WPTMT DATA OVERVIEW – STRUCTURE, CONTENTS, AND CODE LISTS

IOTC Secretariat

Datasets Overview

This page lists the datasets available for the WPTmT09, include links to other reference data. Please inform the IOTC Secretariat if you encounter any problems accessing the data. The data have been submitted to several validation procedures at the Secretariat; however, the procedures may not be exhaustive enough to uncover all potential problems.

Code Lists

The datasets contain codes that are available from the IOTC Reference Data Catalogue, as well as from the GitHub repositories of the IOTC Secretariat (https://github.com/iotc-secretariat/iotc-data-reference-codelists) and the Fisheries Data Interoperability Working Group (https://github.com/fdiwg/fdi-codelists/tree/main/regional/iotc).

Retained Catches

Retained (formerly "nominal") catch (RC) data correspond to the total annual estimates of fish caught, expressed in live weight equivalent (metric tonnes, t), and retained by fishing fleet, fishery, IOTC main area, retention reason, and species.

Catches that were not reported by individual species or gear have been assigned to the appropriate gear type and/or species by the Secretariat following methodologies endorsed by the Scientific Committee.

As of 1st July 2025, retained catches for the period 1950–2023 are available in the zipped CSV file at IOTC-2025-WPTmT09-DATA02.

Geo-Referenced Catches and Efforts

Geo-referenced catch and effort (CE) data are available for all fishery categories (longline, surface, and other gears) reported to the Secretariat. Catches (in tonnes and/or numbers of individuals) are recorded by fishing fleet, year, gear, type of school, time interval (usually monthly), spatial stratum (typically CWP square grids of 1°×1° for surface fisheries and 5°×5° for longline fisheries), and species. Effort data are recorded by fishing fleet, year, gear, type of school, time interval, and spatial stratum, but are not stratified by species.

Please note that not all fisheries reported catches, and therefore geo-referenced data are not available for all retained catch strata. Some recorded geo-referenced catches do not represent the total catches of all species for the relevant fleet and gear in a given year, but rather constitute only a sample.

Additionally, except for longline fisheries, the IOTC does not prescribe specific units for effort reporting, which may result in variability in the nature of effort data available over time.

As of 1st July 2025, geo-referenced catches for the period 1950–2023 are available in the zipped CSV file at IOTC-2025-WPTmT09-DATA03.

Geo-Referenced Size Frequencies

Size-frequency (SF) data represent the number of fish in the catch, classified by fishing fleet, year, gear, type of school, time interval (usually monthly), spatial stratum (typically CWP square grids of 5° × 5°), and fork length class. These datasets may originate from samples or have been raised to represent the total catch (see Raising code list).

Size measurements have been consolidated following the processing steps described in IOTC-2020-WPDCS16-16. **Table 1** listed the conversion factors and morphometric relationships officially used to convert temperate tuna species size measurements to fork lengths

As of 1st July 2025, size-frequency data for the period 1952–2023 are available in the zipped CSV files at:

- Albacore tuna size frequency data — IOTC-2025-WPTmT09-DATA04

Table 1: IOTC reference length-weight power and length-length linear relationships for Indian Ocean temperate tuna species. FL = fork length (cm); TL = total length (cm); RD = round weight (kg), FD = pre-dorsal length; PF = pectoral length, HG = dressed weight

Code	Species	Length type	equation	a	b	Min length	Max length	Reference
ALB	Albacore	FL	RD = a*FL^b	1.3718e-05	3.0973	46.0	118	Penney (1994)
			RD = a*FL^b	3.5050e-05	2.8570	45.0	120	Huang et al. (1991)
			RD = a*FL^b	5.6907e-05	2.7514	46.2	112	Hsu (1999)
			RD = a*FL^b	8.0000e-05	2.7271	83.0	106	Setyadji et al. (2012)
			RD = a*FL^b	3.2537e-06	3.4240	67.0	118	Dhurmeea et al. (2016)
			PF =a*FL+b	7.0160e-01	0.6174	67.0	118	Dhurmeea et al. (2016)
			FD = a*FL+b	2.6780e-01	5.4938	83.0	116	Dhurmeea et al. (2016)
SBF	Southern bluefin tuna		HG = a*FL^b	7.0700e-06	3.1610			Shiao et al. (2008)