California

The marine economy is defined as those businesses whose existence depends on the oceans or Great Lakes. The economic data found here helps leaders better understand trends and consider the needs of these businesses when making decisions about the future of the coast. Six sectors make up the marine economy: marine construction, offshore mineral extraction, tourism and recreation, living resources, ship and boat building, and marine transportation.

The Big Picture
California's Marine Economy in 2019

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<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Businesses</td>
<td>26,084</td>
<td>598,327</td>
<td>$26.4 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wages</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
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The Details

Largest Employment Sector: Tourism and recreation employs 75% of the state’s marine economy

Largest GDP Sector: Tourism and recreation produces 54% of the total gross domestic product (GDP) derived from the state’s marine economy

High Earners: The average wage of marine economy employees in California is $44,059, which is lower than the state average ($71,351). Marine construction has the highest average wage per employee at $110,746.

National Ranking: California is ranked 1 out of 30 coastal states for marine employment, and 2 out of 30 coastal states for GDP

Top County: Employment San Diego County, California, is home to 20% of marine jobs in California

Top County: GDP Los Angeles County, California, produces 29% of the marine economy’s gross domestic product in California


Office for Coastal Management
California's Marine Economy

LEGEND (1 CELL = 1%)
- Living Resources
- Marine Transportation
- Ship and Boat Building
- Marine Construction
- Offshore Mineral Resources
- Tourism and Recreation

A Decade of Change (2009-2019)

**28%**
**Businesses**
California had an increase of 5,754 marine businesses, which was an increase of 28% over the past decade.

**25%**
**Employees**
California had an increase of 118,635 marine jobs, an increase of 25% over the past decade.

**18%**
**Average Wages**
On average, an employee working in California’s marine economy made $44,059 in 2019, compared to an average wage of $37,436 in 2009. The marine economy average wage in California had an increase of 18%.

**6%**
**Gross Domestic Product**
The value of California's marine economy had an increase of 6% over the past decade. Changes in GDP can be driven by volatility of the price of resources.

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