

Exploring the Sharkipedia trends dataset

of chondrichthyan species (n = 391) are threatened with extinction.

(Dulvy et al., 2021)



Sharkipedia has currently 3594 measurements of 52 traits, covering 170 species

Sharkipedia an open source research initiative to make all published biological traits and population trends on sharks, rays, and chimaeras accessible to everyone. If you wish to upload trait data, please make an account.

Genus & Species

For example: Carcharhinus acronotus

Can I use the Sharkipedia dataset to summarize the overall trend of populations of sharks and their relatives?

Data 🛟 wrangling

Trend Dataframe

Species ID

Species Name

Trend ID

Type

Location

Data Type

Sampling Method

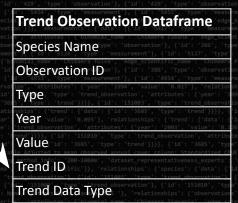
Number of Years

Comments

Page and Figure Number

Line Used

... etc.

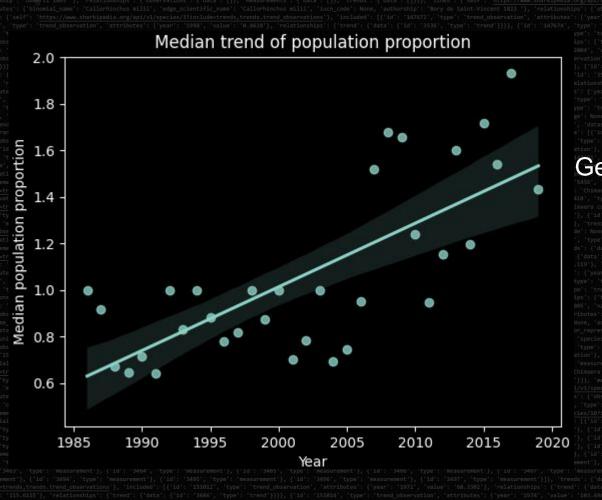


- Sharkipedia API
- Reshaping the Sharkipedia JSON
- Trend values transformation

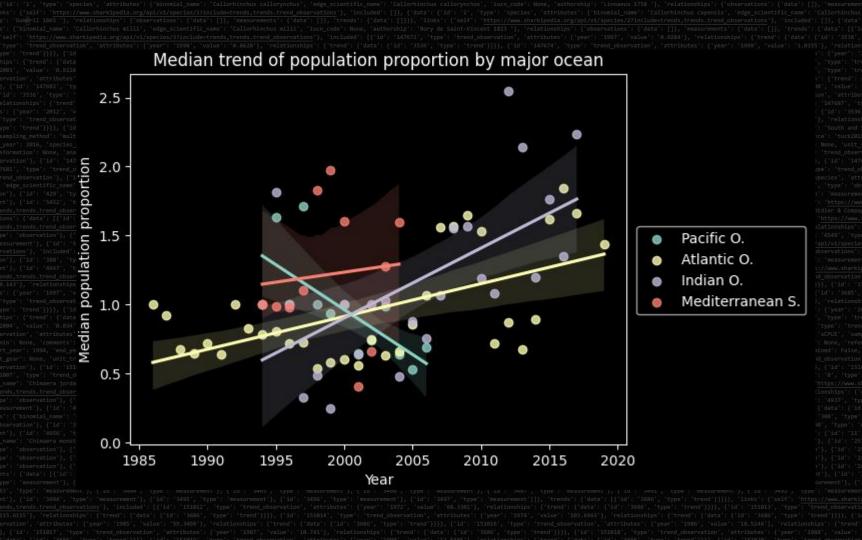
Methodology

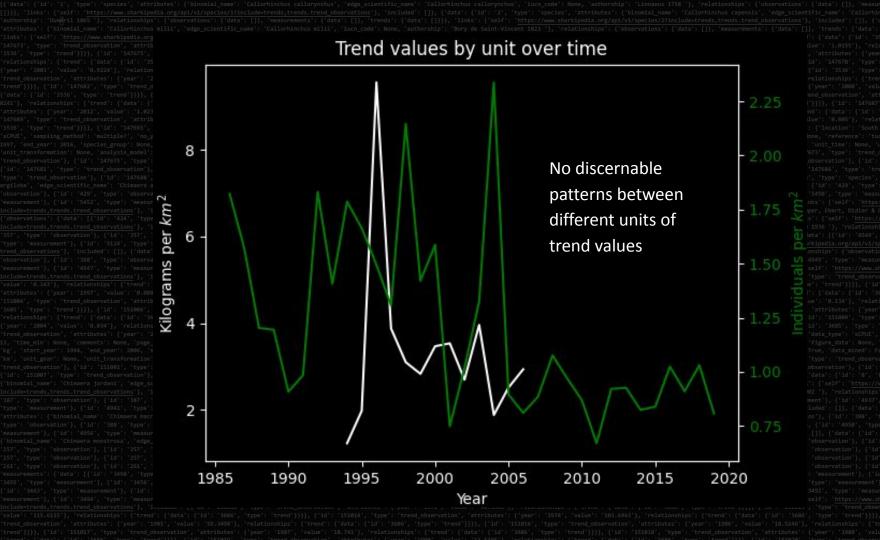
- For each trend, calculated:
 - Percent change year by year
 - Total change compared to first data point
 - Normalizes the values to be compared with other trends
- Generated median values for total change (expressed as ratio to first observation)

