

Travel will power our economic recovery. Why travel matters to

DELAWARE

STATE	SPENDING	PAYROLL	JOBS	TRAVEL INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT RANKING
2019	\$2.5 Billion	\$642 Million	17,932	9
2020	▼ -36%	▼ -33%	▼ -35%	▼ 10
2021	▲ 0.7% Above 2019 Levels			

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the thriving travel and tourism industry was a significant economic driver in **DELAWARE**. In 2019:

- Domestic and international travelers spent **\$2.5 billion** while visiting.
- For every **\$1 million** spent in Delaware by domestic and international travelers, **7.1 jobs were created**.
- Travel spending directly supported **17,932 jobs**, making the travel industry the state's **9th largest workforce**, representing **4.6%** of our state's total private sector employment.
- Travel spending generated **\$286 million in taxes to state and local governments**, which help fund jobs and public programs such as police, firefighters, teachers, road projects and convention centers.

In **2020 and 2021**, the COVID-19 pandemic led to historic declines in travel to **DELAWARE** and caused severe economic harm to our attractions, hotels, restaurants and more.

- Spending by domestic and international travelers **declined 36% in 2020**, shuttering many local businesses and putting our residents out of work. **Spending was 0.7% above 2019 levels in 2021**.
- **Travel employment fell by 35% in 2020** and travel's share of total private industry employment fell from **4.6% to 3.2%**.

SOURCE: U.S. Travel Association, Tourism Economics

TRAVEL REMAINS THE HARDEST-HIT INDUSTRY, WITH AN UNEVEN RECOVERY ACROSS ALL SECTORS.

