



FISHERIES OCCASIONAL PUBLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES COMMUNITY SURVEY 2005

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ABSTRACT

A telephone survey of the Western Australian public was conducted to assess the level of success of programs implemented by the Department of Fisheries. The sample comprised of 700 interviews, 422 in the metropolitan area and 278 in regional areas throughout the State.

This community survey was used to determine the level of recall and awareness of the Department of Fisheries, the understanding and support of the community for the Department of Fisheries' management strategies and to examine key aspects of community participation in recreational fishing.

It is estimated that the overall participation rate for recreational fishing in Western Australia is 537,587 individuals or 31.1 per cent of the total population.

An overall satisfaction-scoring index has been developed to measure and monitor the satisfaction of recreational fishers in Western Australia. The satisfaction index is a combination of knowledge, management, and confidence. The satisfaction index for recreational fishing was 74.6 per cent.

The satisfaction rating of the broader community relates to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives. The Department of Fisheries was given a satisfaction rate of 83.7 per cent by the Western Australian public.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

A community survey of the Western Australian public was conducted to assess the level of success of programs implemented by the Department of Fisheries.

The objectives of the research were to:

- Assess the level of recall and awareness of the Department of Fisheries' informational and promotional activities.
- Assess the understanding and support of the community for the Department of Fisheries' management strategies across all programs (Recreational Fisheries, Commercial Fisheries, Fish and Fish Habitat Protection, and Aquaculture and Pearling).
- Examine key aspects of community fishing such as satisfaction with the quality of recreational fishing and knowledge of the rules that apply.

2.0 METHOD

The survey was conducted by telephone during May 2005. The fieldwork was conducted by Asset Research. Telephone numbers were selected randomly from the DTMS white pages on CD-ROM. Respondents were males and females older than 17 years and residing in Western Australia. The sample comprised:

- 422 metropolitan interviews; and
- 278 regional interviews.

The same questionnaire (Appendix A) and answer sheet (Appendix B) were used for all respondents.

All data was entered into a Microsoft Access database. Analysis was performed using Microsoft Excel. Graphs were produced using SigmaPlot.

3.0 RESULTS

3.1 Participation rate in recreational fishing

Recreational fishing in Western Australia includes angling, crabbing, prawning, spearfishing, fishing for rock lobsters, as well as the collection of shellfish such as abalone or aquarium fish. It is estimated that the overall participation rate for recreational fishing in Western Australia is 536,368 individuals or 31.0 per cent of the total population.

The 2005 participation rate for recreational fishing is calculated as follows:

Metropolitan area:

Sample size for males in Perth metropolitan area	=	208
The participation rate for metropolitan males (Table 4)	=	0.303
Sample size for females in Perth metropolitan area	=	214
The participation rate for metropolitan females (Table 4)	=	0.206

Regional areas (non metropolitan areas):

Sample size for males in regional areas	=	140
The participation rate for regional males (Table 4)	=	0.550
Sample size for females in regional areas	=	138
The participation rate for regional females (Table 4)	=	0.370

Assumption: Persons aged from 0 to 4 years do not participate in recreational fishing.

ABS population figures 2001 (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2002):

Number of males in the Perth metropolitan area	=	656,798
Number of females in the Perth metropolitan area	=	683,195
Number of males in regional areas	=	265,470
Number of females in regional areas	=	245,789
Males aged 0 – 4 in metropolitan area	=	43,879
Females aged 0 – 4 in metropolitan area	=	41,504
Males aged 0 – 4 in regional areas	=	19,197
Females aged 0 – 4 in regional areas	=	18,129

Hence the number of persons participating in recreational fishing is calculated as follows:

- + 0.303(656,798 43,879)
- + 0.206 (683,195 41,504)
- + 0.550 (265,470 19,197)
- + 0.370(245,789 18,129)
- = 537,587

The participation rate is calculated as follows:

Number of persons participating / population aged 5 years and over

- = 537,587 / 1,728,543
- = 0.311

Hence, the overall participation rate in recreational fishing for residents of Western Australia was 31.1 per cent.

95 per cent confidence interval for participation rate and number participating

The 95 per cent confidence interval for the participation rate in recreational fishing is between 27.7 per cent and 34.5 per cent. The 95 per cent confidence interval for the number of persons participating in recreational fishing is between 478,806 and 596,347.

Comparison of participation rate with previous years

The participation rate was 31 per cent in 2005 (Table 1). The variation in the estimates of participation rate is largely due to the different way that the data was collected and the participation rate calculated (Figure 1).

Table 1: Participation rate for recreational fishing

Source	Year	Participation Rate %	Mean No. of days/trips per year
ABS	1987	27	
Patterson Research	1994	35	9.5 trips
Reark Research	1996	51	
Reark Research	1997	36	19 days
Right Marketing	1998	45	25 days
Research Division	1999	34	18 days
Research Division	2000	35	19 days
Research Division	2001	37	16 days
Research Division	2002	34	18 days
Research Division	2003	35	16 days
Research Division	2004	31	13 days
Asset Research	2005	31	6 days

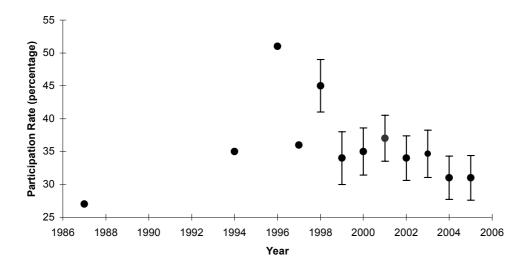


Figure 1: Participation rate for recreational fishing

Days Fished

The number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months ranges from one to 60 days. The mean number of days fishing was six days and the median three days. The majority of recreational fishers in Western Australia fished between one and five days. However, some fished for considerably more days giving a skewed frequency distribution (Figure 2). It is likely that the number of days fished has been overstated due

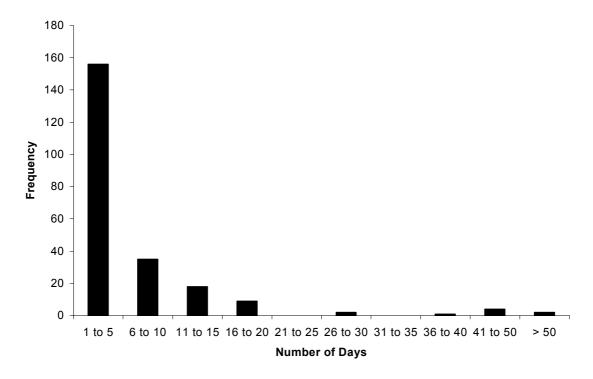


Figure 2: Frequency distribution of number of days fished

to the inability of respondents to accurately recall past fishing trips over a 12-month period.

The median number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months was three days (Figure 3). The median number of days fished appears to be lower than in previous years, however, the trend will become apparent in future years when more data is available.

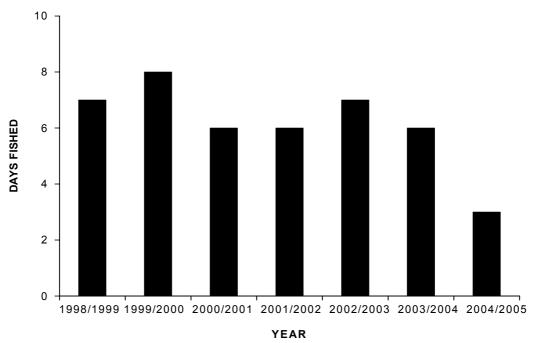


Figure 3: Median number of days fished

3.2 Satisfaction Index

An overall satisfaction-scoring index has been developed to measure and monitor the satisfaction of recreational fishers in Western Australia.

The satisfaction rate is a combination of *Knowledge, Management*, and *Confidence*.

Knowledge = the level of the person's awareness of biology and behaviour of fish and the best way to catch fish.

Management = the level of the person's awareness of rules and regulations.

Confidence = the level of the person's satisfaction with the number, size and variety of fish caught on their last trip and satisfaction with the overall fishing trip.

