

**The American Samoa Longline Limited-entry Fishery
Annual Report
1 January–31 December 2023¹**

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Effort and catch statistics for the American Samoa longline limited-entry fishery reported by fishers on electronic and paper logs are summarized for 2023 (1 January–31 December; PIFSC, 2024). Catch and effort data are summarized for all fishing set types across all fishing locations performed by the American Samoa longline fleet during the reporting period. Total fishing effort for the fleet is summarized by the number of active vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set. Catch is summarized by the number of fish caught, kept, and released for the species included as pelagic management unit species (PMUS) for the Pacific Island Region as defined by the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. The catch per unit effort (CPUE) is also summarized for each PMUS based on the number of fish caught per 1000 hooks.

In addition, the number of fish caught (both kept and released) by year, as well as, the CPUE by quarter are summarized in figures for species of particular concern or interest from 2000 to 2023. The CPUE is summarized by quarter to display any variation that may occur seasonally.

Catch and effort statistics are based on the date fishing gear is hauled and are summarized quarterly, semi-annually, and annually in separate reports. As a result, statistics (e.g., number of vessels or trips) may be included in more than one summary period type (e.g., annual, semi-annual, quarter), and fishing trip totals for a summary period type may be either for partial or entire trips (i.e., as some trips may occur across multiple time periods). As such, catch and effort statistics are not additive (e.g., sum of catch for four quarters is not equal to the total catch for the year).

References:

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 2024: American Samoa Longline Logbook, <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/1775>

¹Data reported by fishers in electronic and paper logs were queried for 2023 (1 January–31 December) from the Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center Information Management System oracle database from table LLDS_REPORT_STATS_PRELIM_AS.

Table 1. Catch and effort data summarized for all fishing locations and sets performed by the American Samoa limited-entry fishery for the year of 2023.

Report Coverage				
Time Period	1 January–31 December 2023	Number of vessels active		10
Set Types	All Sets	Number of trips (partial or completed)		37
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets		1,224
		Number of hooks set		3,793,051
Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	736	693	43	0.19
Striped marlin	57	54	3	0.02
Shortbill spearfish	141	24	117	0.04
Swordfish	149	65	84	0.04
Other billfishes	64	45	19	0.02
Total	1,147	881	266	0.30
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	951	0	951	0.25
Mako sharks	48	1	47	0.01
Thresher sharks	79	0	79	0.02
Oceanic whitetip shark	319	0	319	0.08
Silky shark	716	0	716	0.19
Total	2,113	1	2,112	0.56
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	47,729	46,470	1,259	12.58
Bigeye tuna	1,739	1,636	103	0.46
Yellowfin tuna	10,298	9,381	917	2.71
Bluefin tuna	1	1	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	6,175	5,887	288	1.63
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	65,942	63,375	2,567	17.38
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	150	141	9	0.04
Moonfish	22	6	16	0.01
Wahoo	1,187	1,115	72	0.31
Oilfish	1,430	6	1,424	0.38
Pomfret	390	26	364	0.10
Total	3,179	1,294	1,885	0.84
Total PMUS	72,381	65,551	6,830	19.08
Non-PMUS Sharks	1	0	1	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	3,740	121	3,619	0.99
Total All Species	76,121	65,672	10,449	20.07

Number of Vessels

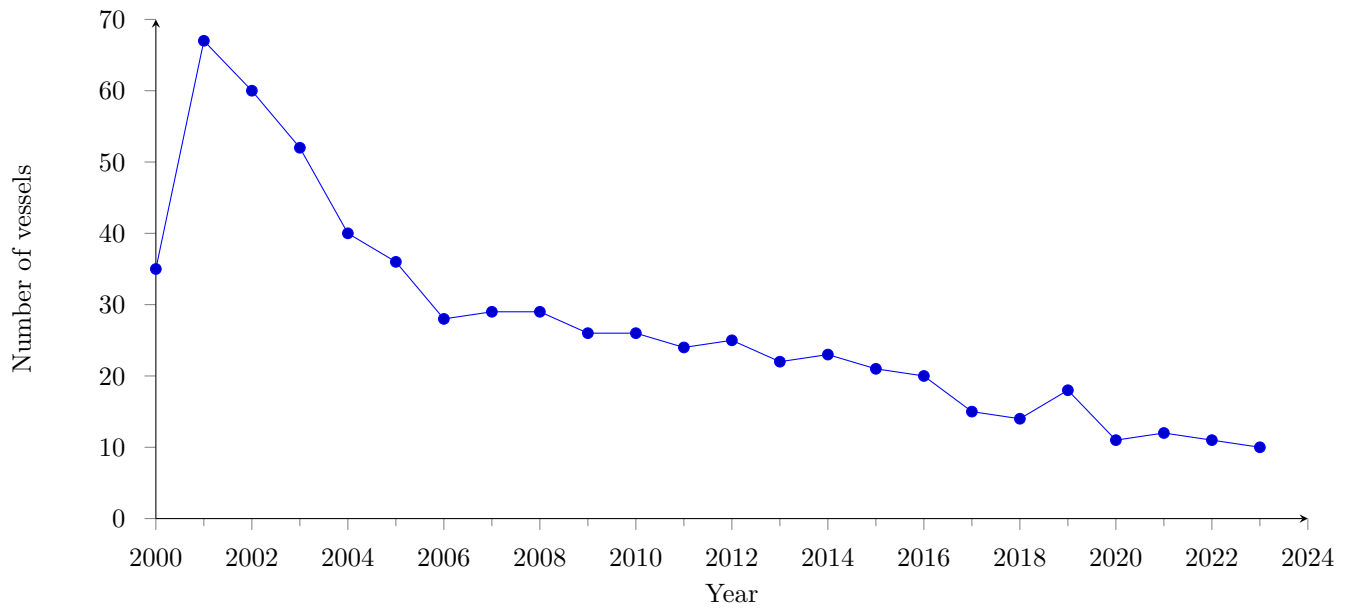


Figure 1: Annual number of active longline fishing vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Effort in Number of Trips

