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**Economic Benefits  
of Air Transport in Belize**



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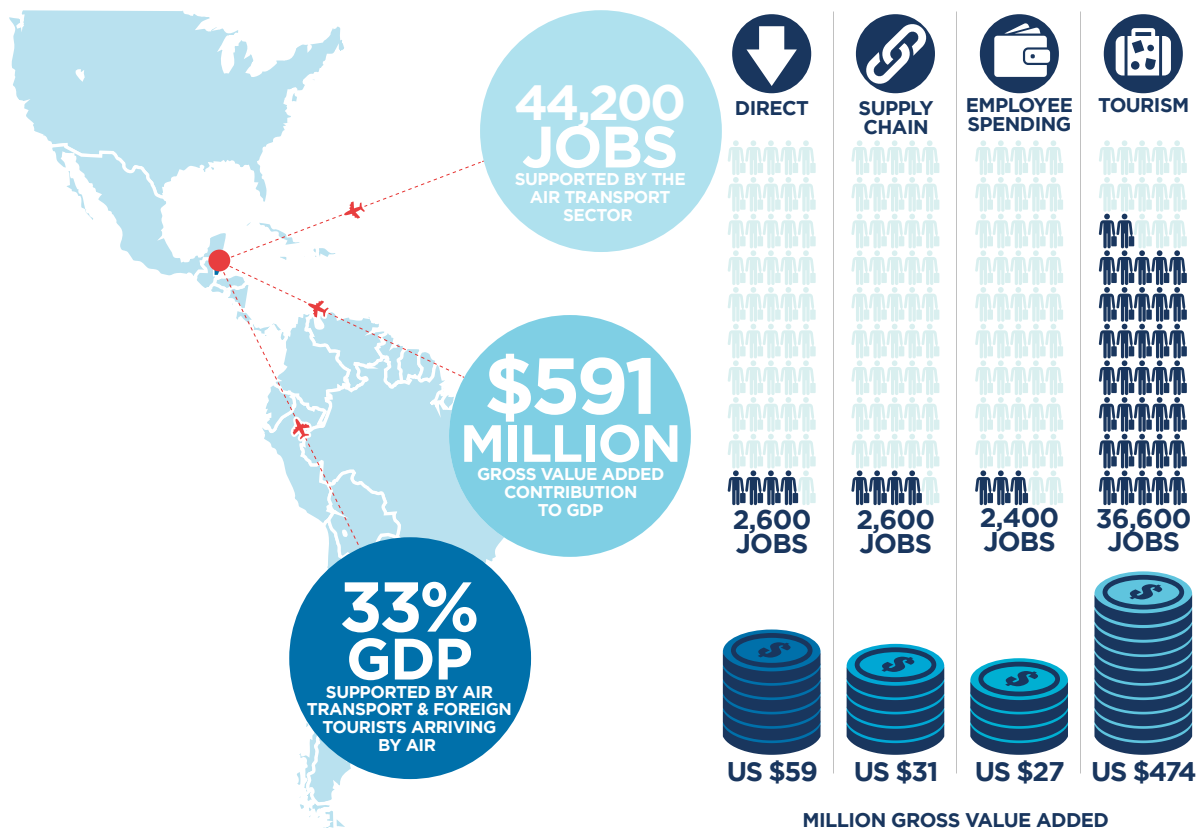
## **Acknowledgements**

Oxford Economics acknowledges the assistance from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in the preparation of this report.

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# THE IMPORTANCE OF AIR TRANSPORT TO BELIZE

## The air transport sector makes a major contribution to the economy of Belize



### It creates jobs...

Airlines, airport operators, airport on-site enterprises (restaurants and retail), aircraft manufacturers, and air navigation service providers employ 2,600 people in Belize.<sup>1</sup> In addition, by buying goods and services from local suppliers the sector supports another 2,600 jobs. On top of this, the sector is estimated to support a further 2,400 jobs by paying wages to its employees, some or all of which

are subsequently spent on consumer goods and services.

Foreign tourists arriving by air to Belize, who spend their money in the local economy, are estimated to support an additional 36,600 jobs.

### ...and generates wealth

The air transport industry is estimated to support a \$117 million gross value added contribution to GDP in Belize annually. Spending by foreign tourists supports

a further \$474 million gross value added contribution to the country's GDP.

This means that 33 percent of the country's GDP is in some way dependent on the air transport sector and foreign tourists arriving by air.



<sup>1</sup> All figures relate to calendar year 2017 unless otherwise noted.

