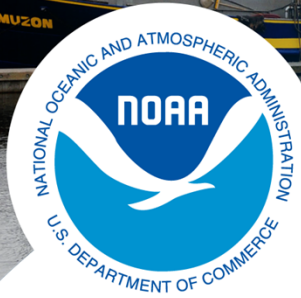
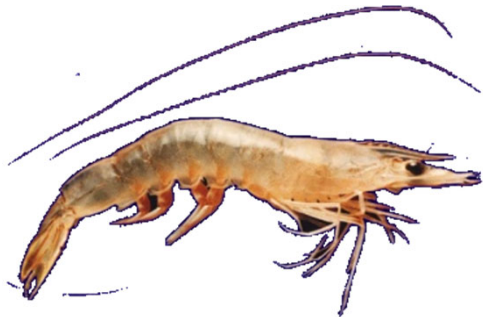


Tab D, No. 4(b)



NOAA
FISHERIES

Review of the 2020 Texas Closure



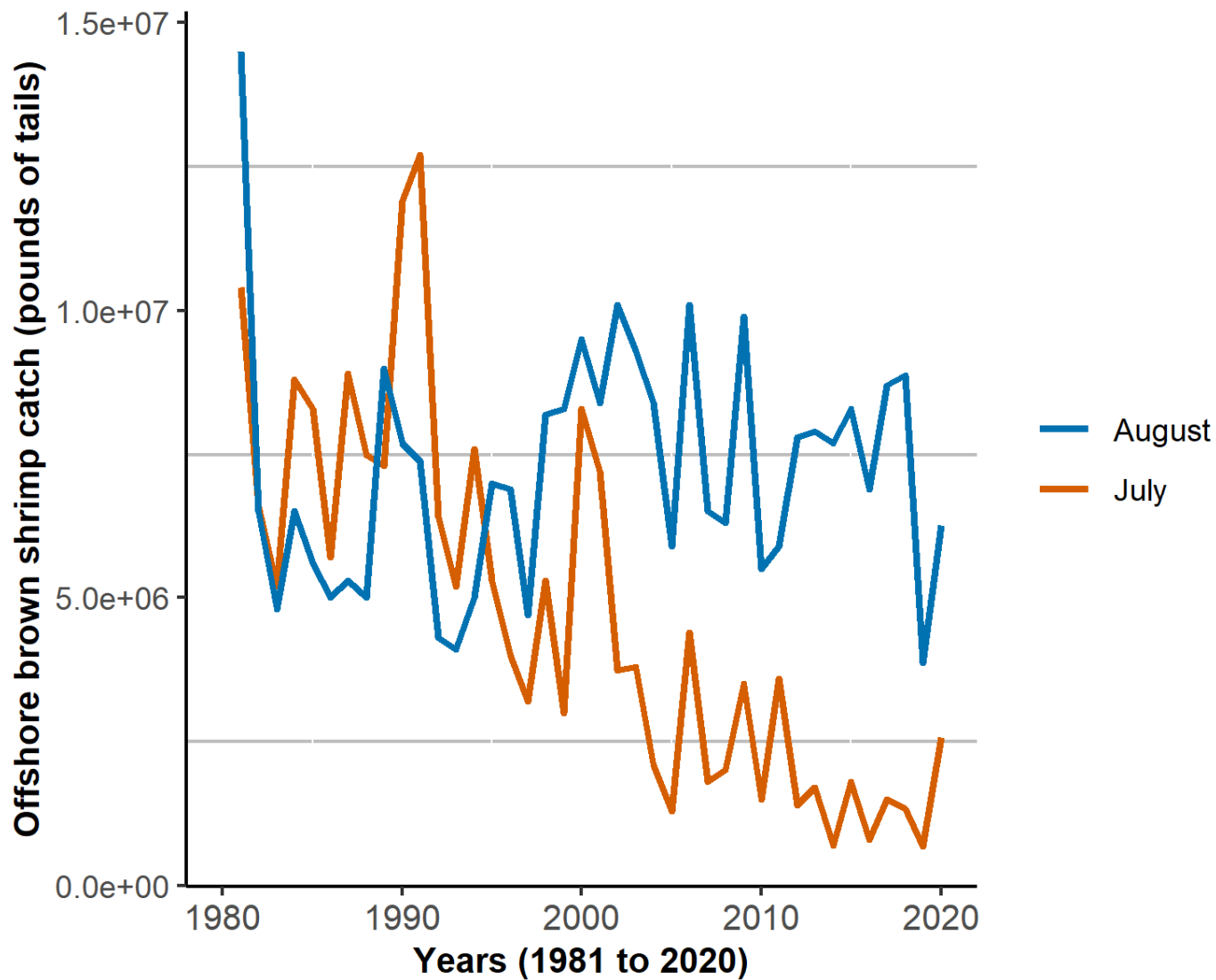
Michelle Masi, Ph.D.
NOAA Fisheries
Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Galveston Laboratory
Galveston, TX USA