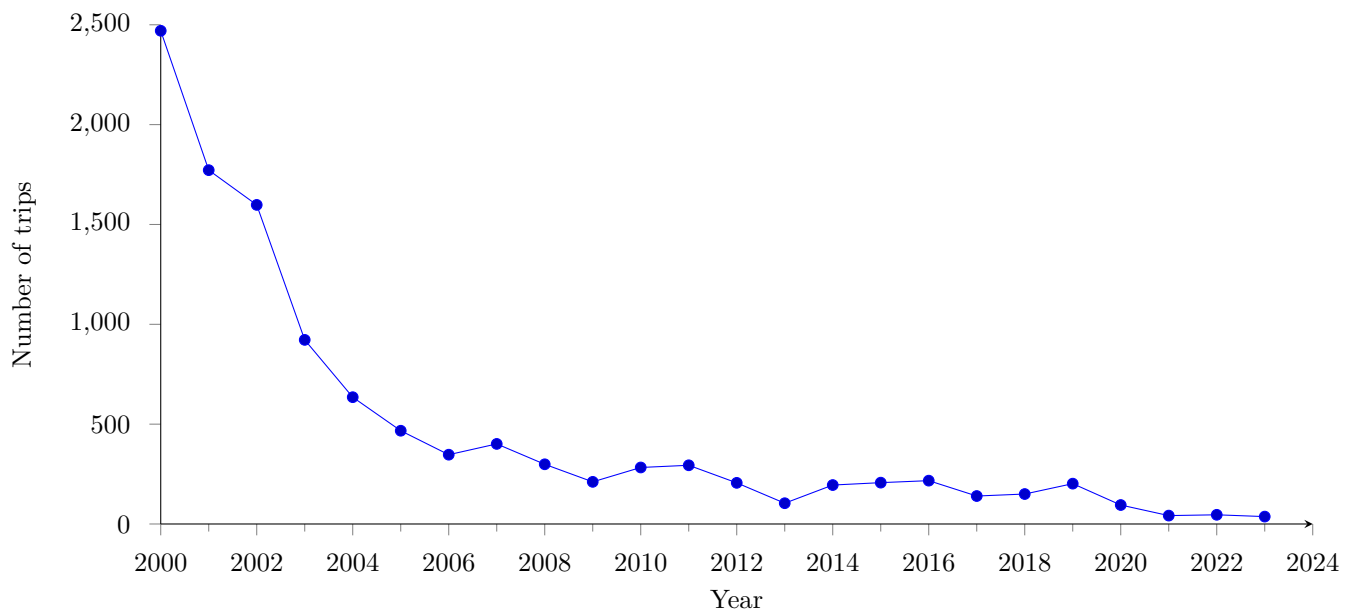


Figure 2: Annual number of trips by longline fishing vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Effort in Number of Sets

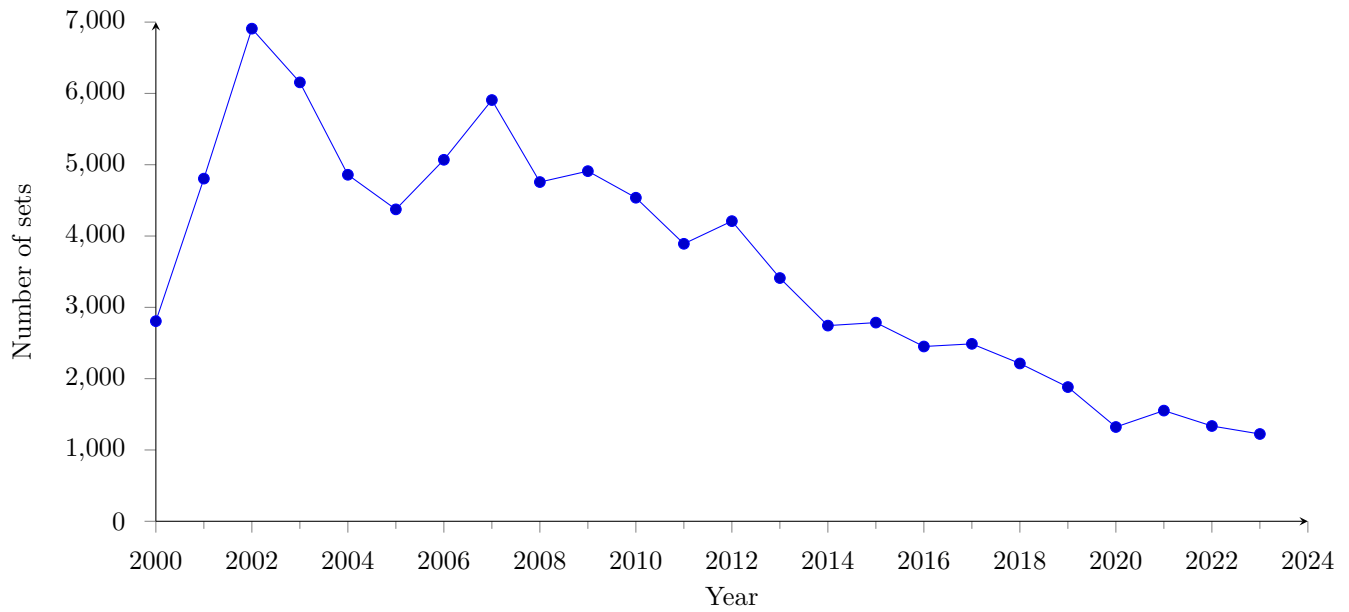


Figure 3: Annual number of sets by longline fishing vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Effort in Number of Hooks

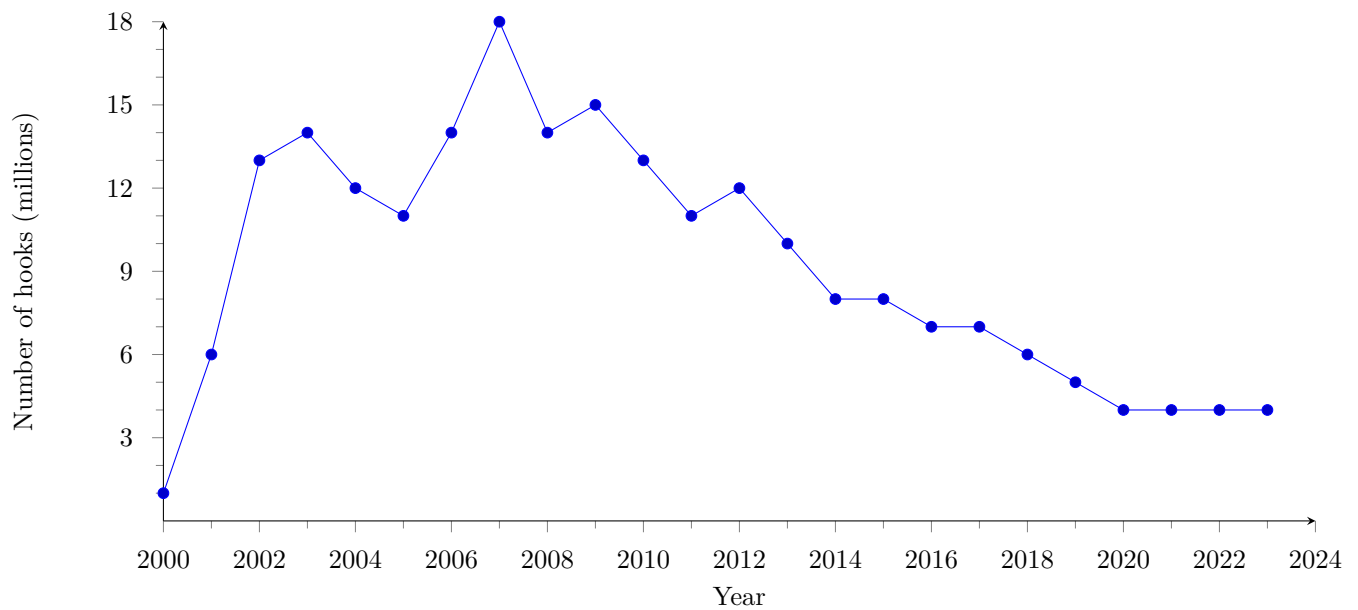


Figure 4: Number of hooks in millions, set by vessels based in American Samoa by year, 2000-2023.

