The air transport sector makes a major contribution to the German economy

It creates jobs...

Airlines, airport operators, airport on-site enterprises (restaurants and retail), aircraft manufacturers, and air navigation service providers employed 330,000 people in Germany in 2014. In addition, by buying goods and services from local suppliers the sector supported another 300,000 jobs. On top of this, the sector is estimated to have supported a further 170,000 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 Germany, who spend their money in the local economy, are estimated to have supported an additional 250,000 jobs in 2014.

...and generates wealth

The air transport industry is estimated to have supported a $68 billion gross value added contribution to GDP in Germany in 2014. Spending by foreign tourists supported a further $17 billion gross value added contribution to the country’s GDP. This means that 2.2 percent of the country’s GDP is supported by the air transport sector and foreign tourists arriving by air.
The importance of air transport to Germany

Air transport brings tourists and investment into Germany, and helps businesses trade their goods and services around the world. In 2014, foreign tourists spent US $37.8 billion in Germany, supporting restaurants, hotels, transport providers, and others who cater to tourists. In addition, Germany exported US $1.8 trillion worth of goods and services in 2014. Over time, the country has accumulated US $1.1 trillion in foreign direct investment.

The ten most popular direct flight links:

1. Spain
2. United Kingdom
3. Italy
4. France
5. Switzerland
6. Turkey
7. Austria
8. Netherlands
9. United States
10. Poland

The scale of investment, exports, and inbound spending in Germany

Air transportation facilitates exports, foreign direct investment, and tourism.
The importance of air transport to Germany

Number of direct flights to the top ten fastest growing cities

1. Surat
2. Ahmedabad
3. Ho Chi Minh City
4. Hà Nội
5. Delhi
6. Bengaluru
7. Hyderabad (India)
8. Kinshasa
9. Dhaka
10. Lagos

Number of direct flight destinations in the ten fastest growing countries

1. India
2. Bangladesh
3. Vietnam
4. Pakistan
5. China
6. Indonesia
7. Philippines
8. Kazakhstan
9. Angola
10. Nigeria

Arrivals by continent, number of passengers (000s)

- North America: 8,500
- Asia-Pacific: 108,000
- Europe: 8,300

The air transport sector’s ability to connect Germany to emerging countries and fast growing cities can help drive economic growth. There are 19 direct flight destinations among the ten fastest growing countries in the world as measured by GDP growth and 54 direct flight destinations among the 20 fastest growing countries. There are 43 direct weekly flights among the ten fastest growing cities in the world as measured by GDP growth and 168 direct weekly flights among the 100 fastest growing cities.¹

Arrivals by continent

In 2014, 8.5 million passengers arrived to Germany from North America (6.3 percent of the total) and 8.3 million passengers arrived from Asia-Pacific (6.2 percent).

¹ Fastest growing countries are Ranked by Oxford Economics’ forecasted real GDP growth 2015-2030, with a threshold of >US $100 million GDP. Fastest growing cities are ranked by Oxford Economics’ forecasted real GDP growth 2015-2030, with a minimum city size of 5 million.
Ease of travel, cost competitiveness, and infrastructure are vitally important

Survey evidence of infrastructure and ease of travel

Executives surveyed by the World Economic Forum suggest that Germany’s air transport infrastructure quality ranks 3rd out of 42 countries included in the survey in Europe and 3rd globally. Germany ranks 10th out of 42 in Europe for visa openness and 37th for cost competitiveness.

Key infrastructure facts about German air transport

Around 1.8 million aircraft land or take off from Germany every year. The country has 4 airports that are in the top 100 in the world (ranked by passenger numbers). Frankfurt International Airport airport carried the most passengers - 57 million - in 2014.

Number of passengers travelling annually through the five busiest airports in the country (000s)

1. FRANKFURT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
   - 57,000
2. FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS INTERNATIONAL
   - 38,800
3. TEGEL
   - 21,500
4. DUESSELDORF INTERNATIONAL
   - 20,800
5. HAMBURG
   - 14,400

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