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CSO figures show mixed picture for overseas tourism to Ireland Feb-Apr Overseas visitors to Northern Ireland in 2016 up +9% and revenue up +12%

Today's figures from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) for February to April 2017 confirm a continued strong performance from North America (almost +26%) and from our long-haul markets (almost +17%). Arrivals from Mainland Europe grew by over +2% – with important markets like France, Germany and Spain continuing to perform well.

The challenge of Brexit is very real and the drop in British visitor numbers (-10.7%) for the February to April period reflects that. We continue to work with our industry partners, to diversify our tourism markets. Some years back, Tourism Ireland identified North America and Mainland Europe as the markets which offer the strongest return on investment, in terms of holiday visitors and expenditure.

Click [here](#) for more detail.

Figures for 2016, published by NISRA (Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency) today, confirm that we welcomed a record 2.1 million overseas visitors to Northern Ireland, an increase of +9% on 2015, with growth recorded from all of our market areas around the world. And, more importantly for the economy, revenue from overseas visitors to Northern Ireland grew by +12% (over £543 million). Overseas holidaymakers increased by +15% in 2016 – a continuation of the positive trend since 2011, which has seen overseas holiday visitors grow by +58.7% and overseas holiday revenue by +79.5%.

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