



MARKET CHANGES IN NORTH CAROLINA WILD-CAUGHT SEAFOOD

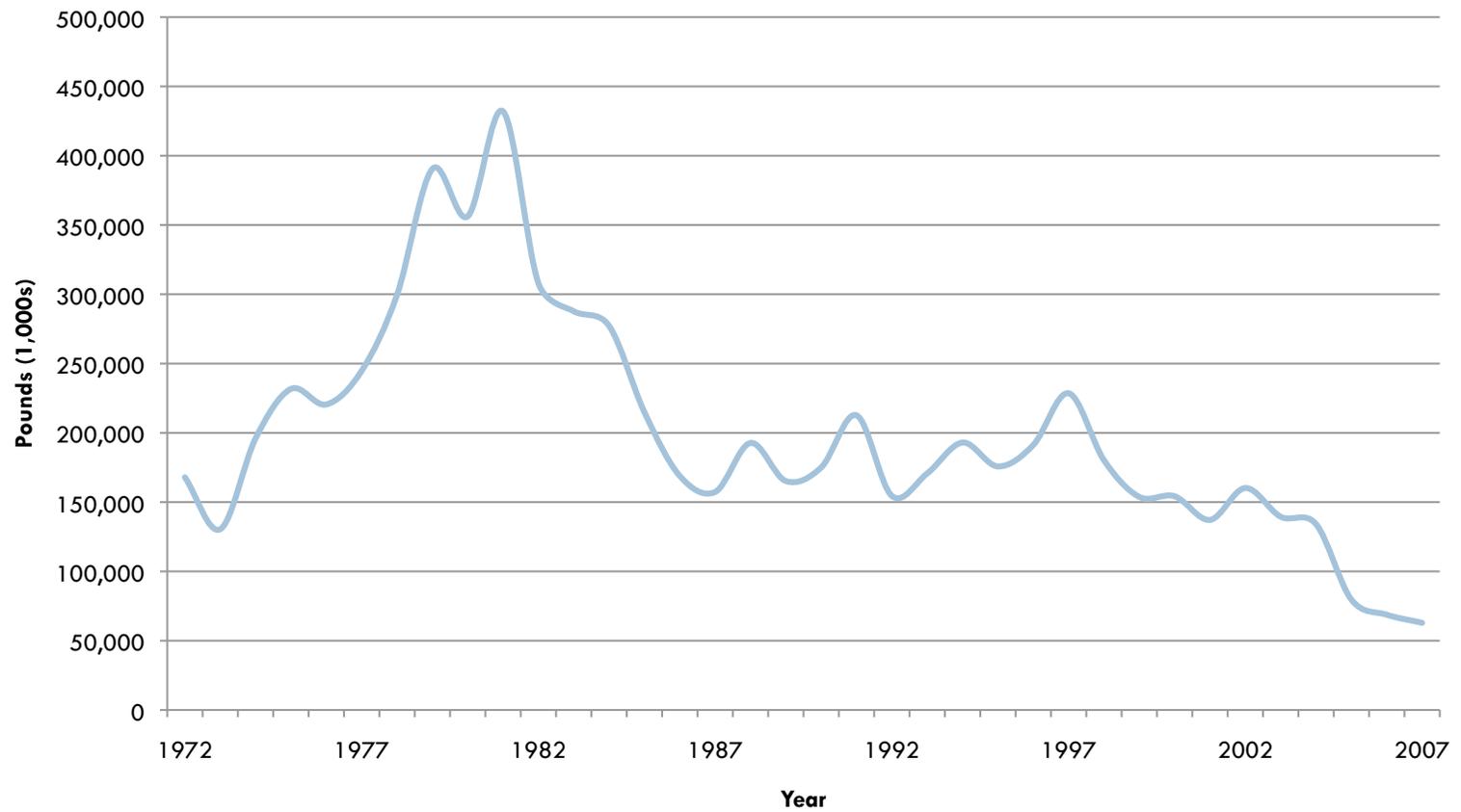
Dr. Scott Crosson, DMF Socioeconomics Program

