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# MRIP Evaluation and Updates to the MRIP Index

Katie Drew, ASMFC

# Recreational Data Collection: MRIP

- Combination of two types of surveys:
  - Effort surveys: how many trips taken per year?
  - Angler-intercept survey: how many fish were caught per trip?
    - Species composition, disposition, length frequencies

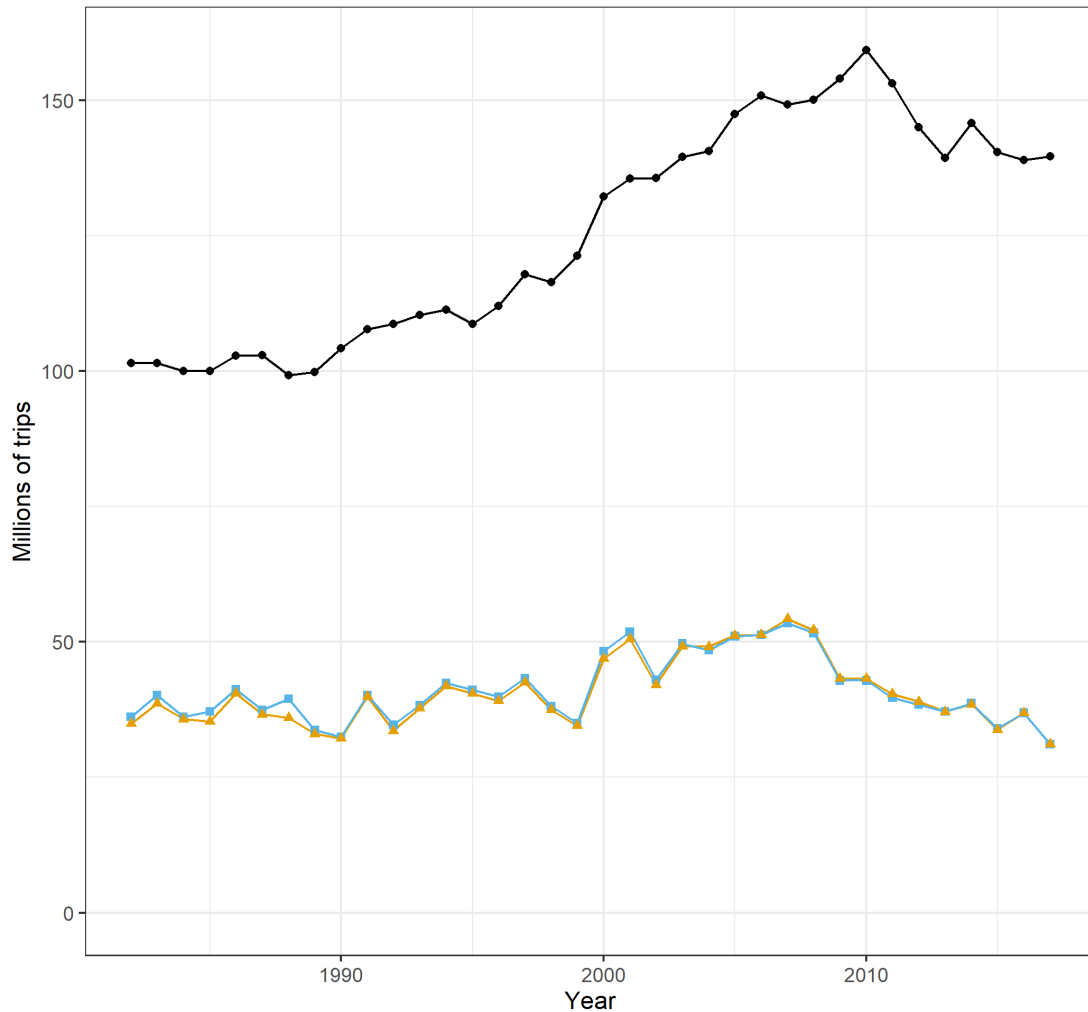
# MRIP Changes Since 2010

- Changes to the angler-intercept survey to provide more consistent sampling
- Changes to estimation method to account for clustered sample design
- Changes to the effort survey to counteract declining response rates and demographic changes in surveyed population

# MRIP Effort Survey Changes

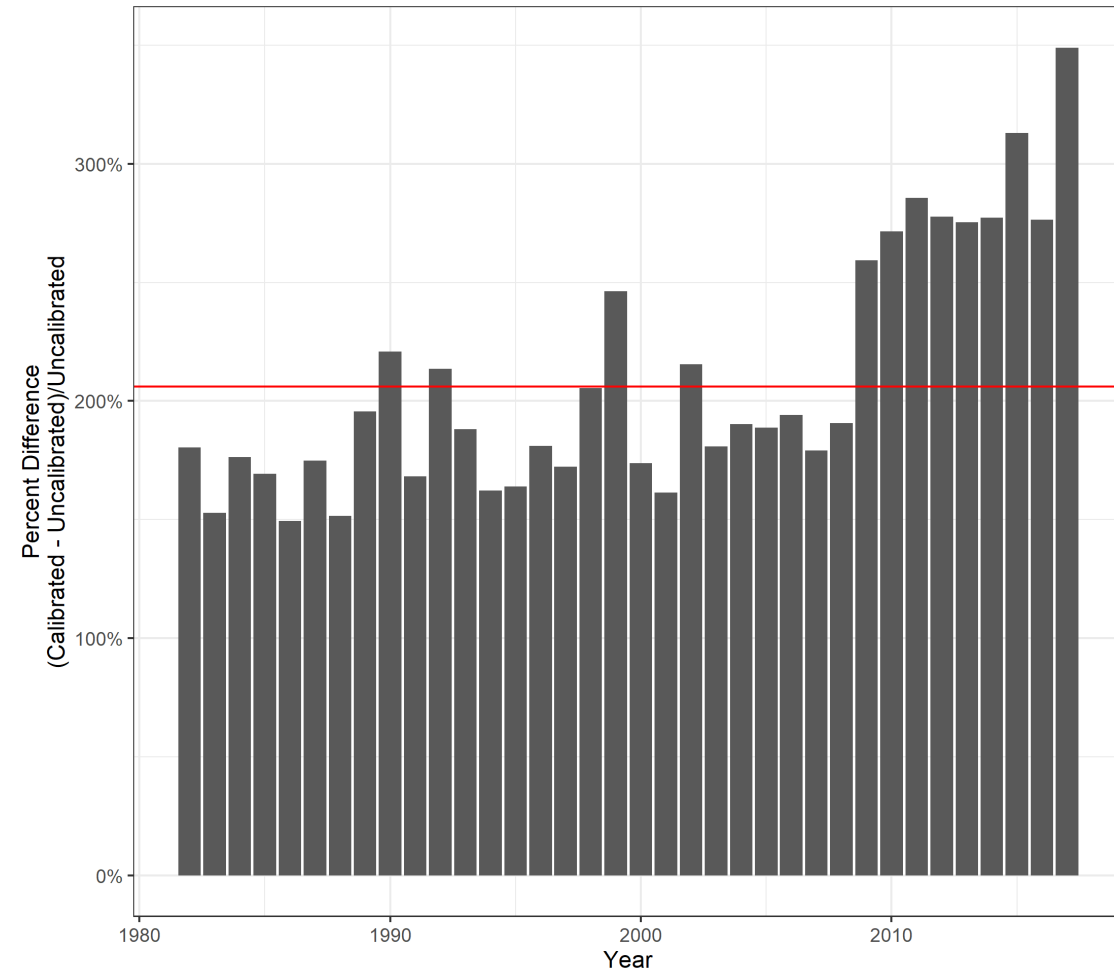
- In 2018, MRIP fully transitioned from the original Coastal Households Telephone Survey (CHTS) to estimate effort to a mail-based Fishing Effort Survey (FES)
- FES estimates of effort were consistently higher than CHTS
  - Due to: “Cold call” effect, gatekeeper effect, landline-only demographics
- Resulted in significant changes in total effort and total catch on the Atlantic coast
  - Different patterns by state and mode

# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Effort: Coastwide

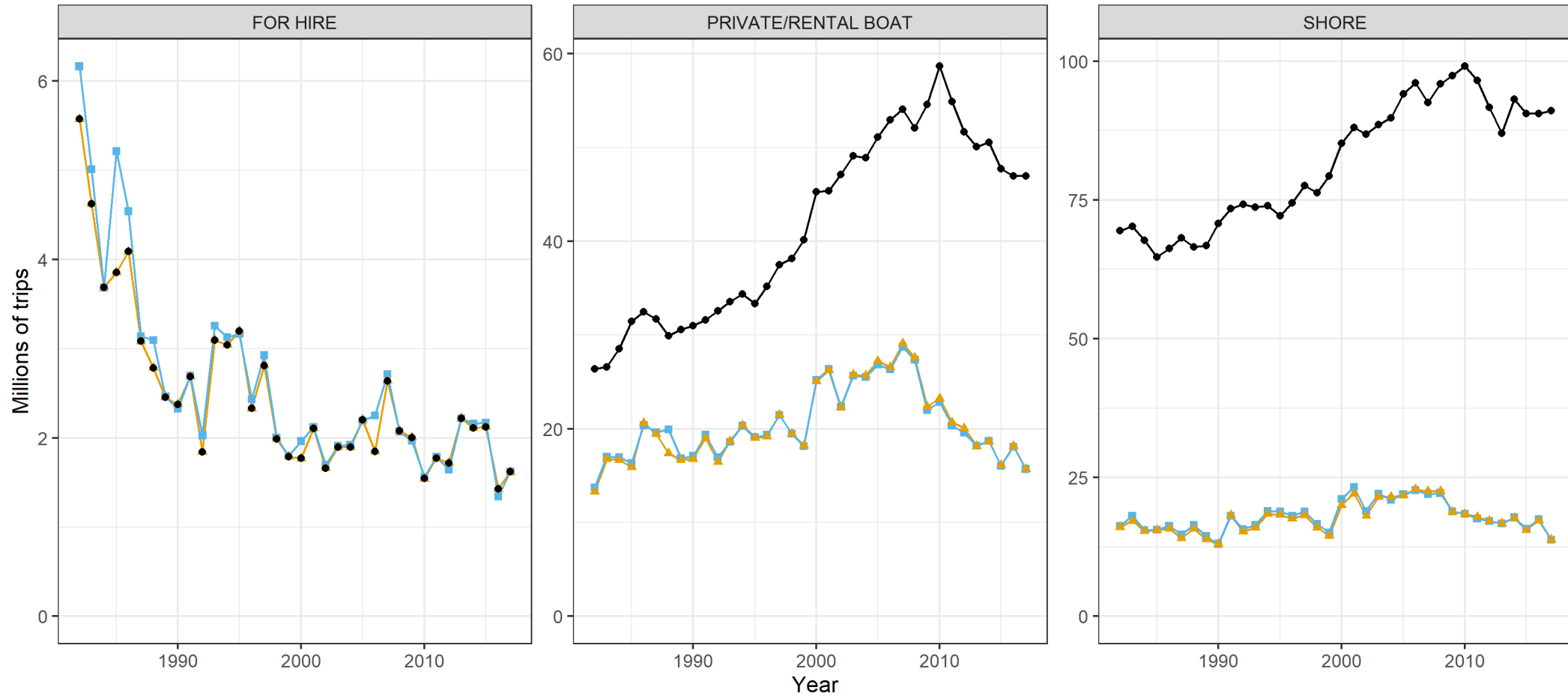


Calibration

- APAIS + FES calibrations
- ▲ APAIS calibration only
- Uncalibrated

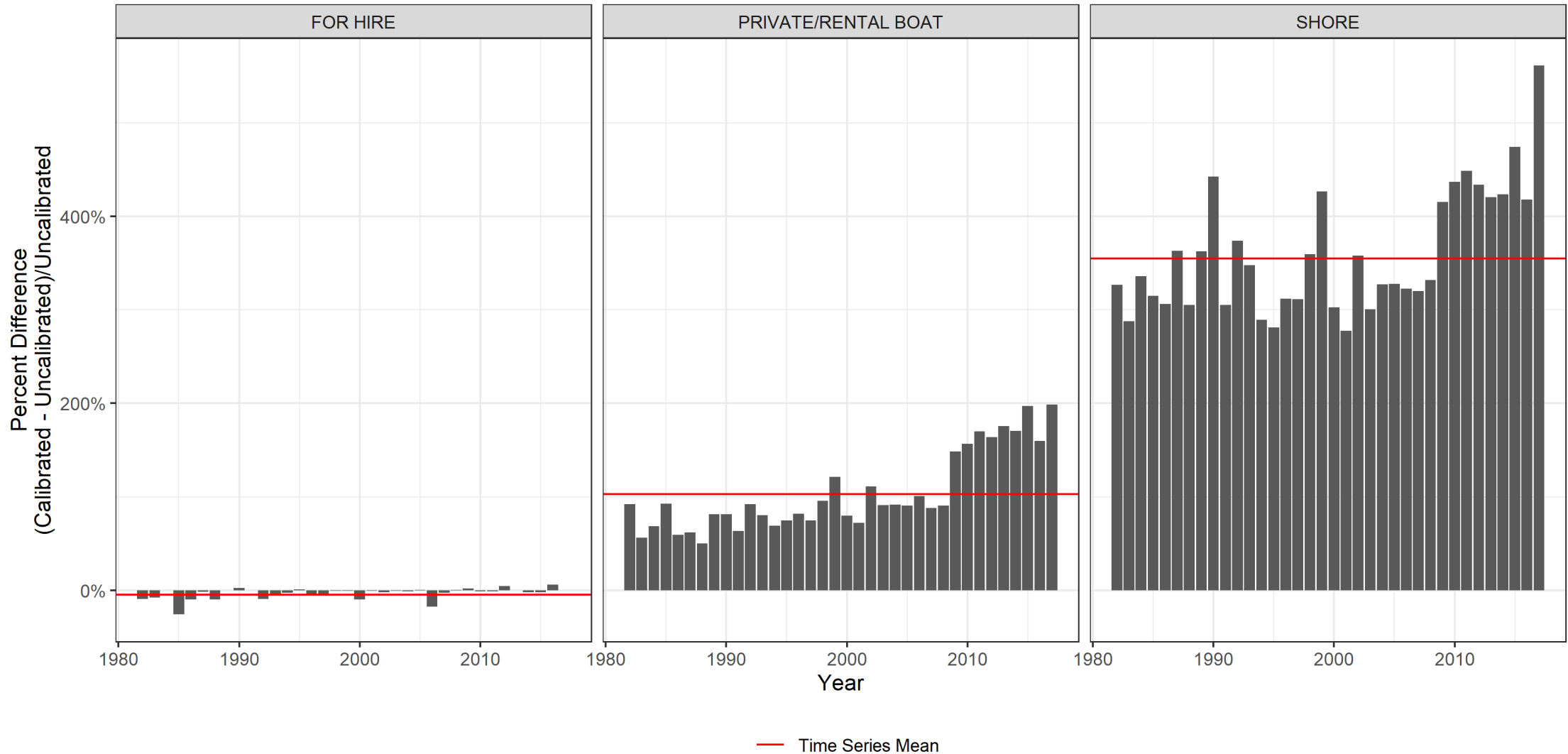


# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Effort: By Mode

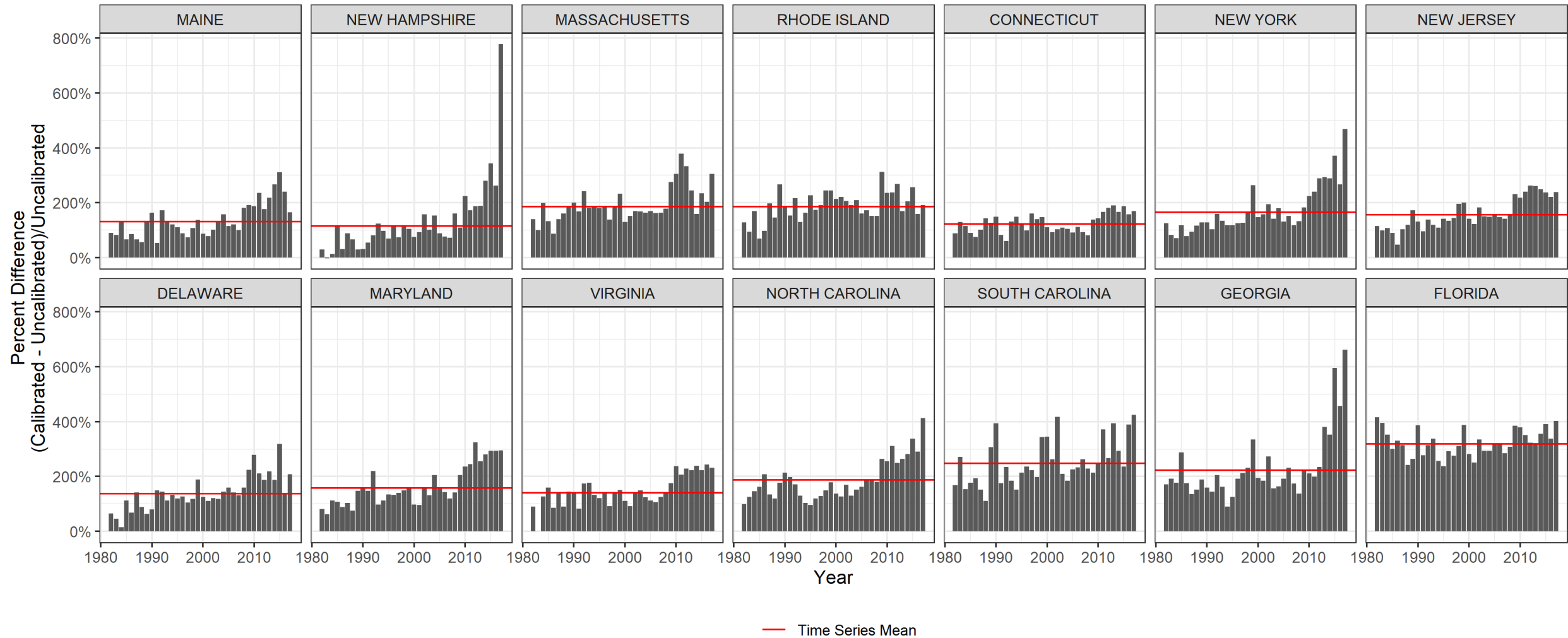


Calibration —●— APAIS + FES calibrations —▲— APAIS calibration only —■— Uncalibrated

