

Carlsbad Caverns NP

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| Year | Recreation Visitors |
|------|---------------------|
| 1924 | 1,280 |
| 1925 | 1,794 |
| 1926 | 10,904 |
| 1927 | 26,436 |
| 1928 | 46,335 |
| 1929 | 76,822 |
| 1930 | 90,104 |
| 1931 | 81,275 |
| 1932 | 61,474 |
| 1933 | 53,768 |
| 1934 | 88,349 |
| 1935 | 113,753 |
| 1936 | 148,129 |
| 1937 | 201,333 |
| 1938 | 205,765 |
| 1939 | 212,348 |
| 1940 | 236,653 |
| 1941 | 285,418 |
| 1942 | 124,809 |
| 1943 | 89,128 |
| 1944 | 122,467 |
| 1945 | 193,237 |
| 1946 | 380,465 |
| 1947 | 405,266 |
| 1948 | 435,481 |
| 1949 | 431,187 |
| 1950 | 467,283 |
| 1951 | 493,618 |
| 1952 | 531,751 |
| 1953 | 510,318 |
| 1954 | 444,300 |
| 1955 | 466,200 |
| 1956 | 455,000 |

| Year | Recreation Visitors |
|------|---------------------|
| 1957 | 451,100 |
| 1958 | 435,200 |
| 1959 | 483,900 |
| 1960 | 537,000 |
| 1961 | 590,000 |
| 1962 | 556,000 |
| 1963 | 586,600 |
| 1964 | 588,000 |
| 1965 | 591,000 |
| 1966 | 604,800 |
| 1967 | 630,800 |
| 1968 | 668,400 |
| 1969 | 672,900 |
| 1970 | 712,700 |
| 1971 | 791,600 |
| 1972 | 856,086 |
| 1973 | 840,100 |
| 1974 | 672,400 |
| 1975 | 790,000 |
| 1976 | 876,500 |
| 1977 | 862,800 |
| 1978 | 867,277 |
| 1979 | 721,647 |
| 1980 | 672,963 |
| 1981 | 771,766 |
| 1982 | 781,963 |
| 1983 | 712,247 |
| 1984 | 712,989 |
| 1985 | 732,482 |
| 1986 | 752,552 |
| 1987 | 781,300 |
| 1988 | 786,135 |
| 1989 | 792,378 |
| 1990 | 747,016 |
| 1991 | 679,450 |
| 1992 | 688,742 |
| 1993 | 687,161 |

| Year | Recreation Visitors |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1994 | 617,087 |
| 1995 | 588,609 |
| 1996 | 557,217 |
| 1997 | 540,797 |
| 1998 | 522,076 |
| 1999 | 514,418 |
| 2000 | 469,303 |
| 2001 | 455,621 |
| 2002 | 476,259 |
| 2003 | 457,631 |
| 2004 | 419,599 |
| 2005 | 413,786 |
| 2006 | 407,367 |
| 2007 | 409,560 |
| 2008 | 400,381 |
| 2009 | 432,639 |
| 2010 | 428,524 |
| 2011 | 365,000 |
| 2012 | 381,058 |
| 2013 | 388,566 |
| 2014 | 397,309 |
| 2015 | 445,720 |
| 2016 | 466,773 |
| 2017 | 520,026 |
| 2018 | 465,912 |
| 2019 | 440,691 |
| 2020 | 183,835 |
| Total | 45,344,168 |

Tourism to Carlsbad Caverns National Park Creates \$34 Million in Economic Benefits

Date: May 24, 2019

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Contact: **Douglas Neighbor**, Superintendent, 575-236-1431

A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 466,000 visitors to Carlsbad Caverns National Park in 2018 spent \$30.2 million in communities near the park. That spending supported 405 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$34 million.

“Carlsbad Caverns National Park welcomes visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Superintendent Doug Neighbor. “We are delighted to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides. We also feature the park as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the country and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy, returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service, and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Egan Cornachione of the U.S. Geological Survey and Lynne Koontz of the National Park Service. The report shows \$20.2 billion of direct spending by more than 318 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 329,000 jobs nationally; 268,000 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$40.1 billion.

