

## 2022 Marine Economy Report

# South Carolina

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

### South Carolina's Marine Economy in 2019

<b>3,732</b>	<b>87,051</b>	<b>\$2.3 billion</b>	<b>\$5.7 billion</b>
<b>Businesses</b>	<b>Employees</b>	<b>Wages</b>	<b>GDP</b>

## The Details

**Largest Employment Sector:** Tourism and recreation employs **88%** of the state's marine economy

**Largest GDP Sector:** Tourism and recreation produces **82%** of the total gross domestic product (GDP) derived from the state's marine economy

**High Earners:** The average wage of marine economy employees in South Carolina is **\$26,086**, which is lower than the state average (**\$46,383**). Marine construction has the highest average wage per employee at **\$69,519**.

**National Ranking:** South Carolina is ranked **12** out of **30** coastal states for marine employment, and **14** out of **30** coastal states for GDP

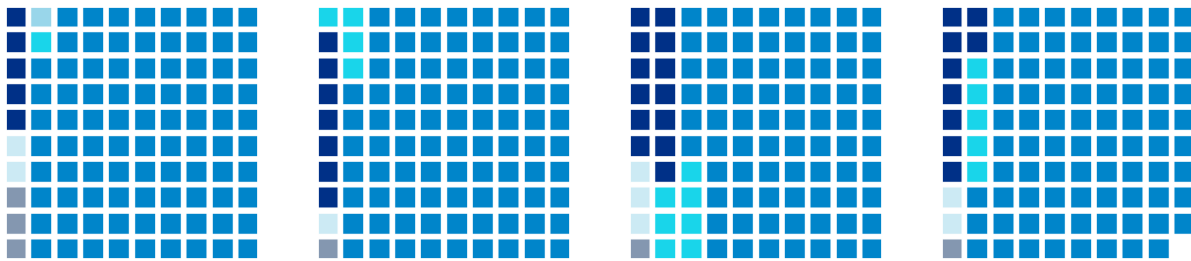
**Top County: Employment** Charleston County, South Carolina, is home to **41%** of marine jobs in South Carolina

**Top County: GDP** Charleston County, South Carolina, produces **43%** of the marine economy's gross domestic product in South Carolina

This report is based on 2019 Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) data, produced by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management in 2022. The employment and gross domestic product statistics are derived from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data (accessed in September 2021) and the Bureau of Economic Analysis' gross domestic product by state data (released in July 2021). For more information, visit [coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow.html](https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow.html).



# South Carolina's Marine Economy



3,732

**Businesses**

87,051

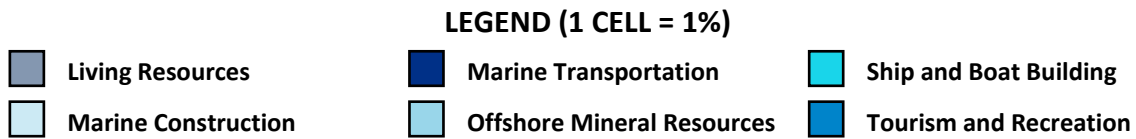
**Employees**

\$2.3 billion

**Wages**

\$5.7 billion

**GDP**



## A Decade of Change (2009-2019)

