



# REVIEW OF THE STATISTICAL DATA AVAILABLE FOR YELLOWFIN TUNA (1950-2022)

*26<sup>TH</sup> IOTC WORKING PARTY ON TROPICAL TUNAS - 12-14 JUNE 2024*

*IOTC SECRETARIAT*

# PURPOSE

To provide participants at the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the data preparatory meeting of the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT26) with a review of the status of the information of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) for the years 1950-2022 available to the IOTC Secretariat as of June 2024, with a focus on the year 2022.

## FISHERIES OVERVIEW

### Statistical year 2022

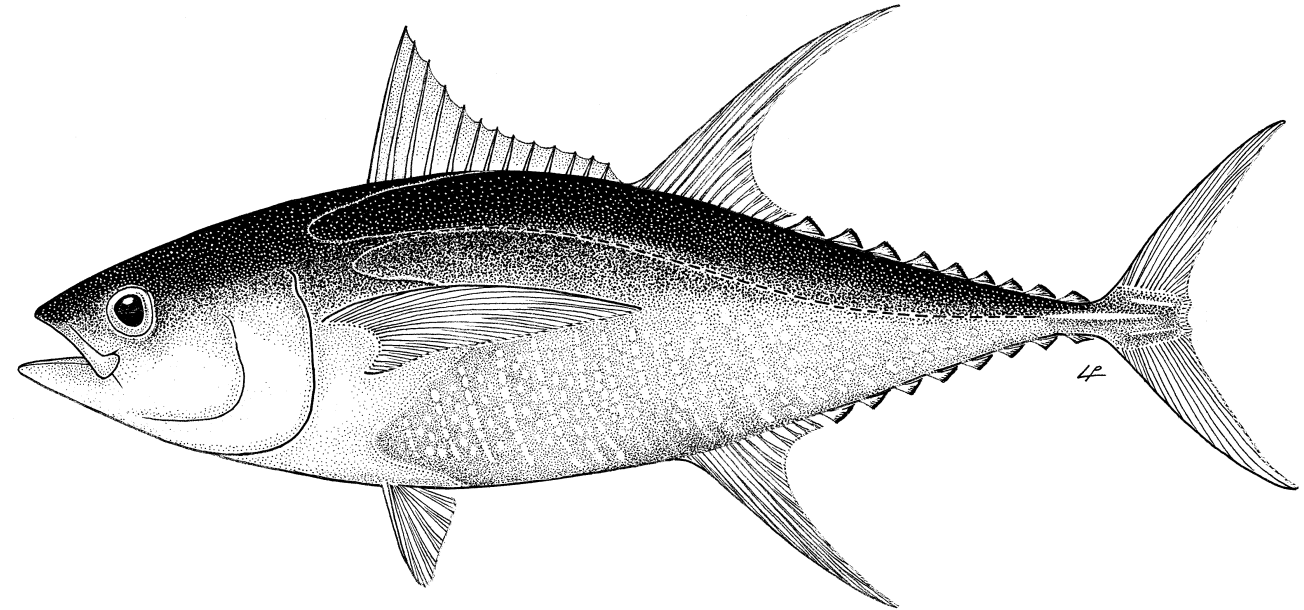
16 IOTC species: ~2,020,000 t

3 tropical tunas: ~1,180,000 t (~59%)

**Yellowfin tuna**: ~414,000 t (~20%)

Stock **overfished** and **subject to overfishing**

Rebuilding plan (Res. [18/01](#), [19/01](#), [21/01](#))



