



# GLOBAL AVIATION MONITOR

## September 2024

Statistical Report of Global, European and German Air Transport



# Contents September 2024

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# The Global Aviation Monitor

The Global Aviation Monitor is a statistical report series from the Institute of Air Transport of the German Aerospace Center, which serves as a supplement to various statistics, such as those from the Federal Statistical Office or the German Airports Association (ADV).

It provides monthly reports on the supply of flights in Germany, Europe, and worldwide. The development of flights over the last fifteen months is presented in the form of a time series. Additionally, there is a monthly ranking of the largest airports and airlines in Germany, Europe, and worldwide, which are compared to the values of the previous year. The data is released during each month and represents the planned data for the current month.

This report fills a gap that is of interest to both airports and airlines in assessing their position on a global scale. It is of interest to policy-makers, administrators, industry stakeholders, and tourism offices to gauge the performance of their region. In the event of significant changes, it is worthwhile to examine closely what has caused them. Due to its monthly updates, the report can serve as a leading indicator for trends and developments.



The report is being developed at the Air Transport Development department of the DLR-Institute of Air Transport. The department develops and applies methods for analysing and forecasting air transport at various levels (global, national, regional, airport-specific).

## Number of Monthly departures in September 2024

Global air travel rises at major airports in September 2024

At 19 of the world's 25 largest airports, the number of departures increased in September 2024 compared to last year. The six largest airports are in North America, with Chicago leading as the busiest, recording around 32.5 thousand departures. In 7th place is Shanghai Pudong Airport in Asia, followed by Istanbul Airport in Europe at 8th. Frankfurt ranks 15th globally.

This figure shows the twenty-five largest **airports worldwide**, measured in passenger flights.

Rank	Airport	09/2024	Growth rate
1	Chicago O'Hare International	32,479	10.3
2	Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Intl	31,515	0.7
3	Dallas/Fort Worth Intl	29,468	6.5
4	Denver Intl	27,820	2.6
5	Charlotte	22,592	11.8
6	Los Angeles International	21,092	-0.8
7	Shanghai Pudong International	21,012	16.6
8	Istanbul	20,866	-0.2
9	Tokyo Haneda	20,518	6.8
10	London Heathrow	20,431	3.0
11	Amsterdam	20,332	3.8
12	Guangzhou	19,021	-2.4
13	Paris Charles de Gaulle	19,015	4.3
14	Seattle/Tacoma International	18,685	2.8
15	Frankfurt	18,536	-1.1
16	Delhi	18,522	4.8
17	New York J F Kennedy	18,090	-1.6
18	Beijing Capital	18,007	8.2
19	Dubai	17,586	3.5
20	Las Vegas McCarran International	17,527	-1.9
21	Jakarta Soekarno-Hatta	17,474	7.0
22	Houston George Bush	17,127	6.4
23	Shenzhen	17,007	9.0
24	Boston Logan International	16,956	8.4
25	Madrid Barajas	16,674	7.4

Source: DLR

This table shows the twenty-five largest **European airports**, measured in passenger flights.

Rank	Airport	09/2024	Growth rate
1	Istanbul	20,866	-0.2
2	London Heathrow	20,431	3.0
3	Amsterdam	20,332	3.8
4	Paris Charles de Gaulle	19,015	4.3
5	Frankfurt	18,536	-1.1
6	Madrid Barajas	16,674	7.4
7	Rome Fiumicino	14,943	19.2
8	Barcelona	14,831	11.4
9	Munich	14,324	4.1
10	London Gatwick	12,780	2.2
11	Palma Mallorca	12,622	8.0
12	Athens Intl Eleftherios Venizelos	12,058	10.4
13	Moscow Sheremetyevo	11,125	18.9
14	Vienna	10,931	7.6
15	Antalya	10,812	2.0
16	Zurich	10,756	4.0
17	Dublin	10,734	3.1
18	Copenhagen	10,336	4.3
19	Lisbon	9,815	0.0
20	Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen	9,652	-0.6
21	Paris Orly	9,551	-2.1
22	Oslo	9,409	2.4
23	Manchester International	9,231	8.8
24	Milán Malpensa	8,698	7.8
25	Stockholm Arlanda	8,192	-1.4

Source: DLR

Europe's leading airports exceed 18,000 flights in September 2024

The busiest European airports in September 2024 are Istanbul, London Heathrow, Amsterdam, Paris, and Frankfurt, each recording over 18,000 scheduled passenger departures.