Satisfaction Index = Mean(Knowledge + Management + Confidence)

- = (q9 + q10 (a to c) + q11 (a to e)) / 9
- = (0.918 + 0.671 + 0.754 + 0.786 + 0.615 + 0.612 + 0.599 + 0.919 + 0.842)/9
- = 0.746
- = 74.6%

(Note: Responses of the "can't say"/ "neither" type were excluded from the calculation of the satisfaction rate)

Table 2: Satisfaction Index

	Number o	f Satisfaction	
	Respondents	%	
Knowledge			
Habitat and behaviour	219	0.671	Knowledgeabl e
Ways to catch fish	224	0.754	Knowledgeabl e
Management			
Bag and size limits	224	0.786	Knowledgeabl e
Awareness of rules and regulations	695	0.918	Knowledgeabl e
Confidence			
Number of fish caught	221	0.615	Satisfied
Variety of fish caught	214	0.612	Satisfied
Size of fish caught	217	0.599	Satisfied
Environment where fishing	222	0.919	Satisfied
Overall fishing trip	221	0.984	Satisfied
Satisfaction Index		0.746	

The satisfaction index for recreational fishing was 74.6 per cent (Table 2) with a 95 per cent confidence interval between 72.8 per cent and 76.4 per cent. The satisfaction index is significantly lower than the value of 81.4 per cent reported by the 2004 Community Survey (Baharthah, 2004).

This was primarily due to a decrease in the proportion of respondents who were very satisfied with the number, variety and size of their catch and the environment where fishing and a decrease in the proportion of respondents who were very knowledgeable about the habitat and ways to catch fish. It is also due to a decrease in the proportion of respondents who were very satisfied with the overall fishing trip.

3.3 Satisfaction Rate

The satisfaction rating of the broader community relates to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives.

Satisfaction Rate = Mean (Managing commercial fishing

- + Managing recreational fishing
- + Protection of fish habitat
- + Managing aquaculture and pearling
- + Fair allocation of resources between groups)

$$= (q4b + q5b + q6b + q7b + q8) / 5$$

$$= (0.867 + 0.818 + 0.799 + 0.915 + 0.789) / 5$$

- = 0.837
- = 83.7%

(Note: Responses of the "can't say"/ "neither" type were excluded from the calculation of the satisfaction rate)

The following results are from the 53.5 per cent of respondents who knew the Department of Fisheries was responsible for one or more of the four sub-programs.

Table 3: Satisfaction Rate

	Number of respondents	Satisfaction %
Commercial Fisheries	196	0.867
Recreational Fishing	181	0.818
Fish Habitat Protection	139	0.799
Aquaculture and Pearling	94	0.915
Allocation of Resources	199	0.789
Satisfaction Rate		0.837

The Department of Fisheries was given a satisfaction rate of 83.7 per cent by the Western Australian public (Table 3). The 95 per cent confidence interval for the satisfaction rate is between 81.2 per cent and 86.3 per cent. The satisfaction rate is not significantly different to the value of 83.9 per cent reported by the 2004 Community Survey (Baharthah, 2004).

Overall, in terms of recreational fishing, commercial fishing, aquaculture and fish habitat protection, 83.7 per cent of the community rated the Department of Fisheries' performance as good.

3.4 General fishing background

Question 1

In question 1, respondents were asked: "Thinking back over the last twelve months, have you done any recreational fishing, including angling, crabbing, prawning, spearfishing, collecting abalone or aquarium fish?"

Male respondents in regional areas were most likely to participate in recreational fishing during the last twelve months (Table 4).

Table 4: Participation in recreational fishing

	Male	Female
Perth metropolitan area	0.303	0.206
Regional areas	0.550	0.370

3.5 Fishing involvement during the last twelve months

Question 2

In question 2, respondents were asked: "In the last 12 months, in what areas have you been fishing? How many days did you go fishing?"

Around 84 per cent of fishers went fishing in the West Coast bioregion, which includes the Perth metropolitan area, totalling around 5.5 million days' fishing effort (Table 5).

Table 5: Fishing effort in Bioregions

Bioregion	Mean Day Fished	ys % Participating	Effort (days)	% Effort
South Coast – Marine	5	27	760,500	11
Southern Inland - Freshwater	4	6	138,500	2
West Coast (inc. PMA)	12	85	5,502,000	80
Gascoyne	7	7	252,000	4
Pilbara / Kimberley – Marine	7	4	161,000	2
Pilbara / Kimberley – Freshwater	4	3	52,000	1
Total			6,866,000	100

The Perth Metropolitan area attracted 50 per cent of fishers (Table 6).

Table 6: Fishing effort in West Coast

Area	Mean Days Fished	% Participating	Effort (days)	% Effort
Perth Metropolitan Area (PMA) only	12	40	2,481,000	36
West Coast other than PMA only	10	35	1,884,000	27
Both PMA and West Coast	22	10	1,137,000	17
Total			5,502,000	80

It is likely that the mean number of days fished has been overstated due to the inability of respondents to accurately recall past fishing trips over a 12-month period.

The fishing effort in days will also be overstated since it is calculated from the mean number of days fished. The percentage effort column provides a more meaningful breakdown of recreational fishing effort by bioregion.

All Areas of the State

The number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months ranges from one to 60 days. The mean number of days fished was 6 days and the median was three days. Around 68.7 per cent of fishers went fishing between one and five days and 15.4

per cent fished between six and ten days. However, some fished for considerably more days giving a skewed distribution.

3.6 Viewing fish and the marine environment

Question 3

In question 3, respondents were asked: "Also, thinking back over the last twelve months, have you gone snorkelling or diving just to look at fish and the marine environment rather than to capture fish or other animals?"

Around 24 per cent of respondents went snorkelling or diving just to view fish and the marine environment (Table 7).

Table 7: Viewing fish and the marine environment

	Count	%
Yes	165	23.6
No	532	76.1
Can't Say	2	0.3
Total	699	100

3.7 Awareness and impression of the Department of Fisheries

Question 4a

In question 4a, respondents were asked: "Who, if anyone, do you think is responsible for managing commercial fishing in Western Australia?"

The Department of Fisheries was recognised by 45.1 per cent as responsible for managing commercial fishing in Western Australia and 28.8 per cent of respondents did not know who was responsible (Table 8).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 8: Organisations responsible for commercial fishing

	Count	%
Department of Fisheries	315	45.1
Don't Know	201	28.8
State Government	153	21.9
Other	21	3.0
CALM	20	2.9
Department of Agriculture	8	1.1
Marine & Harbours	4	0.6
Local council/shire	3	0.4

There has been a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the percentage of respondents that did not know who was responsible for the management of commercial fisheries over the past year and a significant increase in the percentage that said that the State Government and the Department of Fisheries was responsible (Figure 4).

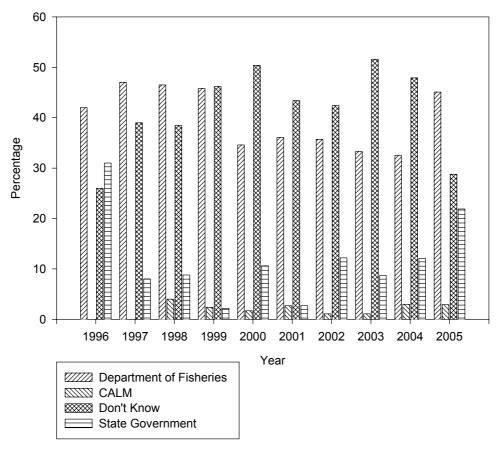


Figure 4: Organisations responsible for commercial fishing

Question 4b

"There are a number of rules and regulations in place, which limits catch size, allowable fishing days and designated areas to fish."

In question 4b, respondents were asked: "How would you rate the Department of Fisheries in their management of commercial fisheries?"

Of the respondents that knew that the Department of Fisheries was responsible for the management of commercial fisheries, 55.2 per cent gave a good or very good rating (Table 9).

Table 9: Management of commercial fisheries

	Count	%
Very Good	20	6.5
Good	150	48.7
Poor	17	5.5
Very Poor	9	2.9
Neither	6	2.0
Can't Say	106	34.4
Total	308	100

Over the last year, there was a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the proportion of very good responses and an increase in the proportion of good responses in the rating of the management of commercial fisheries (Figure 5).

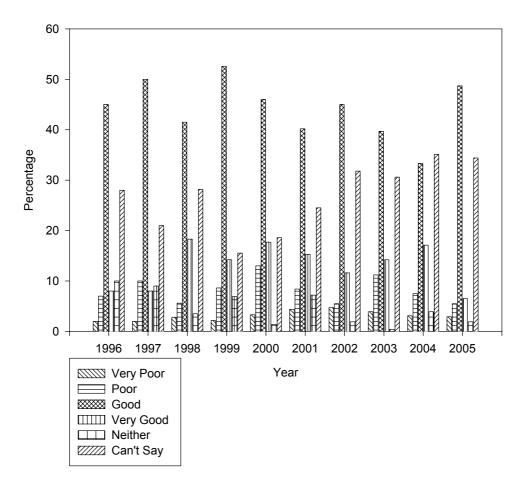


Figure 5: Management of commercial fisheries

Question 5a

In question 5a, respondents were asked: "Who, if anyone, is responsible for managing recreational fishing in Western Australia?"

