

# 2023 Survey of Natural Oyster Beds



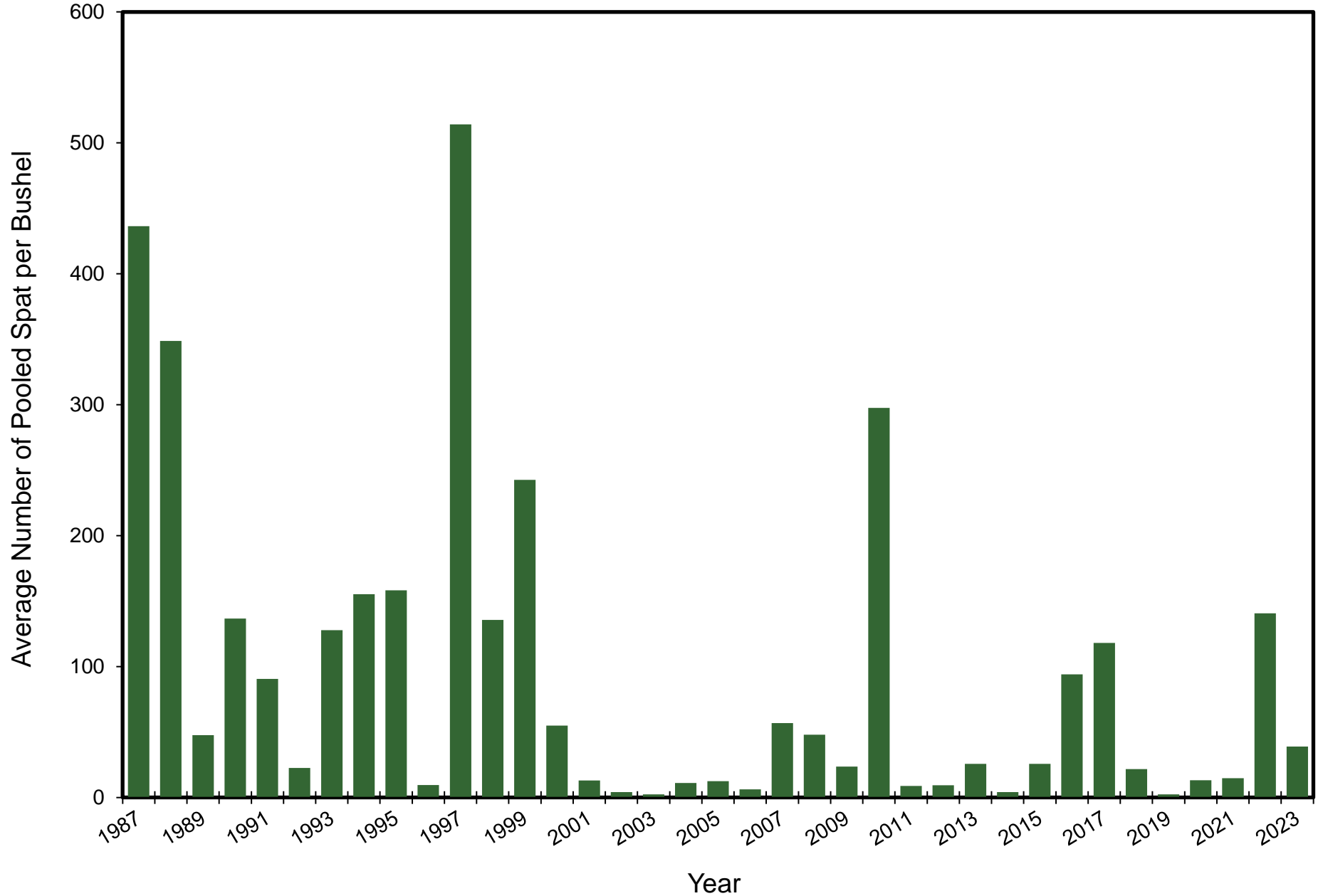
DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**



Prepared by staff from  
the DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife

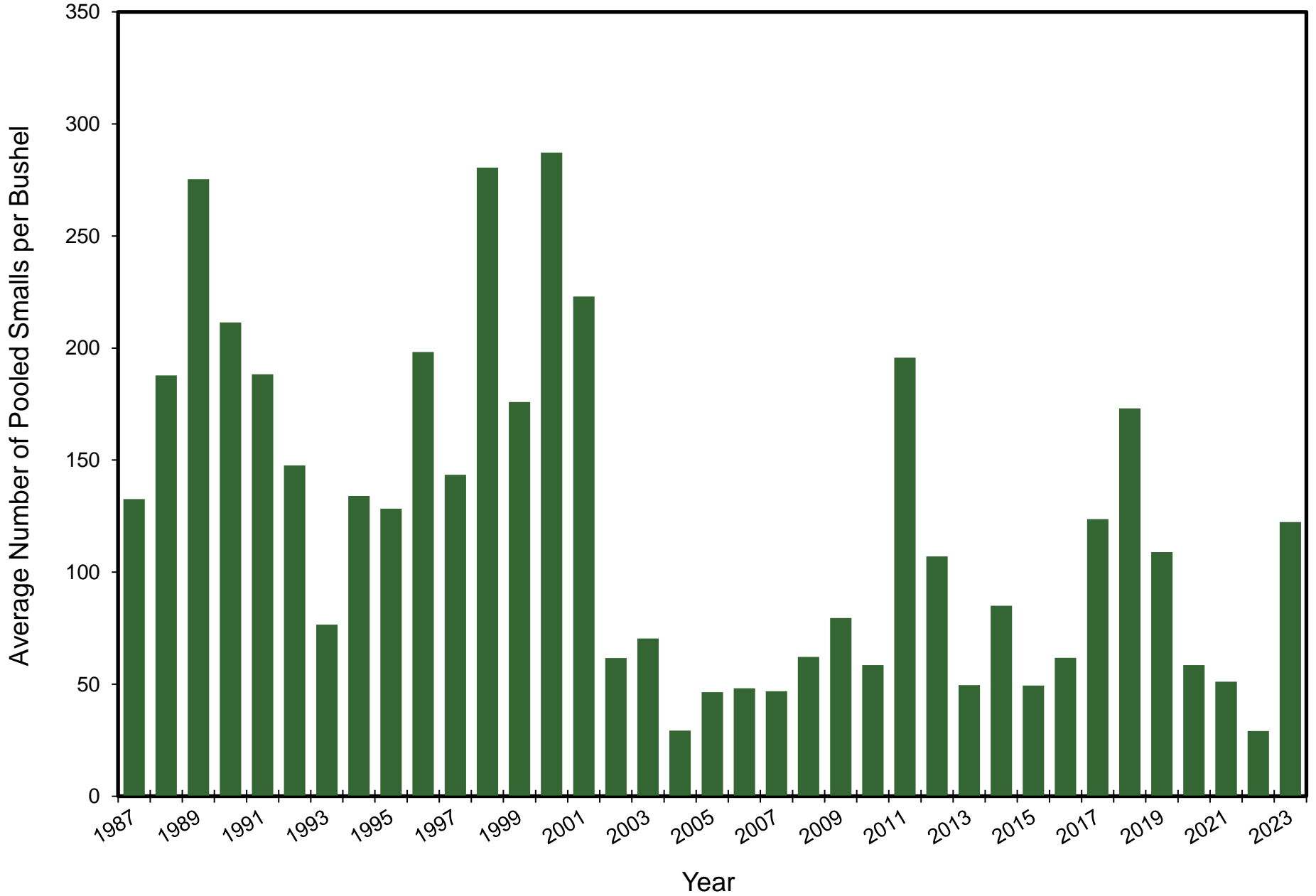
# Average Pooled Spat 1987-2023

Ridge, Silver Bed, Drum Bed, Over-the-Bar, Lower Middle, Woodland Beach, & Persimmon Tree



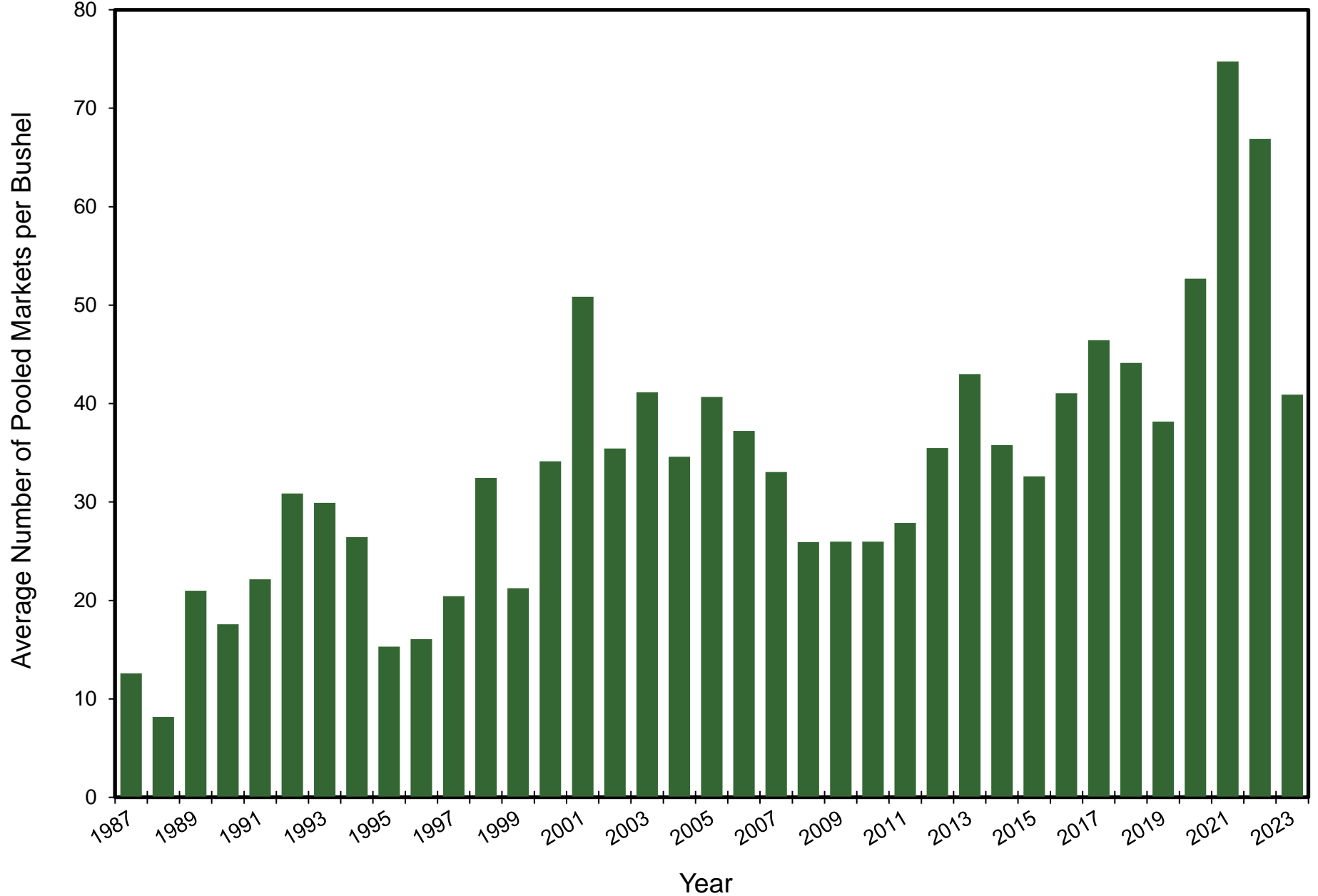
# Average Pooled Smalls 1987-2023

Ridge, Silver Bed, Drum Bed, Over-the-Bar, Lower Middle, Woodland Beach, & Persimmon Tree

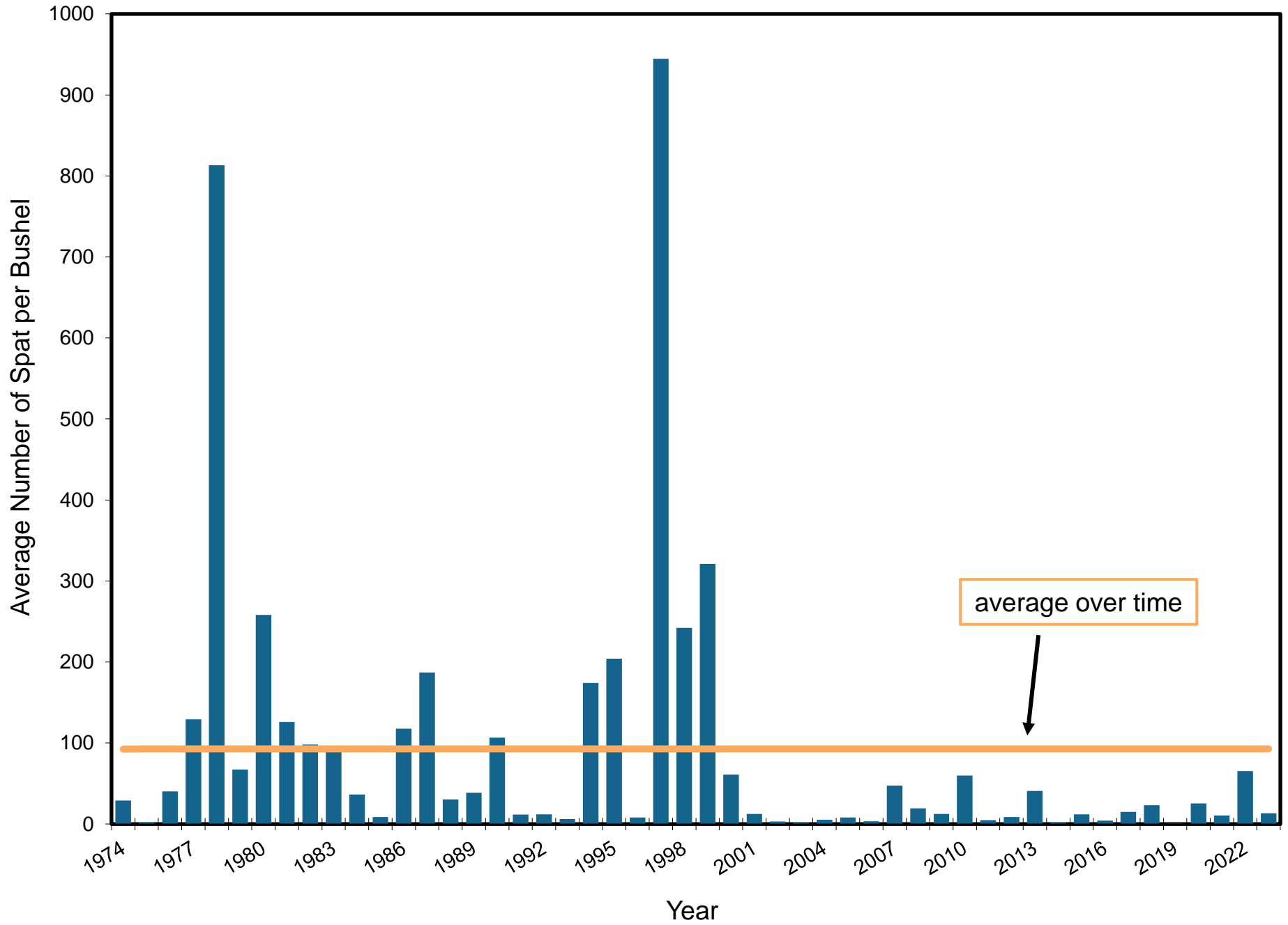


# Average Pooled Markets 1987-2023

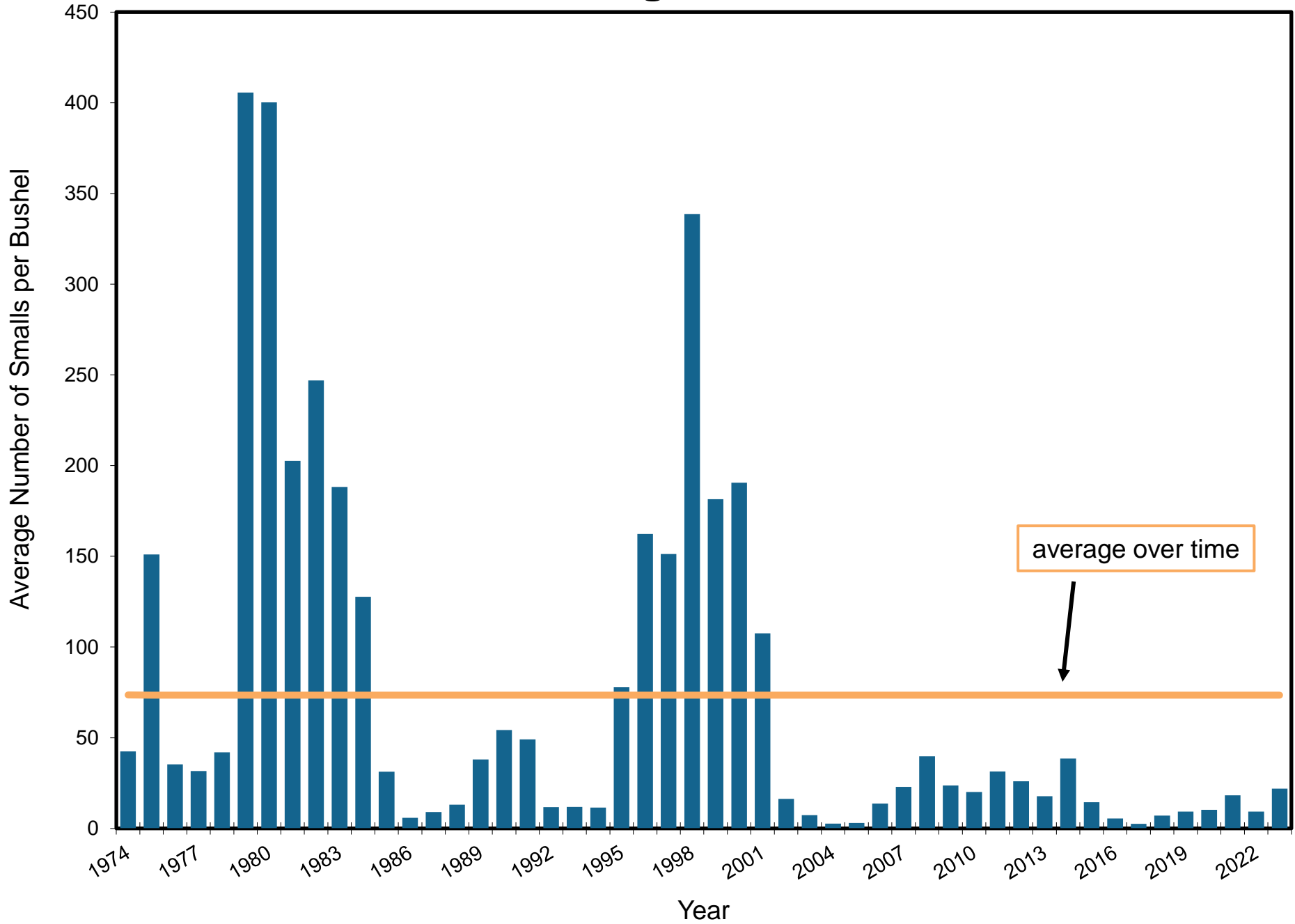
Ridge, Silver Bed, Drum Bed, Over-the-Bar, Lower Middle, Woodland Beach, & Persimmon Tree



