



# NORTH CAROLINA'S OFFSHORE ENERGY

North Carolina's abundant ocean resources are a major attraction for millions of tourists every year. The Outer Banks, a long, narrow strip of barrier islands covering much of North Carolina's coast, includes pristine beaches, popular national parks and monuments, and productive recreational fishing sites. Commercial fishing also helps drive North Carolina's coastal economy, boasting large catches of shrimp, flounder, tuna, croaker, oysters and clams.

## WHAT'S AT RISK?

Fishing, tourism and recreation support roughly 51,000 jobs and generate nearly \$2.2 billion in GDP in North Carolina.

OCEAN SECTOR	JOB	GDP
Living Resources*	4,313	\$237,789,005
Tourism & Recreation	46,236	\$1,953,315,354

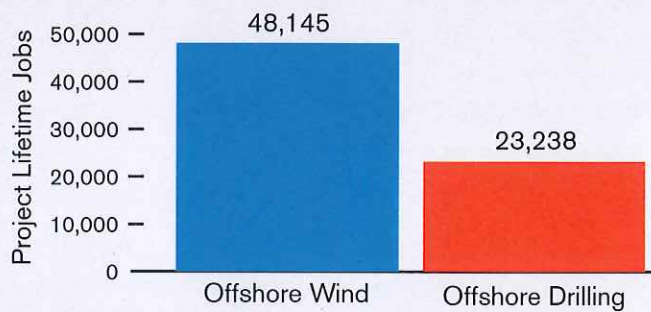
Source: Oceana using Census Bureau and NOAA data

\* Fisheries, aquaculture and seafood markets

## OFFSHORE ENERGY

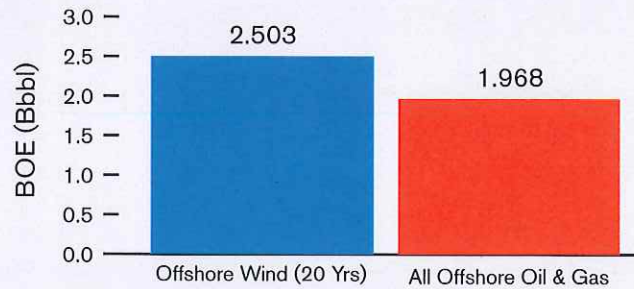
In North Carolina, offshore wind power has the potential to generate more jobs, produce more power, and lead to a higher degree of energy independence from foreign sources than drilling for oil and gas. When oil and gas run out, so do the jobs, but North Carolina will never run out of wind. Our analysis 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 North Carolina



Source: Oceana

## Offshore Wind Could Create More Energy than Offshore Drilling in North Carolina



Source: Oceana

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

- A modest and gradual development of offshore wind would create over 48,000 jobs for North Carolinians, or about 25,000 more jobs than would be created by offshore oil and gas drilling over the project lifetime.
- Offshore wind has the potential to create more than twice the jobs as offshore drilling over the project lifetime.

*Offshore wind would create about 25,000 more jobs in North Carolina than would be created by offshore oil & gas drilling.*

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

- At current consumption rates, North Carolina's endowment of economically recoverable offshore oil and gas would only meet domestic demand for oil for 38 days and gas for 98 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 17 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 half a billion barrels of oil more than all of North Carolina'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 Pat McCrory and your local elected officials and say “NO!” to seismic airgun blasting and offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean.

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