

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING IN GEORGIA

UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant received funding from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division to assess the economic contributions of saltwater recreational fishing to Georgia's coastal economy. A survey was disseminated to anglers to collect saltwater fishing-related expenditure data as well as demographic and geographic data. Results of the study are provided below.



IN 2022, RECREATIONAL SALTWATER FISHING ACTIVITIES...

SUPPORTED
3,217
JOBS

PRODUCED
\$155.1
MILLION
IN GDP

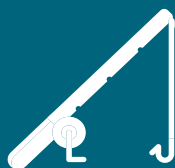
CONTRIBUTED
\$310.6
MILLION
TO GEORGIA'S
ECONOMY

These activities include purchasing fishing tackle, such as fishing rods, lines, and lures, while also incurring additional expenses related to transportation and food.

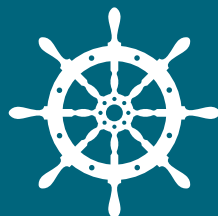
TOP 5 INDUSTRIES (BY EMPLOYMENT) THAT ARE SUPPORTED BY SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING



RESTAURANTS



RETAIL:
SPORTING
GOODS



COMMERCIAL
FISHING
(BAIT)



RETAIL:
GASOLINE



RETAIL:
ALCOHOL AND
BEVERAGE

RECREATIONAL FISHING QUICK FACTS

TOP 3 TARGETED SPECIES



SEA TROUT



RED DRUM

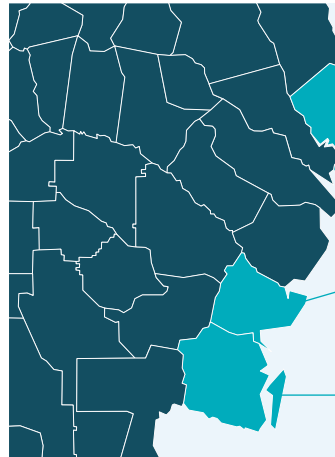


FLOUNDER

TOP 3 FISHING METHODS

50% PRIVATE BOAT FISHING

5.3% CHARTER BOAT FISHING



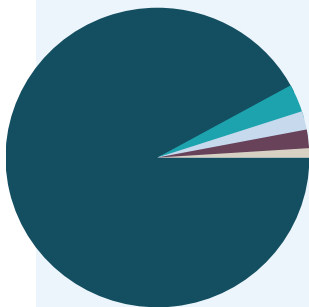
25.5%
CHATHAM CO.

29.9%
GLYNN CO.

16.2%
CAMDEN CO.

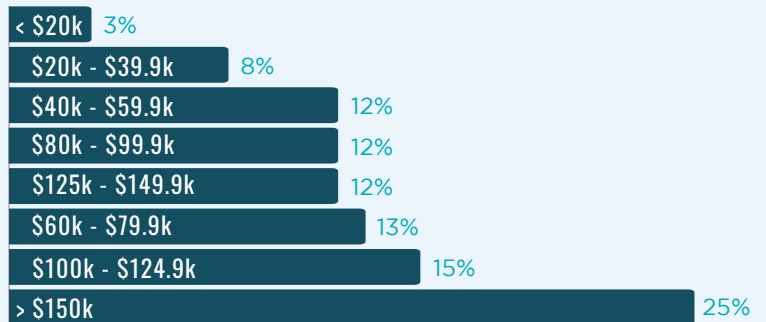
The study revealed that the average saltwater angler is about 54 years old. Most in and out-of-state anglers are white (92%), male (89%), married (85%), live in a family household (93%), have a bachelor's degree (32%), and have annual household income of \$80,000 or more (64%).

PERCENTAGE OF ANGLERS BY RACE



- WHITE (92%)
- BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN (3%)
- HISPANIC (2%)
- OTHER (MIXED) (2%)
- ASIAN (1%)

PERCENTAGE OF ANGLERS BY INCOME



Recreational saltwater fishing provides significant economic contributions to Georgia's coastal economy. The socioeconomic information gathered through this study will be used to inform management practices that support the economic viability of the industry and the overall health of Georgia's fisheries populations.

Financial assistance is provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, administered by the Office for Coastal Management, NOAA and passed through the Coastal Management Program of the Department of Natural Resources. Views expressed here, however, do not reflect those of the Office for Coastal Management, NOAA, and Georgia Department of Natural Resources.