

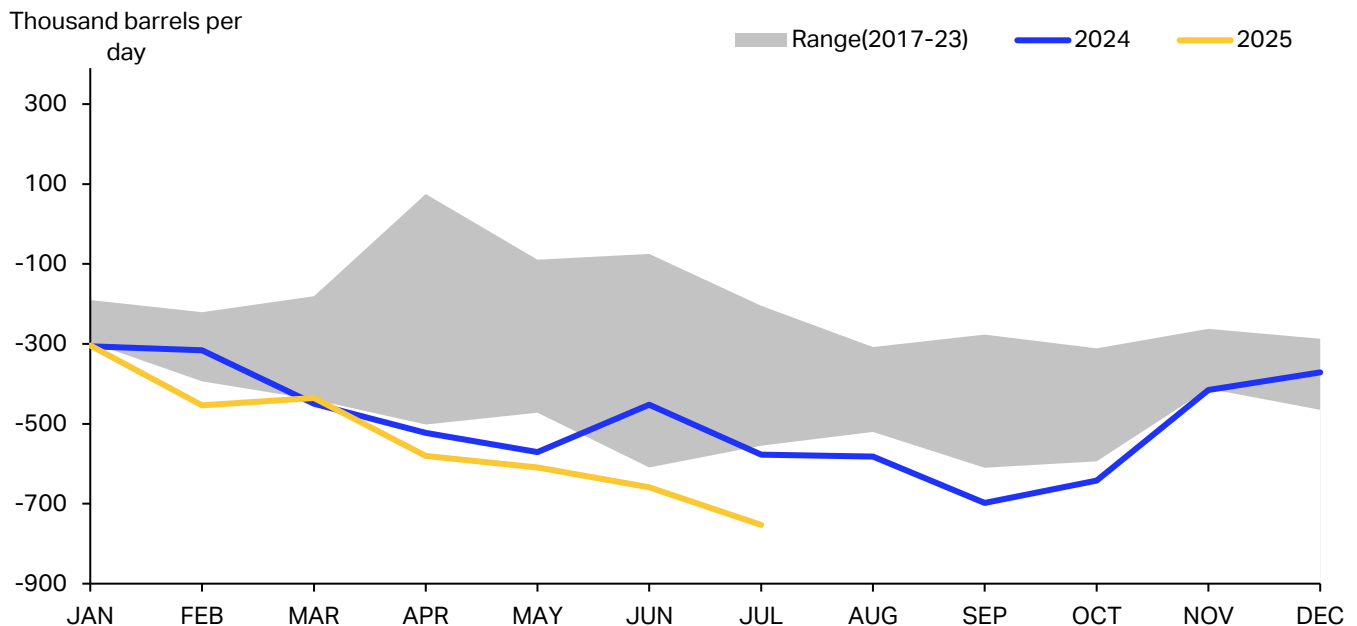


Chart of the Week

15 August 2025

Europe's widening jet fuel deficit: challenges for airlines' fuel supply security

Jet fuel production versus demand in Europe



Source: Kpler

- Europe faces a persistent and widening deficit in jet fuel supply as its own production declines due to refinery closures, while demand continues to grow steadily. This diverging trend has significantly accelerated Europe's reliance on imports, pushing the net balance of production versus demand further into negative territory, with projections for 2025 showing a sustained and deepening deficit.
- European refineries, many of which are aging and inefficient, face increasing operational costs compounded by strict environmental regulations. Their inability to compete with more modern and efficient refineries outside the region has led to a series of closures of unprofitable facilities, several of which have recently occurred. While regional demand for ground transport fuels like gasoline and diesel has peaked, jet fuel demand is forecast to continue growing. The ongoing refinery closures pose significant challenges to Europe's jet fuel security, as reliance on imports hit a third of overall demand in 2025 and is set to increase further.
- The traditional characteristic of regional jet fuel supply dominated by domestic production is transforming. Without efficient resource allocation and strategic investments, future refinery closures can lead to severe supply chain bottlenecks. In this context, despite its current higher costs, Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) can emerge as a crucial component for supporting jet fuel security and the industry's decarbonization goals.
- Robust policy frameworks and broad industry collaboration are essential for the development of a competitive SAF industry, not only in Europe but also in other regions facing similar challenges in securing their aviation fuel supply. Clear regulatory signals and long-term incentives are needed to de-risk investments in SAF production and accelerate technological innovation.

Terms and Conditions for the use of this IATA Economics Report and its contents can be found [here](#):
By using this IATA Economics Report and its contents in any manner, you agree that the IATA Economics Report Terms and Conditions apply to you and agree to abide by them. If you do not accept these Terms and Conditions, do not use this report.

IATA Sustainability & Economics
economics@iata.org