How Big is the Outdoor Recreation Economy?

$412 billion of U.S. GDP in 2016
or 2.2% of the economy

Outdoor recreation GDP measures the value of production within the United States.

Activities

- $38.2 B Boating/Fishing
- $30.8 B RVing
- $27.5 B Guided Tours/Outfitted Travel
- $19.5 B Motorcycling/ATVing
- $14.5 B Hunting/Shooting/Trapping
- $11.1 B Equestrian
- $10.6 B Snow Activities
- $7.8 B Climbing/Hiking/Tent Camping
- $3.5 B Bicycling

What’s Included in Output by Activity?

U.S. goods and services related to an activity, such as biking.

A chart shows the percent change in growth from 2015-2016.

How Do We View Outdoor Rec?

- By activity, including core activities like boating, bicycling, and hunting; and supporting activities, such as construction, travel, and government spending.
- By U.S. industry.

Tell Me More

- Measures the size of the outdoor recreation economy and the link between outdoor recreation and the broader U.S. economy.
- Helps you understand and informs decision-making by policymakers, businesspeople, and managers of public lands and waters.
- Created by the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016.

$228 billion in sales generated by travel and tourism related to outdoor rec.

4.6 million people employed in outdoor rec.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis is the world’s trusted, impartial source of comprehensive data about the U.S. economy. BEA’s economic statistics, free and accessible to all, inform decision making by businesses, entrepreneurs, consumers and governments.