



Advocacy for Congressional Relief: Fact Sheet

Use these messaging and data points to communicate with your lawmakers about the economic impact COVID-19 is having on travel businesses and workers—and why we need Congress to advance a coronavirus recovery bill ASAP.

KEY DATA POINTS

Note: In addition to the national data, consider sharing local and organization-specific economic impact.

- Due to the coronavirus pandemic, travel employment reached a low of 51% at the beginning of May—**twice** the unemployment rate during the worst year of the Great Depression (1933).
- The industry continues to experience historic levels of revenue decline with losses totaling a staggering **\$2 billion dollars per day**.
- **More than half (55%)** of all small travel businesses in the U.S. are at risk of either taking **longer than six months to recover or never recovering at all**.

KEY MESSAGING POINTS

- While we agree on the need for a larger, comprehensive relief package, the time for a perfect solution has long since passed. The travel industry cannot wait until after the Supreme Court battle or until after the election.
- It is simply irresponsible to wait to enact relief provisions, particularly those that have broad bipartisan support. Every second that goes by without relief creates worse conditions for recovery, making it harder to bring back the jobs that were lost.
- We urge you to find a solution immediately that provides relief to the small travel industry businesses that have suffered so much throughout this crisis. At a minimum, please provide:
 - An extension of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP);
 - An expansion of PPP eligibility to include 501(c)(6) nonprofit and quasi-governmental destination marketing organizations; and
 - A second round of loans to keep local businesses afloat and workers on the payroll.