Albacore Catch

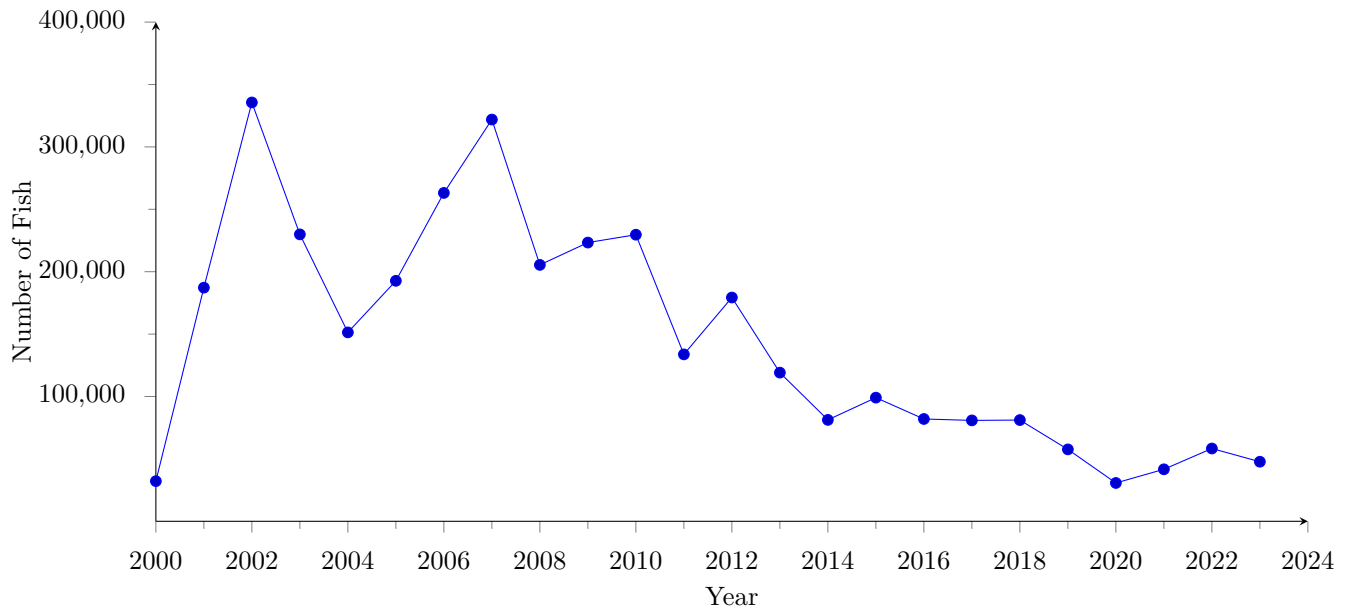


Figure 5: Annual catch (kept and released) of albacore tuna by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Albacore Catch per Unit Effort

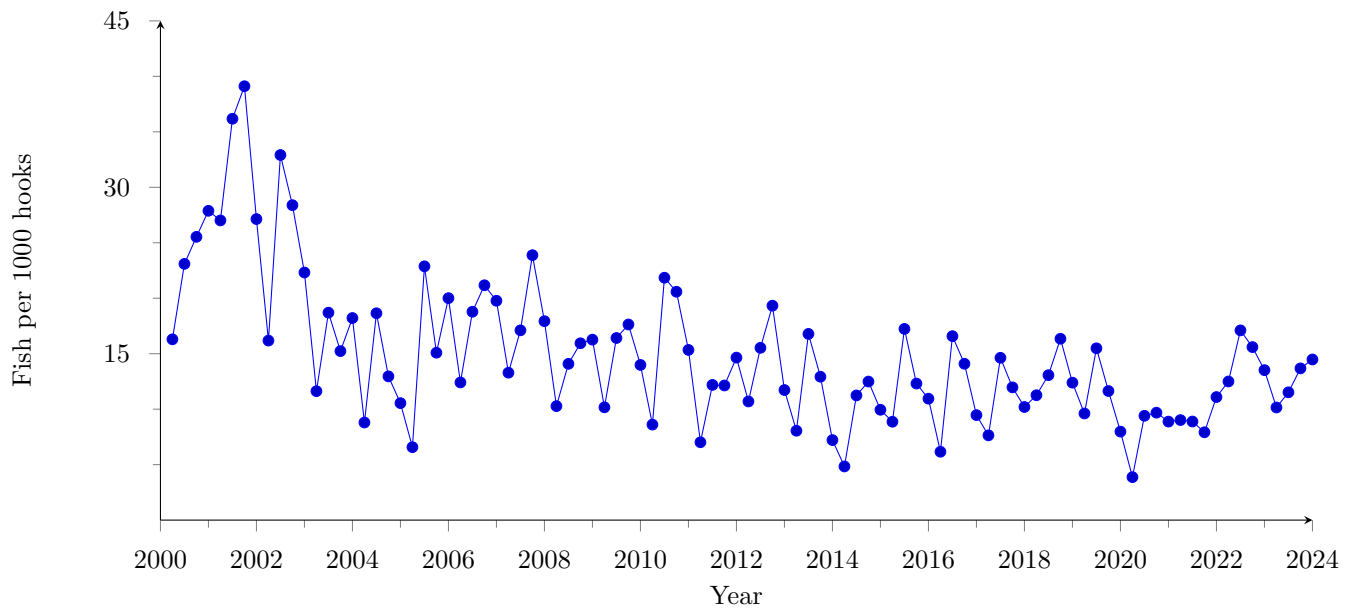


Figure 6: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of albacore tuna (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Bigeye Tuna Catch

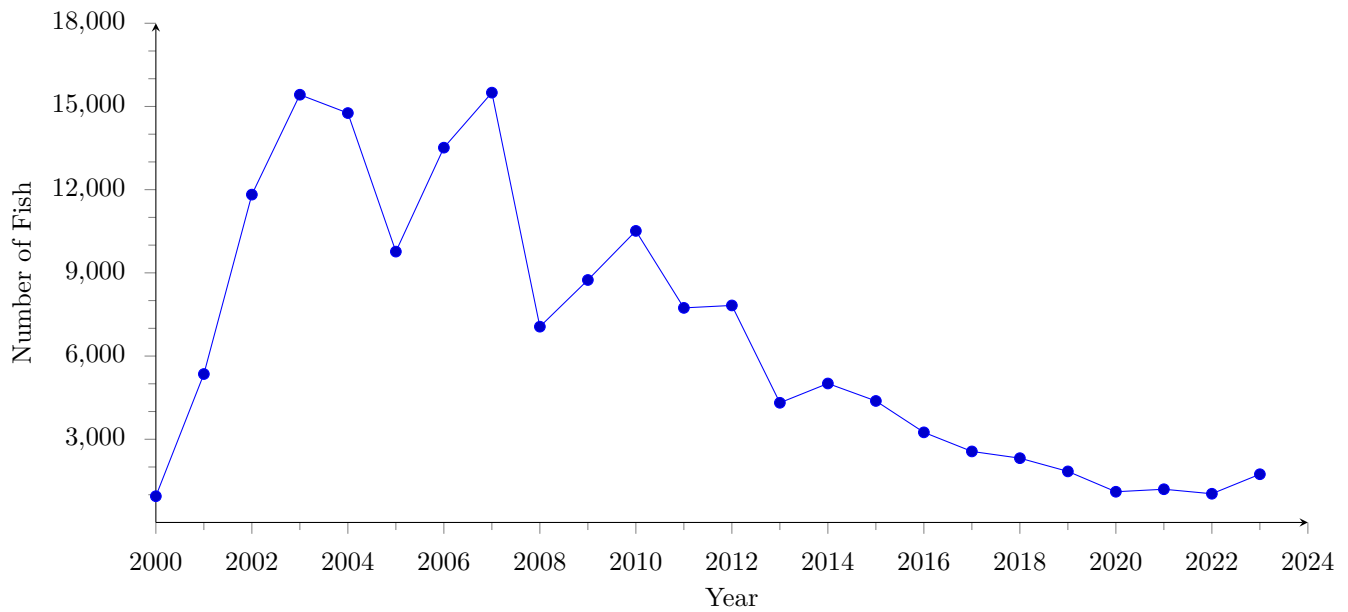


Figure 7: Annual catch (kept and released) of bigeye tuna by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Bigeye Tuna Catch per Unit Effort

