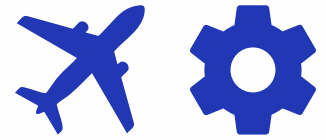


Cargo Capital



The Impact of Aviation in the East Midlands

AVIATION'S IMPACT IN NUMBERS



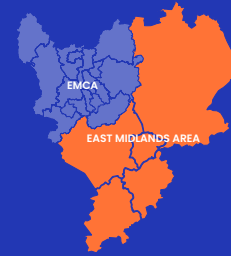
32,286 jobs

The East Midlands Combined Authority area has 32,286 jobs directly generated by aviation.



7,060 jobs

Of these, Derby South constituency has the largest share, with 7,060 jobs.



46,000 jobs

The wider East Midlands region boasts 46,000 jobs directly generated by aviation.



£1.6 billion

East Midlands Airport contributes £1.6 billion in GVA to the East Midlands region



13% total cargo

The East Midlands Airport carries 13 per cent of the total cargo across UK airports, with £8.2 billion of GVA in the region dependent on air freight.

INTRODUCTION TO AVIATION IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

Aviation is a fast-growing sector in the UK. It supports key industries like advanced manufacturing, tech, life sciences, and tourism – many of which the Government's Industrial Strategy identifies as growth-driving sectors.

East Midlands Airport is a key regional and national asset that drives economic growth across the UK. It is the UK's largest pure cargo airport and part of the country's only inland Freeport, making it a vital hub for global trade. The airport is in the heart of a major logistics cluster, with fast rail, road, and air links. This

attracts major businesses to the region, helping them export goods and reach UK and international markets quickly.

Advanced manufacturing in the Midlands relies on East Midlands Airport to move goods and is the top sector using the airport for imports and exports. The region is also a leading UK aerospace hub, home to world-leading manufacturers like Rolls-Royce in Derby.

A strong network of supply chain companies has grown around these manufacturers and the airport's logistics infrastructure, helping the area thrive as a centre for industry and innovation.

“ East Midlands Airport is the UK's most important airport for dedicated cargo flights. It carries 1,000 tonnes of cargo a day, facilitating £40bn of trade to and from the UK. ”



EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT

CARGO, AEROSPACE AND LOGISTICS

East Midlands Airport

East Midlands Airport is the UK's largest dedicated freight airport and most important for express freight. It drives trade in and out of the country and connects to global cargo networks. Alongside freight, it also serves over four million passengers a year, offering convenient leisure travel for people across the region.

Advanced manufacturing is a major employer in the East Midlands and there is a significant concentration of the sector in the region. Many of the exports to and from East Midlands Airport include aircraft engines and related products. This is representative of the aerospace strengths in the East Midlands with global companies operating in Derby. This particularly includes the world-leading manufacturer of wide-body aircraft engines, Rolls Royce, which also provides tens of thousands of well-paid, skilled jobs in the East Midlands.

Logistics hub

East Midlands Airport is in the unique position of being at the northern tip of the 'Golden Triangle' of logistics. A wide range of assets support the area around the airport, including the East Midlands rail freight gateway, the East Midlands Distribution Centre at Castle Donnington and the Mercia Site where Jaguar Land Rover are developing a major distribution centre.

The three main logistics and transport companies, DHL, FedEx and UPS, all have a base in the East Midlands. They support thousands of jobs in logistics, warehousing, and transport, and enable fast delivery services for businesses, manufacturers and exporters.

SUSTAINABLE AVIATION IN EAST MIDLANDS

The aviation industry has a clear and credible plan for decarbonising the sector. This includes more efficient planes, flying more efficient routes, ramping up the use of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) and using new zero-emission technologies such as hydrogen. Research from Sustainable Aviation shows a homegrown SAF industry could boost the UK economy by £1.8 billion by the end of the decade and create 10,300 green jobs. The industry could grow to employ more than 60,000 people and support over £10 billion in GVA in the next 25 years.

Action is being taken in the East Midlands to meet the challenge of decarbonising aviation. DHL, a major operator at East Midlands Airport, has been using SAF in its aircraft since 2022, helping to transport air freight more sustainably. East Midlands Hydrogen is an industry-led initiative aiming to establish the UK's largest inland hydrogen cluster, with partners including Cadent Gas and the East Midlands Combined Country Authority.

Meanwhile, the University of Nottingham, in partnership with East Midlands Freeport, Loughborough University and others, has opened the Zero Carbon Innovation Centre to deliver innovation in transport technology, power electronics and hydrogen propulsion systems.

HOW AVIATION IS SUPPORTING THE EAST MIDLANDS' ECONOMIC AMBITIONS

East Midlands Airport is well embedded in the economic growth strategies for the region, which has well-recognised strengths in aerospace, advanced manufacturing and logistics. The airport is central to new investment. Jaguar Land Rover has opened a parts facility nearby, and their planning application highlighted the airport's importance to their decision.

The growth of the airport should continue to be supported, especially as it is ideally placed to absorb any increase in cargo demand across the UK and worldwide. Continuing to take advantage of its Freeport status will help to draw investment into the region and emphasise the value of the airport and associated industries.