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council
Presented in 2021

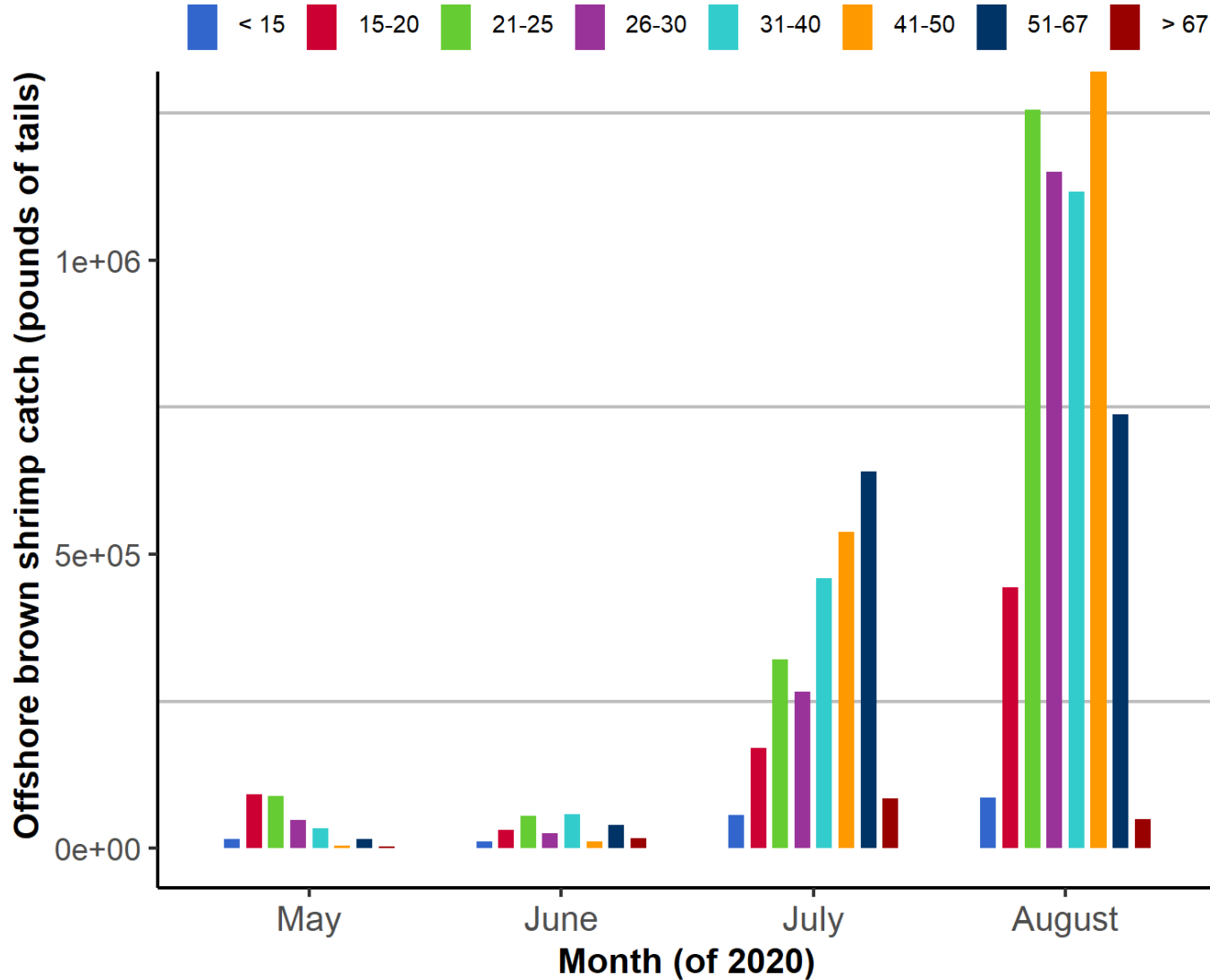
History of the Texas Closure

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

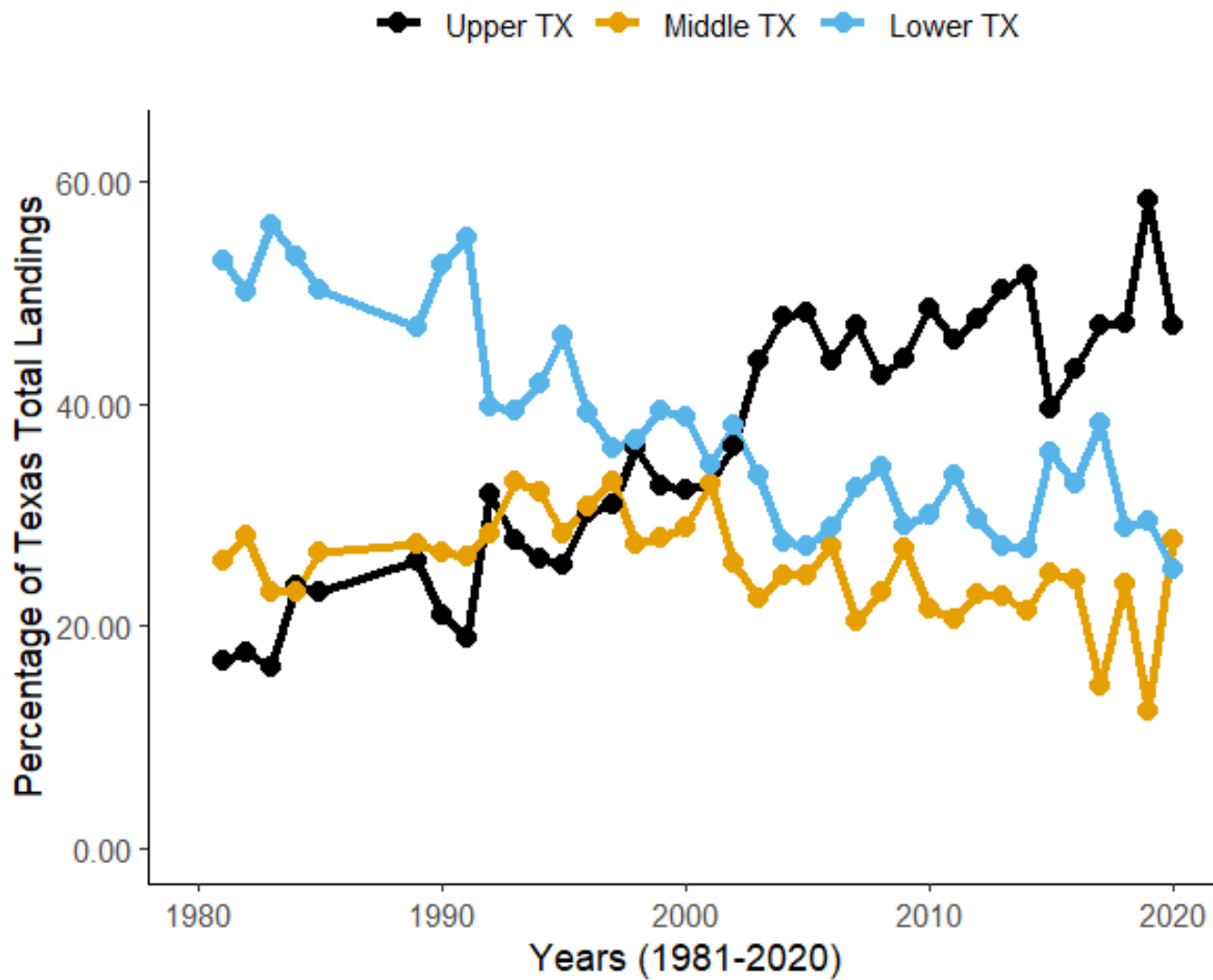
- Goal was to increase the yield and value of brown shrimp harvested from offshore Texas waters.
- Historically the closure is from Mid-May to Mid-July.
- Since 1990 the near shore (< 4 fathoms area) has also been closed in conjunction.



