

Anglerfish (*Lophius budegassa*, *Lophius piscatorius*) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)

ICES advice on fishing opportunities

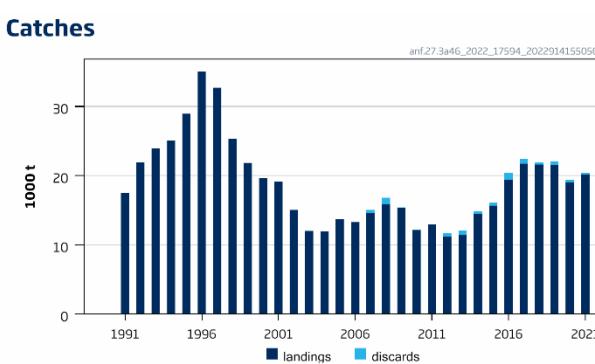
ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches should be no more than 9 881 tonnes in each of the years 2023 and 2024.

ICES notes the existence of a precautionary management plan, developed and adopted by one of the relevant management authorities for this stock.

Management should be implemented at the stock level.

Stock development over time

The fishing pressure proxy on the stock is above $F_{MSY\ proxy}$ (Figure 2), and the stock-size index is above MSY Btrigger proxy ($I_{trigger}$).



Stock size indicator

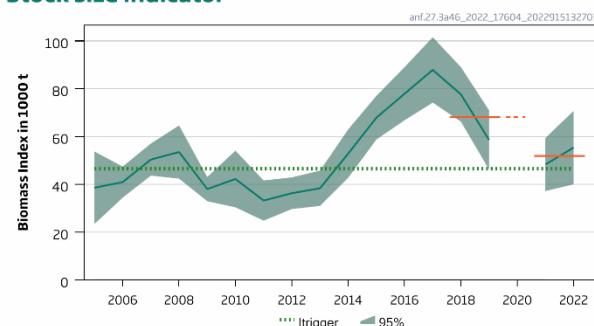


Figure 1 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a. Summary of the stock assessment. ICES landings and discards (estimates available since 2007). Stock biomass from the SIAMISS-Q2 survey. The horizontal orange lines indicate the average of the most recent two years, and the previous three years (with 2020 not available and therefore excluded from the average).

Catch scenarios

ICES framework for category 3 stocks was applied (rfb rule, method 2.1; ICES, 2022a). A survey biomass index was used as an indicator of stock development. The advice is based on the recent advised catches (2022), multiplied by the ratio of the mean of the last two index values (index A) and the mean of the three preceding values (index B), a ratio of observed mean length in the catch relative to the target mean length, a biomass safeguard, and a precautionary multiplier. The stability clause was considered and applied to limit the reduction in catch advice to 30%. The discard rate (average 2007–2021) was 2.9%.

Table 1 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a. The basis for the catch scenarios. All weights are in tonnes.*

| Division 3a46 Anglerfish stock | | |
|---|---------|---------------|
| Previous catch advice A_y (advised catch for 2022) | | 14 116 tonnes |
| Stock biomass trend | | |
| Index A (2021, 2022) | | 53 222 tonnes |
| Index B (2018, 2019; 2020 not available) | | 68 118 tonnes |
| r: stock biomass trend (index ratio A/B) | | 0.78 |
| Fishing pressure proxy | | |
| Mean catch length ($L_{mean} = L_{2021}$) | | 53 cm |
| MSY proxy length ($L_{F=M}$) | | 61 cm |
| f: Fishing pressure proxy relative to MSY proxy ($L_{2021}/L_{F=M}$) | | 0.87 |
| Biomass safeguard | | |
| Last index value (I_{2021}) | | 55 423 |
| Index trigger value ($I_{trigger} = I_{loss} \times 1.4$) | | 46 554 |
| b: Index relative to trigger value, min { $I_{2021}/I_{trigger}, 1$ } | | 1 |
| Precautionary multiplier to maintain biomass above B_{lim} with 95% probability | | |
| m: multiplier (generic multiplier based on life history) | | 0.95 |
| RFB calculation ** | | 9 100 tonnes |
| Stability clause (+20%/-30% compared to A_y , only applied if b = 1) | Applied | 0.70 |
| Discard rate | | 1.2% |
| Catch advice for 2023 ($A_y \times$ stability clause) | | 9 881 tonnes |
| Projected landings corresponding to advice *** | | 9 610 tonnes |
| % advice change ^ | | -30% |

* The figures in the table are rounded. Calculations were made with unrounded inputs, and computed values may not match exactly when calculated using the rounded figures in the table.

** $A_{y+1} = A_y \times r \times f \times b \times m$.

*** [Advised catch for 2023] $\times [1 -$ discard rate].

^ Advice value for 2023 relative to the advice value for 2022 (14 116 tonnes).

The current advice has decreased by 30% compared to last year's advice because of a change in the advice method and a declining trend in the recent stock biomass.

