

README FILE (T2SZ/T2CS: Task 2 size/weight frequencies)

ICCAT Secretariat

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Summary

This document briefly describes the two types of Task 2 size/weight frequencies, compiled by ICCAT and publicly available on the ICCAT webpage (www.iccat.int/en/accesingdb.html):

1. **T2SZ** - Task 2 size/weight frequencies sampled (also known as actual size samples [*“de facto”* measured fish]) contains the species-based biological samples measured/weighted by the ICCAT CPCs and reported to ICCAT.
2. **T2CS** – Task 2 catch-at-size, contains the species-based estimations of the size composition of the catches, extrapolated by the ICCAT CPCs and reported to ICCAT. Only 6 species (ALB - albacore; BFT - bluefin tuna, BET - bigeye tuna, YFT - yellowfin tuna, SKJ skipjack, SWO - swordfish) have this reporting requirement. And, for each species, only the ICCAT flag CPCs with relevant catches of those species on their fisheries within a given year, should do those estimations and report them together with the corresponding methodology to the SCRS. From 2024 onwards, the T2CS annual provision became optional (to be explicitly requested by each SCRS species group, whenever required).

For each species-stock, the flag CPC list requiring both T2SZ and T2CS datasets, can be found on the SCRS species-stock based catalogues, updated every year and published on the ICCAT website (www.iccat.int/en/accesingdb.html) under section “Catalogues”.

For both dataset types T2SZ and T2CS, it is given an overall view of the content, formats and file structures.

CAVEAT: the CSV (comma separated values) files, one for each of the major species and groups of species (small tunas, others) can be read with any text editor (e.g.: [Notepad++](#)), spreadsheet (e.g.: MS-EXCEL, [LibreOffice](#)) or other specialised software (such as [R-CRAN](#)).

The Secretariat is working to replace these CSV files (and the former MS-ACCESS databases) in the mid-term, with [SQLite](#) standalone relational database versions (more powerful and efficient).

Content

Both T2SZ and T2CS dataset types contains information for the period 1950 to 2024 reported by the ICCAT CPCs until 15 January 2025. Some historical datasets collected by ICCAT (port sampling, special programmes, etc.) in the past, are also included to complement the officially reported data. The field “FileTypeCode” categorises the origin of those data sources. **Table 1** presents the number of datasets per “FileTypeCode” and dataset type (T2SZ/T2CS).

Table 1. Number of datasets in T2SZ and T2CS by data source origin (FileTypeCode) together with the overall ratios (%). The column Published indicates if they were included in the CSV files (YES) or not (NO).

| FileTypeCode | FileType | Dataset number | | Ratio (%) | | Published (Yes/no) | Remarks |
|--------------|--|----------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|--|
| | | T2SZ | T2CS | T2SZ | T2CS | | |
| OF-REP | Normal (Off. Rep) | 15832 | 5074 | 92 | 92 | YES | |
| WG-EST | WG estimations (CAS or CEF) | 92 | 250 | 1 | 5 | YES | |
| CONF | Confidential (not published) | 57 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NO | Mostly temporary restrictions (SCRS can use them) |
| REFF | Reference File (contains WG-RAW) | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NO | Old Reference files (from SG-TROP) |
| OF-SEC | Secretariat estimates based on Official data | 61 | 24 | 0 | 0 | YES | Raw t2sz (used in Tropical tunas CAS estimations) |
| IATTC | External IATTC | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | |
| P-SAMP | Port sampling (eq=11) | 223 | 0 | 1 | 0 | YES | |
| GBYP | Recovered under GBYP Program | 108 | 0 | 1 | 0 | YES | |
| ICC-SP | ICCAT Sampling Programme (old flgs: JPN.ICCAT/etc) | 206 | 0 | 1 | 0 | YES | |
| DR-ICC | Data recovery (payed by ICCAT, e.g. SWO-M) | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | |
| WG-T2F | WG (samples obtained from farmed BFT at-wild) | 69 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NO | Only for the use of the SG-BFT |
| StCamR | StereoCamera measurements (cage transfers - RAW) | 72 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | |
| szAvgW | t2sz obtained from mean weights (set based) | 61 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NO | Old SG-BFT estimations of T2SZ (mean weight based) |
| StCamS | StereoCamera measurements (cage transfers - ST06) | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | |
| StCaR2 | StereoCamera measurements (RAW_v7 - temp) | 83 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | |
| MXFIS0 | Mixed (FIS) unknow port (?) | 17 | 164 | 0 | 3 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| MXFIS1 | Mixed (FIS) PtNoire (Congo FRA?) | 51 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| MXFIS2 | Mixed (FIS) Abidjan (CIV?) | 49 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| MXFIS3 | Mixed (FIS) Dakar (SEN?) | 76 | 3 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Punk | Mixed(KR+PA)[no port] | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Pabi | Mixed(KR+PA)[abidjan] | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Plpa | Mixed(KR+PA)[Las Palmas] | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Pten | Mixed(KR+PA)[Tenerife] | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Psm | Mixed(KR+PA)[St Maart] | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Pcum | Mixed(KR+PA)[Cumana] | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| K+Pcto | Mixed(KR+PA)[Cape Town] | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YES | ongoing work to discriminate flags |
| NO-PUB | Not to be published (waiting SCRS approval) | 0 | 24 | 0 | 0 | NO | |
| TOTAL | | 17279 | 5539 | 100.0 | 100.0 | | |

More than 90% in both T2SZ and T2CS dataset types are CPC based size/weight data reported to ICCAT (FileTypeCode= "OF-REP").