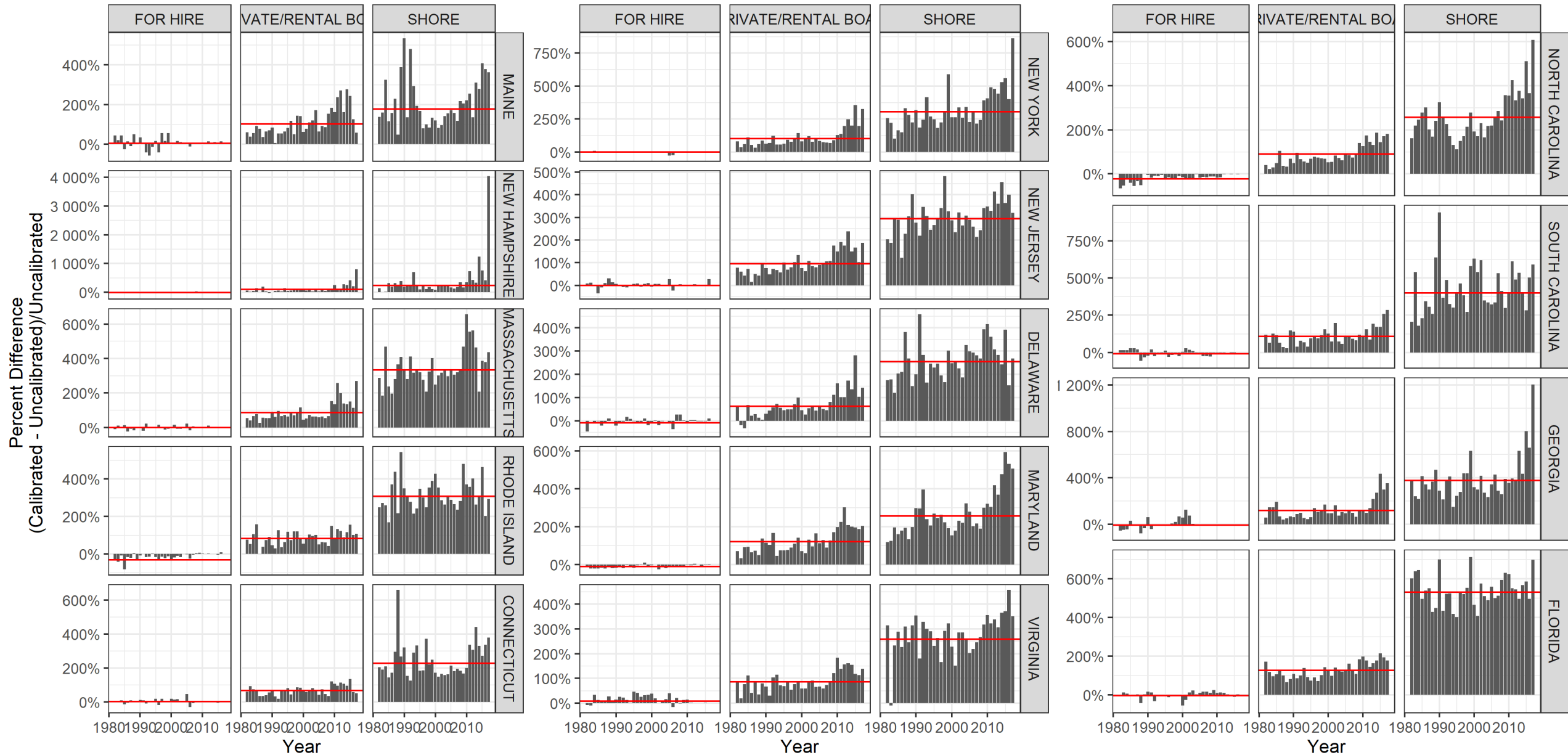
# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Effort: By Mode



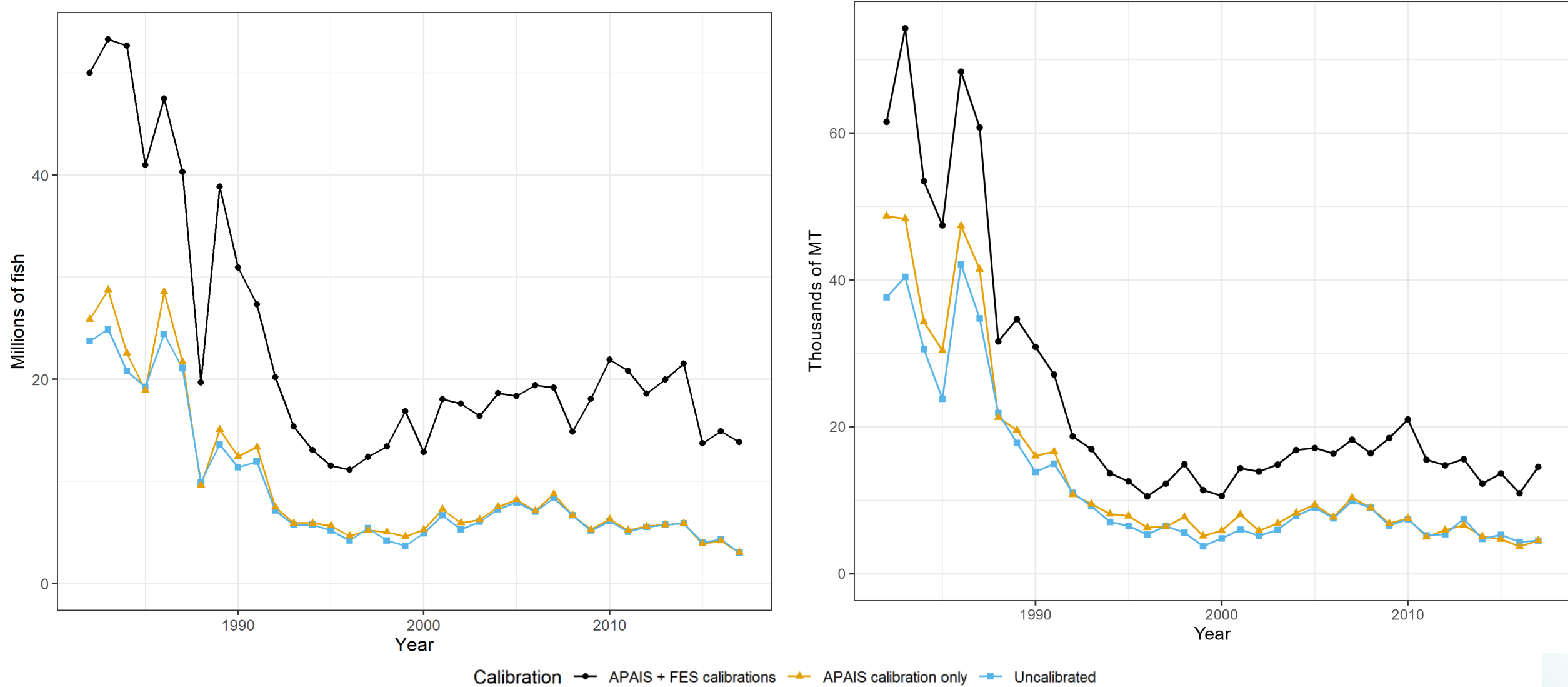
# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Effort: By State





