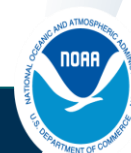


# Sablefish Growth

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**NOAA**  
FISHERIES

# Background

"Consider including time-varying or cohort-specific maturity curves, and/or **weight-at-age relationships** if supported by data."

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# Background

- Last update to growth in the assessment was in 2008 (Hanselman et al. 2007)
  - Updated growth information was divided into 2 time periods *based on a change in sampling design*: 1981-1993 and 1996 - 2004

Parameter name	Value		Source
	1960 - 1995	1996 - current	
Time period			
Maturity-at-length – females	$m_a = 1/(1+e^{-0.4*(L-65)})$		Sasaki (1985)
Maturity-at-length – males	$m_a = 1/(1+e^{-0.4*(L-57)})$		Sasaki (1985)
Maturity-at-age – females	$m_a = 1/(1+e^{-0.84*(a-6.60)})$		Sasaki (1985)
Length-at-age – females	$\bar{L}_a = 75.6(1 - e^{-0.208(a+3.63)})$	$\bar{L}_a = 80.2(1 - e^{-0.222(a+1.95)})$	Hanselman et al. (2007)
Length-at-age – males	$\bar{L}_a = 65.3(1 - e^{-0.227(a+4.09)})$	$\bar{L}_a = 67.8(1 - e^{-0.290(a+2.27)})$	Hanselman et al. (2007)
Weight-at-age – females	$\ln \hat{W}_a = \ln(5.47) + 3.02 \ln(1 - e^{-0.238(a+1.39)})$		Hanselman et al. (2007)
Weight-at-age – males	$\ln \hat{W}_a = \ln(3.16) + 2.96 \ln(1 - e^{-0.356(a+1.13)})$		Hanselman et al. (2007)

- Several above avg. year classes (density dependence?) and warming conditions have occurred since last update of growth

# Objectives

- Have there been temporal changes in sablefish growth?
- If so, are they significant and should they be accounted for in the assessment?



# Temporal Change: Annual LVB growth curves

1. Fit to randomly collected age-weight-length data from 1996-2019 LL surveys, using non linear least squares.

## ***Length at age***

$$L_a = L_\infty (1 - e^{-K(a-t_0)}) + \varepsilon_a$$

## ***Length-weight***

$$\widehat{W} = \alpha L^\beta \varepsilon$$

## ***Weight at age***

$$\ln \widehat{W}_a = \ln W_\infty + \beta \ln(1 - e^{-K(a-t_0)}) + \varepsilon_a$$

(Von Bertalanffy 1938)

# Temporal Change: *K*-means cluster analysis

2. Perform *K*-means cluster analysis on annual growth parameters (Kaufman and Rousseeuw 1990).

Years that are clustered in the same group have similar growth.



# Temporal Change: *K*-means cluster analysis

Step 1. *Determine the recommended number of clusters to be used by calculating the average silhouette width.*

