## Travel is an Economic Engine

**Why Travel Matters to South Carolina**

### Travel and Tourism Works for South Carolina

- **2017 Data**
  - Domestic and international travelers to South Carolina spent $14.6 billion in 2017 and generated $2.1 billion to federal, state and local governments, dollars that help fund jobs and public programs such as police, firefighters, teachers, road projects and convention centers.
  
  - The 133,320 jobs created by travelers to South Carolina in 2017 represent 7.9% of the state's total private industry employment.
  
  - Without these jobs generated by domestic and international travel, South Carolina's 2017 unemployment rate of 4.4% would have been 10.2% of the labor force.
  
  - For every $1 million spent in South Carolina by domestic and international travelers, 9.1 jobs are created.

### South Carolina-Based Travel Companies

- Experience Columbia SC
- Explore Charleston
- Hilton Head Island Visitor & Convention Bureau
- Hilton Head Vacation Rentals
- South Carolina Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
- Visit Myrtle Beach

### Travel and Tourism Is Critical to the U.S. Economy

- **2018 Data**
  - $1.1 trillion in travel spending
  - 8.9 million jobs
  - $268 billion payroll
  - $171 billion in tax revenue
    - Each household will pay $1,340 additional taxes per year without the tax revenue from travel
  
  - #2 industry export
    - $256 billion in travel exports, generating a $69 billion trade surplus
  
  - Of travel exports
    - $157 billion in travel spending by international visitors in the U.S.

- **Total Impact**
  - $2.5 trillion in U.S. economic output
  - 1 in 10 U.S. non-farm jobs supported by travel
  - 15.7 million American jobs

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1. Out of 20 industries by 2-digit NAICS code
2. Includes travel spending (international visitors spending on travel-related goods and services in the U.S.), international passenger fares on U.S. carriers and all spending for educational and health-related purposes (such as tuition, room and board paid for or provided by educational institutions, hospital charges, treatments, physicians' fees, etc.) made by students and medical patients, along with all expenditures by border, seasonal, and other short-term workers.