Long-term trends

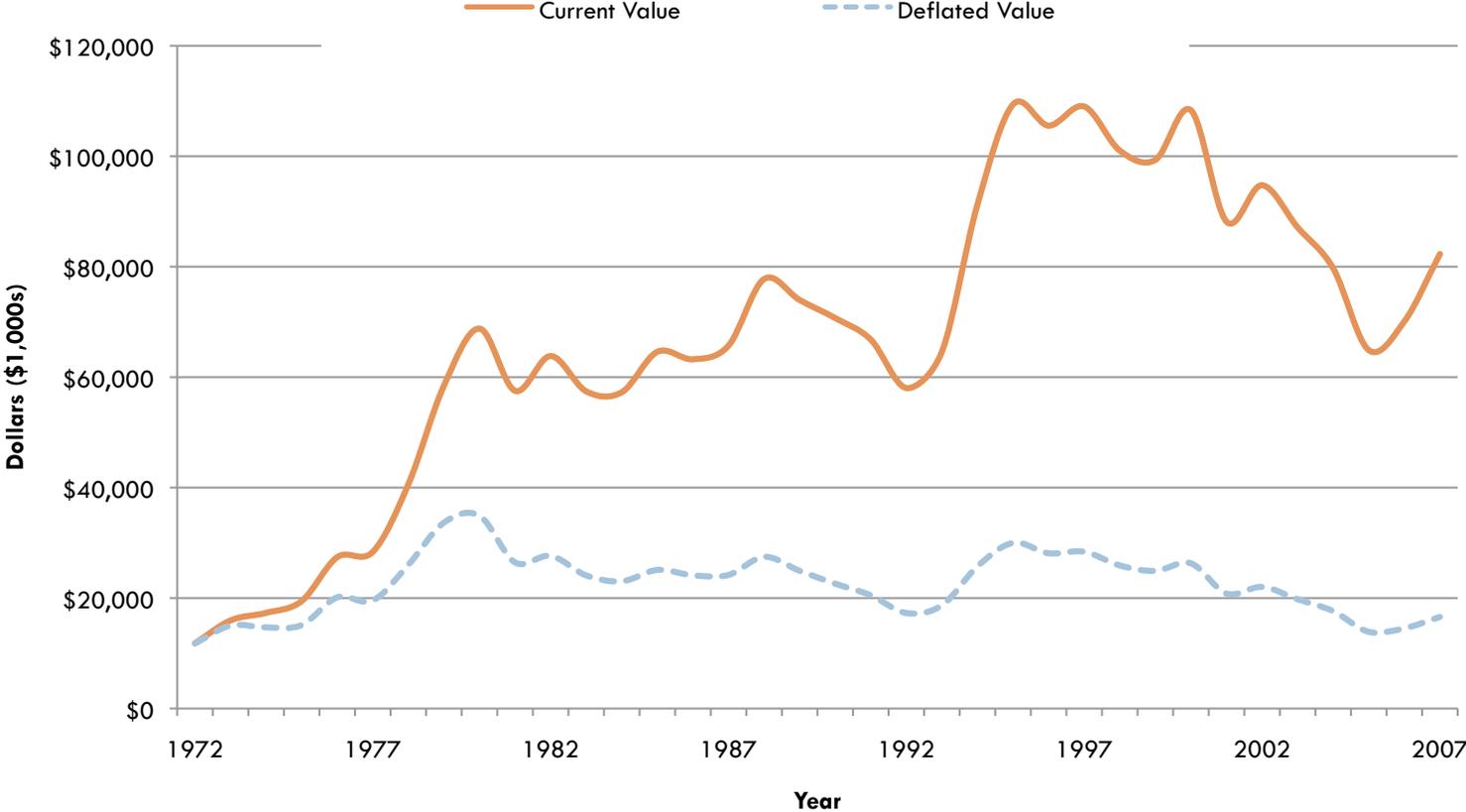


- General impression these days that North Carolina commercial fishing industry is hurting
 - Pressure from imports
 - Tighter regulations
 - Pressure on waterfront development
 - Decreasing commercial license sales
 - Decreasing production

