Americans will take more than 700 million trips from July through September

**Summer travel will decline by 14.6% from 2019**

As restrictions are lifted across the U.S., travel is expected to slowly rebound, increasing slowly through the third quarter of the year to total 707 million trips. Travelers remain cautious, but optimism is increasing quickly.

**The summer road trip remains a strong option in 2020**

Americans will take 683 million road trips, a decline of just 3.3% compared to 2019. Road trips will make up 97% of all summer travel, making it the most preferred form of transportation this summer.

**Air travel will be just a fraction of historical volumes**

Air travel volume is expected at 15.1 million from July to September, and accounts for just 2% of travel volume. Leisure travel by plane will remain limited even as markets reopen and volume expected to be 74% below last year’s levels.

**Key takeaways:**

- After rising at an annual rate of 3.2% the previous four years, travel from July through September will fall 14.6% in 2020. The **overall expected 707 million trips** is 120 million trips lower than the volume seen in 2019.
- The **683 million road trips** is 3.3% lower than 2019, but only 0.4% below the volume seen in 2018. Automotive travel will account for 97% of all trips this summer.
- Air travel will be significantly restrained during the third quarter. The forecast **air travel volume of 15.1 million** will be 74% below last year’s levels.
- **Travel by other modes** (including bus, rail and cruise ship) will see a decrease similar to air travel, as the **9.3 million** expected travel volume is 86% below the level seen in 2019.
- The 2020 summer travel period is defined as the 3 month period from July 1 to September 30.

**Economic gains include the following:**

- While the economy has started on the path to recovery, real GDP is expected to be 10.6% below the third quarter of 2019.
- Household net worth, personal income and disposable income are all expected to be higher than last year, but consumer spending will remain muted and see a decline of 12% compared to last year.
- The unemployment rate has started to climb back but will average 11% for the quarter.

### Share of Travelers by Mode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auto</td>
<td>96.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summer Holiday Travelers by Mode (millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Automobile</th>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>57.9</td>
<td>64.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>-3.3%</td>
<td>-73.9%</td>
<td>-85.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AAA and IHS Markit forecast that Americans will take 707 million trips this summer season, a decrease of 14.6% from last year.
**Summer 2020 Forecast Methodology: A Brief Overview**

**Travel Forecast**
In cooperation with AAA, IHS Markit—a world leader in critical information, analytics and expertise—developed a unique methodology to forecast actual domestic travel volumes. The economic variables used to forecast travel for the current holiday are leveraged from IHS Markit’s proprietary databases. These data include macroeconomic drivers such as employment; output; household net worth; asset prices including stock indices; interest rates; housing market indicators and variables related to travel and tourism, including prices of gasoline, airline travel and hotel stays.

Historical travel volume estimates come from DK SHIFFLET’s TRAVEL PERFORMANCE/Monitorsm. The PERFORMANCE/Monitorsm is a comprehensive study measuring the travel behavior of U.S. residents. DK SHIFFLET contacts over 50,000 U.S. households each month to obtain detailed travel data, resulting in the unique ability to estimate visitor volume and spending, identify trends, forecast U.S. travel behavior and position brands—all after the trips have been taken.

The travel forecast is reported in person-trips. In particular, AAA and IHS Markit forecast the total U.S. summer travel volume and expected mode of transportation. The travel forecast presented in this report was prepared the week of June 8, 2020.

**Summer Travel Period**
For purposes of this forecast, the summer travel period is defined as the months of July, August and September.

**About AAA**
AAA provides more than 60 million members with automotive, travel, insurance and financial services through its federation of 32 motor clubs and more than 1,000 branch offices across North America. Since 1902, the not-for-profit, fully tax-paying AAA has been a leader and advocate for safe mobility. Drivers can request roadside assistance, identify nearby gas prices, locate discounts, book a hotel or map a route via the AAA Mobile app. To join, visit AAA.com.

**About IHS Markit (www.ihsmarkit.com)**
IHS Markit (NYSE: INFO) is a world leader in critical information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide. The company delivers next-generation information, analytics and solutions to customers in business, finance and government, improving their operational efficiency and providing deep insights that lead to well-informed, confident decisions. IHS Markit has more than 50,000 business and government customers, including 80 percent of the Fortune Global 500 and the world’s leading financial institutions. Headquartered in London, IHS Markit is committed to sustainable, profitable growth.

**About DKSA**
DK SHIFFLET boasts the industry’s most complete database on U.S. resident travel both in the U.S. and worldwide. Data is collected monthly from a U.S. representative sample, adding over 60,000 traveling households annually and is used daily by leading travel organizations and their strategic planning groups. DK SHIFFLET is an MMGY Global company.