

# FLORIDA'S OFFSHORE ENERGY

Florida has more coastline than any other state in the continental United States, and thousands of citizens rely on healthy oceans for their livelihoods. Tourism is a major economic driver, with Atlantic Coast cities of Fernandina Beach, Saint Augustine and Daytona Beach attracting millions of tourists and bringing in billions of dollars annually. Commercial fishing also helps drive Florida's economy, boasting large catches of shrimp, swordfish, blue crab, mackerel, lobster, snapper and grouper.

## WHAT'S AT RISK?

Fishing, tourism and recreation support roughly 281,000 jobs and generate about \$36.6 billion in GDP in the Atlantic portion of Florida.

OCEAN SECTOR	JOBS	GDP
Living Resources*	4,570	\$404,081,038
Tourism & Recreation	276,025	\$36,165,310,758

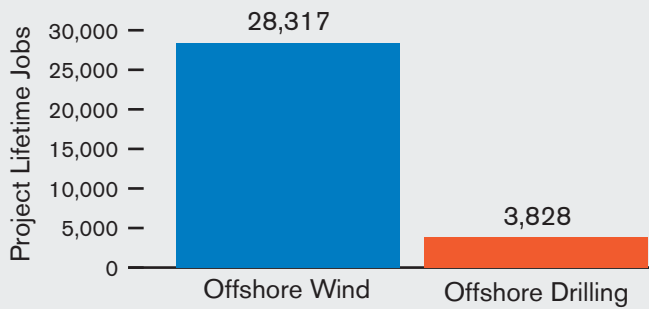
Source: Oceana using Census Bureau and NOAA data

\* Fisheries, aquaculture and seafood markets

## OFFSHORE ENERGY

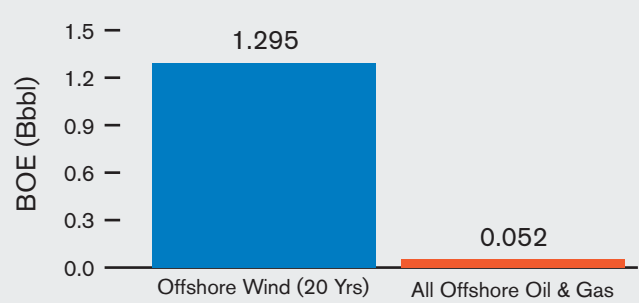
In Florida, offshore wind power has the potential to generate more jobs, produce more power, and lead to a higher degree of energy independence from foreign sources than drilling for oil and gas. When oil and gas run out, so do the jobs, but Florida will never run out of wind. Our analysis demonstrates that the development of offshore wind benefits the economy and coastal communities more than the development of offshore oil and gas. Offshore wind produces clean and renewable power that helps cut carbon pollution and does not run the risk of a catastrophic oil spill that could threaten fishing, tourism and recreation.

## Offshore Wind Creates More Jobs than Offshore Drilling in Florida



Source: Oceana

## Offshore Wind Could Create More Energy than Offshore Drilling in Florida



Source: Oceana

## DOES OFFSHORE WIND OR OFFSHORE DRILLING CREATE MORE JOBS?

- A modest and gradual development of offshore wind would create over 28,000 jobs for Floridians, or about 24,000 more jobs than would be created by offshore oil and gas drilling over the project lifetime.
- Offshore wind has the potential to create over seven times the jobs as offshore drilling over the project lifetime.

*In Florida, offshore wind has the potential to create over seven times the jobs as offshore drilling.*

## WHICH ENERGY SOURCE IS BETTER FOR ACHIEVING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE?

- Florida's offshore oil and gas reserves are insignificant in comparison to the enormous potential of offshore wind in the state.
- At current consumption rates, Florida's endowment of economically recoverable offshore oil and gas would only meet domestic demand for both oil and gas for less than two days.
- Offshore oil and gas would not even be produced until 2026 at the earliest based on industry's own projections.
- It would only take four years of offshore wind production to generate more energy than that contained in all of the economically recoverable offshore oil and gas.
- In 20 years, offshore wind would generate the equivalent of over one billion barrels of oil more than all of Florida's economically recoverable oil and gas.

## TAKE ACTION

**TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE VISIT [OCEANA.ORG/ATLANTICENERGY](http://OCEANA.ORG/ATLANTICENERGY).**

Seismic airgun blasting is the first step to offshore drilling, and as history shows—when we drill, we spill. Seismic airguns also endanger wildlife and put coastal communities who depend on healthy oceans at risk. Help protect our oceans by stopping East Coast offshore drilling before it starts. Reach out to Governor Rick Scott and your local elected officials and say “NO!” to seismic airgun blasting and offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean.

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