

2026 Data Update¹

Unit Stock of Witch Flounder, *Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*

Prepared by the Population Dynamics Branch of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center

July 23, 2026

¹All data were queried on the date of the report.

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Catch

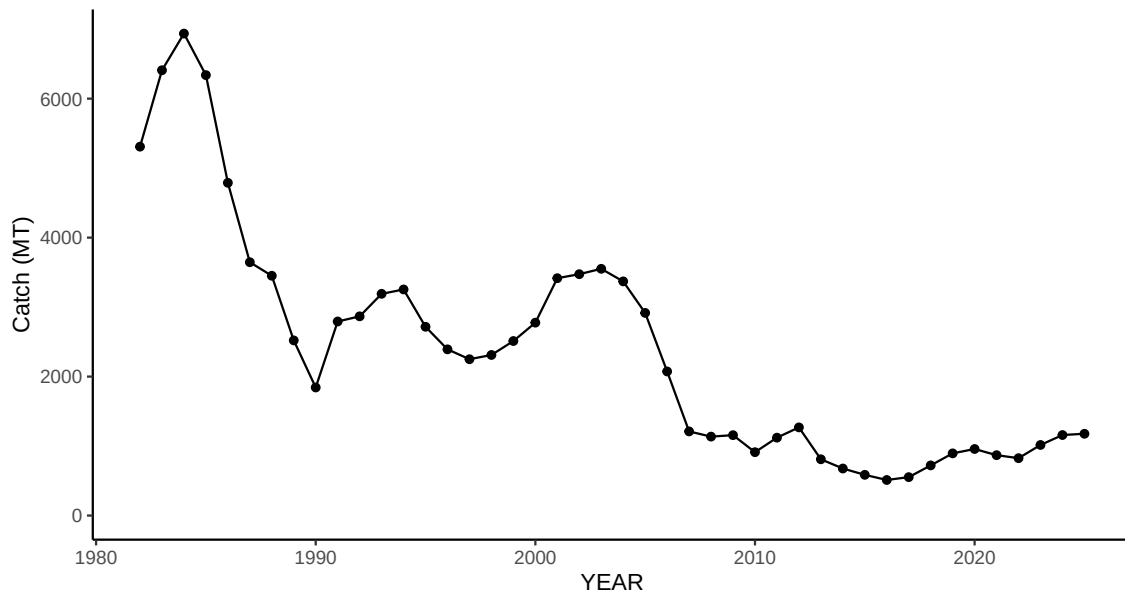


Figure 1: Total catch in metric tons (MT) of Witch flounder from calendar year 1982 through 2025. Commercial landings begin in 1982 and commercial discards begin in 1982.

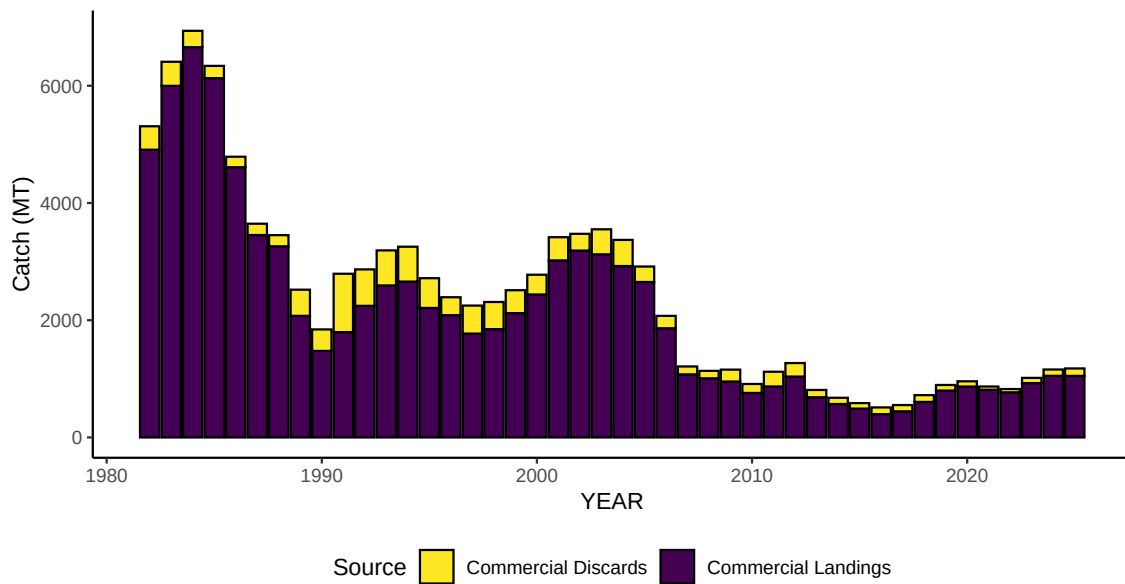


Figure 2: Landings (MT) and discards (MT) of Witch flounder from calendar year 1982 through 2025. Commercial landings begin in 1982 and commercial discards begin in 1982.

