

TRAVEL: AMERICA'S UNSUNG HERO OF JOB CREATION

➤ The travel industry is a top employer across America.

- The travel industry supports 15.6 million American workers—8.8 million directly and 6.8 million indirectly.
- The travel-dependent leisure and hospitality industry is the largest small-business employer in the United States.

➤ Travel led recession recovery and continues to grow along the coasts and across the heartland.

- Travel employment recovered two years faster than rest of U.S. economy even though it was hit harder.
- From 2010 to 2016, travel industry employment rose by more than 1.2 million, generating 9 percent of all new jobs created during that time.

➤ Travel jobs are the ticket to promising career opportunities for millions of Americans.

- Nearly 40 percent of workers whose first job was in the travel industry reached an annual career salary of more than \$100,000.
- Workers with a high school degree or less, women and minorities, who began their career in the travel industry achieved salaries that are 5- to 6-percent higher than workers who started off in other industries.

➤ Travel is a top U.S. export, distinctly “Made in America.”

- Spending by international visitors to the U.S. creates \$246 billion in export income* for the U.S. economy.
- Travel is the United States' second-largest industry export accounting for 11 percent of all U.S. goods and services.

➤ International inbound travel supports millions of American jobs.

- In 2016, international visitors spent \$154 billion on American goods and services, supporting 1.2 million U.S. jobs.
- In fact, international traveler spending supports one-fifth of all export-related jobs—far greater than its share in export earnings.

*Total U.S. Travel exports includes \$154 billion in general travel spending (as used for calculating job creation), as well as spending on education, health, cross-border work and international passenger fares.