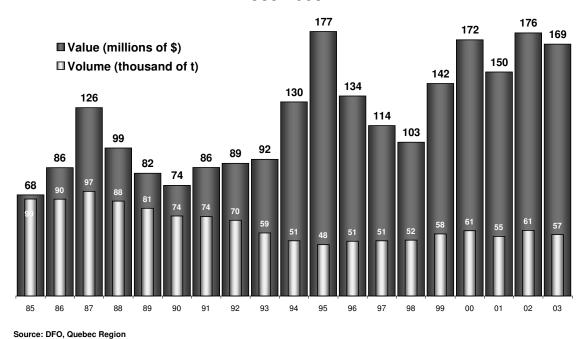
CATCH PORTRAIT OF QUEBEC SECTOR

Portrait of Quebec Sector catches for 2003

The value of Quebec landings was totalling 169 M\$ in 2003, which constitutes, historically, a fourth record year. In comparison with 2002, the total value of landings has recorded a drop of 4%, attributable in a large part to the decrease of the value of snow crab catches in 2003. Thus, the value of snow crab landings has faced a reduction of 10 M\$, representing 11 % less than the previous year. Conversely, the value of lobster landings increased of 5 %, representing an additional 2 M\$. An increase of the value of landings of 1.5 M\$ is also observed for shrimp while groundfish has faced a decrease of close to one million dollars, representing 10 %, mainly due to reduced cod catches within the context of the cod moratory imposed in 2003. Concerning the volume landed, we had 61 000 in 2002 compared to 57 000 in 2003, which represents a decrease of 6 %. This drop is attributable to the 29 % reduction of snow crab and to the 30 % reduction of groundfish (mainly cod).

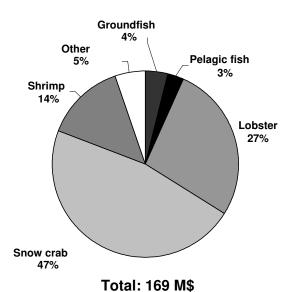
Evolution of Quebec Fishing Industry landings 1985-2003



Note: The supplementary purchase slips are included in the landings.

The breakdown of the value of landings, according to the species, shows that snow crab stays on top with a value of 90 M\$, representing 50 % of the total. The lobster is the second species in importance with a value at landings of approximately 46 M\$. In the third place, we have shrimp landings with a value of the order of 24 M\$. Together, these three crustaceans were representing 88 % of the value of landings in 2003. Far behind, the value of landings for groundfish and pelagic fish were respectively of 7 M\$ and 4 M\$ in 2003.

Value of landings breakdown according to species, 2003



Source: DFO, Quebec Region