

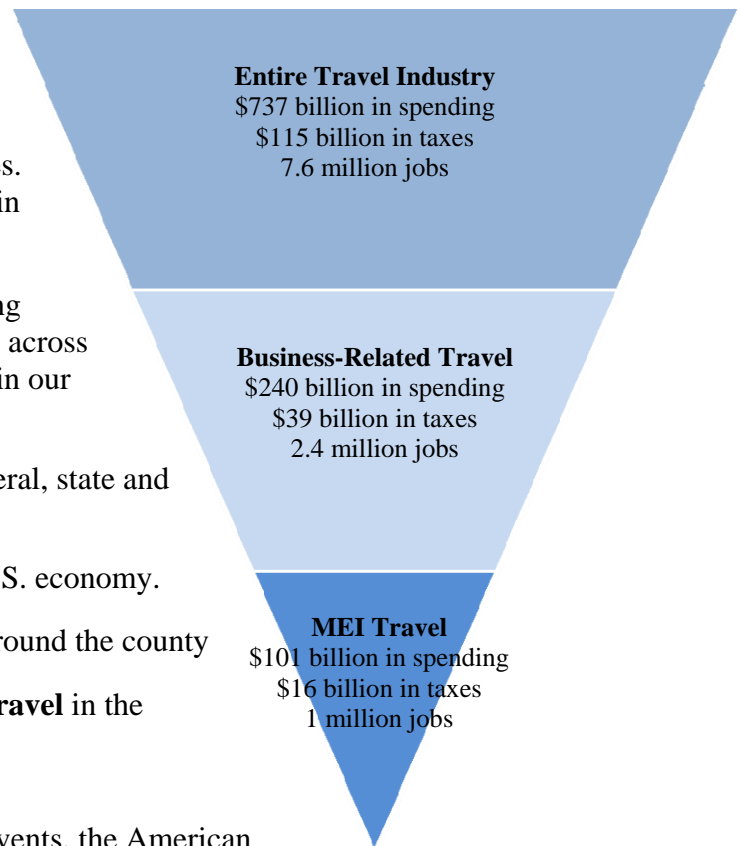


Economic Impact of Meetings, Events and Incentive Travel

Business-related travel – including meetings, events and incentives – is a vital part of our national economy and essential to sustaining well-paying American jobs, the health of large and small businesses and the solvency of public services supported by federal, state and local tax-revenue. Broadly, business travel creates 2.4 million jobs, injects more than \$240 billion into the national economy annually and generates \$39 billion in federal, state and local tax revenue.

Specifically, meetings and events:

- Create **1 million jobs** to the American workforce in local communities – from big cities to small towns – across the United States. Many of these jobs support working families in the hospitality and food service industries.
- Generate **\$27 billion in wages** for hardworking Americans that are critical to local economies across the United States, and can play a critical role in our nation’s economic recovery.
- Provide **\$16 billion in tax revenue** at the federal, state and local level.
- Contribute **\$101 billion in spending** to the U.S. economy.
- Support over **200 local convention centers** around the country
- Are responsible for nearly **15 percent of all travel** in the United States.



When businesses cancel productive meetings and events, the American worker and local communities from coast-to-coast are the unintended victims.

- Without the jobs generated by meetings, events and incentive travel, the current unemployment rate of 7.6 percent would rise to 8.2 percent and cost the average American household an additional \$136 in annual taxes.