GLOBAL AVIATION MONITOR
August 2025

Statistical Report of Global, European and German Air Transport

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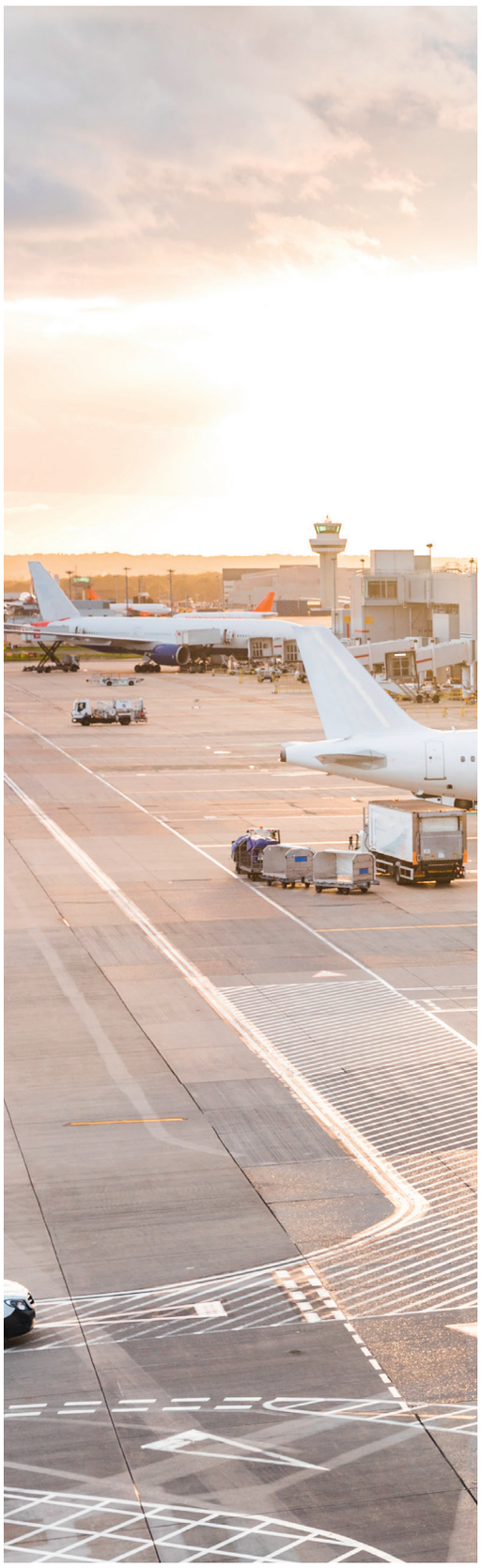
The DLR Global Aviation Monitor

The Global Aviation Monitor is a statistical report series from the DLR 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 Institute of Air Transport provides further advanced forecasting capabilities. Combining established statistical techniques with innovative modelling approaches and a broad dataset, it delivers short-, medium-, and long-term forecasts on passenger and cargo traffic, airport capacity, fleet development, and route networks. These insights support strategic decision-making for stakeholders across the sector, reinforcing the institute's role in shaping future air transport planning at regional and global levels.



The report is being developed at the Air Transport Development department of the DLR Institute of Air Transport.

Global air traffic and emissions are projected to rise in the coming decades, driving the need for sustainable technological advancements. The department researches forecasting methods to anticipate demand and supply across different regions and aircraft types. These forecasts support strategic planning for infrastructure, connectivity, and environmental measures. By combining ecological, economic, and social factors, the department assesses new technologies and develops scenarios and roadmaps to guide the aviation sector towards climate-compatible growth.

Number of Monthly Departures in August 2025

Ranking by Airports Globally, for Europe & Germany

Chicago Tops Global Airport Rankings

At 16 of the world's 25 largest airports, the number of departures in August 2025 increased compared with the previous year. The four busiest airports are in North America, with Chicago in first place at around 37,000 departures. In sixth and seventh place are the Asian airports of Guangzhou and Shanghai Pudong, while Istanbul and Amsterdam are in fifth and eleventh place respectively among European airports. Frankfurt ranks 14th worldwide.

