

# POLAND:

## A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BOOST AMERICA'S SECURITY AND TRADE

### VISITATION

Over 211,000 Polish residents visited the U.S. in 2018, marking the fifth consecutive year that Polish visitation to the U.S. has reached an all-time high. Poland is one of the fastest-growing European international inbound travel markets for the U.S. From 2013 to 2018, Polish visitation to the U.S. increased by 53%, much faster than the 20% increase from Eastern Europe and the 13% increase from Western Europe.

The U.S. is the second most-favored long-haul destination of Polish international travelers, edged out by Egypt in 2018, despite having attracted nearly 46,000 (30%) more visitors than Egypt in 2017.

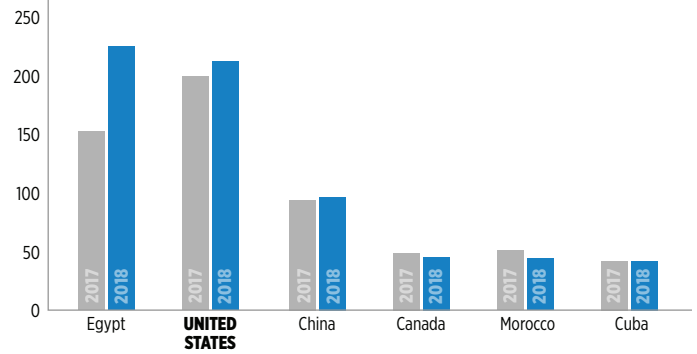
Pace of visitation from Poland to the U.S. has decelerated in 2019. In the first quarter of this year, Polish arrivals to the U.S. increased by 2.2% from the first quarter of 2018. This growth was much slower than the 9.5% increase in the first quarter of 2018. However, trends from previous years indicate that Poland's critical visitation months to the U.S. lay ahead: **over 60% of Polish visitation to the U.S. in 2018 occurred between the months of April and September.**

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

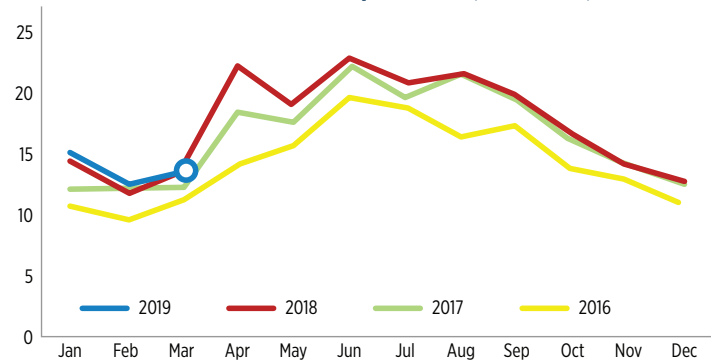
Polish travel exports to the U.S. totaled \$667 million in 2017 (including travel spending and education/health/border-related spending). Travel is United States' third-largest industry export to Poland, after U.S. exports of transportation equipment and transport services. Travel exports accounted for 8.8% of total U.S. exports to Poland in 2017.

The U.S. had a \$57 million travel trade deficit with Poland in 2017, which was small in comparison to the \$2.7 billion trade deficit in total manufacturing with Poland.

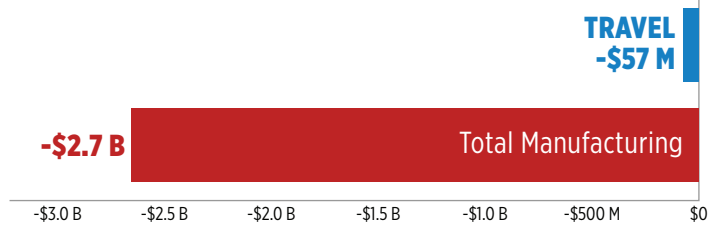
Polish Long-Haul Visitations, 2017-2018 (Thousands)



Polish Visits to the U.S. per Month (Thousands)



U.S. Trade Deficit with Poland, 2017



## POLAND: A Smart Addition to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP)

The VWP makes America more secure, grows our economy, creates American jobs and improves our relationship with trusted allies.

Poland is one of only five European Union countries—along with Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania—that is not yet included in the VWP. Polish citizens gained visa-free entry to many countries when Poland entered into the European Union in 2004. Still, the U.S. is the only Western industrialized country to require a visa for Polish citizens, making the U.S. a more difficult country to visit.

**By adding Poland to the highly secure and highly successful Visa Waiver Program, the U.S. would gain\*:**

**\$312M**  
IN TRAVEL  
SPENDING

**97,000**  
POLISH  
VISITORS

**\$720M**  
IN ECONOMIC  
OUTPUT

**4,200**  
AMERICAN  
JOBS

\*Estimated annual gain in the third year after joining the Visa Waiver Program