

EUROPEAN UNION¹⁹⁰

Air transport supports 9.4 million jobs and \$691 (€624) billion in European Union economic activity. That is 4.1% of all employment and 4.2% of all GDP in European Union countries (EU28) in 2016.

811 million
passengers

20%
share of passenger traffic

431
airports

224
airlines

5,025
aircraft in service

Every person directly employed in the aviation sector and in tourism made possible by aviation supported another 4.8 jobs elsewhere in the European Union. Similarly, \$4.30 of economic activity was supported elsewhere in the European Union for every \$1 of gross value added directly created by the air transport sector.

The aviation sector in the European Union directly employed two million people in 2016 in the following sub-sectors:

- » **Airlines: 371,300** (18.8% of the total)
- » **Airport operators: 122,800** (6.2%)
- » **Other on-airport: 1.2 million** (59.2%)
- » **Civil aerospace: 267,900** (13.6%)
- » **Air navigation service providers: 43,700** (2.2%)

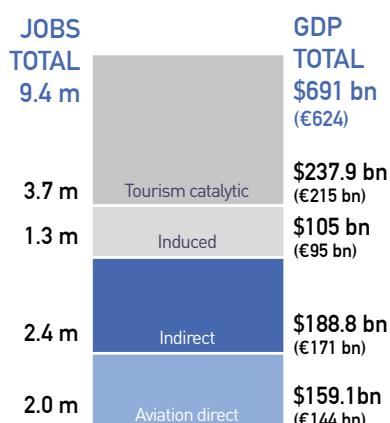
Airlines, airport operators, retailers and other on-site businesses at airports and air navigation service providers and civil aircraft manufacturers also contribute to GDP in the European Union. In 2016, the operations of these businesses directly generated a \$159 billion contribution to GDP.

The aviation sector's spending with suppliers is estimated to have supported a further 2.4 million jobs and a \$189 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 1.3 million more jobs and a \$105 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 9.4 million jobs and a \$691 billion contribution to GDP in the European Union in 2016.

Air travel in the 28 European Union countries is expected to continue to grow at about 3.4% 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 2036 the impact of air transport and the tourism it facilitates in the European Union will have grown to support 14 million jobs (48% more than in 2016) and a \$1.3 trillion contribution to GDP (86% increase).

Total jobs and GDP supported by air transport in the EU28 economies



Note: These numbers include the United Kingdom, which is due to withdraw from EU membership in 2019.