Table 1: Landings, discards, and total catch of Witch flounder, in metric tons (MT), from calendar year 1982 through 2025.

Year	Commercial Landings (MT)	Commercial Discards (MT)	Total Catch (MT)
1982	4,909	400	5,309
1983	5,998	411	6,409
1984	6,658	279	6,937
1985	6,130	209	6,339
1986	4,610	179	4,789
1987	3,453	193	3,646
1988	3,261	190	3,451
1989	2,074	447	2,521
1990	1,476	367	1,843
1991	1,797	996	2,793
1992	2,245	622	2,867
1993	2,593	598	3,191
1994	2,659	595	3,254
1995	2,209	508	2,717
1996	2,086	306	2,392
1997	1,772	478	2,250
1998	1,848	463	2,311
1999	2,121	391	2,512
2000	2,439	337	2,776
2001	3,020	396	3,416
2002	3,188	286	3,474
2003	3,124	427	3,551
2004	2,924	446	3,370
2005	2,652	264	2,916
2006	1,863	211	2,074
2007	1,076	135	1,211
2008	1,009	127	1,136
2009	954	203	1,157
2010	759	153	912
2011	870	251	1,121

Year	Commercial Landings (MT)	Commercial Discards (MT)	Total Catch (MT)
2012	1,038	231	1,269
2013	686	124	810
2014	570	107	677
2015	492	94	586
2016	397	115	512
2017	446	107	553
2018	606	116	722
2019	800	95	895
2020	868	90	958
2021	814	55	869
2022	770	56	826
2023	927	89	1,016
2024	1,051	108	1,159
2025	1,050	127	1,177