# UPDATES SINCE THE WPTT25 (OCTOBER 2023)

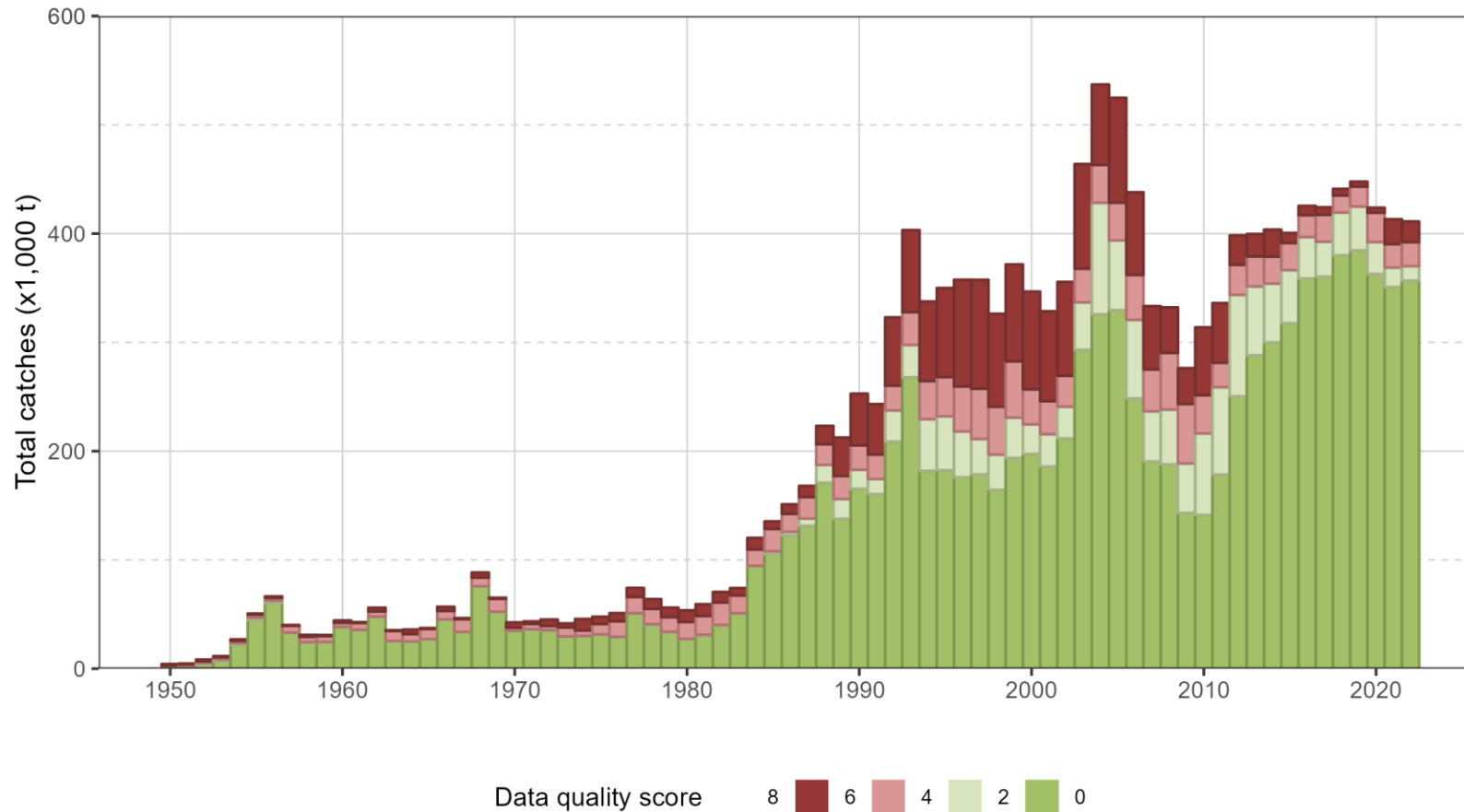
## Retained catches in 2022:

- India: +3,602 t – late submission
- Tanzania: -3,344 t – comprehensive review
- Pakistan: -706 t – late submission
- Japan: +539 t – improved logbook coverage
- EU, Italy: -275 t – full review covering 2015-2022

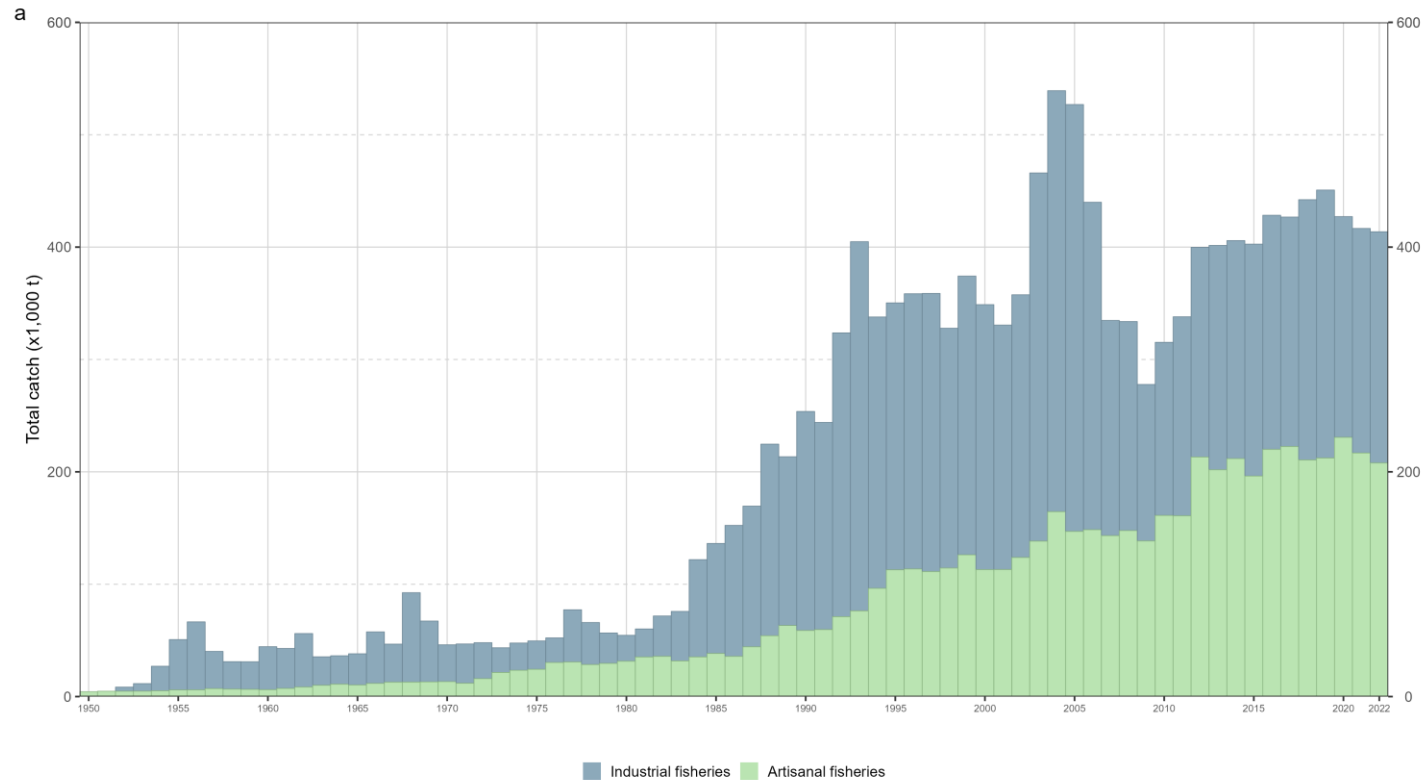
# UPDATES SINCE THE WPTT25 (OCTOBER 2023)