Length indicator

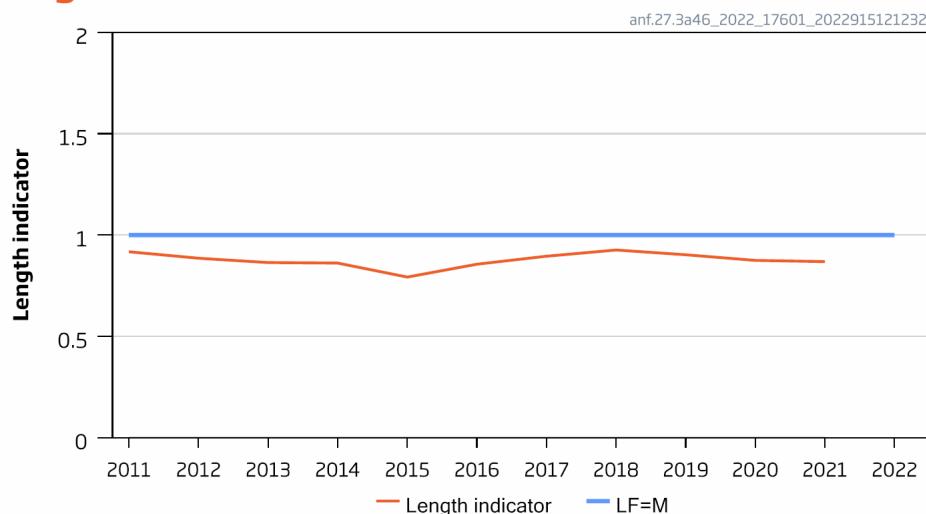


Figure 2 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Length indicator (mean length of fish in the catch above the estimated length of first capture (L_c) normalised to the MSY proxy reference length $L_{F=M}$). The exploitation status is below $F_{MSY\ proxy}$ when the indicator ratio value is higher than 1 (shown by a blue line).

Basis of the advice

Table 2 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. The basis of the advice.

| Advice basis | MSY approach |
|-----------------|--|
| Management plan | An EU multiannual management plan (MAP) has been agreed by the EU for this stock (EU, 2018). The MAP stipulates that when the F_{MSY} ranges are not available, fishing opportunities should be based on the best available scientific advice. There is no agreed shared management plan with the UK or Norway for this stock, and ICES provides advice according to ICES MSY approach. |

Quality of the assessment

The SIAMISS-Q2 survey was not completed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic; the stock-size indicator is therefore unknown for 2020. The use of two values (2018, 2019; no data for 2020) for index B in the category 3 approach adds a degree of uncertainty. Furthermore, in 2022 the SIAMISS-Q2 survey did not include Division 6.b (Rockall) which in 2021 accounted for 7.9% of landings. The survey estimate for 2021 was used in place of the missing 2022 estimate for Division 6.b. This adds a further degree of uncertainty to the assessment, but does not affect the advice as the reduction is capped.

The SIAMISS-Q2 survey does not cover divisions 3.a, 4.b, or 4.c, which collectively accounted for 10.2% of the landings in 2021. It is uncertain to what extent the lack of coverage of these areas affects the quality of the assessment.

Discard data are available for most of the fleets except the gillnet fishery, which is not adequately sampled and which accounted for 13% of the landings in 2021.

Issues relevant to the advice

Previously, advice for this stock was given following ICES precautionary approach; the new method gives advice following ICES MSY approach (ICES, 2022a).

The basis for the advice (rfb rule) has a biennial advice interval and so advice is provided for 2 years (ICES, 2022a).

There is a mismatch between management and assessment area, and as a result there is a potential for catches to exceed advice.

Reference points

Table 3 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Reference points, relative values, and their technical basis.

| Framework | Reference point | Value | Technical basis | Source |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---|---------------------|
| MSY approach | MSY $B_{trigger\ proxy}$ | 46 554 | Biomass index trigger value ($I_{trigger}$), defined as $I_{trigger} = I_{loss} \times 1.4$, where I_{loss} is the lowest observed historical biomass index value (from 2011) from 2005–2022. Value in tonnes. | ICES (2022a, 2022b) |
| | $F_{MSY\ proxy}$ | 1 | $L_{mean}/L_F = M$; Mean catch length divided by MSY proxy reference length ($L_F = M = 61$ cm). | ICES (2022a, 2022b) |
| Precautionary approach | B_{lim} | Not defined | | |
| | B_{pa} | Not defined | | |
| | F_{lim} | Not defined | | |
| | F_{pa} | Not defined | | |
| Management plan | SSB_{mgt} | Not applicable | | |
| | F_{mgt} | Not applicable | | |

Basis of the assessment

Table 4 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Basis of the assessment and advice.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ICES stock data category | 3 (ICES, 2022c) |
| Assessment type | Survey biomass trend applying the rfb rule for advice (ICES, 2022a). |
| Input data | Commercial catch (international landings and discards, length frequencies from catch sampling), and a dedicated Scottish–Irish Anglerfish and Megrim Industry–Science Survey in Subarea 6 and Division 4.a (G3745 - Anglerfish surveys II–III [SIAMISS–Q2]) |
| Discards and bycatch | Discard estimates are available from 2007 onwards for the majority of the fleets included in the model and in the advice. |
| Indicators | Length distribution from the SIAMISS–Q2 survey |
| Other information | Last benchmarked in 2018 (WKANGLER; ICES, 2018a). |
| Working group | Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE) |

History of the advice, catch, and management

Table 5 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a. ICES advice and official landings. All weights are in tonnes.