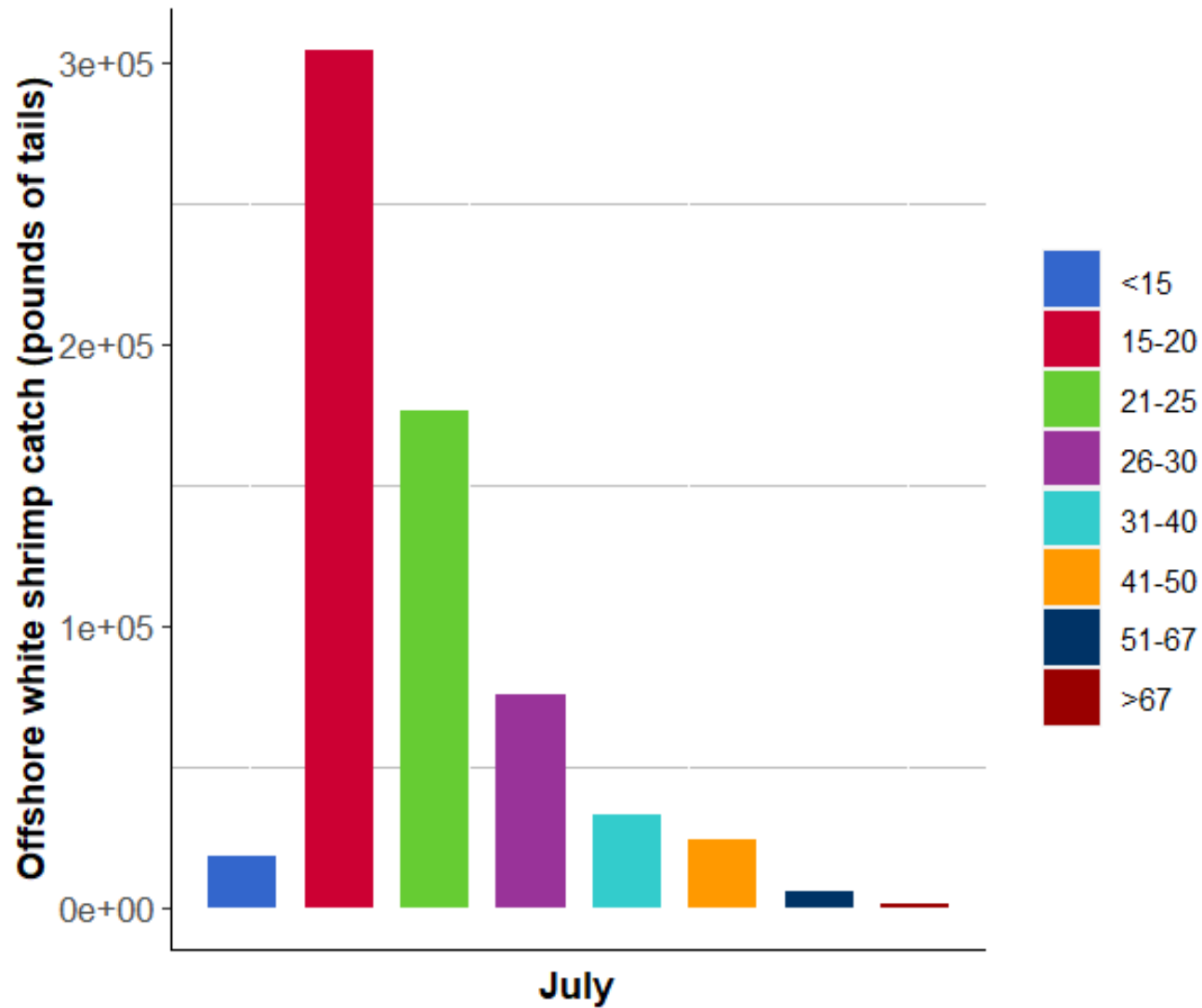
Offshore TX Brown Shrimp catch for July and August, 1981-2020