- Geo-referenced catches and efforts: Availability for EU,Italy (2015-2022) and some improvements for Korea (2022), Japan (2021-2022), and EU,Spain (2018)
- Geo-referenced size-frequencies: Improvements for Tanzania (2021), Korea (2022), and Sri Lanka (2022)

# GOOD REPORTING QUALITY FOR YELLOWFIN TUNA

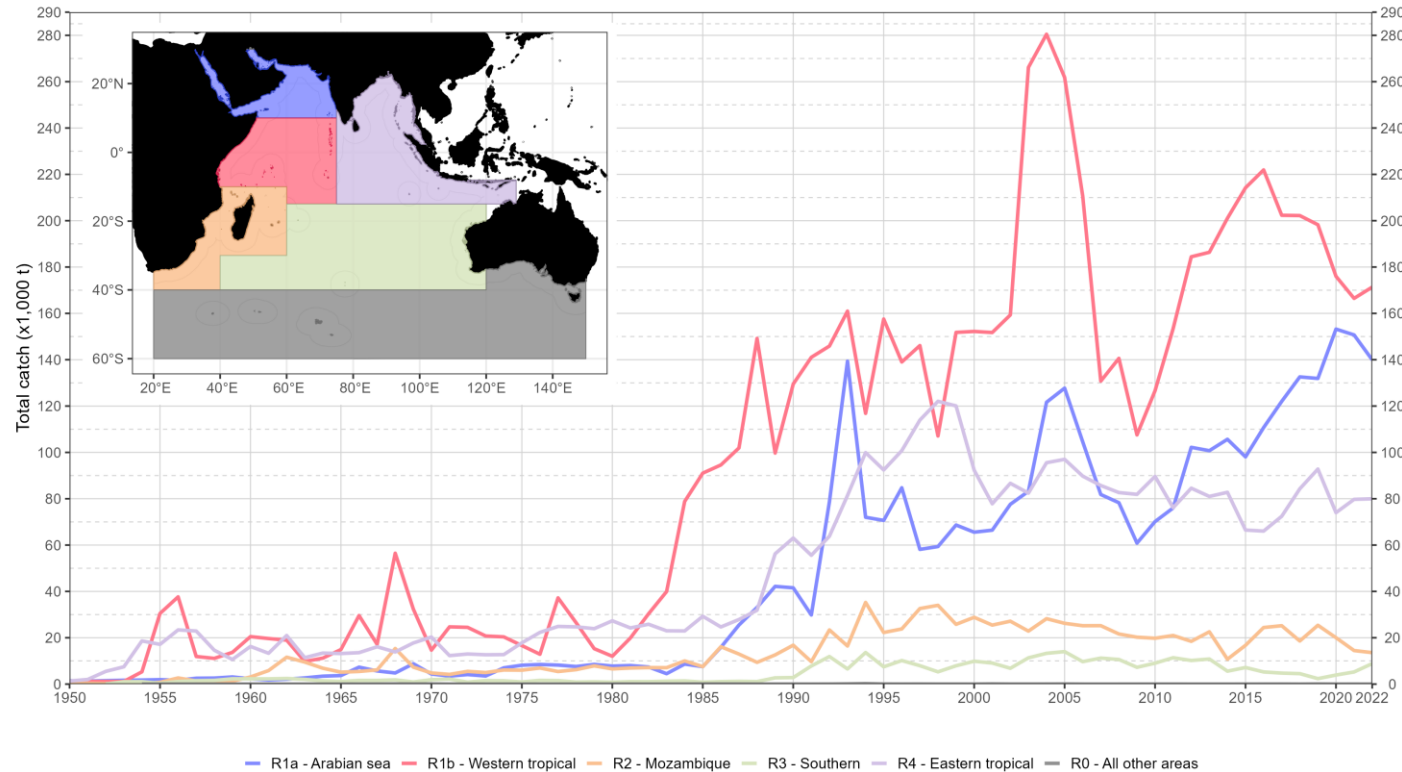


# HALF THE CATCH FROM COASTAL FISHERIES IN 2022



Annual time series of cumulative retained catches (t) of yellowfin tuna by fishery type, 1950-2022