| Year | ICES advice | Catch corresponding to advice | | Landings corresponding to advice | Agreed TAC * | Official landings | ICES landings # | ICES discards |
|------|--|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | Division 3.a and Subarea 4 | Subarea 6 | | | | | |
| 1990 | Not assessed | - | - | - | 8 600 | 17 605 | - | - |
| 1991 | Not assessed | - | - | - | 8 600 | 18 369 | 17 441 | - |
| 1992 | Not assessed | - | - | - | 8 600 | 20 807 | 21 872 | - |
| 1993 | No long-term gain in increased F ** | - | - | - | 8 600 | 22 596 | 23 971 | - |
| 1994 | No long-term gain in increased F ** | - | - | - | 8 600 | 25 155 | 25 057 | - |
| 1995 | A precautionary TAC not exceeding recent catch levels** | - | - | - | 8 600 | 29 055 | 28 913 | - |
| 1996 | A precautionary TAC not exceeding recent catch levels** | - | - | - | 8 600 | 35 039 | 35 100 | - |
| 1997 | Reduction in fishing effort** | - | - | - | 8 600 | 32 853 | 32 728 | - |
| 1998 | Reduction in fishing effort** | - | - | - | 30 700 | 25 471 | 25 293 | - |
| 1999 | Reduce fishing effort, effective implementation of the TAC** | - | - | - | 30 700 | 21 230 | 21 854 | - |
| 2000 | 40% reduction in catches | < 9700 | < 7400 | - | 25 700 | 18 973 | 19 682 | - |
| 2001 | 2/3 of the catches in 1973–1990 | 5700 | 4300 | - | 20 500 | 19 304 | 19 157 | - |
| 2002 | 2/3 of the catches in 1973–1990 | 5700 | 4300 | - | 15 300 | 15 978 | 15 067 | - |
| 2003 | Reduce F below F_{pa} | - | - | < 6700*** | 10 200 | 13 004 | 12 008 | - |
| 2004 | Reduce F below F_{pa} | - | - | < 8800 | 10 200 | 13 496 | 11 976 | - |
| 2005 | No effort increase | - | - | - | 15 000 | 13 557 | 13 728 | - |
| 2006 | No effort increase | - | - | - | 15 000 | 15 152 | 13 292 | - |
| 2007 | No effort increase | - | - | - | 16 500 | 16 430 | 14 564 | 490 |
| 2008 | No effort increase | - | - | - | 16 500 | 16 918 | 15 878 | 903 |
| 2009 | Same advice as last year | - | - | - | 16 900 | 16 008 | 15 372 | 38 |
| 2010 | No effort increase | - | - | - | 16 900 | 13 898 | 12 136 | 69 |
| 2011 | Decrease effort | - | - | - | 15 100^ | 13 679 | 12 902 | 95 |
| 2012 | Reduce catch | - | - | - | 14 344^ | 12 266 | 11 143 | 590 |
| 2013 | Decrease catches by 20% | - | - | - | 13 627^ | 12 141 | 11 375 | 687 |
| 2014 | Decrease catches by 20% | - | - | 10231 | 12 265^ | 13 286 | 14 406 | 448 |
| 2015 | Increase landings by 20% | - | - | 14 702 | 16 203^ | 16 182 | 15 663 | 395 |
| 2016 | Precautionary approach (increase recent advised catch by no more than 20%) | $\leq 18\ 435$ | | 17 642 | 19 142^ | 19 533 | 19 412 | 981 |
| 2017 | Precautionary approach | $\leq 22\ 007$ | | 21 171 | 21 171^ | 22 023 | 21 719 | 756 |
| 2018 | Precautionary approach | $\leq 26\ 408$ | | $\leq 25\ 563$ | 25 405^^ | 21 487 | 21 572 | 326 |
| 2019 | Precautionary approach | $\leq 31\ 690$ | | - | 31 690^^ | 21 192 | 21 179 | 513 |

| Year | ICES advice | Catch corresponding to advice | | Landings corresponding to advice | Agreed TAC * | Official landings | ICES landings # | ICES discards |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | Division 3.a and Subarea 4 | Subarea 6 | | | | | |
| 2020 | Precautionary approach | | ≤ 22 056 | | 22 056^^ | 19 063## | 19 072 | 316 |
| 2021 | Precautionary approach | | ≤ 17 645 | | 18 349^^^ | 20 066## | 20 143 | 249 |
| 2022 | Precautionary approach | | ≤ 14 116 | | 14 116^^^ | | | |
| 2023 | MSY approach | | ≤ 9 881 | | | | | |
| 2024 | MSY approach | | ≤ 9 881 | | | | | |

* TAC for Subarea 4 and Division 2.a (EC until 2020; UK thereafter) plus TAC for Division 5.b (EC) and subareas 6, 12, and 14. Prior to 1998, TAC covered only Division 5.b (EC) and subareas 6, 12, and 14.

** For Subarea 6.

*** Advice for Division 3.a, Subarea 4, and Division 6.a.

^ An additional quota of 1500 tonnes is also available for EU vessels fishing in the Norwegian zone of Subarea 4.

^^ An additional quota of 1700 tonnes is also available for EU vessels fishing in the Norwegian zone of Subarea 4.

^^^ An additional quota of 1000 tonnes is also available for EU vessels fishing in the Norwegian zone of Subarea 4.

Includes Division 3.a official landings when ICES estimates are not available.

Preliminary.

