The air transport sector makes a major contribution to Ukraine’s economy

There are different ways of measuring air transport’s impact on an economy. We look at three: the jobs and spending generated by airlines and their supply chain, the flows of trade, tourism and investment resulting from users of all airlines serving the country, and the city pair connections that make these flows possible. All provide a different but illuminating perspective on the importance of air transport.

The air transport sector supports...

Airlines, airport operators, airport on-site enterprises (restaurants and retail), aircraft manufacturers, and air navigation service providers employ 24,000 people in Ukraine. In addition, by buying goods and services from local suppliers the sector supported another 31,000 jobs. On top of this, the sector is estimated to support a further 52,000 jobs through the wages it pays its employees, some or all of which are subsequently spent on consumer goods and services. Foreign tourists arriving by air to Ukraine, who spend their money in the local economy, are estimated to support an additional 38,000 jobs. In total 146,000 jobs are supported by air transport and tourists arriving by air.

...and spending

The air transport industry, including airlines and its supply chain, are estimated to support US $1.1 billion of GDP in Ukraine. Spending by foreign tourists US $0.3 billion of the country’s GDP, totaling US $1.4 billion. In total, 1.1 percent of the country’s GDP is supported by inputs to the air transport sector and foreign tourists arriving by air.

For forecasts of the industry’s GDP and jobs contribution over the next 20 years see page 4.
Air transport facilitates flows of goods, investment and people

The most important benefits from air transport go to passengers and shippers and the spillover impacts on their businesses. The value to passengers, shippers and the economy can be seen from the spending of foreign tourists and the value of exports (though note these figures include all modes of transport). A key economic flow, stimulated by good air transport connections, is foreign direct investment, creating productive assets that will generate a long-term flow of GDP.

Top five international tourist arrivals (all modes of transport) by country of residence

1. Republic of Moldova
2. Belarus
3. Russian Federation
4. Poland
5. Hungary

Annual passenger flows by region (origin-destination, '000s)

Europe is the largest market for passenger flows to Ukraine, followed by Asia-Pacific and the Middle East. 6.4 million passengers arrived from Europe (77 percent of the total), 972 thousand passengers arrived from Asia-Pacific (11.6 percent) and 585 thousand passengers arrived in Ukraine from the Middle East (7 percent).

Source: IATA Direct Data Solutions

Note: Data relate to all modes of transport. Foreign direct investment (FDI) figure represents inward stock. Source: UNCTAD and World Bank.

Source: UNWTO and IATA.

US $2 bn
FOREIGN TOURIST EXPENDITURE

US $43.8 bn
FDI

US $59.1 bn
EXPORTS

Source: IATA Direct Data Solutions
Air transport connects Ukraine to cities around the world

Air transport generates benefits to consumers and the wider economy by providing speedy connections between cities. These virtual bridges in the air enable the economic flows of goods, investments, people and ideas that are the fundamental drivers of economic growth.

IATA’s measure of how well a country is connected to economically important cities around the world is shown above. The map shows Ukraine’s connectivity by key regions of the world and its evolution. Ukraine’s connections to the Asia-Pacific have grown the fastest, admittedly from a very low base, over the last five years.

Number of international city pairs direct service in the top ten countries by passenger numbers in the world

1. United States
2. People’s Republic of China
3. Japan
4. United Kingdom
5. India
6. Indonesia
7. Spain
8. Germany
9. Brazil
10. France

Source: IATA Economics

Source: IATA Economics

Source: IATA, Aviation Benefits Beyond Borders 2018 report
Ease of travel, visa openness, and trade facilitation are vitally important

If air transport’s unique contribution is the bridges it creates between cities, then the flows of goods, people, investment and ideas that stimulate economic development must flow unimpeded to maximise their contribution to consumers and the wider economy. Here we measure how freely goods and people flow across borders.

Passenger facilitation and visa openness

Ukraine’s passenger facilitation (5.1/10) scores above the European average (4/10). On the World Economic Forum’s Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index, the country ranks 39th out of 140 countries for visa openness. In all these scores, higher is better.

Measures of air cargo trade facilitation

Ukraine’s facilitation of air cargo through its regulations ranks 81st out of 124 countries in terms of the Air Trade Facilitation Index (ATFI) and 83rd out of 135 countries in terms of the eFreight Friendliness Index (EFFI) globally.

Forecast scenarios for passenger traffic, jobs and GDP footprint

Air transport in Ukraine is forecast to grow by 96% in the next 20 years under the “current trends” scenario. This would result in an additional almost 9.8 million passenger departures by 2038. If met, this increased demand would support approximately US $2.7 billion of GDP and almost 210,000 jobs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PASSENGERS</th>
<th>US $ GDP</th>
<th>JOBS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>10.2 m</td>
<td>$1.4 bn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>19.9 m</td>
<td>$2.7 bn</td>
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<td>Trends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upside</td>
<td>26.7 m</td>
<td>$3.7 bn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Downside</td>
<td>16.7 m</td>
<td>$2.3 bn</td>
<td>172,723</td>
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<tr>
<td>2038</td>
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