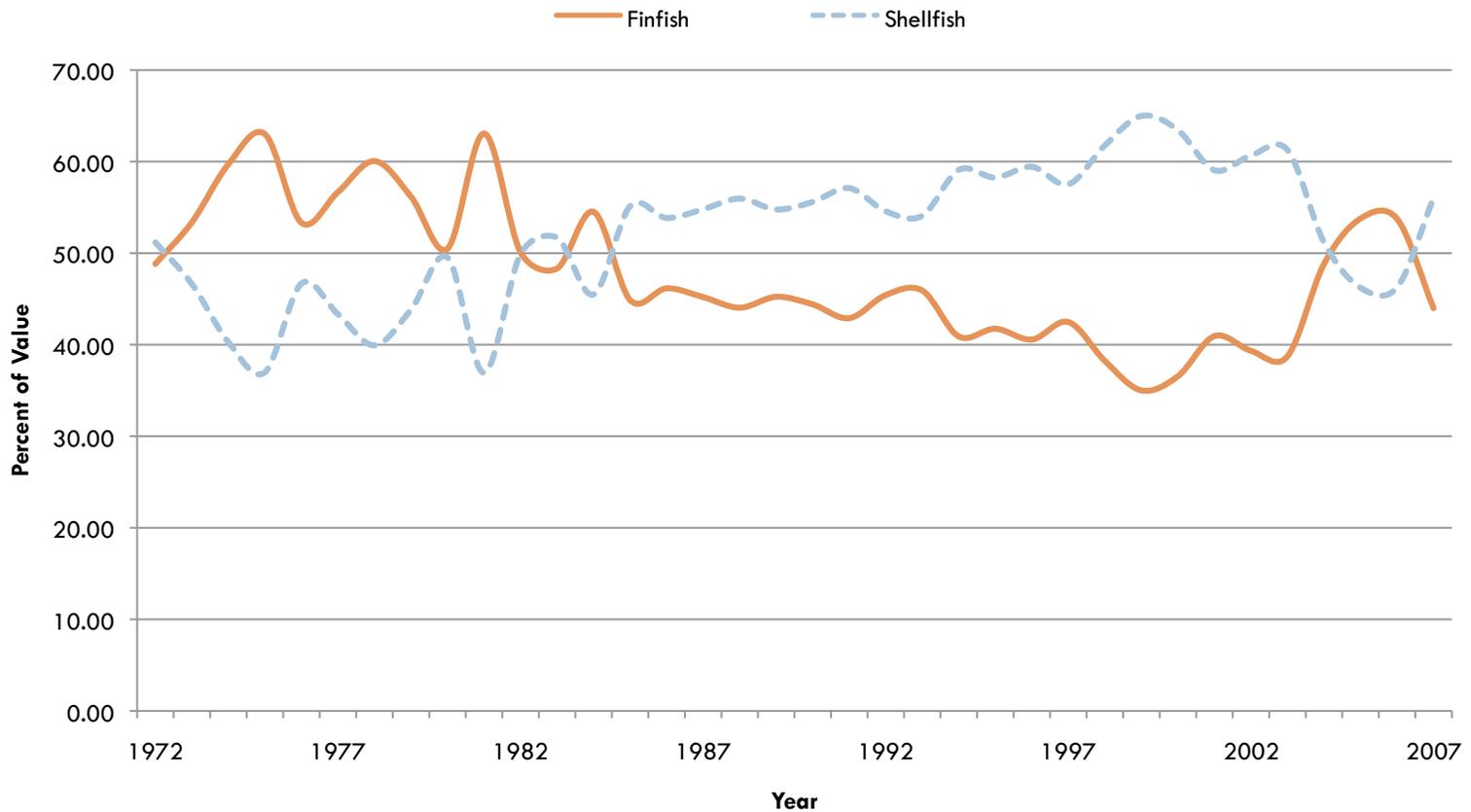
Pounds landed



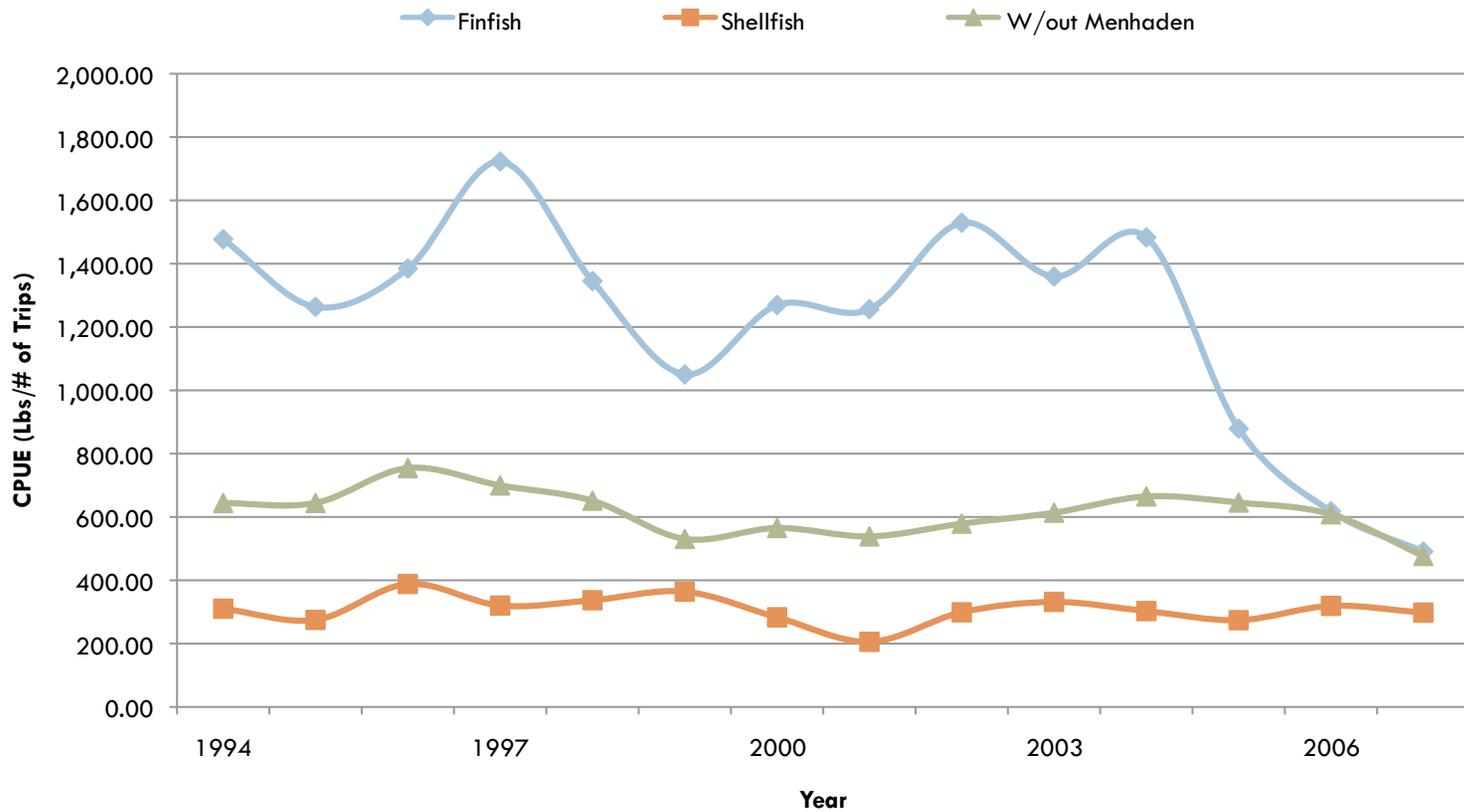
Value landed



% value of finfish and shellfish landings



Finfish and shellfish CPUE (pounds landed/number of trips)