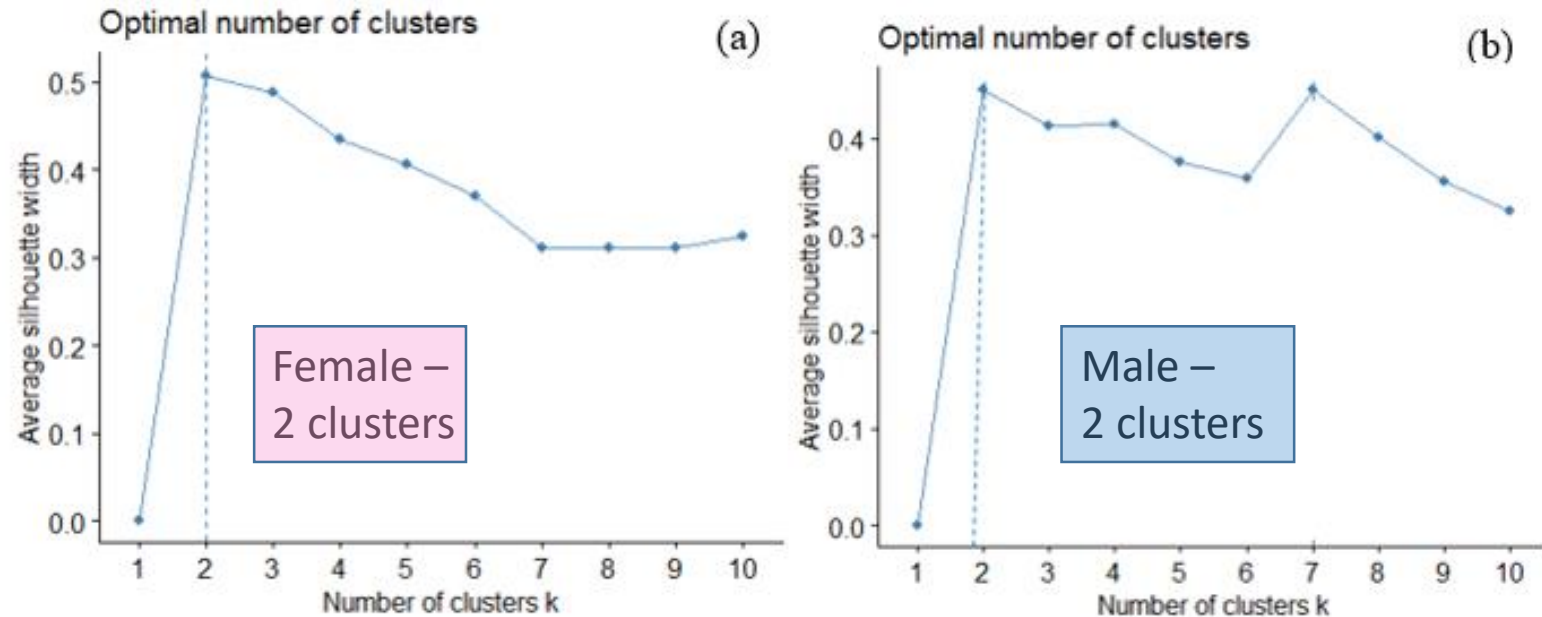


Figure 1.1. Calculated average silhouette width (y axis) per number of clusters (x axis) for females (a) and males (b). Dotted lines represent recommended number of clusters.

# Temporal Change: $K$ -means cluster analysis

Step 2. *Define the clusters* using the Hartigan-Wong algorithm (1979)

$$(4) \quad W(C_k) = \sum_{x_i \in C_k} (x_i - \mu_k)^2$$

Each observation ( $x_i$ ) is assigned to a given cluster  $C_k$  such that the sum of squares distance of the observation to their assigned cluster centers ( $\mu_k$ ) is minimized



# Temporal Change: *K*-means cluster analysis



Figure 1.2. Final cluster groupings of annual growth curves for female (a) and male (b) sablefish in Alaska waters. 1996 = 1, 1997 = 2, 1998 = 3, and so on.

## Female:

Cluster 1: 1996-2004

Cluster 2: 2005-2019

## Male:

Cluster 1: 1996-1999, 2001-2003, **2010, 2017-2019**

Cluster 2: **2000**, 2004-2009, 2011-2016

# Temporal Change: Results

The following were the time periods tested for significant growth changes for both males and females.

