



Briefing Document

Economic Impact Study

Golf is a pillar of Prince Edward Island's economy, tourism industry, and a key contributor to community well-being, employment, and rural development.

With over 446,000 rounds played annually and over 210,000 paid rounds coming primarily from visitors, golf drives significant economic impact across the Island. In 2024 alone, direct estimated revenue from green fees and cart rentals reached \$21.8 million.

The industry supports over 600 Island jobs and contributes generously to local causes through charitable tournaments and donations. These local impacts echo national trends, with golf contributing over \$23 billion to Canada's GDP and engaging a record 6 million participants in 2023.

Golf Industry Day is a province-wide opportunity to recognize and celebrate the people who make Prince Edward Island one of Canada's top golf destinations and an economic success story.

Join us in the celebration on October 9, 2025!

Below is a breakdown of the economic, social, community, and national impact. Data supplied by Golf PEI, Tourism PEI, Golf Canada, and National Allied Golf Associations.

Economic Impact

Direct Golf Revenue

Golf continues to be a major contributor to PEI's visitor economy and rural development.

Reservation Channels

- Total Rounds Played (2024): 446,000
- Non-Member Rounds: 210,684 (based on round reporting from 18 Golf PEI courses)
- Average Green Fee: \$85 (based on average prices from the 18 Golf PEI courses)
- Total Estimated Green Fee Revenue from Non-Member (paid) rounds: \$17.9 million

Estimated Non-Member Rounds Cart Revenue

- Cart usage estimate: 75% of paid rounds
- Rate: \$25 per person per 18 holes
- Estimated cart revenue: \$3.95 million

Total Direct Golf Revenue: \$21.8 Million

- Direct Golf Revenue Sales Tax (HST): \$3.27 Million

Social, Community, and National Impact

Employment & Local Impact

- 600+ Islanders employed in the golf sector
- Significant seasonal and full-time opportunities across hospitality, operations, groundskeeping, and admin
- Over 230,000 rounds played by members

Community Contributions

- \$200,000+ in green fees donated annually by member courses
- 75+ charity tournaments hosted across PEI
- Over 5,000 members engaged at local clubs
- Golf is more than recreation; it's a community asset fueling philanthropy, events, and youth engagement.

National Context: The Power of Golf in Canada

Recent findings from Golf Canada's [2024 Economic Impact Study](#) underscore golf's incredible reach:

- \$23.2 billion contribution to Canada's GDP, up \$4B since the last study
- 135,000 Canadians directly employed in the golf industry, including 45,000 student jobs
- \$14.2 billion in golfer spending
- \$4.7 billion in taxes paid to all levels of government
- \$382 million raised for charities, leading all participation sports
- 74 million rounds played by nearly 6 million Canadians in 2023

Golf's Benefits Go Beyond the Economy:

- 18 holes = up to 2,000 calories burned and a 15 km walk
- 95% of Canadian golfers report improved mental health
- 83% cite social benefits as a key part of the experience
- A trusted Safe Sport environment for all ages and abilities
- Diverse growth: +6% in women golfers and +33% in BIPOC participants
- Golf courses across Canada are embracing sustainability and stewardship practices

"Golf is a holistic solution to many of life's necessities... a sport for life." - **Laurence Applebaum, CEO, Golf Canada**

"Not only is golf a significant economic driver on Prince Edward Island, it's also an essential part of our social and cultural fabric." - **Sam MacPhail, CEO, Golf PEI**

Sources:

[National Allied Golf Associations](#)

[Golf PEI](#)

[Tourism PEI](#)

[Golf Canada](#)