

EUROPEAN UNION²¹⁴

Air transport supported 9.8 million jobs and \$794 (€672) billion in European Union economic activity. That is 4.2% of all employment and 4.2% of all GDP in European Union countries (EU28 – including the UK) in 2018.

Every person directly employed in the aviation sector and in tourism made possible by aviation supported another 3.8 jobs elsewhere in the European Union. Similarly, \$3 (€2.54) of economic activity was supported elsewhere in the European Union for every \$1 (€0.85) of gross value added directly created by the air transport sector.

The aviation sector in the European Union directly employed around two million people in 2018 in the following sub-sectors:

- » **Airlines: 397,000** (19% of the total)
- » **Airport operators: 135,000** (7%)
- » **Other on-airport: 1.1 million** (56%)
- » **Civil aerospace: 320,000** (16%)
- » **Air navigation service providers: 43,000** (2%)

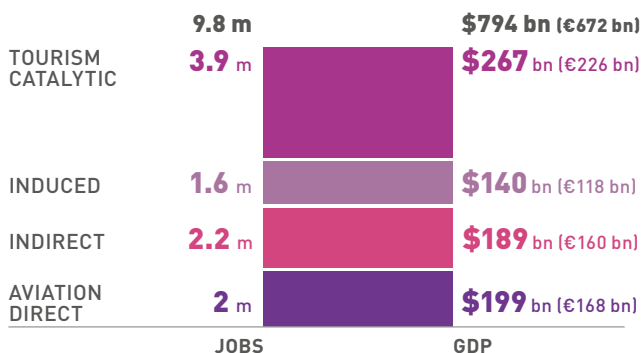
Airlines, airport operators, retailers and other on-site businesses at airports and air navigation service providers and civil aircraft manufacturers also contribute to GDP in the European Union. In 2018, the operations of these businesses directly generated a \$199 billion (€168 billion) contribution to GDP, equivalent to the entire GDP of Barcelona.

The aviation sector's spending with suppliers is estimated to have supported a further 2.2 million jobs and a \$189 billion (€160 billion) gross value-added contribution to GDP. In addition, wage payments to staff – by the aviation sector and businesses in the aviation sector's supply chain – supported 1.6 million more jobs and a \$140 billion (€118 billion) gross value-added contribution to GDP.

In total, accounting for the sector's direct impact, its supply chain impact, its wage expenditure impact, and the impact of tourism made possible by air transport, the aviation sector supported an estimated 9.8 million jobs and a \$794 billion (€672 billion) contribution to GDP in the European Union in 2018.

Air travel in the 27 European Union countries is expected to continue to grow at about 2.1% per year over the next two decades. This increase will, in turn, drive growth in the economic output and jobs that are supported by the air transport industry over the next 20 years. Oxford Economics forecasts that by 2038, the impact of air transport and the tourism it facilitates in the European Union will have grown to support 12 million jobs (23% more than in 2018) and a \$1.1 trillion (€889 billion) contribution to GDP (32% increase). Note that this growth figure compares EU 27 countries in 2018 with EU 27 in 2038 – the United Kingdom is removed from both figures.

Total jobs and GDP generated by air transport in the EU28 economies, 2018.



903 million passengers

19.6% share of global passenger traffic

234 airlines

417 airports

5,087 aircraft in service