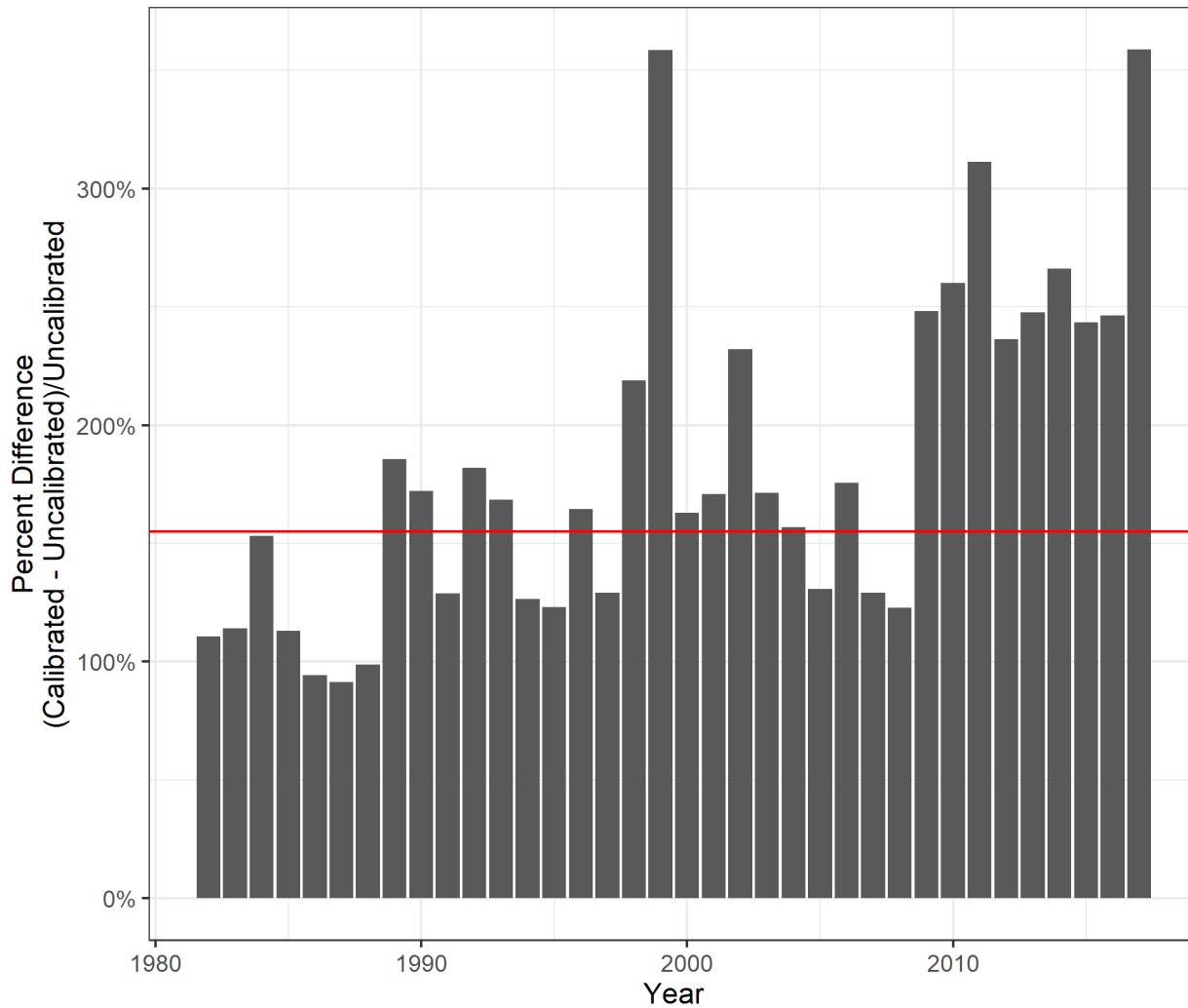


# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Harvest: Coast

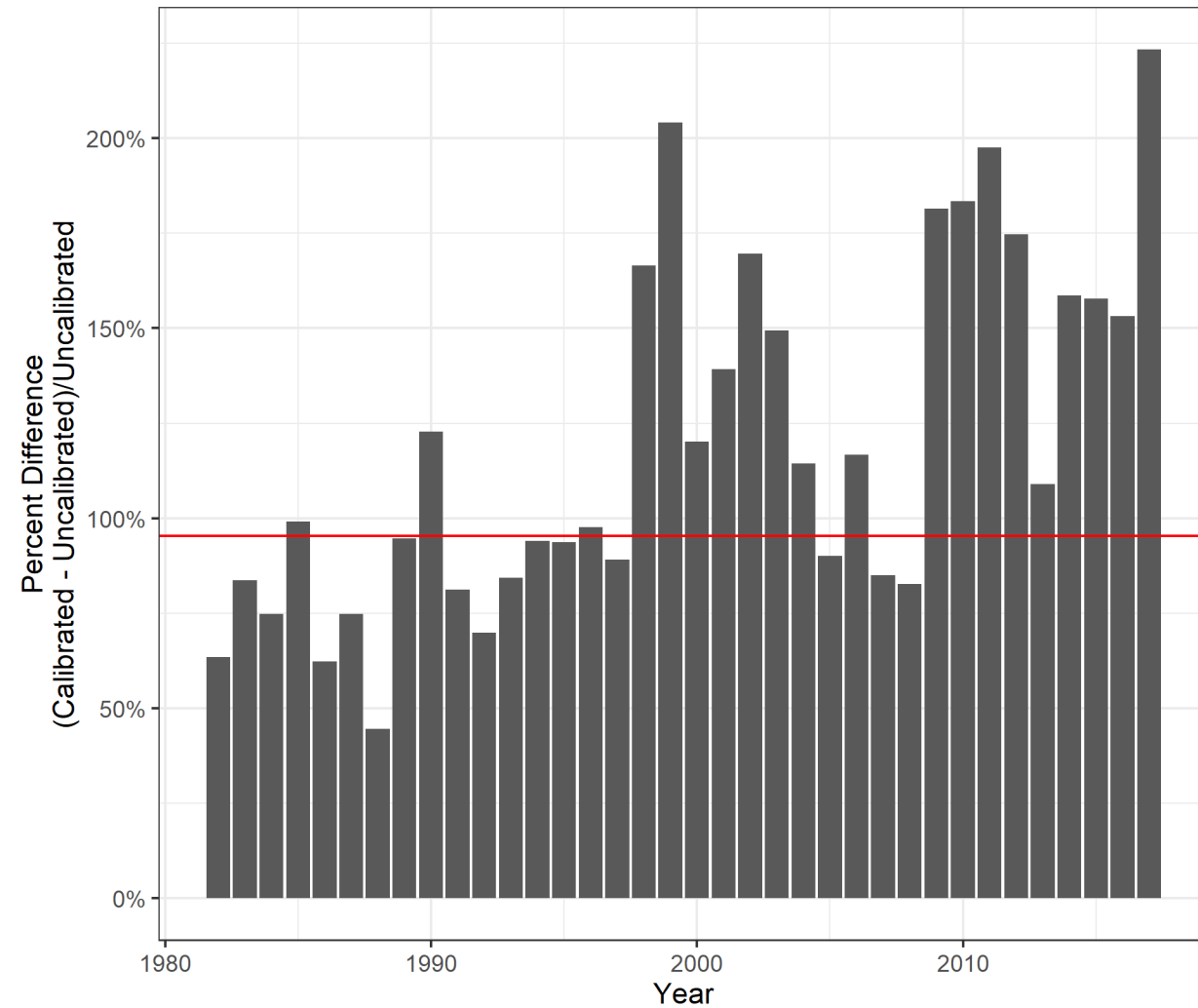


# Calibrated vs Uncalibrated Harvest: Coast

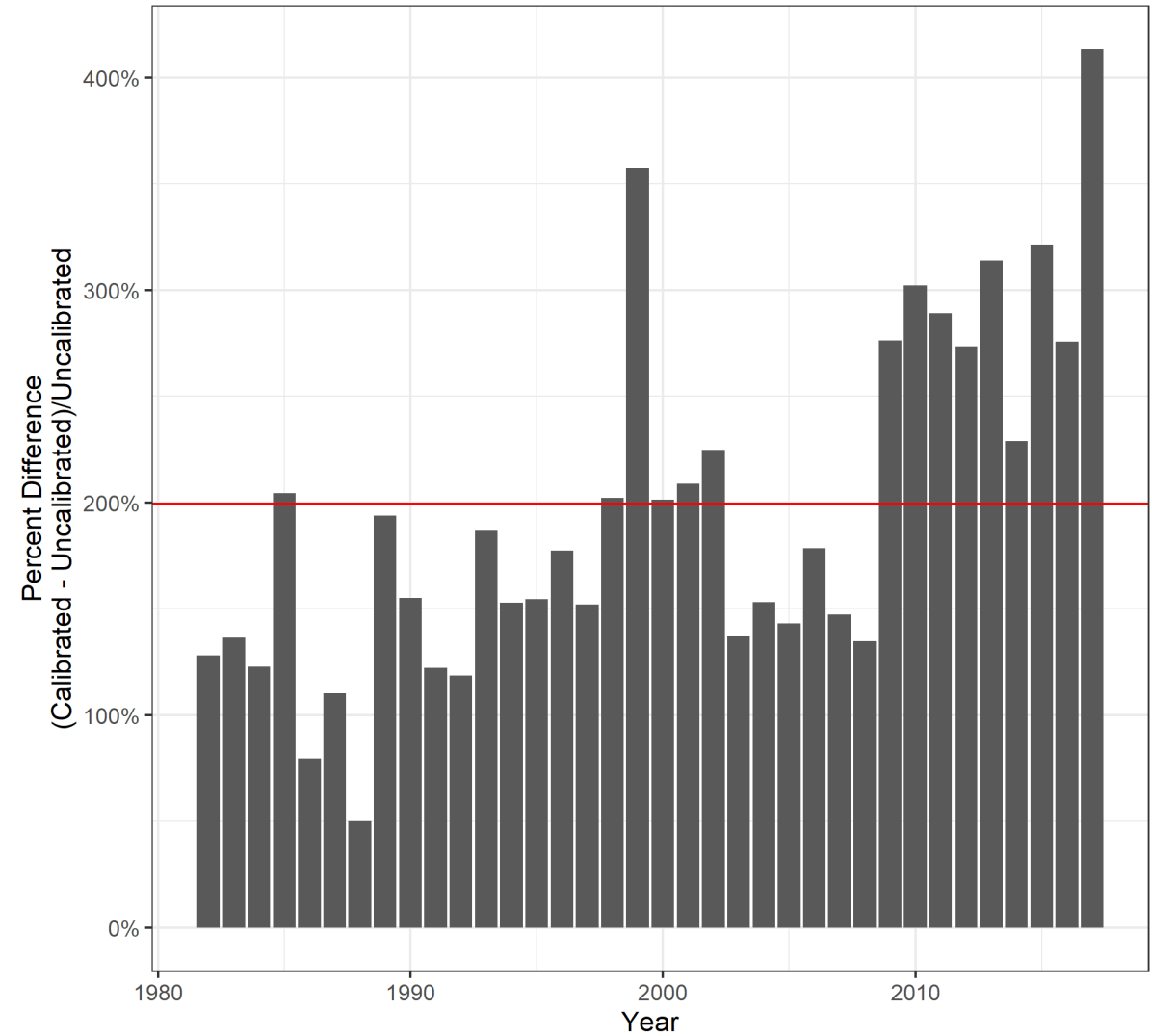
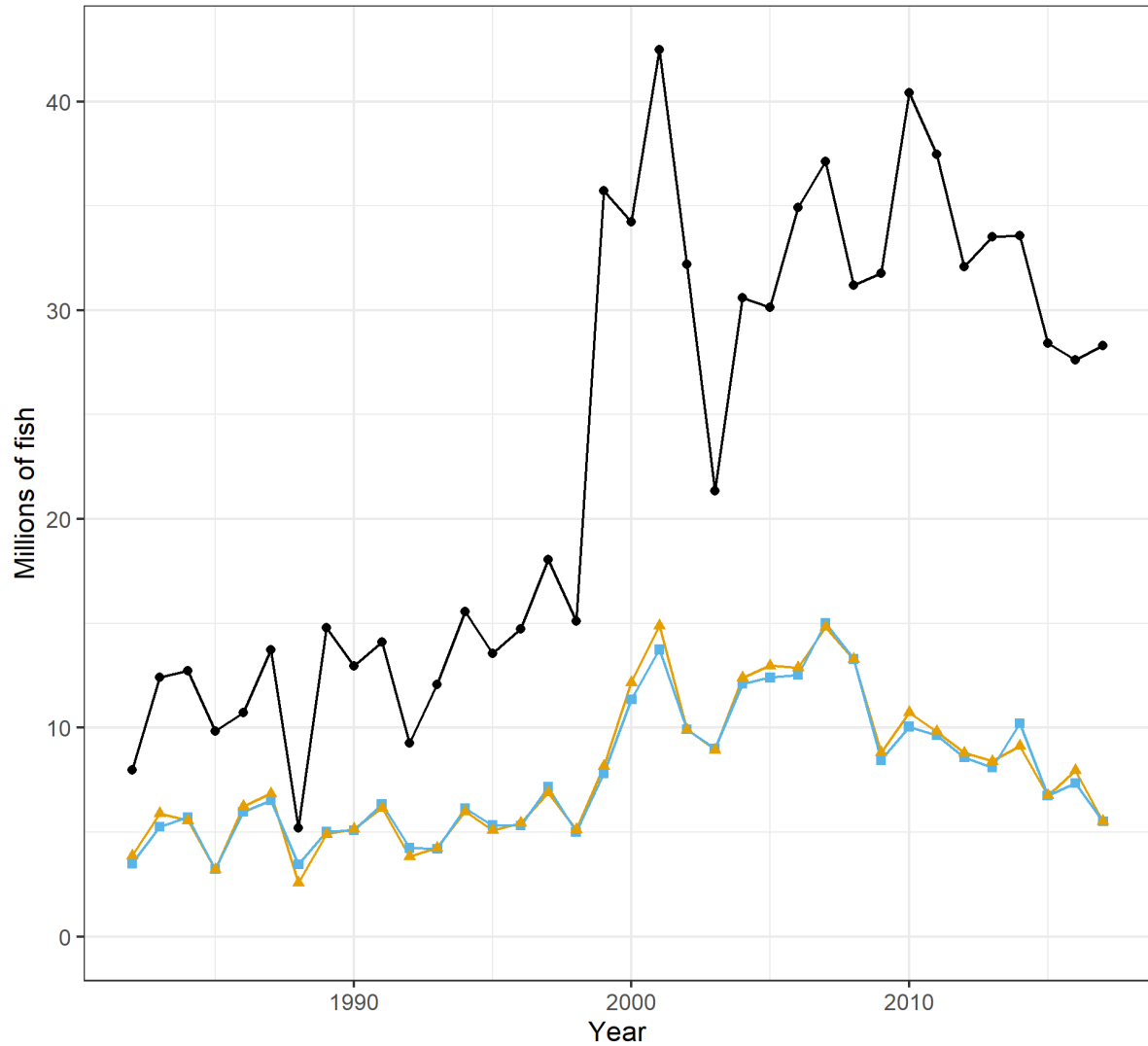
Harvest in Numbers



