# Aviation ticket taxes and charges

Preliminary research findings

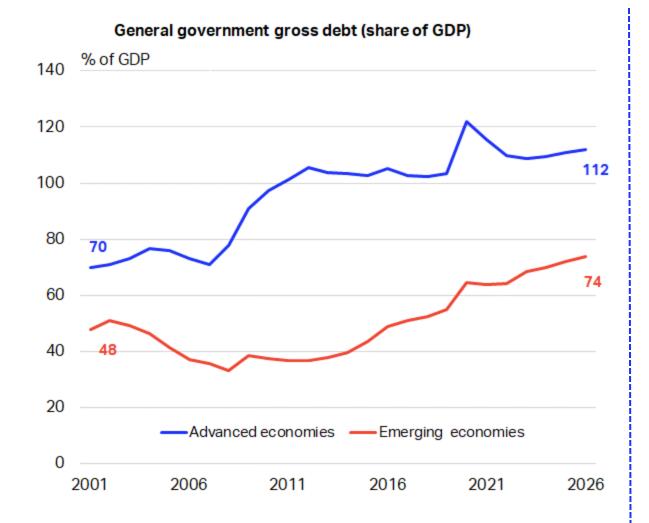


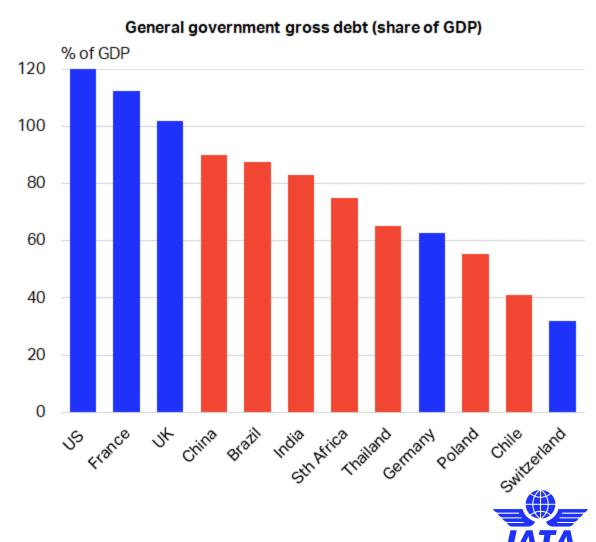
Andrew Matters

Director, Policy & Economics, IATA



### Global public debt to exceed USD100 trillion in 2024 Governments around the world face pressure from fiscal deterioration





#### Various post-Covid trends raise tax alarms for aviation

Tendency towards 'big' government

Precarious government fiscal balances

Social pressures (eg sustainability, over-tourism)

New industrial policy

Cross subsidization of other travel modes

These trends

pose
challenges for
airlines in
moving to a
sustainable
financial
position.



#### ONE-WAY BETWEEN PARIS (CDG) AND NICE (NCE)

Average amount: €130 including tax

ONE-WAY BETWEEN
PARIS (CDG) AND NEW YORK (JFK)

Average amount: €740 including

An illustration from Air France shows the magnitude of the problem...



https://www.airfranceklm.com/sites/default/files/2024-03/afklm\_fiche\_tarifs\_en\_hr.pdf

Source:

<sup>\*</sup>TTAP: Taxe sur le Transport Aérien de Passagers [French Passenger Air Transport Tax].

<sup>\*\*</sup>TNSA: Taxe sur les Nuisances Sonores Aériennes [French Noise Tax].

#### A project was launched to....



Illustrate the magnitude of the ticket taxes & charges burden across regions

Show the complexity of aviation taxation (# charges & taxes levied, variations/ exemptions)





Highlight the need for transparency, harmonization and simplification



### Analysis allows for a global picture to be presented Calculations are detailed and cover 90% of all 2023 traffic

**4.4bn** 

tickets

90%

of global traffic

170,000

instances of tax application

**55** 

countries

8,000

coded tax rows, validated with exceptions applied

100%

of traffic within each selected country



### Passengers paid USD 143bn in ticket taxes & charges Equivalent to USD 75 per round trip, 20% of the average base fare

USD 142.7 bn collected globally in 2023

USD 75 for a round trip

USD 32 for a single flight

20% of ticket price









Note: On average, a round trip involves more than two single flights. As such, the taxes and charges paid for an average round trip exceeds that paid for two single flights.