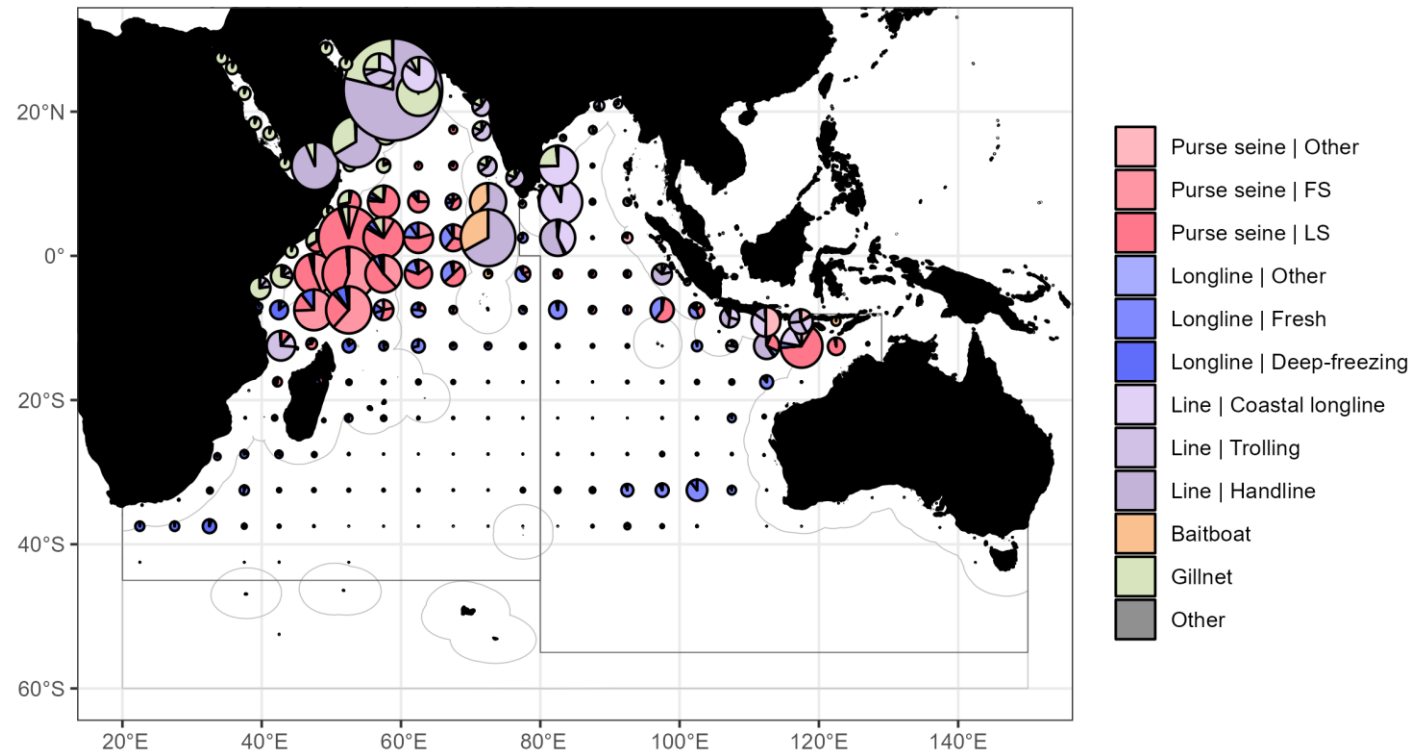
# MOST CATCHES FROM WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN



Annual time series of cumulative retained catches (t) of yellowfin tuna by stock assessment area, 1950-2022