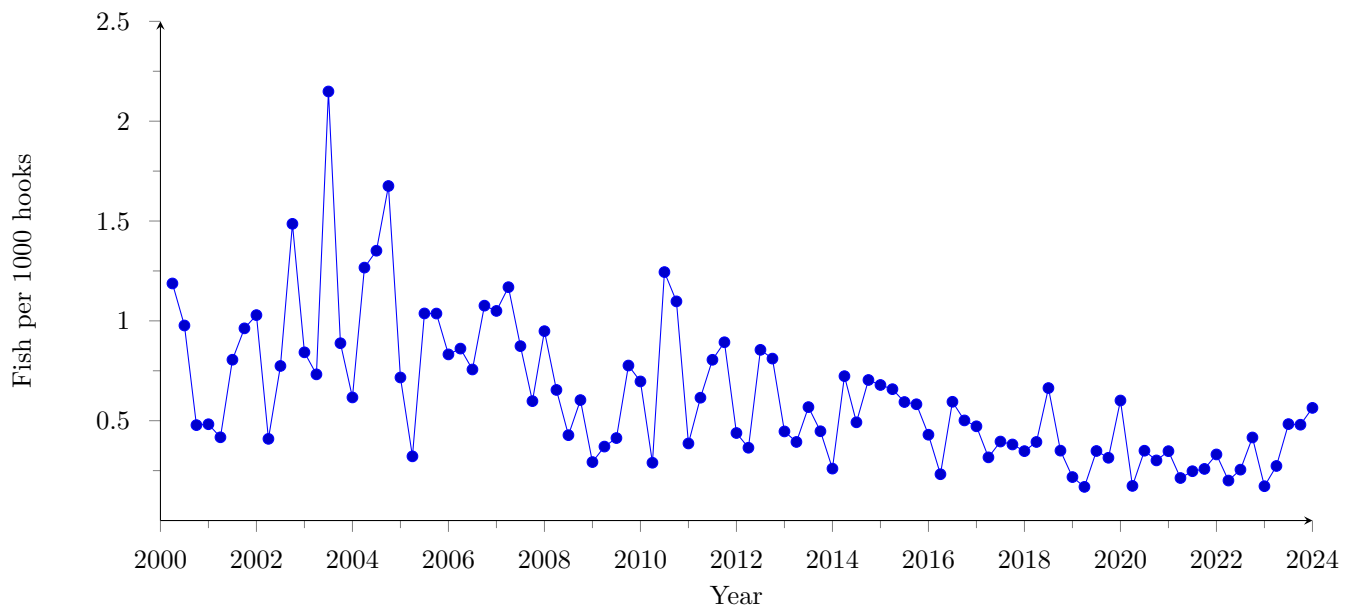


Figure 8: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of bigeye tuna (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Yellowfin Tuna Catch

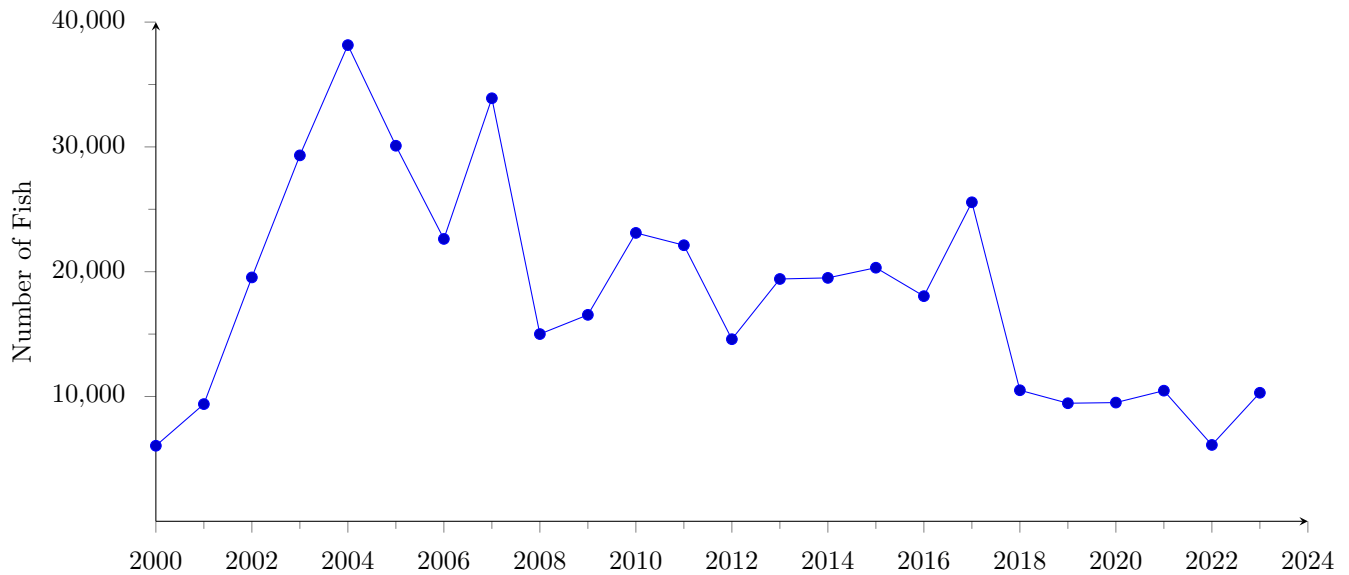


Figure 9: Annual catch (kept and released) of yellowfin tuna by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Yellowfin Tuna Catch per Unit Effort

