

APEC ECONOMIES¹⁸⁸

Air transport supports 32.9 million jobs and \$1.7 trillion across Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies. That is 2.2% of all employment and 3.7% of all GDP in the APEC countries in 2016.

2.4 billion
passengers¹⁸⁹

59%
share of passenger traffic

1,925
airports

481
airlines

17,112
aircraft in service

Every person directly employed in the aviation sector and in tourism made possible by aviation supported another 5.5 jobs elsewhere in the APEC economies. Similarly, \$3.70 of economic activity was supported elsewhere in the APEC economies for every \$1 of gross value added directly created by the air transport sector.

The aviation sector in APEC economies directly employed nearly six million people in 2016 in the following sub-sectors:

- » **Airlines: 1.6 million** (27.3% of the total)
- » **Airport operators: 331,700** (5.6%)
- » **Other on-airport: 3.1 million** (52.1%)
- » **Civil aerospace: 776,600** (13%)
- » **Air navigation service providers: 115,200** (1.9%)

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 APEC economies. In 2016, the operations of these businesses directly generated a \$458 billion contribution to GDP.

The aviation sector's spending with suppliers is estimated to have supported a further 5.5 million jobs and a \$412 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 five million more jobs and a \$373 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 32.9 million jobs and a \$1.7 trillion contribution to GDP in APEC economies in 2016.

Air travel in the APEC economies is expected to continue to grow at about 4.3% 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 APEC economies will have grown to support 50 million jobs (52% more than in 2016) and a \$3.5 trillion contribution to GDP (a 106% increase).

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

