OVERVIEW
This publication provides a snapshot of the economic value of tourism to British Columbia in 2015. It is also a complementary piece to the full ‘Value of Tourism in British Columbia: Trends from 2005 to 2015’ report. Information provided is produced by BC Stats for Destination British Columbia, and from Statistics Canada’s International Travel Survey.

TOTAL TOURISM REVENUE
Tourism revenue measures the money received by businesses, individuals, and governments due to tourism activities. In 2015, the tourism industry generated $15.7 billion in revenue, a 5.3% increase over 2014, and a 37.3% increase from 2005.

2015 tourism revenue by service
- Accommodation & Food Services: 35.5%
- Transportation Services: 26.3%
- Retail Services: 32.0%
- Other Services: 6.2%

PROVINCIAL TAX TOURISM REVENUE
Tourism-related provincial tax revenue was nearly $1.1 billion in 2015, an increase of 8.9% over 2014, and an increase of 38.0% since 2005.

TOURISM EXPORT REVENUE
In 2015, tourism exports generated revenue of $4.1 billion, an increase of 7.4% over 2014. Tourism export revenue was similar to that of the agriculture and fish ($3.8 billion) and mineral ($4.4 billion) primary resource industries, but lower than that of energy ($5.8 billion) and forest ($12.8 billion) products.

2015 export revenues from BC’s primary resource commodities
- Forestry: 12.3%
- Energy: 18.9%
- Mineral: 14.3%
- Tourism: 41.2%
- Agriculture & Fish: 13.2%

TOURISM GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
GDP for the provincial economy as a whole grew 3.1% over 2014. The tourism industry contributed $7.4 billion of value added to the BC economy, as measured through GDP (in 2007 constant dollars). This represents 5.6% growth over 2014 and 17.5% growth since 2007. In 2015, tourism contributed more to GDP than any other primary resource industry including oil & gas extraction ($7.2 billion), mining ($3.8 billion), forestry & logging ($1.9 billion), and agriculture & fish ($1.5 billion).

TOURISM BUSINESSES
In 2015, 18,938 tourism-related businesses were in operation in BC, an increase of 1.4% over 2014.

TOURISM EMPLOYMENT
In 2015, 127,700 people were employed in tourism-related businesses, a 1.2% increase over 2014 and a 16.0% increase since 2005.

TOURISM WAGES AND SALARIES
In 2015, the tourism industry paid $4.5 billion in wages and salaries, up 4.0% from 2014, and a 36.1% increase since 2005. Average compensation in the tourism industry in 2015 was $35,000, up 2.8% from 2014 and 17.4% since 2005.

CONTACT
DESTINATION BRITISH COLUMBIA
Research, Planning & Evaluation:
Email: TourismResearch@DestinationBC.ca
Website: DestinationBC.ca/Research.aspx

WANT MORE INFORMATION?
To sign up for updates, invites and our industry newsletter, Destination BC News, click here: DestinationBC.ca/Subscribe.aspx

“Destination British Columbia” and “Destination BC”, and all associated logos/trade-marks are trade-marks or Official Marks of Destination BC Corp.

Note: BC Stats implemented change in the methodology used to produce estimates in 2015. As a result, the estimates available in this document are not directly comparable to estimates in earlier publications.