

Infrastructure

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World's Top-Ranked Infrastructure

The excellence of Germany's infrastructure is confirmed by a number of studies, including various UNCTAD investor surveys and the Swiss IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook. In the later, Germany's infrastructure is singled out as one of the TOP 5 key indicators for the attractiveness of the economy.

The 2019 Global Competitiveness Report's ranking includes high marks for the quality of German roads and airports, the rail and port infrastructure, and the country's outstanding electricity and water supply.

Enterprises can easily benefit from Germany's excellent logistics infrastructure: the network includes not only the port of Hamburg – Europe's third largest container port, but also Bremerhaven – the world's second largest port for the transfer of vehicles, and Duisburg – home of the continent's largest inland port. Measuring the logistics performance and infrastructure of 160 countries, the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) in 2018 ranks Germany performance first.

Logistics Performance and Quality of the Infrastructure (2018)

Country	LPI Rank	Infrastructure Rank	Country	LPI Rank	Infra-structure Rank
Germany	1	1	France	16	19
Sweden	2	2	Spain	17	17
Belgium	3	14	Czech Republic	22	30
Austria	4	12	China	26	31
Japan	5	3	Poland	28	33
Netherlands	6	5	Hungary	31	27
Singapore	7	612	Slovenia	35	24
Denmark	8	45	Slovak Republic	53	50
United Kingdom	9	11	Ukraine	66	89

Finland	10	8	Russian Federation	75	97
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Source: World Bank 2018

With over 250 additional inland ports, Germany's port infrastructure facilitates the efficient delivery of goods in Europe's largest market. The Rhine and Elbe rivers serve as major arteries for barge traffic to the deep-water ports in the various river bights and along the North Sea Coast.

Germany has a dense network of airports, 25 of which offer international services. Frankfurt ranks as Europe's largest and fourth largest airport in terms of cargo and passenger volume, respectively.

The country's highway system has one of the greatest kilometer densities in Europe and the 37,900 km of railway tracks are nearly enough to circle the globe while its high-speed railway network, with speeds of up to 300 km/h, is the sixth largest in the world.

Europe's Global Logistics Hub

The German logistics infrastructure is among the best in the world: in 2018, Germany has been ranked as Number 1 in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index, again. With its state-of-the-art transportation networks by air, rail, waterway, or autobahn, Germany provides quick access to domestic and international markets. It's hardly surprising that Germany is a global logistics hub.

According to research by the Fraunhofer IIS - Center for Applied Research on Supply Chain Services, Germany has a dominant share of the European logistics market which makes it the most significant player in driving Europe's economic growth. There are no more goods passing through Germany than through any other European country.

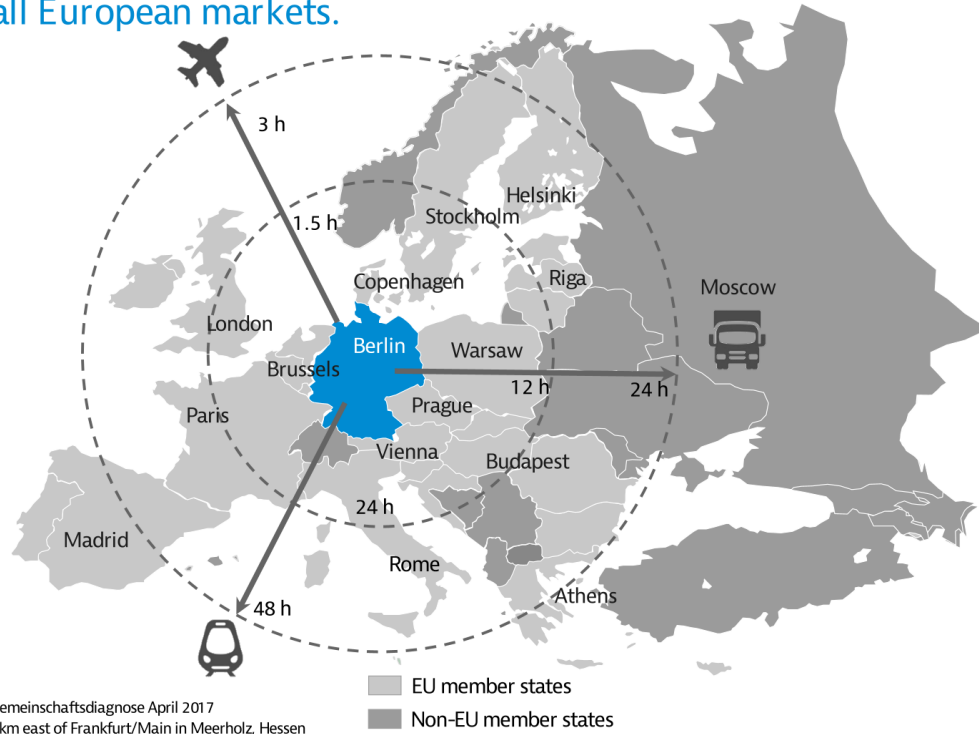
In the north, Germany's seaports are an important gateway for trade with the UK, Scandinavia, and the Baltic states. Moreover, road and rail links through the Jutland peninsula provide easy access to Denmark and the rest of Scandinavia. In the west, an extensive network of roads, railway links and inland waterways feeds into France and the Benelux countries.

To the south, Germany has strong commercial ties with Switzerland and Austria and direct road, rail and water links with the Balkan states. Turning eastwards, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic and Hungary are within easy reach.

Not only is Germany's logistics infrastructure world-class, its companies are also global logistics leaders. In fact, the world's largest logistics service provider is a German company – Deutsche Post (DHL). Deutsche Bahn operates Europe's largest rail network and Lufthansa Cargo is one of the world's leading global air freight companies.

First-Class Infrastructure

EU's new geographic center is in Germany: Providing rapid and easy access to all European markets.



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