

Europe Contract Logistics Market Size and Forecast (2021 - 2031), Regional Share, Trend, and Growth Opportunity Analysis Report Coverage: By Type (Outsourcing and Insourcing), Service Type (Warehousing and Distribution, Transportation Management, Aftermarket Logistics, and Others), and Industry Vertical (Retail and E-commerce, Automotive, Industrial and Manufacturing, Pharma and Healthcare, Consumer Goods and Electronics, Aerospace and Defense, and Others)

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Abstracts

The Europe Contract Logistics Market is projected to grow significantly, reaching approximately US\$ 144.5 billion by 2031, up from US\$ 98 billion in 2024, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.9% from 2025 to 2031. This growth is driven by several factors, including increasing digitalization, globalization, and evolving consumer demands.

Europe is strategically positioned with key logistics hubs such as Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and France, which facilitate trade across the continent. The region's robust manufacturing sector, particularly in automotive, pharmaceuticals, and consumer goods, has led to a steady demand for contract logistics services, encompassing warehousing, transportation, and value-added services. Notably, European governments, in collaboration with NATO and the EU, have approved substantial infrastructure investments totaling €75 billion (approximately US\$ 81.75 billion) aimed at enhancing military mobility, which concurrently improves civilian logistics capabilities across critical corridors in Poland, the Baltic states, and the Black

Sea region.

Third-party logistics (3PL) providers are increasingly leveraging automation, artificial intelligence (AI), and the Internet of Things (IoT) to boost operational efficiency and reduce costs. The rapid growth of e-commerce has transformed the logistics landscape, necessitating providers to offer flexible, scalable, and efficient last-mile delivery solutions. Sustainability has emerged as a crucial focus area, with companies facing pressure to minimize carbon emissions and adopt environmentally friendly supply chain practices. For instance, in June 2023, GXO Logistics partnered with Sainsbury to manage fresh and frozen warehousing in the UK and initiated a project with Zalando for a fully automated fulfillment center near Paris. Additionally, GXO announced a multi-year expansion plan in Germany to enhance its operational footprint and automation capabilities.

Despite challenges such as geopolitical tensions from the Ukraine conflict and disruptions related to Brexit, the contract logistics sector has demonstrated resilience. The EU's commitment to investing in transport infrastructure and digital logistics corridors is expected to foster long-term growth. Furthermore, regulatory harmonization globally is enhancing cross-border logistics capabilities, making it easier for companies to operate across different markets.

The Europe Contract Logistics Market can be segmented by type into Outsourcing and Insourcing, with Outsourcing holding the largest market share in 2024. By service type, the market is divided into Warehousing and Distribution, Transportation Management, Aftermarket Logistics, and others, with Warehousing and Distribution leading in market share. In terms of industry verticals, the market is segmented into Retail and E-commerce, Automotive, Industrial and Manufacturing, Pharma and Healthcare, Consumer Goods and Electronics, Aerospace and Defense, among others, with Retail and E-commerce dominating in 2024.

Sustainability and green logistics are increasingly shaping lucrative opportunities within the contract logistics market. Companies are under growing pressure to reduce their carbon footprints and adopt eco-friendly practices, prompting contract logistics providers to offer innovative solutions that align with environmental and social governance goals. Green logistics initiatives focus on minimizing emissions, optimizing transportation routes, utilizing energy-efficient warehouses, and incorporating renewable energy sources. Providers are also offering value-added services such as carbon-neutral shipping, eco-friendly packaging, and waste reduction strategies, which not only help clients comply with regulations but also enhance their brand image among environmentally conscious consumers.

The demand for sustainable supply chains is driving investments in technology-driven innovations, including electric vehicles, IoT-enabled smart warehouses, and data analytics to monitor and improve environmental performance. Contract logistics firms

that adopt these technologies can gain a competitive advantage by lowering costs and improving service quality. Additionally, governments worldwide are implementing stringent regulations and incentives to promote sustainability, creating new opportunities for contract logistics providers specializing in green logistics solutions. In 2024, Germany's federal cabinet adopted key principles for a Carbon Management Strategy, including revisions to the Carbon Storage Act, which supports industries like logistics in implementing carbon capture and storage technologies, aligning with national climate objectives.

Geographically, the Europe Contract Logistics Market is segmented into countries including Germany, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, Russia, Poland, and the Rest of Europe, with Germany holding the largest market share in 2024. Germany's advanced infrastructure, central location, and strong industrial base make it a leading hub for contract logistics. The country benefits from efficient road, rail, and port networks that support streamlined supply chains across various industries, including automotive, manufacturing, retail, and e-commerce. Major players in the market, such as DHL, DB Schenker, and Kuehne + Nagel, are actively involved in providing comprehensive logistics solutions. The demand for value-added services like warehousing, packaging, and inventory management continues to drive growth in this sector.

In summary, the Europe Contract Logistics Market is poised for significant growth, driven by technological advancements, sustainability initiatives, and a strong demand for logistics services across various industries.

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