What is considered sustainable?

- NOAA Fisheries Service considers a stock that has never been overfished sustainably managed if:
  - It is not subject to overfishing, and
  - Its biomass is at least 80% of the level that supports the maximum sustainable yield (B_{MSY})

- About 31% (71) of the 230 stocks tracked in the NMFS Fish Stock Sustainability Index are sustainably managed.

- We are required to build and maintain stocks at the B_{MSY} level, but this is a long term average, and we expect annual fluctuation in our estimates of stock size.

According to this criteria, about 31% (71) of the 230 stocks tracked in the NMFS Fish Stock Sustainability Index are sustainably managed.