### The type of travel drives outcomes to passengers

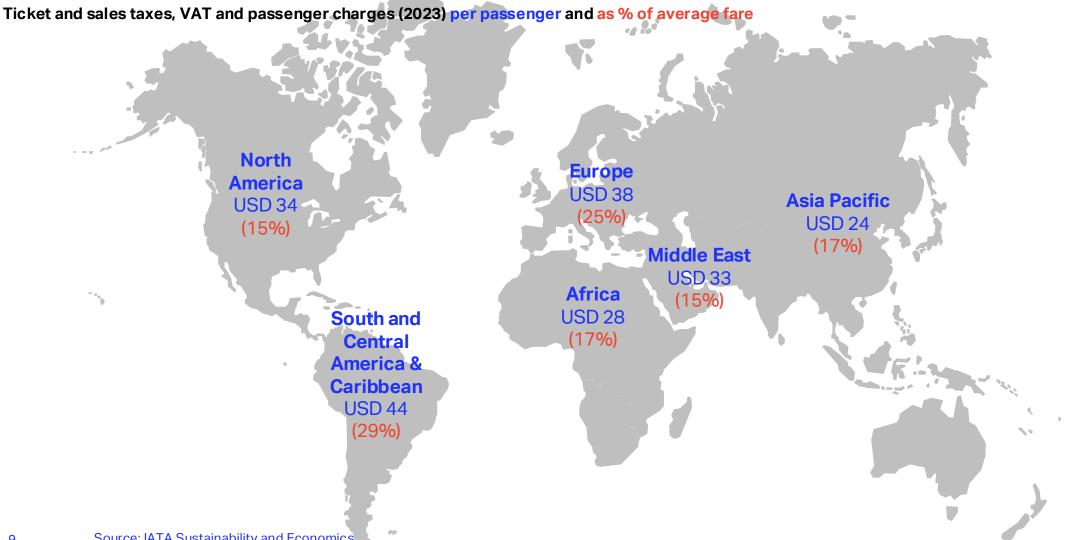
Premium and international travel are subject to largest levies







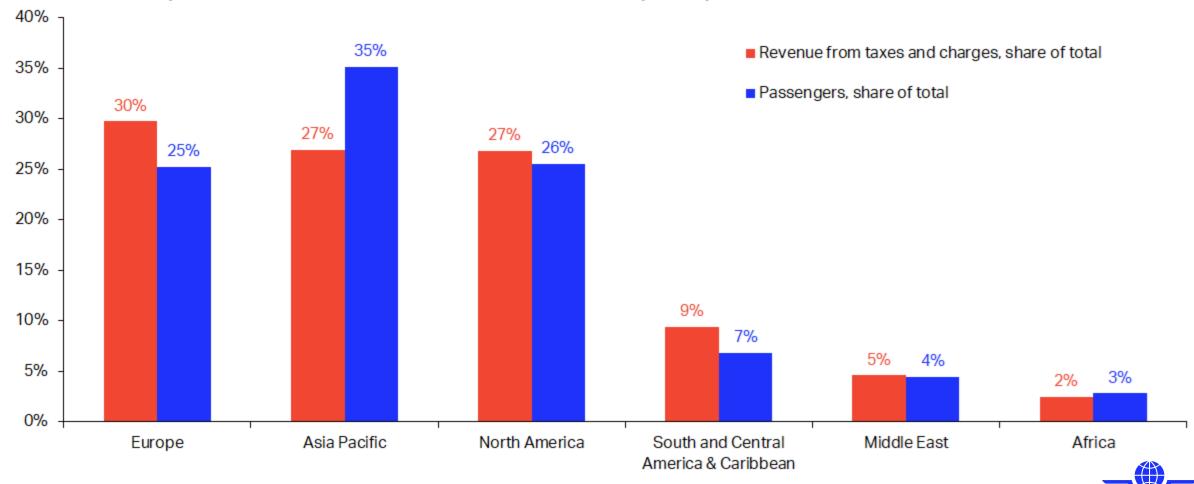
#### South and Central America has highest average fees Both in absolute terms, and in relation to average airfare



