2022 Angler Travel and Targeting Summary: Walton County

Prepared for Walton County by Ed Camp ([edvcamp@ufl.edu](mailto:edvcamp@ufl.edu)) Assistant Professor University of Florida, and Laura Tiu, Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent Okaloosa and Walton Counties, [lgtiu@ufl.edu](mailto:lgtiu@ufl.edu)

### How to use this summary

This summary can inform how to **advertise or promote local fishing and fishing-based tourism specifically in Walton County**. The report describes information about where people come from when they fish Walton County, and what they fish for. Where people come from (the “origin” of their fishing trip) may help identify advertising locations. The species they fish for, or “target” may inform the photos or text to use in advertisements or other outputs. All data here come from the National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Recreational Information Program. Additional information can be found in the full *Angler Travel and Targeting Report: 2021 Walton County*, which Laura Tiu can provide you.

### Where people come from to fish Walton County

#### Table 1: Out-of-state angler origins comparison

| Trips to Florida | Prop. | Trips to NW Panhandle | Prop. | Trips to Walton County | Prop. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Georgia | 0.153 | Alabama | 0.181 | Alabama | 0.319 |
| Alabama | 0.071 | Georgia | 0.141 | Georgia | 0.151 |
| Not Available | 0.065 | Texas | 0.110 | Tennessee | 0.122 |
| Texas | 0.056 | Tennessee | 0.103 | Texas | 0.122 |
| Tennessee | 0.051 | Louisiana | 0.053 | Mississippi | 0.043 |

**Table 1. The origins of out-of-state angler trips for Florida, the region, and specifically Walton County, for 2011-2021.**  
**Columns 1-2** show the top 5 out-of-state origins of angler trips throughout Florida state. **Columns 3-4** show the top out-of-state origins for just trips made to the region. **Columns 5-6** show the top out-of-state origins for trips made to just Walton County. Comparing the columns shows how Walton County attracts visitors relative to the surrounding region or state. “Not Available” mostly describes visitors from outside the U.S.

#### Table 2: In-state angler origin comparison

| Out-of-county Orig | Prop. | Any Orig. | Prop. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Okaloosa | 0.540 | Walton | 0.754 |
| Bay | 0.161 | Okaloosa | 0.133 |
| Holmes | 0.062 | Bay | 0.040 |
| Santa Rosa | 0.062 | Holmes | 0.015 |
| Washington | 0.043 | Santa Rosa | 0.015 |

**Table 2. The origins of Florida resident anglers fishing in Walton County, for 2011-2021.**  
This table shows where Florida resident anglers come from when they fish Walton County. **Columns 1 & 2**  show origins of trips in Walton County by anglers who are **not** residents of Walton County, and **columns 3 & 4**  show origins of **all** Florida-resident trips in Walton County. This information can be used to identifying in-state advertising.

### What people fish for in Walton County

#### Table 3: Proportion of species targeted, comparing county to state

| All Walton County trips | Prop. | In county trips | Prop. | Out of county trips | Prop. | Out of state trips | Prop. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No Target | 0.374 | No Target | 0.368 | No Target | 0.380 | No Target | 0.391 |
| Red drum | 0.318 | Red drum | 0.302 | Red drum | 0.336 | Red drum | 0.348 |
| Spotted seatrout | 0.134 | Spotted seatrout | 0.140 | Spotted seatrout | 0.127 | Spotted seatrout | 0.125 |
| Striped mullet | 0.052 | Striped mullet | 0.067 | Striped mullet | 0.036 | Red snapper | 0.029 |
| Red snapper | 0.027 | Red snapper | 0.032 | Red snapper | 0.020 | King mackerel | 0.022 |

**Table 3. Proportions of species targeted by fishing trips made in Walton County by anglers from various origins, for 2011-2021.**  
This table shows the top 5 species anglers fish in Walton County, depending on where they live. **Columns 1-2** shows what anglers fish for in Walton County regardless of where they come from. **Columns 3-4** shows what Walton County resident anglers fish for, **Columns 5-6** shows what anglers who live in Florida but not Walton County fish for, and **Columns 7-8** shows what out-of-state anglers fish for. The information here can be used to fine-tune advertising (photos and text) or informational content for out-of-county or out-of-state anglers.