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# Review of the Texas Closure for 2018

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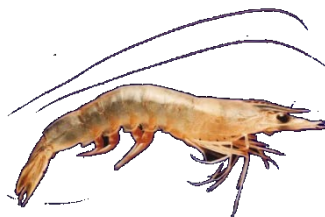
Southeast Fisheries Science Center

Galveston Laboratory

Galveston, TX USA

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council

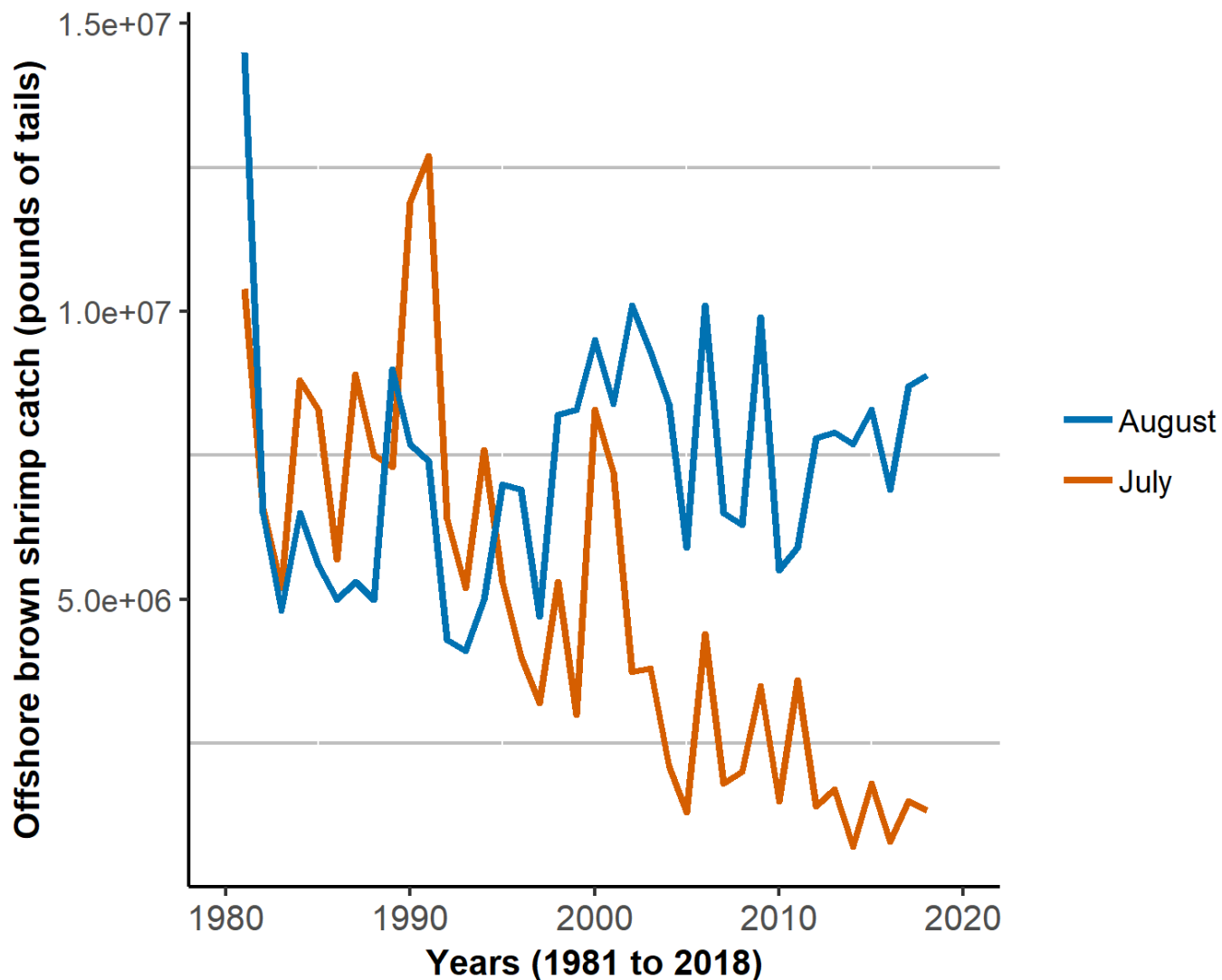
April 2019



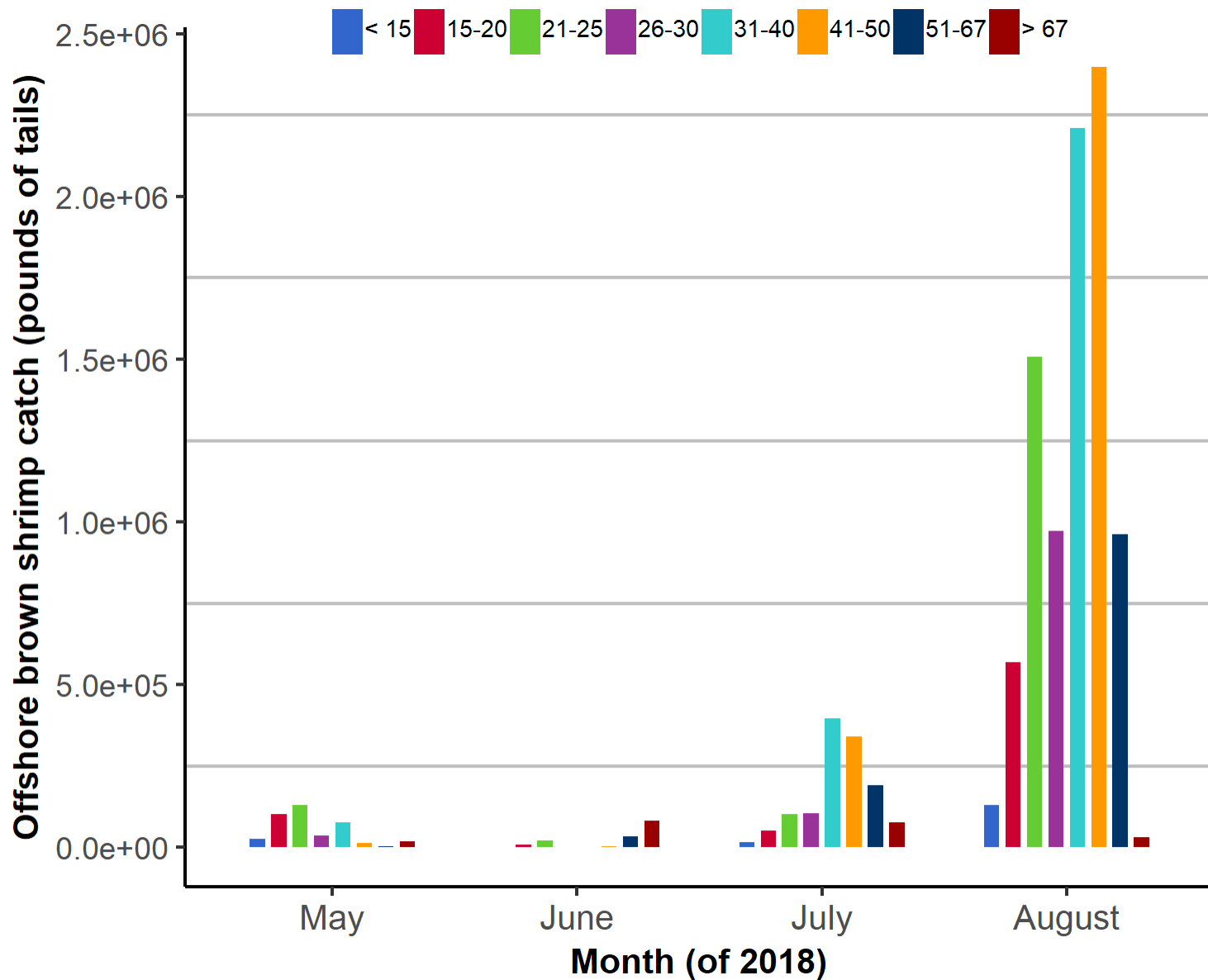
# History of the Texas Closure

The GMFMC's Shrimp FMP was implemented in 1981 for the EEZ fishery.