# Air transportation facilitates exports, foreign direct investment, and tourism

## Exports, FDI, and inbound tourist spending

Air transport brings tourists and investment into Belize, and helps businesses trade their goods and services around the world. Foreign tourists spend \$422 million in

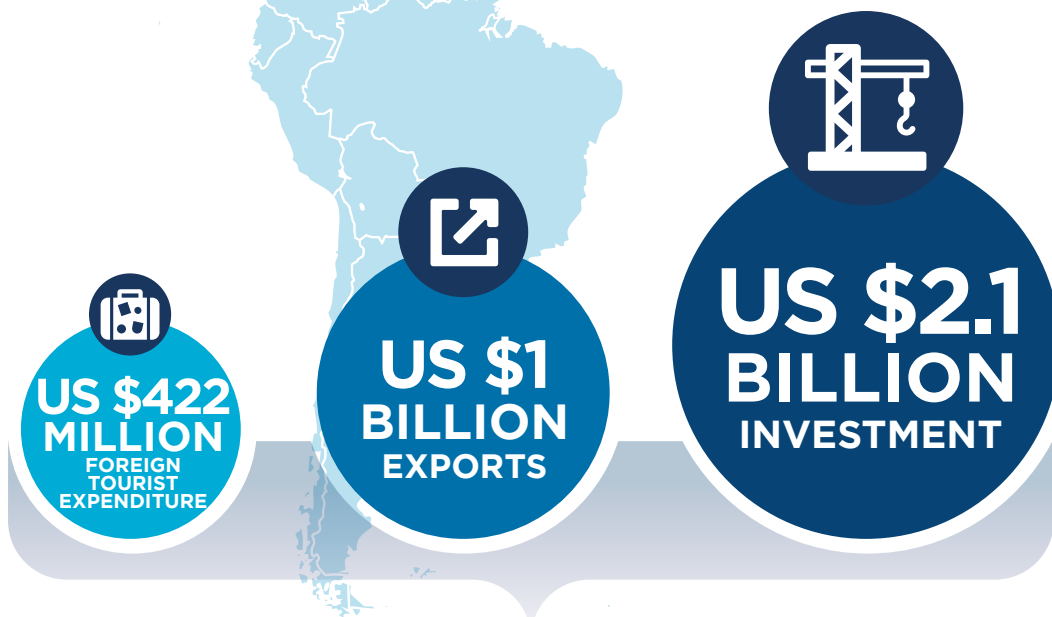
Belize each year, supporting restaurants, hotels, transport providers, and others who cater to tourists. In addition, Belize exports \$1 billion worth of goods and services to

other countries. Over time, the country has accumulated \$2.1 billion in foreign direct investment.<sup>2</sup>



### The most popular direct flight links to Belize:

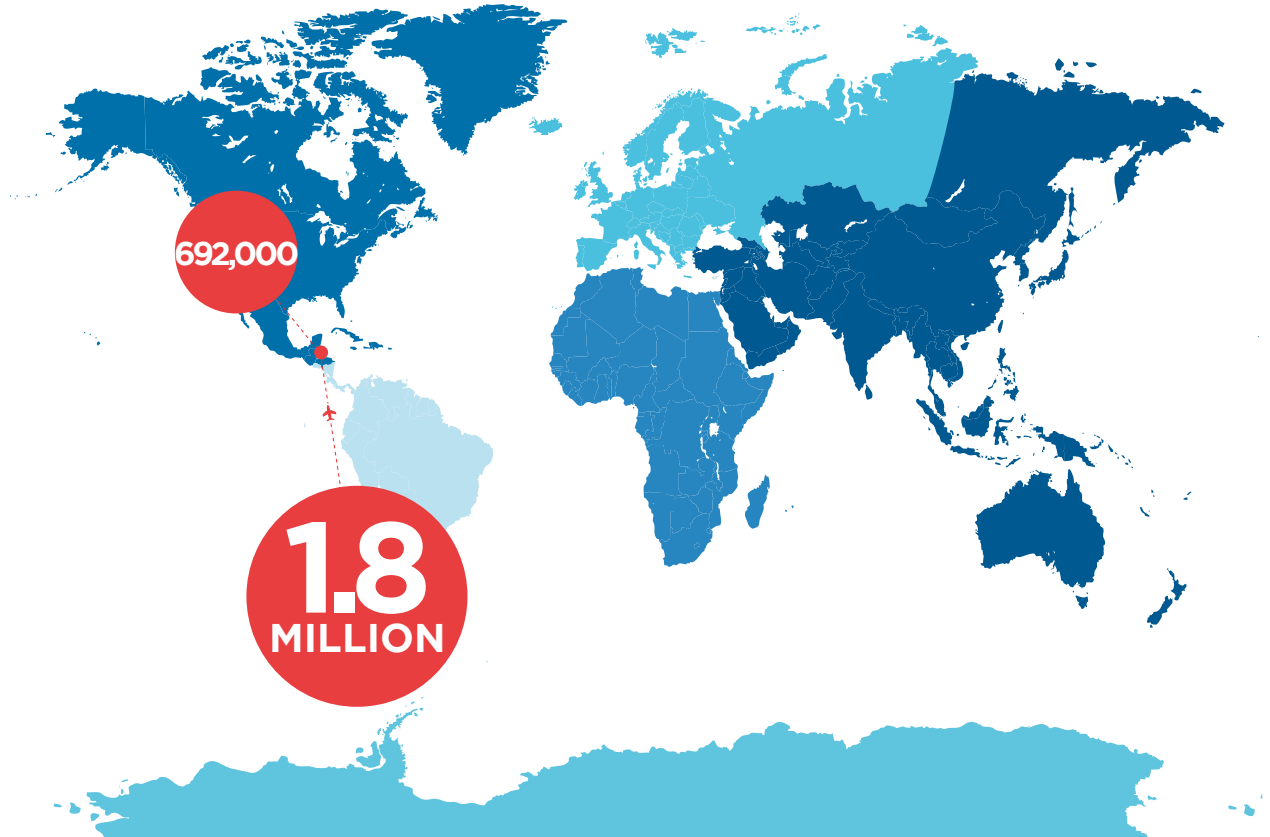
Country	Flights per year
1. United States	3,000
2. Mexico	650
3. Honduras	530
4. Guatemala	490
5. El Salvador	350
6. Panama	100
7. Canada	72