Survey

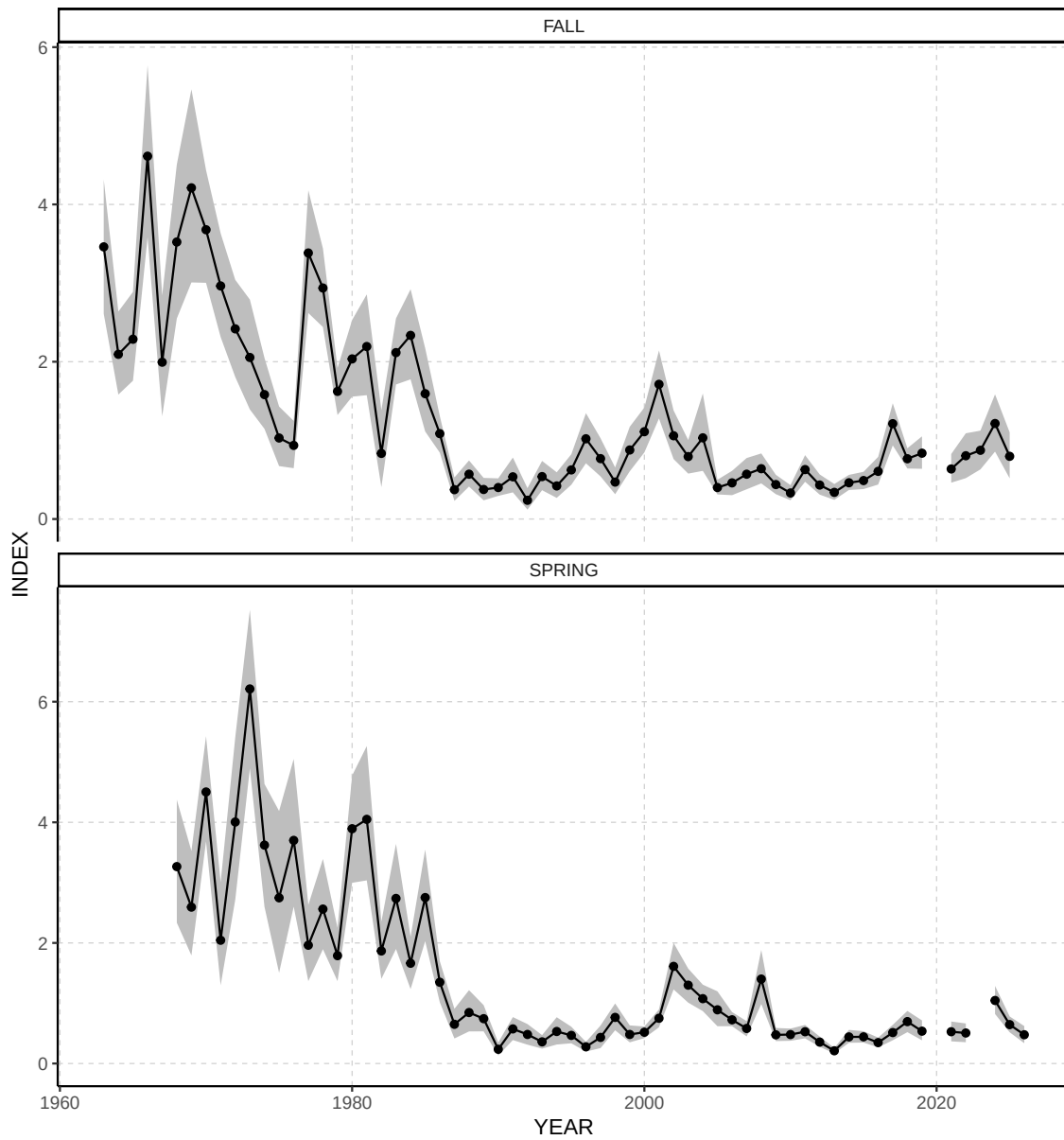


Figure 3: Bottom Trawl Survey Index of Witch flounder from 1963 through 2026. Units in Biomass (kg/tow). Gray-shaded area represents the 90% confidence interval. Survey was incomplete in Fall 2020, Spring 2020, and Spring 2023.