Lodging expenses account for the largest share of visitor spending, about \$6.8 billion in 2018. Food expenses are the second largest spending area and visitors spent \$4 billion in restaurants and bars and another \$1.4 billion at grocery and convenience stores.

Visitor spending on lodging supported more than 58,000 jobs and more than 61,000 jobs in restaurants. Visitor spending in the recreation industries supported more than 28,000 jobs and spending in retail supported more than 20,000 jobs.

Report authors also produce an interactive tool that enables users to explore visitor spending, jobs, labor income, value added, and output effects by sector for national, state, and local economies. Users can also view year-by-year trend data.

The interactive tool and report are available at the NPS Social Science Program webpage: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>

To learn more about national parks in New Mexico and how the National Park Service works with New Mexico communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/newmexico.

Last updated: May 31, 2019

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COVID-19 Response

Masks are required for everyone, regardless of location or vaccination status, in all NPS buildings, crowded outdoor spaces, and all forms of enclosed public transportation. Additional details are available at www.nps.gov/coronavirus. Before visiting, please check the [park website](#) to determine its operating status. Please [recreate responsibly](#).



National Park Service

Social Science

Visitor Spending Effects - Economic Contributions of National Park Visitor Spending

Download the 2020 National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report (docs/NPS_2020_Visitor_Spending_Effects.pdf) (PDF - 3.0 MB).

This interactive tool is a collaboration between the National Park Service and the U.S. Geological Survey and displays results from the Visitor Spending Effects report series. Economic contributions of National Park Service visitor spending are displayed at the national, state, and local levels.

Select an economy to get started:

NATIONAL ECONOMY
([national-index.html](#))

STATE ECONOMIES ([states-index.html](#))

PARK ECONOMIES ([parks-index.html](#))

MORE INFORMATION
([overview.html?tab=tab-overview](#))

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

In 2020, 184 thousand park visitors spent an estimated \$12.1 million in local gateway regions while visiting Carlsbad Caverns National Park. These expenditures supported a total of 162 jobs, \$4.4 million in labor income, \$7.5 million in value added, and \$13.6 million in economic output in local gateway