Harvest in Weight



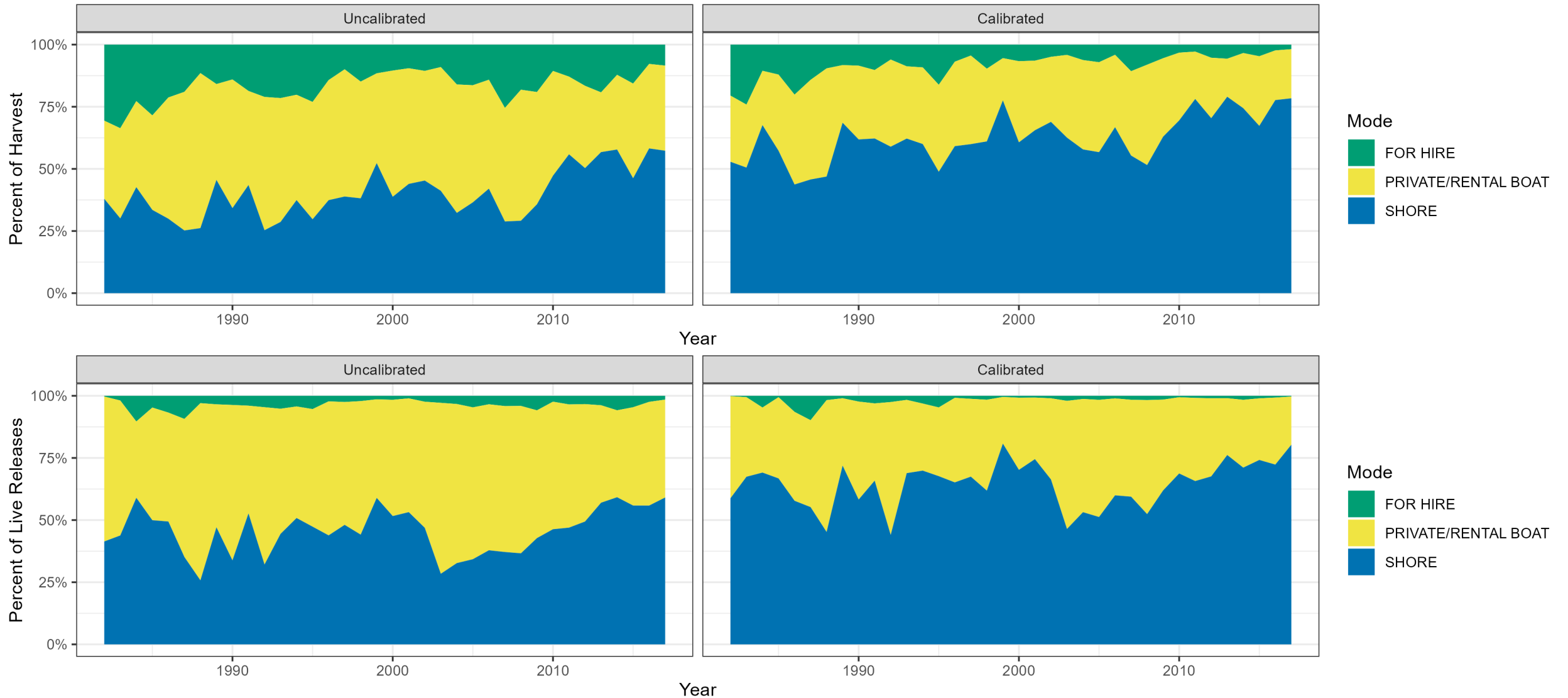
# Calibrated v Uncalibrated Live Releases: Coast



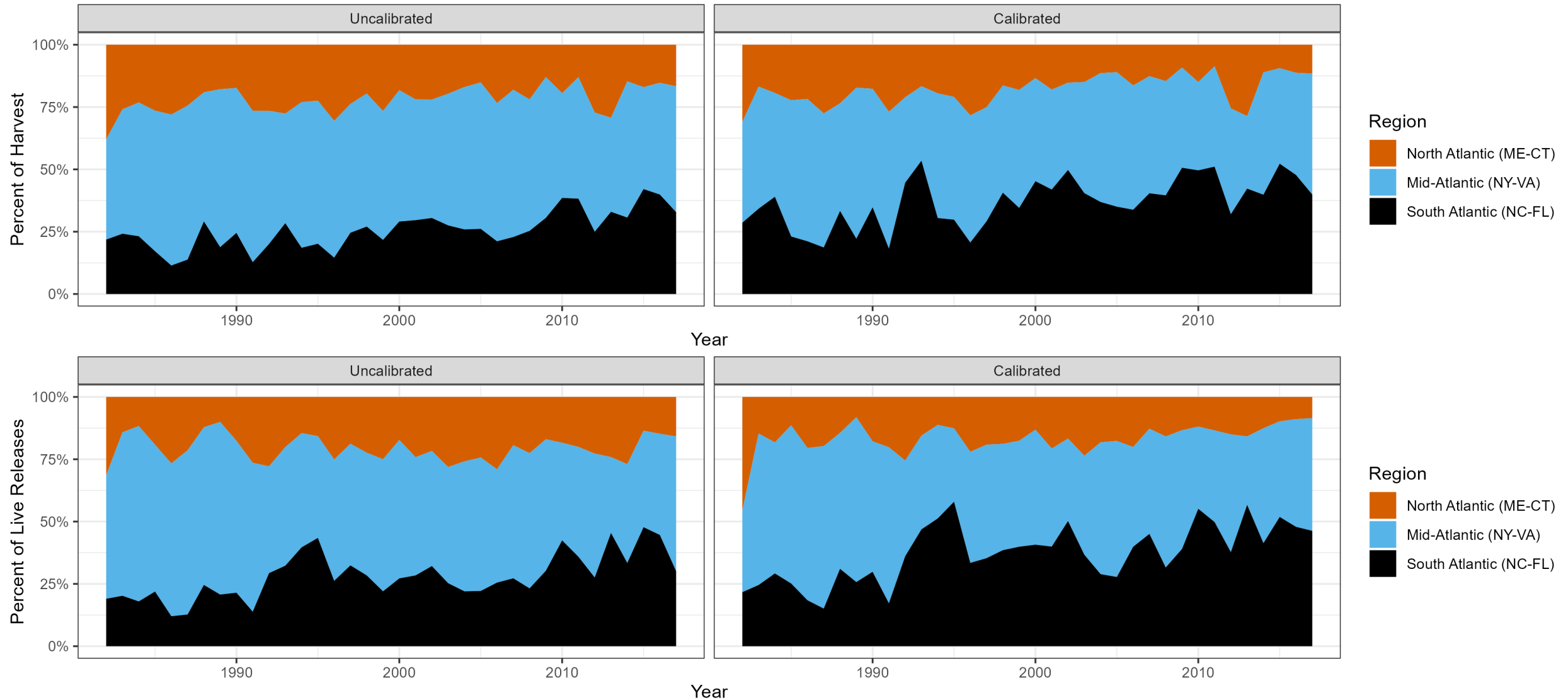
Calibration —●— APAIS + FES calibrations —▲— APAIS calibration only —■— Uncalibrated

— Time Series Mean

# Calibrated vs. Uncalibrated by Mode



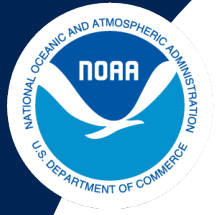
# Calibrated vs. Uncalibrated by Region



# Questions



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# MRIP Recreational CPUE Index

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# MRIP CPUE Index

- 2015 RT: directed trips method to identify bluefish trips
  - Research recommendation: explore a species association approach to develop the index
- 2022 RT: species association/guild approach used to identify bluefish trips