History of the catch and landings

Table 6 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Catch distribution by fleet in 2021 as estimated by ICES.

| Catch | Landings | | | | | | | Discards |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | Division 3.a and Subarea 4 | | | | Subarea 6 | | | |
| 20 392 tonnes | Demersal trawls 68% | Gillnets 21% | Norway lobster trawls 6% | Other 5% | Demersal trawls 87% | Gillnets 1% | Norway lobster trawls 11% | Other 1% 249 tonnes |
| 20 143 tonnes | | | | | | | | |

Table 7 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Official landings by ICES area, and ICES estimates of landings and discards. All weights are in tonnes.

| Year | 3.a | 4.a | 4.b | 4.c | 6.a | 6.b | 4 | 6 | Total (3.a, 4, and 6) | ICES landings** | ICES discards |
|------|-----|--------|-------|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1973 | 140 | 2 085 | 575 | 41 | 9 221 | 127 | 2 701 | 9 348 | 12 189 | - | - |
| 1974 | 202 | 2 737 | 1 171 | 39 | 3 217 | 435 | 3 947 | 3 652 | 7 801 | - | - |
| 1975 | 291 | 2 887 | 1 864 | 59 | 3 122 | 76 | 4 810 | 3 198 | 8 299 | - | - |
| 1976 | 641 | 3 624 | 1 252 | 49 | 3 383 | 72 | 4 925 | 3 455 | 9 021 | - | - |
| 1977 | 643 | 3 264 | 1 278 | 54 | 3 457 | 78 | 4 596 | 3 535 | 8 774 | - | - |
| 1978 | 509 | 3 111 | 1 260 | 72 | 3 117 | 103 | 4 443 | 3 220 | 8 172 | - | - |
| 1979 | 687 | 2 972 | 1 578 | 112 | 2 745 | 29 | 4 662 | 2 774 | 8 123 | - | - |
| 1980 | 652 | 3 450 | 1 374 | 175 | 2 634 | 200 | 4 999 | 2 834 | 8 485 | - | - |
| 1981 | 549 | 2 472 | 752 | 132 | 1 387 | 331 | 3 356 | 1 718 | 5 623 | - | - |
| 1982 | 529 | 2 214 | 654 | 99 | 3 154 | 454 | 2 967 | 3 608 | 7 104 | - | - |
| 1983 | 506 | 2 465 | 1 540 | 181 | 3 417 | 433 | 4 186 | 3 850 | 8 542 | - | - |
| 1984 | 568 | 3 874 | 1 803 | 188 | 3 935 | 707 | 5 865 | 4 642 | 11 075 | - | - |
| 1985 | 578 | 4 569 | 1 798 | 77 | 4 043 | 1 013 | 6 444 | 5 056 | 12 078 | - | - |
| 1986 | 524 | 5 594 | 1 762 | 47 | 3 090 | 1 326 | 7 403 | 4 416 | 12 343 | - | - |
| 1987 | 589 | 7 705 | 1 768 | 66 | 3 955 | 1 294 | 9 539 | 5 249 | 15 377 | - | - |
| 1988 | 347 | 7 737 | 2 061 | 95 | 6 003 | 1 730 | 9 893 | 7 733 | 17 973 | - | - |
| 1989 | 334 | 7 868 | 2 121 | 86 | 5 729 | 313 | 10 075 | 6 042 | 16 451 | - | - |
| 1990 | 570 | 8 387 | 2 177 | 34 | 5 615 | 822 | 10 598 | 6 437 | 17 605 | - | - |
| 1991 | 595 | 9 235 | 2 522 | 26 | 5 061 | 923 | 11 790 | 5 984 | 18 369 | 17 441 | - |
| 1992 | 938 | 10 209 | 3 053 | 39 | 5 479 | 1 089 | 13 301 | 6 568 | 20 807 | 21 872 | - |
| 1993 | 843 | 12 309 | 3 143 | 66 | 5 553 | 681 | 15 519 | 6 234 | 22 596 | 23 971 | - |
| 1994 | 811 | 14 505 | 3 445 | 210 | 5 273 | 909 | 18 162 | 6 182 | 25 155 | 25 057 | - |