Ranking by Airports Globally, for Europe and Germany

The twenty-five largest **German airports** are listed below, measured in passenger flights.

Rank	Airport	09/2024	Growth rate
1	Frankfurt	18,536	-1.1
2	Munich	14,324	4.1
3	Berlin	8,107	8.9
4	Dusseldorf	7,271	-0.1
5	Hamburg	5,296	5.3
6	Stuttgart	3,676	3.6
7	Cologne/Bonn	3,463	-2.1
8	Hanover	2,020	13.7
9	Nuremberg	1,522	0.6
10	Memmingen	876	13.0
11	Dortmund	863	-0.1
12	Bremen	734	0.7
13	Leipzig/Halle	710	1.4
14	Weeze	639	21.9
15	Munster	533	6.0
16	Hahn	526	19.0
17	Karlsruhe/Baden Baden	492	4.9
18	Dresden	420	-7.3
19	Paderborn	313	17.7
20	Saarbrücken	202	5.2
21	Westerland	154	-2.5
22	Erfurt	48	100.0
23	Friedrichshafen	47	-67.4
24	Kassel	44	-17.0
25	Luebeck	43	-57.8

Source: DLR

Germany sees varied departure trends at airports in September 2024

In Germany, the number of departures at most major airports increased in September 2024 compared to the previous year. Frankfurt remains the largest airport, followed by Munich and Berlin. Smaller airports like Memmingen, Weeze, and Hahn saw a notable rise in departures, attributed to low-cost carriers. In contrast, very small airports such as Lübeck and Friedrichshafen experienced a significant decline in departures.

## Number of Monthly departures in September 2024

### Airline flight numbers rise worldwide in September 2024

Most major airlines worldwide increased their number of scheduled passenger flights in September 2024 compared to the previous year. American Airlines leads with approximately 176,300 departures, while Lufthansa ranks 12th with 37,100 departures. Turkish Airlines experienced a significant decline, partly due to transferring flights to its new subsidiary, Ajet. When comparing to the previous year, factors like holidays and public vacations must be considered, as they can affect flight availability.

### Ryanair dominates European flights with 9% growth in September 2024

Ryanair offers the largest number of flights in Europe for September 2024, with nearly 100,000 departures and a 9% increase compared to last year. EasyJet follows with around 54,000 departures. In contrast, Wizz Air has seen a decline, partly due to shifting flights to its subsidiary, Wizz Malta.

This figure shows the **world's** twenty-five **largest airlines**, measured in passenger flights.

Tab. 4: Number of monthly departures by the largest airlines in the world

Rank	Airline	09/2024	Growth rate
1	American Airlines	176,315	6.8
2	Delta Air Lines	143,259	4.2
3	United Airlines	137,181	6.9
4	Southwest Airlines	114,207	-4.4
5	Ryanair	102,113	9.1
6	China Eastern Airlines	70,768	0.6
7	China Southern Airlines	69,602	-1.3
8	IndiGo Air	63,534	7.8
9	easyJet	55,383	3.5
10	Air China	52,664	1.7
11	Lan Airlines	45,589	6.3
12	Lufthansa German Airlines	37,075	-4.9
13	Alaska Airlines	36,490	2.7
14	Turkish Airlines	35,155	-26.1
15	Air Canada	32,554	1.4
16	All Nippon Airways	31,527	7.0
17	Aeroflot Russian Airlines	29,645	21.7
18	Azul	27,293	4.2
19	British Airways	26,867	3.4
20	Japan Airlines International	25,784	1.3
21	Air France	24,848	1.0
22	JetBlue Airways Corporation	24,120	-12.5
23	Shenzhen Airlines	23,232	1.4
24	Qantas Airways	23,164	-0.7
25	Hainan Airlines	22,940	3.0

Source: DLR

The twenty-five **airlines in Europe** with the most passenger flights are listed below.

