

UAE passenger traffic growth to be served by larger international fleet [#AirbusGMF](#)

Dubai, 17 November 2019 - The fleet size of operators from all regions serving the UAE is forecast to nearly treble to some 1,730 aircraft by 2038 from around 630 today, according to the 2019 Airbus Global Market Forecast (GMF). This includes 750 Small category aircraft like the A320 and A321, and 980 Medium and Large aircraft like the A330neo and A350 serving the UAE market in the next two decades; this as UAE O&D passenger traffic is forecast to grow 5.8% per annum over the next 20 years.

In the wider Middle East region, air passenger traffic is forecast to grow at a rate of 5.6% per year, which is well above the global average of 4.3% per annum. Over the same period, global freight traffic will see an annual increase of 3.6% in line with the average global freight traffic growth. This will stimulate a requirement for some 3,200 aircraft out of a global requirement of 39,210 new passenger and freight aircraft.

Today, five of the World's Aviation Mega Cities are in the Middle East, with two, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, within the UAE. These will more than double to eleven over the next 20 years, to include such cities as Muscat and Kuwait City.

Tourism will continue to be a key growth sector for the Middle East with commercial aviation a key enabler, with figures from the World Travel and Tourism Council indicating that tourism's contribution to Middle Eastern GDP is nearly 9% today.

As the aviation network and traffic continues to develop in the Middle Eastern region, Airbus forecasts a need for more than 50,000 new pilots and nearly 52,000 new technicians over the next 20 years. The commercial aviation services market as a whole is valued at some US\$515 bn over the next 20 years in the region, principally in services optimising and maintaining aircraft availability such as maintenance, material management, technicians training and system upgrades, followed by flight operations services including pilot training or Air Traffic Management solutions, and finally passenger services like cabin upgrades, connectivity and ticketing.

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About the GMF

The Global Market Forecast by Airbus maps the demand for aircraft and air travel, providing a detailed insight to airports, airlines and the aviation sector through to the year 2038. It takes into account key industry drivers such as demographic and economic growth, tourism trends and oil prices amongst others to offer a forward-looking view of the air transport sector's evolution.

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters,

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Press Release

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<https://www.airbus.com/aircraft/market/global-market-forecast.html>

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