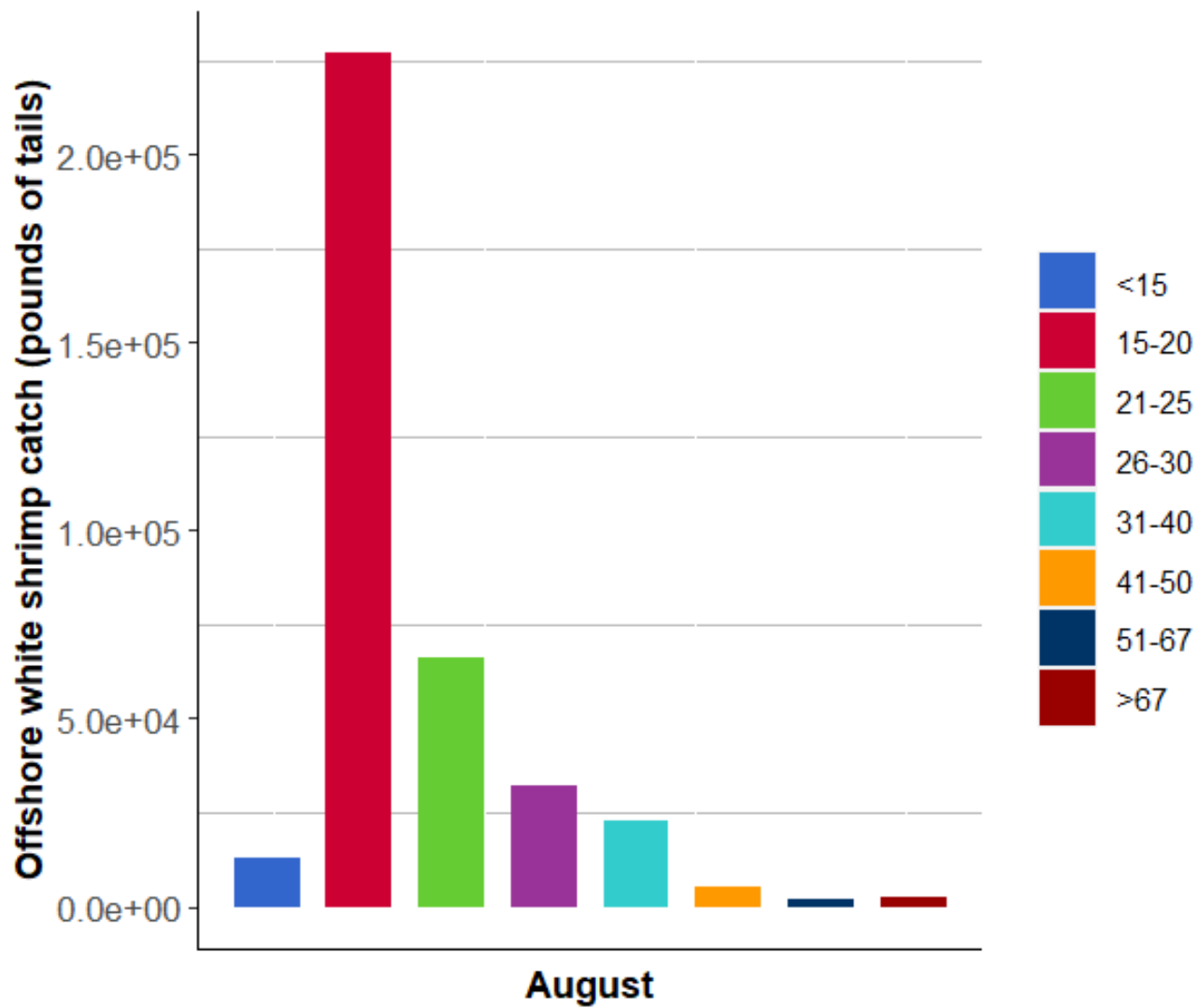
Monthly offshore TX Brown Shrimp catch for May – August, 2020



Texas shrimp landings by region (upper, middle and lower), in May-August



Offshore TX White Shrimp catch for July, 2020



Offshore TX White Shrimp catch for August, 2020

Summary: Texas Fishing Trends

- Inshore TX Brown Shrimp catch in May-August is below the historical average (257,162 lbs. < 4.2 M lbs.), with 70.1% of the catch occurring in August
- Offshore TX Brown Shrimp catch in May-August is below the historical average (9.39 < 13.6 M lbs.); and in July-August, only 1.5% of the catch is in the >67 count size category

Summary:

Texas Shrimp Landings by Region

- Upper Texas had the highest percentage of landings (47.1%), compared to the middle and lower Texas regions (27.8% and 25.0%, respectively)
- A 15.5% increase in the proportion of landings in the middle Texas region, relative to last year

Summary: White Shrimp landings

- 2020 White Shrimp catch off Texas in July was above the July average (638,538 lbs > 444,408 lbs), compared to previous years (1980-2019)
- 2020 White Shrimp catch off Texas in August was below the August average (371,226 lbs < 725,659 lbs), compared to previous years (1980-2019)
- Most of the White shrimp caught off Texas in July-August 2020 were in the 15-20 size count category



NOAA FISHERIES

U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | NOAA Fisheries |