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

Tab. 1: Number of monthly departures at the largest airports in the world

Rank	Airport	08/2025	Growth rate
1	Chicago O'Hare International	37,027	9.1
2	Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Intl	33,465	1.1
3	Dallas/Fort Worth Intl	31,027	-2.6
4	Denver Intl	29,999	2.7
5	Istanbul	23,723	9.0
6	Guangzhou	23,066	4.3
7	Shanghai Pudong International	22,986	2.9
8	Los Angeles International	22,758	-0.7
9	Charlotte	21,740	-9.5
10	Tokyo Haneda	21,346	0.6
11	Amsterdam	21,250	1.7
12	London Heathrow	20,879	-0.5
13	Paris Charles de Gaulle	20,188	0.0
14	Frankfurt	20,169	6.0
15	Seattle/Tacoma International	20,070	-1.5
16	New York J F Kennedy	19,942	0.1
17	Dubai	19,379	4.8
18	Beijing Capital	19,078	1.3
19	Houston George Bush	18,487	-0.4
20	Chengdu Tianfu	18,346	2.5
21	Shenzhen	18,259	2.5
22	Boston Logan International	18,000	-0.9
23	Delhi	17,452	-9.5
24	Madrid Barajas	17,237	0.6
25	Las Vegas McCarran International	16,888	-5.9

Source: DLR

Istanbul and Amsterdam Lead in Europe in August 2025

The largest European airports by passenger departures in August 2025 are Istanbul, Amsterdam, London Heathrow, Paris and Frankfurt, each with more than 20,000 scheduled departures. Most of these airports recorded growth compared with the previous year.

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

Tab. 2: Number of monthly departures at the largest airports in Europe

Rank	Airport	08/2025	Growth rate
1	Istanbul	23,723	9.0
2	Amsterdam	21,250	1.7
3	London Heathrow	20,879	-0.5
4	Paris Charles de Gaulle	20,188	0.0
5	Frankfurt	20,169	6.0
6	Madrid Barajas	17,237	0.6
7	Rome Fiumicino	15,914	0.2
8	Barcelona	15,865	4.0
9	Munich	14,862	2.6
10	Palma Mallorca	14,187	1.5
11	Athens Intl Eleftherios Venizelos	13,725	3.4
12	London Gatwick	13,081	-1.8
13	Antalya	13,058	11.0
14	Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen	12,471	17.8
15	Moscow Sheremetyevo	12,107	0.2
16	Dublin	11,590	3.1
17	Zurich	11,511	4.1
18	Vienna	11,446	1.3
19	Copenhagen	11,201	8.5
20	Paris Orly	10,495	3.8
21	Lisbon	10,336	1.6
22	Manchester International	9,706	1.1
23	Oslo	9,424	2.5
24	Milan Malpensa	9,252	6.9
25	Malaga	8,704	6.9

Source: DLR

Number of Monthly Departures in August 2025

Tab. 3: Number of monthly departures at the largest airports in Germany

Rank	Airport	08/2025	Growth rate
1	Frankfurt	20,169	6.0
2	Munich	14,862	2.6
3	Berlin	7,929	2.5
4	Dusseldorf	7,492	3.3
5	Hamburg	5,101	-3.5
6	Stuttgart	3,825	3.4
7	Cologne/Bonn	3,586	0.8
8	Hanover	1,911	-0.7
9	Nuremberg	1,623	2.6
10	Memmingen	1,052	14.2
11	Dortmund	908	7.5
12	Bremen	845	15.4
13	Weeze	698	2.2
14	Leipzig/Halle	695	-0.1
15	Karlsruhe/Baden Baden	672	30.2
16	Hahn	643	16.3
17	Munster	484	-12.5
18	Dresden	473	14.0
19	Paderborn	239	-23.9
20	Westerland	149	-12.9
21	Erfurt	130	182.6
22	Saarbrucken	121	-36.0
23	Friedrichshafen	89	78.0
24	Luebeck	41	-6.8
25	Kassel	33	-10.8

Source: DLR

Frankfurt Ahead in Germany, Strong Growth at Erfurt

Germany's largest airport in August 2025 is Frankfurt, with around 20,200 departures. With the exception of Hamburg, all major German airports recorded positive growth. Airports particularly served by low-cost carriers, such as Karlsruhe, Hahn and Memmingen, posted especially high growth rates. Smaller airports such as Saarbrucken and Paderborn experienced a decline in departures. Strong growth was recorded at Erfurt, driven by expansion to Turkey as well as new services to Egypt and Greece.

Here, the twenty-five largest **German airports** are listed, measured in passenger flights.

Ranking by Airlines Globally, for Europe & Germany

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

Rank	Airline	08/2025	Growth rate
1	American Airlines	192,871	0.2
2	Delta Air Lines	158,365	4.3
3	United Airlines	153,168	7.3
4	Southwest Airlines	116,518	-3.1
5	Ryanair	109,643	2.0
6	China Eastern Airlines	81,618	1.9
7	China Southern Airlines	78,325	3.3
8	IndiGo Air	62,709	-1.9
9	easyJet	57,766	1.2
10	Air China	56,995	1.3
11	LATAM Airlines	50,185	6.4
12	Alaska Airlines	41,553	4.2
13	Turkish Airlines	39,637	8.2
14	Lufthansa German Airlines	36,248	-5.4
15	Air Canada	35,501	-0.7
16	All Nippon Airways	33,755	0.8
17	Aeroflot Russian Airlines	32,140	1.0
18	JetBlue Airways Corporation	28,965	-0.3
19	British Airways	27,371	0.0
20	Japan Airlines International	27,296	-0.3
21	Hainan Airlines	26,508	0.5
22	Air France	25,386	-1.0
23	Azul	25,236	-9.9
24	Shenzhen Airlines	24,260	-5.4
25	Qantas Airways	23,843	-0.5

