



## 2022 End of Year Travel Forecast

Daniel Armbruster, AAA TEXAS spokesperson

### **:11- :58**

“AAA projects that 2022 will be the third busiest end of year holiday travel period that we’ve seen on record since AAA began tracking end of year holiday travel in the year 2000. And you know, Texans value and prioritize leisure travel. 2022 has been no exception to that. Even though there are concerns about inflation and the pandemic that are holding some people back from traveling this holiday season, nearly 113 million Americans are venturing out to reconnect with loved ones or just recharge their batteries. Of that 113 million, nine million of them will be from Texas. So consumer sentiment may be down from a year ago just due to economic uncertainty, but certainly consumer spending remains strong with travel at the top of the list.”

### **1:09-1:35**

“Even more people will be driving compared to last year from Texas when it comes to the end of year holiday travel forecast. Nearly eight million Texans will be traveling by car. And you know falling gas prices are certainly a welcome holiday gift for travelers after the record highs we saw this summer. Fuel prices have been quickly declining in recent weeks, and by Christmas many Texans will likely be paying less for gas than they were last holiday season.”

### **1:43- 2:02**

“So when it comes to air travel AAA predicts 7.2 million Americans will take to the skies to close out 2022. That’s a 14% increase over last year. Air travel is rebounding in a big way and this holiday season will reach 98% of pre-pandemic travel volume when it comes to flights.”

### **2:11-2:51**

“Looking out to next year you know we saw a slow start to 2022 because we were still coming out of the pandemic. There were many concerns related to the pandemic and still travel restrictions. Well the second half of this year we’ve really seen an uptick in travel bookings. In fact, AAA data shows year-end international travel is surging. Trips

are already being booked out into 2023 and although we're not back to 2019 levels just yet, the rebound in travel during the second half of 2022 has really helped to create momentum for 2023. Including for what's called 'wave season'. That's the upcoming from January through March when cruise lines are offering some of their best promotions."