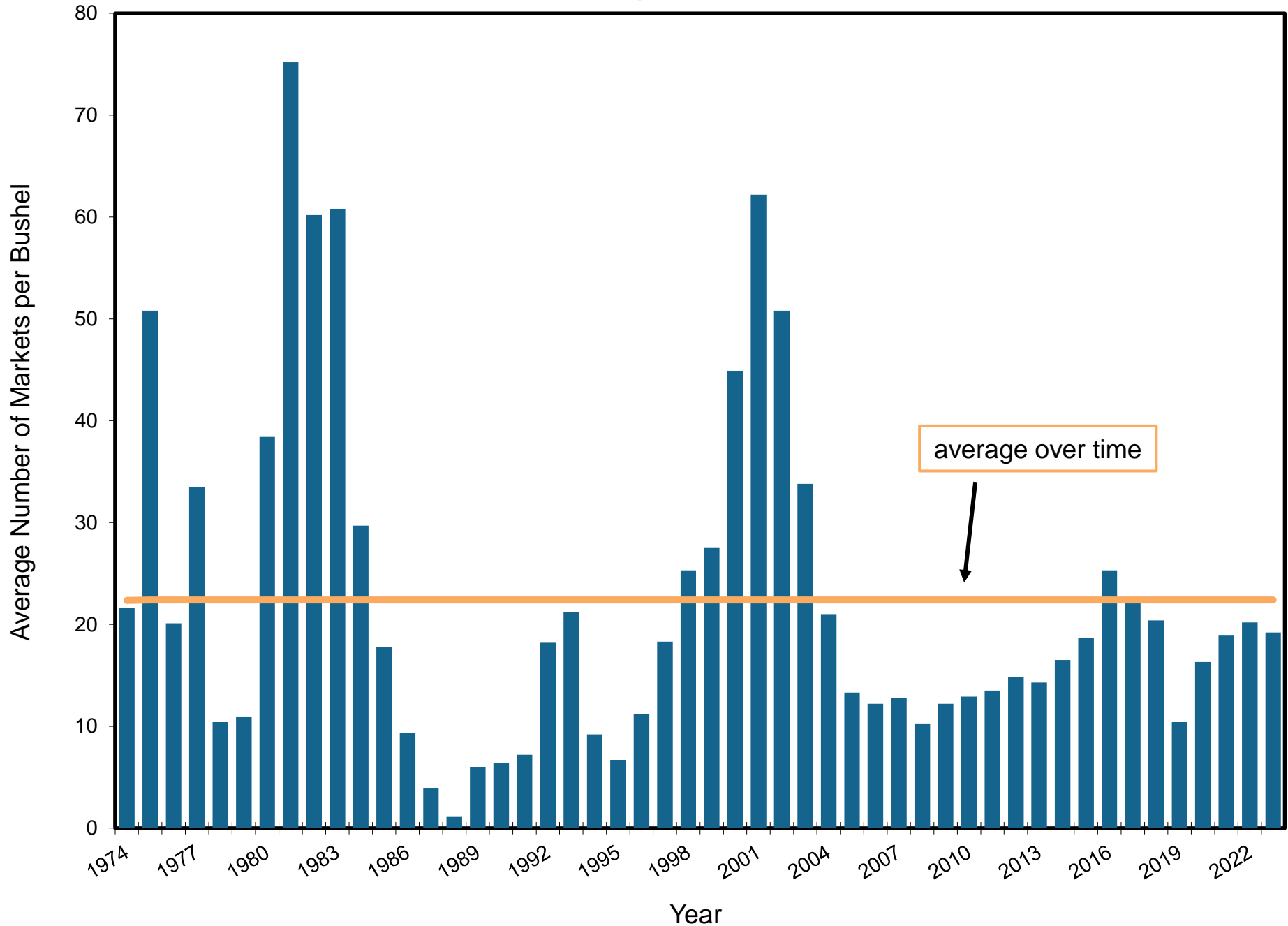
# Ridge Spat



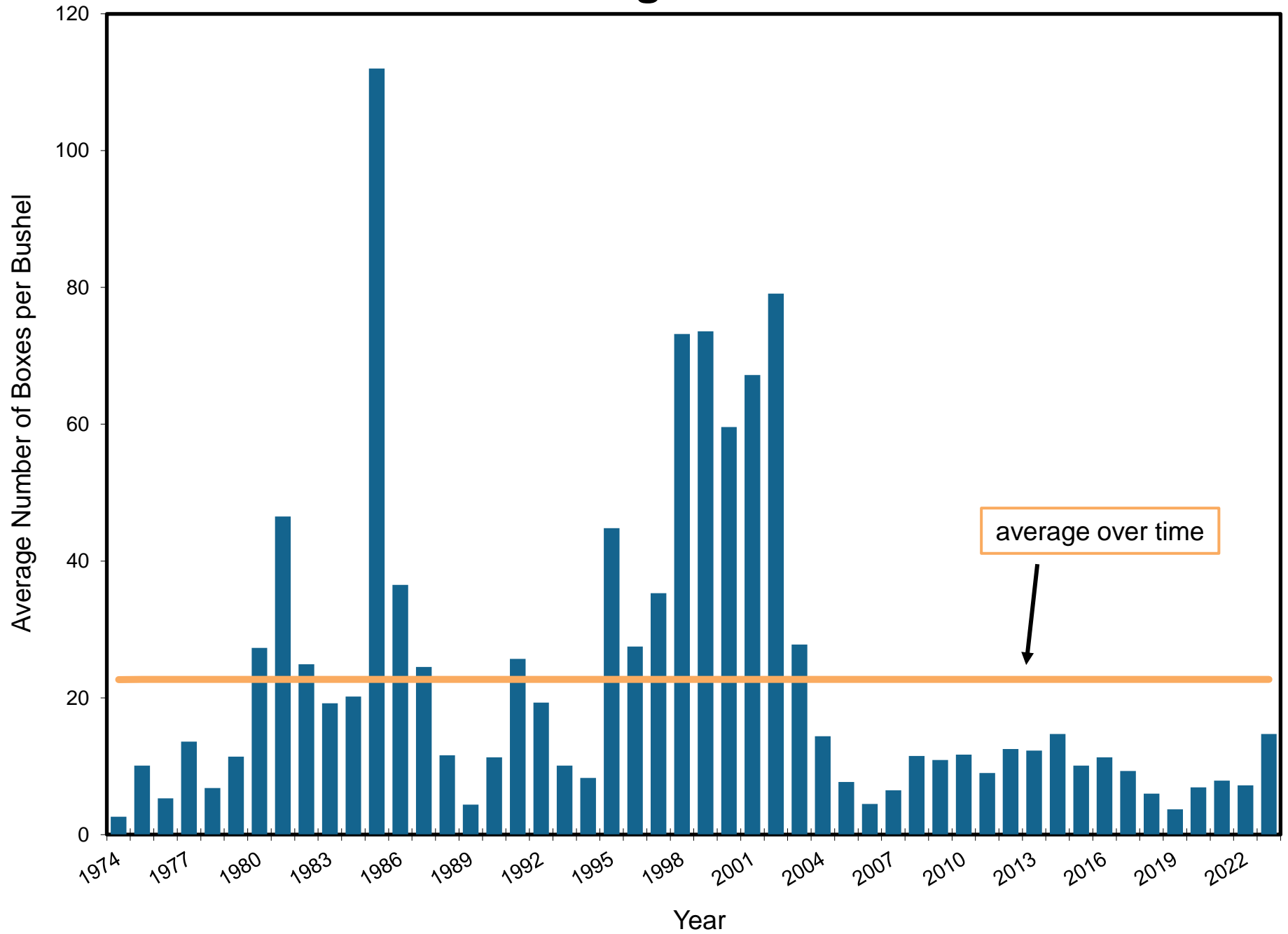
# Ridge Smalls



# Ridge Markets

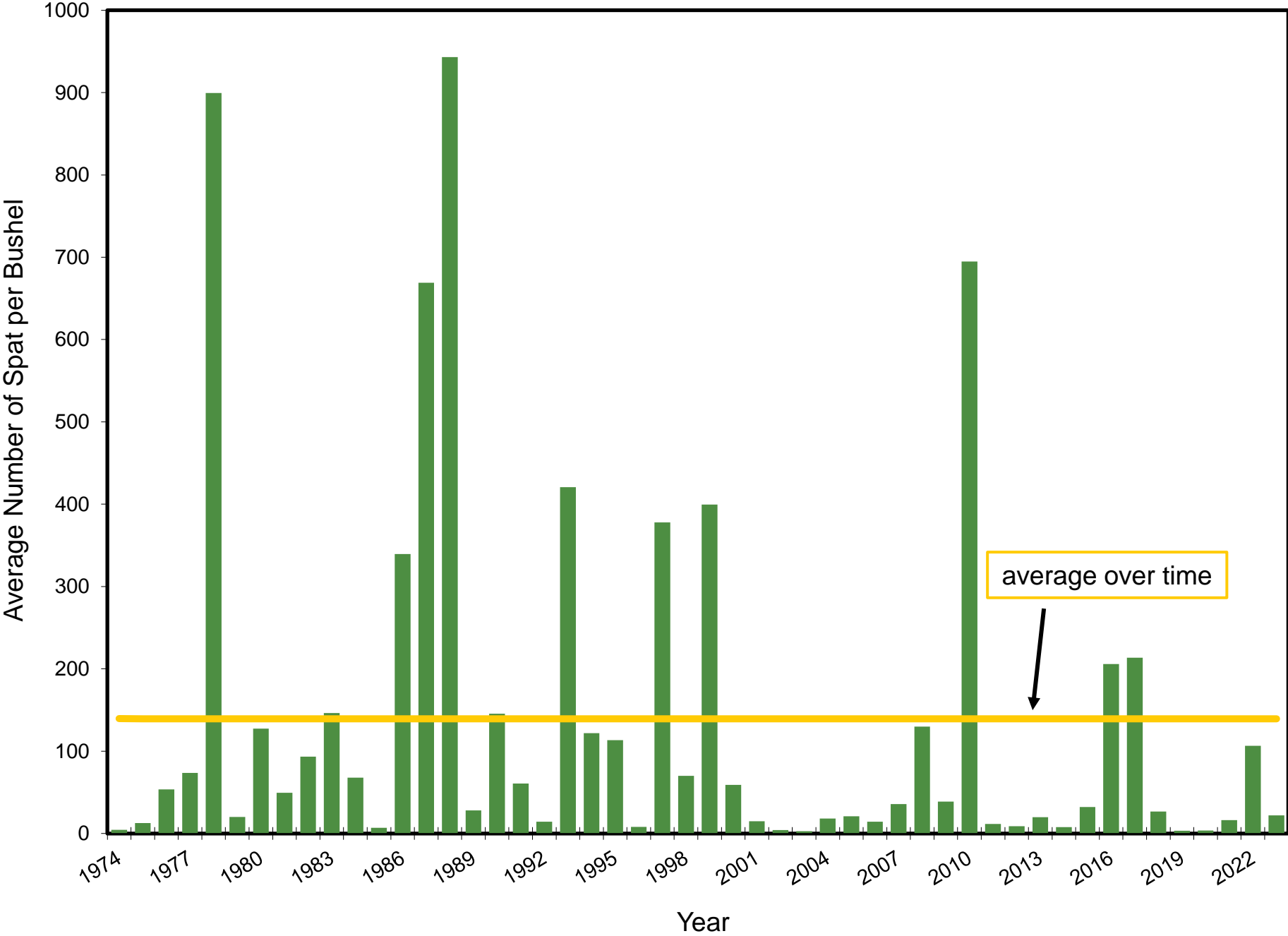


# Ridge Boxes

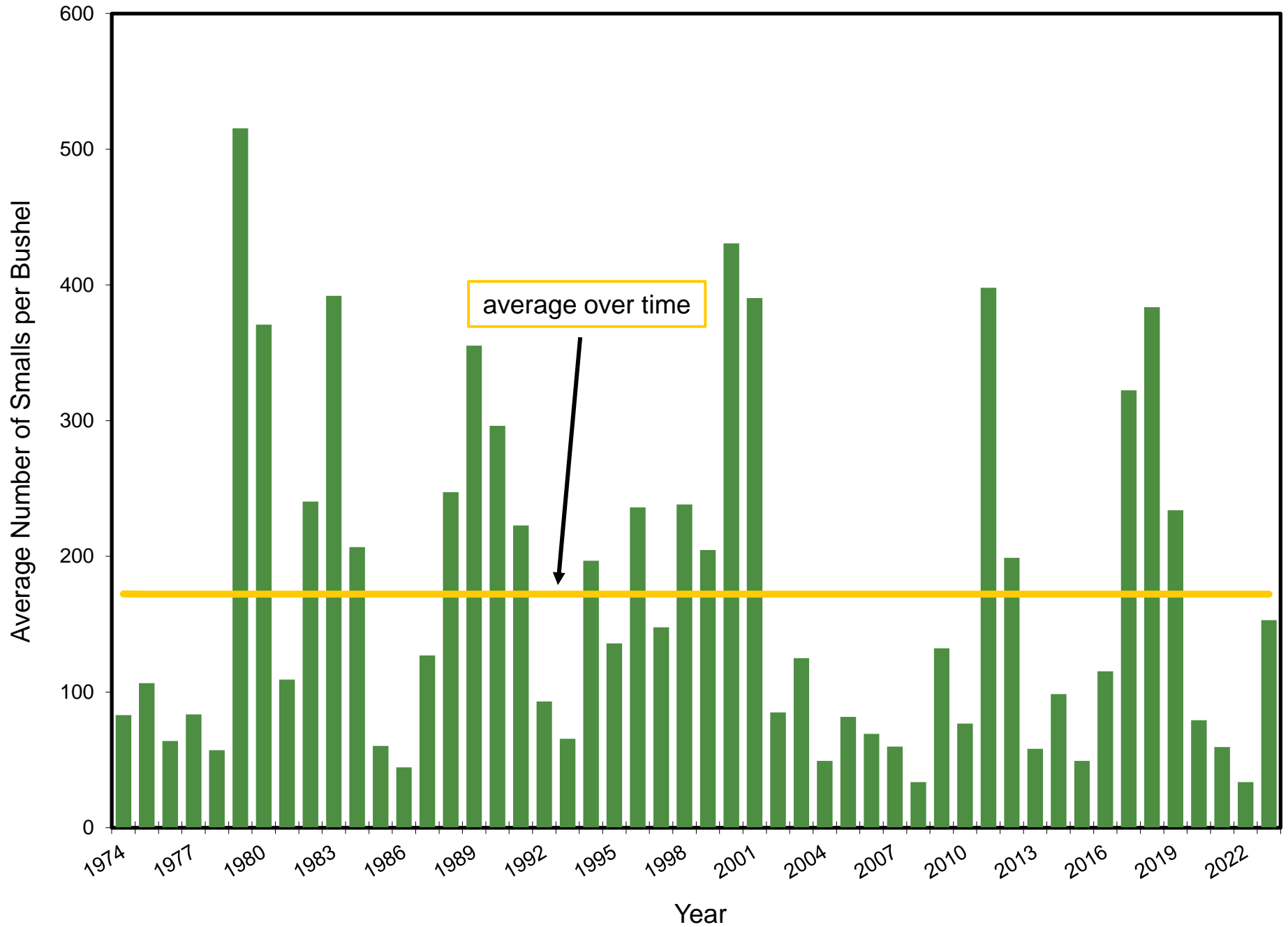




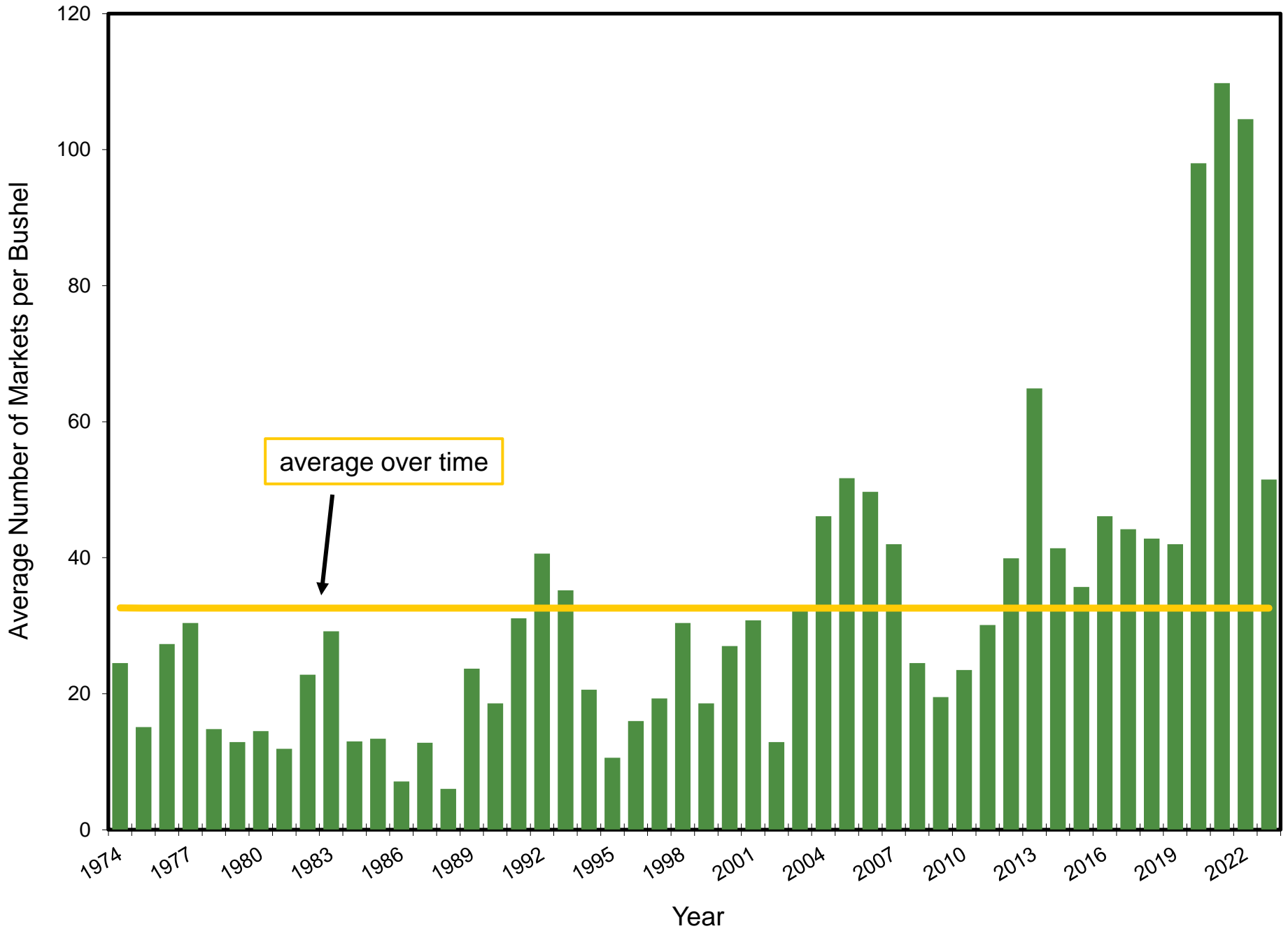
# Silver Bed Spat



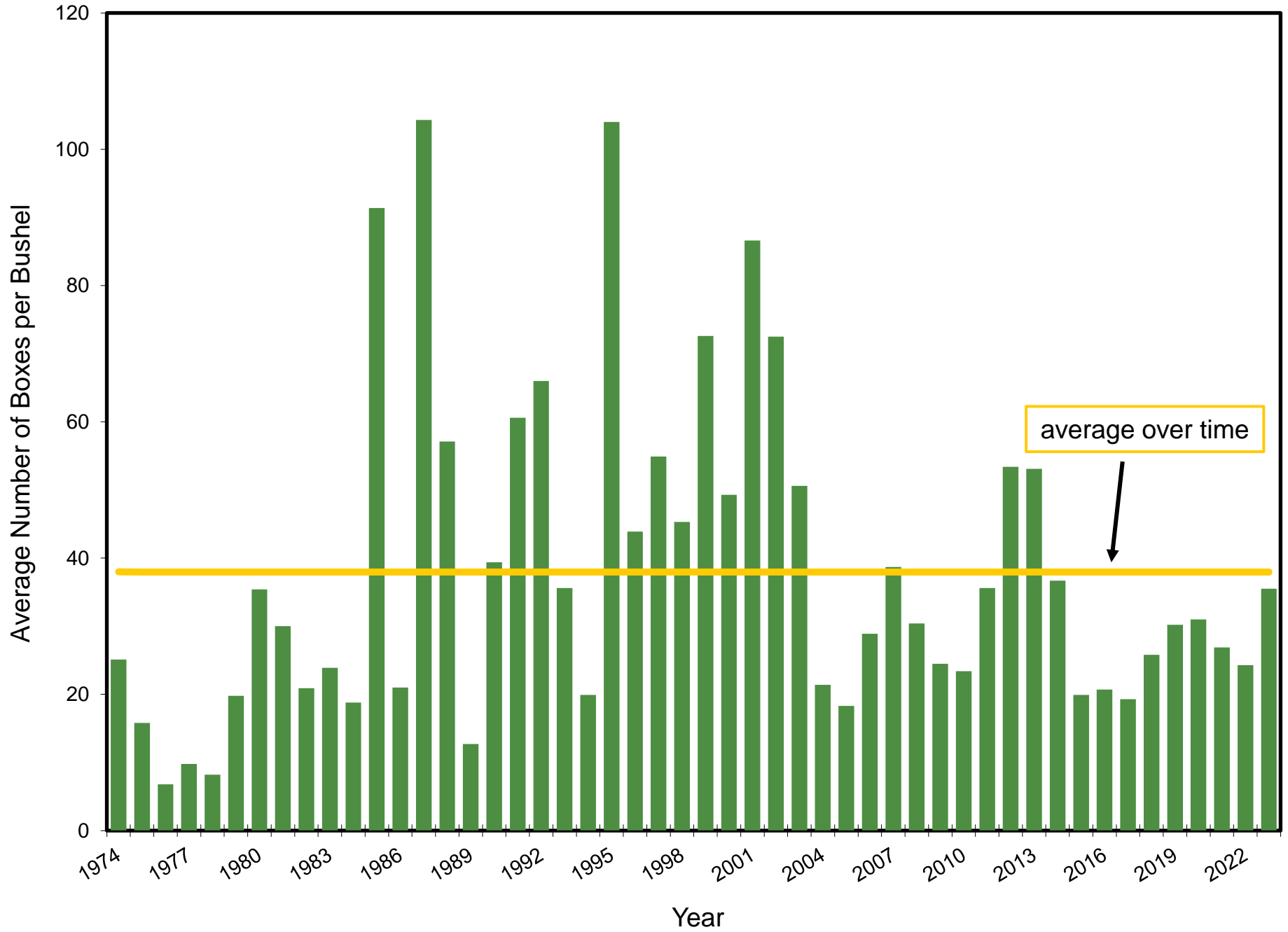
# Silver Bed Smalls



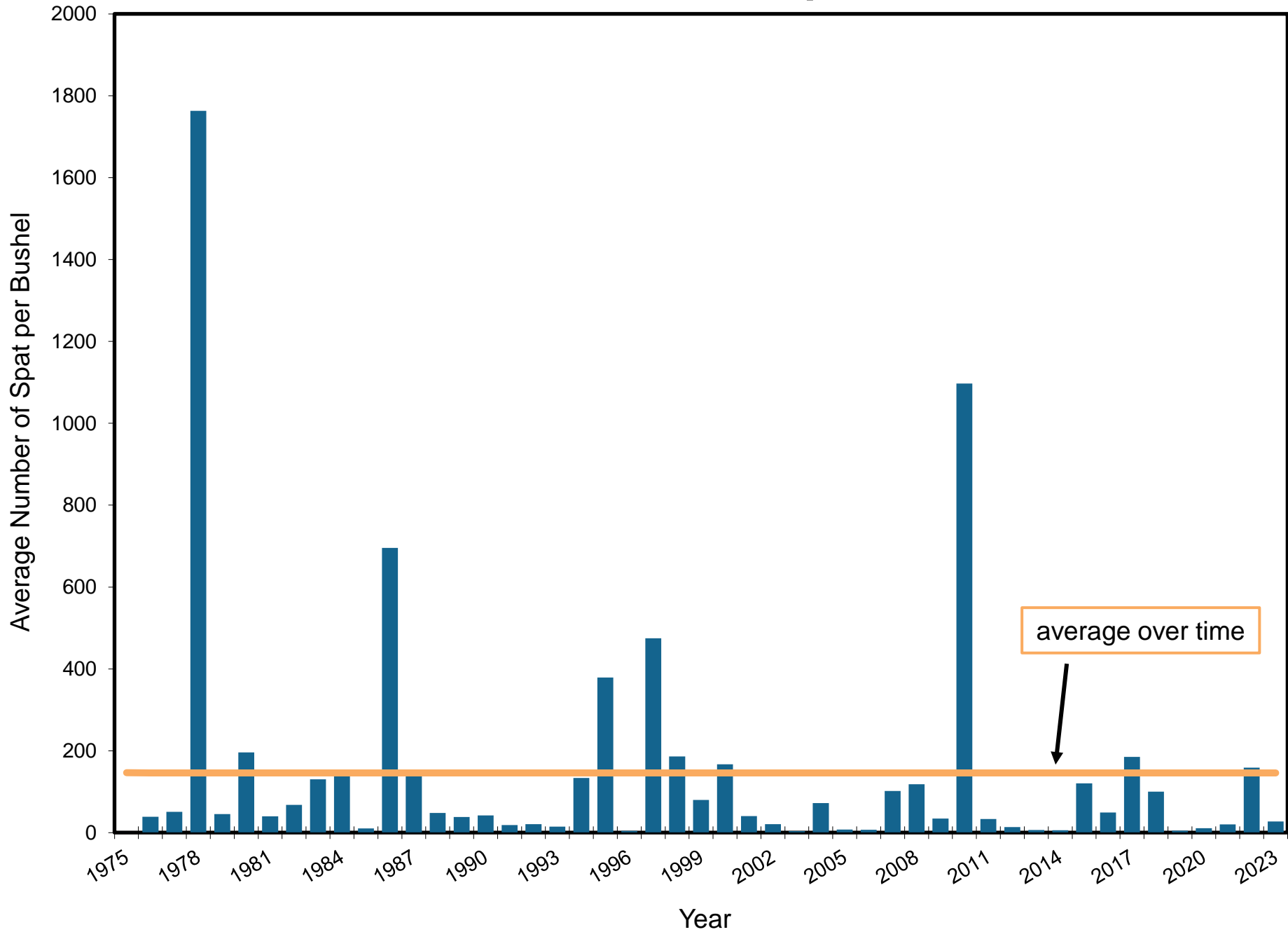
