



The Gulf of America: Fueling High-Skill, High-Wage Jobs

A Workforce That Powers the Nation

The Gulf of America's offshore oil and gas industry supports **hundreds of thousands of high-paying jobs nationwide** and drives **billions in annual investment**. From engineering to maritime trades, the industry provides careers across all backgrounds while growing America's future workforce through trade school and STEM partnerships.

Investment That Creates Opportunity

Offshore oil and gas development is among the most **capital-intensive industries in the world**.

- A single **deepwater project averages \$8.8 billion** in lifetime costs, with annual spending near \$295 million.
- Even **shallow-water projects average \$1.3 billion** over their lifecycle, supporting hundreds of jobs each year.
- In 2022, Gulf spending exceeded **\$30.3 billion**. Looking forward, the industry is projected to invest an average of **\$30.6 billion annually through 2040**—but only if regular lease sales continue without disruption.

Jobs Across the Project Lifecycle

One of the things that differentiates a **Gulf of America project** from other types of construction is its **massive economic impact over the full lifecycle**.

- **More than 200 distinct job types** are required across offshore development, from geologists to welders.
- An average **deepwater project produces \$3 billion in direct wages** over 30 years.
- Each deepwater project supports **1,435 direct jobs** on average, plus **2,200 indirect and induced jobs** across the supply chain.
- Even shallow-water projects deliver substantial employment—supporting hundreds of jobs annually with average wages above \$69,000.

These jobs don't just exist during construction—they stretch across the entire lifecycle: **pre-development, development, operations, infill drilling and tiebacks, and decommissioning**.

Careers Across Every Skill Level

The offshore workforce includes skilled trades, advanced science, and high-tech operators:



Mariners:

Navigate vessels and drillships using GPS and dynamic positioning.



Petroleum Geologists & Geophysicists:

Unlock and map complex reservoirs using seismic and AI.



Divers & ROV Operators:

Perform underwater maintenance and subsea installations.



Roustabouts & Electricians:

Keep rigs running with safe, reliable power systems.



Welders:

Build and maintain the critical steel backbone of offshore infrastructure.

Inclusive Growth

The offshore industry includes companies owned and managed by women, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, and veterans, ensuring opportunity reaches across communities.

The Bottom Line

Investing in offshore energy doesn't just power the nation—it **employs it**. With steady leasing and stable policies, the Gulf of America will continue to deliver **high-skill, high-wage jobs** across its project lifecycle, sustaining opportunity from coast to coast. **Energy. Jobs. Opportunity.**