The Department of Fisheries was recognised by 39.1 per cent of respondents as responsible for managing recreational fishing in Western Australia and 31.2 per cent of respondents did not know who was responsible (Table 10).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 10: Organisations responsible for recreational fishing

	Count	%
Department of Fisheries	273	39.1
Don't Know	218	31.2
State Government	156	22.3
Other	36	5.2
CALM	20	2.9
Local council/shire	11	1.6
Recfishwest	7	1.0
Department of Agriculture	3	0.4
Waters & Rivers Commission	1	0.3
Marine & Harbours	1	0.1

There has been a significant increase (p < 0.05) in the percentage of persons that said that the state government was responsible for managing recreational fishing (Figure 6).

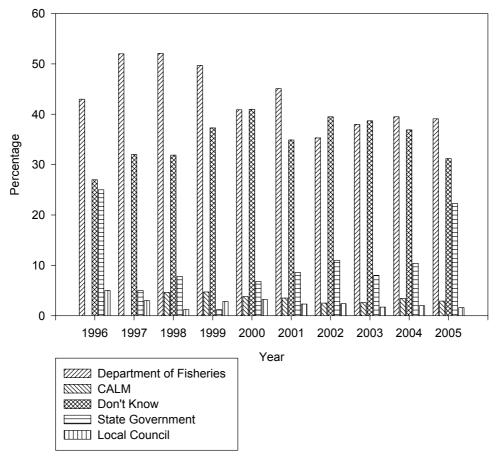


Figure 6: Organisations responsible for recreational fishing

Question 5b

In question 5b, respondents were asked: "How would you rate the Department of Fisheries in their management of recreational fisheries?"

Of the respondents that knew that the Department of Fisheries was responsible for recreational fishing, 56.2 per cent gave a good or very good rating (Table 11). A small

number of respondents (12.6 per cent) had a poor or very poor opinion of the Department of Fisheries performance.

Table 11: Management of recreational fishing

	Count	%
Very Good	17	6.4
Good	131	49.8
Poor	26	9.9
Very Poor	7	2.7
Neither	7	2.7
Can't Say	75	28.5
Total	263	100

Over the last year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the percentage of respondents that gave the Department of Fisheries a very good rating, with a corresponding increase in the percentage that gave a good rating (Figure 7).

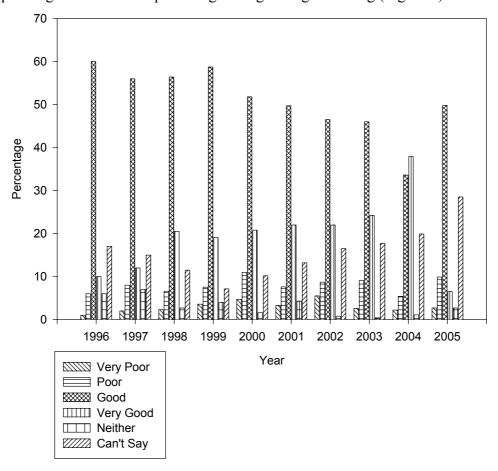


Figure 7: Management of recreational fishing

Question 6a

In question 6a, respondents were asked: "When you think about the fish habitat in oceans and waterways in Western Australia, that is, where fish live and breed, who do you think, if anyone, is responsible for protecting the fish habitat?"

The Department of Fisheries was recognised by 27.6 per cent of respondents as responsible for protecting the fish habitat (Table 12). A large number of respondents (21.3 per cent) did not know who was responsible.

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 12: Organisations responsible for fish habitat protection

	Count	%
Department of Fisheries	193	27.6
State Government	170	24.3
Don't Know	149	21.3
General Public	93	13.3
Other	74	10.6
CALM	70	10.0
Local council/shire	14	2.0
Waters & Rivers Commission	10	1.4
Marine & Harbours	7	1.0
Department of Agriculture	5	0.7

Over the last year there has been a significant change (p < 0.05) in the responses about who is responsible for protecting fish habitat protection. The percentage of 'don't know' responses decreased and the percentage of State Government responses increased (Figure 8).

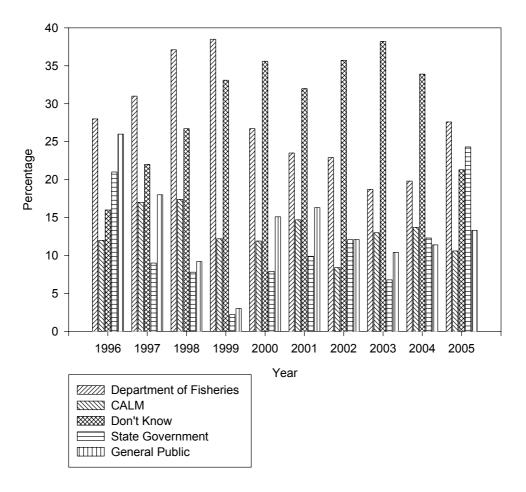


Figure 8: Organisations responsible for fish habitat protection

Question 6b

In question 6b, respondents were asked: "How would you rate the Department of Fisheries in their conservation and protection of the fish habitat?"

Of the respondents that knew that the Department of Fisheries was responsible for conservation and protection of fish habitat, 59.4 per cent gave a good or very good rating (Table 13). A smaller number of respondents (15.0 per cent) had a poor or very poor opinion of the Department of Fisheries' performance.

Table 13: Conservation and protection of fish habitat

	Count	%
Very Good	14	7.5
Good	97	51.9
Poor	22	11.8
Very Poor	6	3.2
Neither	6	3.2
Can't Say	42	22.4
Total	187	100

There has been no significant change in the rating of the conservation and protection of fish habitat by Department of Fisheries over the past two years (Figure 9).

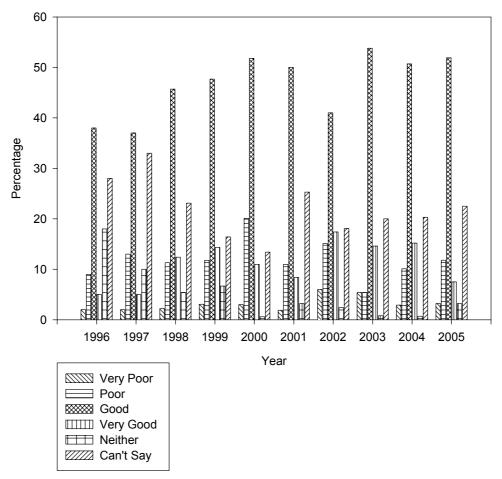


Figure 9: Conservation and protection of fish habitat

Question 7a

In question 7a, respondents were asked: "When you think about aquaculture, pearling, or fish farming in Western Australia, who do you think, if anyone, is responsible for managing aquaculture?"

A high proportion of respondents (35.0 per cent) did not know who was responsible for the management of aquaculture (Table 14). However, the Department of Fisheries was recognised by 194 people - 27.6 per cent of the respondents - as responsible for the management of aquaculture in Western Australia.

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 14: Organisations responsible for managing aquaculture

	Count	%
Other	294	41.9
Don't Know	246	35.0
Department of Fisheries	194	27.6
State Government	148	21.1
Private Industry	57	8.1
Department of Agriculture	25	3.6
CALM	20	2.8
Local council/shire	4	0.6
Marine & Harbours	4	0.6
Waters & Rivers Commission	3	0.4

Over the last year there has been a significant change (p < 0.05) in the responses about who is responsible for managing aquaculture and pearling. The percentage of 'don't know' responses decreased and the percentage of State Government responses increased (Figure 10).

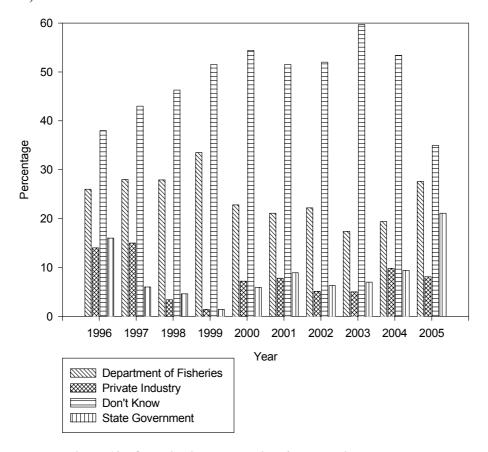


Figure 10: Organisations responsible for managing aquaculture

Question 7b

"The Department of Fisheries provides information such as advising on technology, identifying suitable sites and conducting and supporting research."

In question 7b, respondents were asked: "How would you rate the Department of Fisheries in their management and development of aquaculture and pearling?"