# Silver Bed Markets



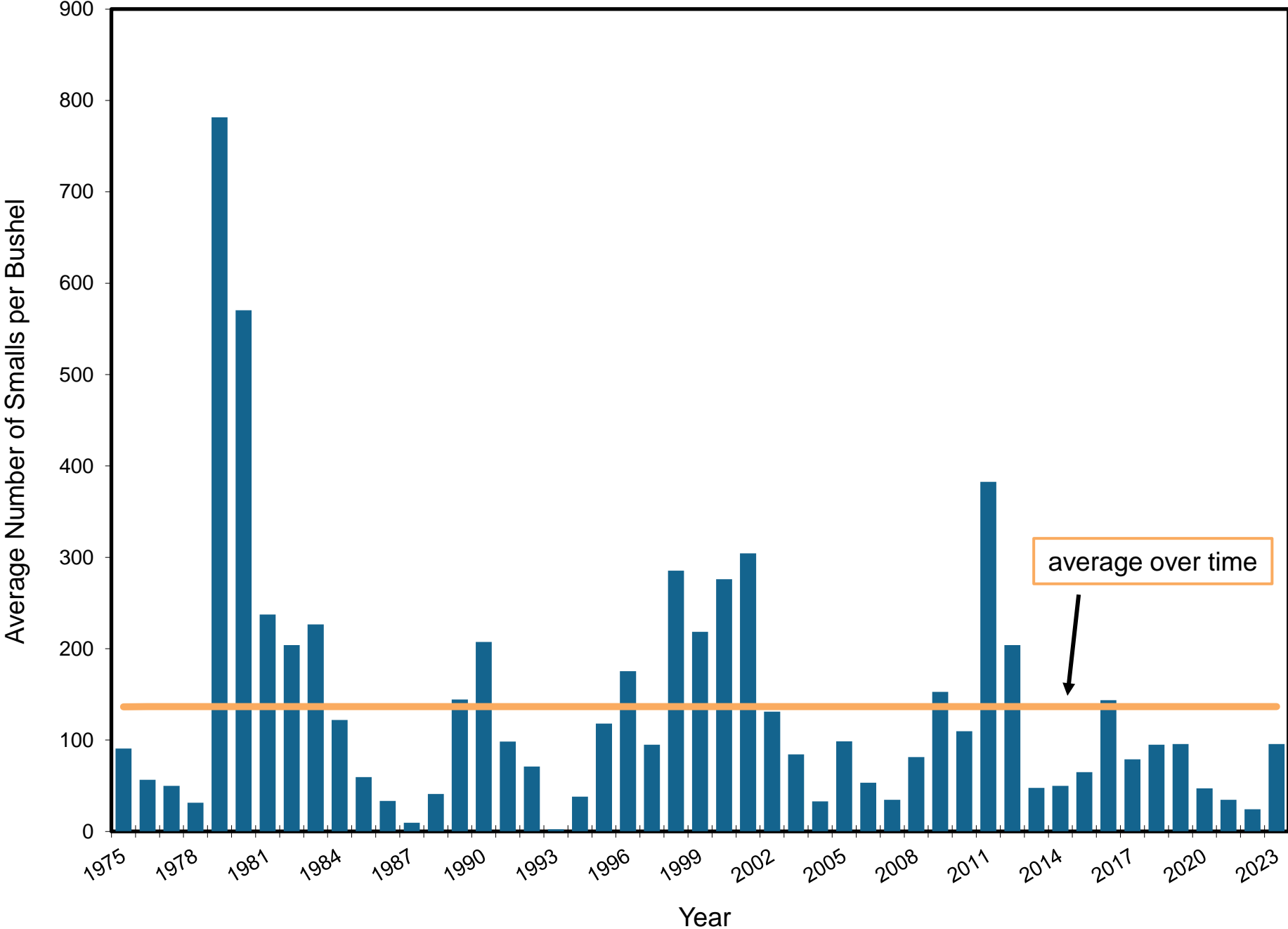
# Silver Bed Boxes



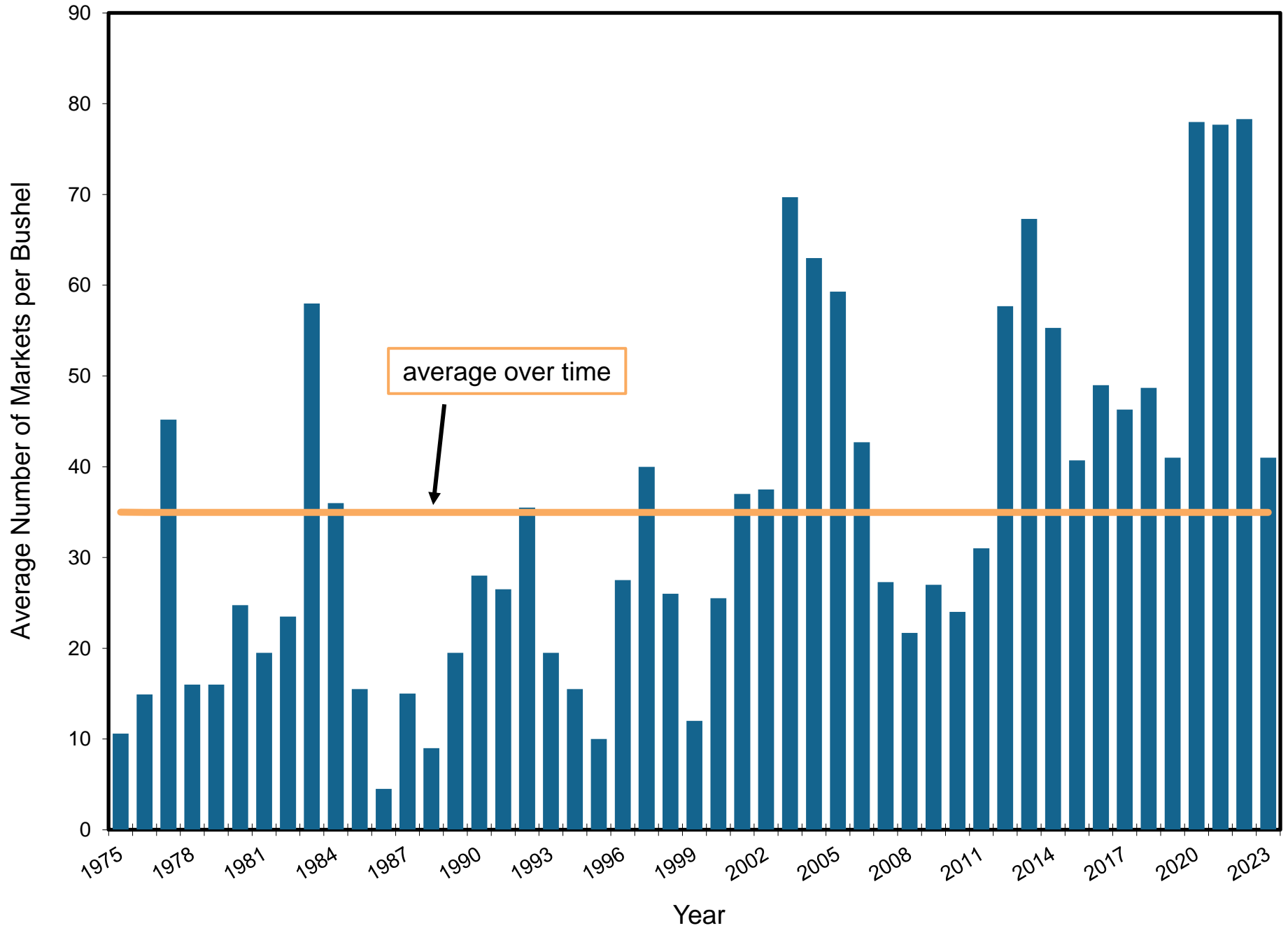
# Drum Bed Spat



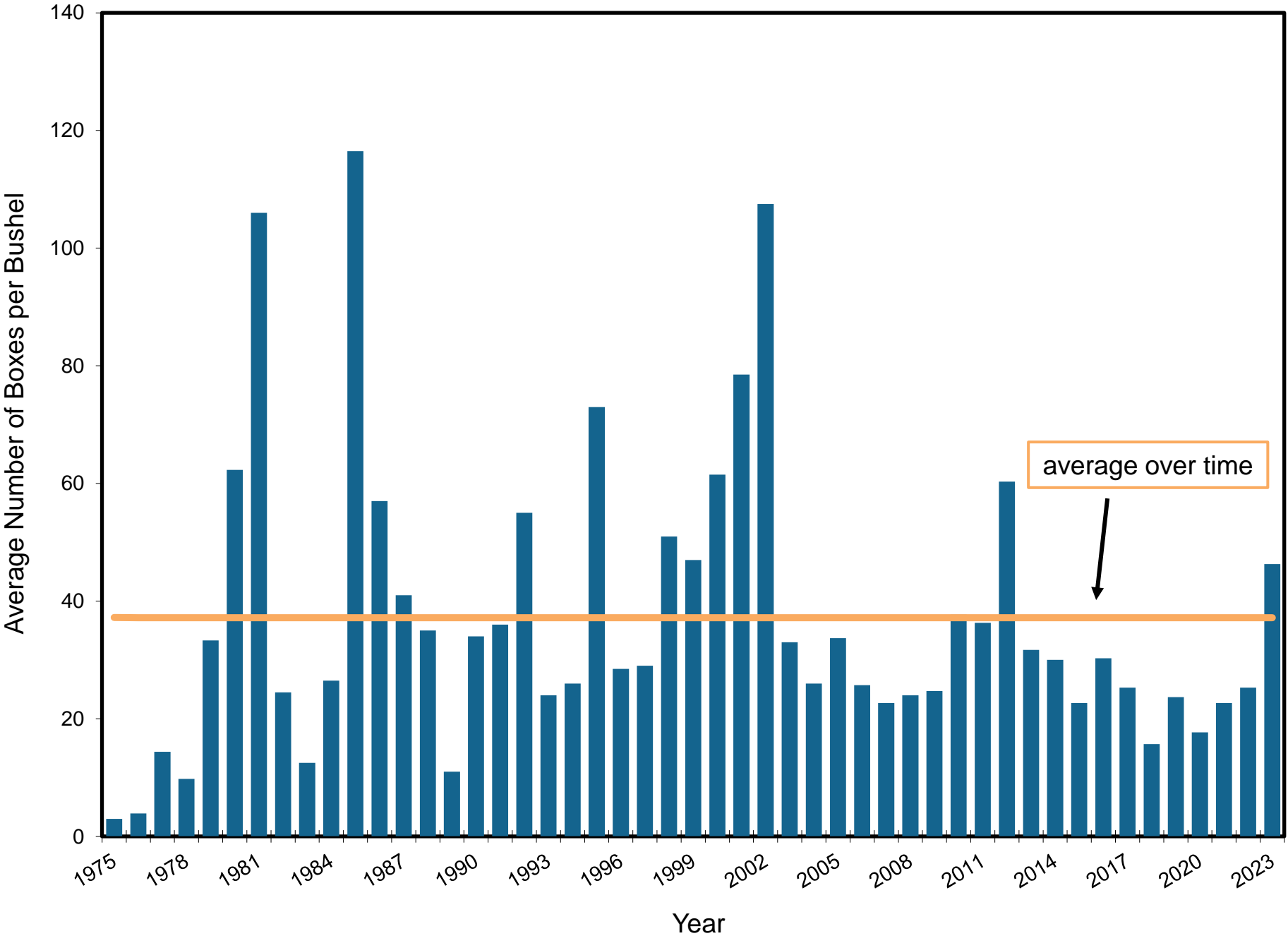
# Drum Bed Smalls



# Drum Bed Markets

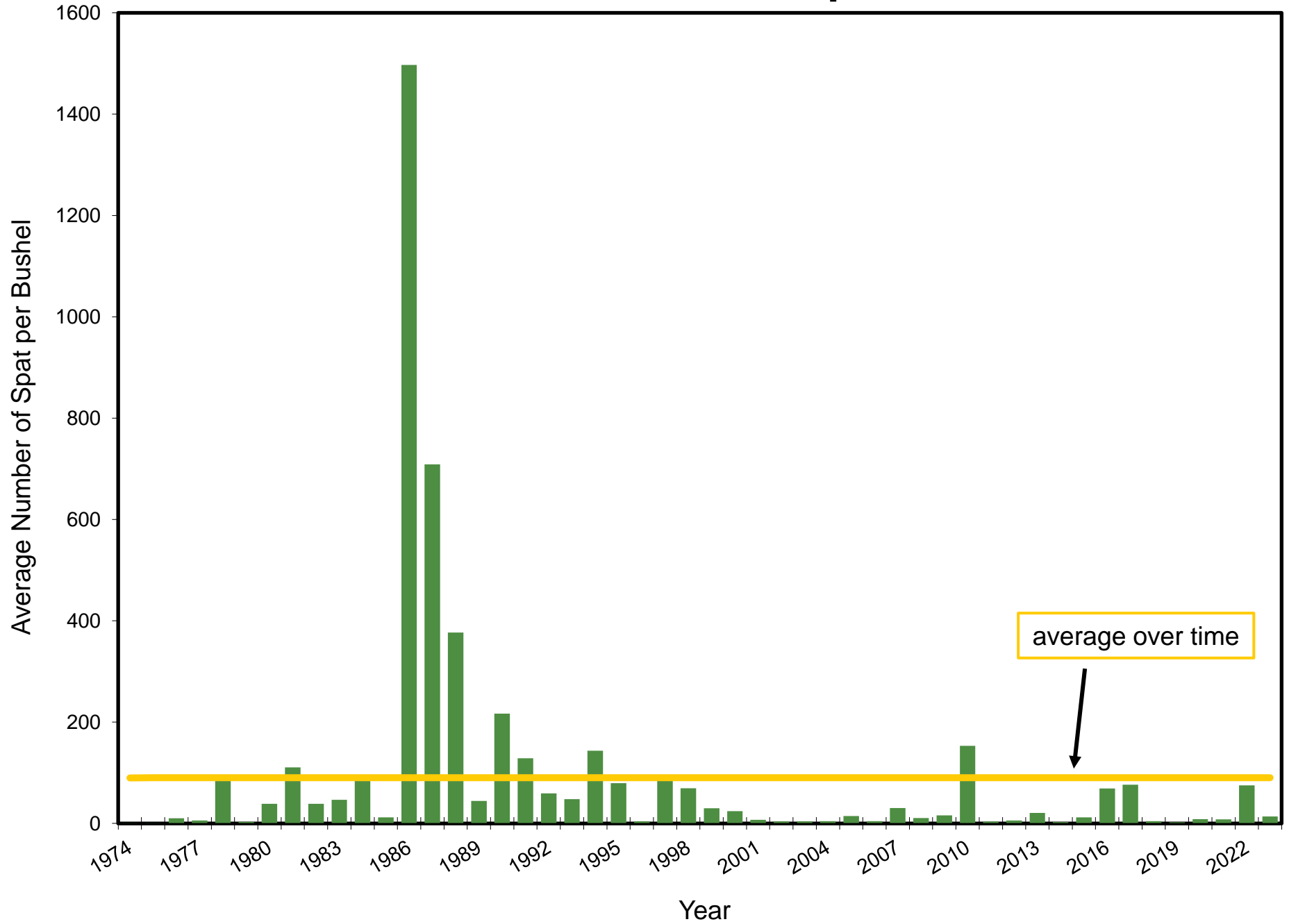


# Drum Bed Boxes

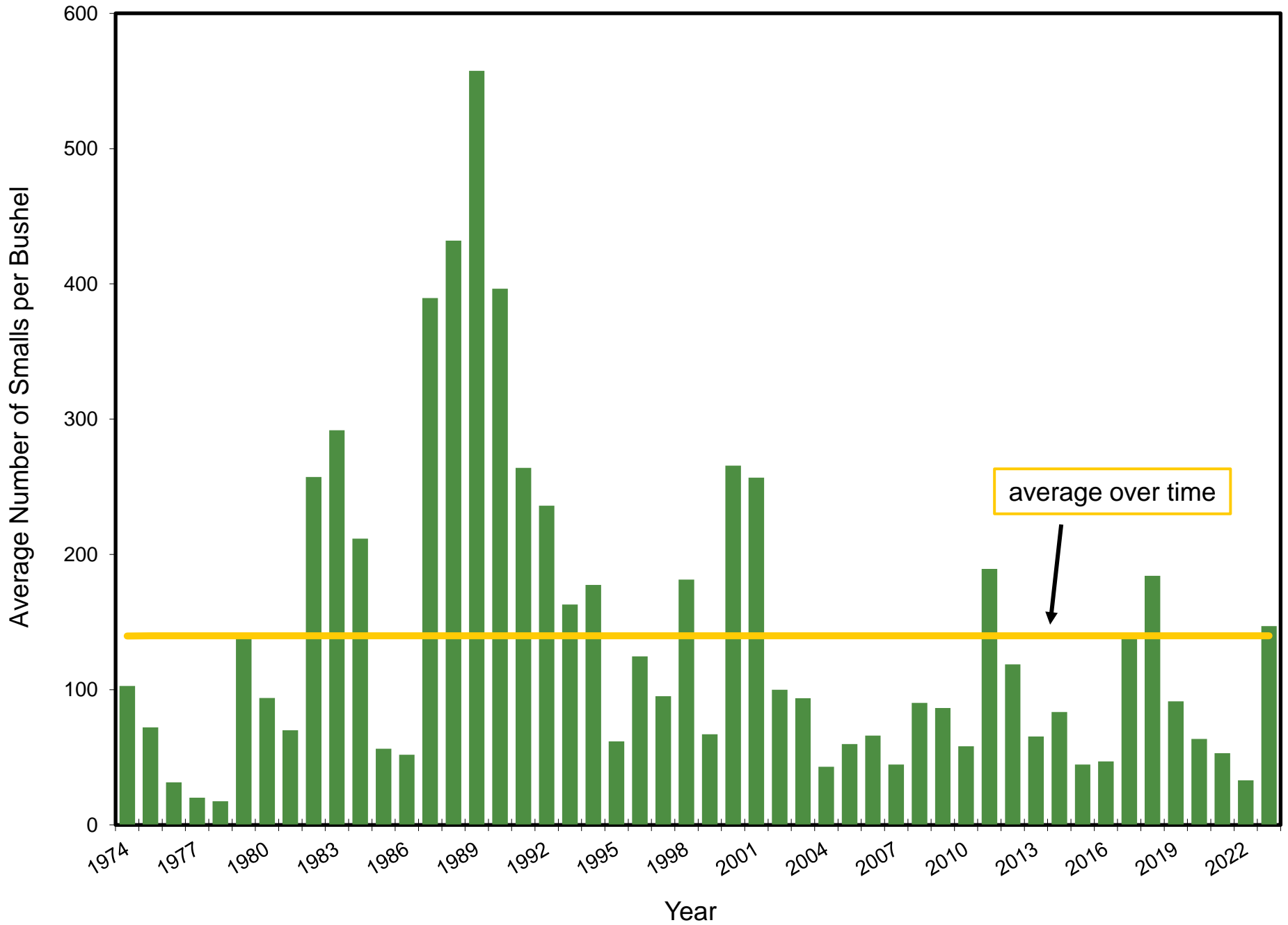




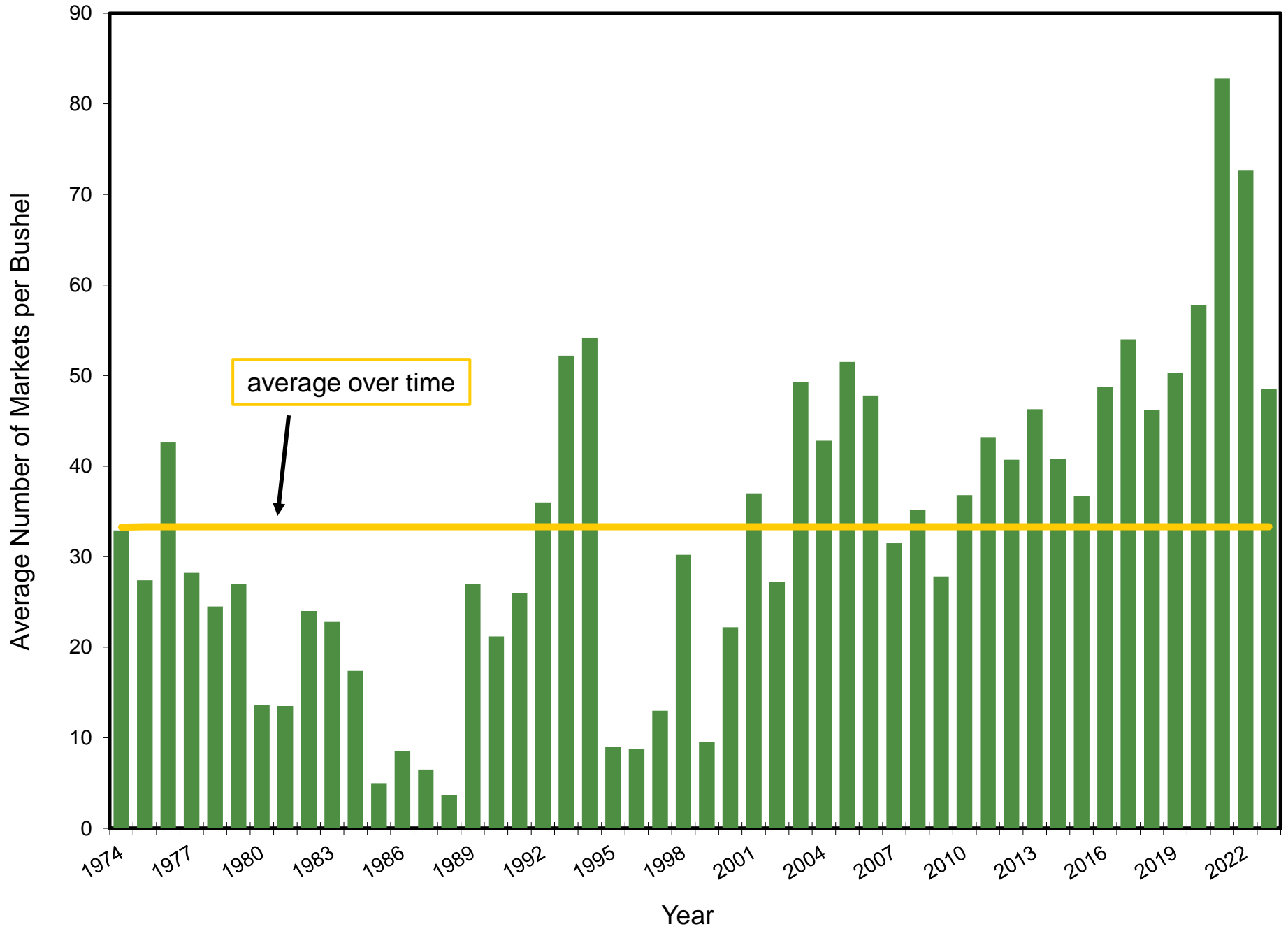