| Year | 3.a | 4.a | 4.b | 4.c | 6.a | 6.b | 4 | 6 | Total (3.a, 4, and 6) | ICES landings** | ICES discards |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1995 | 823 | 17 891 | 2 627 | 402 | 6 354 | 958 | 20 920 | 7 312 | 29 055 | 28 913 | - |
| 1996 | 702 | 25 176 | 1 847 | 304 | 6 408 | 602 | 27 327 | 7 010 | 35 039 | 35 100 | - |
| 1997 | 776 | 23 425 | 2 172 | 160 | 5 330 | 990 | 25 757 | 6 320 | 32 853 | 32 728 | - |
| 1998 | 626 | 16 859 | 2 088 | 78 | 4 506 | 1 313 | 19 026 | 5 819 | 25 471 | 25 293 | - |
| 1999 | 660 | 13 344 | 1 517 | 24 | 4 284 | 1 401 | 14 885 | 5 685 | 21 230 | 21 854 | - |
| 2000 | 602 | 12 338 | 1 617 | 31 | 3 311 | 1 074 | 13 986 | 4 385 | 18 973 | 19 682 | - |
| 2001 | 621 | 12 861 | 1 832 | 21 | 2 660 | 1 309 | 14 714 | 3 969 | 19 304 | 19 157 | - |
| 2002 | 667 | 11 048 | 1 244 | 21 | 2 280 | 718 | 12 313 | 2 998 | 15 978 | 15 067 | - |
| 2003 | 478 | 8 523 | 847 | 20 | 2 493 | 643 | 9 390 | 3 136 | 13 004 | 12 008 | - |
| 2004 | 519 | 8 987 | 851 | 15 | 2 453 | 671 | 9 853 | 3 124 | 13 496 | 11 976 | - |
| 2005 | 458 | 8 424 | 688 | 5 | 3 019 | 958 | 9 117 | 3 982 | 13 557 | 13 728 | - |
| 2006 | 426 | 10 340 | 683 | 3 | 2 785 | 915 | 11 026 | 3 700 | 15 152 | 13 292 | - |
| 2007 | 433 | 10 632 | 749 | 4 | 3 353 | 1 261 | 11 384 | 4 613 | 16 430 | 14 564 | 490 |
| 2008 | 486 | 11 038 | 769 | 5 | 3 373 | 1 246 | 11 813 | 4 619 | 16 918 | 15 878 | 903 |
| 2009 | 478 | 10 067 | 651 | 8 | 2 984 | 1 820 | 10 726 | 4 804 | 16 008 | 15 372 | 38 |
| 2010 | 433 | 8 190 | 615 | 11 | 3 040 | 1 606 | 8 815 | 4 645 | 13 893 | 12 136 | 69 |
| 2011 | 405 | 7 760 | 764 | 8 | 2 871 | 1 871 | 8 532 | 4 742 | 13 679 | 12 902 | 95 |
| 2012 | 423 | 6 459 | 714 | 5 | 2 835 | 1 831 | 7 177 | 4 666 | 12 266 | 11 143 | 590 |
| 2013 | 407 | 6 393 | 546 | 5 | 2 667 | 2 123 | 6 944 | 4 790 | 12 141 | 11 375 | 687 |
| 2014 | 440 | 7 633 | 820 | 27 | 2 610 | 1 754 | 8 481 | 4 365 | 13 286 | 14 406 | 448 |
| 2015 | 478 | 9 690 | 985 | 16 | 3 290 | 1 723 | 10 691 | 5 013 | 16 182 | 15 663 | 395 |
| 2016 | 586 | 11 690 | 1 196 | 11 | 4 638 | 1 423 | 12 887 | 6 080 | 19 553 | 19 412 | 981 |
| 2017 | 742 | 13 620 | 1 107 | 7 | 5 024 | 1 504 | 14 753 | 6 528 | 22 023 | 21 719 | 756 |
| 2018 | 914 | 13 391 | 823 | 11 | 4 292 | 1 918 | 14 225 | 6 210 | 21 349 | 21 572 | 326 |
| 2019 | 1 029 | 11 155 | 1 303 | 28 | 5 030 | 2 647 | 12 486 | 7 677 | 21 192 | 21 179 | 513 |
| 2020* | 866 | 10 674 | 1 066 | 24 | 4 749 | 1 685 | 11 763 | 6 434 | 19 063 | 19 072 | 316 |
| 2021* | 912 | 11 959 | 1 184 | 19 | 4 455 | 1 537 | 13 162 | 5 992 | 20 066 | 20 143 | 249 |

* Preliminary official landings.

** Revised values to include Division 3.a official landings when ICES estimates are not available (ICES, 2022b).

Table 8 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Official landings by country and ICES estimated landings in Subarea 6. All weights are in tonnes.

| Year | Belgium | Denmark | Faroe Is. | France | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Portugal | Russia | Spain | UK (E,W,&NI) | UK (Scotland) | UK (total) | Total | Unallocated | ICES landings |
|------|---------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|----------|--------|-------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| 1991 | 3 | 1 | - | 1 910 | 1 | 522 | - | 24 | - | - | 340 | 369 | 2 814 | - | 5 984 | 296 | 6 280 |
| 1992 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 308 | 2 | 820 | - | 24 | - | - | 274 | 524 | 2 609 | - | 6 568 | 2 638 | 9 206 |
| 1993 | 9 | 4 | - | 2 496 | 163 | 524 | - | 25 | - | - | 186 | 299 | 2 528 | - | 6 234 | 3 816 | 10 050 |
| 1994 | 6 | 5 | - | 2 382 | 140 | 438 | - | 30 | 132 | - | 215 | 420 | 2 414 | - | 6 182 | 2 634 | 8 816 |
| 1995 | 5 | 10 | - | 2 648 | 160 | 853 | - | 18 | 128 | - | 333 | 425 | 2 732 | - | 7 312 | 4 984 | 12 296 |
| 1996 | - | 4 | 15 | 2 899 | 113 | 807 | - | 15 | - | - | 229 | 345 | 2 583 | - | 7 010 | 11 148 | 18 158 |
| 1997 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 059 | 249 | 764 | 27 | 5 | 91 | - | 234 | 403 | 2 478 | - | 6 320 | 7 415 | 13 735 |
| 1998 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 635 | 269 | 879 | 1 | 9 | 413 | - | 338 | 307 | 1 962 | - | 5 819 | 4 821 | 10 640 |
| 1999 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 814 | 194 | 692 | - | 6 | 429 | - | 344 | 171 | 2 032 | - | 5 685 | 3 790 | 9 475 |
| 2000 | - | <1 | - | 1 180 | 158 | 596 | - | 14 | 20 | - | 231 | 316 | 1 870 | - | 4 385 | 3 131 | 7 516 |
| 2001 | <1 | <1 | 1 | 1 135 | 78 | 609 | - | 7 | 18 | 1 | 397 | 237 | 1 486 | - | 3 969 | 1 890 | 5 859 |
| 2002 | <1 | - | - | 782 | 38 | 355 | - | 4 | 8 | - | 229 | 165 | 1 417 | - | 2 998 | -22 | 2 976 |
| 2003 | - | <1 | - | 1 403 | 91 | 348 | - | 6 | 4 | - | 255 | 164 | 865 | - | 3 136 | -68 | 3 068 |
| 2004 | <1 | <1 | 2 | 1 366 | 105 | 232 | - | 5 | 19 | 2 | 153 | 84 | 1 156 | - | 3 124 | 6 | 3 130 |
| 2005 | - | - | 2 | 1 689 | 116 | 391 | - | 5 | 63 | 4 | 117 | 113 | 1 482 | - | 3 982 | -235 | 3 747 |
| 2006 | - | - | 3 | 1 537 | 73 | 445 | - | 7 | - | 1 | 112 | 70 | 1 451 | - | 3 700 | -209 | 3 491 |

