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Economic Impact of Tourism

St Albans - 2019 Results

Contents	Page
<u>Introduction and Contextual Analysis</u>	3
<u>Headline Figures</u>	5
<u>Volume of Tourism</u>	7
Staying Visitors in the county context	8
Staying Visitors - Accommodation Type	9
Trips by Accommodation	
Nights by Accommodation	
Spend by Accommodation Type	
Staying Visitors - Purpose of Trip	10
Trips by Purpose	
Nights by Purpose	
Spend by Purpose	
Day Visitors	11
Day Visitors in the county context	11
<u>Value of Tourism</u>	12
Expenditure Associated With Trips	13
Direct Expenditure Associated with Trips	
Other expenditure associated with tourism activity	
Direct Turnover Derived From Trip Expenditure	
Supplier and Income Induced Turnover	
Total Local Business Turnover Supported by Tourism Activity	
<u>Employment</u>	15
Direct	17
Full time equivalent	
Estimated actual jobs	
Indirect & Induced Employment	17
Full time equivalent	
Estimated actual jobs	
Total Jobs	18
Full time equivalent	
Estimated actual jobs	
Tourism Jobs as a Percentage of Total Employment	18
<u>Appendix I - Cambridge Model - Methodology</u>	19

Introduction

This report examines the volume and value of tourism and the impact of visitor expenditure on the local economy in 2019 and provides comparative data against the previously published data for Hertfordshire (2017).

Destination Research was commissioned by Visit Herts to produce 2019 results based on the latest data from national tourism surveys and regionally/locally based data. The results are derived using the Cambridge Economic Impact Model.

In its basic form, the model distributes regional activity as measured in national surveys to local areas using 'drivers' such as the accommodation stock and occupancy which influence the distribution of tourism activity at local level. Whenever possible, results have been enhanced by building in additional local-level data gathered by the districts. See Appendix I for further details.

Domestic tourism

National Performance

In 2019, British residents took 99.7 million overnight trips in England (down from 100.6 million overnight trips in 2017), totalling 290 million nights away from home (down from 299 million nights in 2017). Expenditure reached £19.4 billion (up from £19.05 billion in 2017). The spend per trip was £194.58 and with an average trip length of stay of 2.9 nights, the average spend per night was £66.89.

Regional performance

The East of England region experienced a 2% decrease in overnight trips between 2017 and 2019. Bednights were down 4% on 2017 and expenditure was down by 3%. The average expenditure per trip in 2019 was £170.87, down from £172.83 in 2017. The average expenditure per night in 2019 was £52.83, down from £56.15 in 2017. Visitors spent an average of 3.23 nights per trip, compared to 3.29 nights per trip in 2017.

Domestic visits to Hertfordshire

The GB Tourism Survey data is a key driver for the Cambridge model. However, it is not specifically designed to produce highly accurate results at sub-regional level. In order to improve the accuracy of results we have applied a 3-year rolling average to this data to help smooth out short term market fluctuations and highlight longer-term trends. As such, county and district level results relating to 2019 are an average of 2017, 2018 and 2019 figures.

The domestic tourism results for Hertfordshire used in this model combine a mixture of supply and demand data. We do this because extracting county level data from national surveys can sometimes lead to inaccurate results due to low sample sizes. By combining the supply and demand results we estimate that trips to Hertfordshire were up by 1%, nights per trip were up by 2% and expenditure increased by 4%.

Visits from overseas

At national level, the number of visits in 2019 was 36.1 million (33.0 in 2017). The number of visitor nights spent in England was 252.4 million (245.7 million in 2017), with the average number of nights per visit standing at 7.99 in 2019 (from 7.45 in 2017). Expenditure in 2019 was £24.78 billion, slightly below the £24.94 billion achieved in 2017.

Overseas trips to the East of England region were 7% down on 2017 to reach 2.3 million overnight trips. The total number of nights was down by 2% to reach 16.4 million in 2019. Spend was up by 11% compared to 2017 reaching £1.02 billion.

Hertfordshire also experienced a drop in volume of trips between 2017 and 2019. Trips were down 4%, nights per trip were also down by 4%. However, expenditure was up by 4%.

The International Passenger Survey (IPS) data is a key driver for the Cambridge model. However, as with the GBTS, it is not specifically designed to produce highly accurate results at sub-regional level. In order to improve the accuracy of results we have applied a 3-year rolling average to this data to highlight longer-term trends, whilst helping smooth out short-term market fluctuations and reducing the impact of any methodological changes affecting the survey. As such, county and district level results relating to 2019 are an average of 2017, 2018 and 2019 results. The number of interviews conducted in England in 2019 was 25,147.