Tab. 5: Number of monthly departures by the largest airlines in Europe from European airports

Rank	Airline	09/2024	Growth rate
1	Ryanair	99,850	9.2
2	easyJet	54,225	3.0
3	Lufthansa German Airlines	34,529	-4.8
4	Turkish Airlines	29,730	-28.7
5	British Airways	23,602	3.4
6	Aeroflot Russian Airlines	23,338	22.0
7	Air France	21,412	1.1
8	SAS Scandinavian Airlines	20,440	-0.4
9	KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines	20,200	3.2
10	Vueling Airlines	20,040	2.8
11	Iberia	17,962	3.6
12	Eurowings	17,955	3.0
13	Pegasus Airlines	16,612	7.4
14	Jet2.com	13,594	11.0
15	Wizz Air Malta	12,351	34.7
16	Swiss	12,121	7.3
17	Wizz Air	12,089	-11.7
18	ITA Airways	11,712	9.1
19	Austrian Airlines AG	11,153	4.5
20	Widerøe's Flyveselskap	10,483	3.8
21	SunExpress	10,438	15.9
22	Aegean Airlines	10,387	21.1
23	Ajet	9,861	----
24	Aer Lingus	9,551	3.7
25	Finnair	9,444	15.7

Source: DLR

This table ranks the twenty-five **airlines** that offer the most passenger flights in **Germany**.

Tab. 6: Number of monthly departures by the largest airlines in Germany from German airports

Rank	Airline	09/2024	Growth rate
1	Lufthansa German Airlines	22,373	-4.9
2	Eurowings	9,534	3.1
3	Ryanair	4,868	6.9
4	SunExpress	2,710	7.4
5	Condor Flugdienst	2,576	7.8
6	Air Dolomiti	2,115	20.8
7	easyJet	1,548	7.4
8	KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines	1,345	-0.2
9	Pegasus Airlines	1,264	9.0
10	TUIfly	1,248	12.3
11	Austrian Airlines AG	1,226	1.7
12	Eurowings Discover	1,082	68.3
13	Turkish Airlines	1,059	-32.5
14	Air France	958	-5.1
15	Swiss	957	-1.8
16	British Airways	943	-7.3
17	Wizz Air	779	-9.6
18	SAS Scandinavian Airlines	639	-5.2
19	Wizz Air Malta	603	15.3
20	Aegean Airlines	563	5.6
21	Corendon	499	9.7
22	United Airlines	480	-11.3
23	Marabu Airlines	467	12.3
24	Iberia	459	6.0
25	Ajet	450	----

Source: DLR

### September 2024: Lufthansa and Eurowings lead in German flights

Lufthansa leads the German market with approximately 22,400 departures in September 2024, followed by Eurowings with over 9,500 departures and Ryanair with around 5,000. Eurowings Discover has significantly increased its flight capacity, rising from about 640 departures last year to over 1,080 this year. Lufthansa declines slightly but offsets this decrease with the new Lufthansa City Airlines.

## Ranking by Airlines Globally, for Europe and Germany



# Number of Monthly departures and growth rate

## Global and German air traffic trends in September 2024

The following diagrams show the development of global and German flight capacity over the last fifteen months, both worldwide and in the individual region.