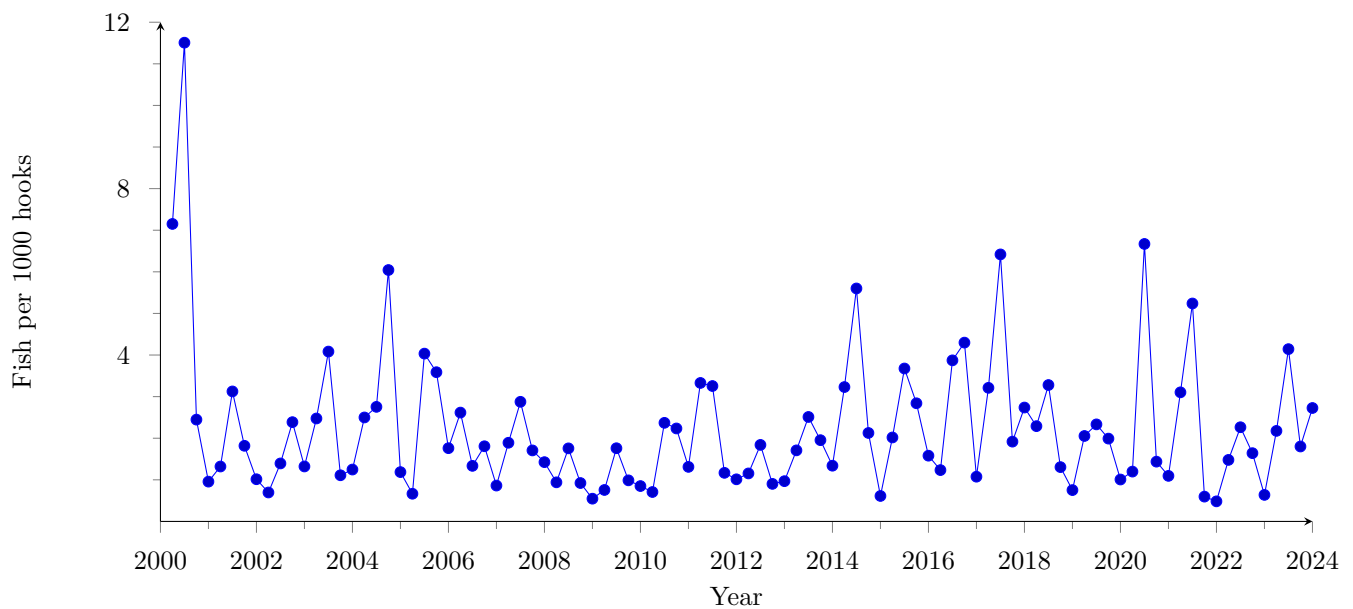


Figure 10: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of yellowfin tuna (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Skipjack Tuna Catch

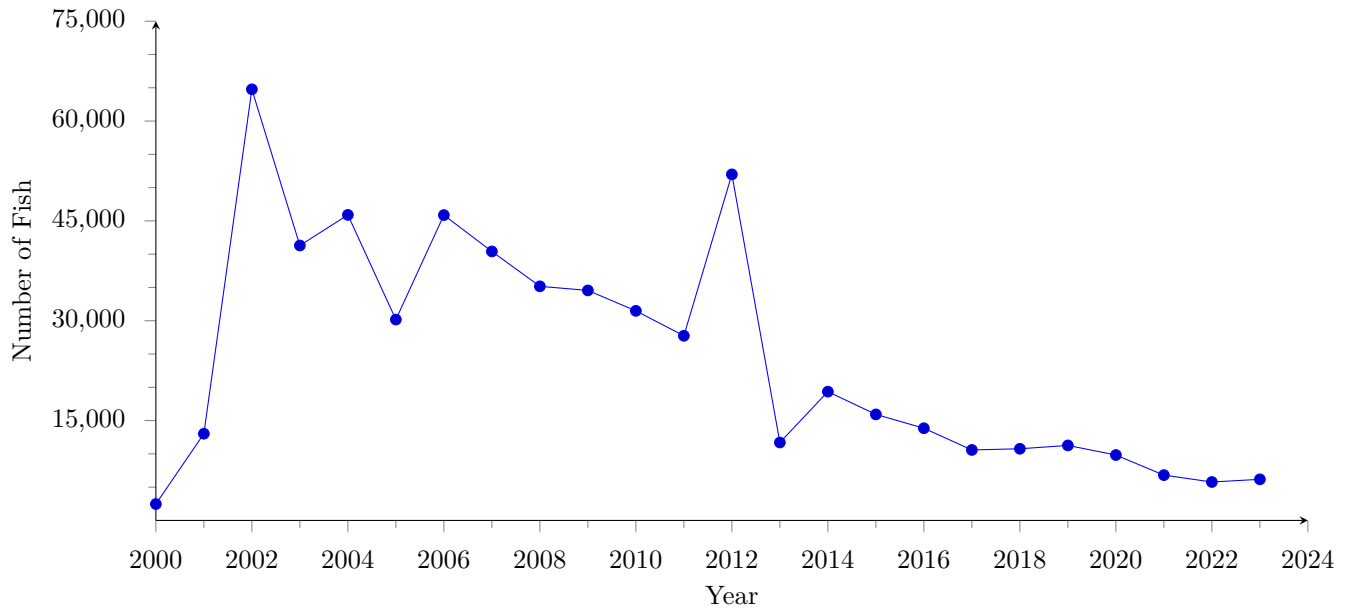


Figure 11: Annual catch (kept and released) of skipjack tuna by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Skipjack Tuna Catch per Unit Effort

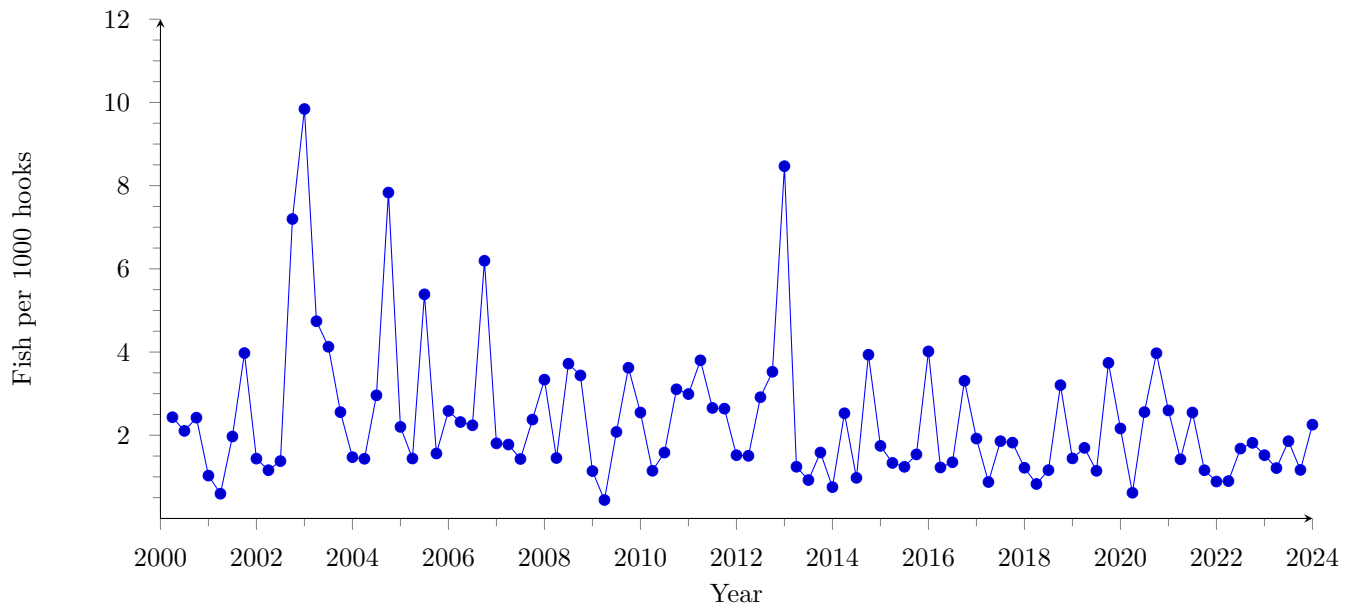


Figure 12: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of skipjack tuna (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Mahimahi Catch