Tourism Day Visits

National Performance

During 2019, UK residents took a total of 1,390 million Tourism Day Visits in England (down from 1,505 in 2017). Around £56.5 billion were spent during these trips, up from £50.9 billion in 2017.

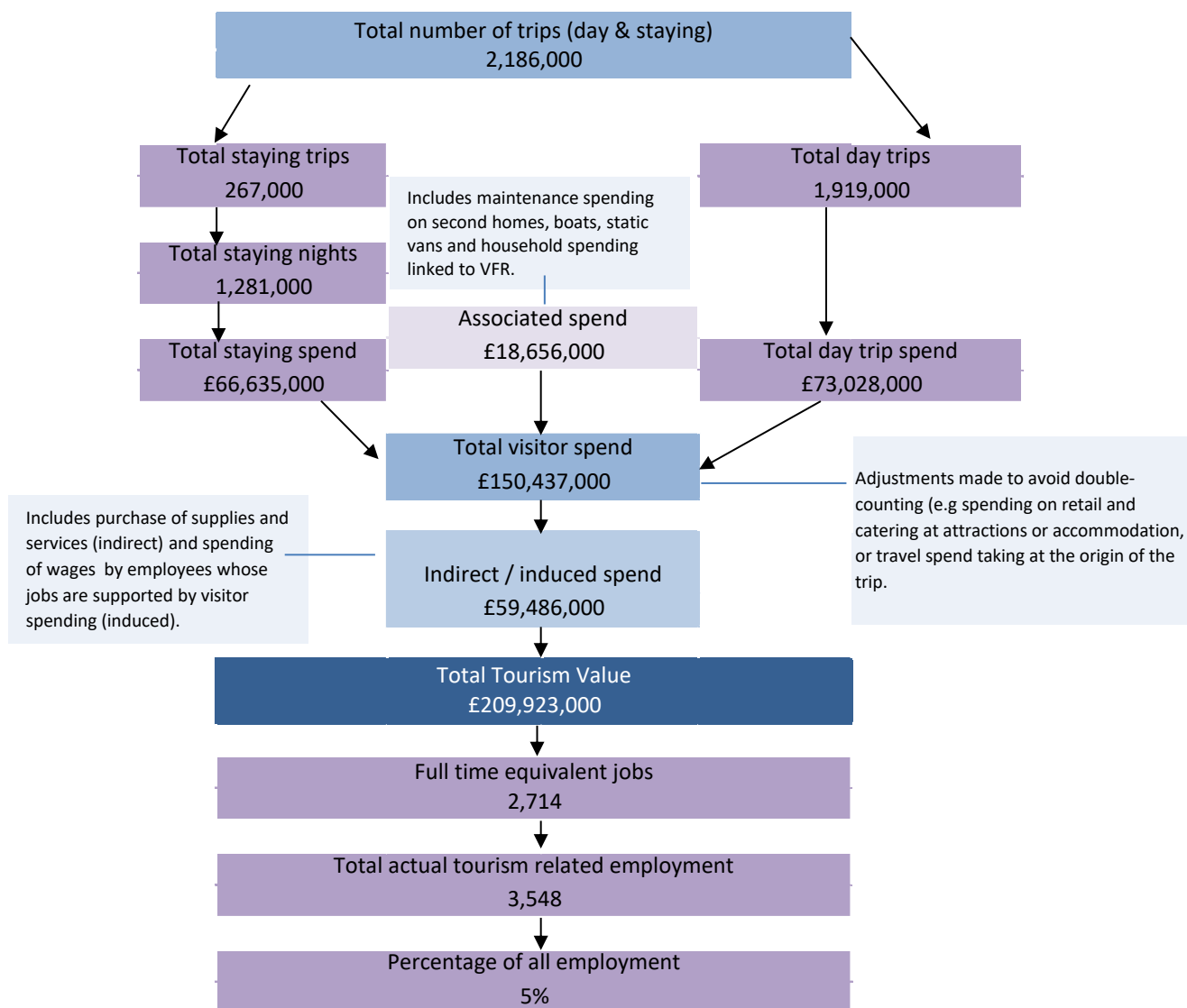
The volume and value of tourism day visits in the East of England decreased by 8% between 2017 and 2019, from 133 million to 123 million. Expenditure levels were up by 22% to £4.7 billion in 2019.

The GB Day Visitor Survey (GBDVS) is not specifically designed to produce highly accurate results at sub-regional level. For this reason, the GBDVS data used in the Cambridge Model is based on three year rolling averages to reduce some of the more extreme fluctuations which are due to small sample sizes and high margins of error. The results for Hertfordshire are based on a combination of results from the GBDVS, visits to visitor attractions and other relevant local level data including off-peak rail journeys to key stations in Hertfordshire between 2017 and 2019.

