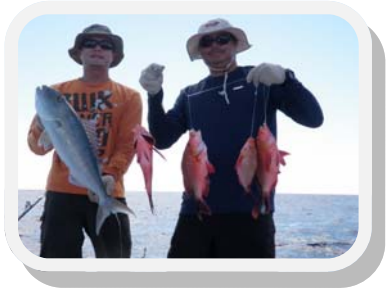


F I S H E R I E S F A C T S H E E T

TERRITORY OF GUAM



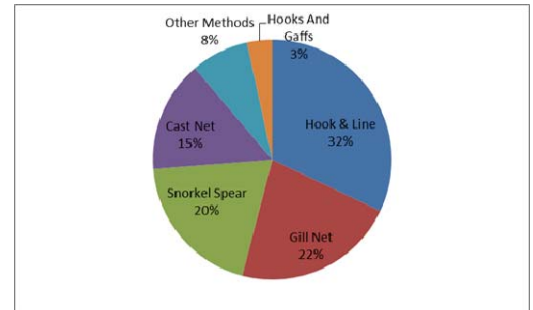
The Territory of Guam has shore and boat-based fisheries for coral reef and bottomfish species.

Coral Reef Fisheries

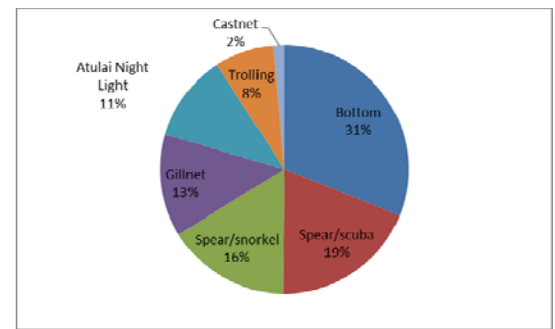
- Small-scale and important for nutritional, social and cultural purposes as food, trade and recreation.
- Common shore-based fishing techniques include spearfishing, cast netting, hook and line and gleaning.
- Common shore-based fish caught include: Surgeonfish, parrotfish, goatfish, groupers and wrasse.
- Common boat-based fishing techniques include: trolling, bottomfishing, spearfishing, octopus hooking, cast netting.
- Common boat-based fish caught include: emperors, groupers, jacks, snappers.

Bottomfish Fisheries

- Occurs primarily around the island of Guam, southern banks and north to Rota.
- Primarily consists of small-scale local boats engaged in local commercial and subsistence fishing.
- Two sectors: Deep water (>500 ft) and shallow water (100-500 ft).
- Deep water: commercial, targeting snappers and groupers.
- Shallow water: commercial and subsistence, targeting the redgill emperor.
- Gears: hand lines, home fabricated hand reels, electric reels (more common with the larger vessels).

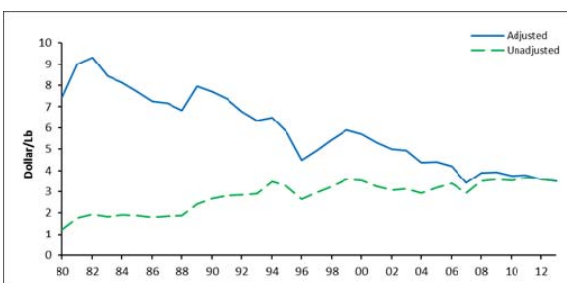
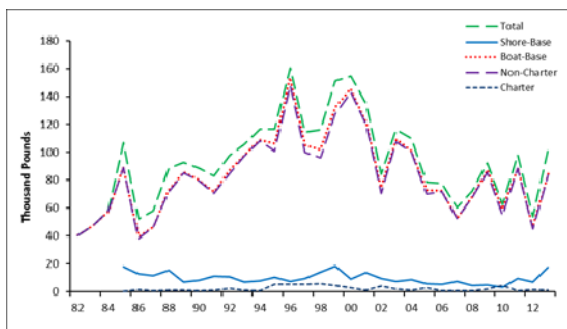


Catch composition of shore-based coral reef fisheries



Catch composition of boat-based coral reef fisheries

Catch composition (top) and average prices (bottom) of bottomfish fisheries



The number of boats bottomfishing gradually increased through the early 2000s, with a peak of 481 boats in 2003. The number of boats in 2013 is above the 32-year average of 280 boats.

Data Source: DRAFT WPRFMC 2014 Annual Archipelagic Fishery Ecosystem Report



FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

- Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) for federally managed species
- 50-mile closures for bottomfish vessels larger than 50 feet in length
- Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat of Particular Concern designations
- Special Coral Reef Ecosystem Permits
- Marianas Trench Marine National Monument

TERRITORIAL

- Five Marine Preserves around Guam
- Prohibitions include destructive fishing methods such as explosives and poisons
- No commercial harvest of trochus, sea cucumbers or urchins
- No harvest of berried crustaceans and size limits for lobsters and crabs
- No harvesting of coral

ACL: In 2006 the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act required the Regional Fishery Management Councils to specify ACLs for all species in the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plans. ACL is a quota—based management to regulate catches to sustainable levels estimated by stock assessments. There are 115 species and species complexes specified for the Western Pacific Region. For more information, browse the Council website

Council's Fishery Development

- Agat Pier rehabilitation
- Data collection-creel survey and biosampling
- Construction of a fishing platform
- Rabbitfish stock enhancement project
- Community-Based Management Planning (Merizo and Yigo)

Current Fishery Issues

- Area closure due to U.S. Military Firing Range off of Ritidian
- Marianas Trench Marine National Monument
- Data collection system does not provide effective monitoring to support ACL management
- Timely deployment of Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs)

Future Priorities for Guam Fisheries

- Re-construction of Guam Fishermen's Cooperative
- Infrastructure development (east side boat ramps)
- Construction and deployment of community based FADs

