

## 21st International Conference of The Coastal Society

### **The Gulf of Mexico at a Glance: A Presentation of Selected Regional Socioeconomic Variables Developed in Support of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance**

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The Gulf of Mexico Alliance is a partnership among the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, with the goal of significantly increasing regional collaboration to enhance the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico. One objective of the Alliance is to begin to build a regional identity that links the environmental health of the Gulf of Mexico with the watersheds and coasts to the high quality of everyday lives and to the economic vitality of the region and the nation. A requirement of this approach is to be able to highlight significant economic activity that is located in the gulf's coastal watersheds. To this end, *The Gulf of Mexico at a Glance* provides regional aggregations of the selected economic activities in the coastal watersheds of the Gulf of Mexico. These economic activities are not necessarily ocean or coastal dependent, but do occur in the Gulf's coastal watersheds, servicing the residents of and visitors to these watersheds and contributing to our Nation's economy. This report presents digestible, easily understood, non-technical summary information, focused to a general public audience. To learn more about the Gulf Alliance please see <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gulf/default.htm>.

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