# Over-the-Bar Spat



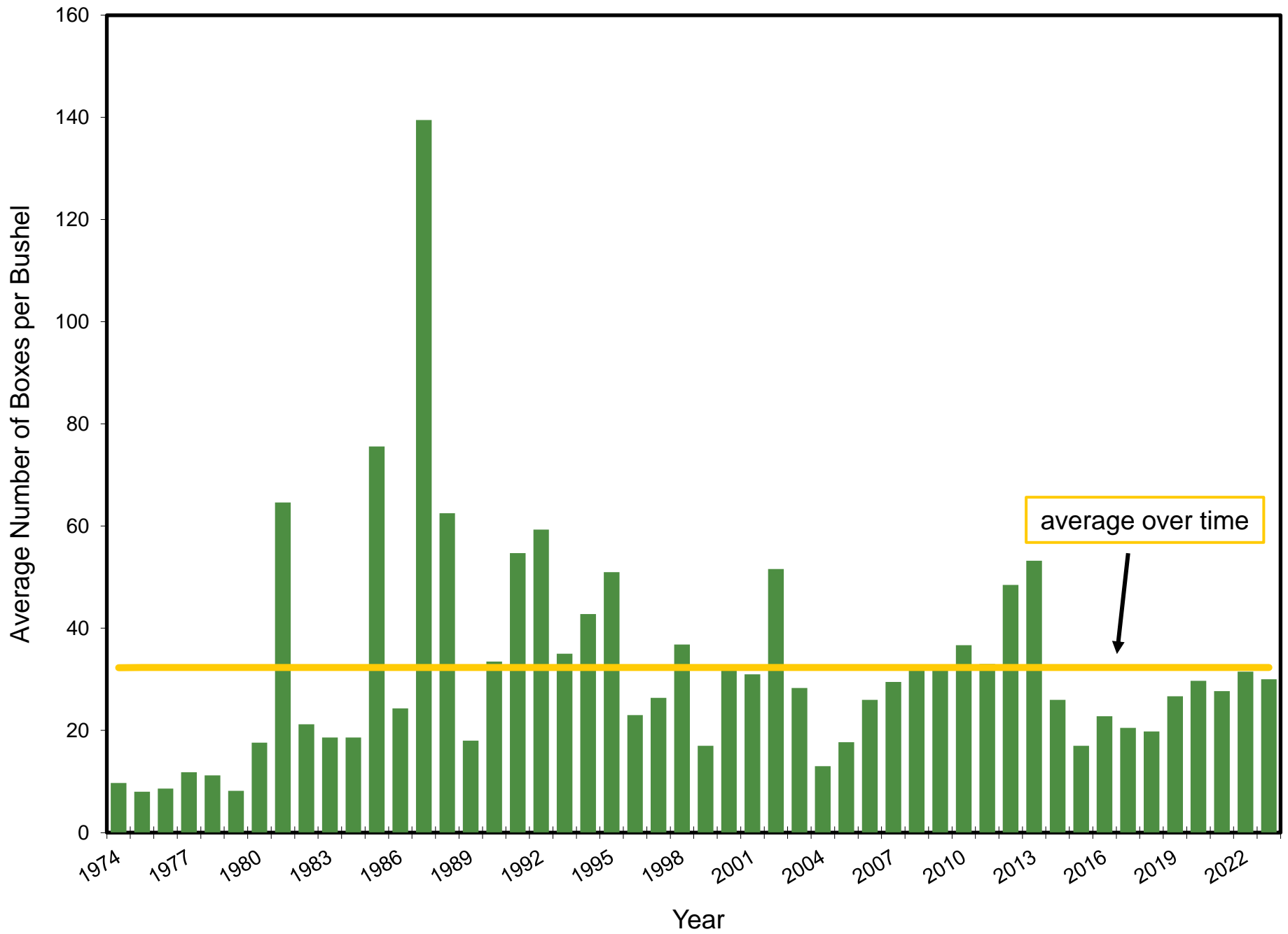
# Over-the-Bar Smalls



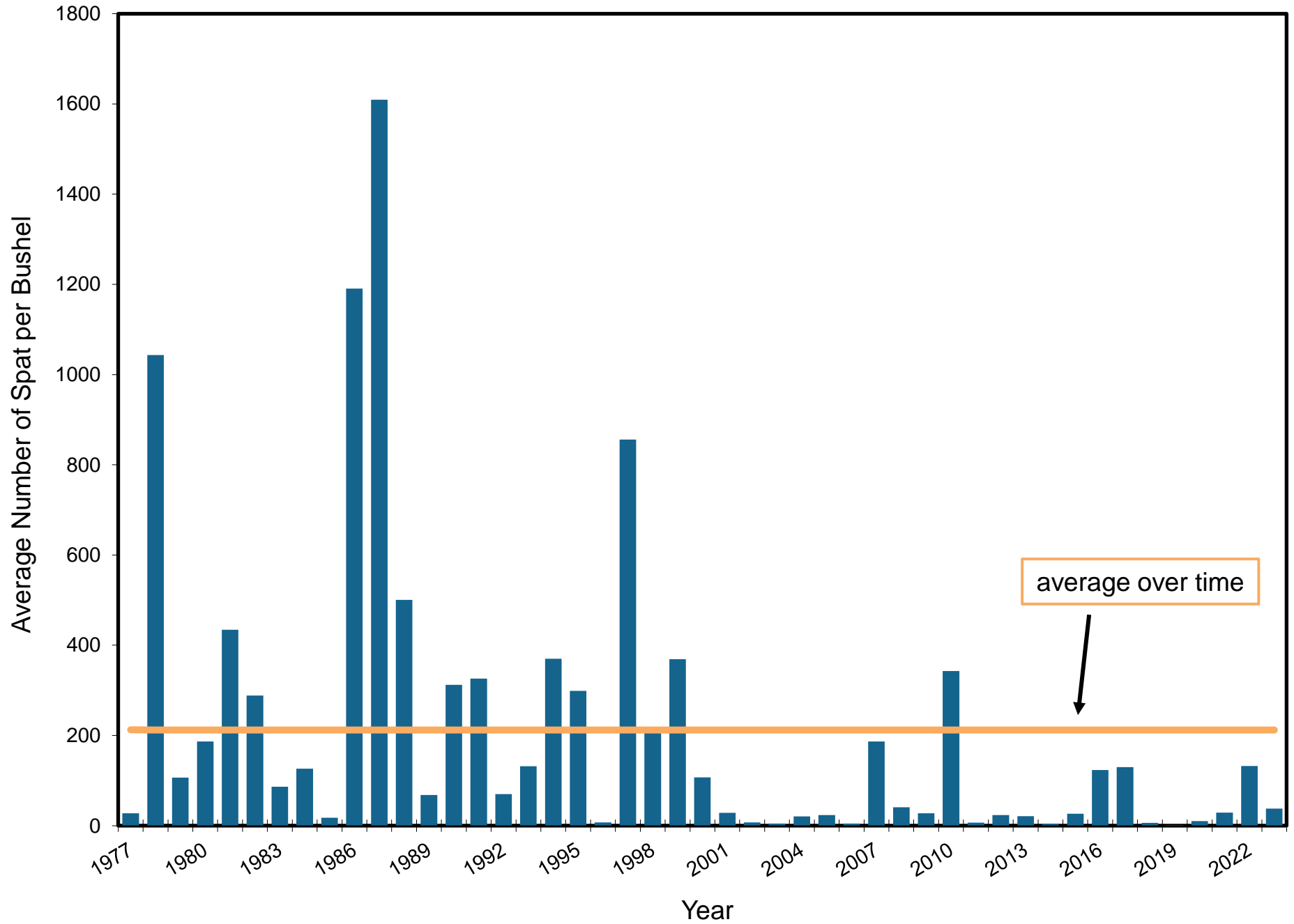
# Over-the-Bar Markets



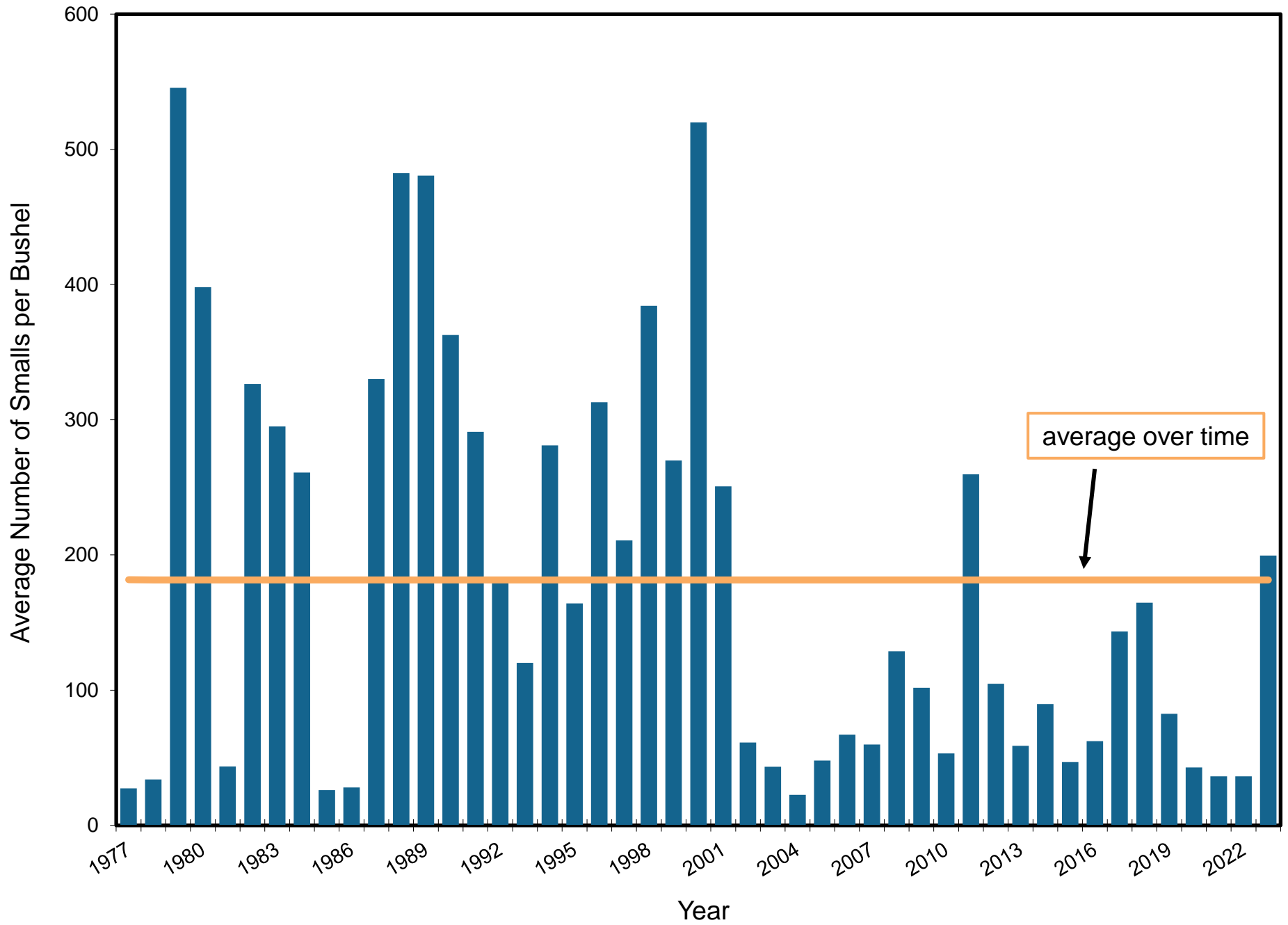
# Over-the-Bar Boxes



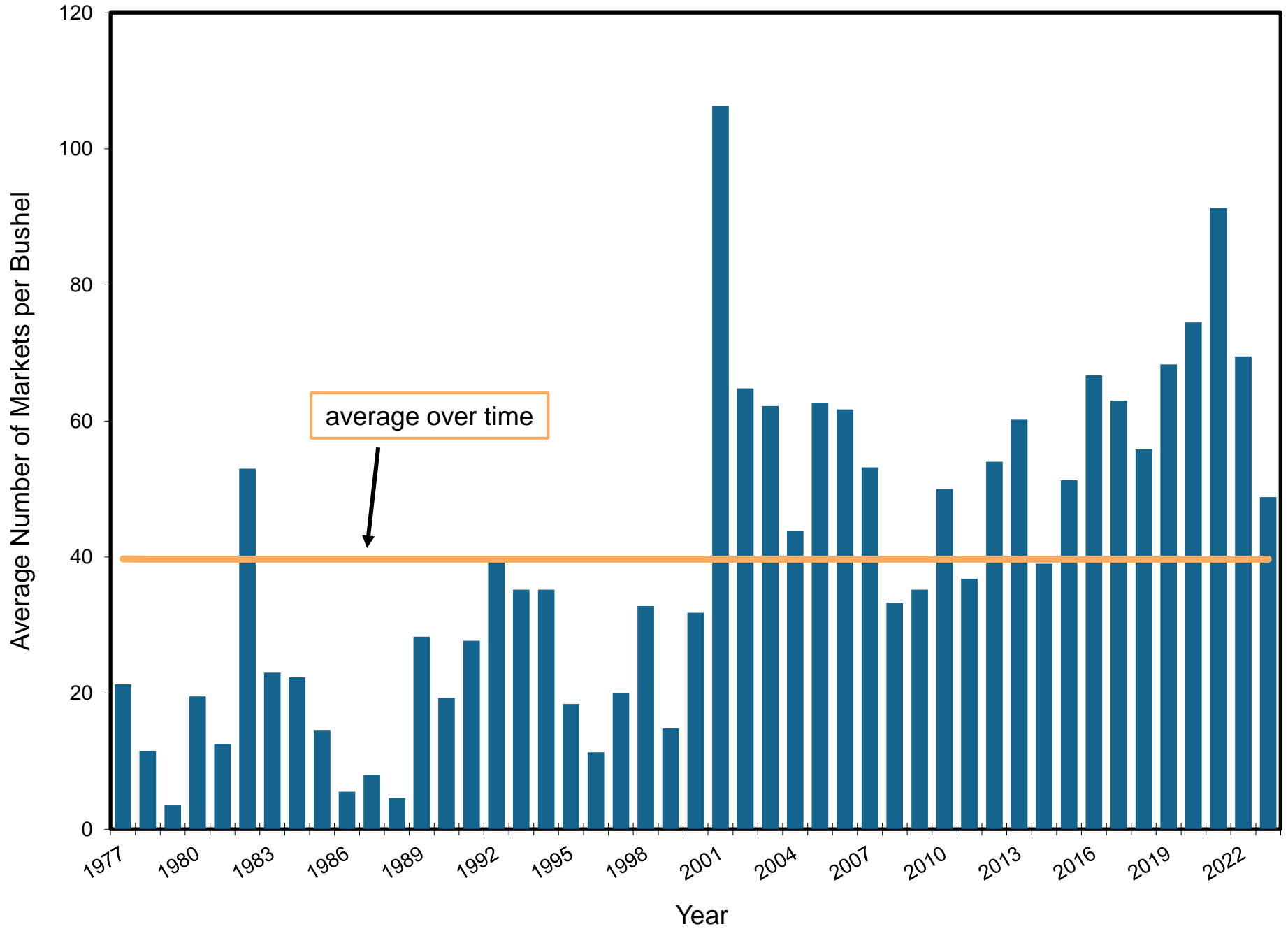
# Lower Middle Spat



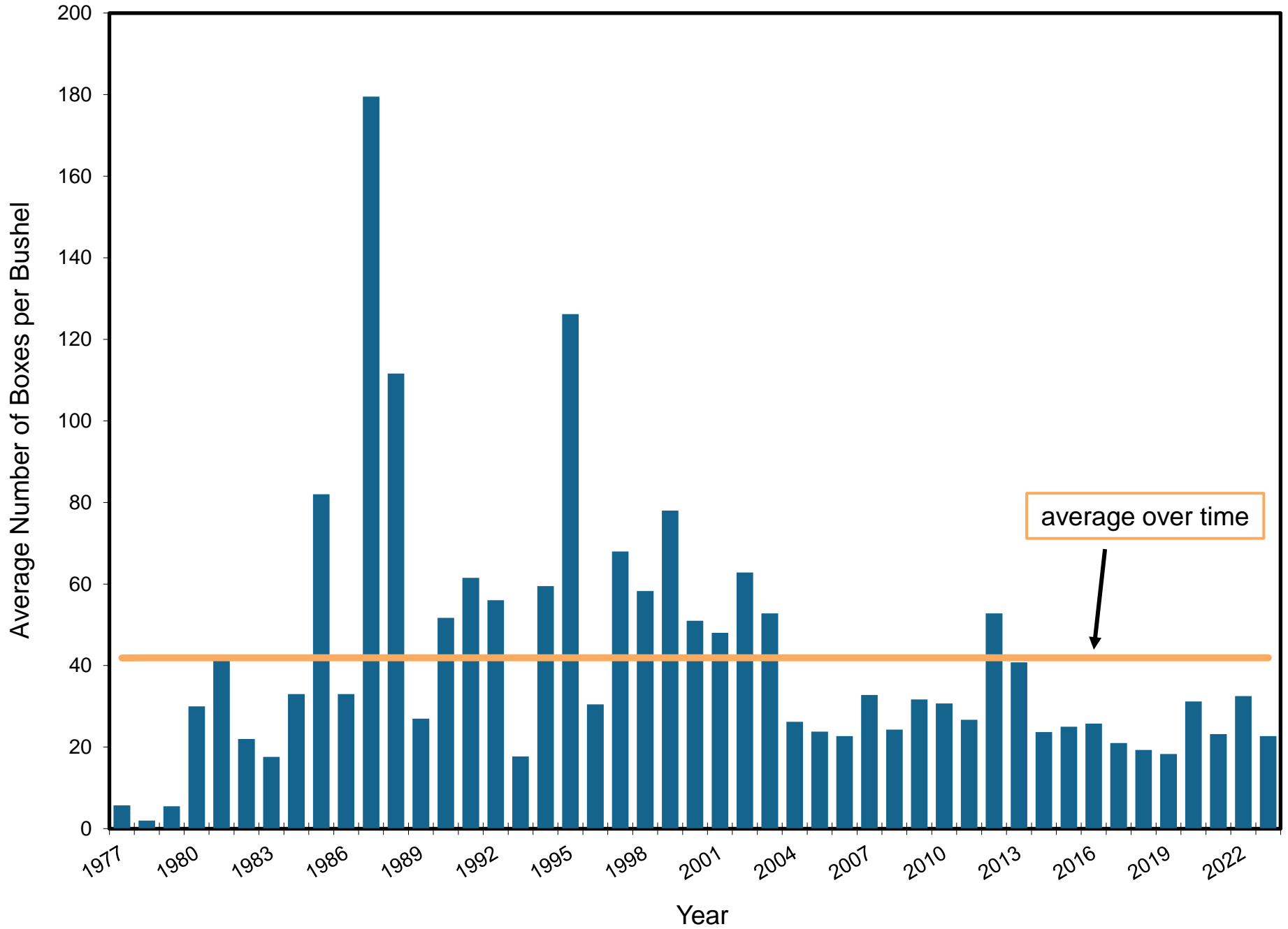
# Lower Middle Smalls



# Lower Middle Markets

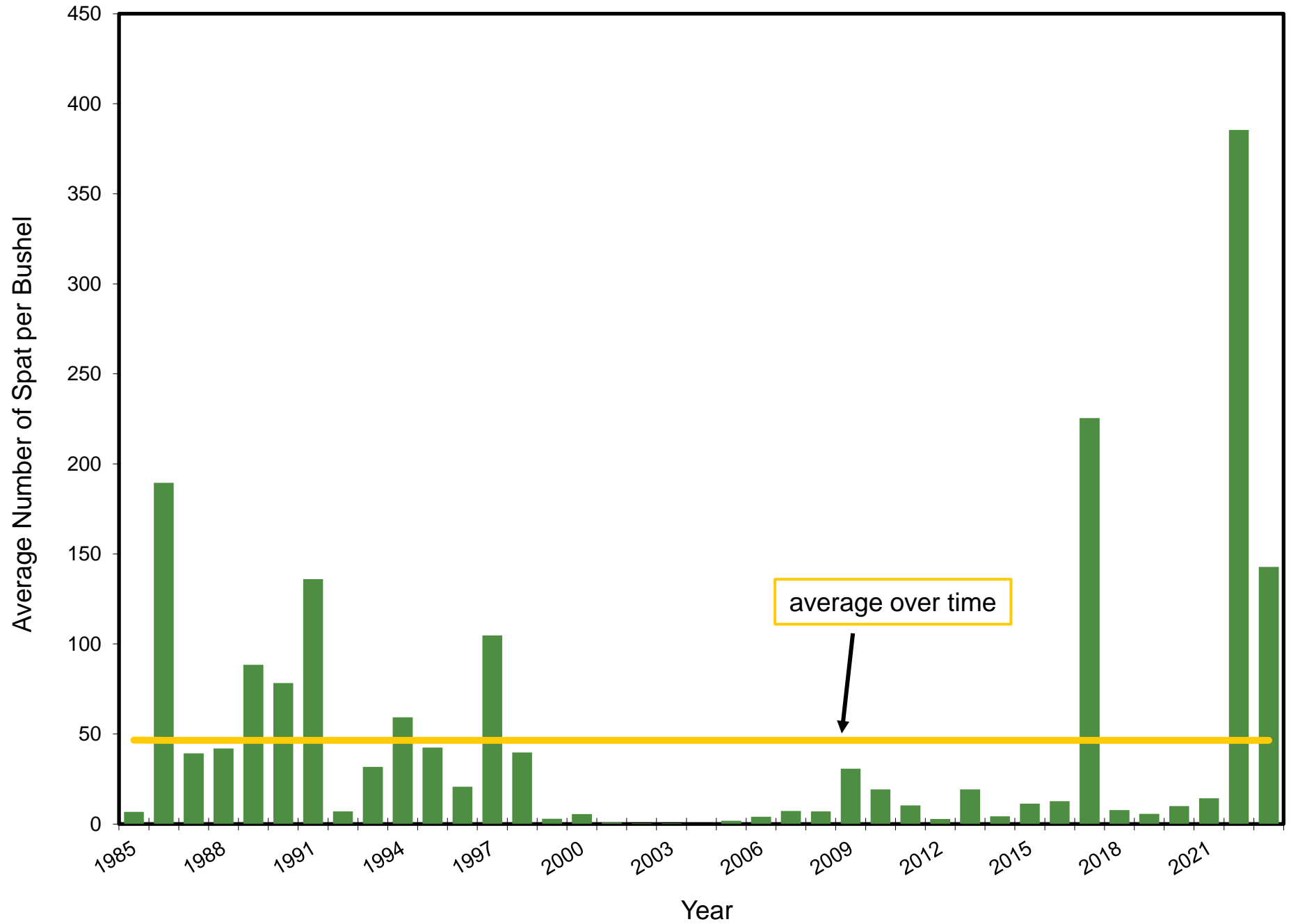