## MONEY FLOWING INTO BELIZE

<sup>2</sup> FDI is stated in 2016 prices and exchange rates.

# The air transport sector connects people around the world

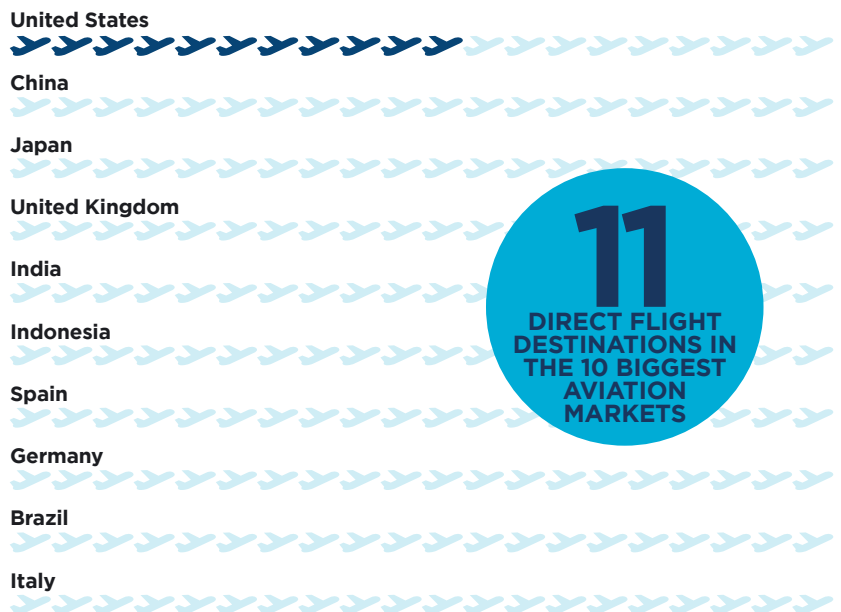


## Arrivals by region, number of passengers

North America and Africa are the largest sources of arrivals to Belize after Latin America and the Caribbean.

692,000 passengers arrived to Belize from North America (28 percent of the total) and 1.8 million arrived from other Latin America and Caribbean countries (72 percent of the total).

## Number of direct flight destinations from Belize to the world's 10 biggest aviation markets, measured by passengers



**11**  
DIRECT FLIGHT DESTINATIONS IN THE 10 BIGGEST AVIATION MARKETS

# Ease of travel, cost competitiveness, and infrastructure are vitally important

## Number of passengers travelling annually through the country's main airports



## Key infrastructure facts about Belize's air transport

Around 284,000 aircraft land or take off from Belize every year. Belize International airport carried the most passengers. The airport helps about 2.3 million people take flight annually.

## 3 priorities to advance the aviation agenda

1. Align regulatory framework with global best practices.
2. Ensure competitive costs and efficient administration in airports through open communication with the industry.
3. Ensure transparency and participation of the industry in infrastructure planning and development across Central America.



### August 2018

Oxford Economics prepared this report with IATA's support.

All currency values are in US dollars at 2017 prices and exchange rates, unless otherwise stated.