Based on these sets of data the model assumes that the volume of day trips was up 5% between 2017 and 2019 and expenditure for the same period was up by 8%.

Economic Impact of Tourism – Headline Figures

St Albans - 2019 Results



Economic Impact of Tourism – Year on year comparisons

St Albans

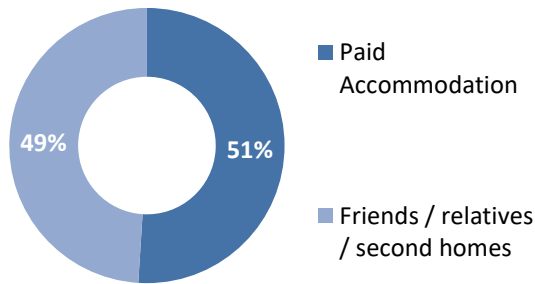
	2017	2019	Annual variation
Day Trips			
Day trips Volume	1,791,000	1,919,000	7%
Day trips Value	£66,140,000	£73,028,000	10%
Overnight trips			
Number of trips	267,000	267,000	0%
Number of nights	1,311,000	1,281,000	-2%
Trip value	£65,648,000	£66,635,000	2%
Total Value	£199,602,000	£209,923,000	5%
Actual Jobs	3,350	3,548	6%

St Albans	2017	2019	Variation
Average length stay (nights x trip)	4.91	4.80	-2%
Spend x overnight trip	£ 245.87	£ 249.57	2%
Spend x night	£ 50.07	£ 52.02	4%
Spend x day trip	£ 36.93	£ 38.06	3%

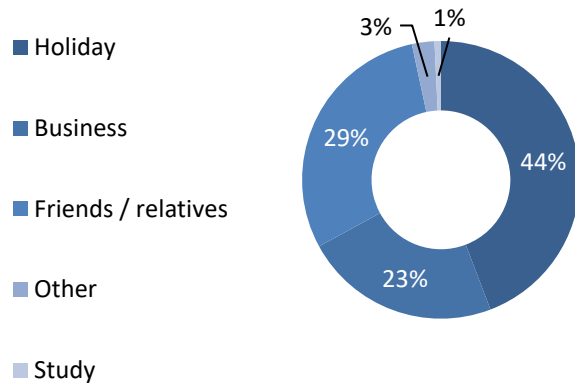
Economic Impact of Tourism – Headline Figures

