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根据一项新的研究报告，世界各地的鱼类的体重和体积预计将缩小达 24%。研究人员说，不断上升的水温会减少海水的氧气含量，这将导致鱼类体重的显著减少。请听 BBC 科学记者 Matt McGrath 发回的报道：

Although **projections** of global temperature rises show **relatively** small changes at the bottom of the oceans, the resulting impacts on fish body size are "unexpectedly large", according to this research. As ocean temperatures increase, so do the body temperatures and **metabolic rates** of the fish. This means they use more **oxygen** to stay alive and, according to the researchers, they have less available for growth.

They've **calculated** that up to 2050, fish will **shrink** in size by between 14 and 24 percent, with the Indian and Atlantic Oceans worst affected. The **warming waters** are also likely to drive fish more towards the **poles**, leading to smaller species living in areas like the North Sea.

According to the scientists, their models may **underestimate** the potential impacts. When they looked at **case studies** involving North Atlantic cod and haddock, they found that recorded data on these fish showed greater decreases in actual body size than the models predicted.

Questions

1. Is the temperature at the bottom of the sea going to rise significantly in the future?
2. What's the phrase used to describe the amounts of energy used over a certain period of time?
3. What's the percentage reduction in fish body size according to the report?
4. Which two fish species were studied for the report?

Vocabulary and definitions

projections	预测
relatively	相对来说
metabolic rates	新陈代谢率
oxygen	氧气
calculated	计算
shrink	缩小
warming waters	海水变暖
poles	北极和南极
underestimate	低估
case studies	案例研究

Answers to the questions

1. Is the temperature at the bottom of the sea going to rise significantly in the future?

Answer: No, there'll be relatively small changes of temperature at bottom of the sea.

2. What's the phrase used to describe the amounts of energy used over a certain period of time?

Answer: Metabolic rate.

3. What's the likely percentage reduction in fish body size according to the report?

Answer: Between 14 – 24 percent.

4. Which two fish species were studied for the report?

Answer: Cod and haddock.