Source: DLR

American Airlines Expands, Lufthansa Declines in August 2025

Most major airlines worldwide increased the number of scheduled passenger flights in August 2025. Some low-cost carriers such as Southwest and Azul recorded declines. American Airlines operated the largest number of flights with around 192,900 departures, while Lufthansa ranked 14th with around 36,200 departures and a downward trend. When comparing with the previous year, factors such as school holidays and public holidays must be considered, as they can affect flight availability in a given month.

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

Number of Monthly Departures in August 2025

Ranking by Airlines Globally, for Europe & Germany

Ryanair Europe's Largest Airline in August 2025

Ryanair operated the largest number of flights in Europe in August 2025, with nearly 107,200 departures — an increase of 1.9% compared with last year. easyJet ranked second with around 56,600 departures.

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

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

Rank	Airline	08/2025	Growth rate
1	Ryanair	107,152	1.9
2	easyJet	56,574	0.7
3	Turkish Airlines	33,579	8.1
4	Lufthansa German Airlines	33,561	-5.4
5	Aeroflot Russian Airlines	25,029	-0.1
6	British Airways	23,988	-0.1
7	Vueling Airlines	22,182	2.1
8	SAS Scandinavian Airlines	21,792	16.3
9	Air France	21,380	-0.9
10	KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines	21,330	2.4
11	Pegasus Airlines	20,439	15.1
12	Eurowings	18,570	1.5
13	Iberia	18,307	-2.9
14	Jet2.com	15,284	5.6
15	Wizz Air Malta	14,945	14.9
16	Ajet	13,671	21.7
17	Wizz Air	13,455	7.5
18	Swiss	12,609	1.3
19	SunExpress	12,309	16.0
20	Austrian Airlines AG	11,841	1.8
21	Aegean Airlines	11,621	2.5
22	ITA Airways	10,366	-16.5
23	Wideroe's Flyveselskap	10,123	3.7
24	Aer Lingus	10,071	1.8
25	TAP Air Portugal	9,862	2.7

Source: DLR

Lufthansa Leads in Germany, Ryanair Cuts Services

In Germany, Lufthansa remains the largest airline, with around 21,400 departures in August 2025, followed by Eurowings with more than 9,400 and Ryanair with around 4,900. While Ryanair continues to expand across Europe, it reduced its services in Germany by 6% compared with the same month last year.
The decline at Lufthansa can be partly attributed to a transfer of services to its new subsidiary, Lufthansa City Airlines.

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	08/2025	Growth rate
1	Lufthansa German Airlines	21,359	-6.2
2	Eurowings	9,441	0.5
3	Ryanair	4,872	-5.9
4	Condor Flugdienst	3,274	21.6
5	SunExpress	3,194	14.9
6	Air Dolomiti	2,410	15.2
7	easyJet	1,664	28.3
8	Pegasus Airlines	1,611	21.1
9	KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines	1,315	-0.5
10	TUIfly	1,259	-2.2
11	Eurowings Discover	1,247	10.0
12	Turkish Airlines	1,246	7.6
13	Austrian Airlines AG	1,243	11.1
14	Swiss	1,169	32.8
15	Lufthansa City Airlines	1,027	256.6
16	Wizz Air	974	21.6
17	Wizz Air Malta	889	48.2
18	British Airways	877	-6.7
19	Air France	687	8.7
20	Corendon	628	-0.9
21	Marabu Airlines	602	23.6
22	Aegean Airlines	571	-1.6
23	SAS Scandinavian Airlines	564	8.9
24	Ajet	532	19.6
25	United Airlines	514	3.6

Source: DLR

Air Transport Development in August 2025

Development and Changes Globally and for Germany

Global and German air traffic trends in August 2025

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

Fig. 1-2: **Global Passenger Flights Reach 3.5 Million in August 2025**
In August 2025, the number of scheduled passenger flights worldwide rose by around 1.9% compared with the previous year, reaching 3.5 million departures. The regions with the highest volumes were Asia, North America and Europe. Most regions reported growth of around 2%.

Fig. 3-4: **German Air Traffic Up 3.4% in August 2025**
In Germany, around 73,800 scheduled passenger departures were recorded in August 2025, representing growth of 3.4% year on year. While services to the Middle East increased, flights to South America declined. About 65,200 of these flights were to other European airports.