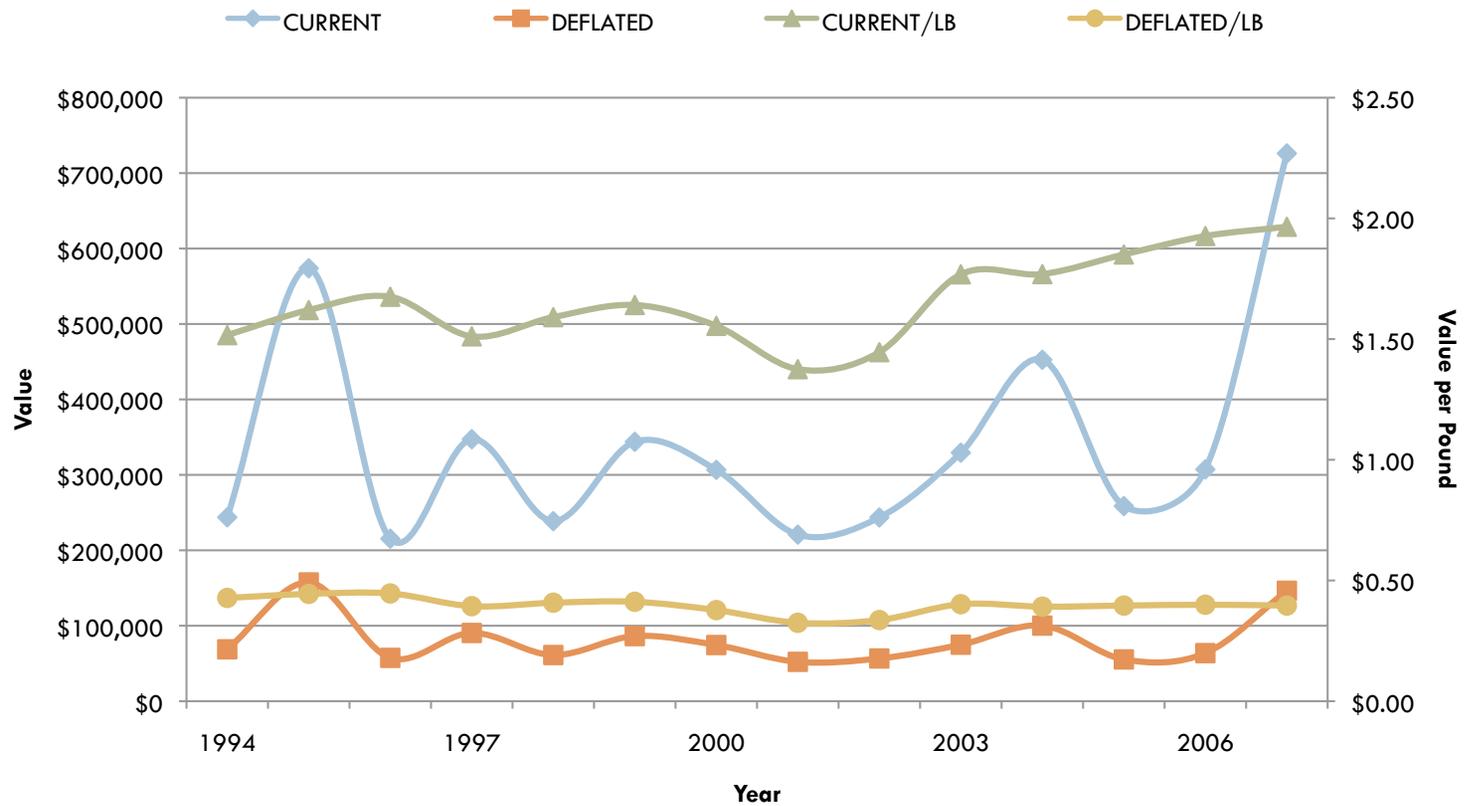


Some species are up

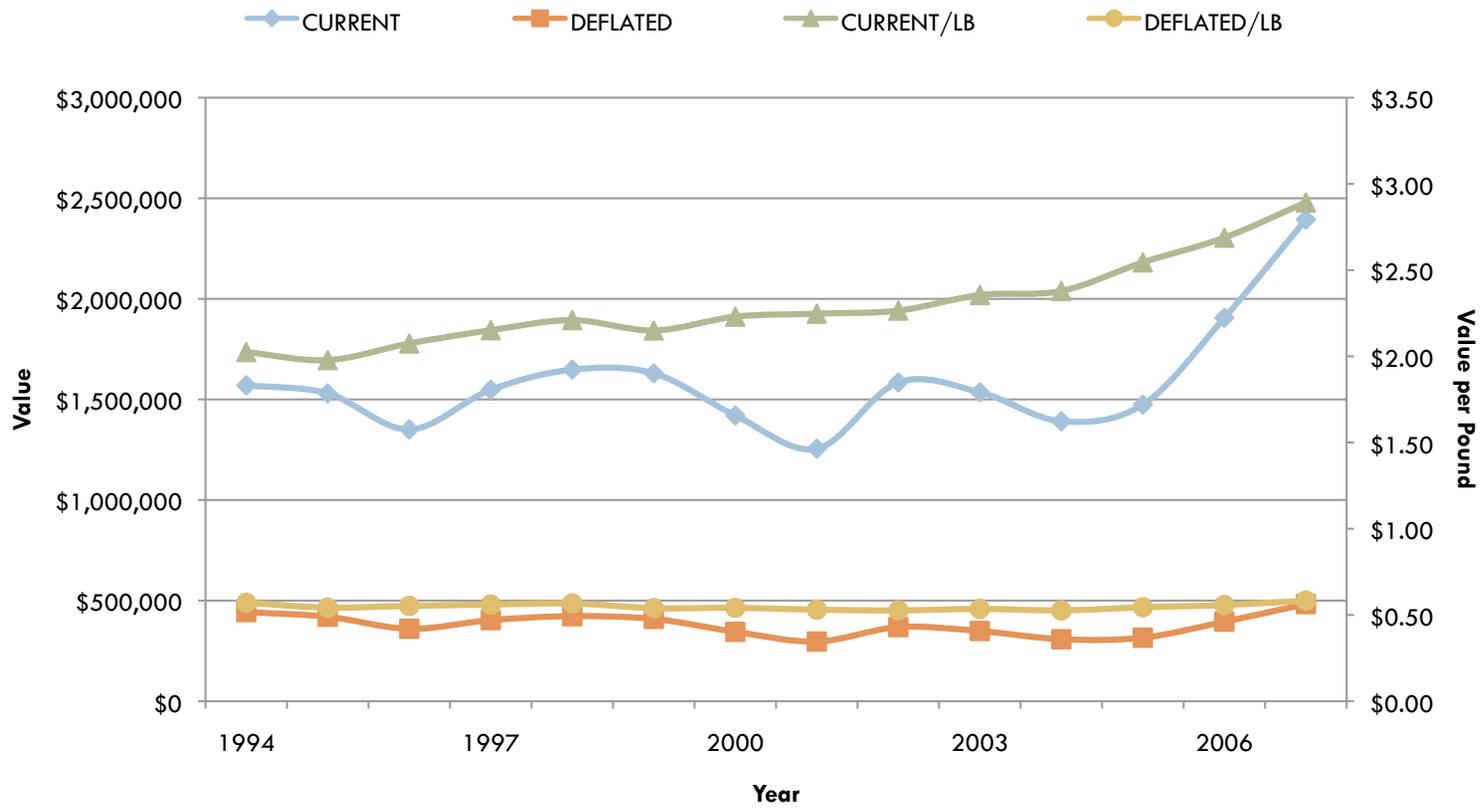


- Look at a wide variety of landed species and you notice that:
 - ▣ Some species have had a rise in price per pound, and catch for those species has been rising. Examples: mahi, groupers.
 - ▣ A few species have an even faster rise in price, due to restricted supply but steady demand. Example: red drum.