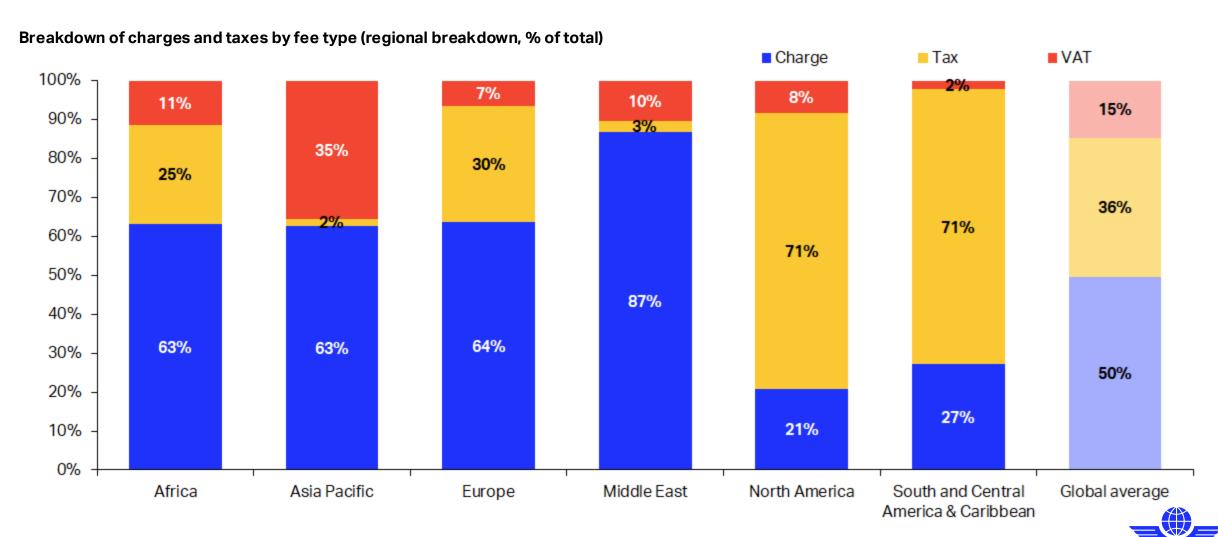


### Share of taxes & charges compared with share of traffic Reveals some interesting anomalies

Global share of passengers and revenue from ticket and sales taxes, VAT and passenger charges

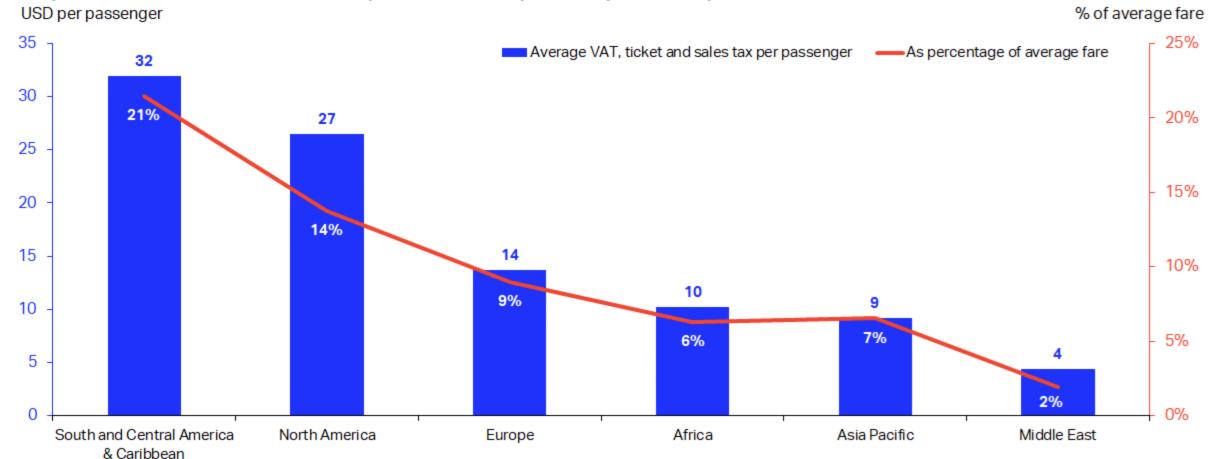


### Regional composition of ticket taxes and charges... shows considerable variation, reflecting regional circumstances



### Levels of taxation across regions vary considerably South America leads the way, in contrast to the Middle East

Average VAT, ticket and sales taxes per passenger and as percentage of average fare (by region, 2023)





## A Teaser: aviation taxes vary widely across countries And are generally higher in the Americas than in other regions

#### National level average ticket and sales taxes per passenger by region, 2023

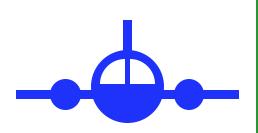




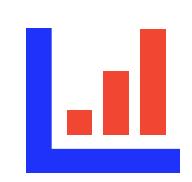
#### Excessive aviation tax brings various risks...

...and can deliver unintended consequences

Passengers will fly through less taxed areas increasing miles flown



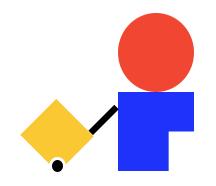
Governments may lose revenue if traffic volumes drop



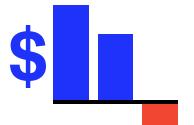
Local
economies may
suffer due to
lower demand
levels



Airline financial health diminished



Connectivity & competitiveness reduced





#### Contact the team at:

economics@iata.org

www.iata.org/economics



