

# Business Travel: A Driving Force for the Future of the U.S.

## What is Business Travel?

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### IT'S TRAVEL FOR WORK

Business travel covers trips undertaken for work purposes, as opposed to leisure trips. It includes traveling to meet business partners or constituents, participate in trainings, attend events and conferences, or conduct diplomatic and political negotiations. It allows people to connect in person, offers fulfilling career opportunities, and ultimately enables societies and economies to thrive and grow. Business travel fosters connection, both within the United States and around the world.

### IT'S DOOR-TO-DOOR JOURNEYS

From the moment a business traveler leaves on a trip to the moment they return home, all the services they make use of are part of the business travel supply chain. This includes transport (air, ground, rail), urban mobility (public transit, taxis, shared rides), hospitality (hotel, restaurants), and ancillary services.



### IT'S VERY OFTEN 'MANAGED'

Travel is managed in organizations that prioritize traveler safety and well-being, known as "Duty of Care," to ensure travelers depart and return safely. Managed travel also helps control expenses, costs, and emissions within given budgets. Organizations generally institute a travel policy that reflects these values and preferences, overseen by a travel manager.

**U.S. business travel contributed \$484.4 billion/ 1.9% of the U.S. gross domestic product in 2022.**

# Who is GBTA?

## The Voice of Business Travel

The Voice of Business Travel: GBTA brings together the many voices of business travel, providing a common platform for buyers and suppliers to shape the future of our industry. GBTA's 8,000+ members are spread across four key regions (NORAM, EMEA, LATAM and APAC). Our members are individual business travel professionals. On the user side of travel, they are the corporate travel program managers and travel procurement leads in their organizations. On the supplier side, they are the airlines, hotels, car rentals, travel management companies, corporate booking tools, distribution technologies, travel risk management and payment and expense systems.

8000+  
members

## GBTA has 37 active chapters across the continental the United States, serving as the base of GBTA's membership.

Austin  
Arizona  
Bay Area  
Central & North Florida  
Chicago  
Connecticut Westchester  
Dallas Fort Worth  
Georgia  
Greater DC Metro  
Kansas City

Las Vegas  
Los Angeles  
Michigan  
Mid-South Area  
New England  
New Jersey  
New York City  
North Carolina  
North Central  
Ohio Valley

Oklahoma  
Oregon  
Philadelphia  
Puget Sound  
Rocky Mountain  
San Antonio  
San Diego  
Silicon Valley  
South Florida  
St. Louis

Tampa Bay  
Tennessee  
Texas (Houston)  
Upstate New York  
Utah  
Virginia  
Wisconsin

## US Policy Priorities



### FACILITATING PASSENGER FACILITATION ACROSS THE U.S. AND GLOBALLY

**Why it Matters:** For the business travel sector to thrive and contribute to the U.S. economy and society, the right framework of rules should be in place to improve the traveler experience while ensuring their rights are fully protected.



### PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRAVEL

**Why it Matters:** GBTA has taken the initiative in recent years to support the business travel eco-system in its transition to cleaner fuel and more sustainable options. Our objective is to support the deployment of solutions that materially reduce carbon emissions from travel. GBTA is a supporter of policies that enable the transition across different travel modes and industry segments.



### MODERNIZING PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL TRAVEL INFRASTRUCTURE

**Why it Matters:** Investment in transportation infrastructure is necessary for sustainable economic growth. Governments must support and fund air and rail modernization efforts and should take a balanced approach on taxes and fees levied to help these efforts. GBTA supports full funding of efforts to modernize air traffic control systems, which will improve safety for flights as well as reduce delays and cancellations. In addition, intercity rail is a critical method of transport for business travelers. Increased ridership must be met with improvements in infrastructure and alignment of laws to enable cross-border travel and bookings.