Of the respondents that knew that the Department of Fisheries was responsible for the management of aquaculture, 47.5 per cent felt that the Department of Fisheries was doing a good or very good job (Table 15). A very small percentage (4.5 per cent) had a poor or very poor opinion of the Department of Fisheries' performance.

Table 15:	Management	and develo	pment of a	quaculture
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	Count	%
Very Good	12	6.6
Good	74	40.9
Poor	7	3.9
Very Poor	1	0.6
Neither	2	1.1
Don't Know	85	46.9
Total	181	100

There has been little change in the rating of the management and development of aquaculture and pearling over the past three years (Figure 11).

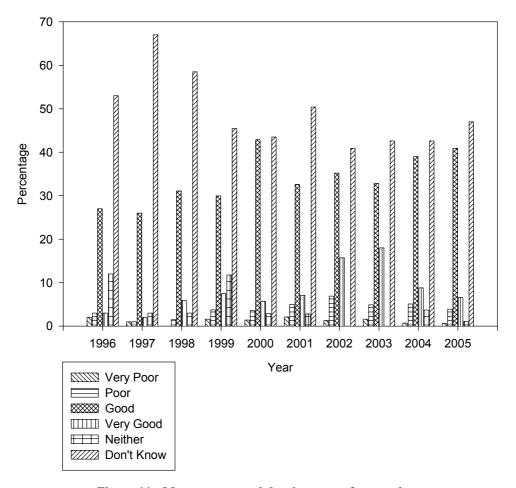


Figure 11: Management and development of aquaculture

3.8 Allocation of fish resources among the fishing sectors

Question 8

"The Department of Fisheries is responsible for recreational fishing, commercial fishing, aquaculture and protecting the fish habitat."

In question 8, respondents were asked: "In your opinion, do you think the Department of Fisheries manages the share of fish resources fairly between these sectors?"

Most respondents (56.3 per cent) thought that the Department of Fisheries allocates resources fairly between its sectors (Table 16). A large number of respondents (28.7 per cent) could not give an opinion.

Table 16: Opinion on allocation of resources

	Count	%
Yes	157	56.3
No	42	15.0
Can't Say	80	28.7
Total	279	100

Over the last year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the proportion of respondents who can't say whether the Department of Fisheries allocates resources fairly between sectors and a significant increase in the proportion of respondents who said that the Department of Fisheries does allocate the share of fish resources fairly between the sectors (Figure 12).

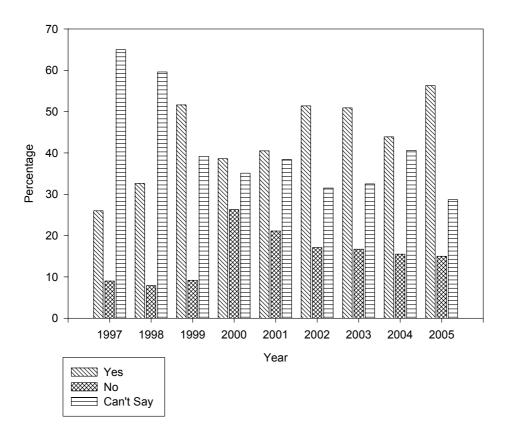


Figure 12: Opinion on allocation of resources

3.9 Awareness and opinion of fishing regulations

Question 9

In question 9, respondents were asked: "Before today, were you aware that there are recreational fishing rules that apply when fishing in Western Australian waters?"

The majority of respondents (91.8 per cent) were aware that there are recreational fishing rules that apply when fishing in Western Australia (Table 17).

Table 17: Knowledge of recreational fishing rules

	Count	%
Yes	638	91.8
No	57	8.2
Total	695	100

There has been a significant increase (p < 0.05) in the proportion of respondents that were not aware that recreational fishing rules apply in Western Australia (Figure 13).

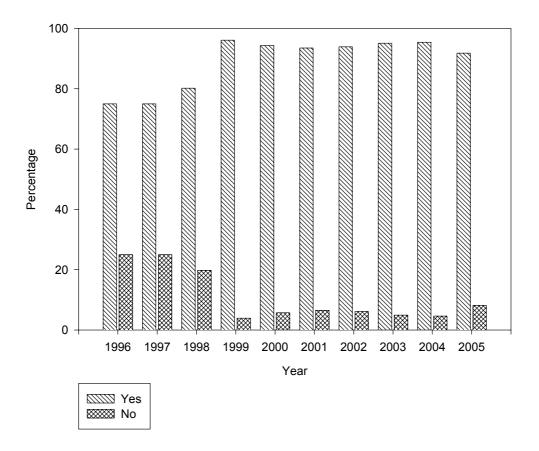


Figure 13: Knowledge of recreational fishing rules

3.10 Knowledge of recreational fishing regulations

Question 10a

In question 10a, respondents were asked: "Thinking back to the last time you went fishing, how knowledgeable were you of the bag and size limits of fish you were planning to catch?"

Most fishers responded that they were fairly knowledgeable or very knowledgeable (78.6 per cent) about the bag and size limits of the fish they were planning to catch (Table 18).

Table 18: Knowledge of bag and size limits

	Count	%
Very Knowledgeable	85	38.0
Fairly Knowledgeable	91	40.6
Not Very Knowledgeable	48	21.4
Total	224	100

Over the past year, there was no significant change in the knowledge of fishers regarding the bag and size limits of the fish they were planning to catch (Figure 14).

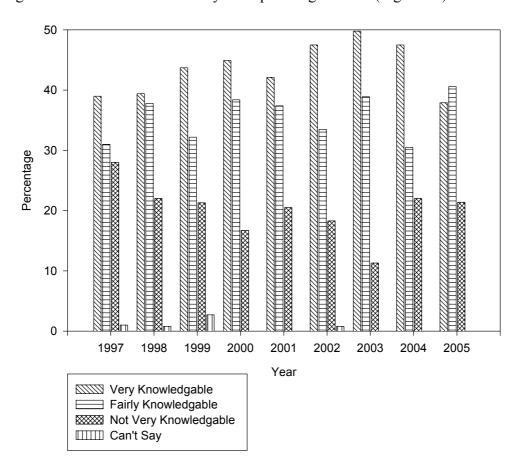


Figure 14: Knowledge of bag and size limits

Question 10b

In question 10b, respondents were asked: "How knowledgeable were you on the best ways to catch the fish you were after (e.g. method, bait, hooks)?"

Most fishers responded that they were very knowledgeable (32.1 per cent) or fairly knowledgeable (43.3 per cent) about the best ways to catch the fish they were after (Table 19).

Table 19: Knowledge of best ways to catch fish

	Count	%
Very Knowledgeable	72	32.1
Fairly Knowledgeable	97	43.3
Not Very Knowledgeable	55	24.6
Total	224	100

Over the past year there was a significant (p < 0.05) decrease in the proportion of fishers that were very knowledgeable and an increase in the proportion of fishers that were fairly knowledgeable about the best ways to catch fish (Figure 15).

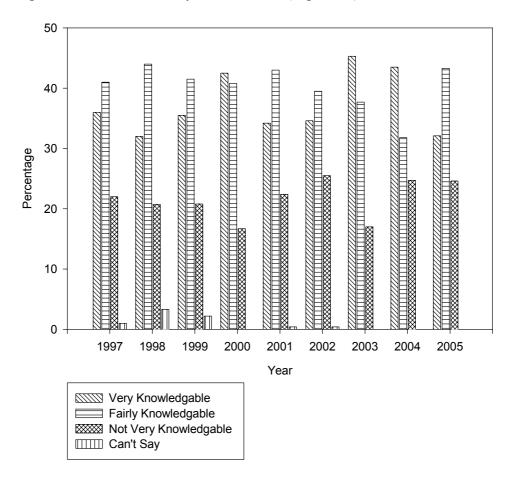


Figure 15: Knowledge of best ways to catch fish

Question 10c

In question 10c, respondents were asked: "How knowledgeable were you on the habits of the fish you were after (e.g. where found, when feeding)?"

A high proportion of fishers responded that they were fairly knowledgeable (42.2 per cent) about the habits of the fish they were after (Table 20).

Table 20: Knowledge of habits and behaviour of fish

	Count	%
Very Knowledgeable	53	23.8
Fairly Knowledgeable	94	42.2
Not Very Knowledgeable	72	32.2
Can't Say	4	1.8
Total	223	100

Over the past year there was a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the proportion of fishers that were very knowledgeable and an increase in the proportion of fishers that were fairly knowledgeable about the habits and behaviour of the fish they were after (Figure 16).