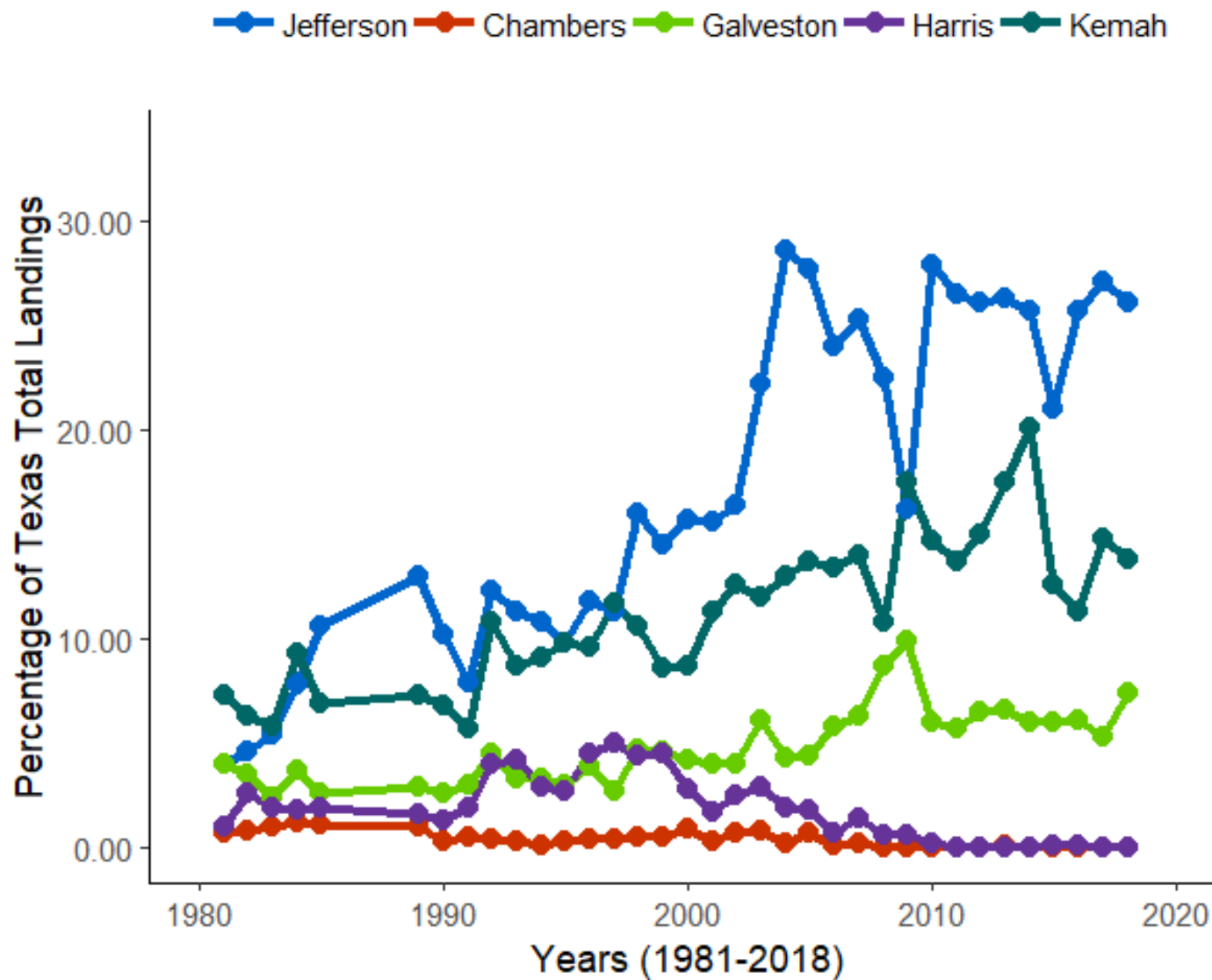
- Goal was to increase the yield of brown shrimp harvested from offshore Texas waters.
- Historically the closure is from Mid-May to Mid-July.
- Since 1990 the near shore (< 4 fathoms area) has also been closed in conjunction.