# Lower Middle Boxes

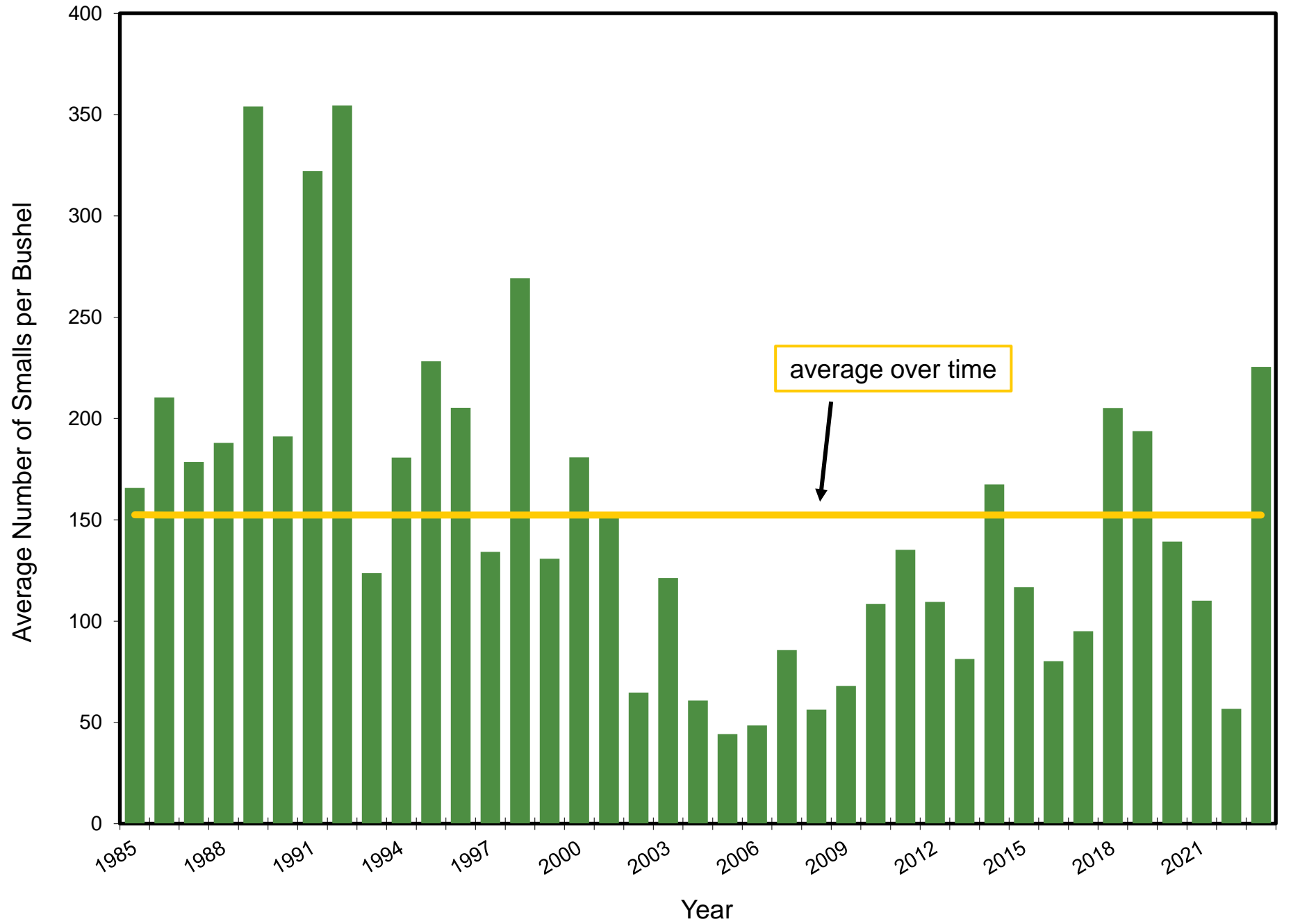




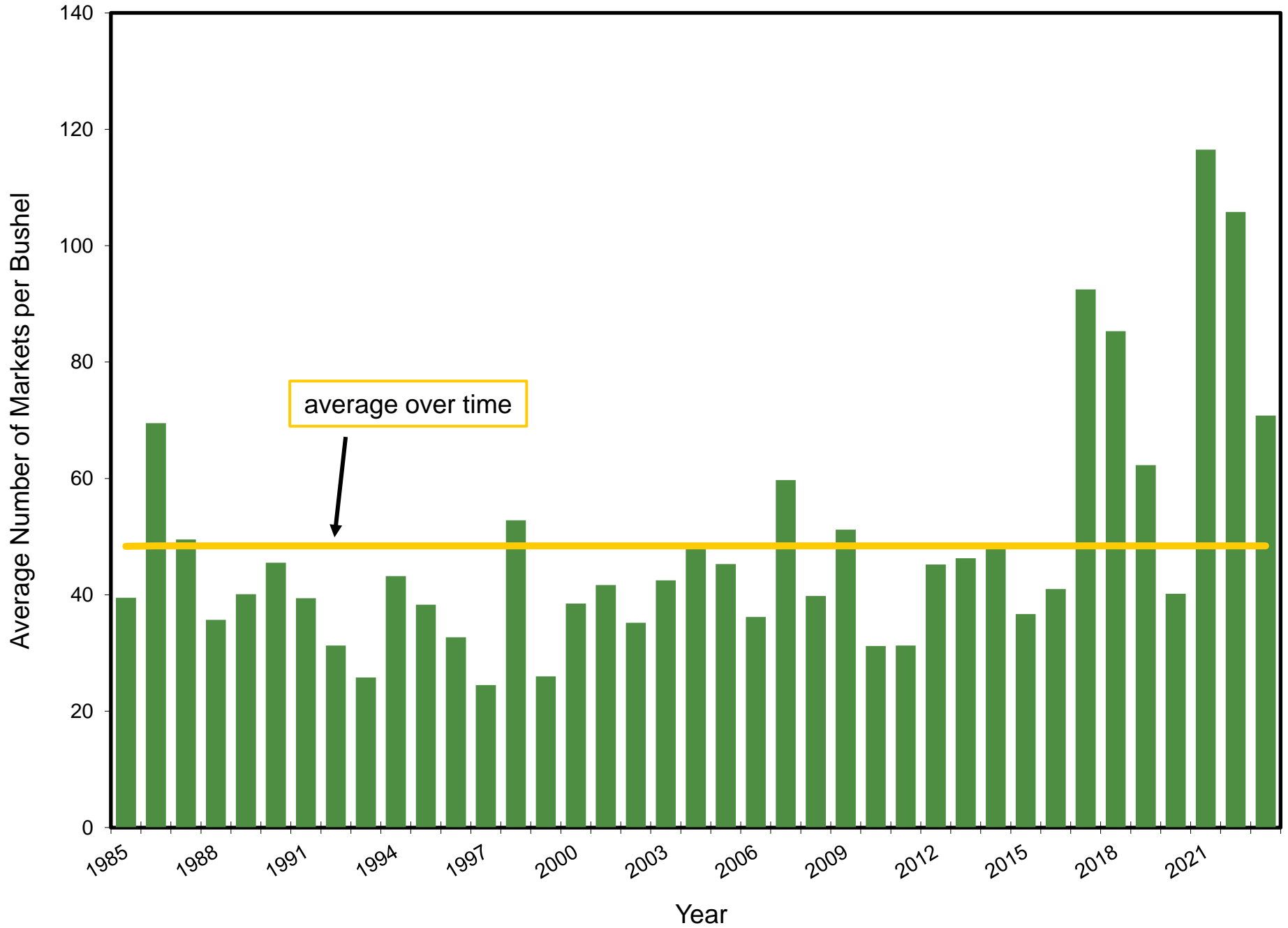
# Woodland Beach Spat



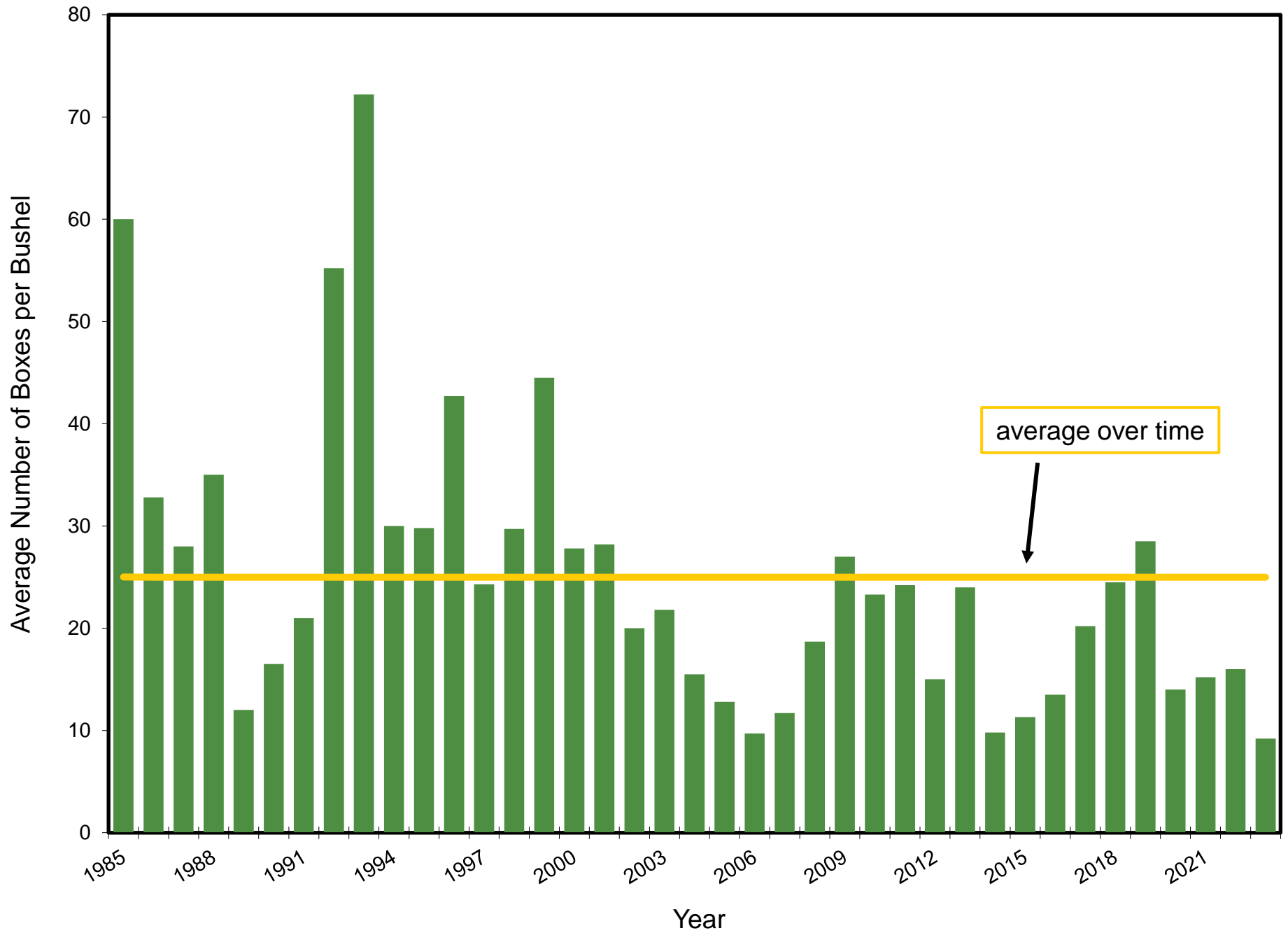
# Woodland Beach Smalls



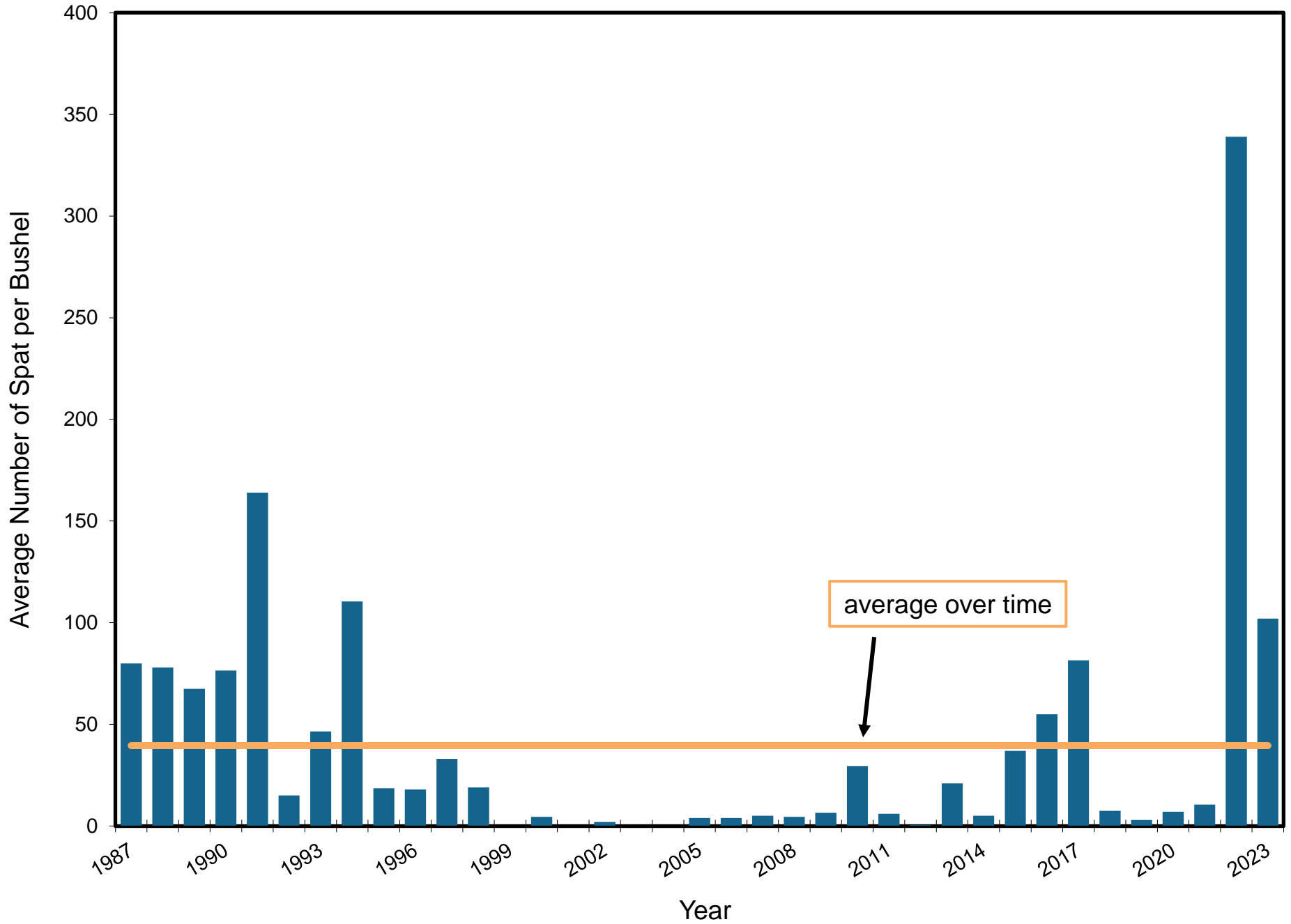
# Woodland Beach Markets



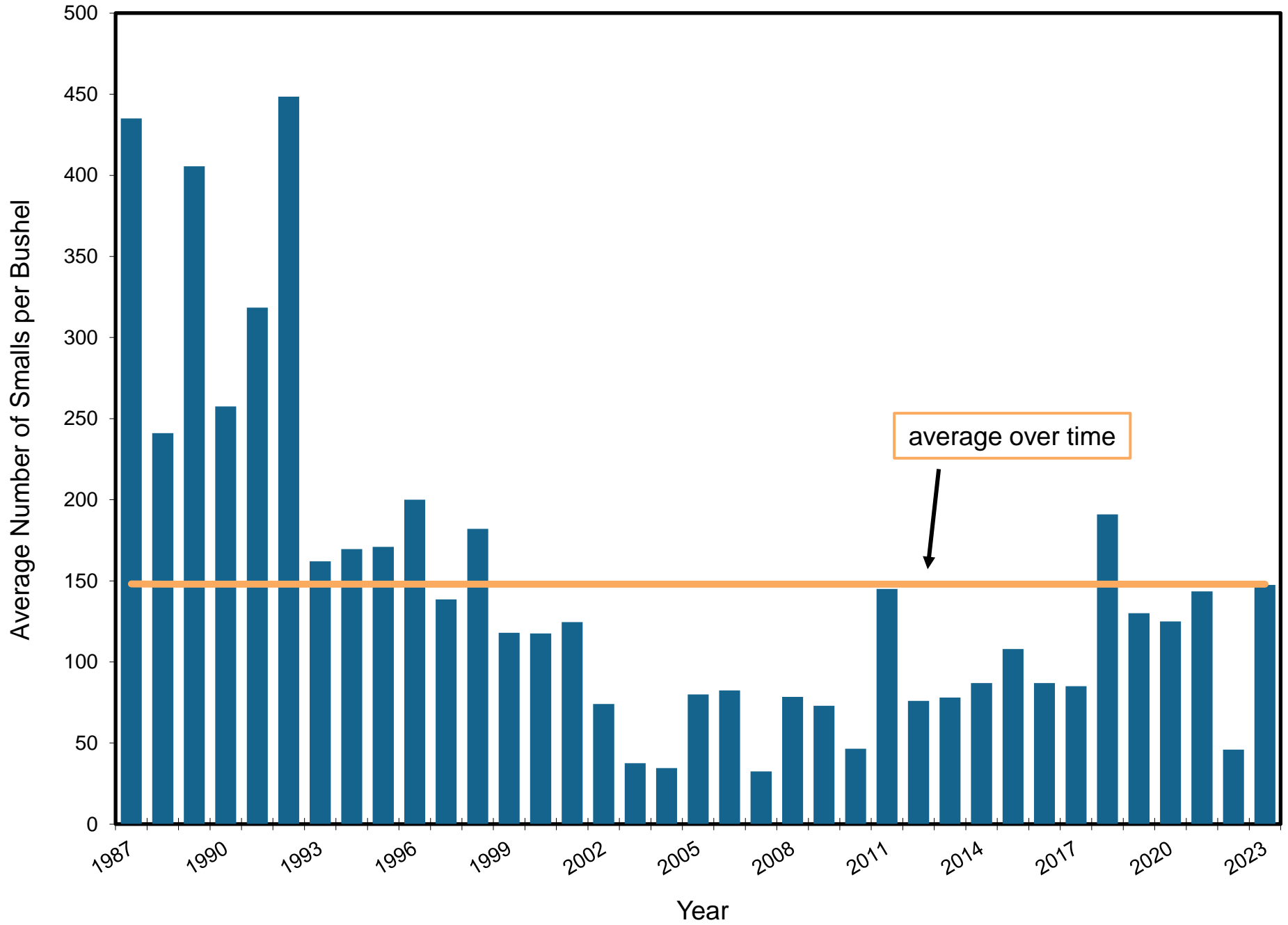
# Woodland Beach Boxes



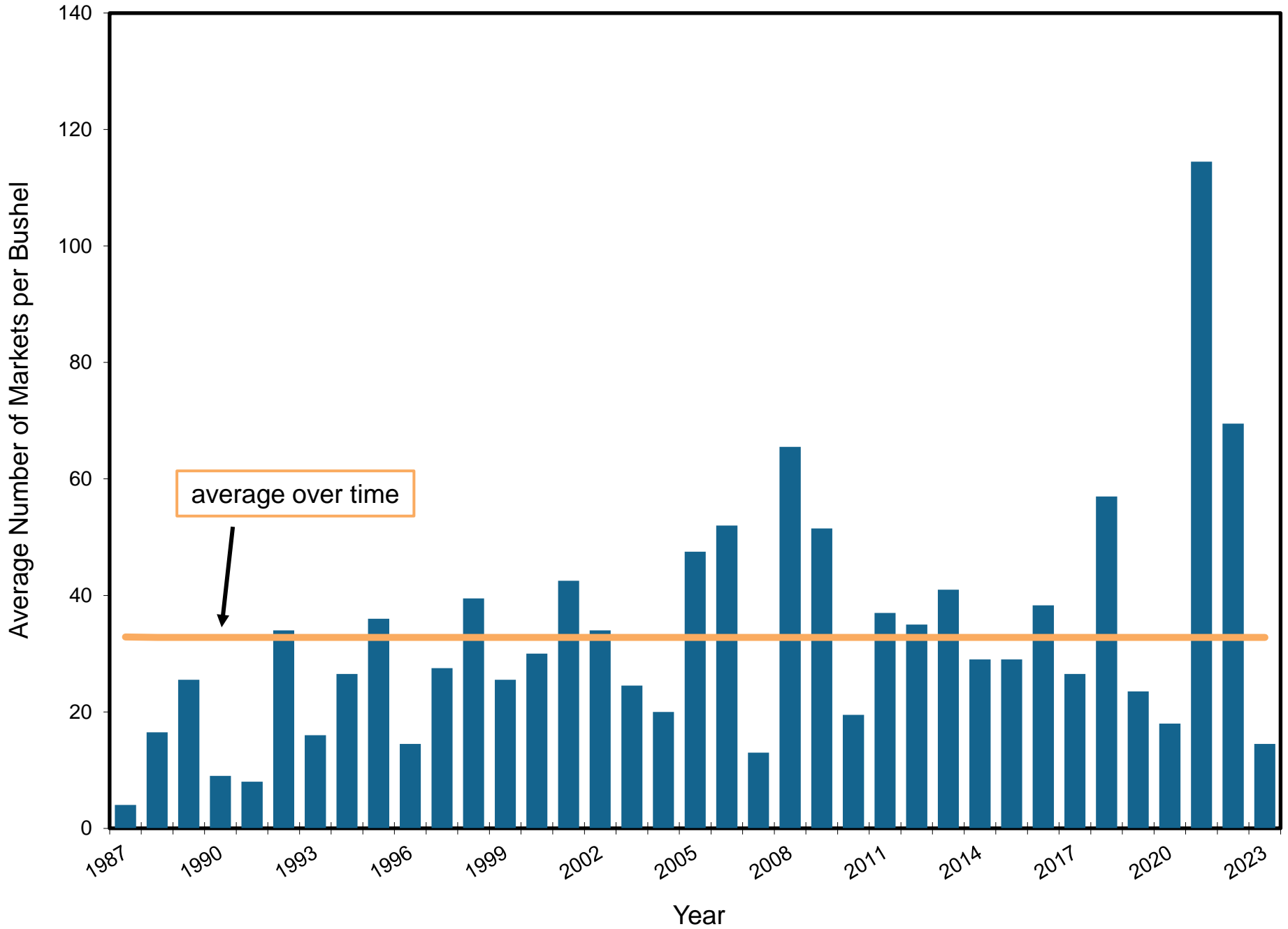
