

St. Petersburg Ocean Team Economic Impact Analysis

Introduction

This economic impact analysis estimates the economic activity generated in Pinellas County by members of the St. Petersburg Ocean Team. The St. Petersburg Ocean Team is the premier consortium for marine science, oceanographic, and environmental research agencies and institutions in the Southeast and one of the top such industry clusters in the nation. TBRPC modeled the economic impacts of the 12 firms, employing 1,622 people, on Pinellas County's economy.

Impacts

The 1,622 employees of the surveyed firms generate (directly, indirectly, and induced) an estimated \$143 million in annual household earnings and contributed \$251 Million to Pinellas's Gross County Product (GCP). Those jobs then create 1,807 indirect and induced jobs. Indirect jobs are created through industry demand, which together induce additional jobs through household spending, for a total job impact of 3,429 jobs.

Those 3,429 jobs contribute \$251 Million dollars to the GCP of the total Gross County Product. Economic impacts, however, are not limited to industrial output. Because a significant share of annual household earnings are spent locally, the wages earned at these jobs circulate money through different sectors of the local economy.

Annual Impact Summary

Number of Firms: 12
Direct Employment: 1,622
Indirect & Induced Employment: 1,807
Personal Income: \$143 Million
Contribution to GCP: \$251 Million
Pinellas County GCP (2009): \$42 Billion



Methodology

In this analysis, the "what if" question is what if the Ocean Team did not exist in Pinellas County. By subtracting employment out of a baseline forecast for 2009, both the direct and indirect impacts of manufacturing on the local economy can be measured.

This analysis reports total impacts that include direct, indirect and induced effects of the firms in the survey. Direct effects are the impacts of the expenditures/sales of the final demand for the event being measured (e.g., a new job baking bagels in a plant). The indirect effects are the result of the new industry purchasing from other industries (e.g., buying cinnamon and raisins for the bagels). Induced effects are the impacts generated by the expenditures of the new household income generated by the wages paid by the direct and indirect beneficiary industries.

The employment estimates of the manufacturing sector was analyzed using both the REMI Policy Insight[®] (a highly sophisticated econometric model) and IMPLAN Pro[®] (a basic input/output model) economic models. These models are the best available tools to estimate economic impacts. The analysis involves the use of historical data, input-output tables and general equilibrium models to access economic impacts.

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Economic Analysis Program
www.tbrpc.org/eap