



The Ocean and Coastal Economy: A Summary of Statistics

For more information, please contact linwood.pendleton@noaa.gov, see page 3 for pocket version

Measures of the Ocean and Coastal Economy:

1. **GDP** (Gross Domestic Product): Value of goods and services that are produced.
2. **Employment**: # people employed by business establishments, including part-time/seasonal; does not include self-employed workers.
3. **Annual Wages**: Wages paid to employees.
4. **Business Establishments**: Individual places of business; single firm may have multiple.

The Ocean Economy¹

The ocean economy is comprised of six economic sectors that depend on the oceans and Great Lakes. (This is a subset of the Shore Adjacent Coastal Economy.) The annual time-series data is produced for 438 coastal counties, 30 coastal states, and the nation from 2001 to 2009 and onward using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The Six Sectors in the Ocean Economy

- Living Resources
- Marine Construction
- Marine Transportation
- Offshore Mineral Resources
- Ship and Boat Building
- Tourism and Recreation

When to Use:

Use Ocean Economy statistics to describe the economic value of activities directly related to the use of ocean resources or access.

What You Need to Know:

(Most recent data available: 2009)

GDP	\$246.3 Billion
Employment	2,542,092 Jobs
Wages	\$93.5 Billion
Establishments	137,309

¹ For more information see Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW): <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow/index.html>

The Coastal Economy²

Coastal Watershed Counties Summary Statistics (2010):

A Coastal Watershed County is one in which at least 15% of the county's total land area is located within a coastal watershed or a USGS coastal cataloging unit.

When to Use:

When discussing the size of the economy and population that impacts the coast and ocean.

What You Need to Know:

GDP	\$8.3 Trillion
Employment	66 Million
Wages	\$3.4 Trillion
Establishments	4,670,061

Shore Adjacent Counties Summary Statistics (2010):

Shore Adjacent Counties are those touched in whole or in part by a state's coastal zone for purposes of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as defined by that state and which is adjacent to an ocean, Great Lake, or included river or bay.

When to Use:

When discussing the economy and population that benefits directly or indirectly from activity in the coastal zone.

What You Need to Know:

GDP	\$6.0 Trillion
Employment	44 Million
Wages	\$2.4 Trillion
Establishments	3,317,188

² For more information, see Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS): stics.noaa.gov

The Coastal Population³

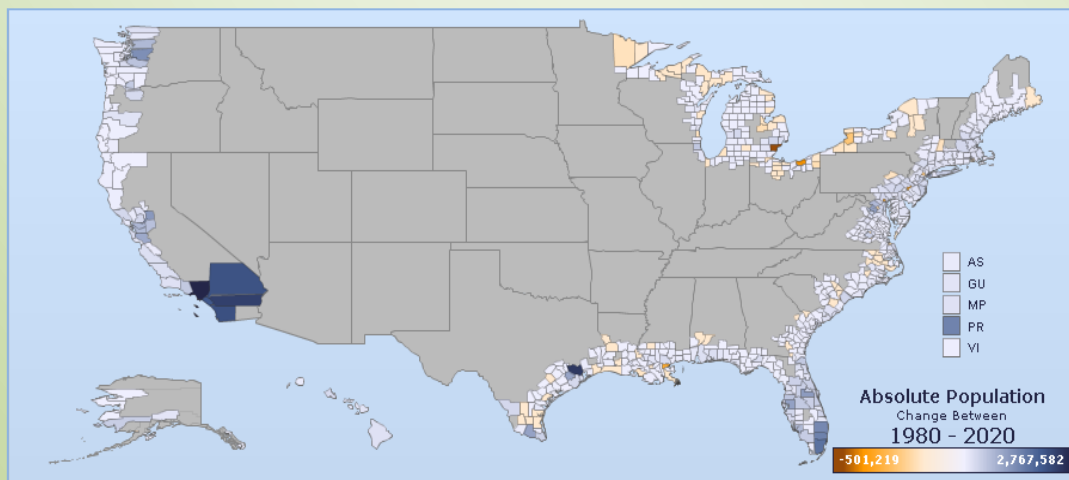
The coastal population consists of those living in Coastal Watershed Counties, which are those counties for which at least 15% of the county's total land area is located within a coastal watershed or a USGS coastal cataloging unit.

When to Use:

This geography is helpful in describing the population that directly impacts the coast by residing in coastal and estuarine drainage areas (i.e. daily decisions and habits may impact coastal health).

What You Need to Know:

53%	Percent of the nation's total population that lived in coastal watershed counties in 2010 (17% of the total land area excluding Alaska).
50.8 million	Increase in U.S. coastal watershed county population from 1970 to 2010 (or a 45% increase).
6%	Percent of U.S. coastal watershed county population that resided in Los Angeles County, CA in 2010 (the leading county in coastal population).
15.6million	Expected increase in U.S. coastal watershed county population by 2020 (or a 10% increase).



³ For more information, see State of the Coast: stateofthecoast.noaa.gov

Ocean Economy:

(Most recent data available: 2009)

GDP	\$246.3 Billion
Employment	2,542,092 Jobs
Wages	\$93.5 Billion
Establishments	137,309

Coastal Watershed Counties
(the economy and population that
Impact the coast and ocean):

GDP	\$8.3 Trillion
Employment	66 Million
Wages	\$3.4 Trillion
Establishments	4,670,061

Coastal Adjacent Counties
(the coastal economy):

GDP	\$6.0 Trillion
Employment	44 Million
Wages	\$2.4 Trillion
Establishments	3,317,188