Travel plays an essential role in stimulating economic growth, cultivating vibrant communities, creating quality job opportunities and inspiring new businesses, and it is indispensable to our nation’s global competitiveness.

Travel is a significant economic driver for West Virginia—and matters to our communities, jobs and public funding.

- Domestic and international travelers spent an estimated $4.1 billion while visiting West Virginia.
- Travel spending was 8.0% below 2019 levels and 18.3% above 2021.

The travel industry fuels businesses, jobs and investment beyond travel—creating a ripple effect within our communities, including West Virginia.

- Travel spending directly supported 39,800 jobs, and was the state’s 4th largest sector in terms of employment.
- Travel spending generated $360 million in taxes to state and local governments.
- Rather than taxing constituents, travel brings money into our communities, which helps fund public programs such as police, firefighters, teachers, road improvements and community revitalization projects.

### WHEN THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY THRIVES, AMERICA THRIVES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TRAVEL SPENDING</th>
<th>STATE AND LOCAL TAX RECEIPTS</th>
<th>JOBS</th>
<th>TRAVEL INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT RANKING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$4.5 Billion</td>
<td>$360 Million</td>
<td>39,800</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$3.0 Billion</td>
<td>$245 Million</td>
<td>24,400</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$3.5 Billion</td>
<td>$257 Million</td>
<td>27,200</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022*</td>
<td>$4.1 Billion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Travel Association and Tourism Economics

"Preliminary

When the travel industry thrives, America thrives.

$1.2 TRILLION in Travel Spending

Produces $2.6 TRILLION in Economic Output

However, in 2022, travel’s surplus declined to just $3 BILLION from a peak of $86 BILLION in 2015

Travel spending alleviates an average of $1,270 in taxes per U.S. household

Each segment of travel plays an essential role in boosting our economy, contributing billions in travel spending:

- **DOMESTIC LEISURE** $837 BILLION (99% RECOVERED**)
- **DOMESTIC BUSINESS** $234 BILLION (74% RECOVERED**)
- **INTERNATIONAL INBOUND** $116 BILLION (55% RECOVERED**)

**Percent recovered is adjusted for inflation