

## TRAVEL VOLUME TO AND WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

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U.S. domestic travel increased 3.3 percent from 2014 to a total of nearly 2.2 billion person-trips in 2015.<sup>1</sup> Domestic leisure travel increased 3.6 percent in 2015 to 1.7 billion person-trips.<sup>2</sup> Leisure travel accounted for 79.2 percent of all U.S. domestic travel in 2015. Domestic business travel grew marginally (1.9 percent) in 2015 to 459 million person-trips.

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### ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TRAVEL

In 2015, domestic and international travelers spent \$947 billion in the U.S. This spending supported more than 8.1 million jobs directly, and generated \$232 billion in payroll income and \$148 billion in tax revenues for federal, state, and local governments.

Travel spending in the U.S. by domestic and international travelers grew 2.1 percent to \$947 billion in 2015.<sup>3</sup> Of this total, domestic travelers spent \$814 billion (a 2.7% increase from 2014), and international travelers spent \$133 billion in the U.S.,<sup>4</sup> declining 2 percent from 2014. In addition, international travelers paid a total of \$38.6 billion to U.S. air carriers on international passenger fares in 2015, a decline of 11 percent from 2014.

**Due to the slowdown of the world economy and a stronger U.S. dollar against most of foreign currencies, international travelers spending in the U.S. declined after five consecutive years of growth.<sup>5</sup>**

However, with \$110 billion in U.S. residents travel spending abroad, the international trade balance in travel spending continued to show a nearly \$23 billion surplus in 2015.<sup>6</sup>

Adjusted for inflation, real travel spending (in chained 2005 dollar) rose 4.1 percent in 2015. Benefitting from the declining gasoline prices, travel by auto increased notably in 2015. The Travel Price Index—a measurement of the cost inflation of travel goods and services - declined 2.6 percent in 2015.



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### EMPLOYMENT DIRECTLY SUPPORTED BY TRAVEL

Accounting for 5.7 percent of total non-farm employment in the U.S., travel directly supported more than 8.1 million U.S. jobs in 2015, an increase of 1.9 percent from 2014. Characterized as a labor-intensive industry, the power of travel to create jobs is much greater than other industries. **On average, every \$1 million in sales of travel goods and services directly generates nine jobs for the industry. In contrast, every \$1 million in sales in total non-farm industry as whole creates six jobs on average.**

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Supporting American jobs that cannot be outsourced abroad, **the travel industry has created jobs at a faster rate (12.8 percent) than the rest of the economy (10.1 percent) from the beginning of the overall employment recovery in early 2010 to the end of 2015.** Increasing travel to and within the U.S. will continue to create job opportunities for the Americans who continue to be unemployed.

Foodservices and lodging are the top two spending categories by domestic and international travelers.



Travelers spent **\$235.4 billion** on food services which **accounted for 24.9 percent** of total travelers spending.



Spending on lodging **increased 7.3 percent** from 2014, the highest growth rate among all major travel spending categories in 2015.

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY

Leisure travelers spent a total of \$650.8 billion and grew by 0.9 percent from 2014 (not adjust for inflation). Business traveler spending increased 4.7 percent over 2014 to \$296.3 billion in 2015. Of total business traveler spending, meeting and convention travelers spent \$121.9 billion, up 6.6 percent from 2014.

Foodservices and lodging are the top two spending categories by domestic and international travelers. **In 2015, travelers spent \$235.4 billion on food services, including restaurant/grocery and drinking places, which accounted for 24.9 percent of total travelers spending in the U.S.** Making up 21 percent of total, travelers' spending on lodging, including hotels/motels/B&B, vacation homes and campgrounds, totaled \$194.8 billion. **Spending on lodging increased 7.3 percent from 2014, the highest growth rate among all major travel spending categories in 2015.**

## TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY

Travelers produce "multiplier" impacts on the U.S. economy. In addition to the goods and services that are purchased **directly** by travelers, the inputs used to produce these goods and services are also purchased through travel business operators: **indirect travel output**. Furthermore, as a result of spending in the areas by the employees of travel businesses and their suppliers, additional sales are generated: **induced output**. Total travel related output was \$2.1 trillion in 2015.

**Total travel-related employment was over 15.1 million in 2015.** This indicates that one in nine U.S. non-farm jobs directly and indirectly relies on the travel industry. Total travel-related employment includes 8.1 million travel jobs—jobs where workers produce goods and services sold directly to visitors—and seven million indirect and induced travel-related jobs—jobs where workers produce goods and services used to produce what visitors buy and jobs supported by induced output.

