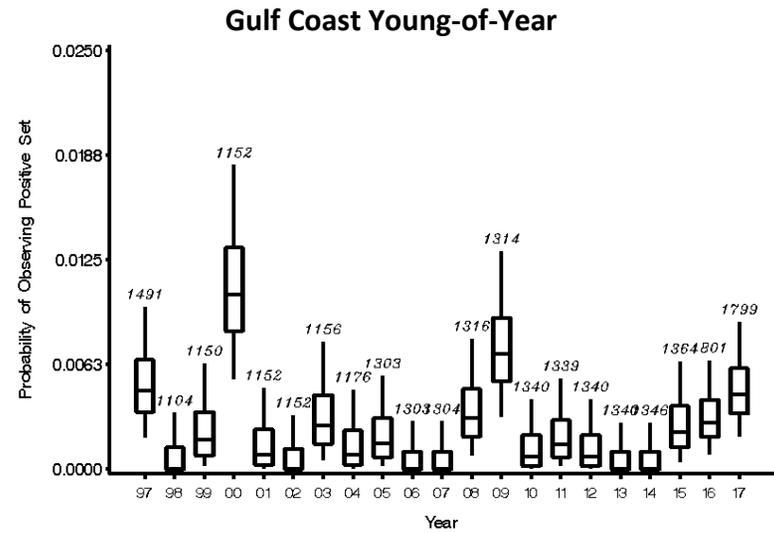
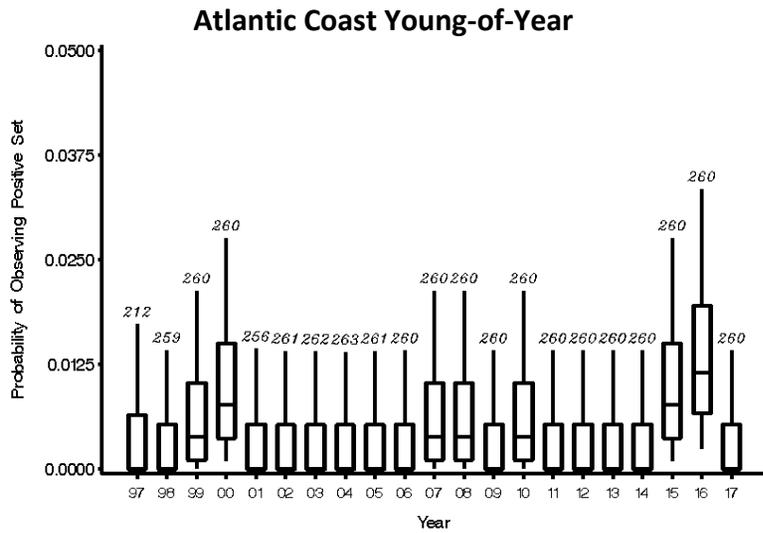
Atlantic Coast



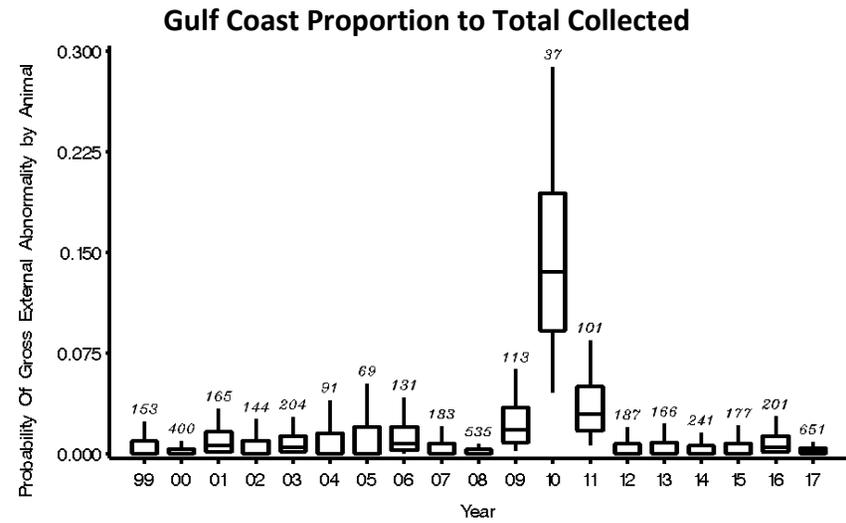
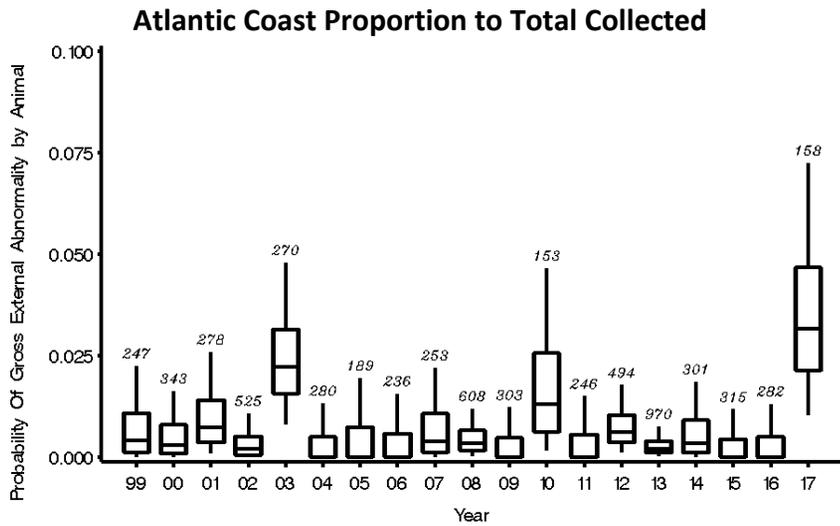
Gulf Coast