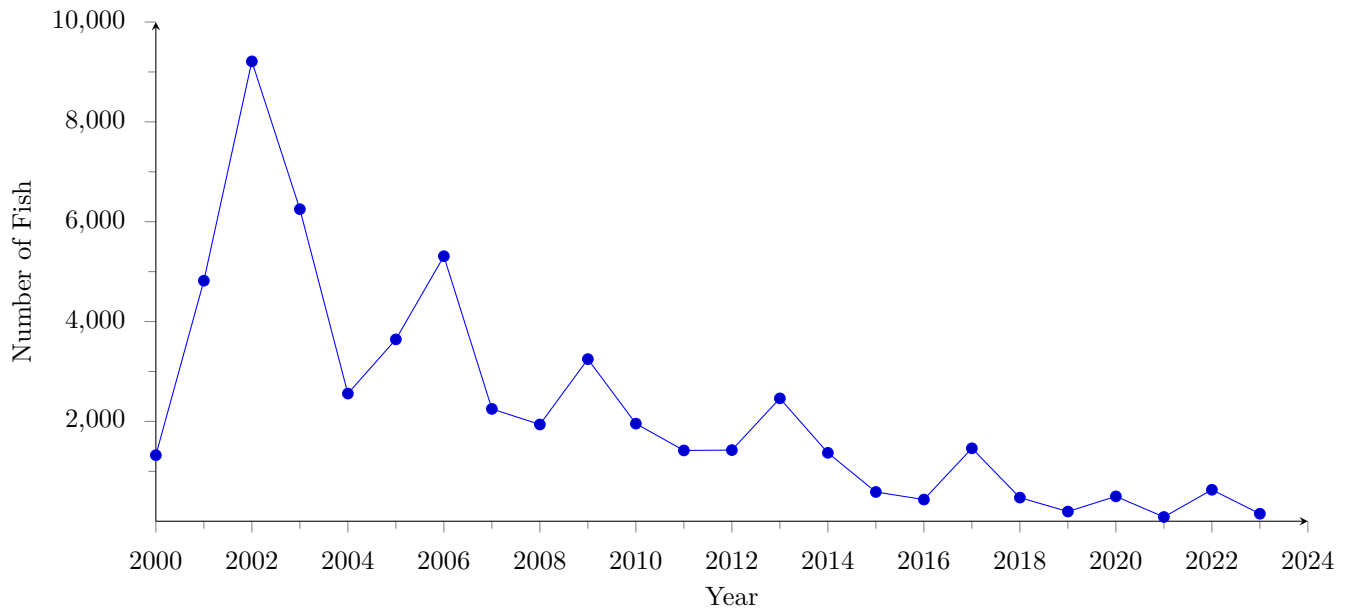


Figure 13: Annual catch (kept and released) of mahimahi by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Mahimahi Catch per Unit Effort

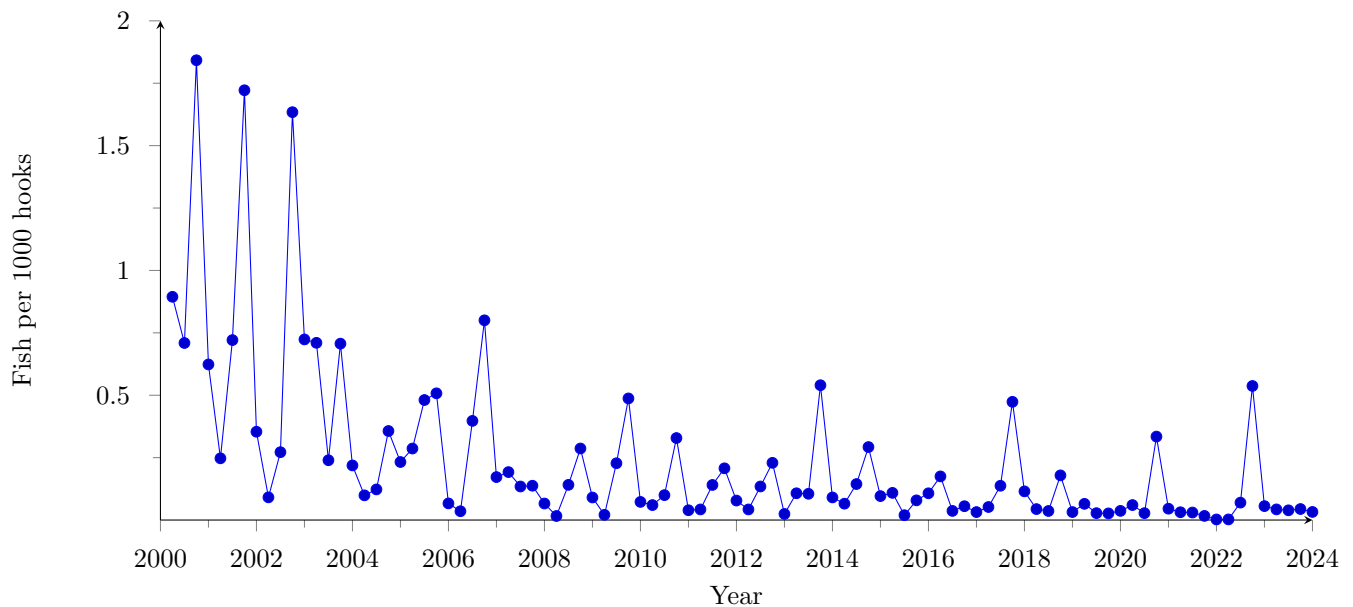


Figure 14: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of mahimahi (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Billfish Catch

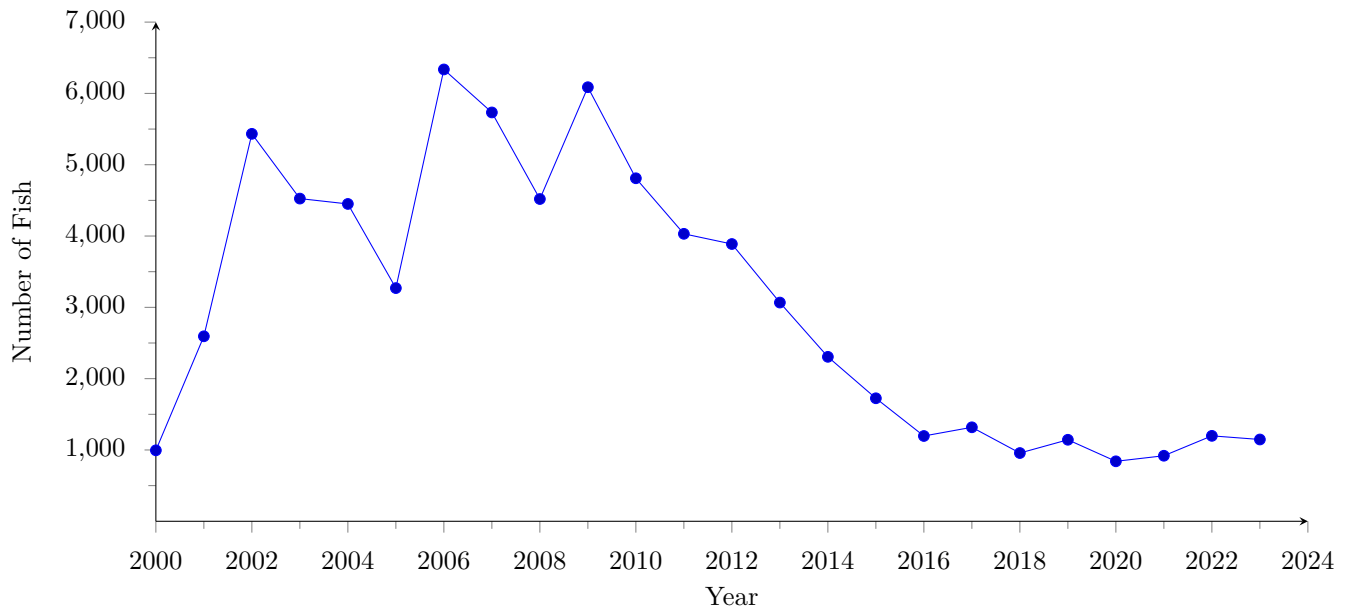


Figure 15: Annual catch (kept and released) of billfish by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Billfish Catch per Unit Effort