## 15.1 MILLION

Total travel-related employment was over 15.1 million in 2015.

<sup>1</sup> A person-trip is defined as one person on a trip away from home overnight in paid accommodations, or on a day or overnight trip to places 50 miles or more, one-way, away from home

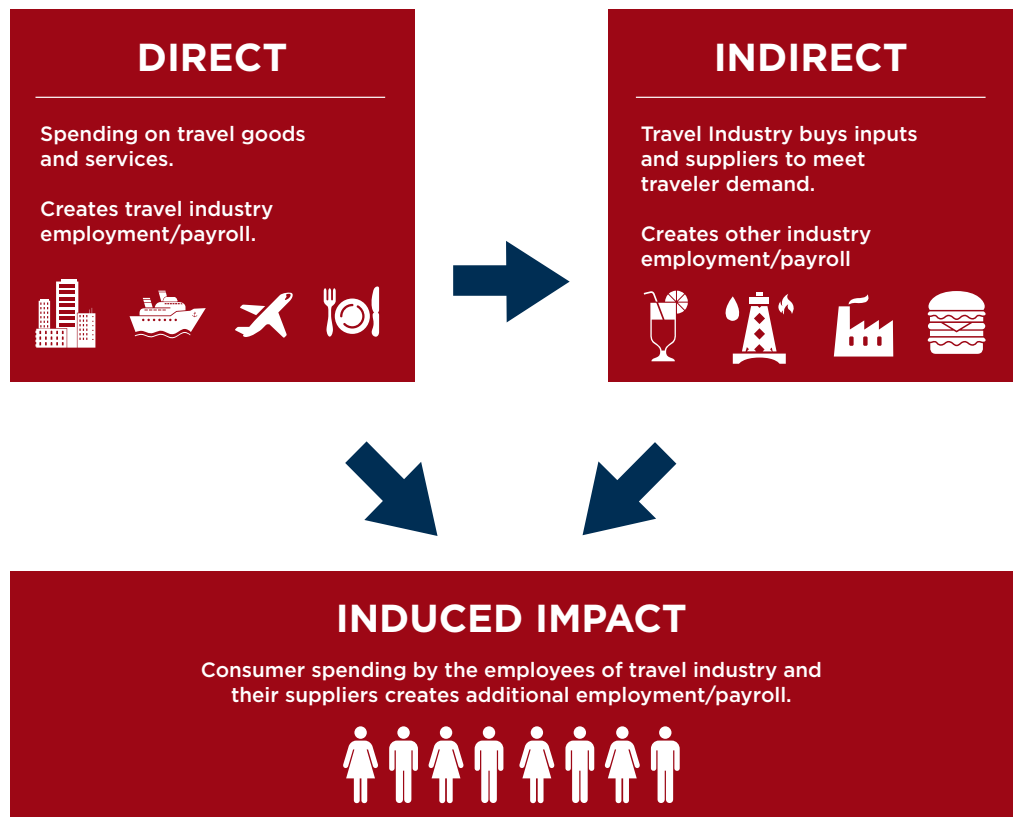
<sup>2</sup> which includes visits to friends and relatives as well as trips taken for outdoor recreation and entertainment purposes

<sup>3</sup> not adjusted for inflation

<sup>4</sup> excluding nonresidents spending on U.S. airlines passenger fares between the U.S. and foreign countries and between two foreign points, medical, educational and cross-border/seasonal work related activities

<sup>5</sup> excluding international travelers spending on medical, educational and cross-border/seasonal work related activities, as well as nonresidents spending on U.S. airlines passenger fares between the U.S. and foreign countries and between two foreign points.