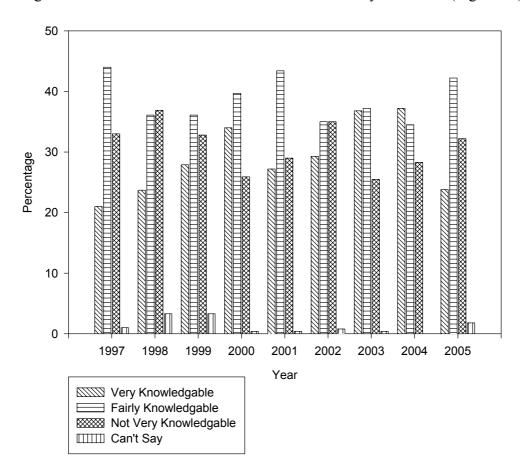


Figure 16: Knowledge of habits and behaviour of fish

3.11 Satisfaction with most recent fishing trip

Question 11a

In question 11a, respondents were asked: "Thinking back to the last time you went fishing, how satisfied were you with the number of fish you caught?"

A high proportion of respondents (60.7 per cent) were satisfied or very satisfied with the number of fish caught in their last fishing trip (Table 21).

Table 21: Satisfaction with the number of fish caught

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	31	13.8
Satisfied	105	46.9
Dissatisfied	51	22.8
Very Dissatisfied	34	15.2
Neither	2	0.9
Can't Say	1	0.4
Total	224	100

Over the past year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.01) in the proportion of respondents that were very satisfied with the number of the fish caught (Figure 17).

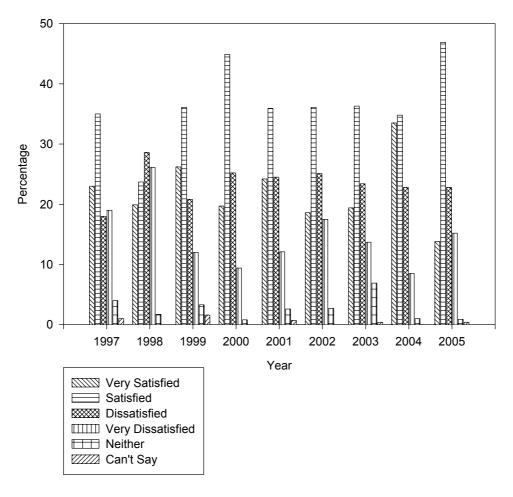


Figure 17: Satisfaction with the number of fish caught

Question 11b

In question 11b, respondents were asked: "How satisfied were you with the variety of fish caught?"

Most fishers (58.8 per cent) were satisfied or very satisfied with the variety of fish caught (Table 22).

Table 22: Satisfaction with the variety of fish caught

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	26	11.7
Satisfied	105	47.1
Dissatisfied	54	24.2
Very Dissatisfied	29	13.0
Neither	6	2.7
Can't Say	3	1.3
Total	223	100

Over the past year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.01) in the proportion of respondents that were very satisfied with the variety of the fish caught (Figure 18).

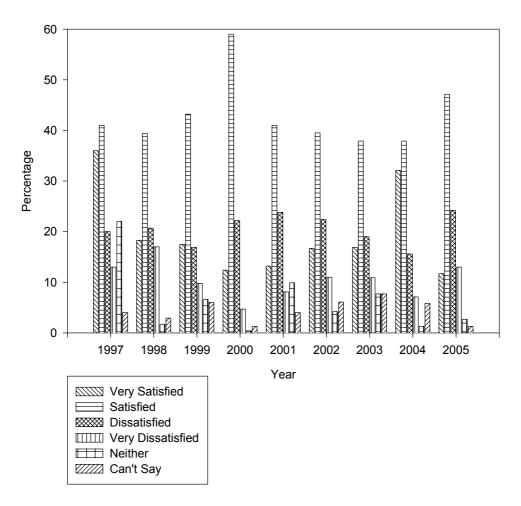


Figure 18: Satisfaction with the variety of fish caught

Question 11c

In question 11c, respondents were asked: "How satisfied were you with the size of the fish caught?"

Most fishers (58.3 per cent) were satisfied or very satisfied with the size of fish caught (Table 23).

Table 23: Satisfaction with the size of fish caught

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	27	12.1
Satisfied	103	46.2
Dissatisfied	57	25.6
Very Dissatisfied	30	13.4
Neither	4	1.8
Can't Say	2	0.9
Total	223	100

Over the past year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.01) in the proportion of respondents that were very satisfied with the size of fish caught (Figure 19).

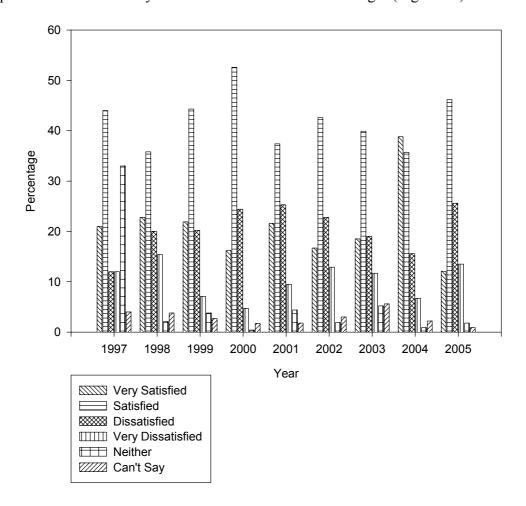


Figure 19: Satisfaction with the size of fish caught

Question 11d

In question 11d, respondents were asked: "How satisfied were you with the environment where you were fishing?"

Most fishers (91.5 per cent) were very satisfied with the environment where they were fishing (Table 24).

Table 24: Satisfaction with the environment where fishing

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	106	47.5
Satisfied	98	44.0
Dissatisfied	14	6.3
Very Dissatisfied	4	1.8
Neither	1	0.4
Total	223	100

Over the past year there has been a significant increase (p < 0.05) in the proportion of respondents that were satisfied with the size of fish caught and a decrease in the proportion that were very satisfied with the size of fish caught (Figure 20).

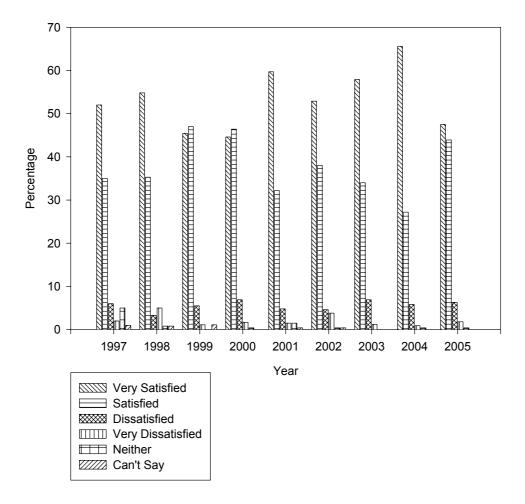


Figure 20: Satisfaction with the environment where fishing

Question 11e

In question 11e, respondents were asked: "Thinking of the trip overall, how satisfied were you with that fishing trip?"

Most fishers (52.7 per cent) were satisfied with the overall fishing trip (Table 25).

Table 25: Satisfaction with the overall trip

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	69	31.1
Satisfied	117	52.7
Dissatisfied	25	11.3
Very Dissatisfied	10	4.5
Neither	1	0.4
Total	222	100

Over the last year there has been a significant decrease (p < 0.05) in the proportion of fishers that were very satisfied with their overall fishing trip (Figure 21), together with a corresponding increase in the proportion that were satisfied.

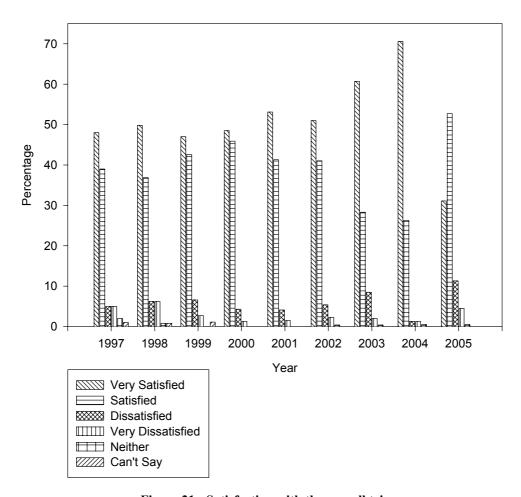


Figure 21: Satisfaction with the overall trip

3.12 Information about recreational fishing

Question 12a

In question 12a, respondents were asked: "Thinking about fishing regulations and other information to do with recreational fishing in W.A.... where do you find out about things to do with fishing?"