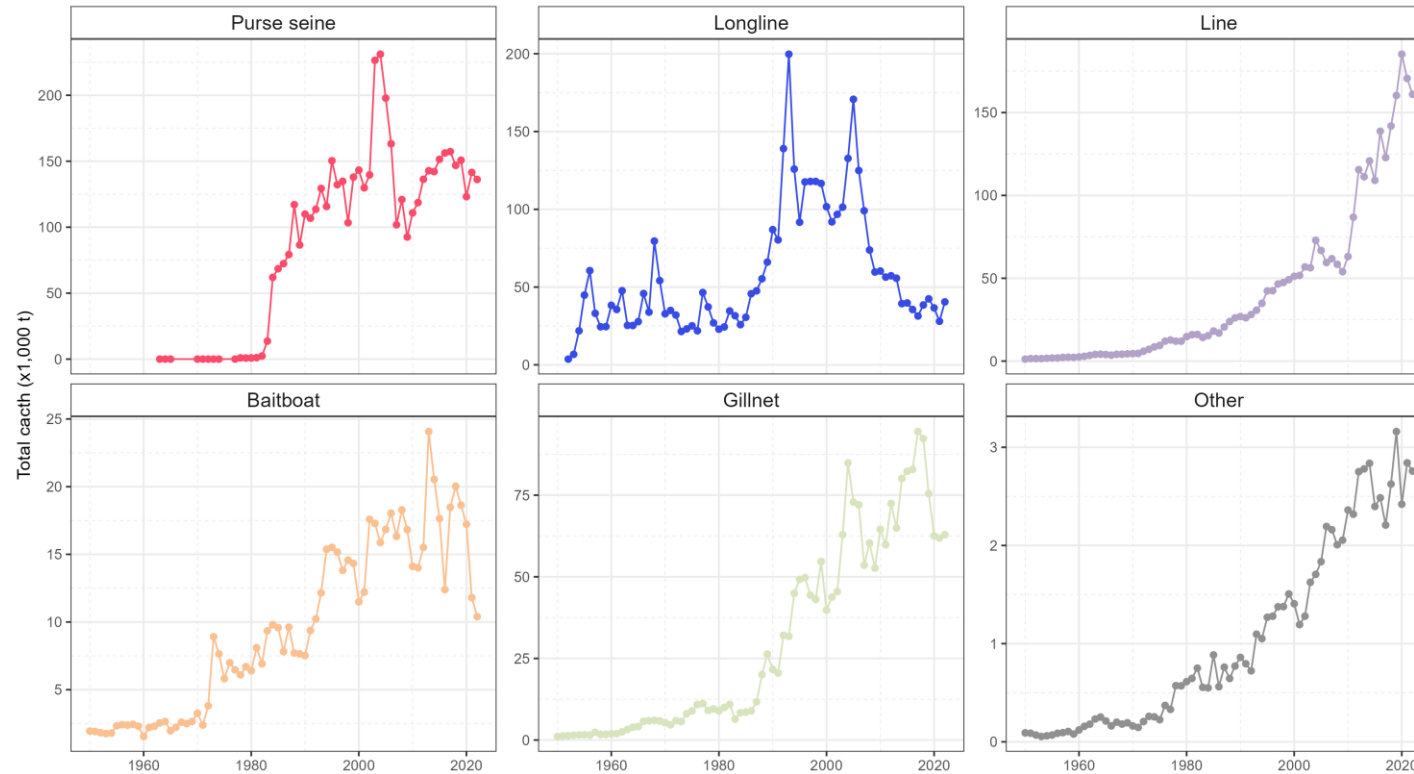


# MARKED SPATIAL SEGREGATION IN FISHERIES



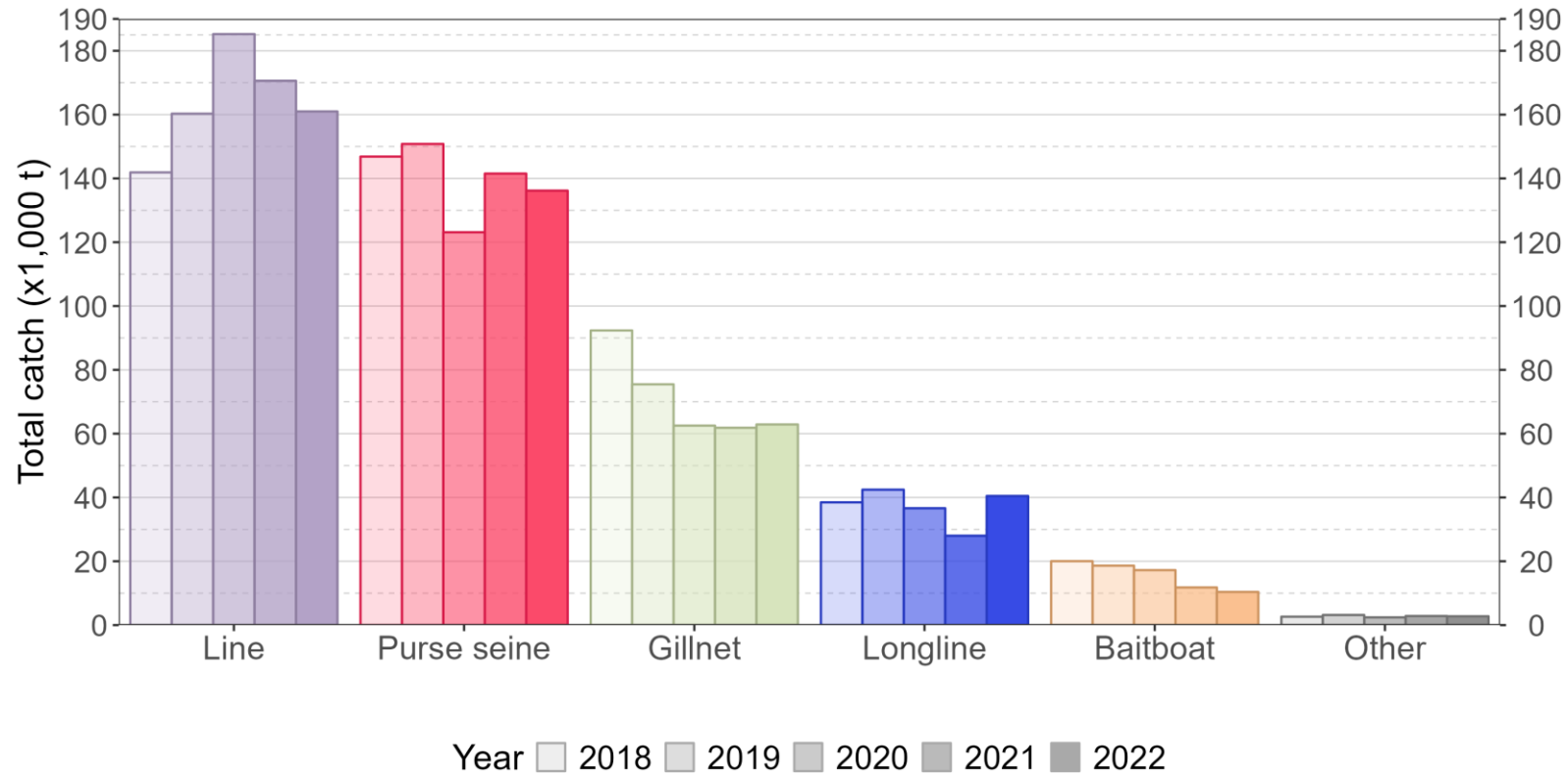
Distribution of the raised catches (t) of yellowfin tuna by fishery in 2022

