

# **Global Passport Reader Market: Analysis By Technology (RFID, Barcode, and OCR), By Type (Compact Full-page Readers, Swipe Readers, Self-service Kiosks, and Portable Readers), By Sector (Public, and Private), By Application (Airport Security, Border Control, and Others), By Region Size and Trends with Impact of COVID-19 and Forecast up to 2029**

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## **Abstracts**

A passport reader is a specialized device designed to automatically extract and process information from passports and other identification documents. Utilizing optical character recognition (OCR) technology, passport readers capture data from the machine-readable zone (MRZ), including the holder's name, passport number, and expiration date. These devices may also incorporate additional features such as RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) or NFC (Near Field Communication) capabilities to read electronic chips embedded in modern passports. Passport readers are commonly employed in border control, airport security, and identity verification applications, streamlining processes and enhancing accuracy in reading and authenticating travel documents. The global passport reader market value stood at US\$321.02 million in 2023 and is expected to reach US\$501.30 million by 2029.

The global passport reader market has exhibited consistent growth driven by various factors, such as surge in air passenger traffic, coupled with the continuous global expansion and construction of airports, which forms a significant catalyst. The market further thrives on the escalating numbers of international immigrants and the widespread adoption of passport readers in the banking sector. Government initiatives

focusing on digital identity, along with the increasing occurrences of passport forgery, contribute to the market's upward trajectory. Moreover, the heightened utilization of passport readers within the hospitality sector adds to the comprehensive growth landscape. The market's upward trajectory is sustained by these diverse growth drivers, reflecting a robust demand for passport reader technology worldwide. As the travel and identification landscape evolves, passport readers play a crucial role in enhancing security measures, facilitating seamless processes, and addressing the challenges associated with global mobility and identification verification. The passport reader market is poised for sustained growth, fueled by these dynamic factors and the continuous evolution of technology in the identification and travel sectors. The market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 8.18% over the projected period of 2024-2029.

#### Market Segmentation Analysis:

**By Technology:** The report provides a bifurcation of the global passport reader market into three segments namely, RFID, Barcode, and OCR. The RFID segment held the highest share in the market and OCR segment is expected to be the fastest growing segment in the forecasted period. RFID passport readers are essential for secure identity verification, decoding information from RFID-chipped passports. With the global rise of e-passports equipped with RFID technology, there's an increased demand for compatible readers. Additionally, OCR passport readers, employing Optical Character Recognition, automate text data extraction from passports, enhancing identification accuracy. The growing adoption of OCR readers is fueled by the need for efficient and secure identity verification in travel, border control, and financial services. Integration of these readers streamlines processes, reduces errors, and contributes to a seamless, secure global travel environment, significantly impacting the overall growth of the passport market.

**By Type:** The report provides bifurcation of the global passport reader market into four segments namely, Compact Full-page Readers, Swipe Readers, Self-service Kiosks, and Portable Readers. Compact Full-page held the highest share in the market and Self-service Kiosks are expected to be the fastest growing segment in the forecasted period. The Compact Full-page Passport Reader, utilizing advanced OCR technology, efficiently extracts information from entire passport pages, contributing to global passport reader market growth by enhancing security and streamlining immigration processes. Similarly, Passport Readers integrated into self-service kiosks automate passport and identity document reading, enhancing efficiency in processes like check-in and immigration. The rising adoption of these advanced kiosks at airports and border crossings drives demand for passports, thereby fueling the growth of the global

passport reader market.

**By Sector:** The report provides the bifurcation of the global passport reader market into two segments namely, Public, and Private. The Public sector acquired the highest share of the market and the Private segment is expected to be the fastest growing segment in the forecasted period. In the public sector, particularly in border control and immigration, passport readers are crucial for automating identity verification and streamlining border checks. Government agencies widely adopt these readers to enhance security, detect fraudulent documents, and improve overall border management efficiency.

Simultaneously, in the private sector, passport readers are extensively employed for secure customer onboarding, access control, and identity verification, contributing to enhanced operational efficiency in industries such as hospitality and finance.

**By Application:** The report provides the bifurcation of the global passport reader market into three applications namely, Airport Security, Border Control, and Others. The Airport Security application dominated the market and the Border Control segment is expected to be the fastest growing segment in the forecasted period. Passport readers play a vital role in airport security by automating check-in, boarding, and authentication processes, thereby enhancing overall operational efficiency. The increasing adoption of these readers in airports aligns with the growing demand for advanced identity verification solutions, contributing substantially to the expansion of the global passport market. Additionally, in border control, passport readers streamline data extraction, improving verification efficiency to meet the rising global demand for secure border management. The emphasis on enhanced border security, coupled with advancements in identity verification technologies, acts as a driving force for the continuous progress of the passport reader market.

