

Tourism Works for Alberta



**The Economic Impact of
Tourism in Alberta
Central Tourism
Destination Region, 2006**



Alberta

What is Economic Impact Analysis?

Economic impact analysis is used to determine the effects of additional tourist spending primarily on employment, income (value-added) and government tax revenues in an economy. It provides a snapshot of the economy at a particular point in time based on the initial spending. It is based on the premise that initial or direct effects alone are poor measures of the total impact of tourism on the economy. It is often the case that indirect and induced effects are just as large, if not greater, than direct effects and frequently involve sectors and activities distantly, but importantly, connected to the initial activity.

Let's suppose a tourist travels to Alberta and spends \$100 at a gas station in Alberta. In an economic impact analysis, the focus is not on the amount of sales (in this case \$100), but rather the impact of those sales on the provincial/regional economy.

If you consider:

- **Direct Impact:** The gasoline station owner must take part of the \$100 spent by the tourist and buy more gasoline from a wholesale distributor and pay wages, salaries, and taxes.
- **Indirect Impact:** In the second round, the wholesale gasoline distributor buys additional items and pays salaries/wages with part of the \$100.
- **Induced Impact:** The gasoline station employees and the employees of the wholesale distributor spend part of their salaries on groceries, rent, automobiles and so on.

This ripple effect based on the initial amount of tourist spending circulates throughout the economy and creates a "multiplier effect". In this analysis, the objective is to estimate and analyze the ripple effect of tourism spending in each Tourism Destination Region (TDR) and understand tourism's vital economic contribution to every region of the province.

Alberta Central TDR Overview:

- Direct visitor expenditures from all tourists (resident and non-residents) in the Alberta Central region exceeded **\$639** million in 2006.
- These expenditures resulted in a net economic impact (value-added) of **\$665** million province-wide.
- A total of **12,291** full time equivalent jobs were sustained province-wide in 2006.
- As a result of tourism expenditures in Alberta Central, approximately **\$245** million in total taxation revenues was accrued to all three levels of government in 2006. This included **\$157** million to the federal government, **\$71** million to the provincial government, and **\$17** million to local governments province-wide.

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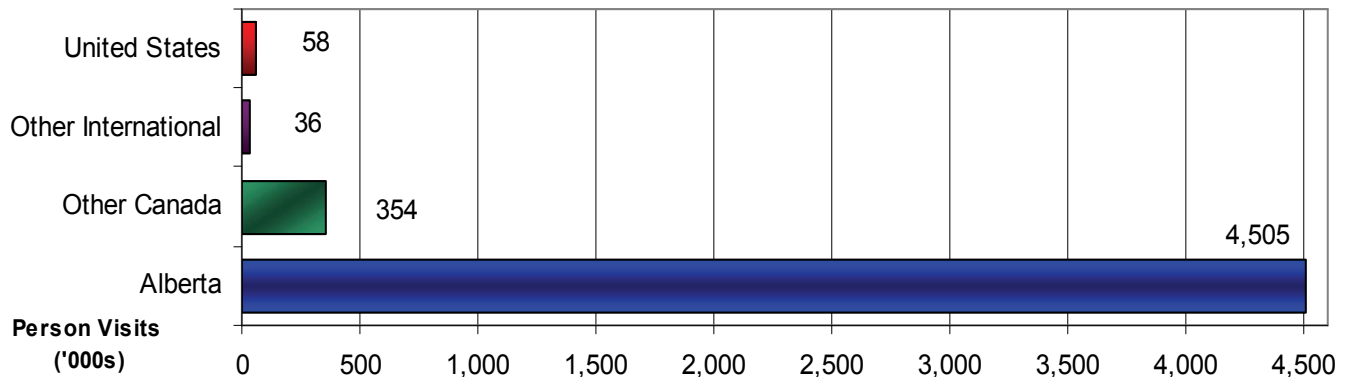
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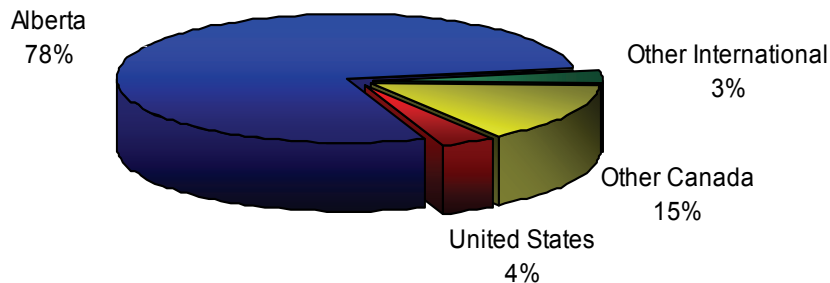
Source: ATPR, Photo and Video Library

Travel to Alberta Central TDR by Visitor Origin, 2006

In 2006, 4.95 million person visits were made to Alberta Central Tourism Destination Region by residents of Alberta, other Canadians and visitors from the U.S. and overseas.



