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Adult and offspring size in the ocean: a database of size metrics and conversion factors

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Abstract. The purpose of this dataset was to compile adult and offspring size estimates for marine organisms. Adult and offspring size estimates of 408 species were compiled from the literature covering >17 orders of magnitude in body mass and including Cephalopoda (ink fish), Cnidaria (“jelly” fish), Crustaceans, Ctenophora (comb jellies), Elasmobranchii (cartilaginous fish), Mammalia (mammals), Sagittoidea (arrow worms) and Teleost (i.e., Actinopterygii, bony fish). Individual size estimates were converted to standardized size estimates (carbon weight, g) to allow for among-group comparisons. This required a number of size estimates to be converted and a compilation of conversion factors obtained from the literature are also presented.

Key words: adult size; carbon weight; conversion factor; dry weight; length; mass; offspring size; volume; weight; wet weight.

The complete data sets corresponding to abstracts published in the Data Papers section in the journal are published electronically as Supporting Information in the online version of this article at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1890/15-1261.1/supinfo>

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