

Greater Amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*)

Description:

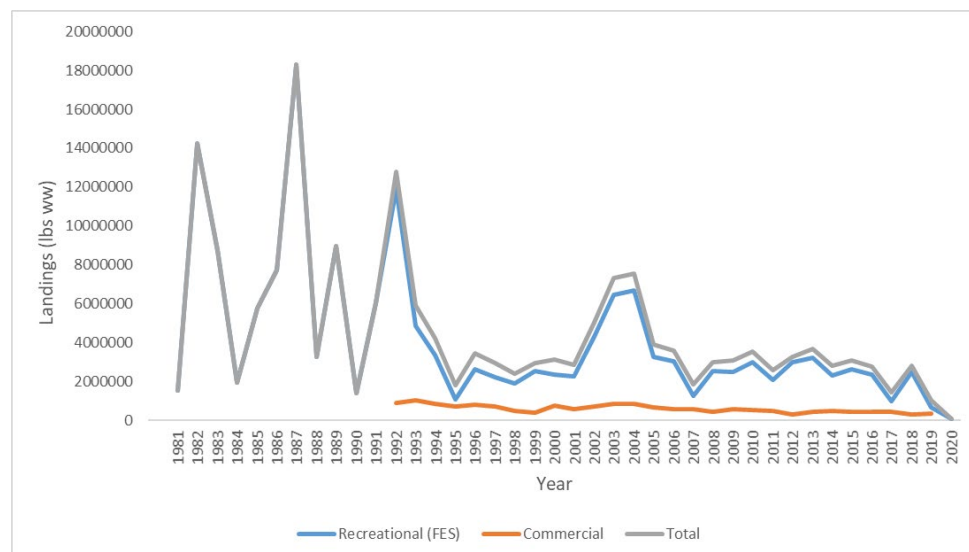
Greater amberjack is a member of the jack family (Carangidae). It is typically a silvery-blue, with yellow shading along the lateral line, and a dark brown diagonal band through the eye. Its tail is deeply forked. The Gulf of Mexico stock is thought to be distinct from the Atlantic. Greater amberjack is a reef-associated species typically caught between depths of 59 to 236 ft (18 and 72 m). Greater amberjack in the Gulf is presently considered overfished and experiencing overfishing (SEDAR 70 2021)

Gulf Stock Characteristics: (SEDAR 70 2021)

Natural mortality rate (M):	0.28/year (max. age of 15 years)
Reproductive maturity:	50% of females are mature at ~33 inches (82.7 cm) fork length (FL)
Maximum age:	15 years
Maximum weight:	178 lbs (80.6 kg) whole weight
Maximum length:	58 inches (147.4 cm) FL
Discard mortality:	20% commercial, 10% recreational

Life History and Distribution: (SEDAR 70 2021)

Greater amberjack is found in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, and the Mediterranean Sea in temperate to tropical waters. Females grow to larger maximum sizes than males. Peak spawning occurs in March and April in the Gulf. After a brief pelagic stage, newly hatched larva and small juveniles often associate with floating Sargassum. Larger juveniles shift to demersal habitats, where they congregate around reefs, rocky outcrops, and wrecks. Adult greater amberjack is found on both artificial and natural reefs.



Gulf Greater Amberjack recreational and commercial landings. Recreational landings are in MRIP-FES.

Current Regulations:

Recreational: 73% of ACL
The recreational ACL is 1,309,620 lbs. The bag limit is 1 fish per person per day. The minimum size limit is 34 inches FL. The fishing season is open from August 1 – October 31, and from May 1 – May 31.

Commercial: 27% of ACL
1,000 lb gutted weight trip limit. The commercial ACL is 484,380 lbs. The minimum size limit is 36 inches FL. The commercial fishing season is open January – February and June – December.