<sup>6</sup> Excludes U.S. residents payments on passenger fares to foreign air carriers and payments for medical, educational and cross-border/seasonal work related travel



# U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM OVERVIEW (CONT.)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Person-Trips (millions)</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Domestic P-Trips</b>	2,000.5	2,004.5	1,964.9	1,900.1	1,963.7	1,997.5	2,030.3	2,059.6	2,109.3	2,178.2
<b>International Arrivals</b>	51.0	56.1	58.0	55.1	60.0	62.8	66.7	70.0	75.0*	77.5*
<b>Total Expenditures (\$ billions)</b>	696.6	738.0	772.5	699.8	747.4	812.7	854.7	886.2	928.1	947.1
<b>Domestic</b>	617.1	645.3	667.9	609.1	640.6	694.0	728.0	751.2	792.4	814.1
<b>International</b>	79.6	92.7	104.6	90.7	106.9	118.6	126.7	135.0	135.7	133.0
<b>Total Employment (thousands)</b>	7,543.4	7,699.9	7,723.1	7,397.2	7,370.9	7,528.9	7,675.2	7,842.3	8,007.4	8,157.4
<b>Domestic</b>	6,656.9	6,700.6	6,620.8	6,424.2	6,277.1	6,429.7	6,551.0	6,679.2	6,878.8	7,073.0
<b>International</b>	886.5	999.3	1,102.3	973.0	1,093.9	1,099.2	1,124.1	1,163.2	1,128.7	1,084.4
<b>Total Payroll (\$ billions)</b>	175.2	187.5	192.5	185.1	186.8	195.8	204.0	208.4	221.7	231.6
<b>Domestic</b>	154.5	163.5	165.3	161.2	161.8	170.0	176.6	179.5	192.7	203.2
<b>International</b>	20.8	24.0	27.2	23.9	25.1	25.8	27.4	28.8	29.0	28.4
<b>Tax Revenues (\$ Billions)</b>	109.3	115.8	118.9	113.0	117.4	123.7	128.8	133.6	141.5	147.9
<b>Domestic</b>	96.8	101.3	102.8	98.4	100.6	105.6	109.7	113.3	120.8	127.6
<b>International</b>	12.5	14.6	16.1	14.6	16.8	18.1	19.1	20.4	20.7	20.3
<b>% Change from Previous Year</b>										
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Person-Trips</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Domestic P-Trips</b>	0.4%	0.2%	-2.0%	-3.3%	3.3%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	2.4%	3.3%
<b>International Arrivals</b>	3.6%	10.1%	3.3%	-5.0%	8.9%	4.7%	6.1%	5.0%	n/a*	n/a*
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	6.5%	5.9%	4.7%	-9.4%	6.8%	8.7%	5.2%	3.7%	4.7%	2.1%
<b>Domestic</b>	7.0%	4.6%	3.5%	-8.8%	5.2%	8.3%	4.9%	3.2%	5.5%	2.7%
<b>International</b>	3.3%	16.5%	12.8%	-13.3%	17.8%	11.0%	6.8%	6.5%	0.5%	-2.0%
<b>Total Employment</b>	0.5%	2.1%	0.3%	-4.2%	-0.4%	2.1%	1.9%	2.2%	2.1%	1.9%
<b>Domestic</b>	0.8%	0.7%	-1.2%	-3.0%	-2.3%	2.4%	1.9%	2.0%	3.0%	2.8%
<b>International</b>	-1.7%	12.7%	10.3%	-11.7%	12.4%	0.5%	2.3%	3.5%	-3.0%	-3.9%
<b>Total Payroll</b>	3.4%	7.0%	2.7%	-3.9%	0.9%	4.8%	4.2%	2.1%	6.4%	4.5%
<b>Domestic</b>	3.5%	5.8%	1.1%	-2.5%	0.4%	5.1%	3.9%	1.7%	7.4%	5.4%
<b>International</b>	3.0%	15.3%	13.5%	-12.3%	4.9%	3.0%	6.3%	5.1%	0.4%	-1.8%
<b>Tax Revenues</b>	3.7%	6.0%	2.7%	-5.0%	3.9%	5.4%	4.1%	3.8%	5.9%	4.5%
<b>Domestic</b>	4.1%	4.6%	1.6%	-4.3%	2.3%	5.0%	3.8%	3.3%	6.7%	5.6%
<b>International</b>	0.6%	16.6%	10.7%	-9.1%	14.6%	7.6%	5.8%	6.6%	1.6%	-2.1%

\* According to the National Travel and Tourism Office, the completion of the I-94 automation project now provides a more accurate determination of how many nights were spent in the United States which makes it possible to be more inclusive of one-night stays (travelers from overseas countries) given that the arrival-departure record match is now more complete and accurate. With the inclusion of one-night stay travelers in 2014 as well as the availability of additional arrival records in 2015, arrivals data from overseas countries in 2013, 2014 and 2015 are basically not comparable.