

# J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program Reduction ECONOMIC IMPACT

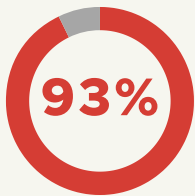
This fact sheet refers to findings from a survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020. Included are responses from 659 seasonal businesses and camps nationwide, 55 in New York.

## SUMMER WORK TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS\*

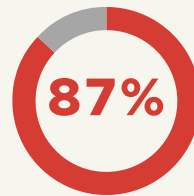
	2019	2020	
United States	108,303	4,885	95% ↓
New York	7,004	76	99% ↓

\*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 New York, 14 businesses reported an average loss of

**\$425,143**

in Summer 2020

# What business owners in New York 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.

**“Not enough staff.”**

**“We will lose \$250,000 in revenue due to shorter hours and are forced to close one day a week.”**

**“Not able to book more families and campers because we didn’t have enough staff.”**

**“We have had to give discounts to guests who cannot check in on time due to being so short staffed. We are also unable to offer stayover service so guests have checked out early due to lack of service.”**

**“Not having Summer Work Travel students made it necessary to suspend my restaurant for the season and also cut down the number of rooms available to rent.”**

**“Not able to open all business locations.”**

**“Our campground and hotel are struggling to meet staffing goals. Without the Summer Work Travel students our family fun park is losing money. We are only able to open 5 days per week instead of 7. As American students return to school, we will likely only be able to stay open on the weekends. This is resulting in a huge loss of revenue for us.”**

**“Without Summer Work Travel students this summer, we were down 10 employees compared to last summer, and sales really took a hit, \$10,000/week average.”**

**“The impact of not having the J-1 Visa program has hurt not only the business, but our American front of house staff has also lost shifts due to the reduction of operating hours.”**