| Year | Belgium | Denmark | Faroe Is. | France | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Portugal | Russia | Spain | UK (E,W,&NI) | UK (Scotland) | UK (total) | Total | Unallocated | ICES landings |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|----------|--------|-------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| 2007 | - | - | 2 | 2 090 | 222 | 540 | - | 8 | - | 1 | 15 | 188 | 1 546 | - | 4 613 | -137 | 4 476 |
| 2008 | - | - | 2 | 2 073 | 146 | 371 | - | 7 | - | 35 | 259 | 6 | 1 720 | - | 4 619 | 228 | 4 847 |
| 2009 | - | - | 6 | 1 852 | 211 | 419 | - | 9 | - | - | 242 | 60 | 2 005 | - | 4 804 | 388 | 5 192 |
| 2010 | - | - | 12 | 1 374 | 166 | 617 | - | 14 | - | - | 229 | - | - | 2234 | 4 645 | -733 | 3 912 |
| 2011 | - | - | 1 | 1 676 | 149 | 596 | - | 7 | - | - | 167 | - | - | 2145 | 4 742 | -49 | 4 693 |
| 2012 | - | - | 5 | 1 622 | 142 | 581 | - | 6 | - | - | 105 | 132 | 2 073 | 2205 | 4 666 | -294 | 4 372 |
| 2013 | - | - | - | 1 777 | 136 | 572 | - | 10 | - | - | 123 | 401 | 1 770 | 2171 | 4 790 | -63 | 4 727 |
| 2014 | - | - | 1 | 1 246 | 151 | 572 | - | 4 | - | 1 | 81 | - | - | 2310 | 4 365 | 1 515 | 5 880 |
| 2015 | - | - | <1 | 1 326 | 201 | 602 | - | 8 | - | 2 | 149 | - | - | 2724 | 5 013 | -5 | 5 008 |
| 2016 | - | - | 1 | 1 734 | 258 | 741 | - | 12 | - | - | 234 | - | - | 3080 | 6 060 | -94 | 5 966 |
| 2017 | - | - | <1 | 1 882 | 246 | 793 | - | 5 | - | 2 | 290 | - | - | 3310 | 6 528 | -68 | 6 460 |
| 2018 | - | - | - | 1 287 | 394 | 878 | - | 4 | - | - | 261 | - | - | 3387 | 6 211 | 145 | 6 356 |
| 2019 | - | - | - | 1 293 | 434 | 126 | - | 2 | - | 1 | 358 | - | - | 4322 | 7 652 | 160 | 7 812 |
| 2020* | - | - | - | 1 304 | 229 | 900 | - | 1 | - | 3 | 264 | - | - | 3731 | 6 432 | 169 | 6 601 |
| 2021* | - | 1 | - | 1 326 | 157 | 684 | - | - | - | - | 282 | - | - | 3539 | 5 992 | 40 | 6 032 |

* Preliminary official landings.

Table 9 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Official landings by country and ICES estimated landings in Subarea 4. All weights are in tonnes.

