

Estimate of Pacific Hake biomass from the 2013 Joint U.S.-Canada Integrated Acoustic and Trawl Survey of Pacific Hake (*Merluccius productus*) and Pacific Sardine (*Sardinops sagax*)

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The estimate of hake biomass from the Joint U.S.-Canada Integrated Acoustic and Trawl Survey of Pacific Hake (*Merluccius productus*) and Pacific Sardine (*Sardinops sagax*) is 2.42 million metric tons with a coefficient of variation (CV) of 4.33%. This estimate is very consistent with the predictions from the 2013 hake assessment model. The 2013 biomass estimate is the second largest estimate in the time series, as shown in Figure 1.

The proportion of age 3 hake (2010 cohort) was 76% in the biomass weighted age compositions. This is consistent with the large 2010 cohort observed as age 2 fish in the 2012 survey. The 2009, 2008, 2006, and 2005 cohorts were other prominent cohorts. The proportions at age are shown in Figure 2 for the 2012 and 2013 acoustic surveys.

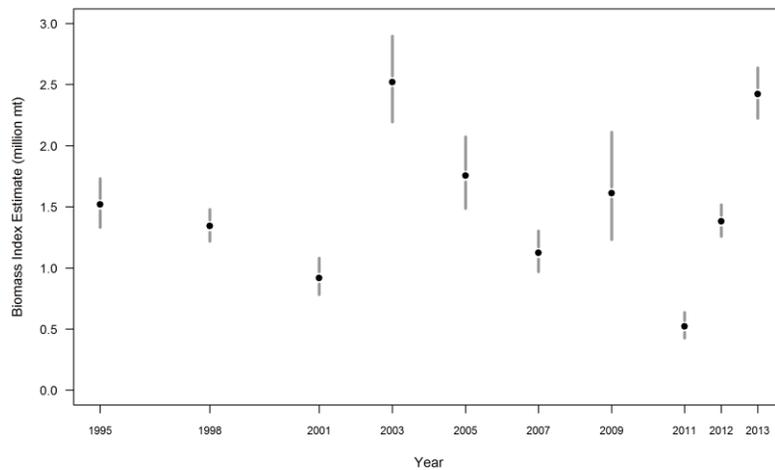


Figure 1: Time series of acoustic survey biomass estimates up to and including 2013.

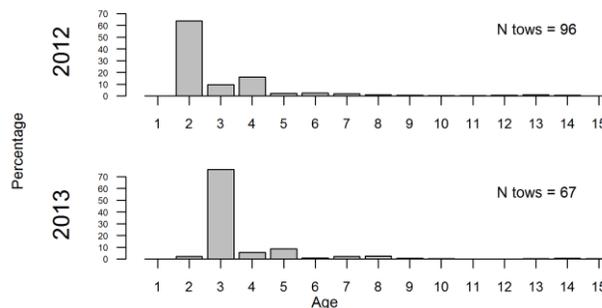


Figure 2: Proportion-at-age from the 2012 and 2013 acoustic surveys.