

Tourism in the UK contributes more to GDP than automotive manufacturing

Écrit par sylvie.duval@finances.gouv.fr (Sylvie Duval)

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The Travel & Tourism industry in the UK is nearly five times the size of automotive manufacturing and supports almost as many jobs as the financial sector.

This is according to new research from the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) sponsored by American Express.

The research, undertaken by Oxford Economics, shows that the sector's direct contribution to the UK GDP is £35 billion which is almost five times the GDP of automotive manufacturing and larger than chemical manufacturing and the mining sector.

Travel & Tourism's total contribution to GDP in the UK was £101 billion in 2011, or 6.7% of total GDP. This compares 2.3% for automotive manufacturing, 1.9% for mining and 4.1% for chemicals.

With 2.3 million direct, indirect and induced sustained jobs in the UK, Travel & Tourism directly supports nearly as many jobs as the financial service sector in the UK.

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