St Albans - 2019 Results

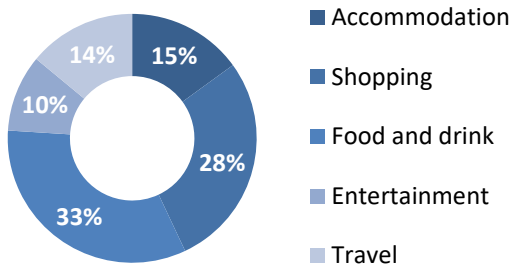
Trips by type of accommodation



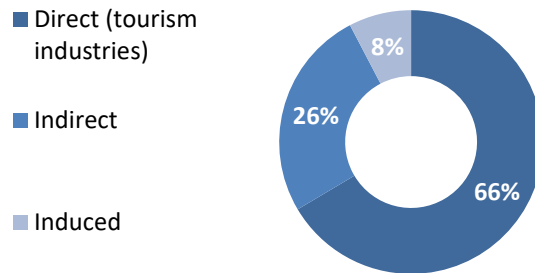
Trips by Purpose



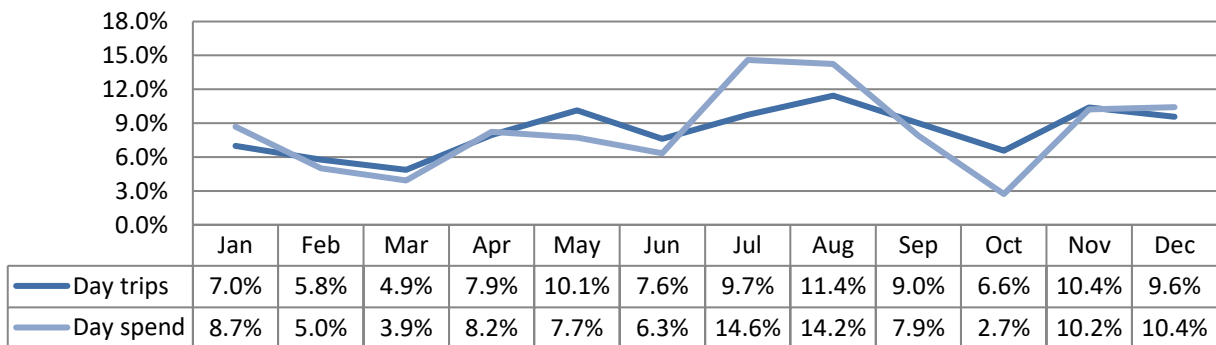
Breakdown of expenditure



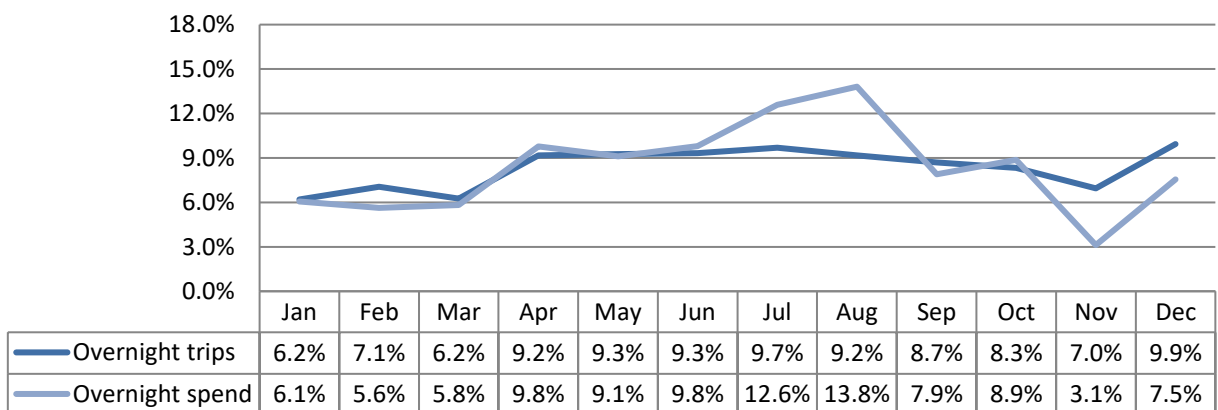
Type of employment



Seasonality - Day visitors (Regional level)



Seasonality - Overnight visitors (Regional level)



Volume of Tourism

Staying visits in the county context

St Albans - 2019 Results

Staying trips in the county context 2019

District	Domestic trips ('000)	Overseas trips ('000)
North Herts	144	48
Stevenage	116	36
East Herts	189	62
Broxbourne	103	32
Welwyn Hatfield	147	50
St Albans	199	68
Dacorum	213	64
Three Rivers	70	26
Watford	152	48
Hertsmere	118	39
Hertfordshire	1,451	472

Staying nights in the county context 2019

District	Domestic nights ('000)	Overseas nights ('000)
North Herts	703	300
Stevenage	541	179
East Herts	904	541
Broxbourne	517	224
Welwyn Hatfield	704	716
St Albans	866	415
Dacorum	956	406
Three Rivers	415	181
Watford	626	244
Hertsmere	559	244
Hertfordshire	6,791	3,450

Expenditure in the county context 2019

District	Domestic spend (millions)	Overseas spend (millions)
North Herts	£28	£17
Stevenage	£27	£12
East Herts	£38	£31
Broxbourne	£19	£12
Welwyn Hatfield	£32	£38
St Albans	£41	£25
Dacorum	£47	£25
Three Rivers	£13	£8
Watford	£33	£17
Hertsmere	£24	£14
Hertfordshire	£300	£199

As part of that data release, the ONS has revised overseas tourism data from 2009-19. Data has been significantly revised for some countries of residence, and to some degree for all countries. This has resulted in changes in the proportions of trips between paid accommodation and VFR when compared to 2017 results.

Trips by Purpose

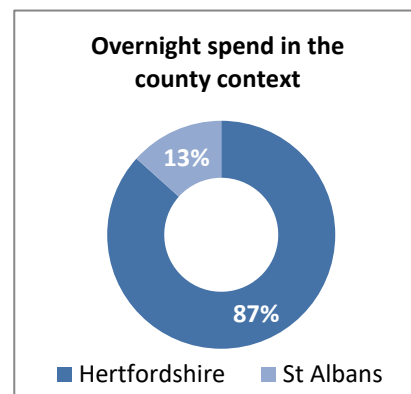
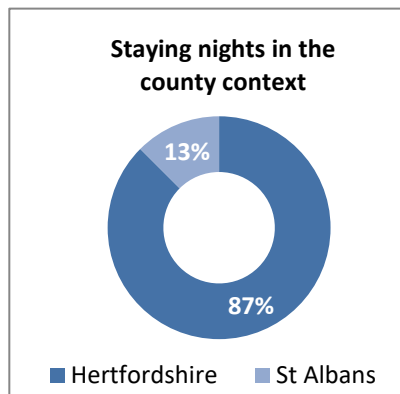
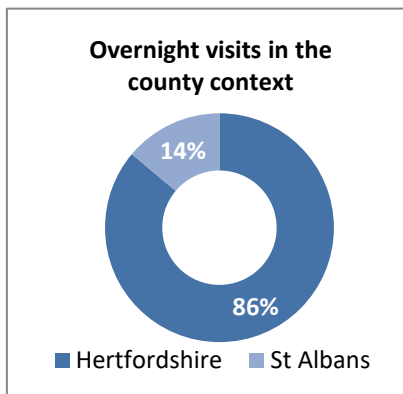
	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	103,000	52%	15,000	22%	118,000	44%
Business	48,000	24%	13,000	19%	61,000	23%
Friends & relatives	43,000	22%	36,000	53%	79,000	29%
Other	5,000	2%	2,000	3%	7,000	3%
Study	0	0%	2,000	3%	2,000	1%
Total	2019	199,000	68,000		267,000	
Comparison	2017	195,000	72,000		267,000	
Difference		2%	-6%		0%	