Half the fishers asked other fishers (52.2 per cent) about fishing regulations and other information to do with recreational fishing in Western Australia (Table 26).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 26: Information about fishing

	Count	%
Other fishers	117	52.2
Department of Fisheries brochures / publications	87	38.8
Newspapers	52	23.2
Tackle shops	48	21.4
Other	23	10.3
Fishing magazines	14	6.3
Department of Fisheries internet web site	13	5.8
Other fishing web sites	12	5.4
Department of Fisheries shows / displays	10	4.5
Television	10	4.5
Clubs / associations	7	3.1
Radio	6	2.7
None	4	1.8
Volunteer Fisheries Liaison Officers	2	0.9

Some detail was collected about the ways fishers gain their information. Unfortunately, this information was very sparse.

Some fishers used the *Western Angler* magazine, the *West Australian* newspaper, the *Sunday Times* newspaper, local newspapers and the ABC to gain information about recreational fishing.

Question 12b

In question 12b, respondents were asked: "Which of these is the main way you find out about these things?

Asking other fishers was the main way that a large number of respondents (41.2 per cent) found out about fishing regulations and other information to do with recreational fishing (Table 27).

Table 27: Main way information about fishing is found

	Count	%
Other fishers	80	41.2
Department of Fisheries brochures / publications	39	20.1
Newspapers	25	12.9
Tackle shops	23	11.9
Other	7	3.6
Department of Fisheries shows / displays	5	2.6
Fishing magazines	4	2.1
Other fishing web sites	4	2.1
Clubs / associations	3	1.5
Department of Fisheries web site	2	1.0
Television	2	1.0
Total	194	100

3.13 Contact with the Department of Fisheries

Question 13a

In question 13a, respondents were asked: "During the past twelve months have you contacted the Department of Fisheries for any reason?"

Only 7.7 per cent of respondents had contacted the Department of Fisheries in the past twelve months (Table 28).

Table 28: Contacted the Department of Fisheries

	Count	%
Yes	54	7.7
No	636	91.0
Don't Know	9	1.3
Total	699	100

Over the past ten years, there has been little change in the percentage of respondents that had contacted the Department of Fisheries (Figure 22).

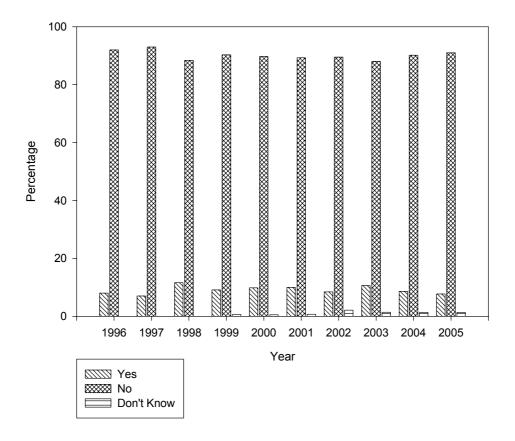


Figure 22: Contacted the Department of Fisheries

Question 13b

In question 13b, respondents were asked: "How did you make contact with the Department of Fisheries?"

Of the 54 people that contacted the Department of Fisheries in the past twelve months, 38.9 per cent contacted them in person and 38.9 per cent contacted them by telephone (Table 29).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 29: Ways contacted the Department of Fisheries

	Count	%
In person	21	38.9
Telephone	21	38.9
Internet	7	13.0
Mail	3	5.6
Email	3	5.6

There has been little change in the way respondents have contacted the Department of Fisheries over the past two years (Figure 23).

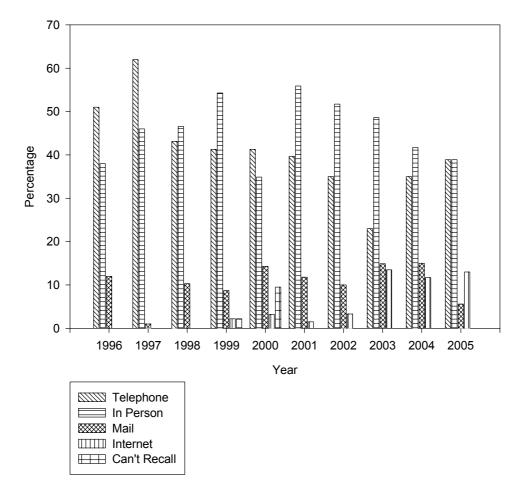


Figure 23: Ways contacted the Department of Fisheries

Question 13c

In question 13c, respondents were asked: "Considering all aspects of your contact with the Department of Fisheries, overall, how satisfied were you with the level of service you received?"

The majority of respondents that had contacted the Department of Fisheries were satisfied (43.1 per cent) or very satisfied (35.3 per cent) with the level of service they received (Table 30).

Table 30: Satisfaction with level of service

	Count	%
Very Satisfied	18	35.3
Satisfied	22	43.1
Dissatisfied	6	11.8
Very Dissatisfied	4	7.8
Can't Say	1	2.0
Total	51	100

Over the past year, there has been a slight increase in the proportion that was dissatisfied with the level of service they received (Figure 24).

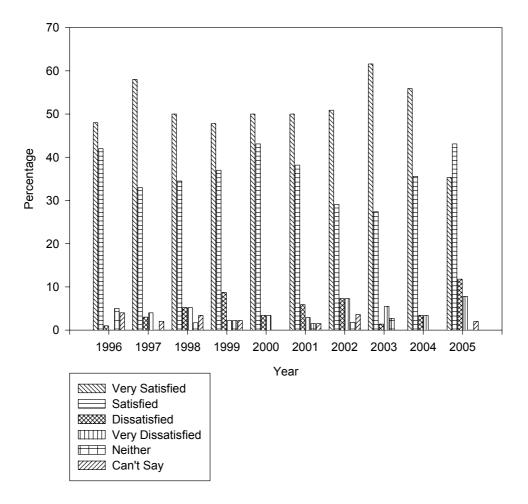


Figure 24: Satisfaction with level of service

3.14 Awareness of representatives of the Department of Fisheries

Question 14

In question 14, respondents were asked: "In the last 12 months, have you been approached or contacted by someone from the Department of Fisheries, or representatives of the Department of Fisheries such as Volunteer Fisheries Liaison Officers (VFLOs)?"

The majority of respondents (94.0 per cent) had not been approached or contacted by anyone from the Department of Fisheries (Table 31).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 31: Contacts from the Department of Fisheries

	Count	%
No / Can't Say	657	94.0
Yes - Department officers	27	3.9
Yes - Researchers	7	1.0
Yes – Other	4	0.6
Yes - VFLOs	2	0.3

Over the past year, there has been a significant (p < 0.05) decrease in the proportion of respondents who have been contacted by Volunteer Fisheries Liaison Officers (Figure 25).

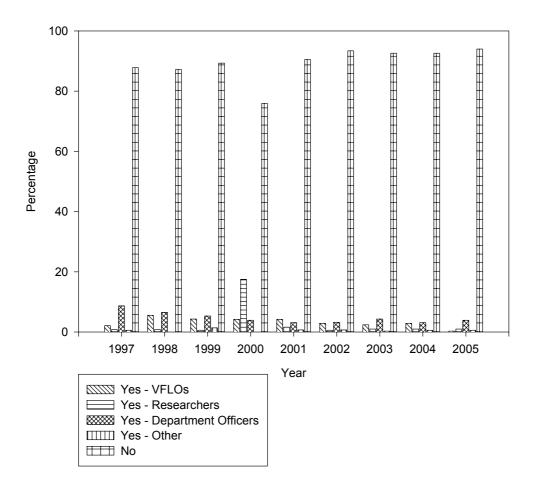


Figure 25: Contacts from the Department of Fisheries

3.15 Recollection of the Department of Fisheries

Question 15

In question 15, respondents were asked: "Do you recall, over the last twelve months, seeing or hearing anything about the Department of Fisheries in the media?"

Most respondents had recalled hearing or seeing of the Department of Fisheries in the media over the past twelve months, mostly from the television (51.2 per cent) and newspapers and magazines (34.6 per cent) (Table 32).

Multiple responses were accepted.

Table 32: Recollection of the Department of Fisheries in the media

	Count	%
Yes – Television	379	51.2
Yes – Newspapers/Magazines	242	34.6
No	183	26.2
Yes – Radio	64	9.2
Yes – Unsure	27	3.9
Yes – Internet	3	0.4

Over the past year, there has been a slight decrease in the proportion that heard on the radio and a slight increase in the proportion of respondents who were unsure where they heard about the Department of Fisheries in the media (Figure 26).