The complementary detailed catalogue on this page (<https://www.iccat.int/en/accesingdb.html>) contains important information and the corresponding metadata of each dataset for both major tuna & tuna like species and small tunas.

Formats & structure

The CSV formats published were based on the standard structures used by the ICCAT scientific Committee (SCRS) in the recent years. Each record identifies the number of fish within a size/weight class bin. All the remainder fields (fishing flag, gear, time strata, geographical strata, etc.) characterise each record. This format (vertical orientation) is usually more flexible than the horizontal one (class bins rotated as columns).

The structure of the CSV files, specifically the fields (name, type, constrains) and their short descriptions are presented in **Table 2**.

For additional questions please contact the ICCAT Secretariat (STATS_info@iccat.int).

Table 2 Structure of the CSV files for both T2SZ and T2CS dataset types

| Field | Type | Description | Constrains | Example |
|------------------------|---------|--|--|----------------|
| InProcID | integer | Data set unique identifier (internal) [equal to field "DSet" in the detailed catalogue file] | n/a | 38398 |
| SpeciesCode | string | Species code | ICCAT codes (= FAO ISSCFG codes) | SSP |
| YearC | integer | Year (calendar) | {1950, 2022} | 2019 |
| Decade | integer | Decade (natural decades: 2010-19, 2000-09, 1990-99, etc.) | {1950, 2020} | 2010 |
| FlagName | string | Flag name | ICCAT codes (Flags table) | Chinese Taipei |
| FleetCode | string | Fleet code | ICCAT codes (Fleets table) | TAI |
| GearGrpCode | string | Gear group code | ICCAT codes (Gear group table) | LL |
| GearCode | string | Gear code | ICCAT codes (Gear table) | LLSWO |
| LorD | string | Catch type (landed, discarded) | {(L, DD, DL), (landings, discarded dead, discarded live)} | L |
| FreqTypeCode | string | Frequency type code | ICCAT codes (Frequency types table) | LJFL |
| SzInterval | integer | Size/weight class interval | {[1, 2, 5, 10]cm, [1, 2, 5]kg} | 1 |
| FreqsGroup | string | Frequency group (cm, kg) & class boundary limit | {(ll, cp, ul, un), (lower, central point, upper, unknown)} | cm (ll) |
| SizeInfoCode | string | Size/weight information code (dataset type) | {(siz, cas), (T2SZ, T2CS)} | siz |
| FileTypeCode | string | File type code | ICCAT codes (see Table 1) | OF-REP |
| StratalID | integer | Stratum unique identifier (across all T2SZ and T2CS datasets) | n/a | 1612883 |
| TimePeriodCatch | integer | Time period of the catch (from which the sample was taken) | {month [1, ..., 12], quarter [13, 14, 15, 16], year[17]} | 12 |
| TimeStrata | string | Time period stratification type | {(mm, qq, yy), (monthly, quarterly, yearly)} | mm |
| SchoolTypeCode | string | School type code (fishing modes of tropical purse fisheries) | {(FAD, FSC, n/a), (on FADs, on free schools, not applicable)} | n/a |
| Stock | string | Species based stocks (or management unit) | ICCAT codes (see maps) [e.g.: ALB+ATS => ALB-S] | ATS |
| SampAreaCode | string | Sampling area codes (by species: ALB, BFT, BET, YFT, SKJ; rest of species: BIL areas) | ICCAT codes (see maps) | BIL96 |
| GeoStrata | string | Geographical stratification type (rectangles, squares, sampling areas) | ICCAT codes (Square Types table) [see maps] | 5x5 |
| QuadID | integer | Quadrant identifier (clockwise) | ICCAT codes (see maps) | 3 |
| Lat | float | Latitude (always positive and dependent on fields QuadID) | {0, 70} | 15 |
| Lon | float | Longitude (always positive and dependent on QuadID) | {0, 99} | 25 |
| FishSampWGT | integer | Total weight (kg) of the fish sampled/caught in a StratalID (T2SZ/T2CS) [caution: highly incomplete] | n/a | 0 |
| FishSampNUM | integer | Total number of fish sampled/caught in a StratalID (T2SZ/T2CS) [caution: highly incomplete] | n/a | 0 |
| ClassFrq | integer | Size (cm)/weight (kg) class bins (some outliers still under revision) | Watch global outliers outside ranges [10, 600]cm and [1, 800]kg | 160 |
| SexCode | string | Sex code (ICCAT codes) | {(M, F, I, U), (male, female, immature, unknow)} | U |
| Nr | float | Number of fish in each class bin | (mostly integer in T2SZ, mostly float in T2CS) | 1 |