# Trip Selection

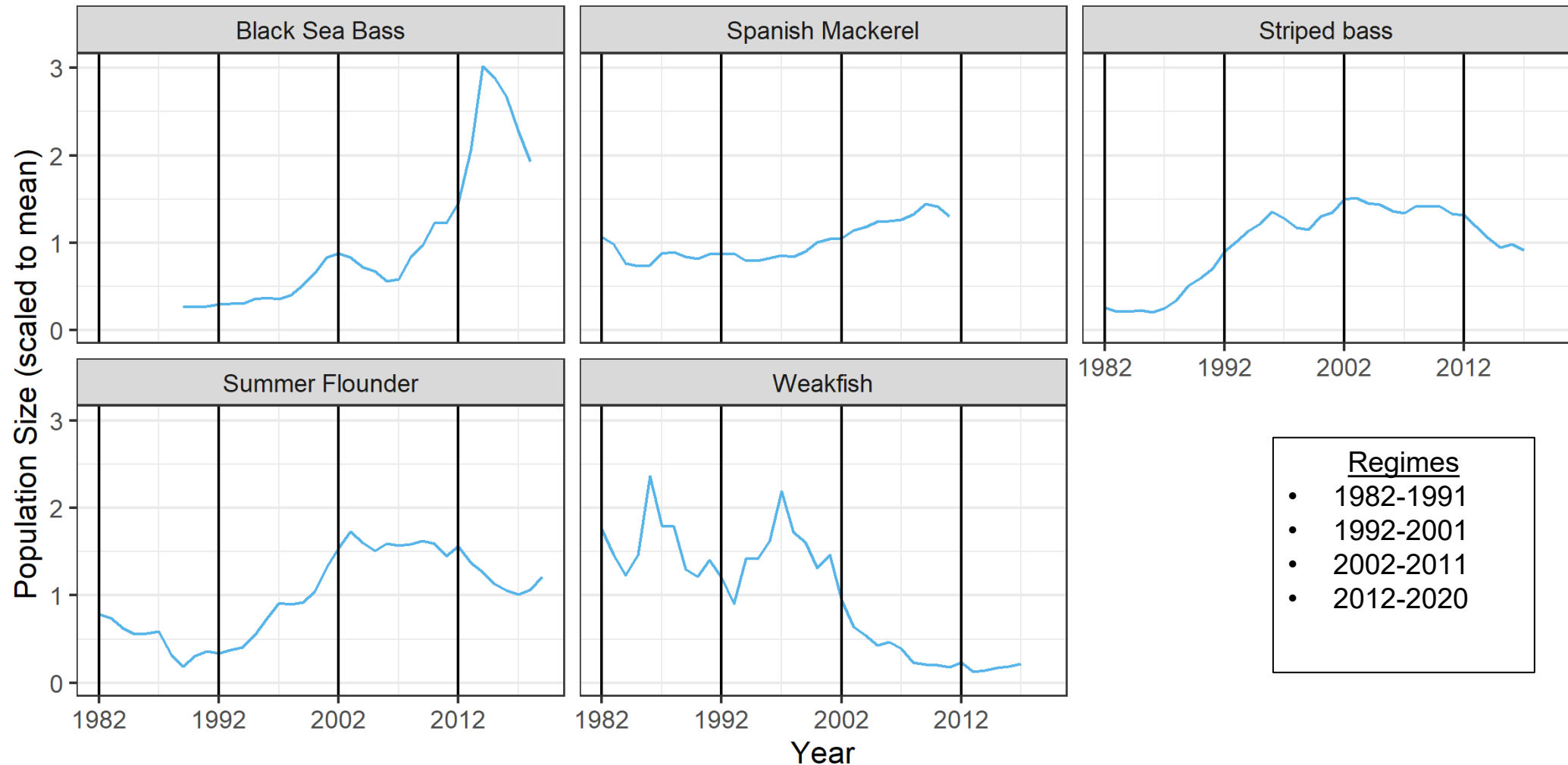
- MRIP angler-intercept survey estimates overall catch-per-trip to estimate total catch
  - Not intended to track CPUE as a metric of abundance
- Want to identify trips with meaningful zeros: trips where the angler did not catch bluefish but could have if bluefish were available/abundant that year

# Guild Trip Selection

- Created species association matrices for bluefish and other commonly caught recreational species for each state from the MRIP angler-intercept data
  - “Commonly caught” = average of 10 intercepts per year per state

# Guild Trip Selection

- Created 4 regimes based on trends in major associated species

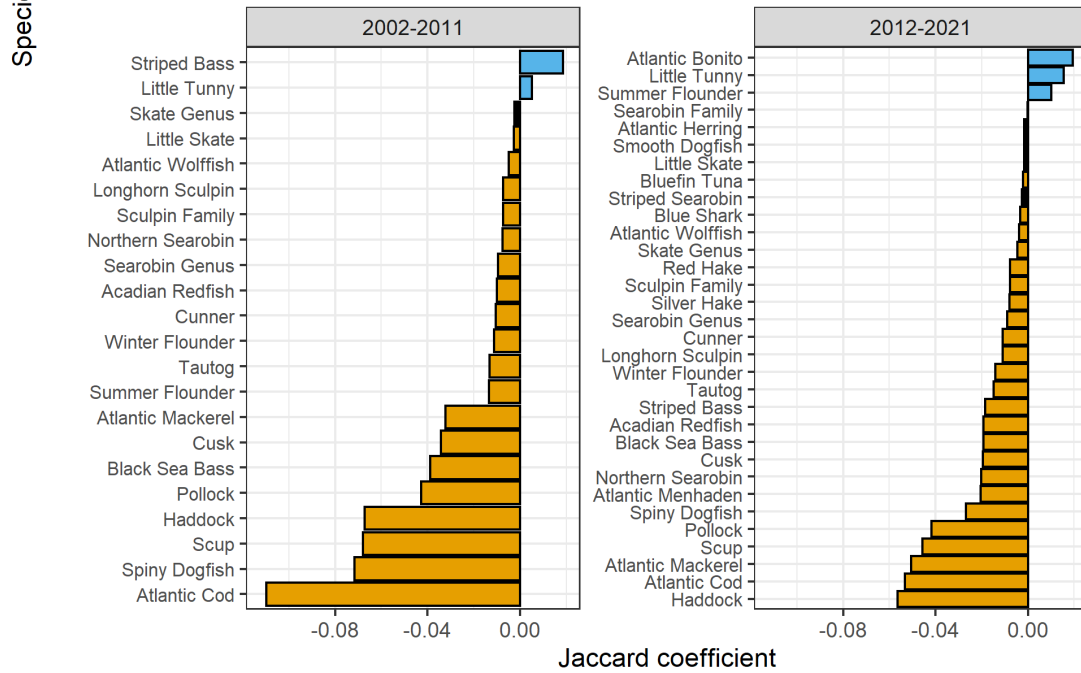
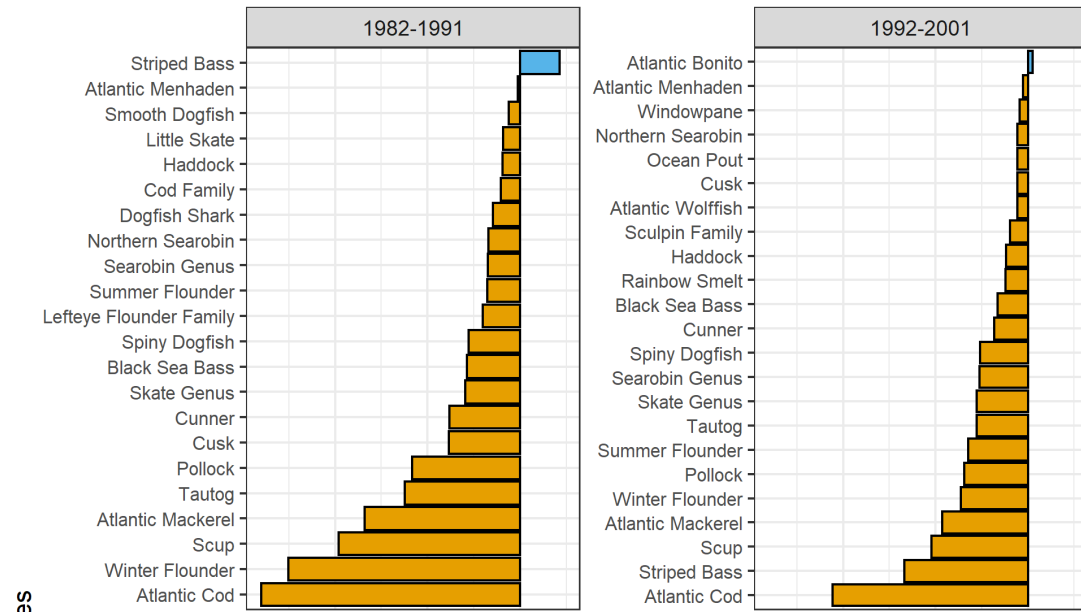


