South Carolina’s Ocean Economy

Ocean-related industries contribute significantly to the state’s economy and continue to grow.

### The 6 Ocean Economy Industries
- Tourism and Recreation: Hotels, Marinas, Restaurants
- Marine Transportaion: Freight, Cruise Ships, Piers, Harbors
- Marine Construction: Bulkheads, Piers, Jetties
- Ship and Boat Building: Construction, Repair
- Living Marine Resources: Commercial Fishing, Aquaculture, Seafood Processing

### Ocean Economy Industries Added Billions to South Carolina’s Gross Domestic Product in 2017
- **Tourism and Recreation**
- **Ship and Boat Building**
- **Marine Transportation**
- **Marine Construction**
- **Living Marine Resources**
- **Offshore Energy, Mineral Extraction**

**$4.78 BILLION** Added to GDP in 2017 — 7.6% of the total GDP in South Carolina’s eight coastal counties.

### What is Gross Domestic Product?
Real GDP is the total market value of all goods and services produced within a given economy over a given time. Real GDP is also adjusted for inflation.

### The Ocean Economy Boosted Recovery from the Recession
- **31% Growth** 2009-2017
- **53% Growth** Since 2009

From 2009-2017, South Carolina’s ocean economy real GDP grew 53%, compared to 22% for the entire state economy.

### Ocean Economy Employment Outpaced State Employment After the Recession
- **83,231 JOBS** (including self-employed workers)
- **5% of Coastal County Total**

From 2009-2017, Ocean Economy employment (including self-employed workers) grew by 31%, compared to 16% for all types of employment in the state.

### The Sustainability of the Ocean Economy Relies on the Natural Environment
Economic growth must be balanced with environmental conservation to protect the health of the natural resources upon which the ocean economy depends.

Read the full report on South Carolina’s Ocean Economy at scseagrant.org/oe-report

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Ocean Economy Employment Outpaced State Employment After the Recession

From 2009-2017, Ocean Economy employment (including self-employed workers) grew by 31%, compared to 16% for all types of employment in the state.

Ocean Economy Employment 31% Growth 2009-2017

Total State Employment 16% Growth 2009-2017

$3.86 BILLION

$2.44 million

$108 million

$41 million

$4 million

83,231 JOBS* 12% OF COASTAL COUNTY TOTAL

*Including self-employed workers.