All figures pertain to calendar year 2017, unless otherwise stated.

This report is one of several that examine the air transport sector's importance around the world. Access them all from IATA's website.

**Sources:** IATA, Oxford Economics, UNCTAD, International Monetary Fund, and national statistics.

For more information, please visit [www.IATA.org](http://www.IATA.org) or contact:

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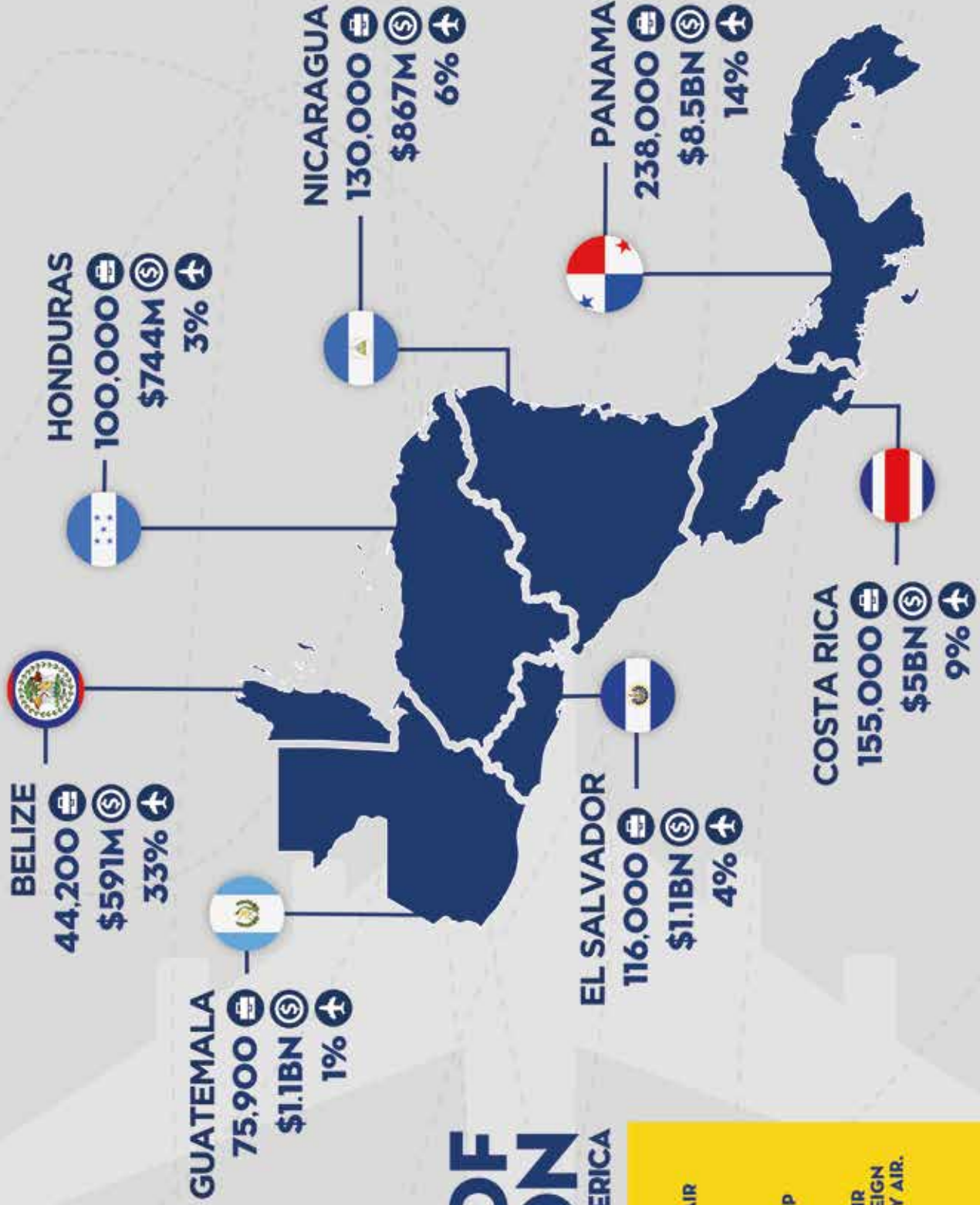
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# HOW THE VALUE OF AVIATION IMPACTS CENTRAL AMERICA



✈️ JOBS SUPPORTED BY AIR TRANSPORT SECTOR.

💰 GROSS VALUE ADDED CONTRIBUTION TO GDP IN 2017.

✈️ GDP SUPPORTED BY AIR TRANSPORT AND FOREIGN TOURISTS ARRIVING BY AIR.

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