## 2 CLUSTERS/TIME PERIODS

- 1996 – 2004
- 2005 – 2019



# Growth Model Testing

General Model: Separate parameter estimates for each time period.

$$L_a = L_\infty[Year](1 - e^{-K[Year](t-t_0[Year])})$$

One parameter in common between time periods:

Common  $L_\infty$  Model

Common  $K$  Model

Common  $t_0$  Model

Two parameters in common between time periods:

Common  $L_\infty$  and  $K$  Model

Common  $L_{inf}$  and  $t_0$  Model

Common  $K$  and  $t_0$  Model

Common Model: Same parameter estimates for all time periods:

$$L_a = L_\infty(1 - e^{-K(t-t_0)})$$

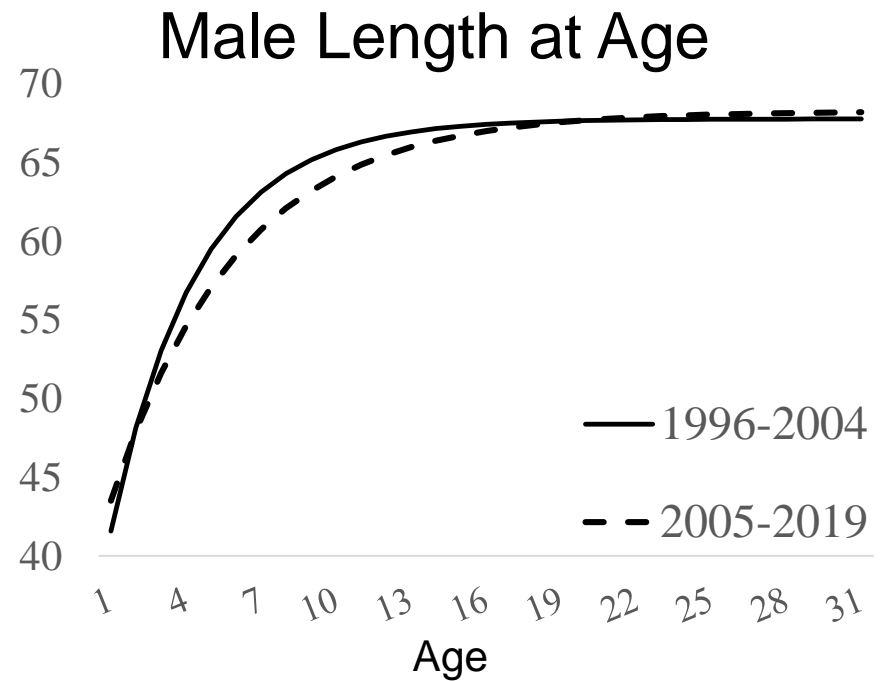
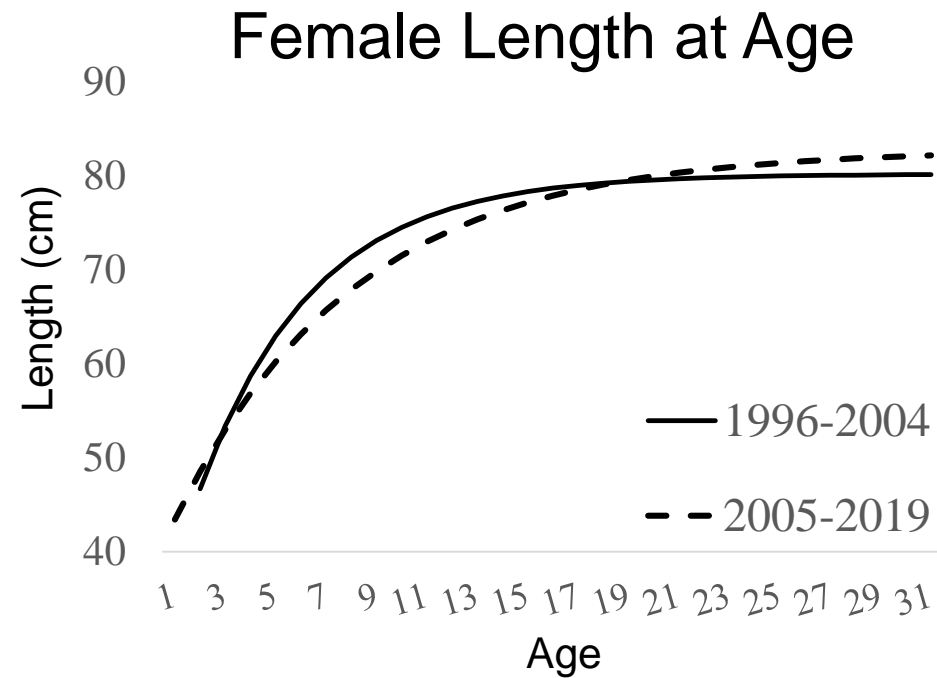
# Length Model Results

