

YELLOWFIN TUNA CATCH LIMIT CALCULATIONS UNDER IOTC RESOLUTIONS: DATA, ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

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Purpose

This spreadsheet provides details on the data sources, assumptions, formulae, and computations used to derive catch limits in accordance with IOTC Resolutions [19/01](#), and [21/01](#). It is intended to ensure transparency and facilitate the review and verification of the calculations and resulting catch limits. Although Resolution [18/01](#) remains applicable to India, it does not include a catch limit and is therefore not covered in this spreadsheet.

Worksheets

Nominal retained catches

This worksheet includes the best scientific estimates of retained yellowfin tuna catches (all gears combined) for all IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs), as well as Taiwan, China and non-IOTC countries, over the period 2014–2024. The European Union includes the fishing fleets of France (France, Mayotte, and Réunion), Italy, Portugal, and Spain.

The best scientific estimates of catches were derived following the data review procedure proposed by the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (see Appendix V of [IOTC-2014-WPDCS10-R](#)) and endorsed by the Scientific Committee ([IOTC-2014-SC17-R](#)).

The worksheet also includes the status of CPCs, which is required for the implementation of certain provisions under the relevant IOTC Resolutions (see acronyms below).

Acronym	Description
LD	Least Developed Country
DG	Developing Country
DD	Developed Country
S	Small Island Developing State
C	Coastal State
DW	Distant-Water Fishing Nation

19-01 base annual limits

This worksheet provides the computations used to derive the base annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna for surface and longline fisheries subject to catch reductions under the provisions of Resolution [19/01](#).

The worksheet includes baseline years, reduction levels (expressed as percentages), and annual retained catches of yellowfin tuna for the period 2014–2019 used to compute the base annual catch limits.

The worksheet also includes overcatches of yellowfin tuna for the period 2017–2019, calculated in accordance with Paragraph 13(a) of Resolution 19/01.

19-01 catch, overcatch, limits

This worksheet provides the computations of annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna based on the most recent catch data available to the Secretariat, as well as estimated overcatches for yellowfin tuna fisheries subject to Resolution 19/01.

The catch limit for the most recent year, for which complete catch data are not yet available to the Secretariat, assumes that catches of yellowfin tuna will remain within the CPC-specific established catch limits.

19-01 annual limits

This worksheet provides an overview of annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna for each fishery subject to Resolution 19/01 over the full time series.

19-01 circular table

This worksheet includes the table used for dissemination of the most recent yellowfin tuna catch limits established under Resolution 19/01 through IOTC Circulars and the IOTC website.

21-01 base annual limits

This worksheet provides the computations used to derive the base annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna for CPCs and fleets, based on the provisions of Resolution 21/01.

The worksheet includes catch levels used as references for the calculation of the base annual catch limits, as well as the relevant paragraphs of Resolution 21/01 underpinning these computations.

21-01 catch, overcatch, limits

This worksheet provides the computations of annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna based on the most recent catch data available to the Secretariat, as well as estimated overcatches for yellowfin tuna fisheries subject to Resolution 21/01.

The catch limit for the most recent year, for which complete catch data are not yet available to the Secretariat, assumes that catches of yellowfin tuna will remain within the CPC-specific established catch limits.

21-01 annual limits

This worksheet provides an overview of annual catch limits for yellowfin tuna for each fishery subject to Resolution 21/01 over the full time series.

21-01 circular table

This worksheet includes the table used for dissemination of the most recent yellowfin tuna catch limits established under Resolution 21/01 through IOTC Circulars and the IOTC website.

Catch Data Disclaimer

The catch data used for deriving the catch limits correspond to the best scientific estimates of retained catches of yellowfin tuna compiled by the Secretariat of the IOTC, unless otherwise stated (see section [Nominal retained catches](#)). While these datasets represent the most comprehensive information currently available for the Indian Ocean tuna and tuna-like fisheries, they are subject to several sources of uncertainty that vary across time, fleets, and fisheries. In general, data quality and completeness improve markedly in more recent years, reflecting strengthened reporting requirements and enhanced data collection systems, and are regularly updated as new information becomes available.