Standardized Recreational Total Catch Rates: Total catch rates for recreational anglers on the Atlantic coast have been dome-shaped from 1991-2011, followed by a sharp increase in catches through 2013 and a return to similar previous catch rates through 2017. Gulf coast catch rates show declines from 1998-2011 followed by a steep increase through 2013 and another declining trend through 2017. Dark grey figure lines represent first and third quartiles while the light grey lines represent the 2.5% – 97.5% quantiles.

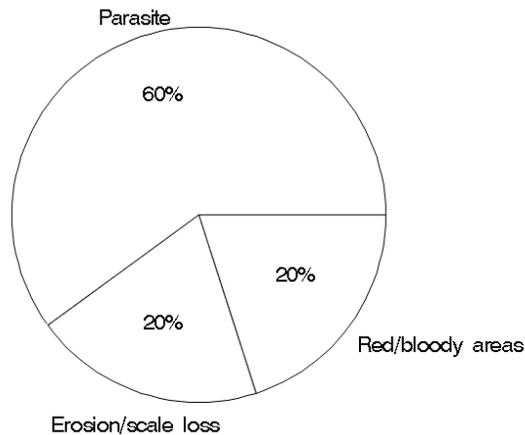


Fishery-Independent Monitoring: Indices of abundance for young-of-the-year (YOY) Crevalle Jack have been very low on the Atlantic coast with stronger year classes in 2000, 2007-2008, 2010, and 2015-2016. On the Gulf coast, young-of-the-year abundances have been variable with strong year classes in 2000, 2009, and 2017. Abundances of post-YOY Crevalle Jack on the Atlantic coast initially declined through 2003, then varied in trend with peaks in 2008 and 2013. On the Gulf coast abundances increased from 1997- 2000, steadily declined through 2011, and have shown increases in 2012 to 2017.



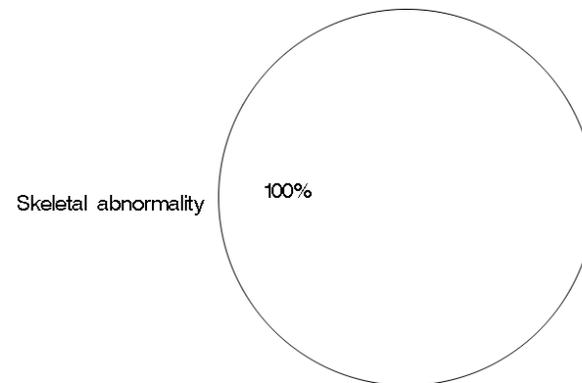
Atlantic Coast Percentage of Abnormality Types

Percentage of gross external abnormalities



Gulf Coast Percentage of Abnormality Types

Percentage of gross external abnormalities



Fish Health: Incidence of gross external abnormalities in Crevalle Jack peaked in 2003, 2010, and 2017 on the Atlantic coast and was highest from 2009-2011 on the Gulf coast. Observed abnormalities on the Atlantic coast were primarily parasites followed by red/bloody areas and erosion/scale loss. On the Gulf coast, all observed abnormalities were skeletal abnormalities.

Stock Status

Current Condition: unknown.

Management History: In Florida, Crevalle Jack are termed “unregulated” recreational species but which still carry a two fish or 100 pounds per person per day (whichever is more) regulation established by Florida Statute. There has been no formal stock assessment for Crevalle Jack in Florida.