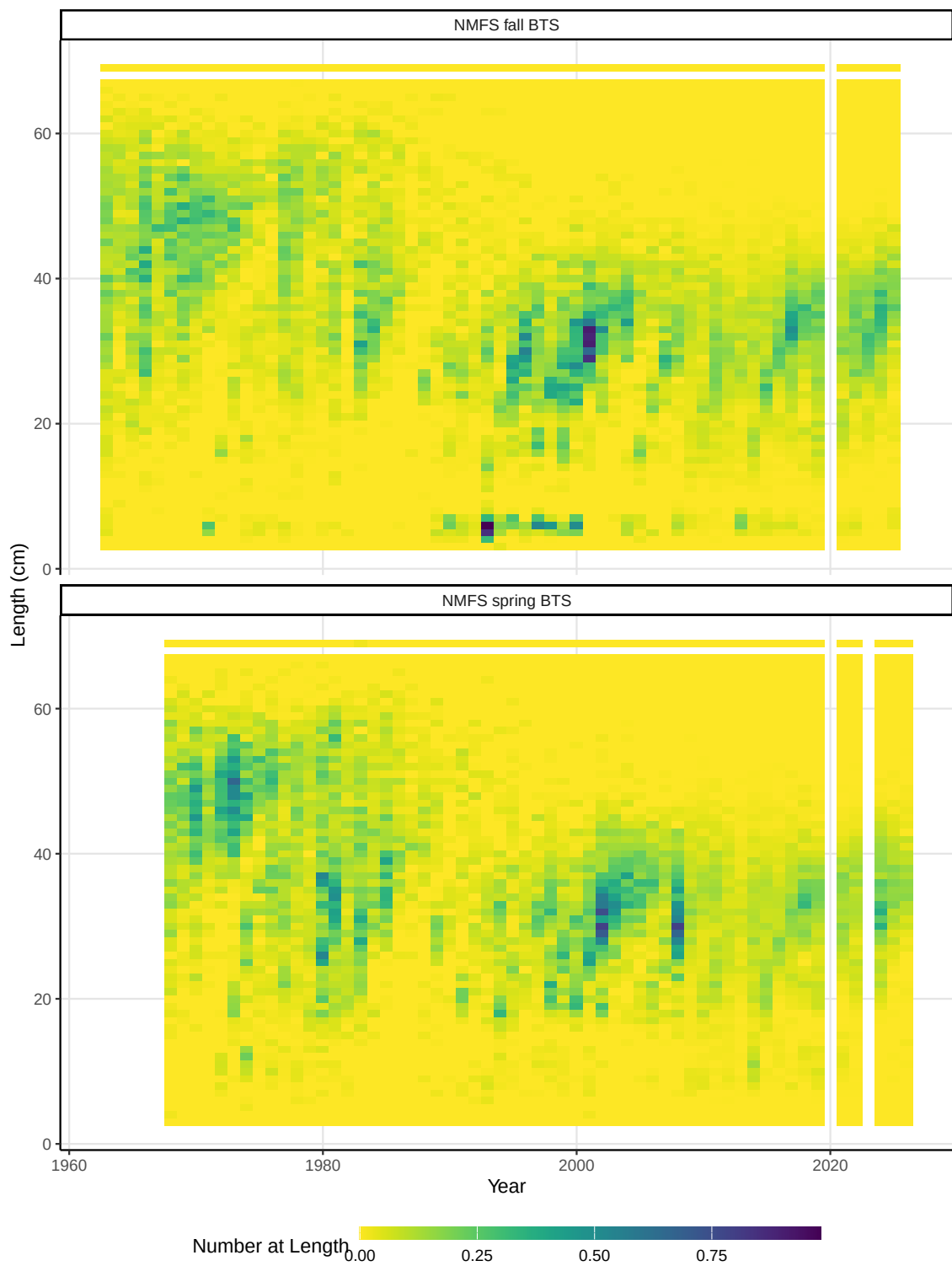


Figure 4: Stratified Mean Indices at Length for the Bottom Trawl Survey of Witch flounder from 1963 through 2026. Survey was incomplete in Fall 2020, Spring 2020, and Spring 2023.

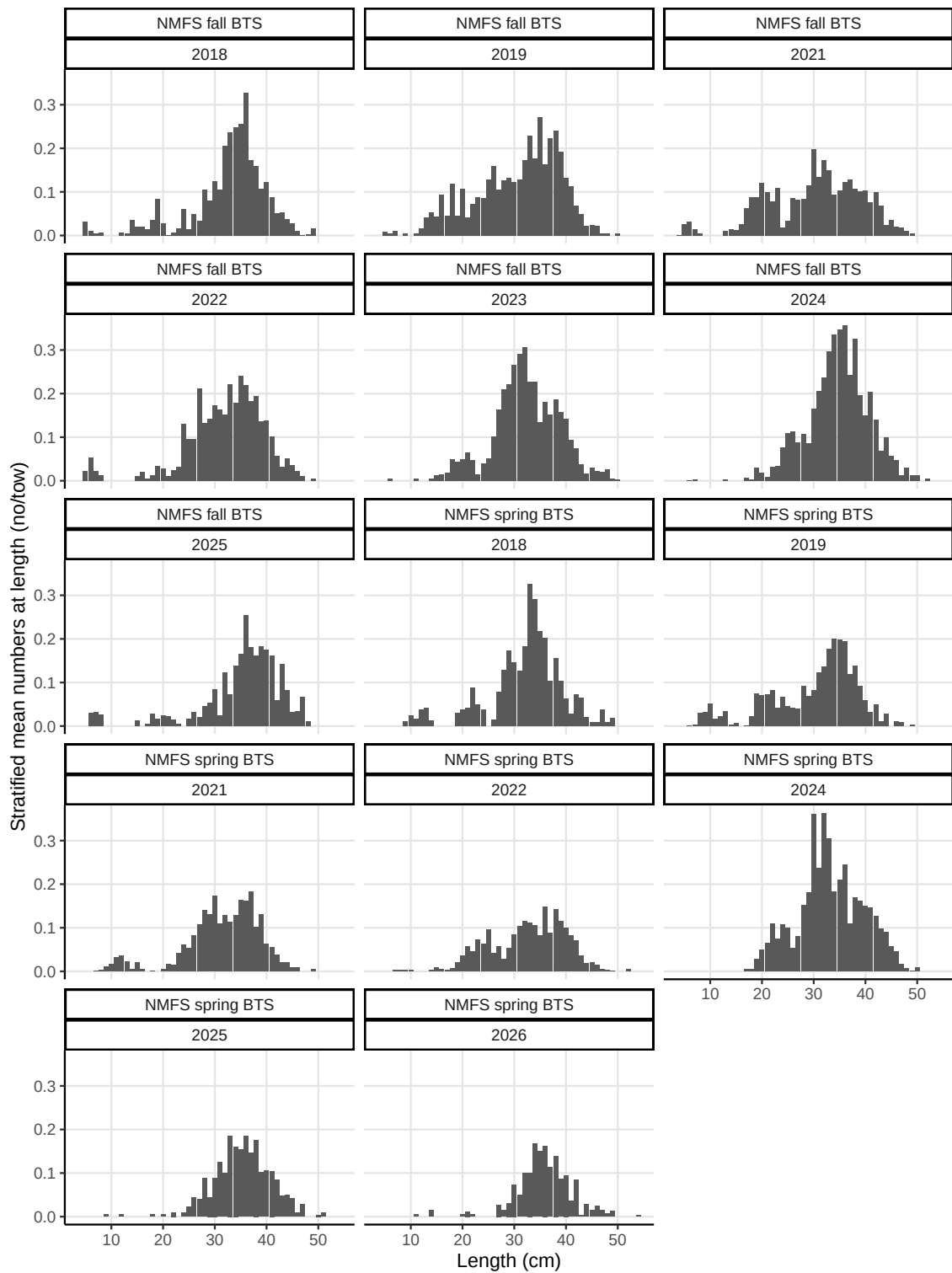


Figure 5: Stratified Mean Indices at Length for the Bottom Trawl Survey of Witch flounder from 2018 through 2026. Survey was incomplete in Fall 2020, Spring 2020, and Spring 2023.

