

2022 Marine Economy Report

West Coast Region

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

West Coast Region's Marine Economy in 2019

35,387

Businesses

784,531

Employees

\$34.8 billion

Wages

\$70.4 billion

GDP

The Details

Largest Employment Sector: Tourism and recreation employs **71%** of the region's marine economy

Largest GDP Sector: Tourism and recreation produces **50%** 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 West Coast region is **\$44,310**, which is lower than the region average (**\$69,703**). Marine construction has the highest average wage per employee at **\$107,165**.

National Ranking: The West Coast region is ranked **2** out of **8** coastal regions for marine employment, and **2** out of **8** coastal regions for GDP

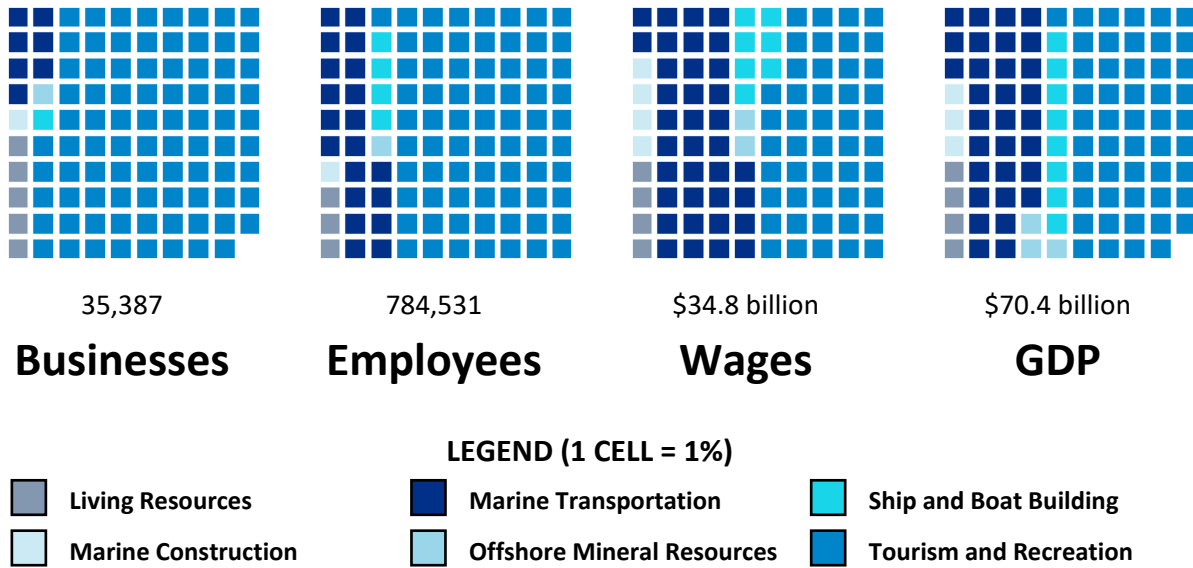
Top County: Employment San Diego County, California, is home to **15%** of marine jobs in the West Coast region

Top County: GDP Los Angeles County, California, produces **21%** of the marine economy's gross domestic product in the West Coast region

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.



West Coast Region's Marine Economy



A Decade of Change (2009-2019)