Nights by Purpose

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	481,000	56%	57,000	14%	538,000	42%
Business	176,000	20%	72,000	17%	248,000	19%
Friends & relatives	193,000	22%	233,000	56%	426,000	33%
Other	16,000	2%	20,000	5%	36,000	3%
Study	0	0%	33,000	8%	33,000	3%
Total	2019	866,000	415,000		1,281,000	
Comparison	2017	849,000	462,000		1,311,000	
Difference		2%	-10%		-2%	

Spend by Purpose

	UK		Overseas		Total	
Holiday	£15,270,000	37%	£5,185,000	20%	£20,455,000	31%
Business	£14,447,000	35%	£7,353,000	29%	£21,800,000	33%
Friends & relatives	£10,650,000	26%	£9,999,000	39%	£20,649,000	31%
Other	£838,000	2%	£1,193,000	5%	£2,031,000	3%
Study	£0	0%	£1,700,000	7%	£1,700,000	3%
Total	2019	£41,205,000	£25,430,000		£66,635,000	
Comparison	2017	£40,271,000	£25,377,000		£65,648,000	
Difference		2%	0%		2%	

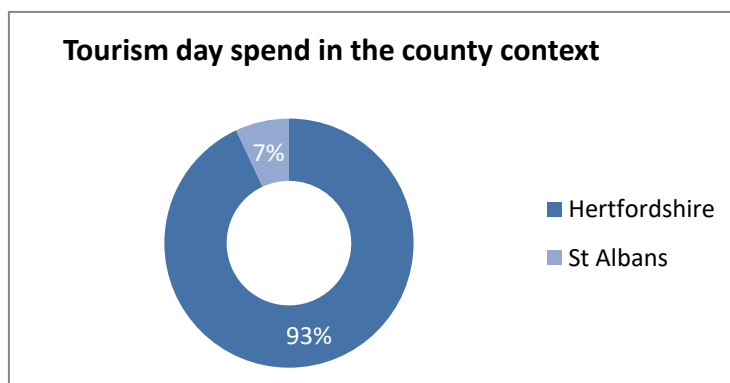
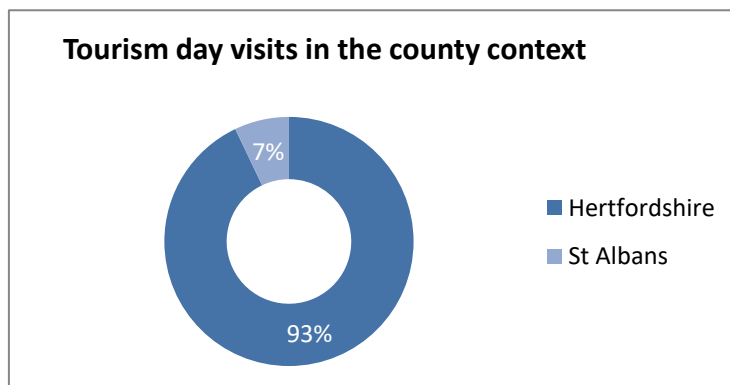


Total Volume and Value of Day Trips

		Trips	Spend
Urban visits		1,641,000	£63,895,000
Countryside visits		278,000	£9,133,000
Total	2019	1,919,000	£73,028,000
Comparison	2017	1,791,000	£66,140,000
Difference		7%	10%

Day Visitors in the county context

District	Day Visits (millions)	Day visit Spend (millions)
North Herts	2.8	£107.4
Stevenage	1.7	£64.6
East Herts	4.2	£160.1
Broxbourne	1.2	£46.8
Welwyn Hatfield	1.8	£70.9
St Albans	1.9	£73.0
Dacorum	3.3	£126.7
Three Rivers	3.4	£130.2
Watford	1.9	£71.3
Hertsmere	1.4	£50.2



Value of Tourism

Direct Turnover Derived From Trip

St Albans - 2019 Results

Business turnover arises as a result of tourist spending, from the purchase of supplies and services locally by businesses in receipt of visitor spending and as a result of the spending of wages in businesses by employees whose jobs are directly or indirectly supported by tourism spending.