Model	df	AIC: Female	AIC: Male
General Model	7	<b>99,457*</b>	<b>77,213*</b>
Common $L_{\infty}$ Model	6	99,504	77,218
Common $t_0$ Model	6	99,615	77,265
Common K Model	6	99,668	77,305
Common $L_{\infty}$ and K Model	5	99,747	77,350
Common $L_{\infty}$ and $t_0$ Model	5	99,617	77,268
Common K and $t_0$ Model	5	99,684	77,375
Common Model	4	100,158	77,739

# Length Model Results

	Females			Males	
	1996-2004	2005-2019		1996-2004	2005-2019
$L_{\infty}$	80.2 (0.221)	82.8 (0.29)		67.8 (0.12)	68.3 (0.13)
k	0.22 (0.005)	0.14 (0.002)		0.29 (0.008)	0.20 (0.004)
$t_0$	-1.9 (0.119)	-4.3 (0.13)		-2.3 (0.16)	-4.1 (0.15)
n	5,767	9,591		4,889	8,503

# Length Model Results



# Weight Model Results

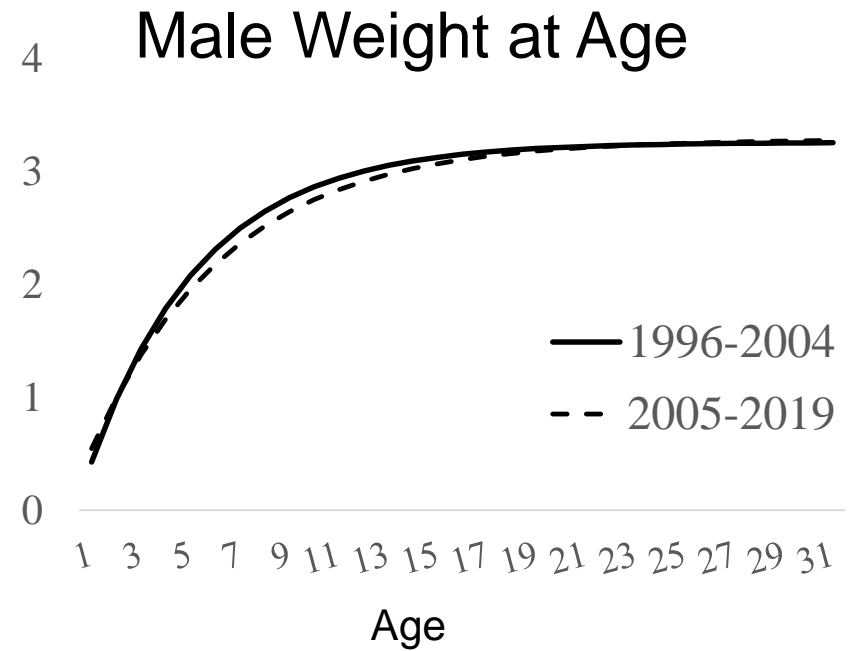
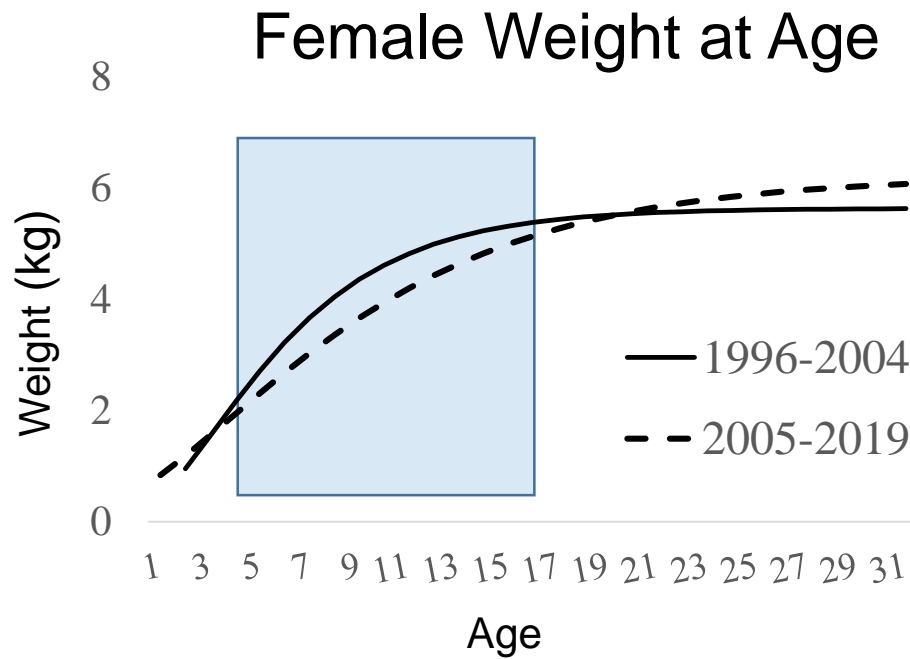
Model	df	AIC: Female	AIC: Male
General Model	7	<b>44,475*</b>	24,359
Common $W_\infty$ Model	6	44,566	<b>24,358*</b>
Common $t_0$ Model	6	44,570	24,378
Common K Model	6	44,740	24,445
Common $W_\infty$ and K Model	5	44,820	24,534
Common $W_\infty$ and $t_0$ Model	5	44,595	24,830
Common K and $t_0$ Model	5	44,795	24,531
Common Model	4	45,264	24,962

