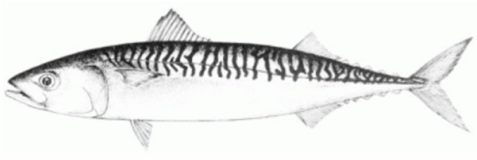


# Atlantic mackerelNE Atlantic

Fishery:  EU  Poland  Midwater trawls

## IDENTIFICATION



### SCIENTIFIC NAME

*Scomber scombrus*

### SPECIES NAME(S)

Atlantic mackerel

### COMMON NAMES

Atlantic mackerel, joey, mackerel

### STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Northeast Atlantic mackerel defines the mackerel in the region from ICES Division subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a. Spawning areas are equally widely distributed but catches are attributed to three spawning components by area – North Sea (4, 3a), Western (6, 7, 8a,b,d,e) and Southern (8c, 9a). Fish from Southern and Western areas have been shown to migrate to the North Sea, Norwegian Sea and Baltic Sea after spawning where they become indistinct from other components. For practical purposes all mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic are considered to form a single stock (ICES, 2012a,b).



### RELATED LINKS:

- [European Commission \(EC\)](#)
- [International Council for the Exploration of the Sea \(ICES\)](#)

## ASSESSMENT

### Strengths

- The management agreement, though lacking in its implementation, and not agreed between all states, is precautionary.
- The revised estimate of the stock size is above its MSY reference point.

### Weaknesses

- No international agreement exists between all states participating in the fishery and advised catches are routinely exceeded.
- Fishing mortality in the entire area remains above  $F_{MSY}$ .
- The North Sea spawning biomass remains low.

## SCORES

### Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 6	0	10

### Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
10	7

## FIPS

No related FIPs

## MSC

- MINSAs North East Atlantic mackerel:  
Suspended

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Coastal States (EU, Norway and the Faroe Islands) should welcome and expand the Coastal States Agreement (CSA) to include additional third party countries (e.g. Iceland, Russia and Greenland) participating in the fishery. This should also include a post-Brexit UK element as appropriate.
- An expanded CSA should be a legally binding international agreement between all relevant coastal / fishing states that formally requires total landings from the fishery to be at or below the precautionary TAC advised by ICES.