# Development Globally and for Germany

Fig. 1: Development of the global air transport supply

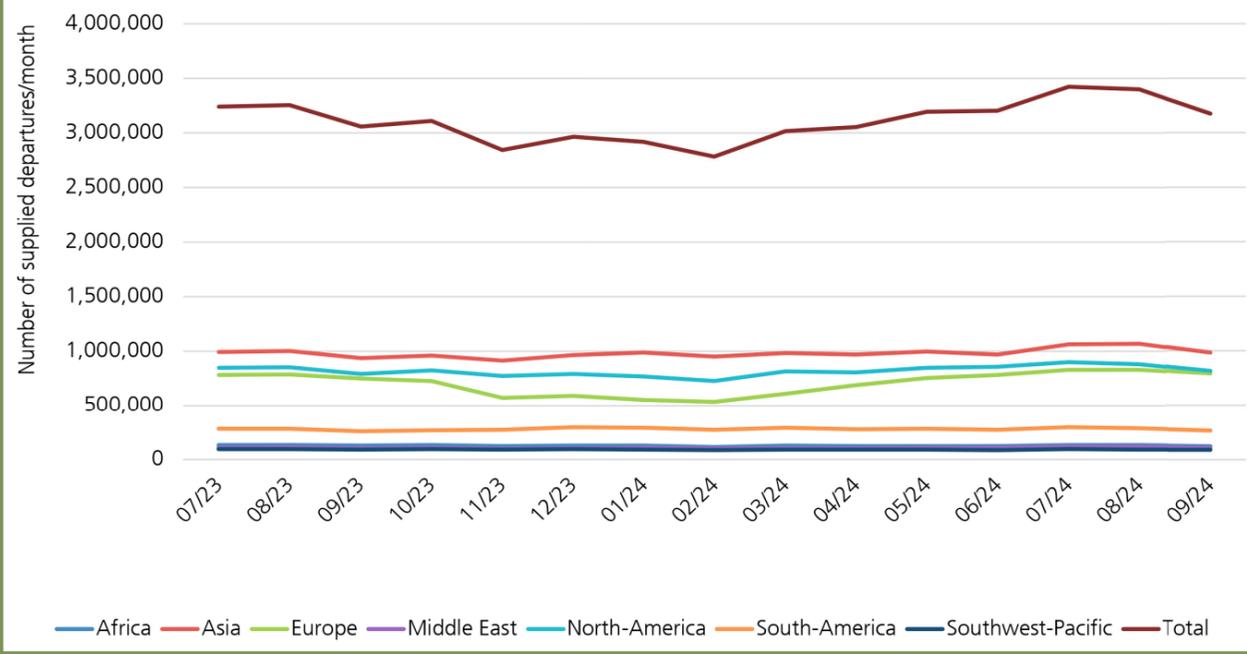


Fig. 2: Changes in the global air transport supply

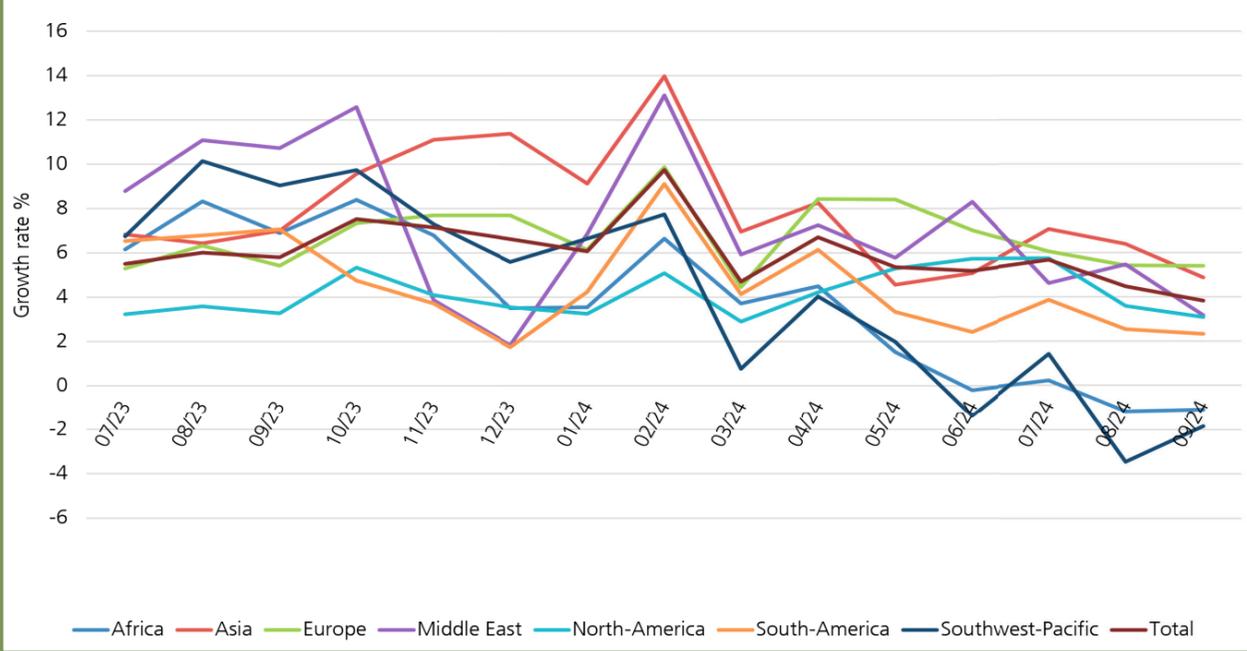


Fig. 1-2: **Worldwide passenger flight numbers up 3.8% in September 2024**

In September 2024, the number of scheduled passenger flights worldwide increased by around 3.8% compared to the previous year, reaching 3.2 million departures. Asia, North America, and Europe report the highest volumes, with Asia and Europe showing the strongest growth at about 5%.

Fig. 3-4: **Germany's September 2024 passenger flights rise by 2.6%**

In Germany, about 71,000 scheduled passenger departures will be available in September 2024, a 2.6% increase from last year. Of these, nearly 63,000 flights are destined for European airports.

