

2024 Marine Economy Report

MID-ATLANTIC 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 resources, tourism and recreation, living resources, ship and boat building, and marine transportation.

THE BIG PICTURE - MID-ATLANTIC REGION'S MARINE ECONOMY IN 2021

44,695
BUSINESSES

748,080
EMPLOYEES

\$33.8 BILLION
WAGES

\$66.8 BILLION
GDP

THE DETAILS

LARGEST EMPLOYMENT SECTOR

Tourism and Recreation employs **65%** of the region's marine economy.

LARGEST GDP SECTOR

Tourism and Recreation produces **55%** 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 Mid-Atlantic region is **\$45,246**, which is lower than the region average (**\$76,828**). Marine Construction has the highest average wage per employee at **\$94,390**.

NATIONAL RANKING

The Mid-Atlantic region is ranked **1** out of **8** coastal regions for marine employment and **3** out of **8** coastal regions for GDP.

TOP COUNTY: EMPLOYMENT

New York County, New York, is home to **17%** of marine jobs in the Mid-Atlantic region.

TOP COUNTY: GDP

New York County, New York, produces **23%** of the marine economy's gross domestic product in the Mid-Atlantic region.

A DECADE OF CHANGE (2011-2021)

17%

BUSINESSES

The Mid-Atlantic region had an increase of **6,376** marine businesses, which was a **17%** increase over the decade.

14%

EMPLOYEES

The Mid-Atlantic region had an increase of **90,598** marine jobs, a **14%** increase over the decade.

32%

AVERAGE WAGES

On average, an employee working in the Mid-Atlantic region's marine economy made **\$45,246** in **2021**, compared to an average wage of **\$34,333** in **2011**. The marine economy average wage in the Mid-Atlantic region increased by **32%**.

18%

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

The value of the Mid-Atlantic region's marine economy increased by **18%** over the decade. Changes in GDP can be driven by volatility of the price of resources.

	Establishments %	Employment %	Wages %	GDP %
Living resources	4	2	2	3
Marine construction	2	1	3	2
Marine transportation	6	26	37	30
Offshore mineral resources	1	0	0	1
Ship and boat building	0	6	10	8
Tourism and recreation	88	65	47	55

This report is based on 2021 Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) data, produced by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management in 2024. 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 2023) 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.

NOAA OFFICE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow.html