

Costs and Earnings Survey Instrument

**PROFILE OF SMALL-SCALE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES IN THE U.S. CARIBBEAN
(Costs and Earnings Survey Instrument –English Version)**

Interviewer Name	Date	No. Contacts	Refusal reason	Survey #	Respondent's Name

The data you provide will be used to develop a socioeconomic profile of Caribbean small-scale fisheries. Everything we talk about will be confidential. When we finish our interviews and other work, we will write a report that summarizes everything we have learned. We will not use people’s names in our reports, or write about anything that is sensitive. Participation in this survey is voluntary, and you do not need to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. However, we strongly encourage you to participate. You have a vital stake in the way fishery decisions are made, and only you can provide valuable information, which will be used to strengthen the management, protection, and conservation of marine resources. If you agree that sounds okay and if you do not have any questions, I would like to start by asking you a few basic questions about you and your fishing operation.

St Thomas and St. John Fish and Lobster Trap Study

Name:
Cell
Estate where live:
Zip Code:

Demographic information

1. What is your role on the boat?

Owner and operator Hired captain Crew/diver Other: _____

2. How many years of experience do you have as a commercial fisherman? _____ years

3. How old are you? _____ years

4. What is the highest level of formal education?

Less than High School High School University/Technical Courses/Associate Degree

5. How would you describe your degree of participation in fishing?

Full-time Part-time No longer fish

6. What percentage of your overall **household income** is derive from **fishing and selling fish**? _____%

7. If not 100%, what other activities do you engage in? _____

Fishing Trip

8. What goal or objective do you have in mind for your fishing trip? (e.g., catch as many fish as possible, earn a certain amount of money per trip, fulfil an order from a client- describe, other?)

Explain: _____

Main gear: Lobster & fish traps	Target species: Lobster	
Average number of traps hauled during trip?		
a) Lobster traps	# _____ lobster (soak time____ days)	
b) Fish traps	# _____ fish (soak time____ days)	
Trip duration (hrs)	# _____ hrs/trip	
Number trips per week	# _____ trips/week	
Habitat and depth range (ft)	Habitat _____ depth range: _____ ft	
Average Catch (lbs/trip)		
a) Lobster	# _____ lbs	
b) Conch	# _____ lbs	
c) Fish	# _____ lbs [Species: _____]	
d) Other	# _____ lbs [Species: _____]	
Total crew size (all, inc. captain)	# _____	
Other gears used in this trip? Check all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive # _____ tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Nets # _____ nets <input type="checkbox"/> Lines # _____ lines <input type="checkbox"/> Other # _____	
Fish Costs per trip (\$/trip)		
a) Fuel and oil	\$ _____ /trip	
b) Gallons of fuel used per trip	# _____ gal./trip	
c) Truck fuel per trip:	\$ _____ /trip	
d) Ice	\$ _____ /trip (<input type="checkbox"/> Make my own)	
e) Bait	\$ _____ /trip	
f) Food	\$ _____ /trip	
g) Air supply	# _____ tanks \$/tank _____ (air refill)	
h) Other expenses : _____	\$ _____ /trip	
Average gross revenue per trip:	\$ _____ / trip	

Gross revenue range: Very good trip \$ _____/trip vs. Poor trip \$ _____/trip

Investment in Fishing Boats, Gear and Equipment. Tell us about your primary boat, where you conduct your trap fishing.

9. How many boats do you own? ____ boats

Primary Vessel	Working condition	Length (ft)	Hull Material	Number of engines	Value of vessel and engines in current condition (\$)
Main (primary)	Yes/No	____ ft	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Fiber/wood <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	Number: _____ Outboard Yes/No Inboard Yes/No Both Yes/No <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel: <input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline: HP (1): _____ HP (2): _____ HP (3): _____ HP (4): _____	\$ _____

10. Last year, approximately how much did you spent **maintaining and repairing your boat and engines?** \$ _____

11. Do you own any of the following pieces fishing and safety equipment? Check all that apply.

- Trap puller/hauler (winch) (Electric Hydraulic Manual)
- Reel (Manual Electric Hydraulic)
- GPS Depth finder
- Cell Fish finder Radio EPIRB Other: _____

Investment in fish and lobster traps

Traps/Pots	Total number owned	Total number in the water	Total number hauled per trip	Number of traps per string	Type and number hauled per trip
Lobster	# _____	# _____	# _____	# _____ per string Buoyed Yes No	Square # _____ Rectangular # _____ Round # _____ Arrowhead # _____ Z (o S) shaped # _____ Other: _____ # _____
Fish	# _____	# _____	# _____	# _____ per string Buoyed Yes No	Square # _____ Rectangular # _____ Round # _____ Arrowhead # _____ Z (o S) shaped # _____ Other: _____ # _____

12. What is the **cost of your most common single trap** (without ropes and bouys) and how long does it last?

Value \$ _____ single most common trap (without ropes and bouys) How long do traps last: _____ months or years

13. Approximate value (in current condition) of **overall investment in lobster and fish traps**, including ropes and bouys? \$ _____

14. Last year, approximately how much did you **spent maintaining and repairing your traps**? \$ _____

Crew dynamics

15. Who are the members of your fishing crew? (Select all that apply)

- Family Friends Acquaintances Other: _____

16. How easy or hard is to recruit crew members for your fishing trips?

- very hard hard easy very easy Don't know No answer

17. Besides helping with fishing related activities, do your crew members help you with following? (check all that apply)

- Selling and marketing fish
- Building or repairing gear such as traps
- Repairing boat and/or engine
- Provide you with loans to cover fishing trips (e.g, gasoline), gear and engine maintenance expenses, etc.
- None of the above

18. How do you pay your crew?

- Share system (everybody gets a percentage after deducting costs such as gasoline, food, bait, etc)
- Fixed payment
- Combination (share and fixed payment)
- Other: _____

Seafood Marketing

19. Rank the top 3 revenue generating markets for **lobster**? (e.g., restaurant, roadside, hotel, govt market, pers. clients, dealer, etc)

Main Lobster Markets	Percentage of sales (%)	Average Price (\$/lb)
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Most important market :		
2nd most important :		
3rd most important :		

20. How do you decide on your fish prices? (Select all that apply)

- I accept the price offered by fish buyers or fish cooperative
- I use the same prices as other fishers
- I charge what buyers are willing to pay (or buyer interest)
- I negotiate the price with buyers
- I set my own price based on my costs and what I need to earn
- Other way (please tell us): _____

21. How many freezers (not coolers) to store fish you own? _____

22. How do you manage your inventory? (Select all that apply)

Method	Lobster	Reef-fish
Immediate sale of catch		
Holding tanks/live well		
Short-term ice storage		
Refrigeration/freezing		
Processing (boiling tails, smoking, drying, etc.)		
Other (please specify;)		

23. Do you take orders for your catches before going on a trip?

- Never
- Rarely (less than 25% of trips)
- Sometimes (25-50% of trips)
- Often (51-75% of trips)
- Always (more than 75% of trips)