

2007 MasterCard Worldwide Centers of Commerce Index™

Frankfurt

Frankfurt ranks seventh in the MasterCard Worldwide Centers of Commerce Index; among European cities in the Index, it ranks second. The Index compares the world's 50 leading cities against six dimensions that measure their ability to connect markets and commerce globally and is compiled from research by a panel of eight independent economic, urban development and social-science experts from leading academic and research institutions around the world.

Legal and Political Framework Ranking*: 3 in Europe, 6 overall (tied with German cities)

- As with all cities in Germany, Frankfurt has the highest Moody's Foreign Currency Government Bond Rating of Aaa.
- Germany ranks third, behind only Denmark and Sweden, in ease of trading across borders; in fact it has a significant lead over the UK in this category.

Economic Stability Ranking*: 8 in Europe, 8 overall (tied with German cities)

- Frankfurt, as with other German cities, ranks eighth in Europe and globally in this dimension, ahead of US and Asia/Pacific cities.
- Frankfurt benefits from the fact that Germany has one of the least volatile GCP growth rates, after Spain and the UK.
- The city benefits in this dimension from Germany's stable exchange rate; ranking thirteenth for exchange rate stability, above the United States.
- The city also benefited from Germany's inflation rate stability; It has the third lowest inflation volatility behind Italy and France, less than the UK and United States.

Ease of Doing Business Ranking: 7 in Europe, 24 overall

- Frankfurt receives the highest possible score for its quality of life, which recognizes the city for its variety of restaurants, climate and number of cinemas, sports and leisure activities.
- The city also scores the highest as one of only three European cities (together with Zurich and Stockholm) in the category "law enforcement".
- However the city scores significantly lower than London in investor protection and corporate tax burden.

Financial Flow Ranking: 2 in Europe, 4 overall

- The city ranks only behind London in this dimension.

* This dimension is comprised of country-level data only.

- Frankfurt ranks eighth in the number of banking and financial services companies, significantly more than its main German competitor Berlin; the two top ranked cities in this category were London and New York.
- The city ranks fifth in the number of investment securities firms, again behind London and New York but significantly higher than Munich and Berlin.
- Frankfurt has the fourth highest total value of equities trading among the top 50 cities, but lags significantly behind the leader in this category, New York, which has about 15 times the volume.
- The city has the third highest total number of derivatives contracts, almost tied with Chicago but significantly behind the leader, Seoul.

Business Center Ranking: 4 in Europe, 12 overall

- Frankfurt ranks seventh overall in volume of air passenger traffic, having slightly more than a third of the traffic of London, which ranks first in this category.
- Frankfurt ranks fifth overall in terms of the volume of air cargo traffic traveling through its city airports, having two-thirds the volume of category leader Tokyo, but about twice that of London, the overall Index leader.
- The city has about the same number of 5 star hotels as New York, but significantly fewer than several European cities, including Paris, which has more than twice as many, and London, which has more than three times as many.

Knowledge Creation and Information Flow Ranking: 11 in Europe, 27 overall

- The term “Frankfurt” receives significantly fewer Google hits (3.2 million) than other top 10 cities, with 81 percent fewer hits than Paris and London; it also received 60 percent fewer hits than Berlin, and about the same number of hits as Bangkok, Beijing and Budapest .
- Frankfurt has two fewer MBA programs than Munich and half as many as Berlin.

European cities included in the top 50 Worldwide Centers of Commerce are Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Brussels, Budapest, Copenhagen, Dublin, Frankfurt, Geneva, London, Madrid, Milan, Moscow, Munich, Paris, Prague, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna, Warsaw, Zurich

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