Table 2: Bottom Trawl Survey Index of Witch flounder from 1963 through 2026. Units in Biomass (kg/tow). Survey was incomplete in Fall 2020, Spring 2020, and Spring 2023.

YEAR	FALL INDEX	SPRING INDEX	FALL CV	SPRING CV
1963	3.4605		0.1567	
1964	2.0943		0.1539	
1965	2.2862		0.1529	
1966	4.6133		0.1457	
1967	1.9940		0.2335	
1968	3.5223	3.2656	0.1709	0.1900
1969	4.2110	2.5937	0.1780	0.2011
1970	3.6782	4.5029	0.1193	0.1195
1971	2.9638	2.0444	0.1342	0.2485
1972	2.4177	4.0051	0.1534	0.1958
1973	2.0541	6.2116	0.2080	0.1292
1974	1.5820	3.6219	0.1803	0.1674
1975	1.0303	2.7479	0.2215	0.2980
1976	0.9361	3.7005	0.1922	0.2017
1977	3.3825	1.9617	0.1434	0.1942
1978	2.9371	2.5615	0.1021	0.1768
1979	1.6230	1.7888	0.1083	0.1512
1980	2.0358	3.8936	0.1456	0.1422
1981	2.1933	4.0493	0.1841	0.1720
1982	0.8343	1.8666	0.3517	0.1526
1983	2.1160	2.7377	0.1211	0.1951
1984	2.3350	1.6629	0.1488	0.1562
1985	1.5934	2.7522	0.2017	0.1668
1986	1.0857	1.3480	0.1302	0.1530
1987	0.3732	0.6506	0.2442	0.2204
1988	0.5701	0.8456	0.1741	0.2514
1989	0.3754	0.7437	0.2341	0.1750
1990	0.4004	0.2364	0.1697	0.2701
1991	0.5365	0.5741	0.2482	0.2007
1992	0.2384	0.4820	0.3570	0.2134

YEAR	FALL INDEX	SPRING INDEX	FALL CV	SPRING CV
1993	0.5394	0.3595	0.2060	0.1902
1994	0.4209	0.5314	0.2343	0.2682
1995	0.6243	0.4667	0.1882	0.1806
1996	1.0203	0.2771	0.1890	0.1796
1997	0.7679	0.4332	0.1938	0.2651
1998	0.4697	0.7651	0.2214	0.1786
1999	0.8776	0.4820	0.1987	0.1795
2000	1.1104	0.5191	0.1555	0.1140
2001	1.7129	0.7508	0.1526	0.1197
2002	1.0587	1.6112	0.1751	0.1491
2003	0.7936	1.2995	0.1641	0.1326
2004	1.0323	1.0756	0.2892	0.1224
2005	0.4005	0.8907	0.1361	0.1990
2006	0.4597	0.7249	0.2003	0.1017
2007	0.5699	0.5814	0.2057	0.1336
2008	0.6400	1.4006	0.1800	0.1984
2009	0.4382	0.4754	0.1670	0.1386
2010	0.3309	0.4803	0.1730	0.1274
2011	0.6287	0.5275	0.1621	0.1280
2012	0.4320	0.3553	0.1815	0.1423
2013	0.3388	0.2113	0.1837	0.1282
2014	0.4611	0.4413	0.1239	0.1454
2015	0.4890	0.4426	0.1365	0.1306
2016	0.6062	0.3469	0.1770	0.1370
2017	1.2123	0.5134	0.1272	0.1496
2018	0.7665	0.6951	0.1007	0.1561
2019	0.8371	0.5368	0.1495	0.1866
2020				
2021	0.6363	0.5274	0.1767	0.1965
2022	0.8045	0.5063	0.2152	0.1876
2023	0.8741		0.1741	
2024	1.2145	1.0454	0.1838	0.1368

YEAR	FALL INDEX	SPRING INDEX	FALL CV	SPRING CV
2025	0.7973	0.6451	0.2196	0.1244
2026		0.4774		0.1807