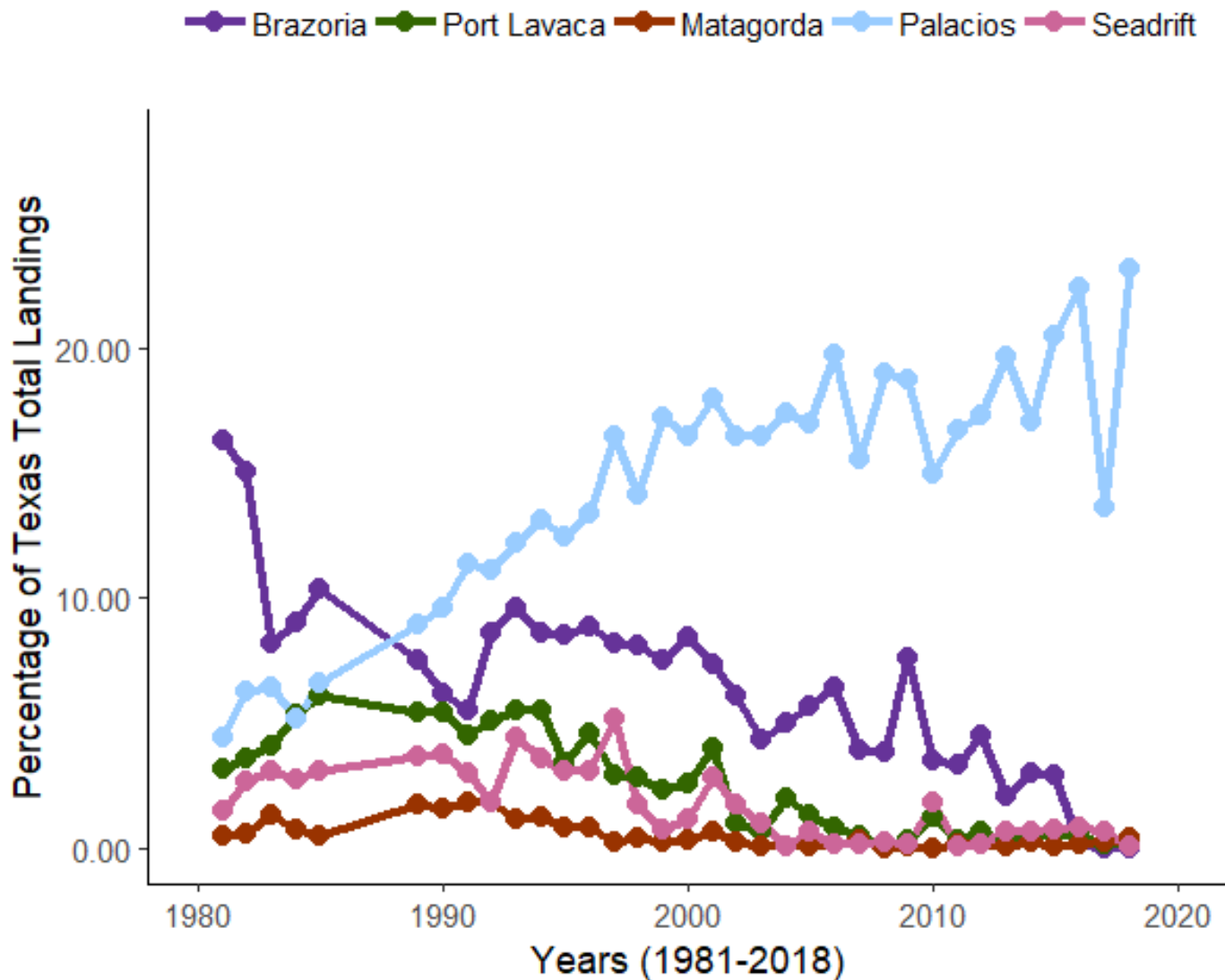
Texas offshore brown shrimp catch for July and August, 1981-2018



