

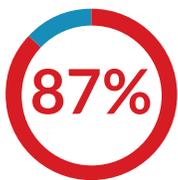
# Public Opinion Poll on a U.S. Offshore Aquaculture Industry



Stronger America Through Seafood (SATS) commissioned a survey from May 20-23, 2022 to gain opinions of 1,020 likely voters about a U.S. aquaculture, or fish farming, industry. Below are the results.

## Three Key Takeaways

- **Two thirds of voters** would feel more favorable towards a member of Congress who established pathways for offshore aquaculture.
- **Over 6-in-10 voters** would feel more favorable toward their member of Congress if he or she were to support increased access to offshore opportunities for American businesses.
- Learning that the **U.S. is missing opportunities for jobs** and creating a strong economy drives even more to consider aquaculture important.



of poll recipients stated that it is important to expand American seafood production by establishing a clear, predictable pathway for offshore aquaculture in the U.S.

when learning that doubling U.S. aquaculture production could create 50,000 direct and indirect jobs.

- **Extremely important 31%**
- **Very important 35%**
- **Somewhat important 21%**
- Not that important 3%
- Not at all important 1%
- Unsure 9%

Facts given to recipients: Doubling U.S. aquaculture production could create 50,000 direct and indirect jobs, including in states where jobs are often limited and seasonally dependent. Increased aquaculture production also increases opportunities in rural America through demand for soybeans, corn, and peas to produce fish feed.



of poll recipients think it is important to expand American seafood production by establishing a clear, predictable pathway for offshore aquaculture in the U.S. when

learning that many American companies currently build their offshore aquaculture operations in other countries – taking our technology, jobs, and revenue overseas.

- **Extremely important 26%**
- **Very important 33%**
- **Somewhat important 25%**
- Not that important 3%
- Not at all important 1%
- Unsure 12%

Facts given to recipients: Because the U.S. currently lacks a clear regulatory process for establishing offshore aquaculture operations, many American companies currently build their offshore aquaculture operations in other countries – taking our technology, jobs, and revenue overseas. Increasing access to the \$230 billion global aquaculture industry is critical for strengthening the economy and keeping jobs in the country.



75% of poll recipients said it is important for American businesses to have access to global offshore aquaculture opportunities when learning of the global value of the industry and the limited access America has to the industry.

- **Extremely important 19%**
- **Very important 30%**
- **Somewhat important 26%**
- Not that important 4%
- Not at all important 2%
- Unsure 19%

Facts given to recipients: Offshore aquaculture refers to the process of cultivating farm-raised fish in an ocean environment. The aquaculture industry produces more than \$230 billion worth of goods annually, and the global market is projected to reach \$378 billion by 2027 – the fastest-growing food production technology for the next two decades



86% of poll recipients think it is important to expand American seafood production by establishing a clear, predictable pathway for offshore aquaculture in the United States when learning that the U.S imports most of its seafood from Asia and Europe and that China ranks first in aquaculture.

- **Extremely important 34%**
- **Very important 29%**
- **Somewhat important 25%**
- Not that important 4%
- Not at all important 2%
- Unsure 8%

Facts given to recipients: Because the U.S. imports up to 80 percent of its seafood from Asia and Europe, the U.S. seafood trade deficit has grown to over \$16.9 billion. Despite thousands of miles of coastlines, American raised goods currently make up just 5 to 7 percent of seafood consumed, and the U.S. ranks 16th in aquaculture. China ranks first in aquaculture.



85% of poll recipients think it is important to expand American seafood production by establishing a clear, predictable pathway for offshore aquaculture in the United States when learning that aquaculture is a sustainable industry that provides climate-friendly protein from the ocean.

- **Extremely important 30%**
- **Very important 32%**
- **Somewhat important 23%**
- Not that important 4%
- Not at all important 2%
- Unsure 8%

Facts given to recipients: Offshore aquaculture is a sustainable industry that provides climate-friendly protein from the ocean with low greenhouse gas emissions and little to no conversion of land. Marine aquaculture improves water quality, protects coastlines, and provides habitats for other species. Some types of marine aquaculture can even mitigate global warming by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.



86% of poll recipients believe it is important to expand American seafood production by establishing a clear, predictable pathway for offshore aquaculture in the United States when learning that seafood from aquaculture is a low impact way to feed a growing population.

- **Extremely important 30%**
- **Very important 34%**
- **Somewhat important 22%**
- Not that important 4%
- Not at all important 1%
- Unsure 9%

Facts given to recipients: The global population is projected to reach 10 billion by 2050, and global demand for protein is projected to rise as much as 88 percent. Offshore aquaculture has a much lower environmental impact than other forms of food production and holds the key to a sustainable way to feed the world.