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## Tourism Ireland welcomes +6.7% growth in overseas arrivals Jan-Jun 2018

Today's figures from the CSO indicate that overseas arrivals to Ireland increased by +6.7% during the January-June period, compared with the same period last year. While it is encouraging that this was the best ever month of June for Irish tourism, there has been a slowdown in the rate of growth in June (+3.4%).

However, North America (+10.7%) continues to perform strongly, as does Mainland Europe (+10.2%). Tourism Ireland has prioritised North America and Mainland Europe, as markets which offer a strong return on investment, in terms of holiday visitors and expenditure.

Arrivals from Britain (+2.3%) are up but it is too early to say if this represents a turnaround in the long-term trend. We're conscious that British arrivals are still down more than -4% on the first half of 2016. The impact of Brexit on outbound travel from Britain, therefore, remains a concern.

Tourism Ireland aims to grow overseas tourism revenue in 2018 to €6 billion, for the island of Ireland.

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