		Staying Visitors	Day Visitors	Total
Accommodation		£21,256,000	£587,000	£21,843,000
Retail		£11,959,000	£27,111,000	£39,070,000
Catering		£16,131,000	£28,468,000	£44,599,000
Attractions		£5,795,000	£8,647,000	£14,442,000
Transport		£6,897,000	£4,930,000	£11,827,000
Non-trip spend		£18,656,000	£0	£18,656,000
Total Direct	2019	£80,694,000	£69,743,000	£150,437,000
Comparison	2017	£79,681,000	£63,442,000	£143,123,000
Difference		1%	10%	5%

Adjustments have been made to recognise that some spending on retail and food and drink will fall within attractions or accommodation establishments. It is assumed that 40% of travel spend will take place at the origin of the trip rather than at the destination.

Supplier and Income Induced Turnover

		Staying Visitors	Day Visitors	Total
Indirect spend		£21,636,000	£20,308,000	£41,944,000
Non trip spending		£3,937,000	£0	£3,937,000
Income induced		£10,699,000	£2,906,000	£13,605,000
Total	2019	£36,272,000	£23,214,000	£59,486,000
Comparison	2017	£35,474,000	£21,005,000	£56,479,000
Difference		2%	11%	5%

Income induced spending arises from expenditure by employees whose jobs are supported by tourism spend.

Total Local Business Turnover Supported by Tourism Activity – Value of Tourism

		Staying Visitors	Day Visitors	Total
Direct		£80,694,000	£69,743,000	£150,437,000
Indirect		£36,272,000	£23,214,000	£59,486,000
Total Value	2019	£116,966,000	£92,957,000	£209,923,000
Comparison	2017	£115,155,000	£84,447,000	£199,602,000
Difference		2%	10%	5%

Employment

Employment

St Albans - 2019 Results

The model generates estimates of full time equivalent jobs based on visitor spending. The total number of 'actual' jobs will be higher when part time and seasonal working is taken into account. Conversion of full time equivalent jobs into actual jobs relies on information from business surveys in the sectors receiving visitor spending. A new Full Time Equivalent tourism job is created with every £54,000 increase in tourism revenue.

Direct employment

Full time equivalent (FTE)						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitor		Total	
Accommodation	279	28%	8	1%	287	17%
Retailing	82	8%	186	27%	268	16%
Catering	191	19%	337	50%	528	32%
Entertainment	80	8%	119	18%	199	12%
Transport	36	4%	25	4%	61	4%
Non-trip spend	327	33%	0	0%	327	20%
Total FTE	2019	995	675		1,670	
Comparison	2017	971	606		1,578	
Difference		2%	11%		6%	
Estimated actual jobs						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitor		Total	
Accommodation	413	30%	11	1%	424	18%
Retailing	123	9%	279	28%	402	17%
Catering	286	21%	506	50%	792	34%
Entertainment	113	8%	168	17%	281	12%
Transport	50	4%	36	4%	86	4%
Non-trip spend	374	28%	0	0%	374	16%
Total Actual	2019	1,359	1,000		2,359	
Comparison	2017	1,323	898		2,220	
Difference		3%	11%		6%	

Indirect & Induced Employment

Full time equivalent (FTE)						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitors		Total	
Indirect jobs		449		356		805
Induced jobs		188		51		239
Total FTE	2019	636	407		1,044	
Comparison	2017	622	368		991	
Difference		2%	11%		5%	
Estimated actual jobs						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitors		Total	
Indirect jobs		511		406		917
Induced jobs		214		58		272
Total Actual	2019	725	464		1,189	
Comparison	2017	709	420		1,130	
Difference		2%	11%		5%	

