

# TRAVEL: AMERICA'S UNSUNG HERO OF JOB CREATION

Travel is essential to the American economy, providing an indispensable source of job creation. The travel industry is unique: it is highly dependent on human labor, generally immune to outsourcing and plays a key role in international trade. Given travel's critical role in job creation across the country, lawmakers at all levels should prioritize policies that are pro-connectivity, pro-growth and pro-traveler.

## TRAVEL IS A MAJOR EMPLOYER ACROSS AMERICA

2017 Data

8.8M

**American jobs directly supported** by domestic and international travelers in the United States.

No.7

Travel is the **seventh largest employer** in the private sector.

15.6M

**Total number of American jobs** supported by travel.

1 in 9

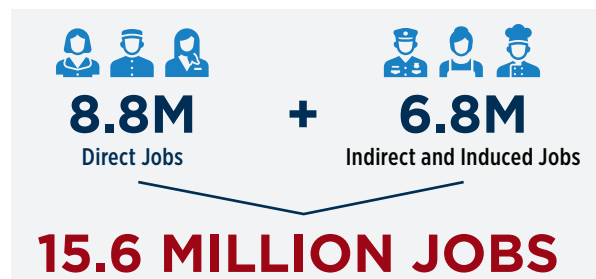
**American jobs** (private sector) supported by travel.

No.1

Travel-dependent leisure and hospitality is the **largest small-business employer** in the United States.

8

Number of **travel jobs supported by \$1 million in travel spending**—compared to 5 jobs supported by \$1 million in the overall private sector.



Source: U.S. Travel Association, 2017 estimates

## TRAVEL JOBS GROWING ACROSS AMERICA

20%

From 2010-2017 travel jobs **increased 20 percent** compared to 12 percent in the rest of the private sector.

50

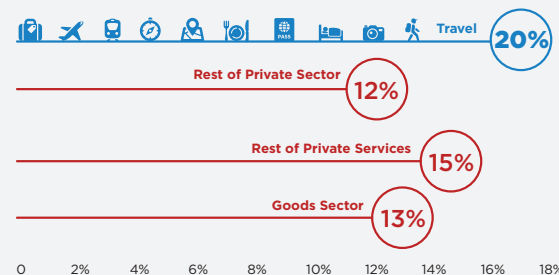
Number of **states where travel employment increased** (2010-2016).

47

Number of states where travel employment **increased faster than the rest of the economy in their state** (2010-2016).

### Travel Employment Grows Faster Than Rest of Private Sector

Employment Growth (2010-2017)



Source: U.S. Travel Association estimates based on U.S. Department of Labor, 2017 data

## TRAVEL JOBS EQUAL PROMISING CAREERS

2015 Data

22%

Share of Americans whose **first job** was in travel.

1/3

Share of Americans with a first job in travel who **earned a bachelor's degree**.

\$82K

**Average career salary** of Americans whose first job was in travel.

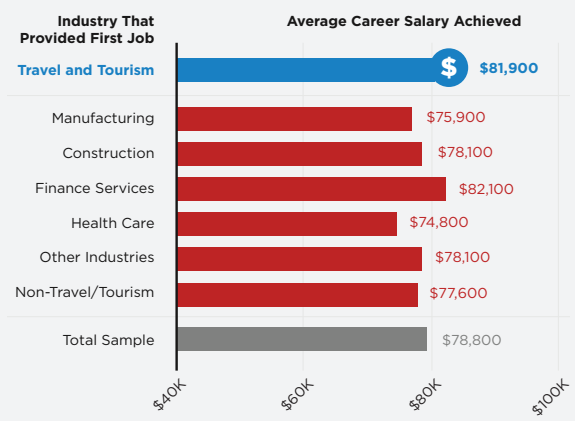
2 in 5

Share of Americans with a first job in travel who are now earning **more than \$100,000 a year**.

52%

Share of **travel jobs earning a middle-class wage or higher**.

### A Better Start: Workers Who Begin in Travel Ultimately Achieve Higher Wages in Their Careers



Source: U.S. Travel Association estimates based on U.S. Department of Labor, 2015 data

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL: A U.S. EXPORT AND KEY JOB CREATOR

## INTERNATIONAL INBOUND TRAVEL = AMERICAN JOBS

2017 Data

1.2M

Number of **American jobs directly supported** by international inbound travel.

1/7

**Share of travel jobs in the U.S. directly supported** by international inbound travel.

1/5

**Share of export reliant jobs across all industries** supported by international inbound travel.

7.7


Number of travel jobs supported by \$1 million in international inbound travel spending—more than 3-times the 2.5 jobs supported by \$1 million in overall U.S. exports.

### Spending by International Visitors Directly Supports 1.2 Million American Jobs



International Travel Spending:  
**\$156 Billion**



 = 100,000 American jobs supported by international visitor spending

Source: U.S. Travel Association based on U.S. Department of Commerce, 2017 data

## TRAVEL IS “MADE IN AMERICA”

2017 Data

\$251B

Total U.S. travel exports.\*

\$77B

U.S. travel **trade surplus**.

14%

Increase in our trade deficit if travel were excluded.

No.2

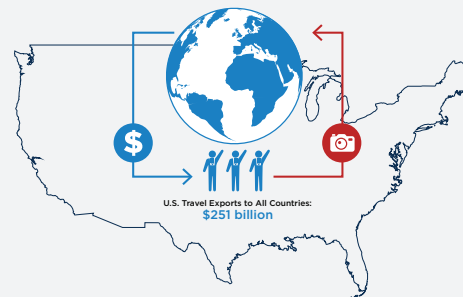
Travel is the America's **second largest industry export** after transportation equipment.


15%


**Share of spending by international visitors** out of total U.S. travel expenditures.

### International Visitors are Physically on U.S. Soil, but Economically Part of Their Countries of Origin

The goods and services they consume while in the U.S. are considered exports to their origin countries, and the money they spend here is export income for the U.S. economy.



 Spending by international visitors = export income for U.S. economy

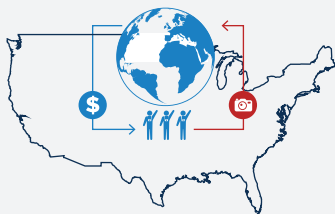
 Travel experiences purchased by international visitors = export to their country of origin

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, 2017 data

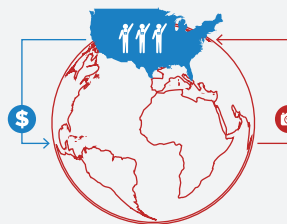
### Spending by International Visitors Constitutes a U.S. Travel Export While Spending by U.S. Residents Abroad Constitutes a U.S. Travel Import

Since travel exports are greater than travel imports, the U.S. enjoys a strong travel surplus, which helps curb our overall trade deficit.

U.S. Travel Exports:  
**\$251 billion**



U.S. Travel Imports:  
**\$174 billion**



**\$77 Billion Surplus in Travel Trade Balance**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, 2017 data

\*Total U.S. Travel exports includes the \$156 billion in general travel spending (as used above for calculating job creation) as well as spending on education, health, cross-border work and international passenger fares.