# DIVERGENT TRENDS BETWEEN FISHERY GROUP



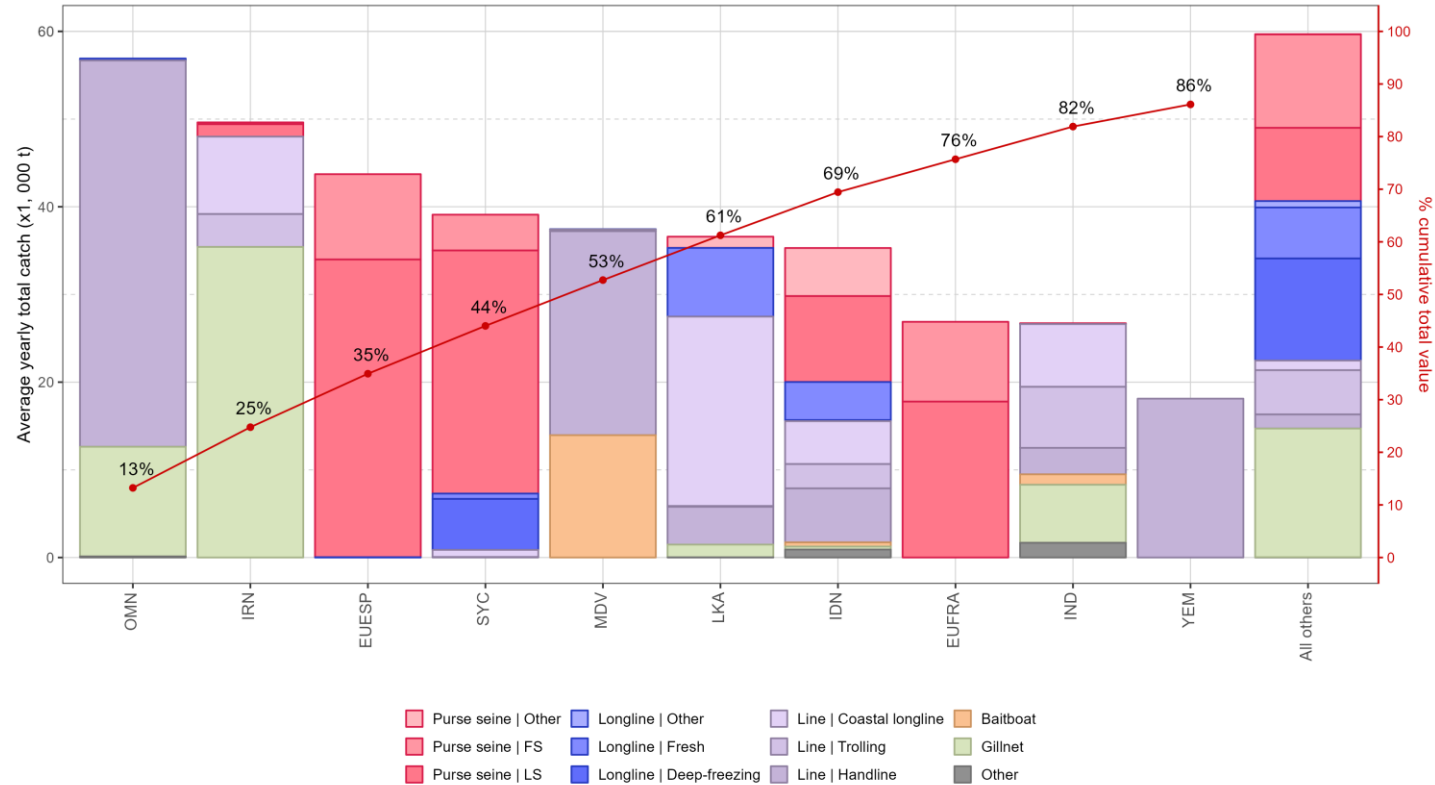
Annual time series of retained catches (t) of yellowfin tuna by fishery group, 1950-2022