Total Tourism Jobs

St Albans - 2019 Results

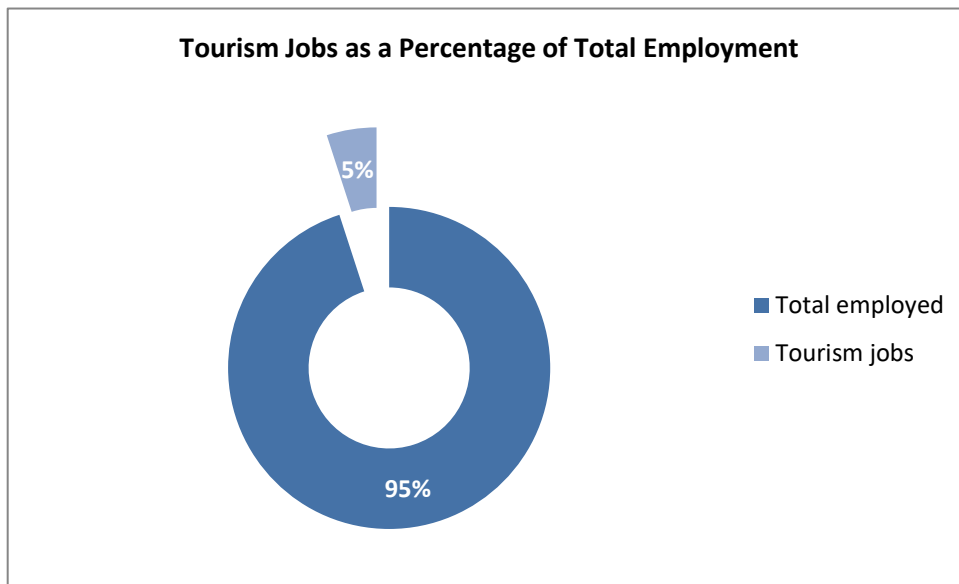
Actual jobs are estimated from surveys of relevant businesses at locations in England and take account of part time and seasonal working.

Full time equivalent (FTE)						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitor		Total	
Direct	995	61%	675	62%	1,670	62%
Indirect	449	27%	356	33%	805	30%
Induced	188	12%	51	5%	239	9%
Total FTE	2019	1,632		1,082		2,714
Comparison	2017	1,594		975		2,568
Difference		2%		11%		6%

Estimated actual jobs						
	Staying Visitors		Day Visitor		Total	
Direct	1,359	65%	1,000	68%	2,359	66%
Indirect	511	25%	406	28%	917	26%
Induced	214	10%	58	4%	272	8%
Total Actual	2019	2,084		1,464		3,548
Comparison	2017	2,032		1,318		3,350
Difference		3%		11%		6%

Tourism Jobs as a Percentage of Total Employment

	Staying Visitors	Day visitors	Total
Total employed	81,000	81,000	81,000
Tourism jobs	2,084	1,464	3,548
Proportion all jobs	3%	2%	5%
Comparison	2017	2,032	1,318
Difference	3%	11%	6%



The key 2019 results of the Economic Impact Assessment are:

2.2 million trips were undertaken in the area

1.9 million day trips

0.3 million overnight visits

1.3 million nights in the area as a result of overnight trips

£150 million spent by visitors during their visit to the area

£13 million spent on average in the local economy each month.

£67 million generated by overnight visits

£73 million generated from day trips.

£210 million spent in the local area as result of tourism, taking into account multiplier effects.

3,548 jobs supported, both for local residents from those living nearby.

2,359 tourism jobs directly supported

1,189 non-tourism related jobs supported linked to multiplier spend from tourism.

Note: The figures have been rounded. For a full set of results, please refer to the main report.

Appendix I - Introduction about Cambridge Model

This report examines the volume and value of tourism and the impact of that expenditure on the local economy. The figures were derived using the Cambridge Economic Impact Model and the research was undertaken by Destination Research.

The model utilises information from national tourism surveys and regionally based data held by Destination Research. It distributes regional activity as measured in those surveys to local areas using 'drivers' such as the accommodation stock and occupancy which influence the distribution of tourism activity at local level.

Limitations of the Model

The methodology and accuracy of the above sources vary. The results of the model should therefore be regarded as estimates which are indicative of the scale and importance of visitor activity in the local area. It is important to note that in the national tourism surveys the sample sizes for each area change year on year. This is as a result of the random probability nature of the methodology. As such, the results of the Cambridge Model are best viewed as a snapshot in time and we would caution against year-on-year comparisons.

It should be noted that the model cannot take into account any leakage of expenditure from tourists taking day trips out of the area in which they are staying. While it is assumed that these may broadly balance each other in many areas, in locations receiving significant numbers of day visitors from London, there is likely to be an underestimate in relation to overseas day visits from holiday accommodation in London to locations receiving significant numbers from that destination.

Whilst it is important to be aware of these issues, we are confident that the estimates we have produced are as reliable as is practically possible within the constraints of the information available.

Rounding

All figures used in this report have been rounded. Therefore, in some tables there may be a slight discrepancy between totals and sub totals.

