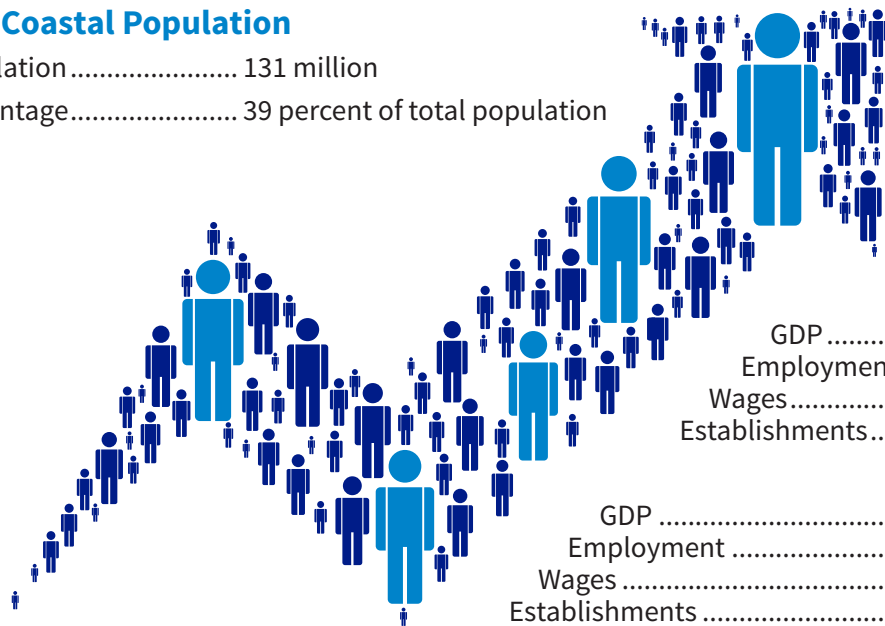




# Socioeconomic Data Summary

## U.S. Coastal Population

Population ..... 131 million  
 Percentage ..... 39 percent of total population



## U.S. Coastal Economy

GDP ..... \$11 trillion  
 Employment ..... 56.2 million  
 Wages ..... \$4 trillion  
 Establishments ..... 4.3 million

## U.S. Marine Economy

GDP ..... \$369 billion  
 Employment ..... 3.2 million  
 Wages ..... \$148 billion  
 Establishments ..... 166,000

## DETAILS | U.S. Coastal Population

These demographics are for coastal shoreline counties (those counties with a coastline bordering the open ocean or that contain FEMA-identified coastal high hazard areas). American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico are not included.

### What You Need to Know (2021)

Population ..... 131 million  
 Percentage ..... 39 percent of total population

### When to Use

Helpful to use when describing the population impacted by coastal management programs.

### Bonus Facts

- Coastal shoreline counties account for less than 10 percent of the U.S. total land mass (excluding Alaska and territories).
- The top five states for coastal population are California (26.8 million), New York (16.5 million), Florida (16.3 million), New Jersey (7.4 million), and Texas (6.9 million).

### Data Source

United States Census Bureau: American Community Survey (ACS)  
[data.census.gov/table/ACS/DT1Y2021.B01003?t=Population%20Total&g=010XX00US\\$0500000&y=2021](https://data.census.gov/table/ACS/DT1Y2021.B01003?t=Population%20Total&g=010XX00US$0500000&y=2021)

# DETAILS

---

## U.S. Coastal Economy

Includes all economic activities taking place in coastal shoreline counties, excluding the territories.

### What You Need to Know (2021)

GDP	\$11 trillion
Employment	56.2 million
Wages	\$4 trillion
Establishments	4.3 million

According to the World Bank, if the coastal counties were considered as an individual country in 2021, they would rank number three in global GDP, behind only the entirety of the United States (\$23.3 trillion) and China (\$17.8 trillion).

### When to Use

Use coastal economy numbers to discuss the impacts of the changing conditions and risks, such as water quality, policies, and hurricanes, on people living along the coasts.

### Superlatives

Coastal shoreline counties provided 39 percent of the nation's total jobs and contributed 46 percent of its GDP. Education and health services employed the most people in the coastal economy, 13 million, or 24 percent of the coastal economy.

The professional and business services industry paid out over \$939 billion in wages, which is over 21 percent of the wages generated in the coastal economy. Financial activities lead all coastal industries in GDP, contributing more than \$2.5 trillion to the national economy.

### Data Source

Total Economy for U.S. Coastal Shoreline Counties  
[coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/coastaleconomy.html](https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/coastaleconomy.html)

The World Bank: GDP (Current US\$)

Bureau of Economic Analysis: GDP by Industry

## U.S. Marine Economy

Represents businesses and jobs directly and predominantly dependent on ocean and Great Lakes resources.

### What You Need to Know (ENOW 2021)

GDP	\$369 billion
Employment	3.2 million
Wages	\$148 billion
Establishments	166,000

### When to Use

Use marine economy numbers to discuss the six marine sectors—tourism and recreation, marine transportation, offshore mineral extraction, ship and boat building, living resources, and marine construction—and how NOAA's actions directly preserve these services and mitigate risk.

### Bonus Facts

- About 65 percent of employees working in the marine economy are employed within the tourism and recreation sector.
- About 38 percent of the marine economy's GDP is contributed by the tourism and recreation sector.
- Within the marine economy, California contains the most businesses (26,000), Florida employs the most people (547,000), and Texas contributes the most GDP (\$96.6 billion).

### Data Source

NOAA Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW)  
[coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow.html](https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow.html)



## Measurements

1. GDP (Gross Domestic Product): Value of goods and services produced.
2. Employment: Includes part-time and seasonal, but not self-employed.
3. Annual Wages: Wages paid to employees.
4. Business Establishments: Places of business; includes multiple locations of a single firm.

---

## DIGITAL COAST

[coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast](https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast)