Visitor Spending

Jobs

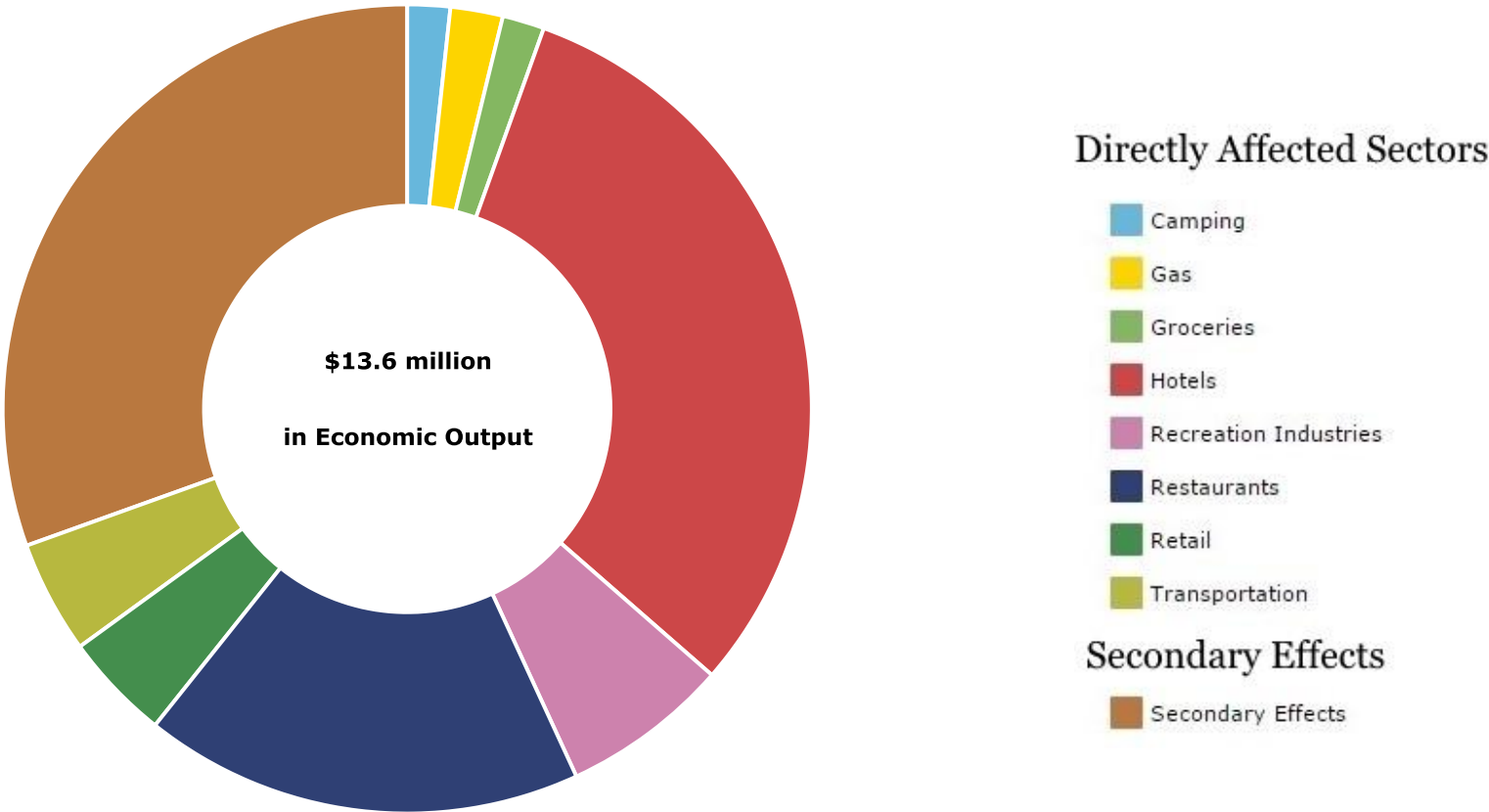
Labor Income

Value Added

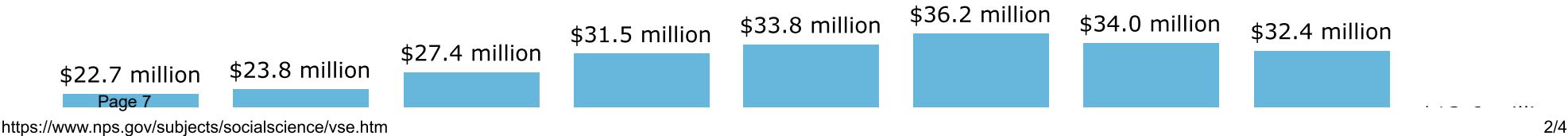
Economic Output

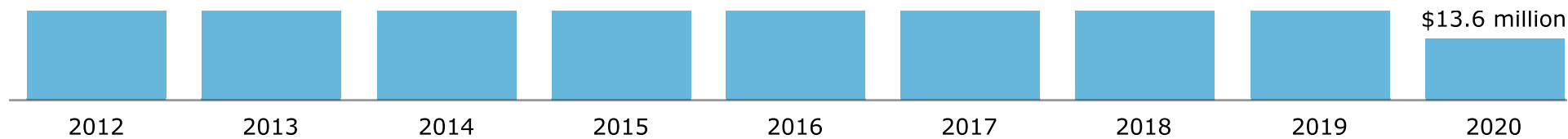
Click on a Park for more information or select a Park

Carlsbad Caverns National Park



Total Economic Output Contributed to Carlsbad Caverns National Park Gateway Economies





Last updated: April 25, 2018