Fig. 1: **Development** of the **global air transport supply**

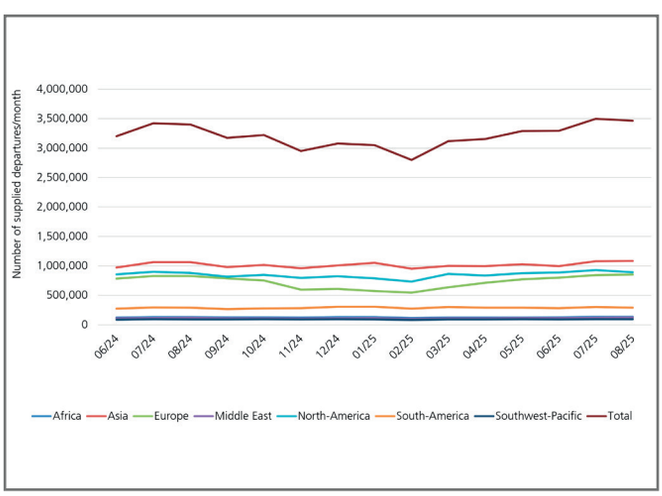


Fig. 2: **Changes** in the global air transport supply

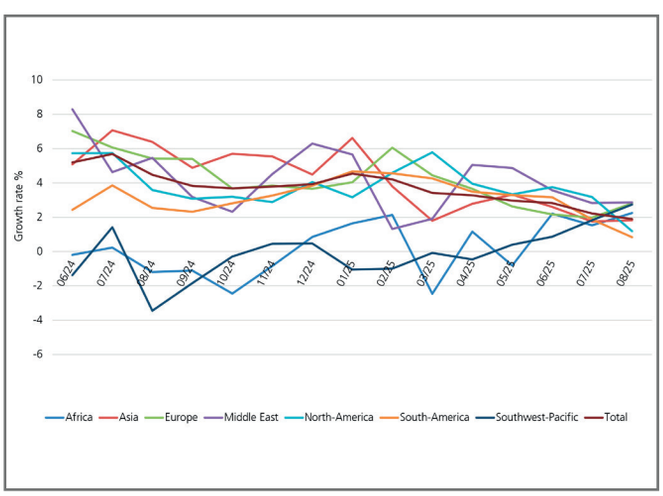


Fig. 3: **Development** of the **German air transport supply**

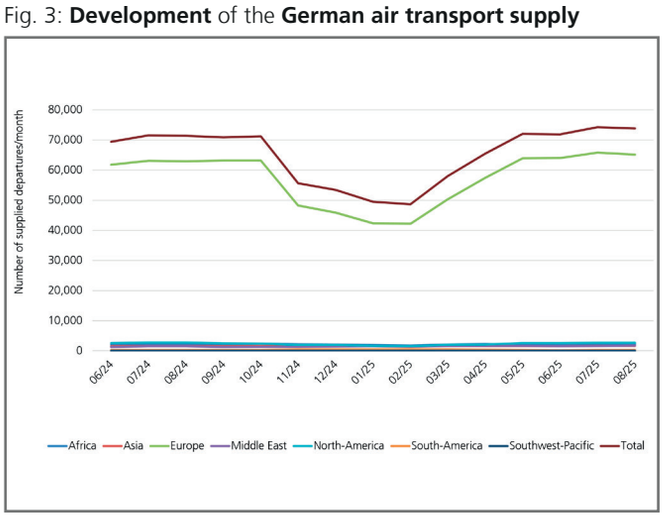
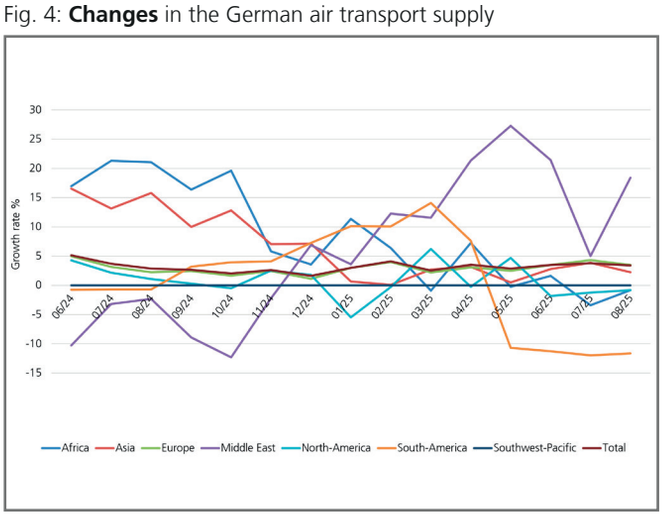


Fig. 4: **Changes** in the German air transport supply



Source: OAG 2024-2025, DLR 2024-2025

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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