**By Region:** The report bifurcates the global passport reader market into four regions namely, North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and the Rest of the World. North America is the largest region of the passport reader market and presents a promising landscape. Notably, countries like the US, Canada, and Mexico contribute significantly to this market, each shaped by unique elements shaping their passport reader realm. In the US, passport readers are extensively used for border control, airport security, and governmental applications, emphasizing national security and efficient immigration processes. Canada and Mexico share similar objectives, utilizing passport readers for border security and facilitating smooth immigration. In commercial sectors like finance and hospitality across all three countries, passport readers play vital roles in Know Your Customer (KYC) processes, customer onboarding, and fraud prevention, aligning with regulatory compliance measures.

The Asia Pacific stands out as the fastest-growing region in the passport reader sector. In China, advanced technology, especially in immigration processes, has led to the widespread adoption of passport readers. India, undergoing rapid digitization with a large population, is increasingly utilizing passport readers for e-governance, KYC processes, and airport security, driven by Aadhaar-based authentication initiatives. In technologically advanced Japan, passport readers are widely employed for efficient immigration processes and secure guest verification in the hospitality industry.

#### Global Passport reader Market Dynamics:

**Growth Drivers:** The global passport reader market has been rapidly growing over the past few years due to numerous growth drivers such as the increasing air passenger traffic, growing construction and global expansion of airports, surging number of international immigrants, growing usage in the banking sector, government-led digital identity initiatives, increasing passport forgery, rising adoption in the hospitality sector, etc. With global travel on the rise, there's a heightened need for efficient identity verification. The increasing volume of air passenger traffic necessitates automated solutions, making passport readers crucial at airports and border checkpoints. Equipped with advanced technologies like biometric verification and document authentication, these devices enhance security while facilitating swift and accurate identity verification.

**Challenges:** However, the market growth would be negatively impacted by various challenges such as high upfront cost and integration expenses, privacy and security concerns, lack of technical knowledge, etc. The use of facial data for identity verification raises privacy concerns, demanding strong data protection measures. Stringent cybersecurity is essential to address security vulnerabilities and prevent unauthorized access. The lack of standardized protocols for facial recognition across borders complicates passport reader interoperability, requiring international collaboration for unified standards.

**Trends:** The market is projected to grow at a fast pace during the forecasted period, due to latest trends such as surge in the adoption of e-passports, integration of self-service kiosks, use of mobile and compact readers, adoption of cloud-based solutions, biometric integration, etc. The global passport reader market is transforming with the rising popularity of self-service kiosks, offering a user-centric approach to identity verification. These kiosks, equipped with advanced passport reading capabilities, empower individuals to navigate check-in and immigration independently, reducing wait times and enhancing operational efficiency. Additionally, the adoption of cloud-based

solutions is reshaping the landscape, providing scalability, real-time updates, and centralized management for efficient identity verification and border control processes, meeting the evolving demands for flexibility and advanced technology.

#### Impact Analysis of COVID-19 and Way Forward:

The COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the passport reader market during the period 2019-2020. The demand for passport readers significantly declined due to widespread travel restrictions, lockdowns, and reduced international mobility. With limited airport operations and health protocols prioritized over technology upgrades, passport reader deployment decreased, reflecting lower passenger traffic.

Post-COVID-19, the market adapted to new global travel realities, emphasizing touchless solutions like facial recognition and self-service kiosks. While recovery is expected with the resumption of travel, the lasting impacts of COVID-19 continue to shape the industry's adaptation to new norms.

#### Competitive Landscape and Recent Developments:

The global passport reader market is fragmented, with an increasing number of large and medium-sized players accounting for the majority of the market revenue, and the presence of a substantial number of regional market players with limited business offerings and customer base.

The key players of the global passport reader market are:

Thales Group S.A (Gemalto NV)  
ASSA ABLOY (HID Global Corporation)  
Bollor? SE (IER Group)  
Adaptive Recognition Inc.  
Beijing Wintone Science & Technology Co. Ltd.  
Desko GmbH  
Regula Forensics  
Veridos GmbH  
DERMALOG Identification Systems GmbH  
BioID Technologies Limited

Some of the strategies among key players in the market are new product launch, innovations, mergers, acquisitions, and collaborations. For instance, On October 12,

2022, Beijing Wintone Science & Technology Co. Ltd. unveiled a solution that integrates ID document reading and face recognition for intelligent security management. Subsequently, on June 13, 2023, German biometrics firm DERMALOG Identification Systems GmbH completed the successful acquisition of JENETRIC GmbH with the strategic goal of fostering innovation in biometric identification by leveraging the synergies between the two companies.



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