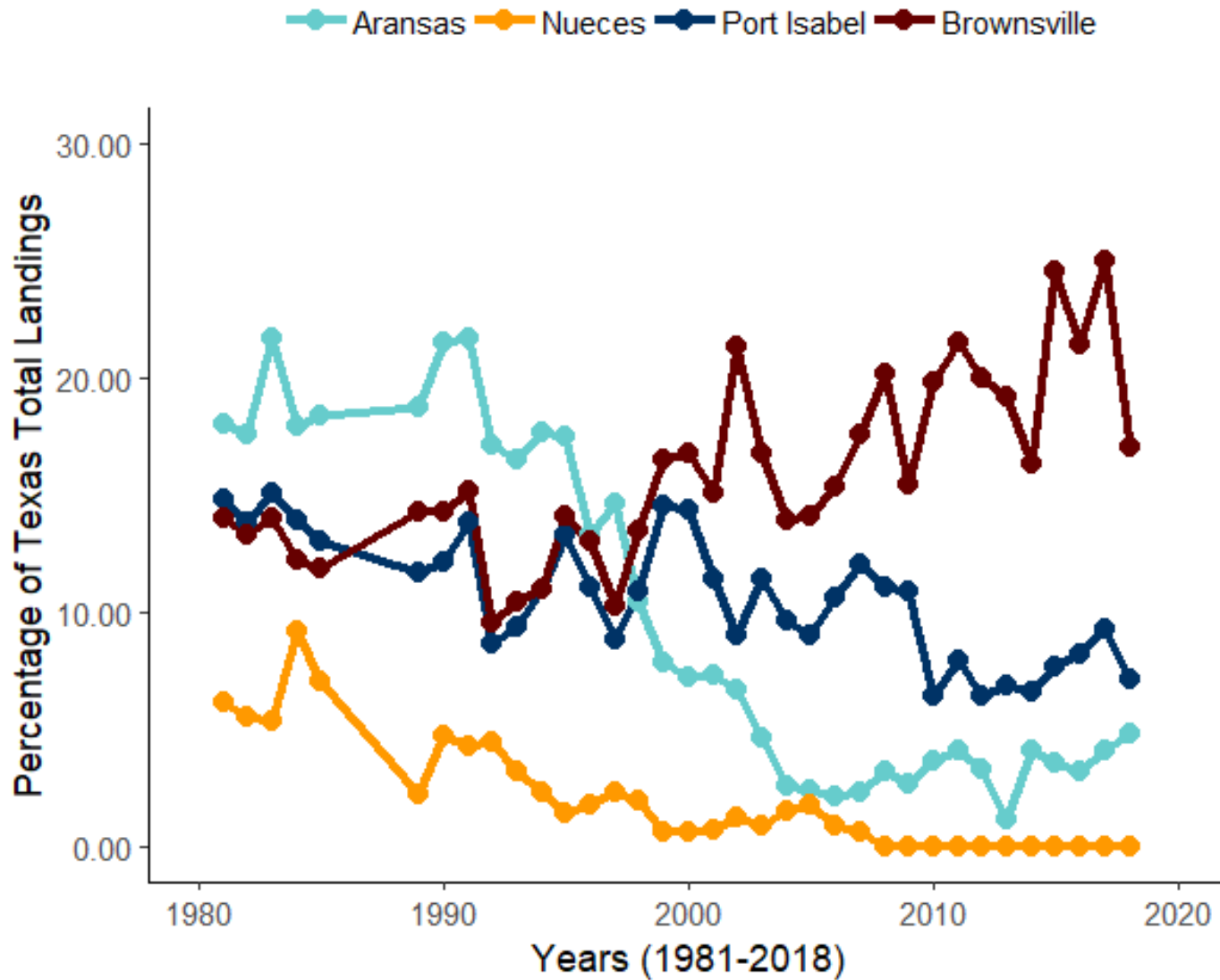
## Monthly offshore brown shrimp catch for May – August, 2018



