

J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program Reduction SUMMER 2020 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 NC-3.

Summer Work Travel participants* in

The U.S.

108,303

in 2019

4,885

in 2020

Outer Banks

1,793

in 2019

176

in 2020

*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.

98%

Businesses negatively impacted by the absence of J-1 Exchange Visitors

1 in 5

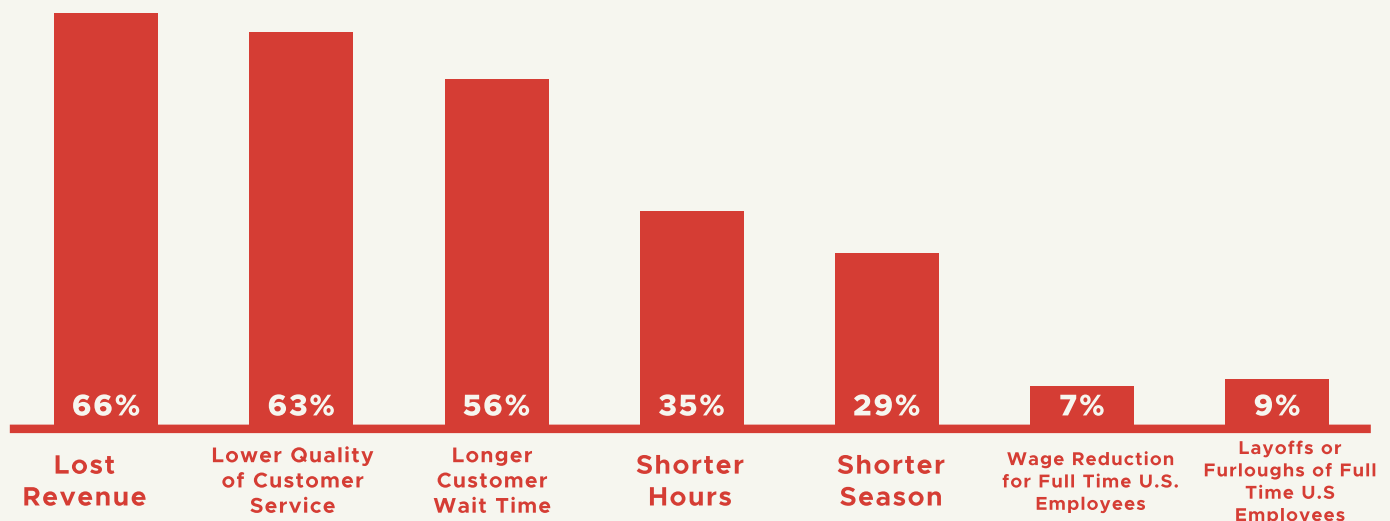
Businesses could not open this summer

93%

Businesses cannot meet peak staffing needs without J-1 Exchange Visitors

In NC-3, 8 businesses reported an average loss of \$208,875

Lack of seasonal help has resulted in lost revenue, loss of American jobs, and poor customer experience.



What business owners in NC-3 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.

“

Without exchange students next summer, I'll go out of business.”

“

We are paying more in overtime, exhausting employees, paying out more in refunds due to complaints and guest early departures, taking a hit to our reputation due to lack of staff.”

“

We are not able to serve the amount of people we normally do and we have had to close one day per week.”

“

Loss of at least \$50,000 in business due to less hours because of lack of employees.”

“

We advertised and increased wages to hire Americans and we have only had 1% of the staff we needed to apply. Our financial impact can't even be tallied because who knows what we would have been able to accomplish financially if we had the staff to increase store hours and give our customers more care.”

“

Erosion of existing staff morale due to overwork.”

“

Our business was not able to operate in the same capacity without J-1 participants this summer. Our quality of staff decreased and our business was negatively affected.”

“

The 3 (all family members of this family owned business) employees are all having to work 7 days a week, most days more than 12 hours a day.”

“

We have had to close one day a week which has majorly impacted our business since we already have a short season.”