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 No. 2 long-haul destination for Polish residents and accounted for 17% of all long-haul visitation from Poland in 2018. The only non-European destination that attracted more Polish visitors was Egypt.

After growing by 5.8% in 2018, visitation from Poland continued to grow at a similar pace: 5% year-over-year through the first nine months of 2019.

Visitation growth is expected to pick up over the next several years as a result of Poland’s acceptance as the 39th country in the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) in November 2019. U.S. Travel predicts that an additional 233,000 Polish visitors will come to the U.S. over the next three years because of the country’s entry into the VWP.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Polish travel exports to the U.S. totaled $698 million in 2018 (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.

The U.S. had a $185 million travel trade deficit with Poland in 2018, which was small in comparison to the $3.1 billion trade deficit in total manufacturing with Poland.

Poland’s addition into the VWP is expected to generate a significant economic impact in the U.S. Within three years, the U.S. is projected to gain an additional $702M in travel spending, which would generate $1.6B in economic output and create an additional 4,300 American jobs.

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.

By adding Poland to the highly secure and highly successful Visa Waiver Program, the U.S. is projected to gain an additional:

- **$702M** in additional travel spending
- **233,000** additional Polish visitors
- **$1.6B** in additional economic output for the U.S. economy
- **4,300** additional annual American jobs

over the next three years.