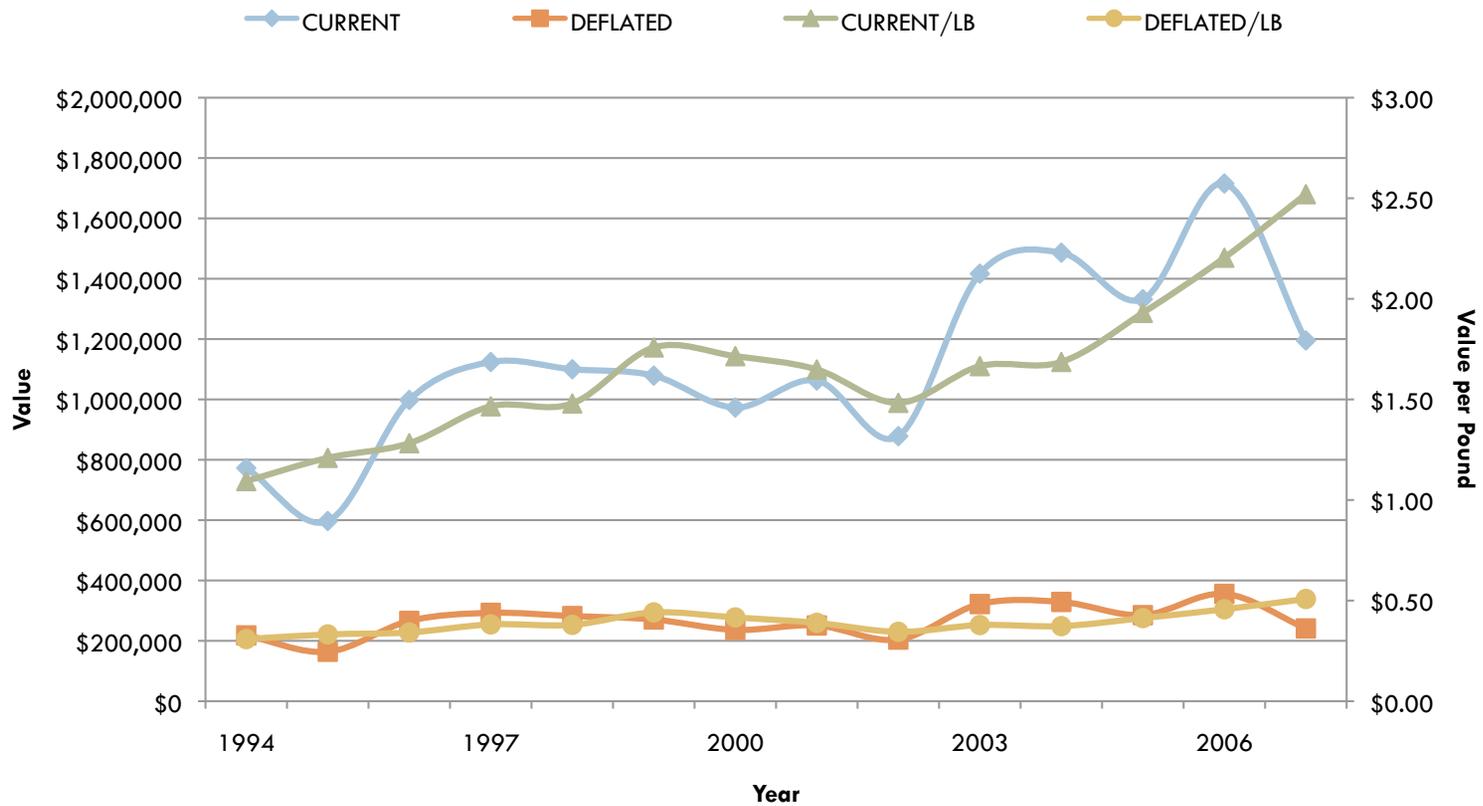
Dolphin



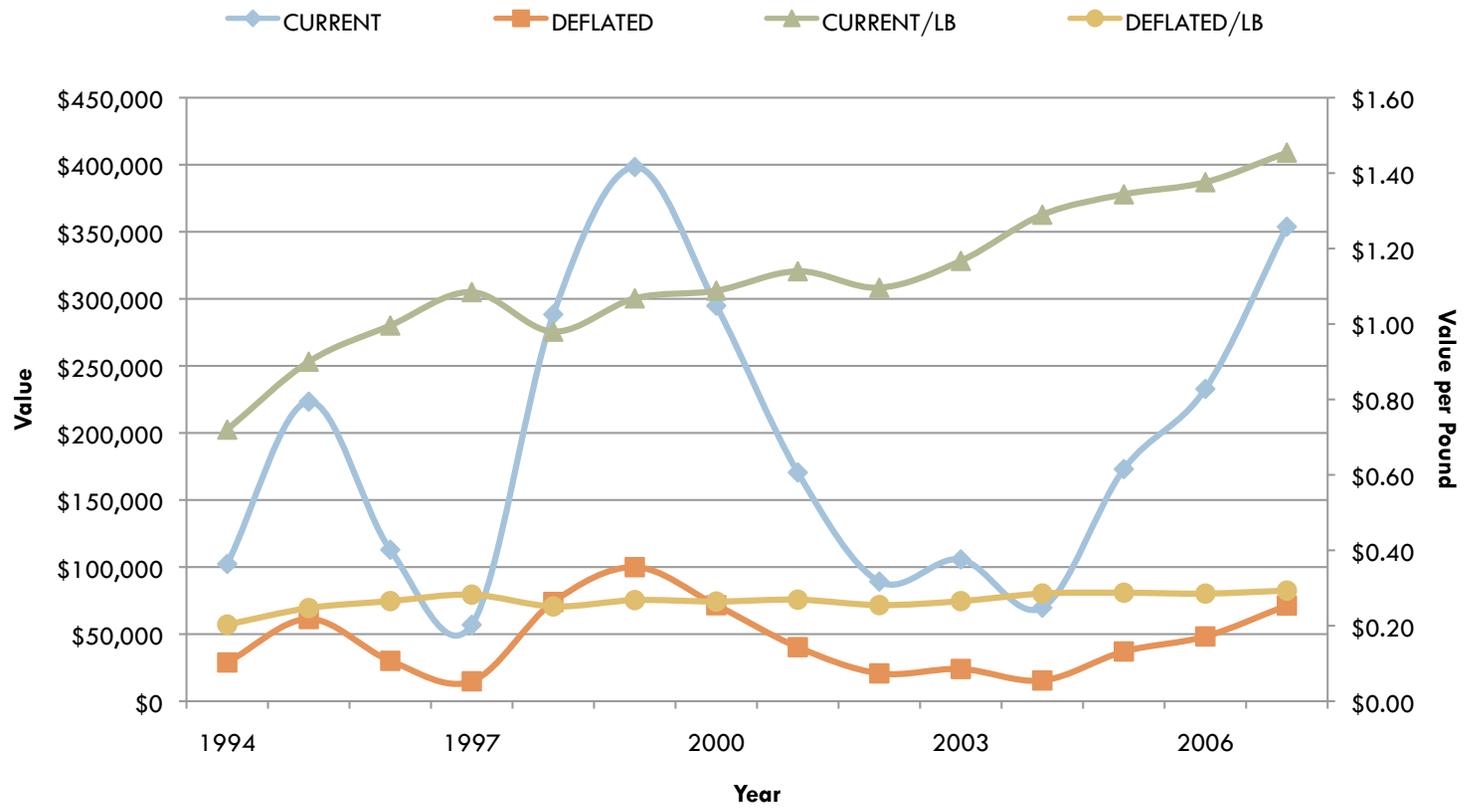
Groupers



Sea Bass



Red Drum

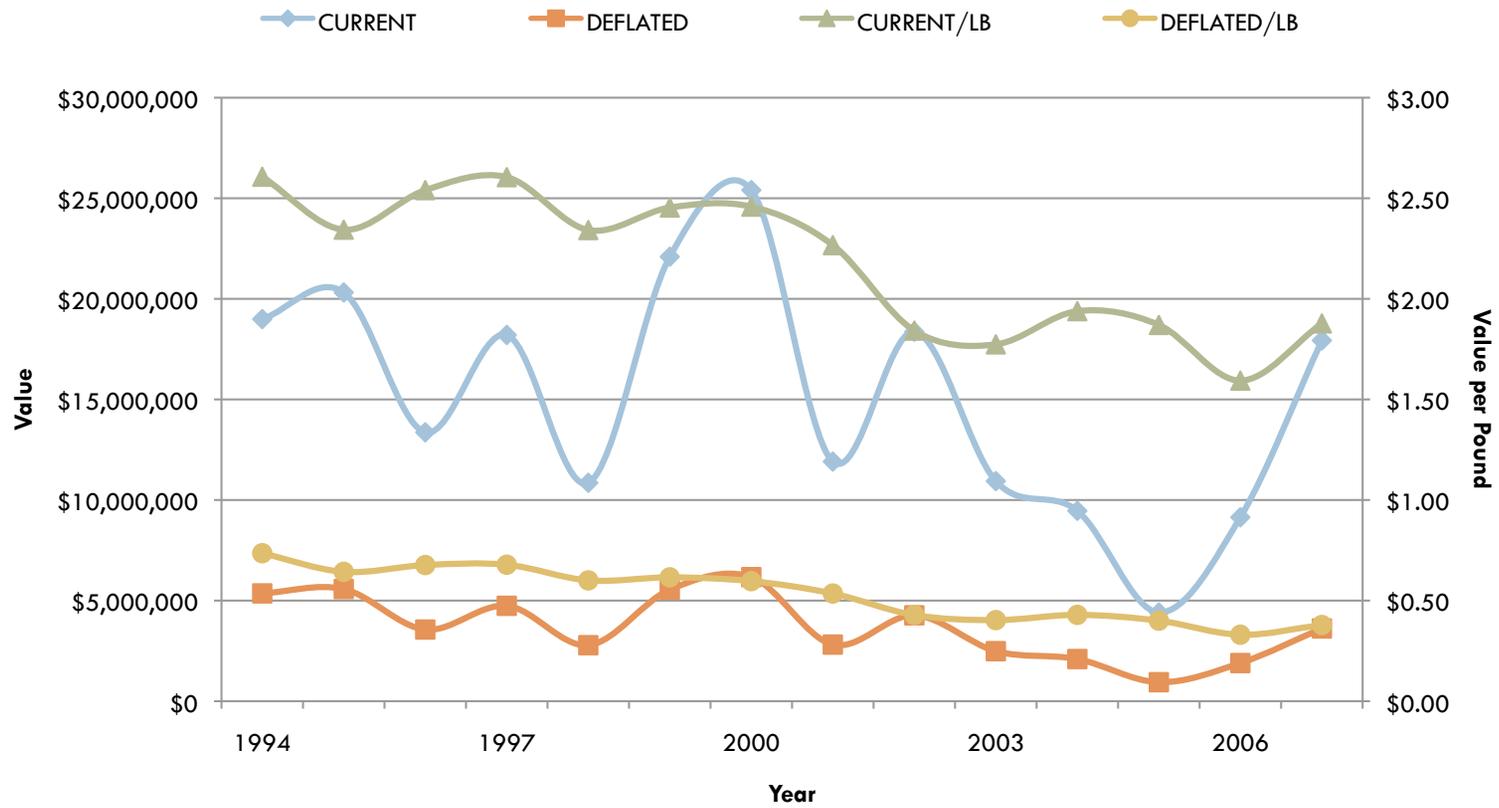


Some species are down



- Look at a wide variety of landed species and you notice that:
 - ▣ Some species have had a decline in price per pound, and catch for some of those species has been declining. Examples: shrimp.