# Guild Trip Selection

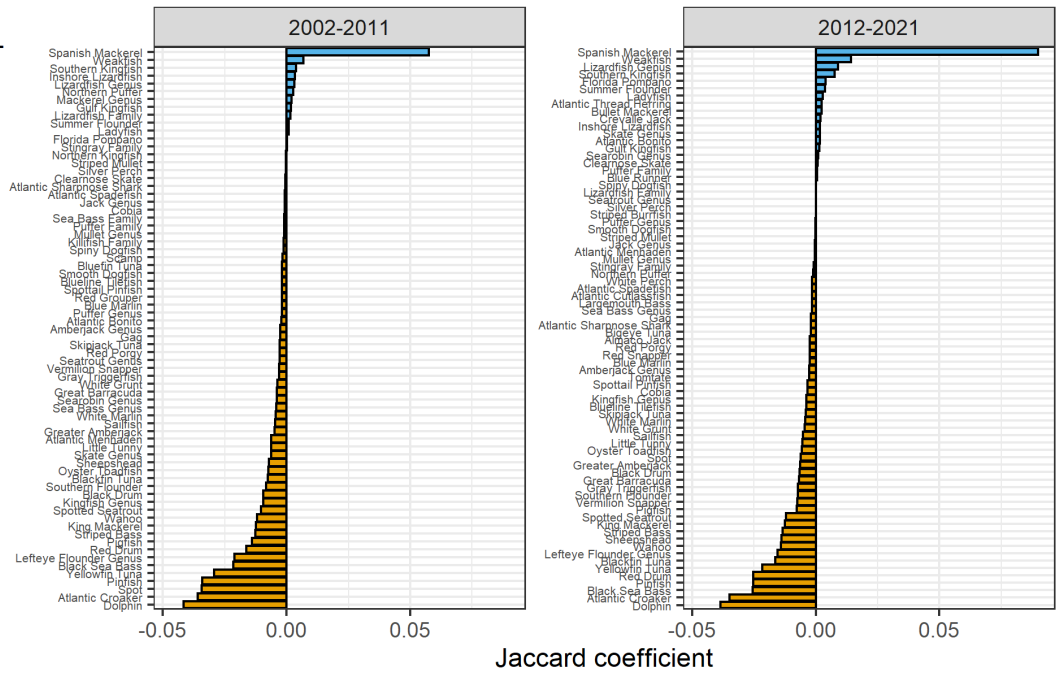
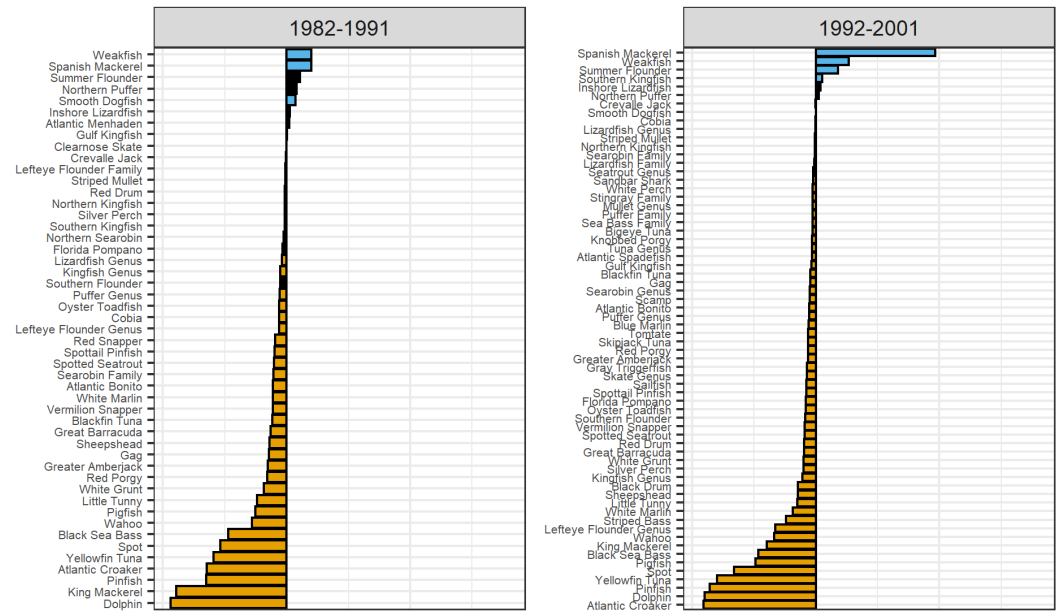
- Used the *jaccard* package in R to identify species with significant positive associations with bluefish
- *jaccard* uses a simulation/re-sampling approach to identify species that are more commonly caught with bluefish than you would expect from chance alone
- A bluefish trip = a trip that caught bluefish or a species that was significantly positively associated with bluefish for that state & regime

# Massachusetts

# North Carolina



Species

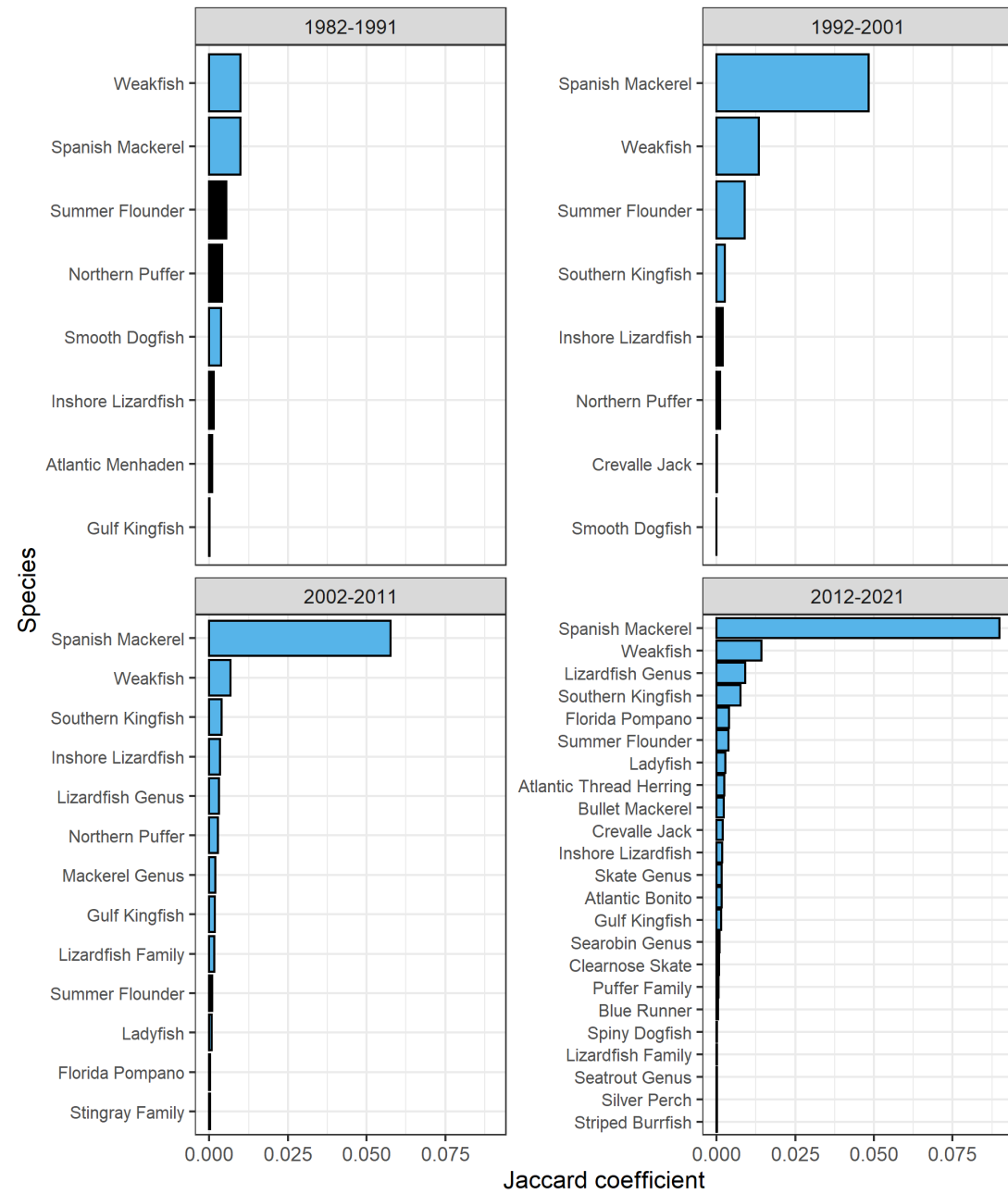
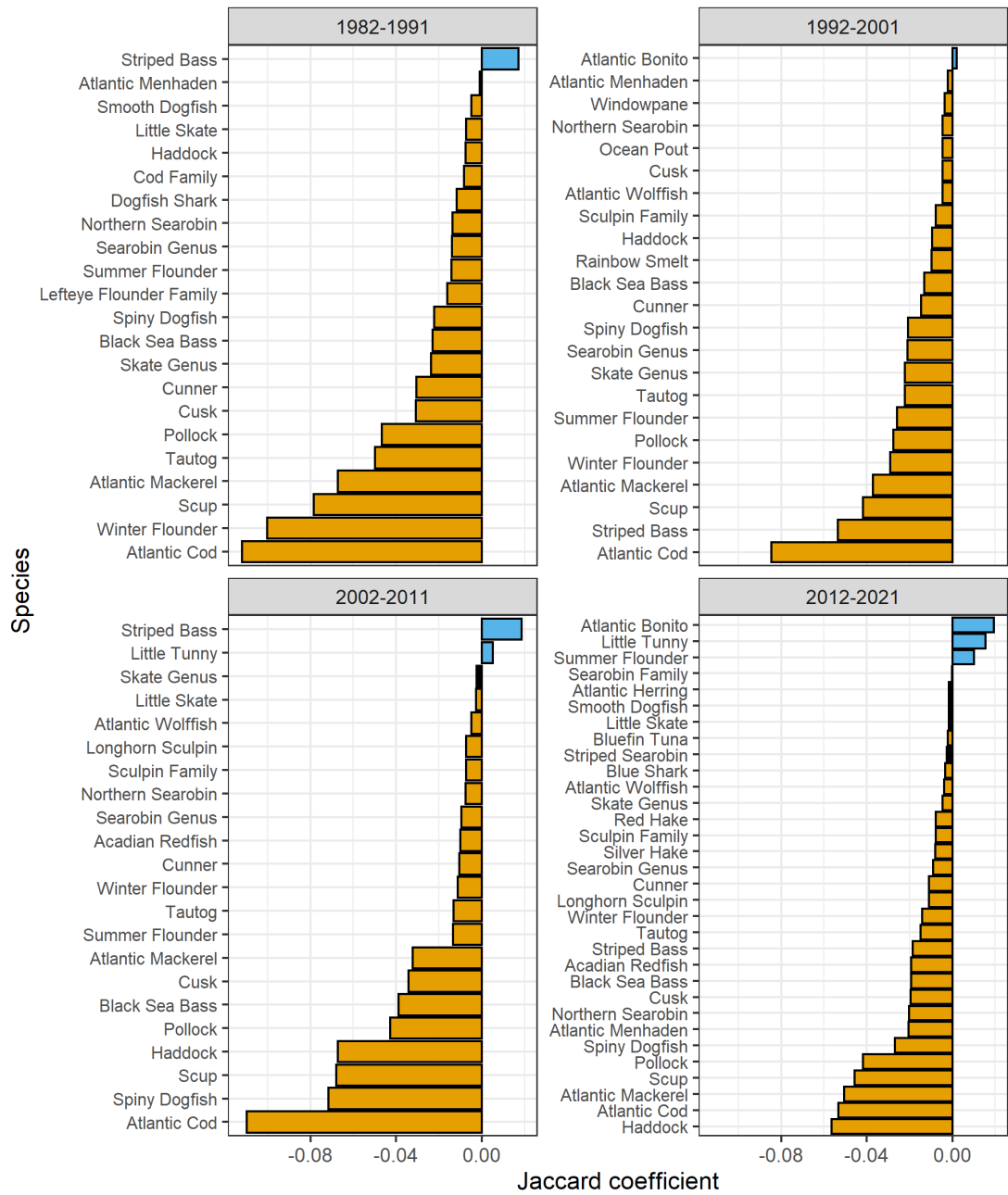