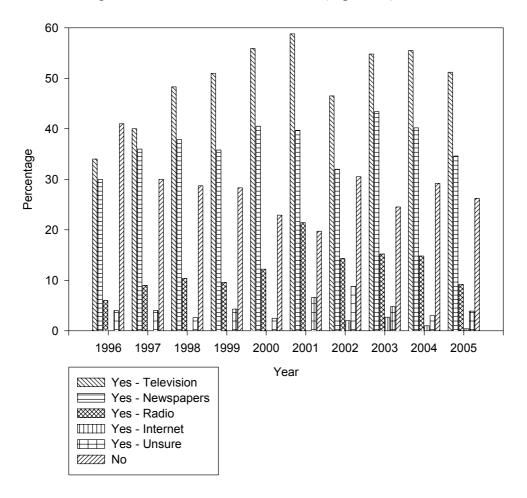


Figure 26: Recollection of the Department of Fisheries or the fishing industry in the media

3.16 Opinion on Aquaculture

Question 16a

In question 16a, respondents were asked: "Aquaculture is the farming of aquatic plants and animals. Do you feel that aquaculture is beneficial to the state?"

The majority of respondents felt that aquaculture was beneficial to the state (87.3 per cent) (Table 33).

Table 33: Benefit of aquaculture to the state

	Count	%
Yes	611	87.3
No	19	2.7
Can't Say	70	10.0
Total	700	100

Over the past year, there has been a significant increase (p < 0.05) in the proportion of respondents who did not consider aquaculture beneficial to the state and a decrease in the proportion that can't say (Figure 27).

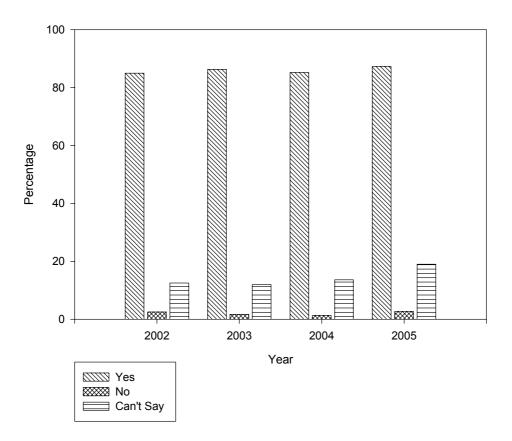


Figure 27: Benefit of aquaculture to the state

Question 16b

In question 16b, respondents were asked: "What do you think is the main benefit?"

Due to a data collection problem, multiple responses were collected for this question. The results are not valid and cannot be reported.

Question 16c

In question 16c, respondents were asked: "Do you think that aquaculture has any negative impacts?"

The majority of respondents felt that aquaculture had no negative impacts (56.1 per cent) Table 34).

Table 34: Negative impact of aquaculture

	Count	%
Yes	138	19.9
No	389	56.1
Can't Say	166	24.0
Total	693	100

Over the past three years, there has been little change in the proportion of respondents who thought that aquaculture had any negative impacts (Figure 28).

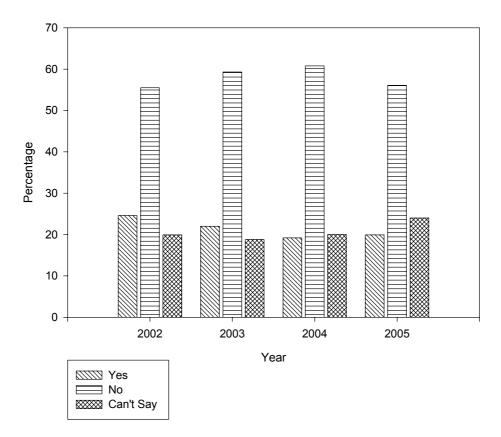


Figure 28: Negative impact of aquaculture

Question 16d

In question 16d, respondents were asked: "What do you think is the main negative impact?"

Of the respondents that felt that aquaculture had negative impacts, a large proportion considered that pollution (25.8 per cent) and the risk of disease (22.7 per cent) were the main negative impacts of aquaculture (Table 35).

Table 35: Negative impacts of aquaculture

	Count	%
Risk of disease	30	22.7
Pollution	34	25.8
Competition for space	25	18.9
Other	22	16.7
Can't Say	15	11.4
Economic viability	6	4.5
Total	132	100

3.17 Demographics

Question 17

In question 17 respondents were asked: "Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall?"

The age structure of respondents was significantly different (p < 0.05) to the population age structure of Western Australia (Table 36), mostly due to a lower proportion of respondents aged between 25 and 34 and a higher proportion of respondents aged between 55 and 64.

Table 36: Age categories

	Count	%
18 to 19 years	26	3.7
20 to 24 years	43	6.1
25 to 34 years	84	12.0
35 to 44 years	158	22.6
45 to 54 years	137	19.6
55 to 64 years	117	16.7
65 years & over	122	17.4
Unknown	13	1.9
Total	700	100

Question 18

In question 18 respondents were asked: "Which of the following categories best describes what you currently do?"

A large number of respondents (44.7 per cent) were employed in full-time work (Table 37). Some were retired or aged pensioners (21.4 per cent) and others involved in part-time work (16.9 per cent). The activity structure of respondents was significantly different (p < 0.05) to the population activity structure of Western Australia, possibly due to the low number of people doing home duties and the high number of retired and aged pensioner respondents.

Table 37: Activity structure

	Count	%
Full - time work in a job or business	313	44.7
Part - time or casual work in a job or business	118	16.9
Full - time student	28	4.0
Looking for work	18	2.6
Retired or aged pensioner	150	21.4
Other pensioner	13	1.8
Home duties	53	7.6
Unknown	7	1.0
Total	700	100

Question 19

In question 19 respondents were asked: "What kind of work do you do?"

There were 313 respondents employed in a full or part-time capacity. Of these, 21.7 per cent were professionals, 15.5 per cent were tradespersons and 11.1 per cent were technicians and associated professionals (Table 38). There was no significant difference between the employment structure of respondents and the population employment structure of Western Australia.

Table 38: Type of work

	Count	%
Managers	20	5.4
Professionals	80	21.6
Technicians and associated professionals	41	11.0
Tradespersons	57	15.4
Production, plant and transport operators	38	10.2
Clerical, sales and service - advanced, intermediate	60	16.2
Clerical, sales and service – elementary	41	11.1
Labourers, process workers, cleaners etc	29	7.8
Refused	5	1.3
Total	371	100

Question 20

In question 20 respondents were asked: "What is the postcode of the suburb/town in which you live?"

Question 21

In question 21, the sex of the respondent was recorded.

4.0 REFERENCES

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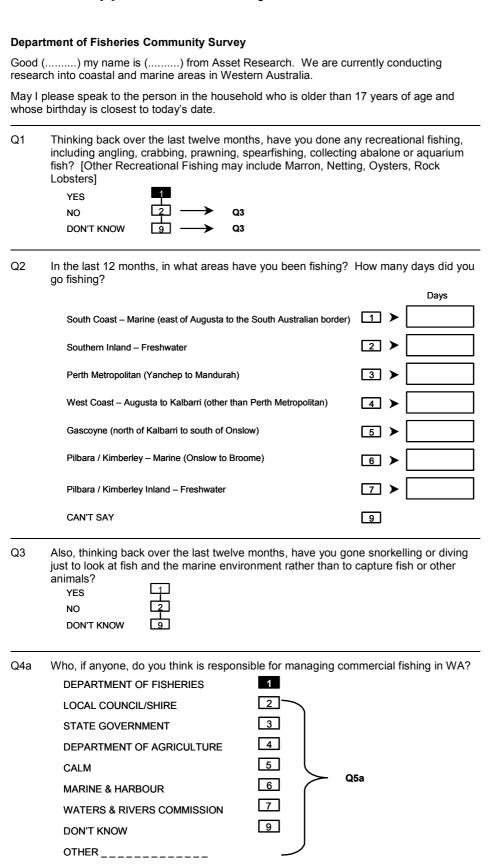
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5.0 APPENDICES

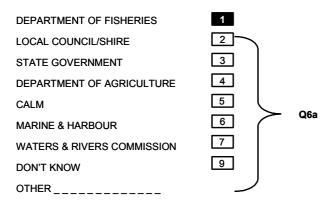
5.1 Appendix A: Survey Questionnaire Form



Q4b There are a number of rules and regulations in place, which limits catch size, allowable fishing days and designated areas to fish. How would you rate Department of Fisheries in their management of **commercial fisheries**?

Very poor	1
Poor	
	Į
Good	土
Very good	<u> </u>
NEITHER	5
CAN'T SAY	9

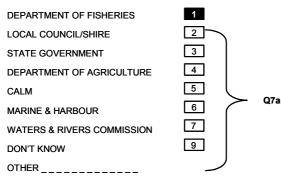
Q5a Who, if anyone, is responsible for managing recreational fishing in WA?



