

# Reopening International Inbound Travel

On November 8, 2021, the United States will reopen its air and land borders to vaccinated international travelers. Countries that were subjected to restrictions on non-essential travel included the **United Kingdom, Ireland, China, South Africa, Iran, Brazil, India and the 26 European Schengen Area countries**. The land borders with **Canada and Mexico** were also closed to non-essential travel.

## Pre-pandemic inbound travel

The U.S. welcomed 79.4 million international visitors in 2019, including 11.7 million land border arrivals from Canada and 15.5 million land border arrivals from Mexico.

International inbound travel provided **\$239 BILLION in export income** for the U.S. economy in 2019 and **directly supported 1.2 MILLION American jobs**.

## Losses due to stagnant inbound travel

U.S. Travel estimates that declines in international visitation since the start of the pandemic have already resulted in nearly **\$300 BILLION in lost export income** (from March 2020–October 2021).

These declines have also led to the **loss of MORE THAN A MILLION American jobs**.

**Travel exports reflect the goods and services purchased by international visitors, and positively contribute to our trade balance.**

### What is a Travel Export?

International visitors are physically on U.S. soil, but economically part of their countries of origin. The goods and services they consume while in America are U.S. exports.



## Regaining market share

While the list of restricted countries comprised just **33 countries** out of **195 worldwide (17%)**, the restricted markets accounted for a disproportionate **53% of all overseas visitors to the U.S.** in 2019.

- The 26 Schengen Area countries alone accounted for 24% of overseas visitations in 2019, and all of the barred European countries—including U.K. and Ireland—accounted for 37% of overseas visitations.
- Seven out of the top 10 overseas inbound markets to the U.S. in 2019—the U.K., China, Brazil, Germany, France, India, and Italy—were included in the travel restrictions.