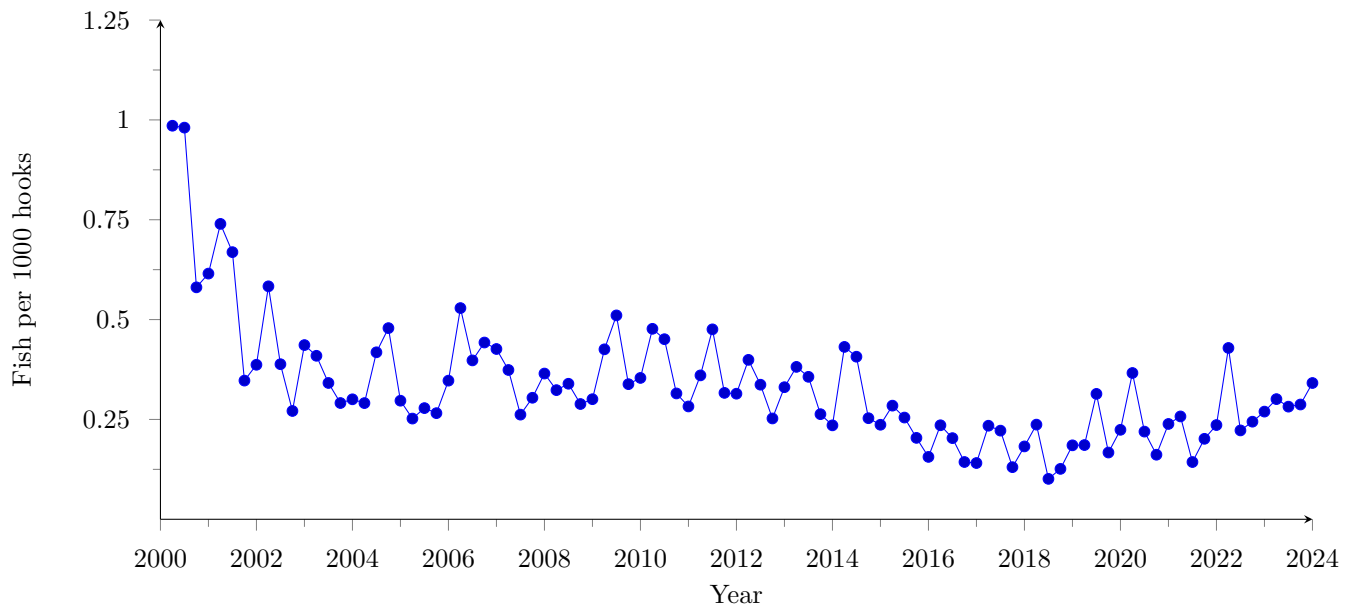


Figure 16: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of billfish (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Shark Catch

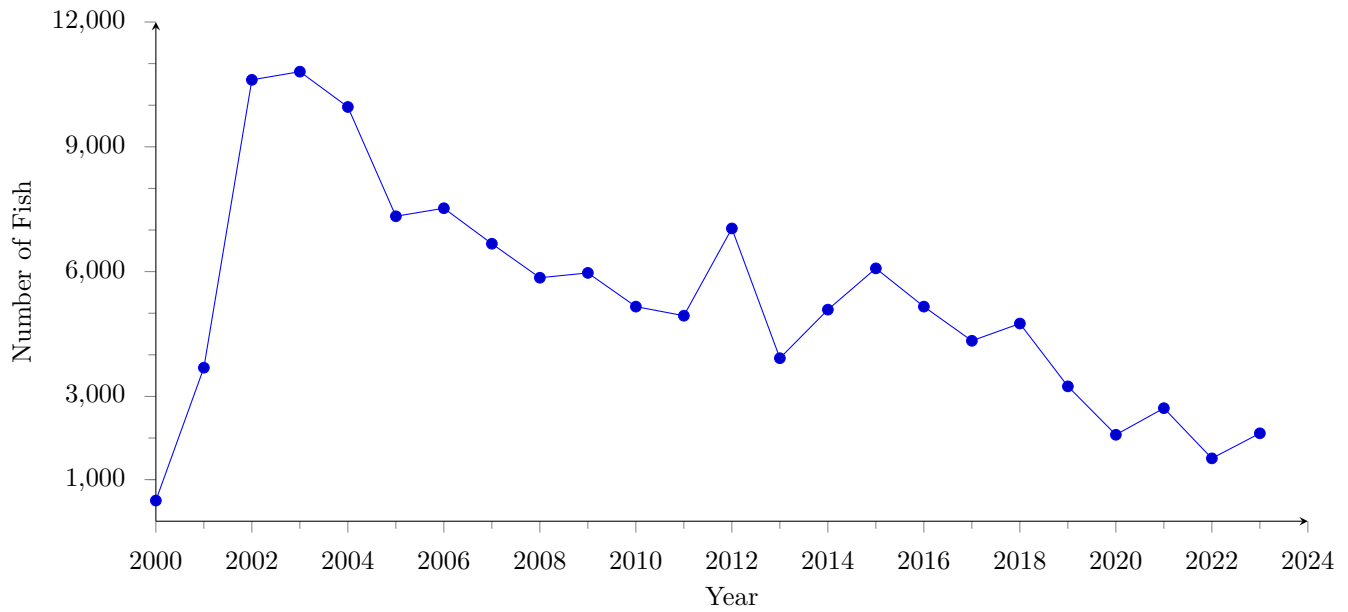


Figure 17: Annual catch (kept and released) of sharks (for those included as pelagic management unit species) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Shark Catch per Unit Effort