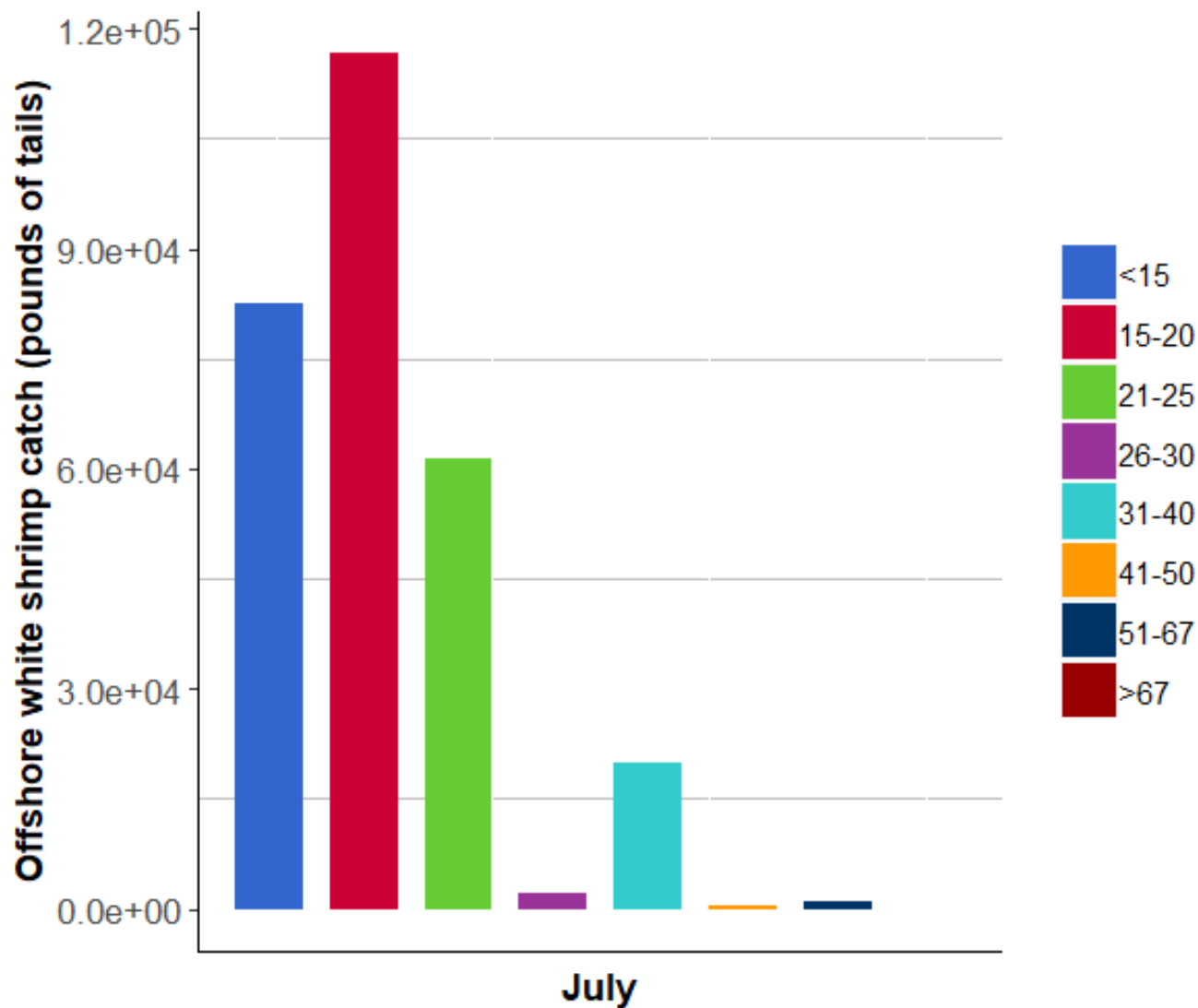
Gulf-wide shrimp landings by upper Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018



Gulf-wide shrimp landings by middle Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018