Significant No Yes - Negative Yes - Positive

Significant No Yes - Negative Yes - Positive

# Massachusetts

# North Carolina



# Guild Trip Selection

- ME and NH had no positive species associations with bluefish in any regime
  - Overall catch of bluefish in ME and NH is low and intermittent
  - Dropped those states from the index
- MD and CT did not have positive species associations for all regimes
  - Substituted “directed trips” for those states for regimes without positive associations



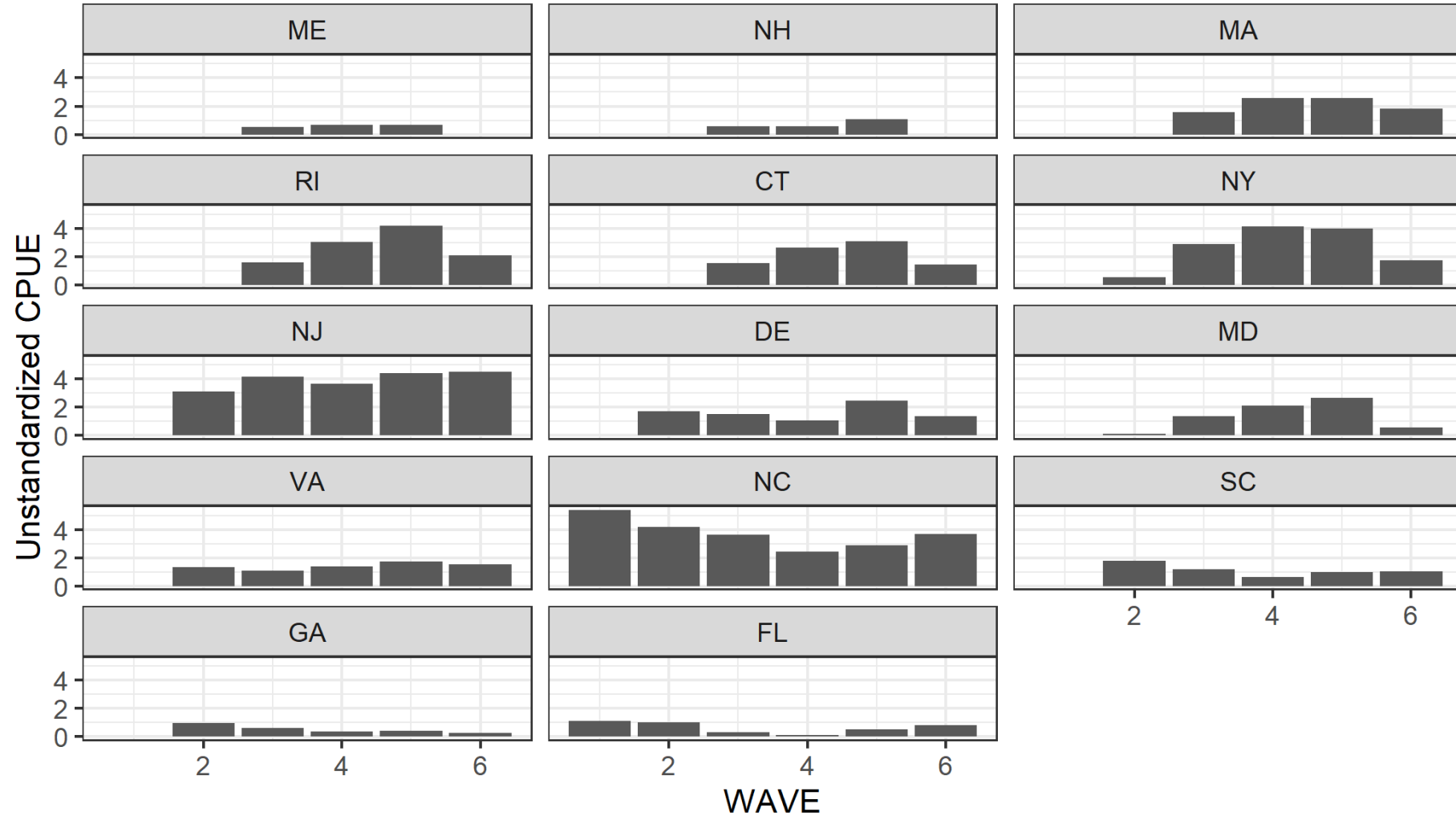
# Index Standardization

- **2022 RT: Zero-altered negative binomial model with log of effort (angler-hours) as an offset and a state-wave interaction**

CPUE ~ Year + Wave + Mode + State + Avidity + Area Fished +  
Kind of Day + State\*Wave

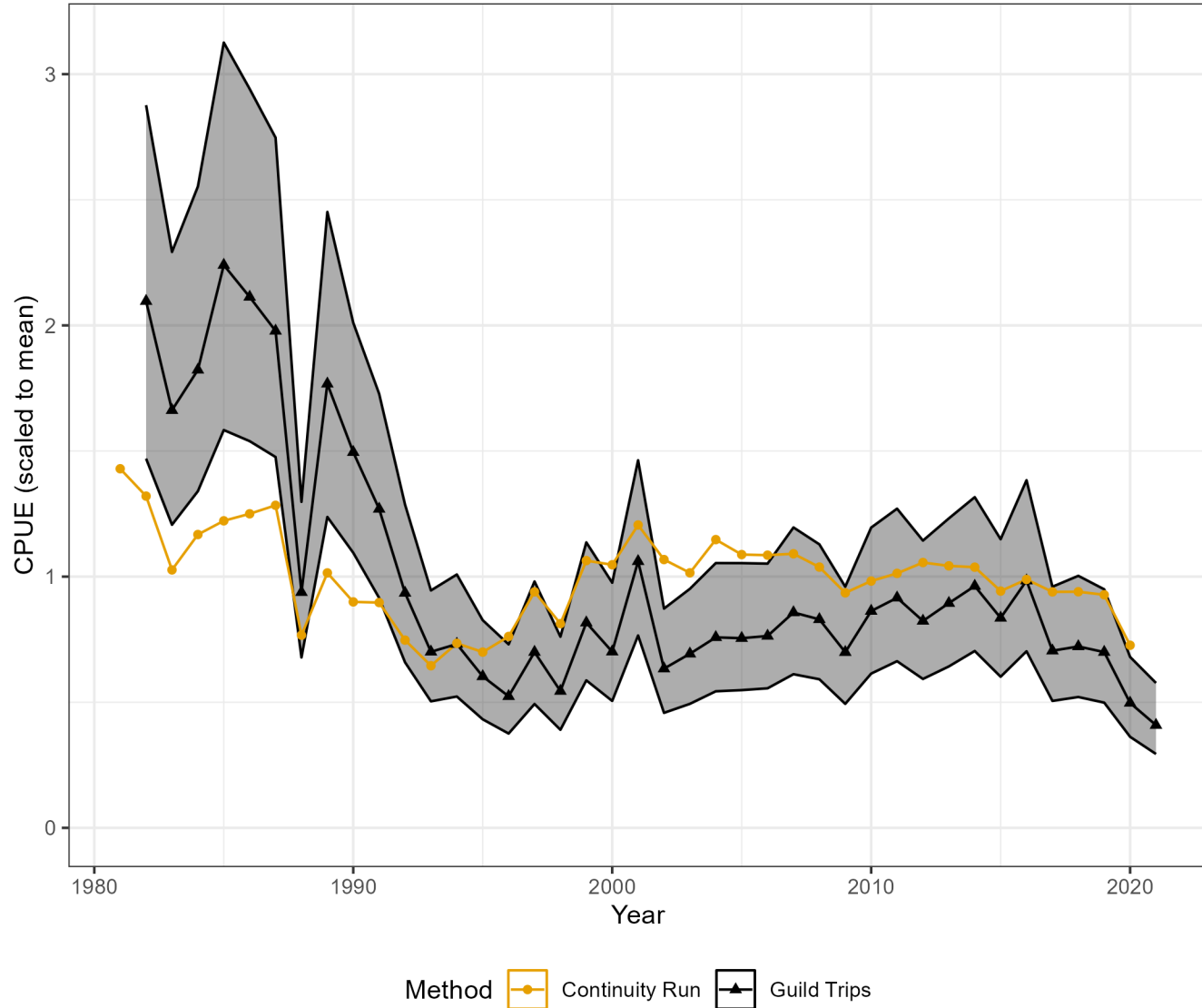
# State-Wave Interaction

Different patterns of CPUE by wave for different states



# Results

- Guild trips approach results in a index with more contrast than the directed trips approach



# Questions



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