Data sources

The main national surveys used as data sources in stage one include:

- Great Britain Tourism Survey (GBTS) - information on tourism activity by GB residents;
- International Passenger Survey (IPS) information on overseas visitors to the United Kingdom;
- Day Visits in the annual Great Britain Day Visitor Survey using information on visits lasting more than 3 hours and taken on an irregular basis

These surveys provide information down to a regional level. In order to disaggregate data to a local level the following information sources are used:

- Records of known local accommodation stock held by Destination Research;
- VisitEngland's surveys of Visits to Attractions, which provide data on the number of visitors to individual tourist attractions ;
- Mid- 2019 estimates of resident population as based on the 2011 Census of Population;
- Selected data from the 2011 Census of Employment;
- Selected data on the countryside including national designations.

Staying Visitors

The GBTS provides information on the total number of trips to the region and the relative proportions using different types of accommodation. By matching these figures to the supply of such accommodation, the regional average number of trips per bedspace or unit of accommodation can be derived. The IPS provides information on the total number of trips by overseas visitors to the region. The model uses three year rolling averages to reduce extreme highs and lows which are due to small sample sizes, rather than being a reflection on drastic changes in demand year-on-year.

Day Visitors

Information on day trips at the regional level is available from the Day Visits in Great Britain survey. The survey includes all leisure-related trips from home. It should be noted that a large proportion are local trips made by people resident in the locality. This report presents data on those who took trips of at least 3 hours duration on an irregular basis as defined by the GBDVS. These are identified as tourism day trips by the Department of Culture, Media and the Sport.

Impact of tourism expenditure

This section examines the impact of the tourism expenditure in terms of the direct, indirect and induced expenditure as well as an estimate of the actual jobs (both direct and indirect) supported by tourism expenditure in the district.

The GBTS, IPS and Day Visits to Great Britain survey data on the breakdown of visitor spending. The impact of this initial round of expenditure will be subsequently increased by multiplier effects. These arise from the purchase of supplies and services by the businesses in receipt of visitor expenditure (indirect impacts), and by the income induced-effects arising from the spending of wages by employees in the first round of business and in subsequent expenditure in supplier business (induced impacts).

The New Earnings Survey which provides information on wage levels by industry sector and region; An internal business database which includes data on the structure of business expenditure, local linkages and multiplier ratios drawn from a wide range of business and economic studies carried out by Geoff Broom Associates, PA Cambridge Economic Consultants and others. By applying the breakdown to the estimates of visitor spending, the model generates estimates of total direct spending.

Evidence from national studies suggests that some minor adjustments are required to match visitor spend to business turnover – for example, some expenditure on food and drink actually takes place in inns and hotels that fall in the accommodation sector and within attractions. More significantly, expenditure on travel costs associated with individual trips is equally likely to take place at the origin of the trip as the destination. Therefore the model assumes that only 40% of travel expenditure accrues to the destination area.

Number of full time job equivalents

Having identified the value of turnover generated by visitor spending, it is possible to estimate the employment associated with that spending. Wages for staff and drawings for the proprietors will absorb a proportion of that turnover. By applying these proportions to the overall additional turnover in each sector, the amount of money absorbed by employment costs can be calculated. The New Earnings Survey provides data from which the average costs by business sector, adjusted to take account of regional differences, can be calculated.

After allowing for additional costs such as National Insurance and pension costs, an average employment cost per full time equivalent job can be estimated. The number of such jobs in the local area can then be estimated by dividing the amount of business expenditure on wages and drawings by the average employment cost per job.

Number of Actual Jobs

The model generates estimates of full time equivalent jobs based on visitor spending. However, the total number of actual jobs will be higher when part time and seasonal working is taken into account. The full time equivalent jobs arising directly from visitor spending are converted into actual jobs using information from business surveys in the sectors receiving visitor spending (principally accommodation, food and drink, retail, attractions, transport). In general, the conversion factor between full time equivalent jobs and actual jobs varies around 1.5 in those sectors.

The indirect and induced jobs arise across a much wider range of employment sectors. Therefore, the average 1.16 for all sectors based on Census of Employment data has been used to convert full time equivalent jobs in this sector to actual jobs.

The employment estimates generated by the model include both self-employed and employed people supported by visitor expenditure. The model also includes an estimate of the additional jobs arising in the attractions sector, which are not related to visitor expenditure. However, the numbers do not include other tourism-related employment such as jobs in local authorities arising from their tourism functions, e.g. tourist information staff, additional public health, parks and gardens, public conveniences, maintenance sections and jobs arising from capital investment in tourism facilities.

Local level data for Hertfordshire EIA Reports 2019

The Cambridge Model allows for the use of local visitor related data. Local data from visitor survey and other sources is not always sufficiently detailed or available regularly enough to make the results consistent. We rely on partners to collect additional locally sourced data to feed into the model. We have also used data from the Visit Herts Business Barometer, including serviced accommodation occupancy averages.

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