# Weight Model Results

	Females		Males	
	1996-2004	2005-2019	1996-2004	2005-2019
$W_{\infty}$	5.6 (0.05)	6.2 (0.08)	3.3 (0.02)	3.2 (0.02)
$k$	0.24 (0.005)	0.14 (0.003)	0.34 (0.01)	0.23 (0.005)
$t_0$	-1.34 (0.07)	-4.23 (0.08)	-1.53 (0.09)	-3.25 (0.15)
$n$	5,767	9,591	4,889	8,503



# Weight Model Results



# Results

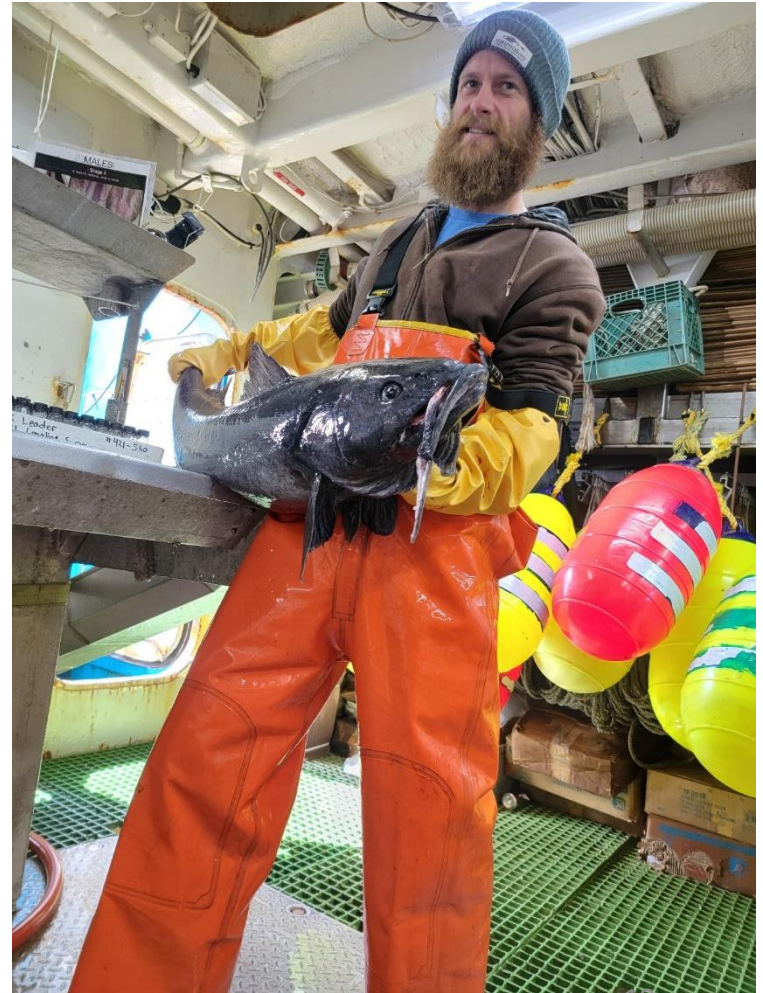
- There have been temporal changes in the growth of both male and female sablefish: an obvious change occurred after 2004 for females, and a less obvious change around this time for males.
- Sablefish are growing to a larger maximum size, but at a slower rate, which translates to smaller sized fish during the critical early ages when fish are reaching maturity.

