Travel will power our economic recovery. Why travel matters to Virginia

**STATE SPENDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Spending</th>
<th>Payroll</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Employment Ranking</th>
<th>Tax Receipts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$29.1 Billion</td>
<td>$8.4 Billion</td>
<td>240,795</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$3.6 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>▼ -40%</td>
<td>▼ -40%</td>
<td>▼ -32%</td>
<td>▼ -32%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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In Virginia, as our attractions, hotels, restaurants and more were unable to welcome visitors, our once thriving travel and tourism industry was no longer the significant economic driver it had been.

In 2019:

- Domestic and international travelers spent **$29.1 billion** exploring our state.
- For every **$1 million** spent in Virginia by domestic and international travelers, **8.3 jobs are created**.
- The **240,795 travel-supported jobs** represented **7.5% of Virginia's total private industry employment**, without which our unemployment rate of **2.7%** would have been **10.0% of the labor force**.
- Travel spending generated **$3.6 billion to federal, state and local governments**, which help fund jobs and public programs such as police, firefighters, teachers, road projects and convention centers.

**Virginia** experienced severe losses in 2020.

- Spending by domestic and international travelers **declined by 40%**, shuttering many local businesses and putting our residents out of work.
- Due to the decline in spending, **federal, state and local tax receipts declined by 32%**, jeopardizing jobs and public programs—which we need more than ever as we work toward recovery.

**From coast-to-coast, the COVID-19 pandemic has decimated the national travel industry.**

Travel will refuel our economy, rebuild our workforce, and reconnect Americans.