

## WPB12: BILLFISH DATASETS AVAILABLE

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### available datasets

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The following datasets are available for download. Please let us know if you encounter any problems in accessing the data. These datasets have been submitted to several validation procedures at the Secretariat. However, the procedures might not be exhaustive enough to uncover all potential problems. If you discover any major inconsistency in the data, please [let us know](#) as soon as possible.

### Data for the assessment of Indian Ocean swordfish stock (**available**)

The excel file [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-SASWO\\_Rev1.zip](#) (as of 01-10-2014) contains the data for the assessments of swordfish, as prepared by the IOTC Secretariat (1950-2012). Please, refer to the worksheet NOTES within the Excel file for reference.

The excel file [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CPUEJPNTWNLN.zip](#) (as of 09-09-2014) contains the CPUE indices by area derived for the deep-freezing longline fleets of Japan, and Taiwan, China, as provided by the scientists concerned (1950-2009). Note that this file will be updated if new estimates are provided by the scientists concerned.

The excel file [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA02 - TWN-CHN LL CPUE](#) (as of 29-09-2014) contains the CPUE indices by area derived for the deep-freezing longline fleets of Taiwan, China, as provided by the scientists concerned (1980-2012). Note that this file will be updated if new estimates are provided by the scientists concerned.

The excel file [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA03- JPN LL CPUE](#) (as of 01-10-2014) contains the CPUE indices by area derived for the deep-freezing longline fleets of Japan as provided by the scientists concerned (1971-2013). Note that this file will be updated if new estimates are provided by the scientists concerned.

The excel file [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA05 - EU-Portugal LL CPUE](#) (as of 29-09-2014) contains the CPUE indices by area derived for the deep-freezing longline fleets of EU-Portugal, as provided by the scientists concerned (1998-2013). Note that this file will be updated if new estimates are provided by the scientists concerned.

### Data for Marlins and Indo-Pacific sailfish (**available**):

- **Nominal Catch** (01-10-2014)

Total catch estimates per Fleet, Year, Gear, IOTC Area and species. The catches not reported by species or gear were assigned by gear and/or species by the Secretariat, using information from alternative sources.

The catches estimated for 1950-2012 and details about the data source and data quality can be found in the Excel spreadsheet [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-NC.zip](#) (01-10-2014) (compressed with WinZip)

- **Catches and Effort** (as of 01-10-2014):

Catch and effort data (as of 01-10-2014) are presented as three different files (csv files compressed with WinZip):

- vessels using drifting longlines — [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CELongline.zip](#)
- vessels using pole and lines or purse seines — [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CESurface.zip](#)
- vessels using gears other than those referred to above — [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CECoastal.zip](#)

Or click here if you want to download the above three files in one go [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CEALL.zip](#)

Catches (in tonnes or/and in number) and effort are recorded per Fleet, Year, Gear, Type of School, Time Interval (month or quarter usually), grid

(usually 1 degree square areas for surface gears and 5 degrees square areas for longlines) and species.

Catches and effort are not available for all Nominal catches strata. When recorded, the catches in these datasets might represent the total catches of the species in the year for the fleet and gear concerned or represent simply a sample of those.

More details about the catch and effort information available and the way in which the above text files might be read can be found in [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-CEref.zip](#) (compressed with WinZip).

- **Size frequency data** (as of 01-10-2014):

The size frequency data available in the IOTC databases is presented in [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-SFALL.zip](#) (xls file compressed with WinZip); it includes all size data available for **swordfish, black marlin, blue marlin, striped marlin, and Indo-Pacific sailfish** (as of 01-10-2014).

The following standard lengths are used for billfish species:

- Fork length: straight length from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail. Used for swordfish (SWO), striped marlin (MLS), and Indo-Pacific sailfish (SFA);
- Eye to fork length: straight length from the eye orbit to the fork of the tail. Used for blue marlin (BUM), and black marlin (BLM).

All size data strata not recorded as standard length was converted into standard length by using the equations available for each species. Fish recorded under size class intervals other than those used for billfish species was assigned to the corresponding size class interval(s) for each species (first class is 15cm for all billfish species and class interval is 3cm).

**Equations:** The equations used to estimate standard lengths from non-standard measurements and to estimate weight from the available lengths can be found in [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-Equations.pdf](#) (as of 01-10-2014)

Details about the type of SF data available can be found in [IOTC-2014-WPB12-DATA-SFref.zip](#) (compressed with WinZip).

**For further information:**

Please, do not hesitate to contact the IOTC Secretariat ( [secretariat@iotc.org](mailto:secretariat@iotc.org) or [data.assistant@iotc.org](mailto:data.assistant@iotc.org) ) if you have any question regarding these datasets.