Fig. 3: Development of the German air transport supply

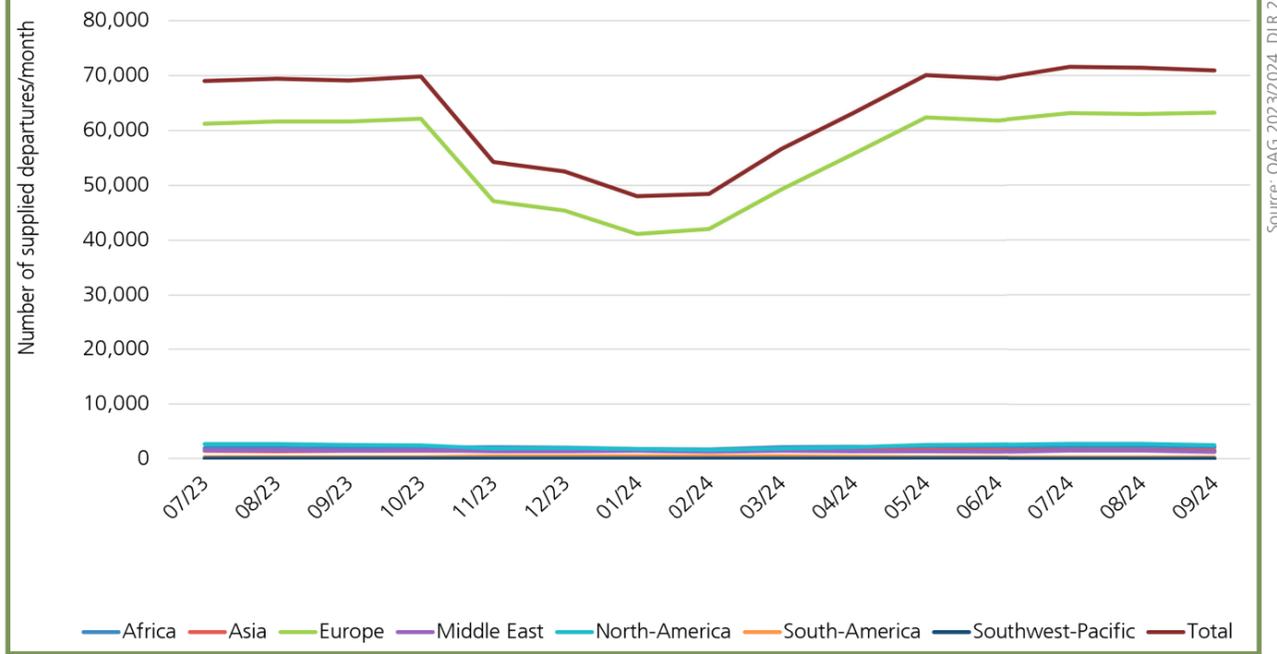
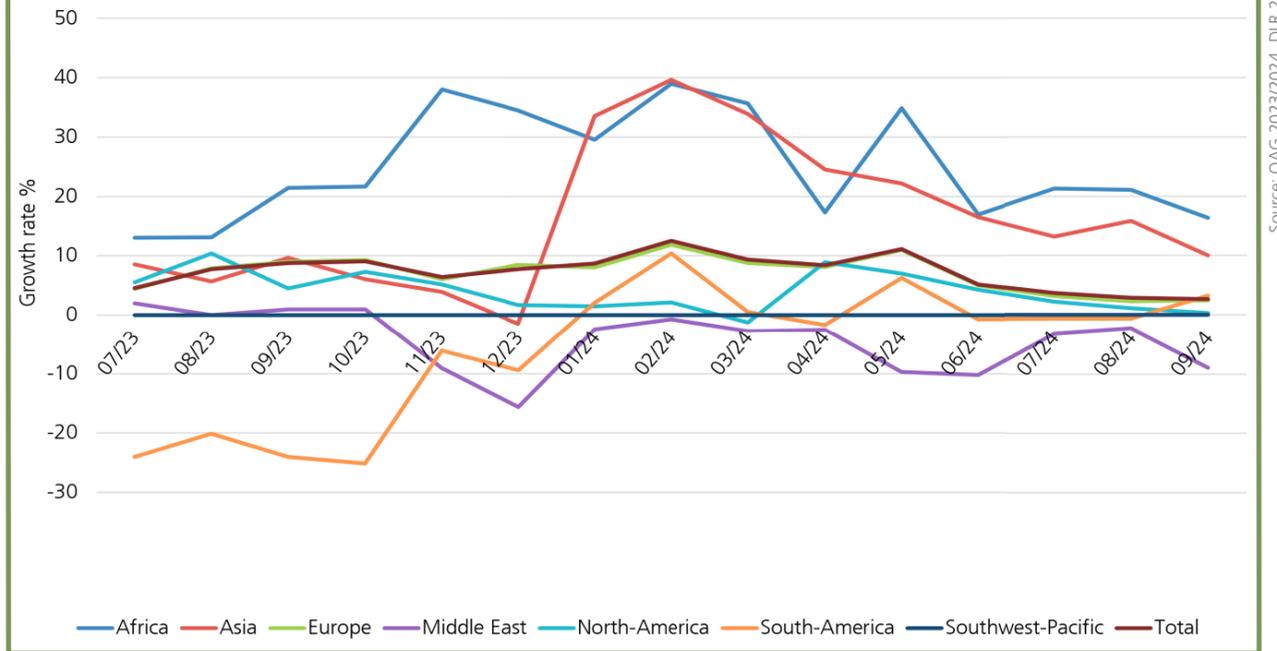


Fig. 4: Changes in the German air transport supply



## DLR Overview

The DLR is the research center of the Federal Republic of Germany for aerospace. We conduct research and development in aviation, space, energy, transportation, security, and digitalisation. The German Space Agency at DLR is responsible, on behalf of the Federal Government, for planning and implementing German space activities. Two DLR project agencies manage funding programmes and support knowledge transfer.

Climate, mobility, and technology are changing globally. The DLR utilises the expertise of its 54 institutes and facilities to develop solutions for these challenges. Our more than 10,000 employees have a common mission: we explore Earth and space and develop technologies for a sustainable future. In doing so, we contribute to strengthening Germany's knowledge and economic base.

## DLR Institute of Air Transport

The DLR Institute of Air Transport researches the complex interactions within the air transport system. We develop future scenarios, conduct economic and business analyses, and model and simulate flight and fleet operations.

We forecast, shape, and evaluate air transport as part of the overall transport system to enhance climate compatibility and performance. To achieve this, we integrate ecological, economic, technological, and social aspects of air transport.

Within DLR, we consolidate expertise in analysing air transport markets and assessing the entire value chain. This positions us as a competent partner for industry, society, and policy makers.

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