# However....Final Recommendation

Recommend updating size  
at age parameters with all  
available post-1996 data:

1981-1993

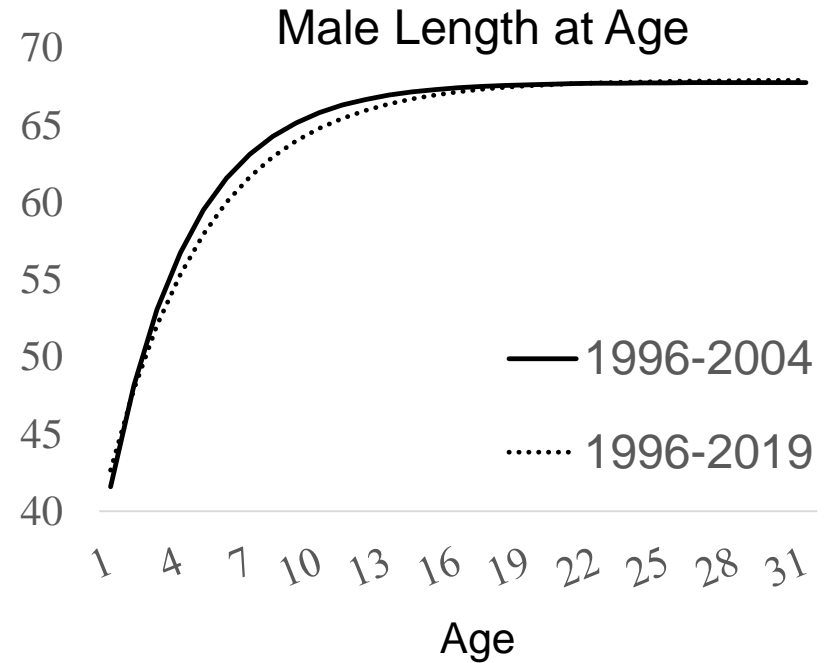
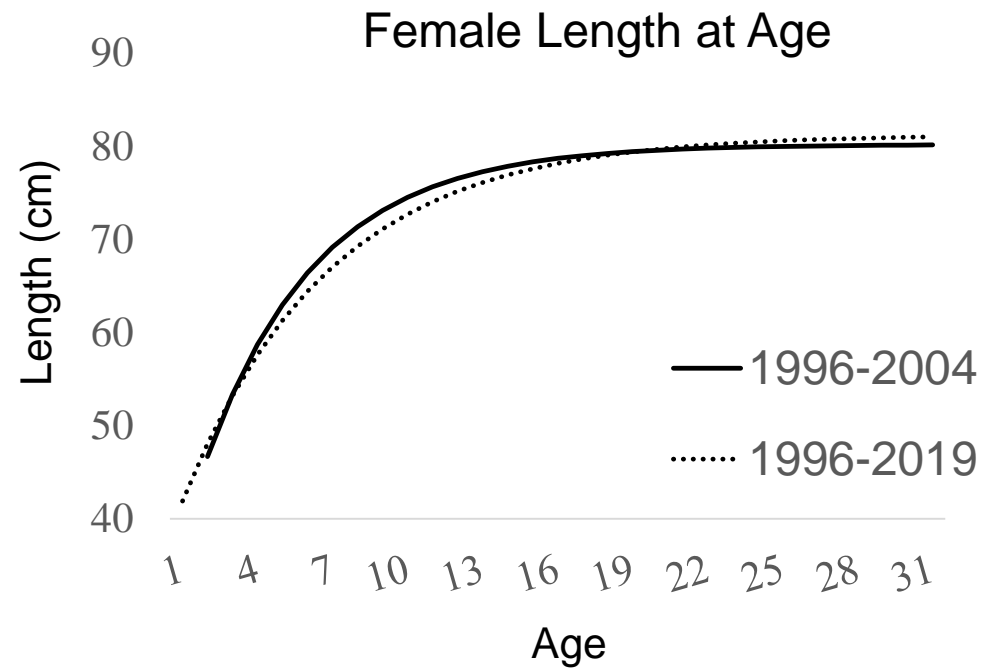
1996-2019