Distribution of Tourism Expenditures in Alberta Central TDR by Visitor Origin, 2006



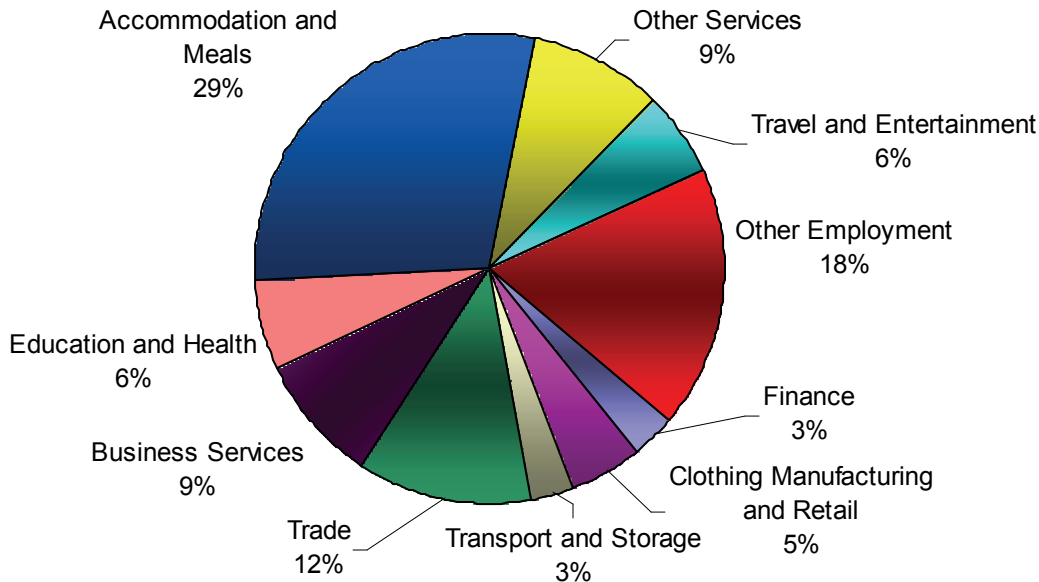
Economic Impact of Tourism in Alberta Central TDR

In 2006, direct visitor expenditures from all tourists (resident and non-resident) in Alberta Central exceeded \$639 million. These expenditures resulted in a net economic impact (value-added) of \$665 million province-wide.

	Alberta	Other Canada	United States	Other International	Total
(\$000s)					
Initial Expenditure	\$498,188	\$95,556	\$27,362	\$18,683	\$639,789
Value Added	\$514,740	\$101,116	\$29,124	\$19,863	\$664,843
Gross Output	\$1,220,371	\$231,688	\$67,506	\$45,494	\$1,565,059
Wages & Salaries	\$281,481	\$57,524	\$17,290	\$12,055	\$368,350
Taxes	\$189,467	\$37,802	\$11,014	\$7,409	\$245,692
Employment (Person Years)	9,294	1,963	613	421	12,291

Employment Impacts of Tourism Expenditures in Alberta Central TDR

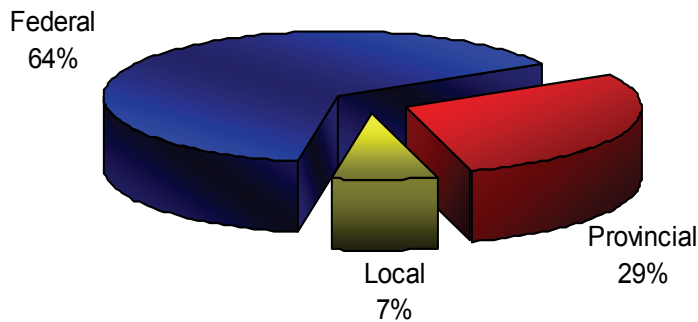
In 2006, the accommodation and meals sector accounted for 29% of the employment impact on the tourism industry.



In 2006, tourism expenditures in Alberta Central sustained a total of 12,291 full time equivalent jobs province-wide. The total value of wages and salaries associated with tourism-related employment in Alberta Central was \$368 million.

Tax Impacts of Tourism Expenditures in Alberta Central TDR

In 2006, approximately \$245 million in total taxation revenue accrued to all three levels of government (federal, provincial and local). This included \$157 million (64%) to the federal government, \$71 million (29%) to the provincial government, and \$17 million (7%) to local governments province-wide.



All economic impacts include direct, indirect, and induced effects.

Sources:

Statistics Canada (International Travel Survey, Travel Survey of Residents of Canada)
Econometric Research Limited

For more information, please contact the Tourism Business Development, Research and Investment Branch of the Ministry of Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation



Source: ATPR, Photo and Video Library

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www.tpr.alberta.ca/tourism