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**

North Pacific/Alaska Region's Marine Economy in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Businesses</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Wages</th>
<th>GDP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,528</td>
<td>46,197</td>
<td>$2.8 billion</td>
<td>$8.4 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Details**

- **Largest Employment Sector:** Tourism and recreation employs 51% of the region’s marine economy
- **Largest GDP Sector:** Offshore mineral resources produces 69% of the total gross domestic product (GDP) derived from the region’s marine economy
- **High Earners:** The average wage of marine economy employees in the North Pacific/Alaska region is $61,402, which is higher than the region average ($57,518). Offshore mineral resources has the highest average wage per employee at $148,507.
- **National Ranking:** The North Pacific/Alaska region is ranked 8 out of 8 coastal regions for marine employment, and 8 out of 8 coastal regions for GDP
- **Top County: Employment** Anchorage Municipality, Alaska, is home to 39% of marine jobs in the North Pacific/Alaska region
- **Top County: GDP** Anchorage Municipality, Alaska, produces 41% of the marine economy’s gross domestic product in the North Pacific/Alaska region

North Pacific/Alaska Region'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)

**Businesses**
The North Pacific/Alaska region had an increase of 411 marine businesses, which was an increase of 19% over the past decade.

**Employees**
The North Pacific/Alaska region had an increase of 2,532 marine jobs, an increase of 6% over the past decade.

**Average Wages**
On average, an employee working in the North Pacific/Alaska region's marine economy made $61,402 in 2019, compared to an average wage of $52,273 in 2009. The marine economy average wage in the North Pacific/Alaska region had an increase of 17%.

**Gross Domestic Product**
The value of the North Pacific/Alaska region's marine economy had a decrease of 26% over the past decade. Changes in GDP can be driven by volatility of the price of resources.