

# ORANGE COUNTY' S OCEAN ECONOMY

**Offshore oil drilling is economic risk:** *The massive oil spill will have a major impact on Orange County's ocean economy and the tens of thousands of local jobs that depend on it.*

What' s at risk:



**\$4.1 Billion and 57,348 Jobs**

Documented value of Orange County' s ocean economy, including tourism, recreation, construction and fishing industries (not including oil and gas), along with the number of employees in those sectors



**\$2.7 Billion and 47,421 Jobs**

Value of Orange County' s ocean tourism and recreation economy, along with the number of employees in those sectors

California' s coastal economy generates \$54.3 billion in economic activity and supports 654,000 jobs. As we' re witnessing with the spill off of Orange County, offshore oil drilling puts that prosperity at risk, directly impacting the future of hotels, restaurants, tour operators, commercial fishing operations and the livelihoods of Californians statewide.

[www.e2.org](http://www.e2.org)

***"It's a huge environmental impact and it's an economic impact both in terms of the cleanup and shutting down a major tourist destination during a pandemic when we've all been struggling. It's a tragedy on all fronts."***

***-Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley  
([Los Angeles Times, Oct. 2, 2021](#))***

***"Not only are we shutting down today, but our beautiful beach we're so passionate about has been damaged. More importantly, the beautiful dolphins and marine life out there swimming in oil. It's so disturbing."***

***-Alicia Whitney, restaurateur, Huntington State Beach  
([Orange County Register, Oct. 3, 2021](#))***

***"It's going to be devastating. We're going to have to brace ourselves for a really nasty couple of weeks here. I don't know how they are going to clean it up."***

***-Ryan Lawler, owner, Newport Coastal Adventure  
([The \(San Bernardino\) Sun, Oct. 4, 2021](#))***

## **HUNTINGTON BEACH SNAPSHOT: What's at risk**

- 2,500 hotel rooms; 23 properties
- \$565 million in direct spending by visitors
- \$736 million in direct/indirect spending by visitors
- \$91 million in tax revenues from tourism
- 6,900 jobs related to tourism (1 out of every 16 jobs in Huntington Beach.)