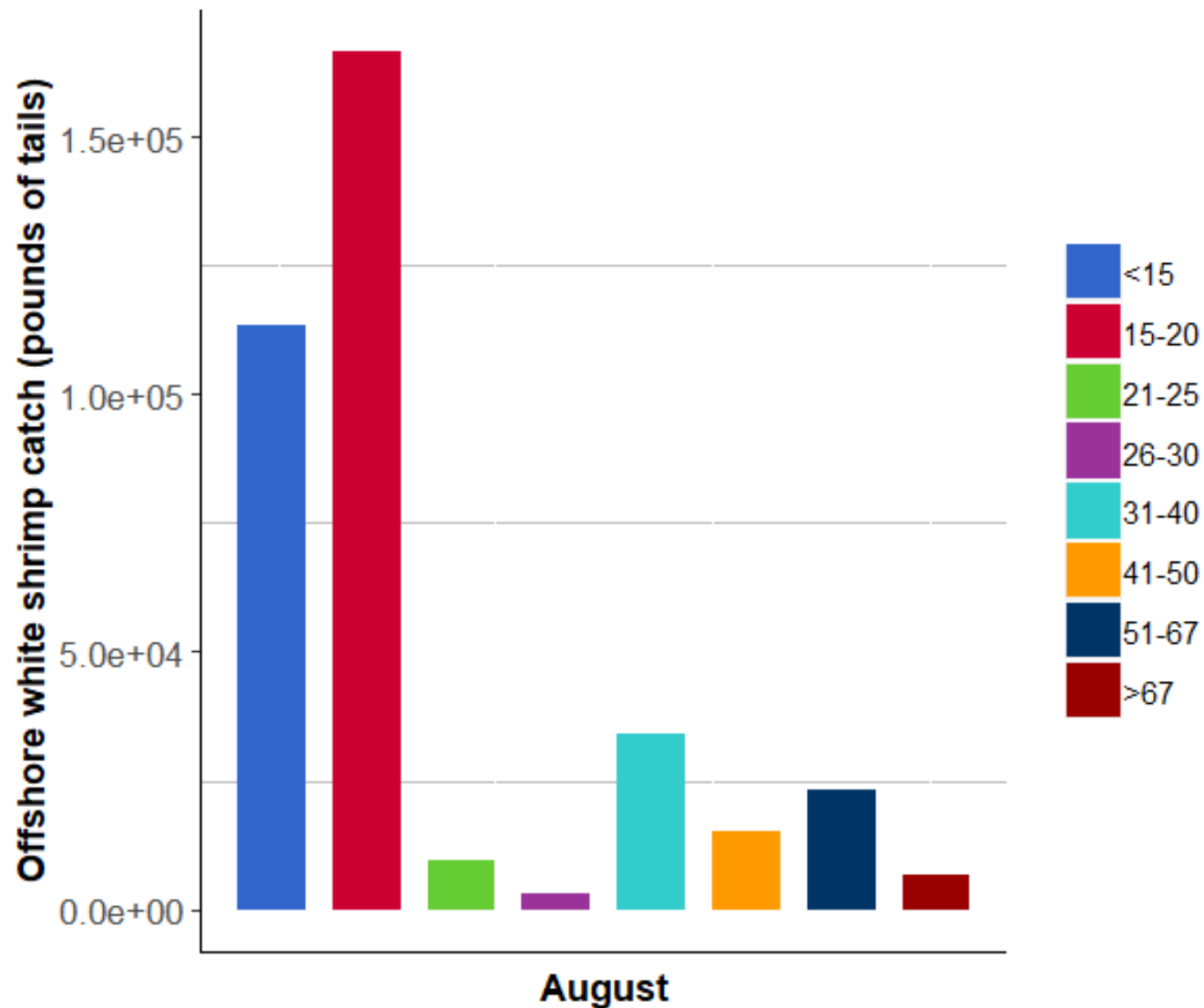


Gulf-wide shrimp landings by lower Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018



## July offshore white shrimp catch for 2018





August offshore white shrimp catch for 2018

# Texas Fishing Trends Summary

- Inshore brown shrimp catch in May-August below historical average ( $0.21 < 4.2$  M lbs.); 51% of catch in May
- Offshore brown shrimp catch in May-August below historical average ( $10.8 < 13.0$  M lbs.); in July-August, only 1.1% of catch in the  $>67$  count size category

# Texas Shrimp Landings by Port Summary

Some changes in distribution of shrimp landings (2018):

1. Increased landings at Port Chambers and Galveston, decreases at other upper TX ports
2. All landings for middle TX ports decreased
3. Lower TX ports: Brownsville and Port Isabel decreased, Aransas increased

❖ Jefferson County had highest % again this year

# White Shrimp & SEAMAP YPR Summary

- White shrimp catch off Texas (July-August) below average again this year; with July-Aug catch in  $2018 < 2017$
- Percent change in yield values at  $F=1$  and  $M=0.15$  and  $0.28$  are 0 and 10.4% (Ingram and Pollack, 2018)