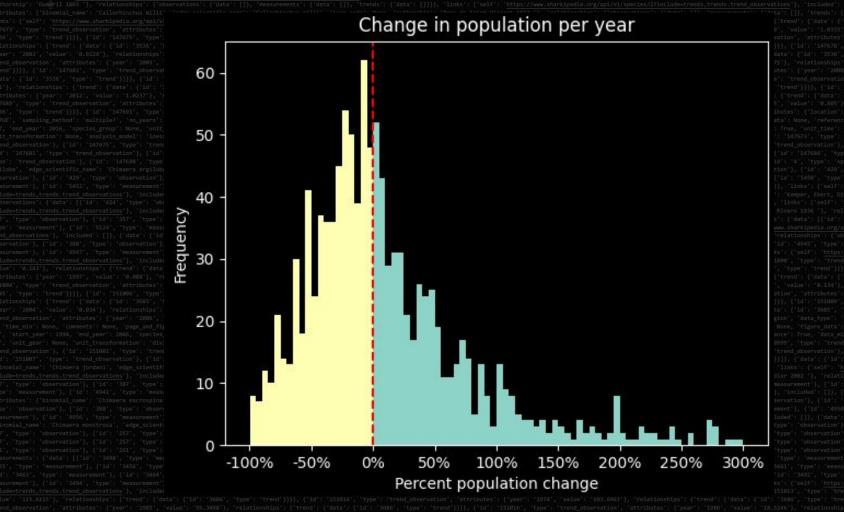
RESULTS



General positive trend







Threat status of species with data

Species with trends data grouped by IUCN Red List Category

All chondrichthyan species grouped by IUCN Red List Category

	Number of species	Proportion of total species
CR(PE)	nan	nan
CR	6.0	0.103
EN	5.0	0.086
VU	14.0	0.241
NT	11.0	0.19
LC	21.0	0.362
DD	1.0	0.017
In Progress	nan	nan
Invalid Species	nan	nan
	Number of species	Proportion of total species
	Number of species	Proportion of total species 0.002
_observation', 'attributes': (') }}}		
CR(PE)	3	0.002
CR(PE) CR	3 87	0.002 0.07
CR(PE) CR EN	3 87 122	0.002 0.07 0.098
CR(PE) CR EN VU	3 87 122 181	0.002 0.07 0.098 0.145
CR(PE) CR EN VU NT	3 87 122 181 124	0.002 0.07 0.098 0.145 0.099
CR(PE) CR EN VU NT LC	3 87 122 181 124 533	0.002 0.07 0.098 0.145 0.099 0.427



Underrepresentation of 'Least Concern' in trend dataset



Discussion

- My methodology did not clearly reproduce the findings that sharks and their relatives are doing worse
- There are over 1,000 species of chondrichthyans, cannot simply take the median value across all of them
- The IUCN Red List uses additional criteria for assessing threat, not just catch trend information.

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References

Dulvy, N. K., Pacoureau, N., Rigby, C. L., Pollom, R. A., Jabado, R. W., Ebert, D. A., Finucci, B., Pollock, C. M., Cheok, J., Derrick, D. H., Herman, K. B., Sherman, C. S., VanderWright, W. J., Lawson, J. M., Walls, R. H. L., Carlson, J. K., Charvet, P., Bineesh, K. K., Fernando, D., Ralph, G. M., Matsushiba, J. H., Hilton-Taylor, C., Fordham, S. V., & Simpfendorfer, C. A. (2021). Overfishing drives over one-third of all sharks and rays toward a global extinction crisis. *Current Biology*, 31(21), 4773-4787.e8. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2021.08.062

Sharkipedia. (n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from https://www.sharkipedia.org/