



STRIPED MULLET

Mugil cephalus

Description:

- ◆ dark olive, brown or bluish above
- ◆ each scale on upper part of body has a dark spot at the base
- ◆ dark spots form stripes on side of fish
- ◆ large dark blotch at base of pectoral fin
- ◆ second dorsal fin begins directly above where anal fin begins
- ◆ body somewhat rounded toward head and compressed toward tail

Size:

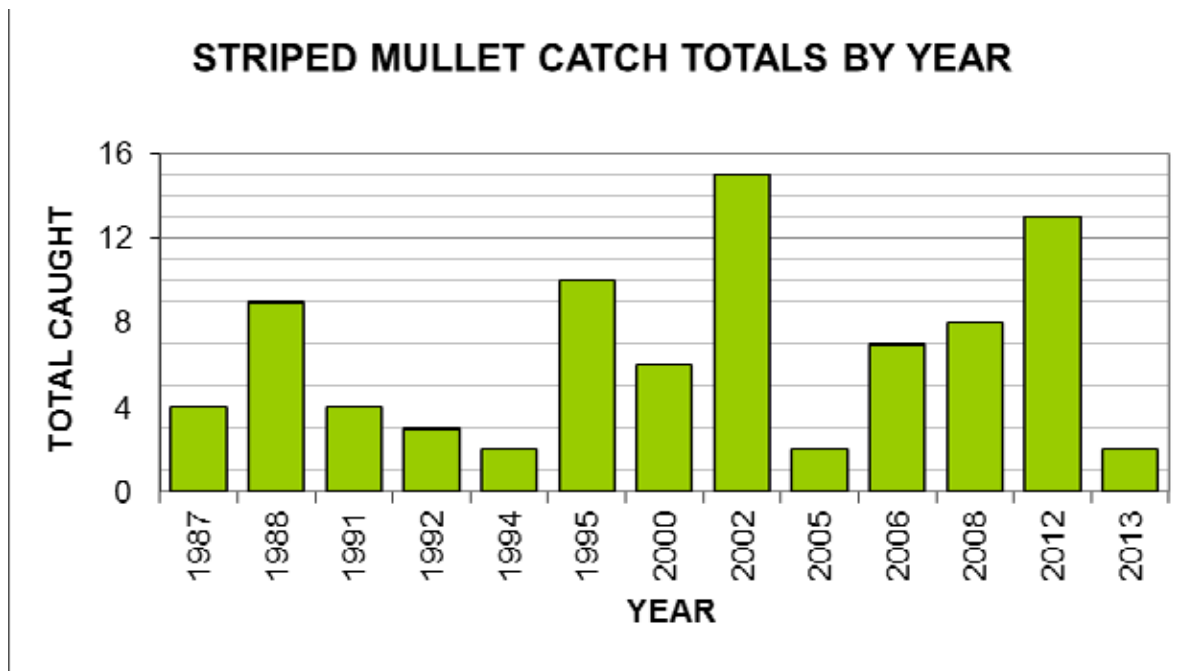
- ◆ up to 36 inches

Range:

- ◆ Nova Scotia to Brazil; absent in Bahamas, West Indies and Caribbean

Facts:

- ◆ migrate in large schools
- ◆ catadromous fish: spawn in saltwater yet spend most of life in freshwater
- ◆ spawn mid October to late January; peaking in November and December
- ◆ spawn off shore
- ◆ eggs hatch 48 hours after fertilization
- ◆ can be seen jumping to evade predators



*striped mullet were only caught during the years shown

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Bureau of Marine Fisheries
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