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

In West 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 $4.5 billion exploring our state
- For every $1 million spent in West Virginia by domestic and international travelers, 8.8 jobs are created
- The 39,758 travel-supported jobs represented 7.2% of West Virginia's total private industry employment, without which our unemployment rate of 4.9% would have been 11.7% of the labor force
- Travel spending generated $519.2 million to federal, state and local governments, which help fund jobs and public programs such as police, firefighters, teachers, road projects and convention centers

West Virginia experienced severe losses in 2020.

- Spending by domestic and international travelers declined by 37%, 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 30%, jeopardizing jobs and public programs—which we need more than ever as we work toward recovery

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<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>PAYROLL</th>
<th>JOBS</th>
<th>TRAVEL INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT RANKING</th>
<th>TAX RECEIPTS</th>
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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.

Support TRAVEL • Support RECOVERY • Support JOBS