

TOURISM — JOBS

5241. Ms L. Mettam to the Minister for Tourism:

I refer to Budget Paper 2, Division 15 – Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation, page 190 – “Significant Issues Impacting the Agency – WA Jobs” which states the McGowan Government’s target of an additional 150,000 new jobs in WA by 2023–24, and I ask:

- (a) How many of the additional 150,000 jobs are anticipated to be within the tourism industry?

**Mr P. Papalia replied:**

- (a) The specific number of new jobs to be created in Western Australia (WA) by 2023–24 that relate to the tourism industry has not yet been identified. However, it is expected to be substantial on the back of the latest International and National Visitor Survey figures for the year ending March 2019, which show that:

The total visitor numbers (international and interstate combined) was the largest in the State’s history and their combined spend also exceeded all previous records.

WA had the largest number of international holiday visitors (493 100 holidaymakers) in history, growing 9.3% compared to the previous year;

International holiday visitor spend also reached a record high, growing 14.8% compared to the previous year;

WA saw a growth in visitor numbers from seven markets in which Tourism WA is active: New Zealand (+7.4%), China (+12.4%), Germany (+0.8%), Indonesia (+9.5%), India (+8.8%), Japan (+1.8%) and Switzerland (+0.9%).

Interstate visitors, nights and spend all increased compared to the previous year at a total (all purposes) level, and for holiday and visiting friends and relatives (VFR) specifically.

WA’s growth rate in interstate visitation was the highest of all States/Territories.

WA’s market share of interstate holiday visitors increased from 3.5% to 3.7% year on year.

WA’s market share of interstate holiday spend increased from 4.6% to 5.6% year on year.

Intrastate visitors, nights and spend all increased compared to the previous year at a total level and for holiday and VFR.