



# Northern Kingfish

*Menticirrhus saxatilis*



## **Description:**

- ◆ dark angular bands vertically along sides
- ◆ long spine on first dorsal fin
- ◆ single barbel on lower jaw
- ◆ lack canine teeth
- ◆ dark bar at nape forms 'V' with first bar on body
- ◆ gray brown above with silvery sides

## **Size:**

- ◆ up to 18 inches

## **Range:**

- ◆ Massachusetts to southern Florida and Gulf of Mexico to Yucatan

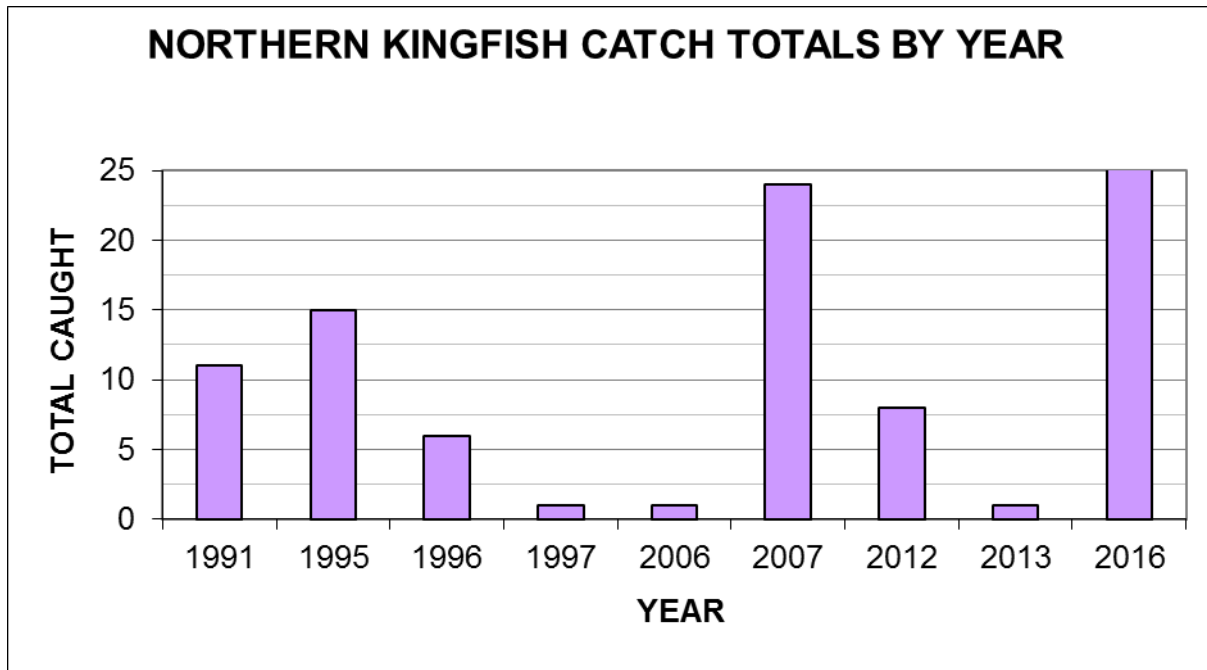
## **Facts:**

- ◆ prefer shallow coastal waters
- ◆ bottom feeders
- ◆ average lifespan is up to 4 years
- ◆ lack swim bladder, so they don't make croaking sounds like other species in the drum family
- ◆ spawn April to August
- ◆ eggs are released and float for 46 to 50 hours before hatching



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\*Northern kingfish were only caught during the years shown

**For more information about Northern kingfish, please check out this article:**

Northern Kingfish: A Profile

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/artkingfish.htm>