# 8% DECREASE IN TOTAL CATCH SINCE 2019



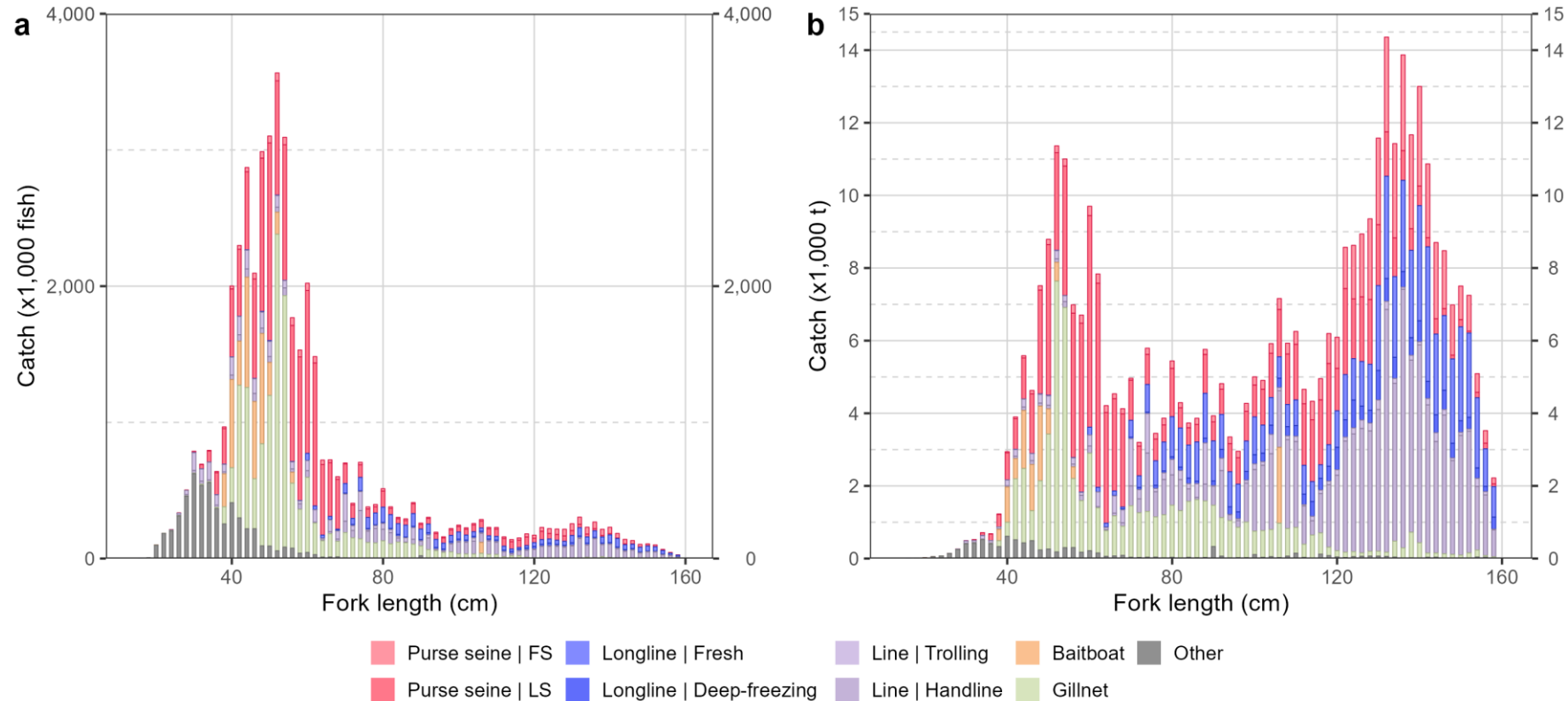
Recent annual catch trends (t) of yellowfin tuna by fishery group, 2018-2022

# SIGNIFICANT CATCHES BY MULTIPLE COUNTRIES



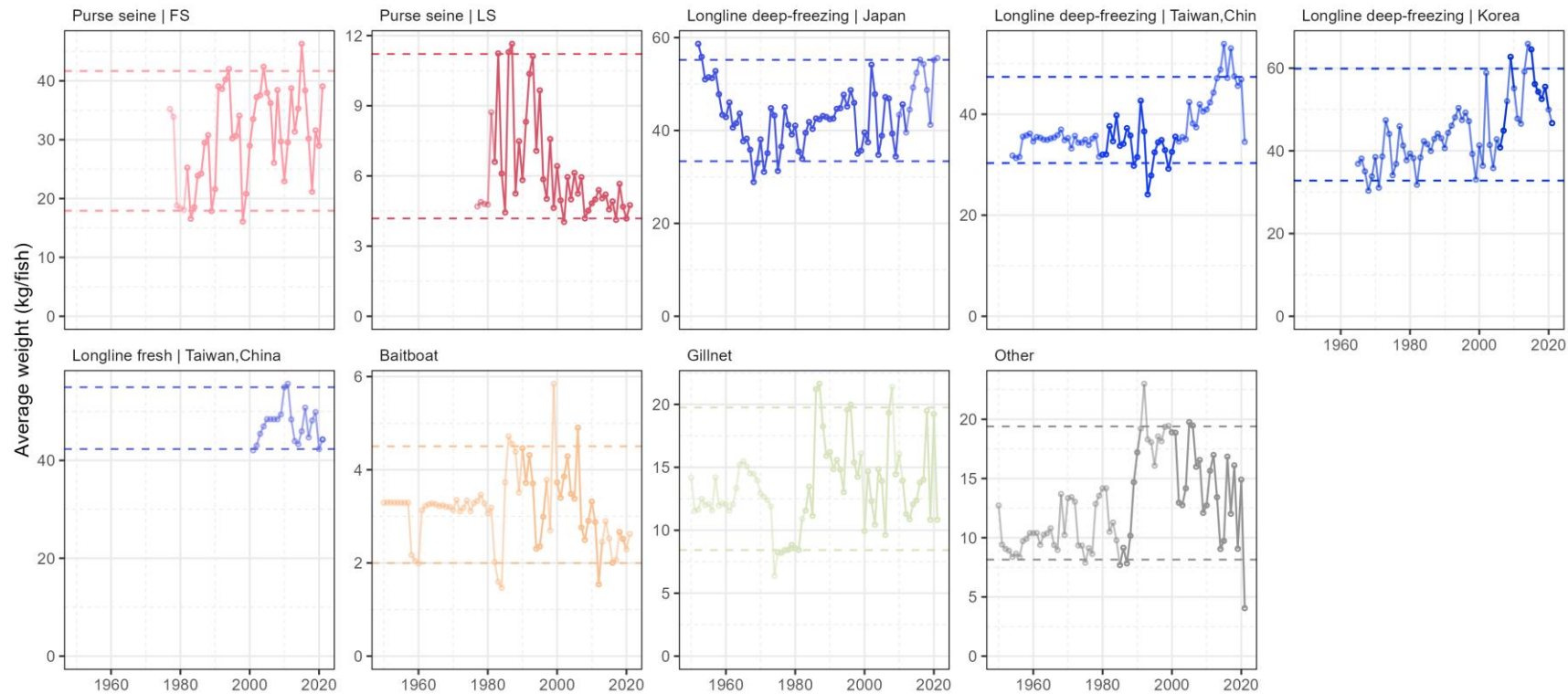
Mean annual catches (t) of yellowfin tuna by fleet and fishery, 2018-2022