Shrimp

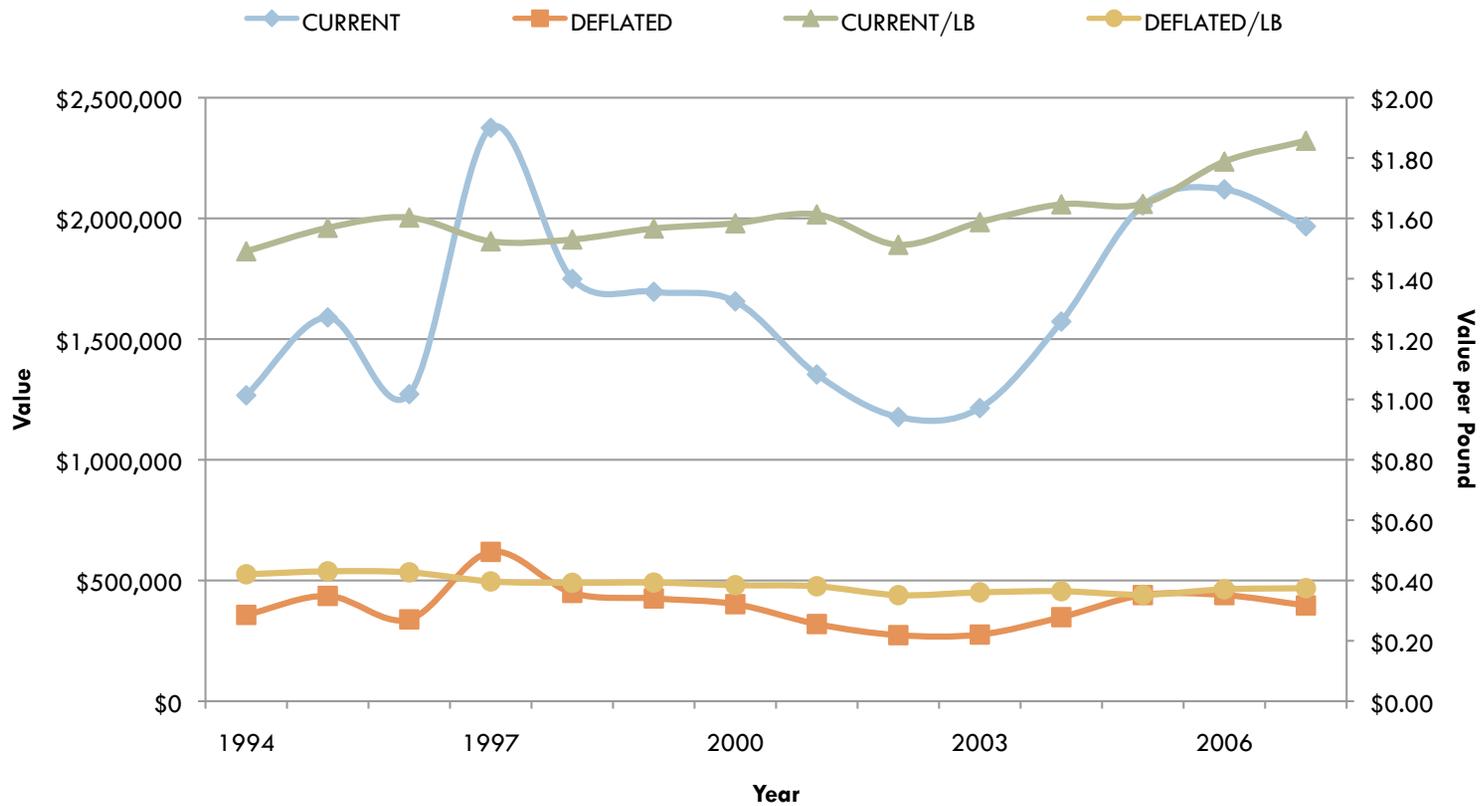


Some just fluctuate

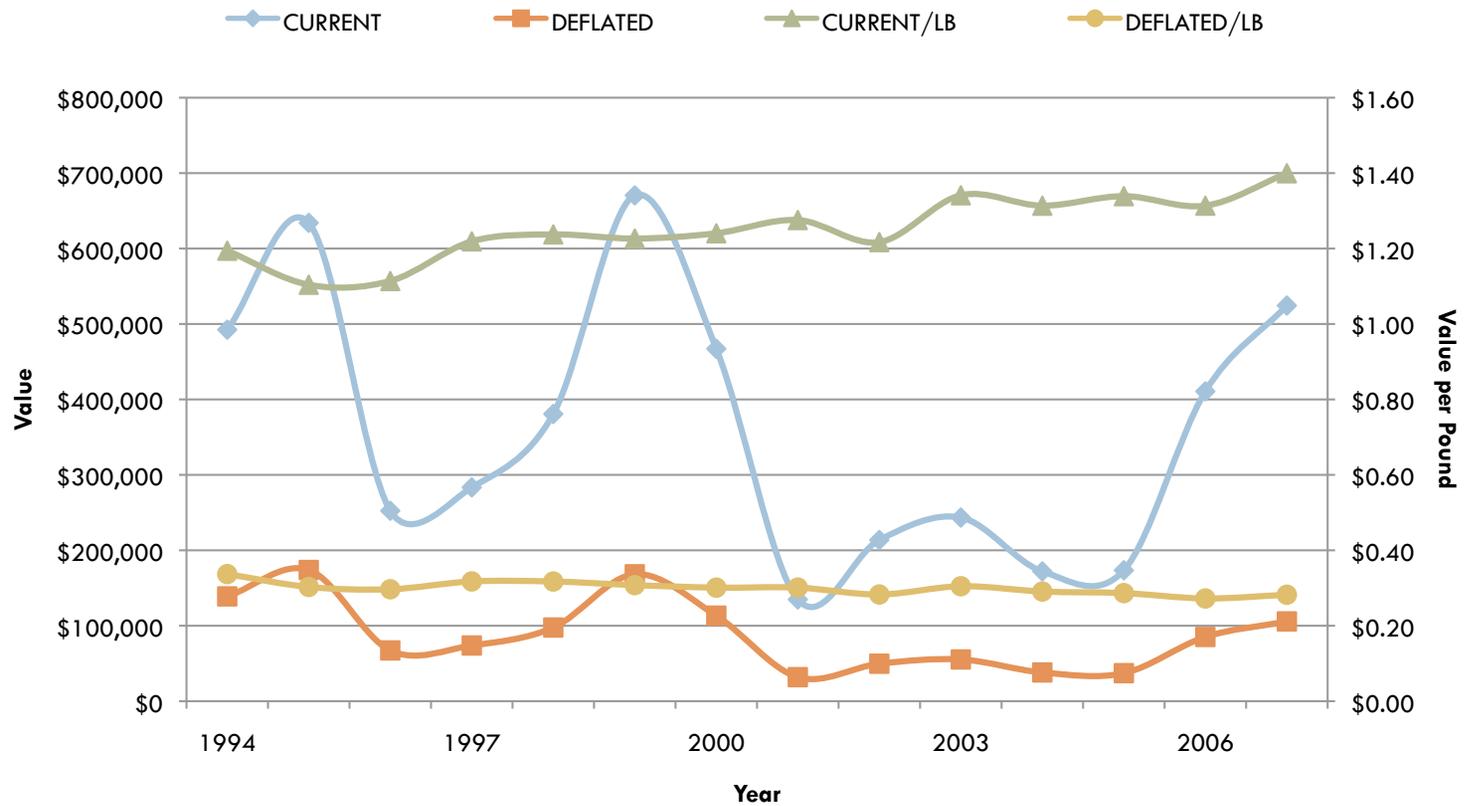


- Some species have no discernable pattern of change from year to year, in either price or landings

