

# J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program Reduction ECONOMIC IMPACT

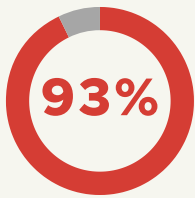
This fact sheet refers to findings from a survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020. Included are responses from 659 seasonal businesses and camps nationwide, 15 in MI-1.

## SUMMER WORK TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS\*

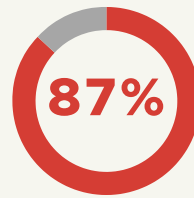
	2019	2020	
United States	108,303	4,885	95% ↓
Michigan	1,879	38	98% ↓

\*Provided by the U.S. Department of State. Region specific 2020 figures refer to On Program SWT Exchange Visitors as of August 3rd, 2020 SEVIS report.

## NATIONWIDE IMPACT ON SEASONAL BUSINESSES



Cannot meet peak staffing needs without J-1 Exchange Visitors



Reported lower quality of customer service or longer customer wait times

2 in 3 Lost revenue

1 in 7

Laid off, furloughed or reduced wages of full time Americans

Half Shortened their season or hours

1 in 5

Could not open this summer

In MI-1, 8 businesses reported an average loss of

**\$282,500**

in Summer 2020

# What business owners in MI-1 are saying:

Quotes were provided by seasonal businesses who completed the economic impact survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020.

**“Services have been cut. Employees are having to work extra to make up the difference - they are exhausted.”**

**“We have done shorter hours at one location. Customer wait times are longer.”**

## **“Cancelled season.”**

**“We had to delay opening one of our hotels for three weeks due to no staff. We couldn't open a second kitchen we normally have open to handle the volume of guests. Major overtime to the few employees we have. Lower morale, which worsens customer service.”**

**“The staffing shortage created by the loss of our J-1 students has been substantial. We simply cannot find Americans to fill these positions. We have not been able to open our smaller satellite store due to a lack of staff. Our base store has been short staffed all summer. We do not have enough employees to run our businesses properly.”**

**“My core people are working 6-7 days a week and I'm paying huge overtime.”**

**“Major overtime for what little staff we have.”**