

RECOMMENDED

VIDEO: Florida mom's Kia stolen from driveway as she gets ready to take kids to school

'Kids are already hard at work': Students and staff excited to return to school in Palm Beach County

How to tell if your sunscreen has expired

Husband of Killer Clown suspect says state should have followed hitman lead

John I. Leonard hoping to build a winning culture

EXCLUSIVE: Jupiter boat captain saves Cuban migrant stranded at sea for 4 days

'Florida Youth Shine' amplifying voices of former foster kids to spark change in the child welfare system

'I can't think of a better first day': School back in session on the Treasure Coast

Majority of Floridians feel inflation is impacting their finances, FAU poll says some to cut back on travel this summer

Most Floridians are concerned with the state of our national economy and it could impact summer travel, according to a recent poll done by FAU researchers.

Share

Updated: 9:11 AM EDT Jun 5, 2022

Infinite Scroll Enabled

Taylor Hernandez

Morning Anchor



SHOW TRANSCRIPT

BOCA RATON, Fla. — Most Floridians are concerned with the state of our national economy and it could impact summer travel, according to a recent poll done by FAU researchers.

Monica Escaleras is the chair of the economics department at FAU. She says a [recent poll](#) she conducted indicates that 80% of Floridians feel inflation is impacting their personal finances.

'People are fighting for apartments': [South Florida housing demand driving up rent](#)

“Individuals are cutting back in goods and services and food, but it was interesting to see that close to 80% say that they are going to cut back on travel,” she said.

According to a [travel price index](#) from the U.S. Travel Association, the average airfare is up 33% this year from last. That increase, Escaleras believes, will lead to more Floridians opting for a ‘staycation’ this summer.

“Right now I was looking to go to Colorado,” she said. “I was looking at tickets and right now the tickets to Colorado are like \$800 roundtrip, so I’m thinking, maybe with that \$800 I could go and spent four days in the Keys.”

Gas in Florida: [How to find cheaper gas, tips to save fuel](#)

Recommended



Here's the case prosecutors are making for the death penalty against Nikolas Cruz for the Parkland school shooting

But with average gas prices nearing \$5 a gallon, staycations aren’t going to come cheap either.

“There will be some people who are priced out on travel, but coming out of a 2-year-long pandemic, there is still so much pent up demand that people want to travel again regardless of higher pricing,” Mark Jenkins with AAA said.

Jenkins says there are several reasons gas prices are on the rise: tightening supply coming out of the pandemic, Russian oil boycotts and increasing demand.

“We didn’t think we would be at \$4 a gallon, but here we are well beyond that,” Jenkins said. “So. \$5 a gallon is certainly a real possibility at this point.”

The latest: [WPBF 25 News coverage on COVID-19](#)

Despite the increasing cost of goods, Jenkins says that consumer spending remains strong.

Escaleres believes while what people are spending money on is changing, the cutback on travel this summer may not impact Florida as much as some anticipate.

“I am optimistic that the dollars are going to stay in Florida and help the economy of Florida,” she said.