# Final Recommendation – Length at Age

		1981-1993		1996-2004	2005-2019		1996-2019
Female	$L_{\infty}$	75.5 (0.460)		80.2 (0.221)	82.8 (0.29)		81.2 (0.19)
	k	0.208 (0.018)		0.22 (0.005)	0.14 (0.002)		0.17 (0.003)
	$t_0$	-3.62 (0.523)		-1.9 (0.119)	-4.3 (0.13)		-3.28 (0.09)
	n	31		5,767	9,591		15,358
Male	$L_{\infty}$	65.2 (0.341)		67.8 (0.12)	68.3 (0.13)		67.9 (0.09)
	k	0.2 (0.029)		0.29 (0.008)	0.20 (0.004)		0.23 (0.003)
	$t_0$	-4.09 (0.936)		-2.3 (0.16)	-4.1 (0.15)		-3.3 (0.11)
	n	30		4,889	8,503		13,392

# Final Recommendation – Length at Age

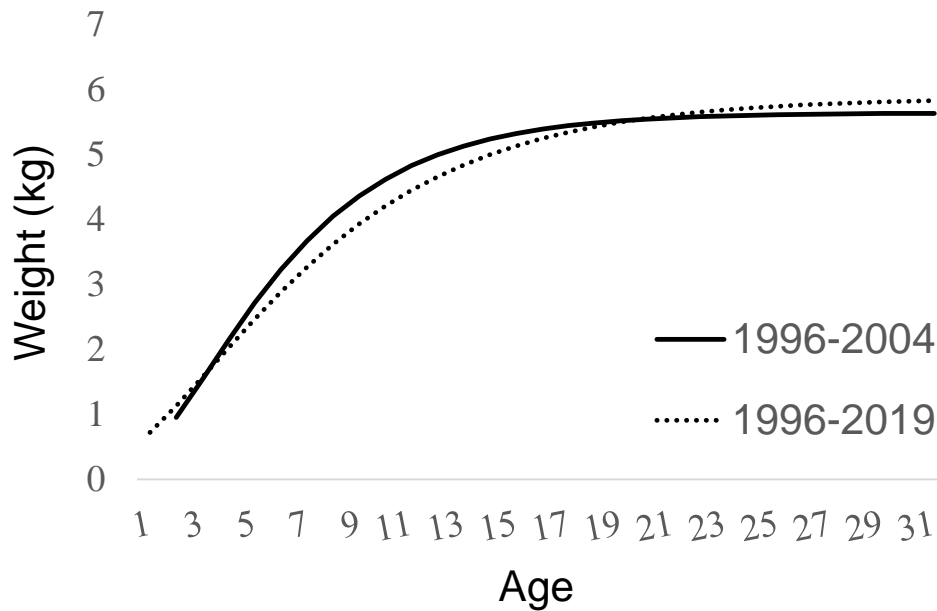


# Final Recommendation – Weight at Age

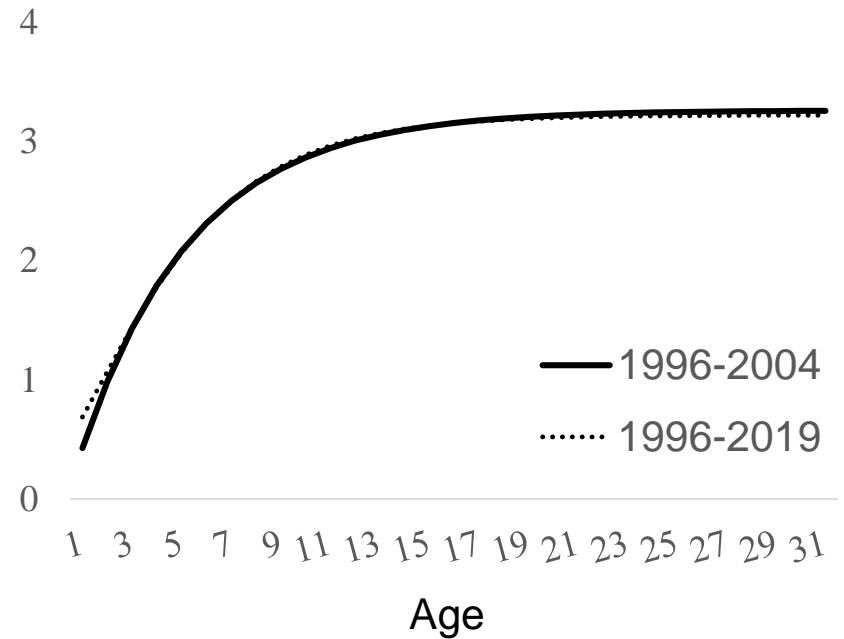
		1996-2004	2005-2019		1996-2019
Female	$W_{\infty}$	5.6 (0.05)	6.2 (0.08)		5.87 (0.04)
	k	0.24 (0.005)	0.14 (0.003)		0.17 (0.002)
	$t_0$	-1.34 (0.07)	-4.23 (0.08)		-2.98 (0.06)