| Year | Belgium | Denmark | Faroes | France | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | UK (E,W,&NI) | UK (Scotland) | UK (Total) | Total | Unallocated | ICES landings |
|------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------|-------------|---------------|
| 1991 | 372 | 1 599 | 1 | 124 | 75 | - | 313 | 604 | 14 | 804 | 7 884 | - | 11 790 | -1 224 | 10 566 |
| 1992 | 559 | 1 686 | - | 152 | 70 | - | 410 | 639 | 7 | 1 158 | 8 620 | - | 13 301 | -1 573 | 11 728 |
| 1993 | 595 | 1 293 | 12 | 69 | 113 | - | 559 | 1 227 | 7 | 1 463 | 10 181 | - | 15 519 | -2 441 | 13 078 |
| 1994 | 753 | 1 509 | 18 | 30 | 99 | - | 568 | 1 329 | 10 | 1 582 | 12 264 | - | 18 162 | -2 732 | 15 430 |
| 1995 | 607 | 1 027 | 20 | 18 | 623 | - | 363 | 672 | 4 | 1 456 | 16 130 | - | 20 920 | -5 126 | 15 794 |
| 1996 | 323 | 1 464 | - | 7 | 301 | - | 201 | 850 | 2 | 1 357 | 22 822 | - | 27 327 | -11 087 | 16 240 |
| 1997 | 357 | 1 489 | 15 | 7 | 619 | - | 260 | 678 | 5 | 2 969 | 19 358 | - | 25 757 | -7 540 | 18 217 |
| 1998 | 389 | 1 456 | 10 | 13 | 892 | - | 238 | 967 | 11 | 1 307 | 13 743 | - | 19 026 | -4 999 | 14 027 |
| 1999 | 286 | 1 496 | 6 | 18 | 463 | - | 166 | 1 236 | 12 | 1 148 | 10 054 | - | 14 885 | -3 166 | 11 719 |
| 2000 | 476 | 1 347 | - | 8 | 196 | - | 168 | 1 191 | 81 | 642 | 9 877 | - | 13 986 | -2 422 | 11 564 |
| 2001 | 594 | 1 540 | 2 | 9 | 104 | - | 132 | 1 227 | 46 | 658 | 10 402 | - | 14 714 | -2 037 | 12 677 |
| 2002 | 459 | 1 563 | 10 | 8 | 112 | - | 75 | 938 | 65 | 334 | 8 749 | - | 12 313 | -600 | 11 713 |
| 2003 | 190 | 1 714 | 3 | 8 | 76 | 1 | 52 | 781 | 10 | 281 | 6 274 | - | 9 390 | -676 | 8 714 |
| 2004 | 265 | 1 812 | 11 | 8 | 31 | - | 63 | 1 021 | 7 | 206 | 6 429 | - | 9 853 | -1 330 | 8 523 |
| 2005 | 211 | 1 616 | 22 | 4 | 93 | - | 45 | 896 | 9 | 130 | 6 091 | - | 9 117 | 579 | 9 696 |
| 2006 | 141 | 1 587 | 2 | 7 | 187 | - | 47 | 1 018 | 10 | 207 | 7 820 | - | 11 026 | -1 462 | 9 564 |
| 2007 | 181 | 1 134 | - | 14 | 198 | - | 76 | 855 | 26 | 425 | 8 476 | - | 11 384 | -1 561 | 9 823 |
| 2008 | 185 | 1 308 | - | 13 | 367 | - | 71 | 875 | 76 | 118 | 8 800 | - | 11 813 | -1 081 | 10 732 |
| 2009 | 140 | 1 382 | 4 | 23 | 233 | - | 41 | 881 | - | 406 | 7 617 | - | 10 726 | -945 | 9 781 |
| 2010 | 131 | 1 337 | - | 30 | 145 | - | 56 | 802 | - | 460 | 5 855 | - | 8 815 | -915 | 7 900 |
| 2011 | 116 | 1 127 | - | 24 | 63 | - | 59 | 505 | - | - | - | 6 | 8 532 | -612 | 7 920 |
| 2012 | 133 | 1 122 | - | 15 | 275 | - | 67 | 496 | - | 333 | 4 736 | 5 | 7 177 | -765 | 6 412 |
| 2013 | 137 | 1 046 | - | 15 | 284 | - | 42 | 572 | - | 621 | 4 226 | 4 | 6 944 | -638 | 6 306 |
| 2014 | 217 | 1 135 | - | 30 | 339 | - | 108 | 533 | - | - | - | 6 | 8 481 | -316 | 8 165 |
| 2015 | 200 | 1 331 | - | 26 | 309 | - | 98 | 415 | 10 | - | - | 8 | 10 691 | -448 | 10 243 |
| 2016 | 253 | 2 090 | - | 36 | 226 | - | 148 | 626 | 11 | - | - | 9 | 12 887 | -33 | 12 854 |
| 2017 | 169 | 2 567 | - | 91 | 537 | - | 199 | 881 | 18 | - | - | 10 | 14 733 | -225 | 14 508 |
| 2018 | 156 | 2 201 | - | 142 | 536 | - | 187 | 1 267 | 25 | - | - | 9 | 14 225 | 55 | 14 280 |
| 2019 | 249 | 2 202 | - | 186 | 574 | - | 405 | 1 289 | 36 | - | - | 7 | 12 486 | 176 | 12 662 |

| Year | Belgium | Denmark | Faroës | France | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | UK (E,W,&NI) | UK (Scotland) | UK (Total) | Total | Unallocated | ICES landings |
|------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------|-------------|---------------|
| 2020 | 243 | 1 398 | - | 127 | 361 | - | 285 | 997 | 72 | - | - | 8 | 11 765 | -181 | 11 582 |
| 2021 | 290 | 1462 | - | 108 | 228 | - | 376 | 982 | 11 | - | - | 9604 | 13162 | 6 | 13168 |

* Preliminary official landings.

Table 10 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6 and in Division 3.a. Official landings by country in Division 3.a. All weights are in tonnes.