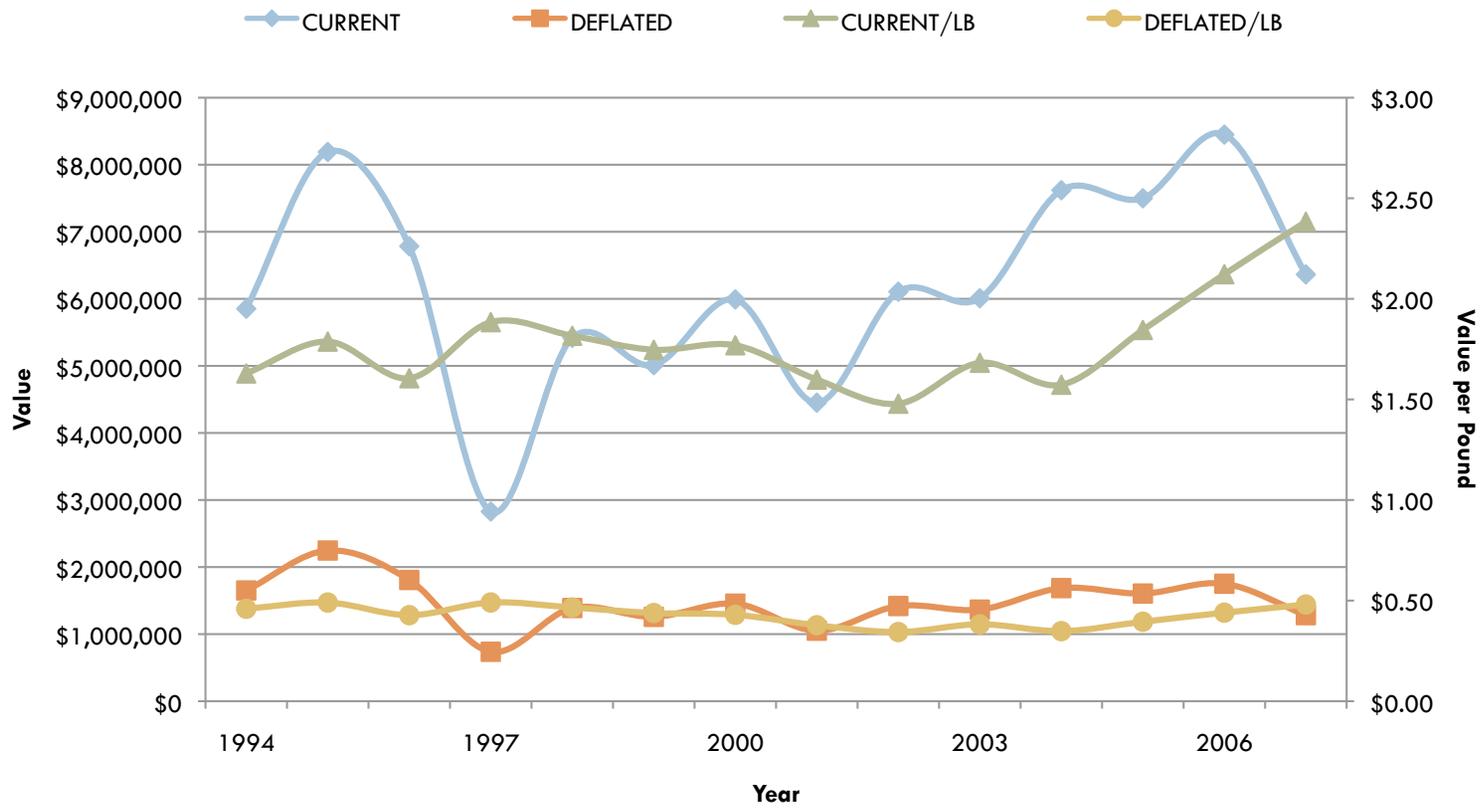
King Mackerel



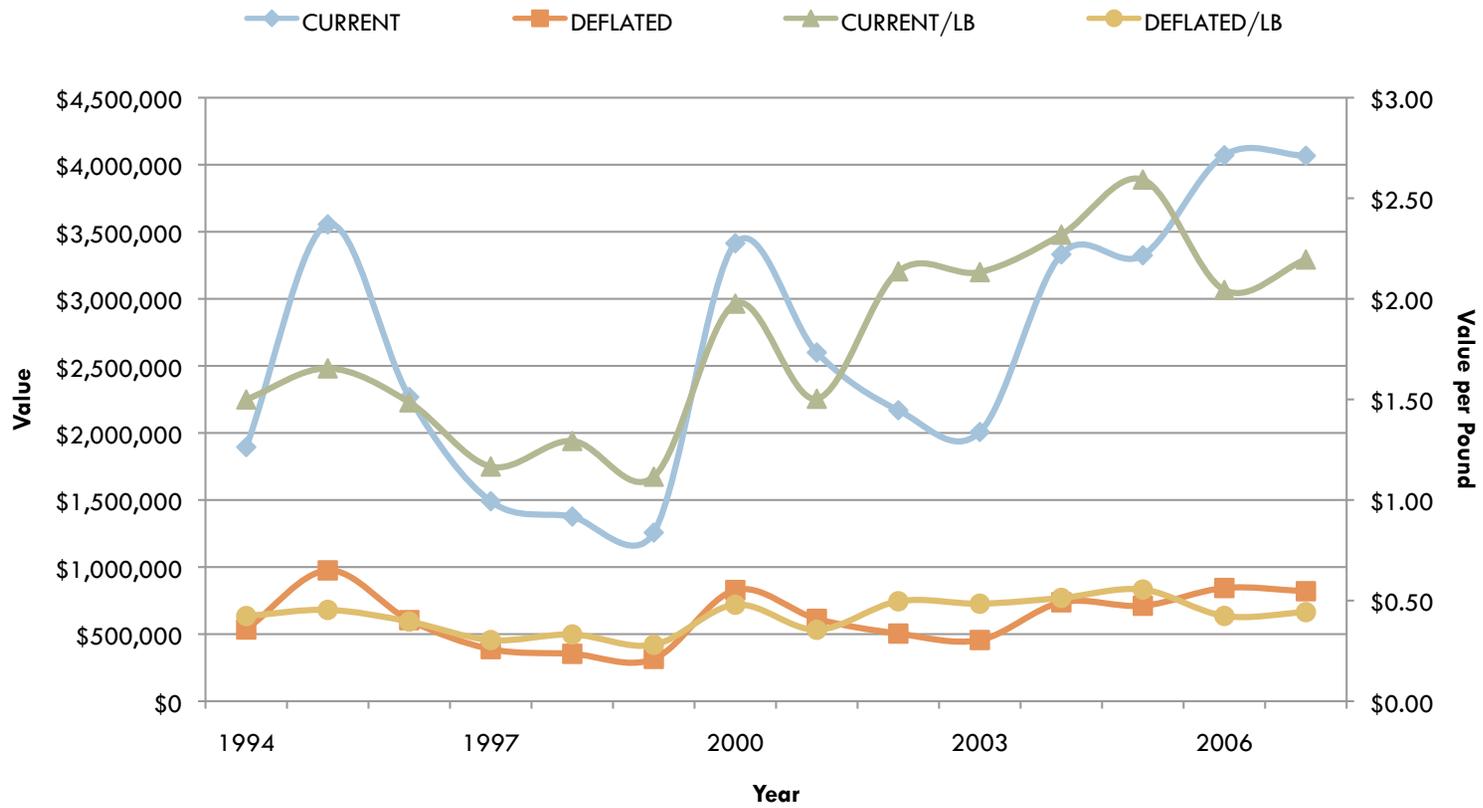
Speck



Summer Flounder



Tunas



Conclusions



- Species that are regulated at the federal level tend to fetch higher prices than state-managed species
- Shellfish were more valuable overall than finfish for most of the past two decades, but declining prices and landings are affecting that relationship
- Although pounds landed has declined, overall value has not declined as drastically and may be rising as fishermen pursue more lucrative species
- From a dealer's perspective, the best strategy may be to sell higher-value species or find ways to get more for lower-value species