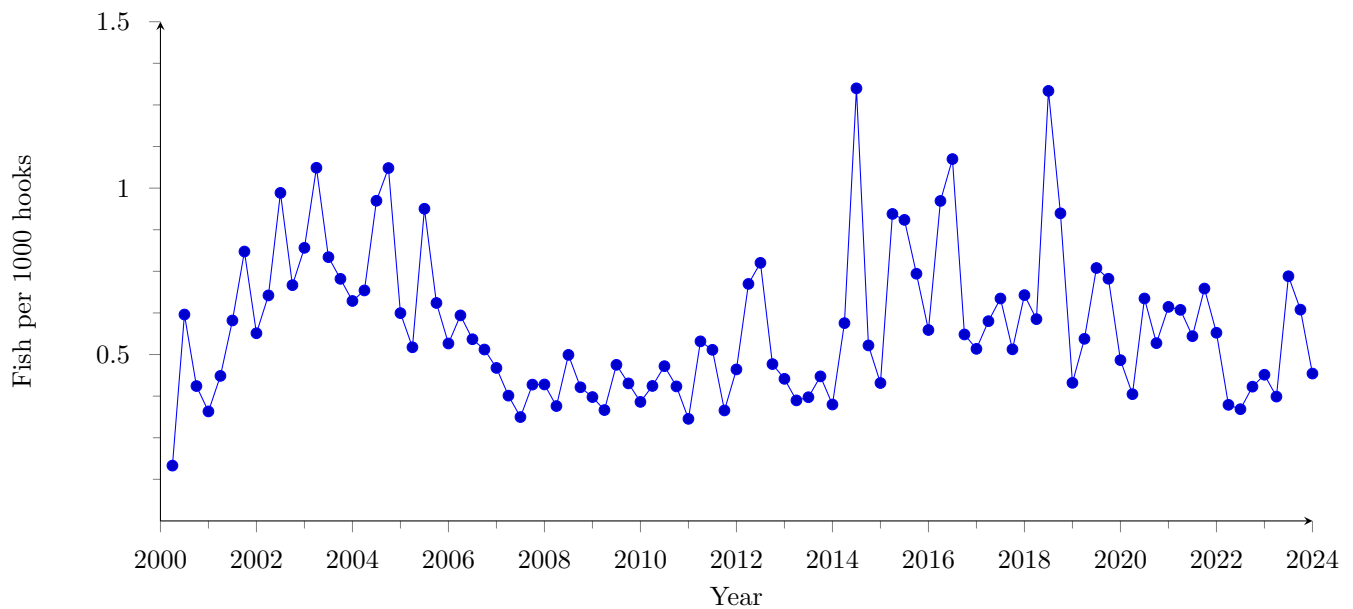


Figure 18: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of sharks (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released for those included as pelagic management unit species) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Wahoo Catch

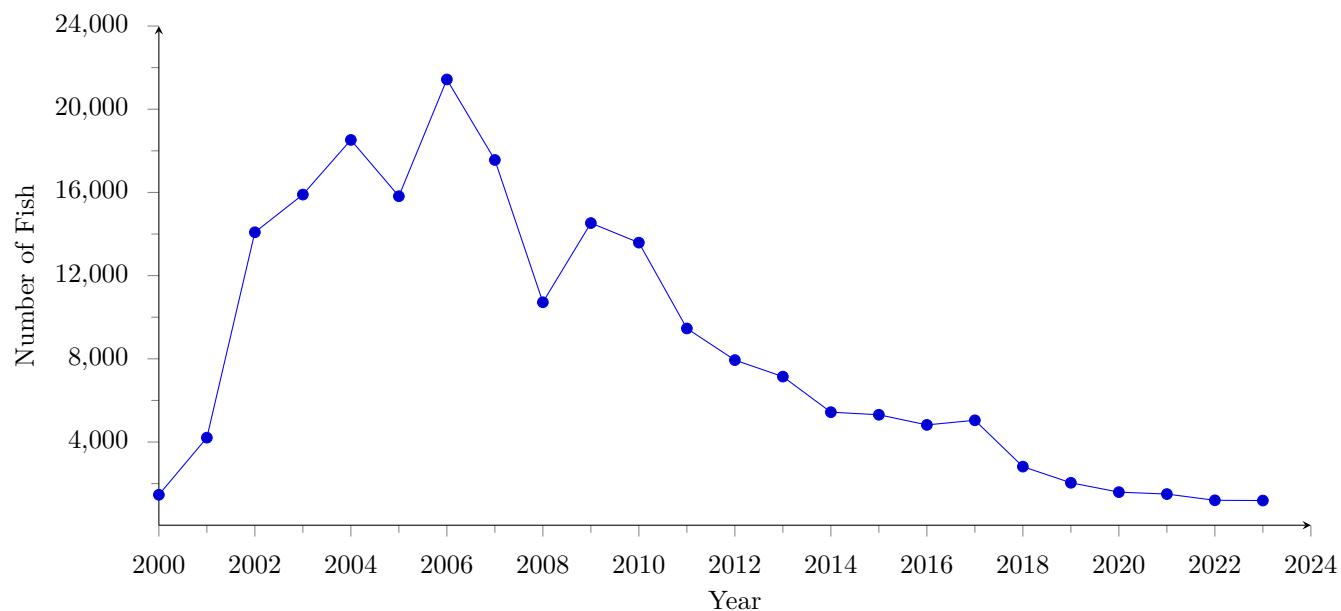


Figure 19: Annual catch (kept and released) of wahoo by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.

Wahoo Catch per Unit Effort

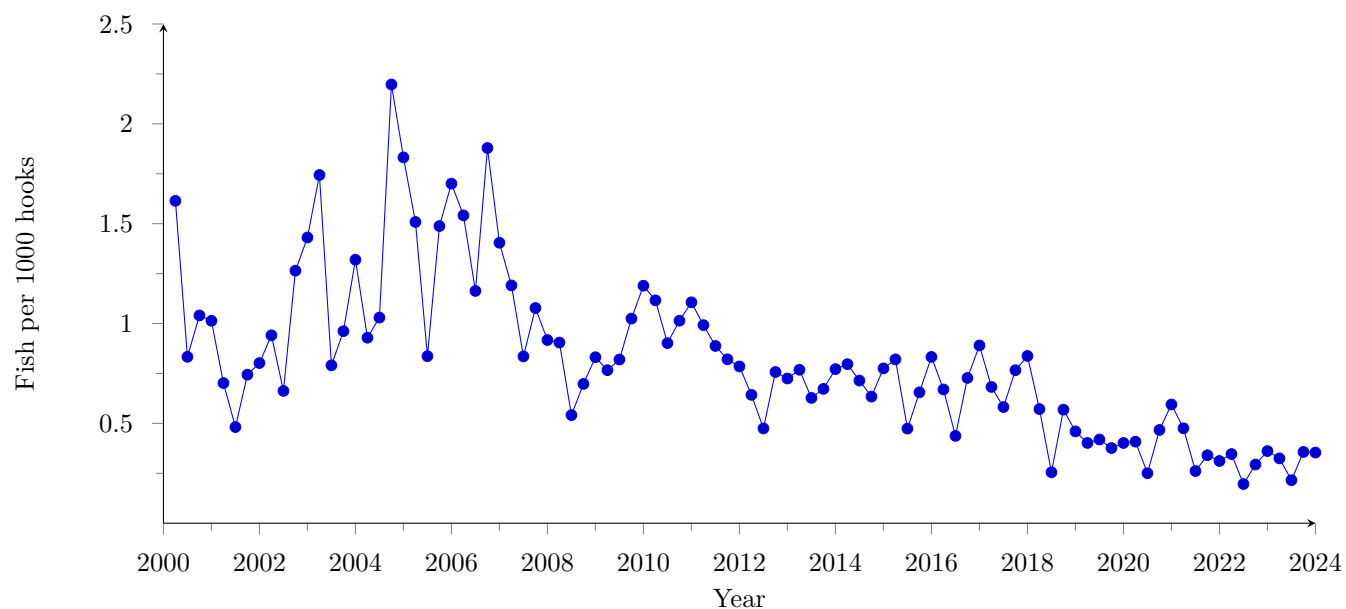


Figure 20: Quarterly catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of wahoo (per 1000 hooks including both kept and released) by longline vessels based in American Samoa from 2000-2023.