| Year | Belgium | Denmark | France | Germany | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | UK (Total) | Total | Unallocated | ICES landings |
|-------|---------|---------|--------|---------|-------------|--------|--------|------------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| 1991 | 15 | 493 | - | - | - | 64 | 23 | - | 595 | - | - |
| 1992 | 48 | 658 | - | - | - | 170 | 62 | - | 938 | - | - |
| 1993 | 34 | 565 | - | 1 | - | 154 | 89 | - | 843 | - | - |
| 1994 | 21 | 459 | - | <1 | - | 263 | 68 | - | 811 | - | - |
| 1995 | 35 | 312 | - | - | - | 440 | 36 | - | 823 | - | - |
| 1996 | - | 367 | - | 1 | - | 309 | 25 | - | 702 | - | - |
| 1997 | - | 550 | - | 1 | - | 186 | 39 | - | 776 | - | - |
| 1998 | - | 415 | - | 1 | - | 177 | 33 | - | 626 | - | - |
| 1999 | - | 362 | - | 2 | - | 260 | 36 | - | 660 | - | - |
| 2000 | - | 377 | - | 1 | - | 197 | 27 | - | 602 | - | - |
| 2001 | - | 375 | - | - | - | 200 | 46 | - | 621 | - | - |
| 2002 | - | 369 | - | 1 | - | 242 | 55 | - | 667 | 288 | 379 |
| 2003 | - | 215 | - | - | 3 | 189 | 71 | - | 478 | 252 | 226 |
| 2004 | - | 311 | - | 1 | 4 | 130 | 73 | - | 519 | 197 | 322 |
| 2005 | - | 274 | - | 1 | 4 | 100 | 79 | - | 458 | 174 | 284 |
| 2006 | - | 227 | - | 2 | 3 | 139 | 54 | - | 426 | 189 | 237 |
| 2007 | - | 255 | - | 1 | 1 | 132 | 44 | - | 433 | 168 | 265 |
| 2008 | - | 287 | - | 1 | 3 | 144 | 51 | - | 486 | 187 | 299 |
| 2009 | - | 344 | - | 1 | - | 134 | - | - | 478 | 79 | 399 |
| 2010 | - | 270 | - | 1 | 5 | 158 | - | - | 433 | 109 | 324 |
| 2011 | - | 251 | - | 2 | - | 153 | - | - | 405 | 116 | 289 |
| 2012 | - | 307 | <1 | 1 | - | 115 | - | - | 423 | 63 | 360 |
| 2013 | - | 298 | <1 | 1 | - | 108 | - | - | 407 | 65 | 342 |
| 2014 | - | 309 | - | - | 4 | 127 | - | - | 440 | 78 | 362 |
| 2015 | - | 336 | - | 1 | 9 | 90 | 42 | - | 478 | 66 | 412 |
| 2016 | - | 389 | <1 | 2 | 17 | 124 | 53 | <1 | 586 | -5 | 591 |
| 2017 | - | 526 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 118 | 81 | - | 742 | -9 | 751 |
| 2018 | - | 597 | - | 2 | 16 | 204 | 95 | - | 914 | -22 | 936 |
| 2019 | - | 692 | - | 1 | 46 | 189 | 100 | - | 1028 | -35 | 1 063 |
| 2020* | - | 600 | - | 1 | 66 | 129 | 71 | 0 | 866 | -22 | 888 |
| 2021* | - | 678 | - | 1 | 46 | 116 | 71 | - | 912 | -30 | 942 |

* Preliminary official landings.

Summary of the assessment

Table 11 Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a. Assessment summary. Weights are in tonnes. High and low refer to 95% confidence intervals.

| Year | Stock-size indicator | | | ICES landings * | ICES discards | Length indicator ** |
|------|----------------------|--------|---------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| | Low | Value | High | | | |
| 1991 | | | | 17 441 | | |
| 1992 | | | | 21 872 | | |
| 1993 | | | | 23 971 | | |
| 1994 | | | | 25 057 | | |
| 1995 | | | | 28 913 | | |
| 1996 | | | | 35 100 | | |
| 1997 | | | | 32 728 | | |
| 1998 | | | | 25 293 | | |
| 1999 | | | | 21 854 | | |
| 2000 | | | | 19 682 | | |
| 2001 | | | | 19 157 | | |
| 2002 | | | | 15 067 | | |
| 2003 | | | | 12 008 | | |
| 2004 | | | | 11 976 | | |
| 2005 | 23 479 | 38 617 | 53 755 | 13 728 | | |
| 2006 | 34 478 | 40 985 | 47 492 | 13 292 | | |
| 2007 | 43 676 | 50 392 | 57 108 | 14 564 | 490 | |
| 2008 | 42 421 | 53 546 | 64 671 | 15 878 | 903 | |
| 2009 | 32 987 | 38 060 | 43 133 | 15 372 | 38 | |
| 2010 | 30 429 | 42 279 | 54 129 | 12 136 | 69 | 0.840 |
| 2011 | 24 846 | 33 254 | 41 662 | 12 902 | 95 | 0.918 |
| 2012 | 29 704 | 36 325 | 42 946 | 11 143 | 590 | 0.886 |
| 2013 | 31 020 | 38 395 | 45 770 | 11 375 | 687 | 0.865 |
| 2014 | 42 769 | 52 884 | 62 999 | 14 406 | 448 | 0.862 |
| 2015 | 58 782 | 67 915 | 77 047 | 15 663 | 395 | 0.793 |
| 2016 | 66 831 | 77 946 | 89 060 | 19 412 | 981 | 0.856 |
| 2017 | 74 222 | 87 896 | 101 569 | 21 719 | 756 | 0.896 |
| 2018 | 66 258 | 77 661 | 89 064 | 21 572 | 326 | 0.926 |
| 2019 | 46 189 | 58 575 | 70 962 | 21 551 | 513 | 0.903 |
| 2020 | | | | 19 072 | 316 | 0.875 |
| 2021 | 37 233 | 48 354 | 59 476 | 20 143 | 249 | 0.869 |
| 2022 | 40 068 | 55 423 | 70 779 | | | |

* Includes Division 3.a official landings when ICES estimates are not available.

** Mean length of fish in the catch above the estimated length of first capture (L_c) normalised to the MSY proxy reference length $L_F = M$.

*** Stock abundance is not available, because the survey was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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