



# 25-YEAR ECONOMIC IMPACT

Since opening its doors in 1992, the Tennessee Aquarium has played a crucial role in transforming the Chattanooga riverfront and helping to sustain several billion dollars in capital investments. Perhaps even more important, the Aquarium has connected more than 23 million people with nature and empowered them to make informed decisions about water and wildlife.

**\$3.293 billion**



Since opening, the economic impact on the community has been \$3.293 billion from direct and indirect spending by visitors who reported their primary reason to visit Chattanooga was the Tennessee Aquarium.



**\$189.6 million**

1992 - 2016 Total State and Local Tax Contributed by Non-Hamilton County Visitors (in 2017 dollars) which helps support essential services like Police and Fire Departments and Public Schools.

## — 2016 ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT AT A GLANCE —

**\$115 million**

Annual economic impact of the Tennessee Aquarium on Chattanooga and Hamilton County.



**1,297**

Number of jobs supported by the Aquarium's operating and capital expenditures, along with the spending of out-of-town visitors.

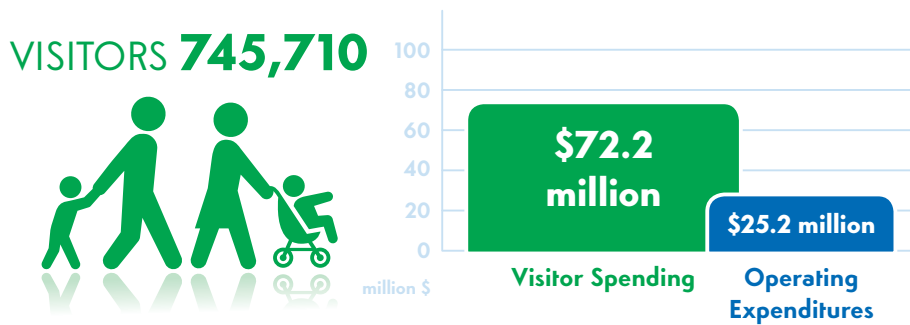
**\$72.2 million**

Revenue realized by area businesses as a result of goods and services purchased by Aquarium visitors.

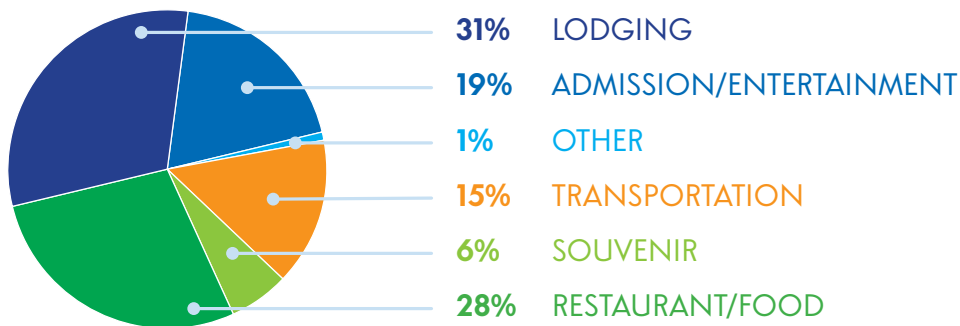
**\$6.6 million**

Tax revenue generated for Hamilton County and the state of Tennessee to support essential services.

## — IMPORTING VITAL DOLLARS FOR OUR ECONOMY —



The average family visiting the Aquarium stays in Chattanooga at least one night and spends \$717 — including more than \$460 on food and lodging alone — per trip.



In 2016, more than 745,000 visitors created \$72.2 million in revenues for Chattanooga businesses. Out-of-town visitors generate additional revenue throughout the community — eating at restaurants, staying in hotels, visiting other attractions, and purchasing goods and services from Chattanooga proprietors.

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This 2017 report by the UT Center for Sustainable Business and Development is based on on-site, first-hand data collections and various secondary data sources. This project utilized the US Bureau of Labor Statistic's inflation calculations and adopted deflators generated through Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN) Input/Output (I/O) models to permit data to be measured and make dollar figures comparable due to inflation in various time periods.