# Persimmon Tree Spat



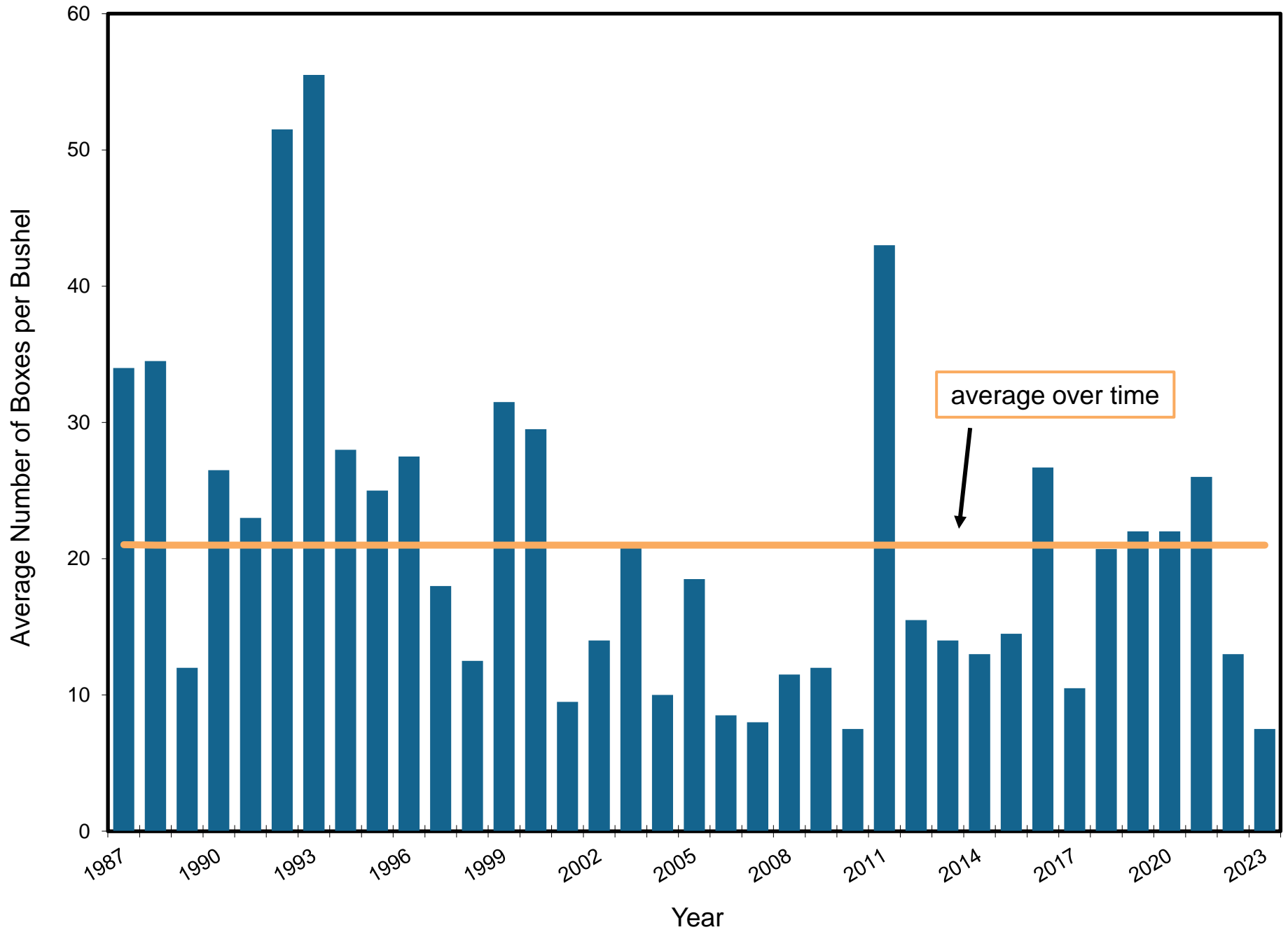
# Persimmon Tree Smalls



# Persimmon Tree Markets

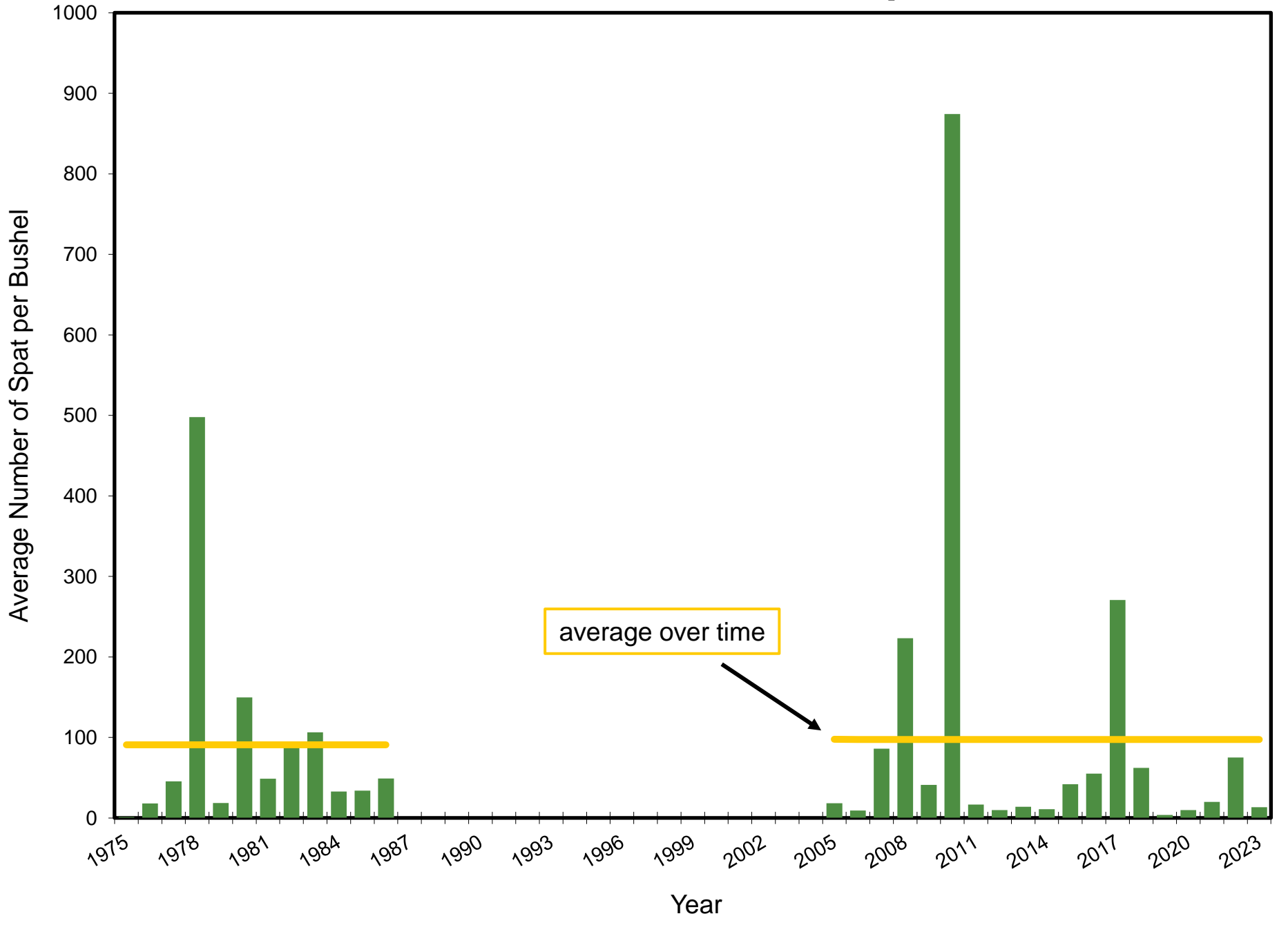


# Persimmon Tree Boxes

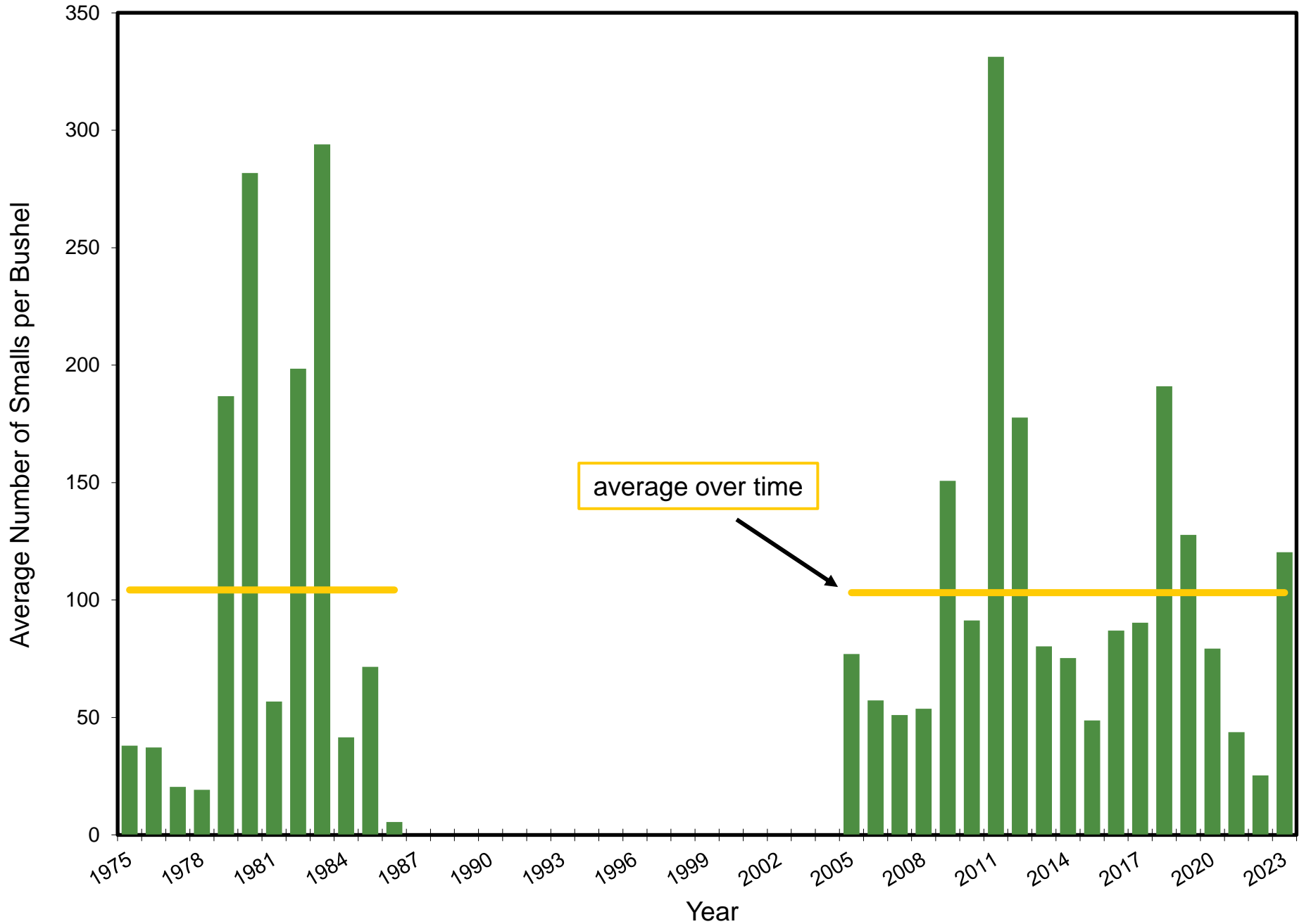




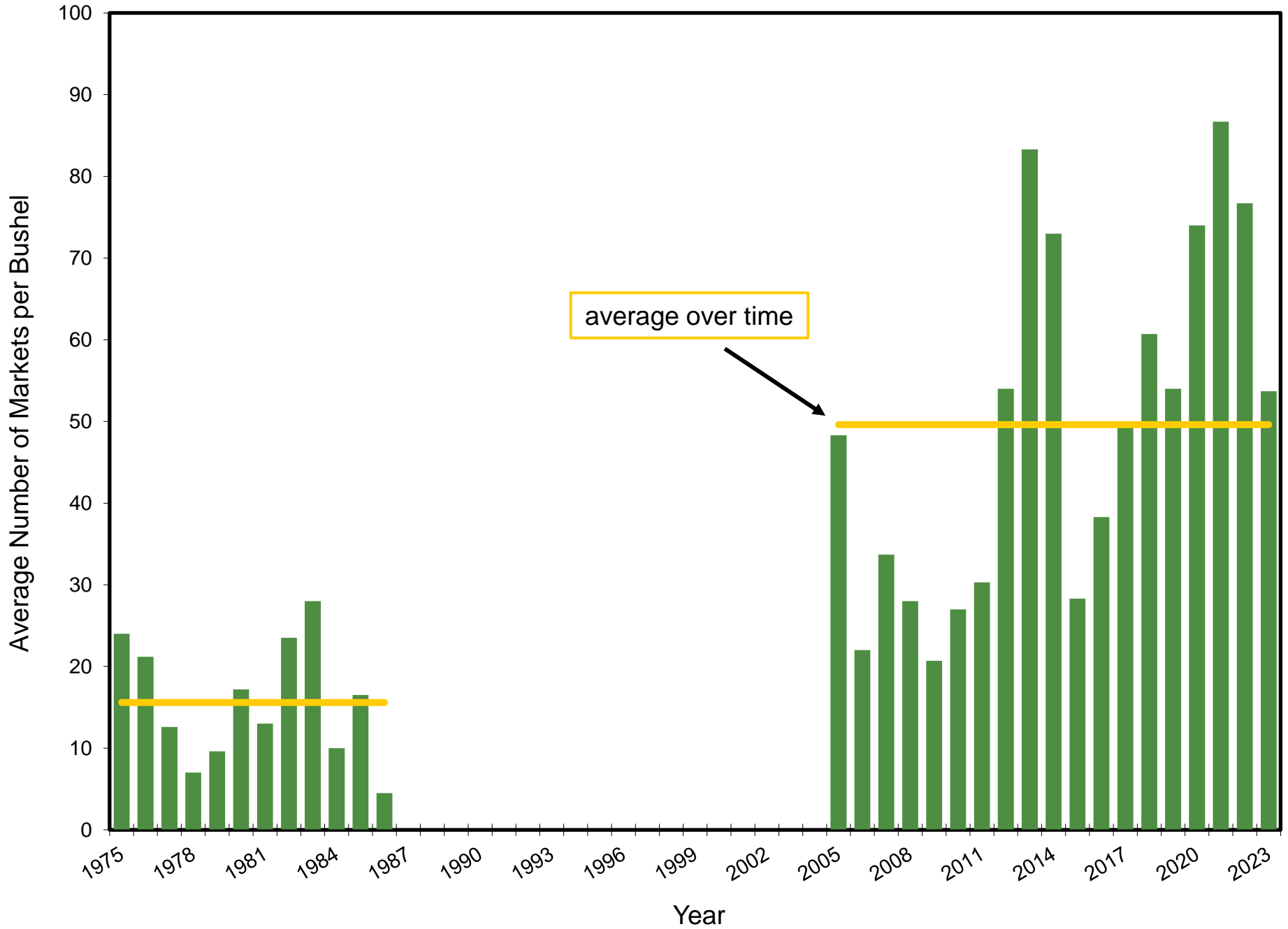
# Pleasanton's Rock Spat



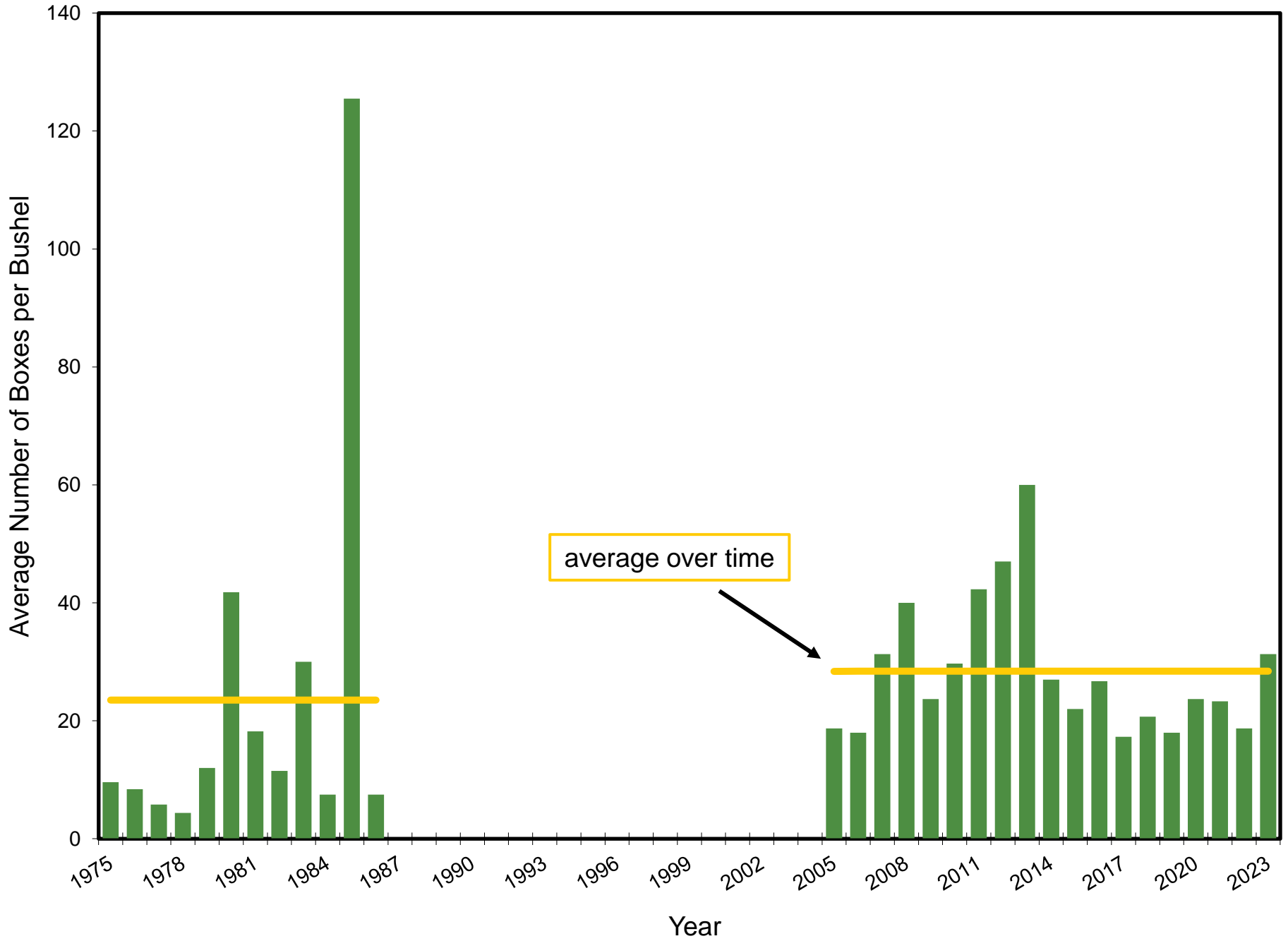
# Pleasanton's Rock Smalls



# Pleasanton's Rock Markets