	n	5,767	9,591		15,358
Male	$W_{\infty}$	3.3 (0.02)	3.2 (0.02)		3.2 (0.01)
	k	0.34 (0.01)	0.23 (0.005)		0.27 (0.002)
	$t_0$	-1.53 (0.09)	-3.25 (0.15)		-2.41 (0.07)
	n	4,889	8,503		13,392

# Final Recommendation – Weight at Age

## Female Weight at Age



## Male Weight at Age



# Final Recommendation

1981 - 1993

1996 - 2019

Length-at-Age: Female

$$L_a = 75.5(1 - e^{-0.208(a+3.62)}) + \varepsilon_a \quad L_a = 81.2(1 - e^{-0.17(a+3.28)}) + \varepsilon_a$$

Length-at-Age: Male

$$L_a = 65.2(1 - e^{-0.2(a+4.09)}) + \varepsilon_a \quad L_a = 67.9(1 - e^{-0.23(a+3.3)}) + \varepsilon_a$$

Weight-at-Age: Female

$$\ln \widehat{W}_a = \ln(5.87) + 3.02 \ln(1 - e^{-0.17(a+2.98)}) + \varepsilon_a$$

Weight-at-Age: Male

$$\ln \widehat{W}_a = \ln(3.2) + 3.02 \ln(1 - e^{-0.27(a+2.41)}) + \varepsilon_a$$



# Questions?

