

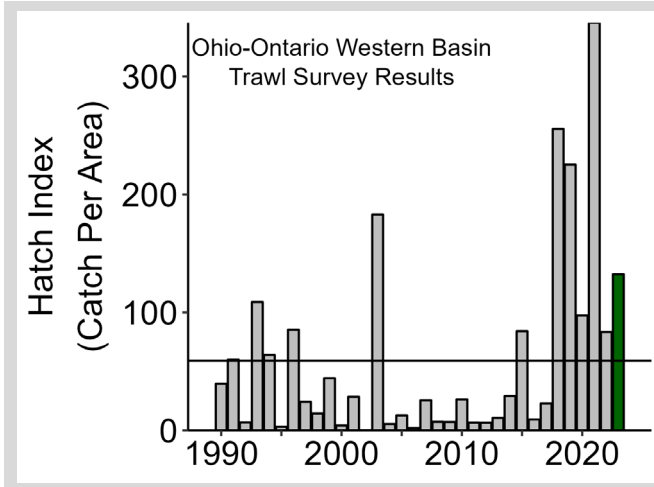
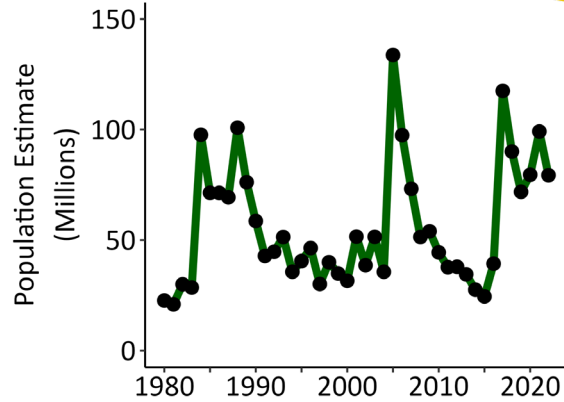


Status of the Lake Erie Walleye Fishery 2024



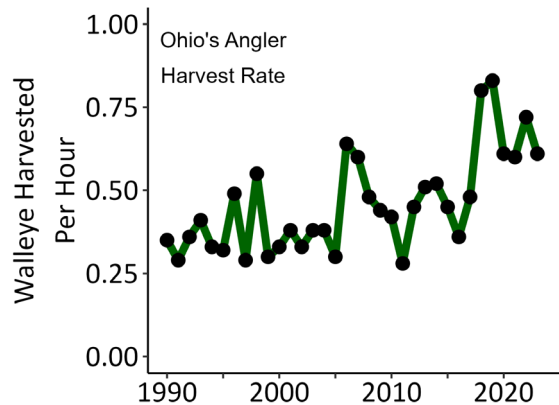
Lake Erie Walleye Population: Abundant in 2023

- The estimated number of adult walleye in 2023 was 89 million fish.
- The 2024 adult walleye population prediction is within the top 25% of the past 30 years, comparable to the 1980s when Lake Erie became recognized as the “Walleye Capital of the World.”



Another Strong Hatch in 2023

- Seven of the past 10 walleye hatches have been from above-average to exceptional (black line = average), including three of the largest hatches ever sampled.
- A successful 2023 hatch (green bar) was seen in the western basin.
- Strong hatches since 2015 will provide world-class walleye fishing for years to come.



Excellent Fishing Will Continue in 2024

- Most catches will be 15-24” with trophy-sized fish from year classes before 2015.
- Anglers can also expect to catch numbers of fish less than the 15” minimum size limit.
- In 2023, the number of walleye harvested per hour was in the top 10% of the past 30 years.