# Pleasanton's Rock Boxes



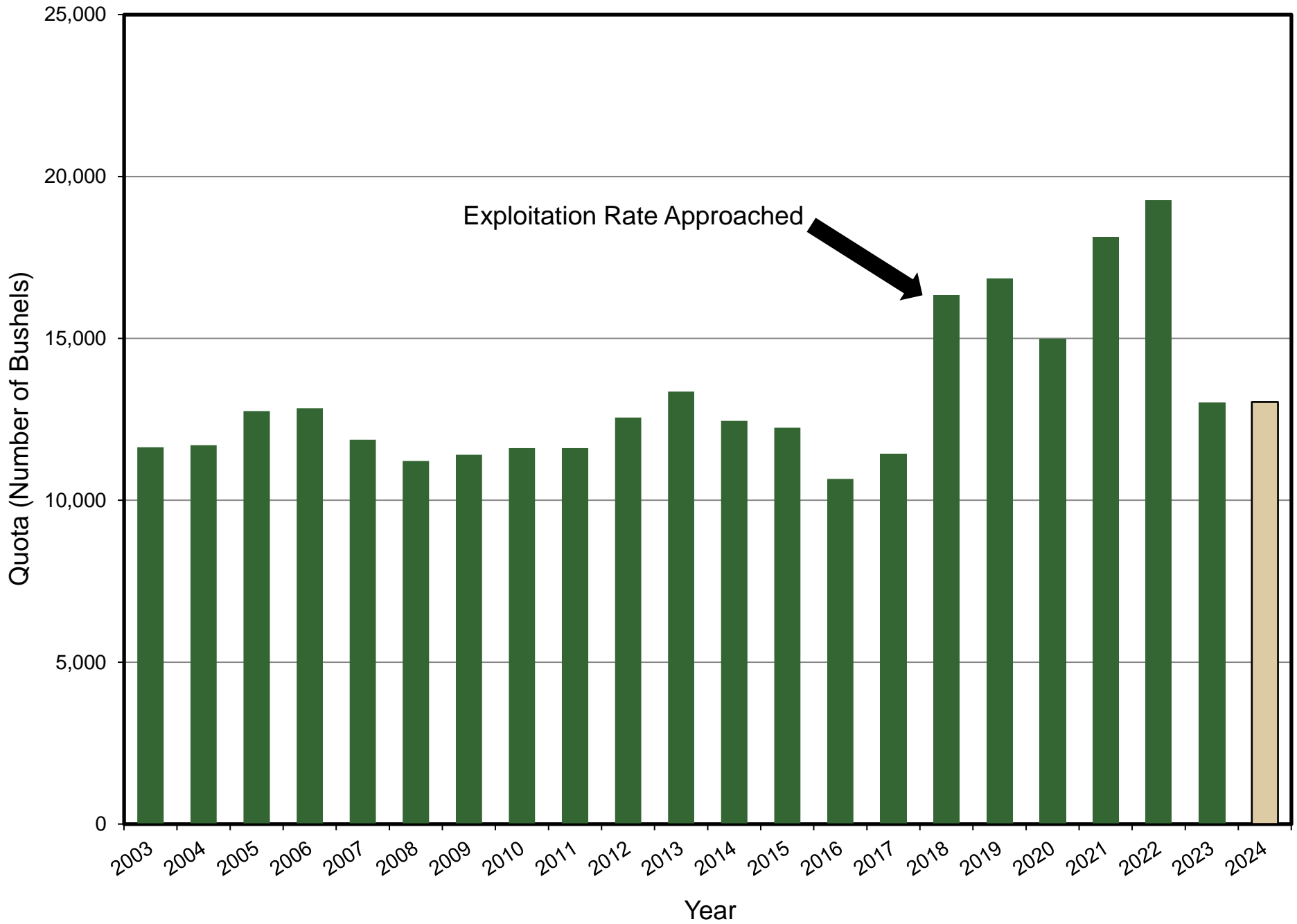
# Percentage of Oysters Greater Than or Equal To 2.75" and 3"

<b>BED</b>	<b>% ≥ 2.75"</b>	<b>% ≥ 3"</b>
Ridge	66.85	60.67
Silver Bed	48.31	42.67
Drum Bed	45.28	37.11
Over-the-Bar	40.51	33.23
Lower Middle	32.39	25.16
Woodland Beach	47.59	41.80
Persimmon Tree	29.81	22.12
Pleasanton's Rock	48.15	40.74
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>44.86</b>	<b>37.94</b>

**Beginning in 2018, quotas have been based on a fixed, 2% rate of harvest from the primary seed beds, justifying larger harvest while maintaining a healthy, sustainable fishery.**

**2024 quota = 13,037 bushels**

# Annual Quotas 2003-2024



# **2024 SEASON**

**April 1 – May 31**

**September 2 – December 31**

# **2024 QUOTA**

**13,037 bushels**