# SIMILAR SIZE CLASSES CAUGHT WITH DIFFERENT GEARS



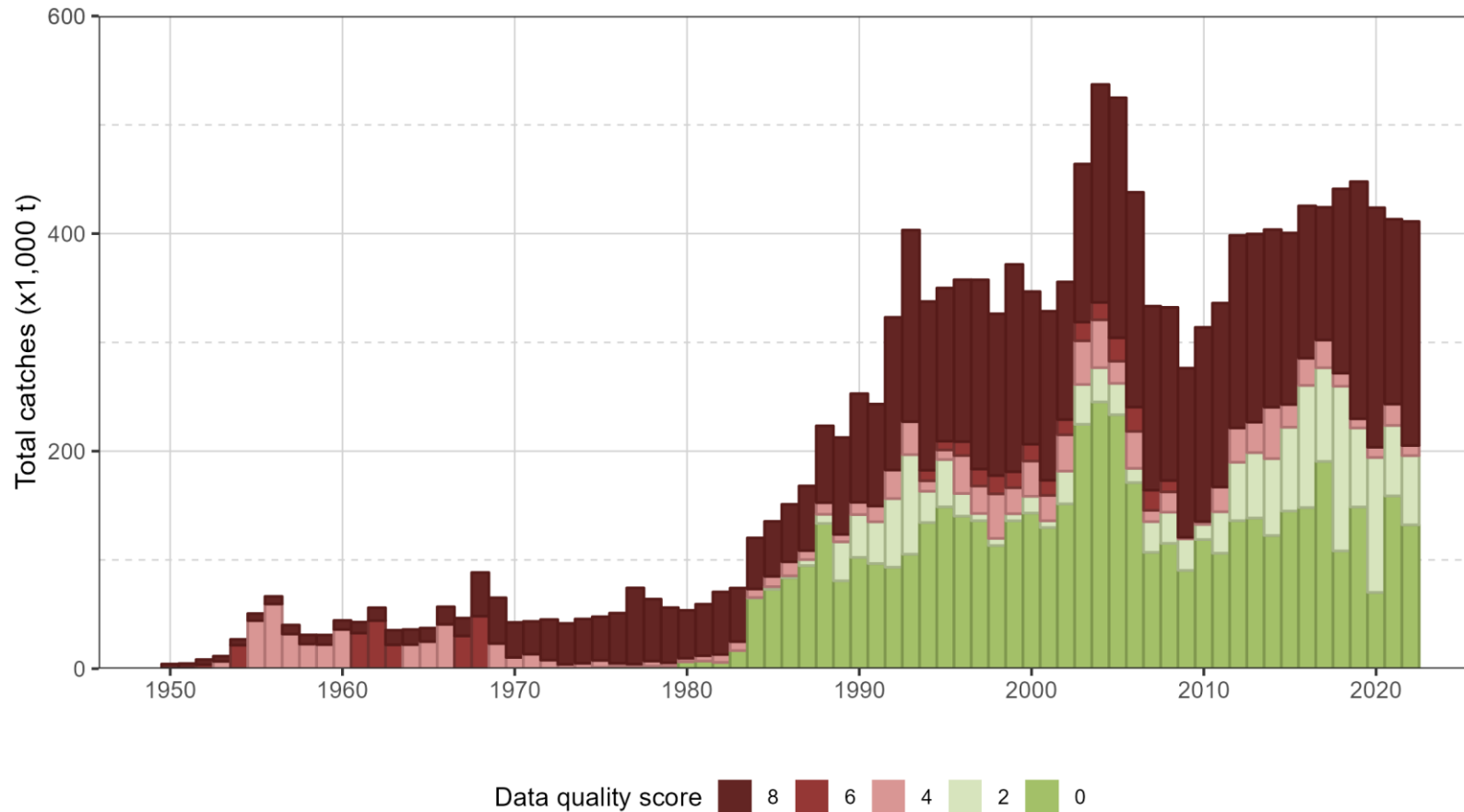
Estimates of catch-at-size of yellowfin tuna in (a) numbers and (b) weights in 2022

# DIVERGENT TRENDS IN AVERAGE WEIGHTS



Annual time series of average weights (kg/fish) of yellowfin tuna by fishery, 1950-2022

# LACK OF SIZE DATA FOR MANY COASTAL FISHERIES



# CONCLUSIONS

- 2022: ~90% reported by IOTC standards, 5% repeated from 2021
- Little change in time series of catch since last WPTT overall
- Some uncertainties for Yemen, Tanzania, Kenya, and Indonesia
- Lack of estimates of IUU and project of review of data on discards
- Little information on fishing effort in coastal fisheries
- Need to explore catch and effort data from I.R. Iran, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan for deriving CPUE for gillnet fisheries