Q5b Limits have been set on size, type of species that can be caught, as well as season limits etc. How would you rate Department of Fisheries in their management of recreational fisheries?

Very poor	1
Poor	2
Good	3
Very good	4
NEITHER	5
CAN'T SAY	9

Q6a When you think about the fish habitat in oceans and waterways in WA, that is, where fish live and breed, who, if anyone, do you think is responsible for protecting the fish habitat?



Q6b

Q6b	How would you rate the Department of Fisheries in their conservation and protection of the fish habitat ?			
	Very poor	1		
	Poor	2		
	Good	3		
	Very good	4		
	NEITHER	5		
	CAN'T SAY	9		
Q7a		c about aquaculture, sponsible for managi		farming in WA, who do you think,
	DEPARTMEN [*]	T OF FISHERIES	1	
	LOCAL COUN	CIL/SHIRE	2	
	STATE GOVE	RNMENT	3	
	DEPARTMEN [*]	T OF AGRICULTURE	4	
	CALM		5	Q8
	MARINE & HA	RBOUR		
	WATERS & RI	VERS COMMISSION	7	
	DON'T KNOW		9	
	OTHER			
Q7b	identifying suita	able sites and conduction ment of Fisheries in	cting and suppor	uch as advising on technology, ting research. How would you nt and development of
	CAN'T SAY	9		
Q8	fishing, aquacu	Iture and protecting t	the fish habitat.	eational fishing, commercial In your opinion, do you think the resources fairly between these
Q9		vere you aware that t ern Australian waters		ional fishing rules that apply when
	NO	2		
	<u>ence Guide</u> been recreational fis wise	hing ('1' in Q1a)	$\overset{\longrightarrow}{\rightarrow}$	Q10a Q13a [PAGE 5]

Thinkin	g back to the last time you went fishing, can you tell me how knowled on the following:	dgeable you were		
Q10a	Firstly, the bag and size limits for the fish you were planning to catc	h?		
Q10b	The best ways to catch the fish you were after (eg: method, bait, hooks)?			
Q10c	The habits of the fish you were after (eg: where found, when feeding)?			
	Very knowledgeable 1			
	Fairly knowledgeable 2			
	Not very knowledgeable 3			
	CAN'T SAY 9			
Still thir	king about the last time you went fishing. How satisfied were you w	ith the following:		
Q11a	The number of fish you caught?	J		
Q11b	The variety of fish you caught?			
Q11c	The size of the fish you caught?			
Q11d	The environment where you were fishing?			
Q11e	And thinking of the trip overall, how satisfied were you with that fish	ing trip?		
	Very Satisfied 1			
	Satisfied 2			
	Dissatisfied 3			
	Very Dissatisfied 4			
	NEITHER 5			
	CAN'T SAY 9			
Q12a	Thinking about fishing regulations and other information to do with r	ecreational fishing		
	in WA where do you find out about things to do with fishing? PROONES? DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES BROCHURES /STICKERS / PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SHOWS / DISPLAYS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES INTERNET WEB SITE OTHER FISHING WEB SITES FISHING MAGAZINES NEWSPAPERS TELEVISION RADIO TACKLE SHOP CLUBS / ASSOCIATIONS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES OFFICERS / RESEARCHERS / VOLUNTEER FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICERS OTHER FISHERS NONE	=		
Q12b	Ones? DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES BROCHURES /STICKERS / PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SHOWS / DISPLAYS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES INTERNET WEB SITE OTHER FISHING WEB SITES FISHING MAGAZINES NEWSPAPERS TELEVISION RADIO TACKLE SHOP CLUBS / ASSOCIATIONS DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES OFFICERS / RESEARCHERS / VOLUNTEER FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICERS OTHER FISHERS	DBE: Which 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11		

Q13a reason		u contacted the Department of Fisheries for any
	YES 1	
	NO 2	Q14
	DON'T KNOW 9	Q14
Q13b	How did you make contact with the	Department of Fisheries?
	Telephone 1]
	In person 2	
	Mail 3	
	Fax 4] 1
	Email 5]
]
	DON'T KNOW / CAN'T RECALL	
	OTHER	
Q13c	Considering all aspects of your consatisfied were you with the level of	tact with the Department of Fisheries, overall, how
	Very Satisfied 1	service you received.
	Satisfied 2	
	Dissatisfied 3	
	Very Dissatisfied 4	
	NEITHER 5	
	DON'T KNOW 9	
	NOT RELEVANT 10	
Q14	Department of Fisheries, or represe	en approached or contacted by someone from entatives of Department of Fisheries such as
	Volunteer Fisheries Liaison Officers	
	YES - VFLO's (Yellow Shirts)	
	YES - Researchers (Red Shirts)	2
	YES - Department officers (Uniforms	<u>3</u>
	YES - OTHER	
	NO / CAN'T SAY	9
Q15	Do you recall over the last twelve m Department of Fisheries in the med	nonths seeing or hearing anything about the ia?
	YES - TV	[1]
	YES - Newspapers/Magazines	[2]
	YES - Radio	3
	YES - Internet	4
	YES - UNSURE WHERE	5
	NO / UNSURE	9

Q16a	aquaculture is beneficial to the state?					
	YES NO 2 Q16c					
	DON'T KNOW 9 -> Q16c					
Q16b	What do you think is the main benefit of aquaculture?					
	Relieves pressure on wild fish stocks					
	Provides fresh seafood 2					
	Provides consumers with greater range and availability of seafood 3					
	Provides fresh seafood Provides consumers with greater range and availability of seafood Provides regional employment and economic development					
	DON'T KNOW					
	OTHER					
Q16c	Do you feel that aquaculture has any negative impacts to the state?					
	YES					
	NO $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Q} $ $1 $ $\mathbf{Q} $					
Q16d	What do you think is the main negative impact?					
Q I O G	Risk of disease 1					
	Pollution 2					
	Competition for space 3					
	Economic viability 4					
	DON'T KNOW 9					
	OTHER					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself.					
Finally Q17	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall?					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 3					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years					
Q17	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years & over REFUSED 8					
	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years & over REFUSED Which of the following categories best describes what you currently do?					
Q17	to make sure we've spoken to a cross section of people I would like to ask you some questions about yourself. Firstly, into which of these age groups do you fall? 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years & over REFUSED Which of the following categories best describes what you currently do? Full - time work in a job or business					
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Q19	What kind of work do you do? Managers	1				
	Professionals	2				
	Technicians and associated professionals	3				
	Tradespersons	4				
	Production, plant and transport operators	5				
	Clerical, sales and service - advanced, intermediate	6				
	Clerical, sales and service - elementary	7				
	Labourers, process workers, cleaners etc.					
	OTHER					
Would you mind telling me your first name? (Just in case my supervisor wants to check that the work was done properly.)						
RECO	ORD NAME ON FORM					
Q20	POSTCODE					
Q21	SEX					
	MALE 1 1 FEMALE 2 ◀ END					

Thank you for your time!

STAMP YOUR NAME ON THE TOP LEFT HAND CORNER. ENTER SAMPLE NUMBER IN THE RIGHT HAND CORNER.

5.2 Appendix B: Survey Answer Form

	Department of Fisheries	Community Survey 2005		Respondent Name:
	Response Report			Sample No
	Fully Responded 1	Interviewer Name		Postcode
	Part Refusal 3			Sex M F
Q1	1 - 2 - 9		Q12a	1 2 3
Q2	1			4
	2			5
	3			6
	4			
	5			
		9		9 10 11 12 13 OTHER
Q3	1 + 2 + 9	9		
Q4a	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 9	Q12b	
	OTHER		Q13a	1 - 2 - 9
Q4b	1 2 3 4	5 9	Q13b	1 2 3 4 5 6 9
Q5a	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 9		OTHER
	OTHER		Q13c	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 9 + 10
Q5b	1 2 3 4	5 9	Q14	1 2 3 9
Q6a	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 9		OTHER
001	OTHER		Q15	1 2 3 4 5 9
Q6b Q7a	1 2 3 4	<u>5 </u>	Q16a Q16b	1 <u> </u>
Q/a	OTHER	3 0 7 9	Q16c	1 2 9
Q7b	1 2 3 4	— — — — H5H9	Q16d	1 2 3 4 9
Q8	1 2 9			OTHER
Q9	1 - 2		Q17	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Q10a	1 2 3 9		Q18	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7
Q10k	1 - 2 - 3 - 9			OTHER
Q100		<u> </u>	Q19	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Q11a		5 9		OTHER
Q111		5 9	Б.	of ad Nove
Q110		H 5 H 9	Respo	ndent Name:
Q110 Q116		H 5 H 9		
٠, ١١٥				