The aim of this study was to investigate the relationship between length and weight in sharks on the coast of NSW, Australia. The purpose was also to use the data to determine biological trends by comparing species, locations, methods and sexes.

Sharks were obtained from two different sources: recreational anglers taking part in fishing tournaments and the shark meshing program. Data has been kept for both these sources already for decades, but it has not been comparable, because the recreational anglers only weigh the sharks, while in the shark meshing program only the length is recorded. The main task for this study was to bring both sets of data together to find out if a relationship exists between the two factors.

Altogether 102 sharks were caught and three families and 11 species were identified. All the sharks showed a sex ratio of 1:1, the sizes of the sexes did not differ either in length or weight, there was no difference between fish were it was caught. Length and weight showed a strong relationship as well as fork and total length. The strong relationship between length and weight makes it possible to estimate other measured even if only one of them has been measured. Either fork length or total length can be used in the analysis, but the fork length is recommended to get more accurate results. Larger sample sizes need to be undertaken in future studies to support future research.