

Traffic jam extends over 900 kilometers in France

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Paris, August 15 (RHC)-- French motorists have been trapped in heavy traffic jams as summer holidaymakers head to mountain resorts and the seaside for vacation. The country's massive traffic jam on roads extended to its peak reaching 917 kilometers long over the weekend.

Officials said they were expecting many trips over the weekend due to vacationers taking advantage of an extended holiday. The traffic situation was notably announced as "very difficult" in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and on the Mediterranean arc.

Midday last Saturday, traffic jams reached a peak of 1,082 kilometers. That peak, however, failed to break the 2021 record of 1,086.5 kilometers of traffic jams in the country.

In the meantime, the COVID pandemic has dealt a heavy blow to the tourism industry in the European Union. Young people, in particular, bore the brunt of the hardships as hotels, restaurants and retail businesses lost workers and revenues due to the COVID crisis. A new study has found that young people across Europe have been the main victims of the economic and social crisis triggered by the COVID-19.

However, after two years of pandemic restrictions and health concerns, tourism operators are seeing a steady return of business this summer.

Despite the heavy traffic, Monday is expected to be the second biggest weekend of the summer in terms of passengers' numbers, with millions of French holidaymakers taking cars, buses and trains to reach their local vacation destinations across France.

Monday marks the Feast of the Assumption, a holiday widely celebrated in many countries with large Christian populations.

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