

2024 Marine Economy Report

PACIFIC TERRITORIES

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 - PACIFIC TERRITORIES' MARINE ECONOMY IN 2021

597 BUSINESSES	14,056 EMPLOYEES	\$266 MILLION WAGES	\$749 MILLION GDP
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THE DETAILS

LARGEST EMPLOYMENT SECTOR

Tourism and recreation employs **76%** of the region's marine economy.

LARGEST GDP SECTOR

Tourism and recreation produces **52%** of the total gross domestic product (GDP) derived from the region's marine economy.

WAGE EARNERS

The average wage of marine economy employees in the Pacific Territories is **\$18,929**, which is lower than the region average (**\$27,748**).

AMERICAN SAMOA

Tutuila employs **85%** of the territory's marine economy, exceeding the marine employment levels of major urban areas in the states.

GUAM

Tamuning is home to **65%** of marine jobs in the entire territory, a substantial concentration comparable to Honolulu County, HI, where **63%** of the state's jobs are located.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Saipan is home to **98%** of marine jobs in the entire territory and accounts for **99%** of total marine economy wages within the entire territory, surpassing any U.S. state.

PACIFIC TERRITORIES' MARINE ECONOMY



BUSINESSES

- Living resources:.....**2%**
- Marine construction:.....**1%**
- Marine transportation:.....**5%**
- Tourism and recreation:.....**93%**



EMPLOYEES

- Living resources:.....**1%**
- Marine construction:.....**3%**
- Marine transportation:.....**7%**
- Tourism and recreation:.....**89%**



WAGES

- Living resources:.....**1%**
- Marine construction:.....**8%**
- Marine transportation:.....**11%**
- Tourism and recreation:.....**80%**



GDP

- Living resources:.....**1%**
- Marine construction:.....**6%**
- Marine transportation:.....**10%**
- Tourism and recreation:.....**82%**

This report is based on 2021 Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) data, produced by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management in 2024. Establishment, employment and payroll data for the U.S. Territories are sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns data. GDP data has been calculated using data from the Marine Economy Satellite Account (Bureau of Economic Analysis) unless otherwise noted. This report does not include information on self-employment, which encompasses many commercial fishing activities. Further, it does not include information on supplemental sectors: government, research and education, or utilities.

