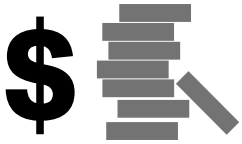
THE VALUE OF AVIATION
CHILE

The economic impact of aviation in Chile

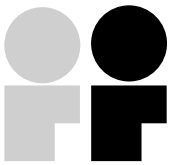
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 2.5% of Chile's GDP and 2.4% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Chile.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Chile in 2025



9.1
USD billion

2.5%
of GDP



252
thousand jobs

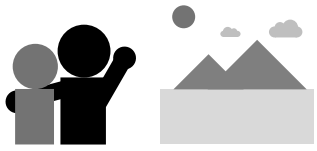
2.4%
of employment

Included economic impacts:
***Direct** – within aviation sector, **Indirect** – aviation supply chain,*
Induced** – employee spending, **International tourists arriving by air

Breakdown of GDP and employment created







Airlines	Airports, ANSPs, civil manufacturing	International tourists arriving by air
USD 3.9 billion	USD 3.1 billion	USD 2.1 billion
95.6 thousand jobs	97.1 thousand jobs	59.3 thousand jobs

Source: Air Transport Action Group, 2026. Aviation Benefits Beyond Borders report based on data from Oxford Economics.
Note: Economic impacts are calculated using Oxford Economics' Aviation: Benefits Beyond Borders methodology with inputs sourced from publicly available statistics and recognized industry datasets wherever possible, with modelling-based estimates applied where direct data are not available. Estimates do not include domestic tourism spending, nor the wider catalytic benefits of aviation on trade, investment, productivity gains, and enhanced connectivity, among others.
Note: Average 2025 exchange rate: USD 1 = CLP 951.25

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 21.6 million air passengers departed from Chile in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Chile the 36th largest air passenger market globally.

Air travel from Chile in 2025, Origin-Destination (O-D)

21.6
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

130.2%
10-year growth

1.9%
year-on-year growth

RANK

36th
Global
▲ 1 since 2015

4th
in South America
▲ 1 since 2015

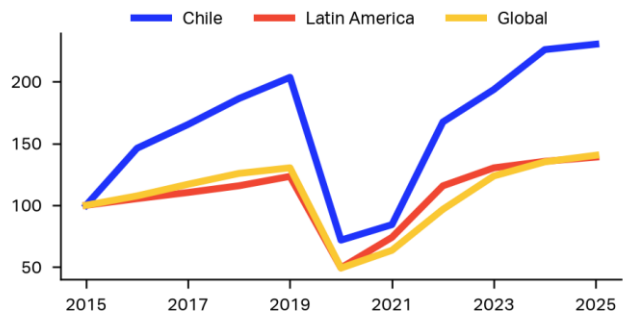
SHARE

0.5%
of global departures

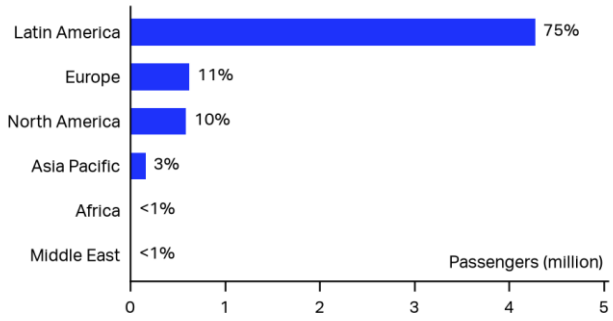
10.0%
of South American departures

International: 5.7 million passenger departures, 60.0% 10Y growth, 4.8% YoY growth
Domestic: 16.0 million passenger departures, 172.7% 10Y growth, 1.0% YoY growth, % share of total market: 73.8%

Total passenger departures, O-D, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



International passenger departures by destination region, O-D, 2025



Top air travel markets Inbound & outbound	Top origin cities Inbound	Top destination cities Outbound
1. Brazil	1. Sao Paulo	1. Rio de Janeiro
2. Argentina	2. Buenos Aires	2. Buenos Aires
3. Peru	3. Lima	3. Lima
4. United States	4. Rio de Janeiro	4. Florianopolis
5. Colombia	5. Montevideo	5. Punta Cana

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Chile, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Chile and other markets in 2025. Top outbound and inbound cities are based on round-trip passenger journeys.
IATA DDS data are derived from ticketing and sales transactions using IATA methodologies and estimates; therefore, results may not exactly match officially reported traffic statistics.

Air transport directly connects Chile to 22 different countries

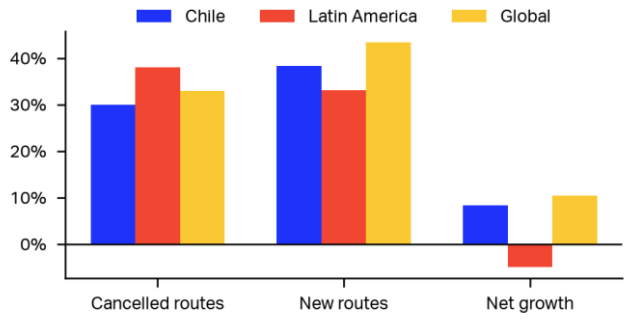
In 2025, there were 19 airports and 20 operating airlines in Chile, providing a total of 130 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Chile, connecting to 22 countries with about 96 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Chile

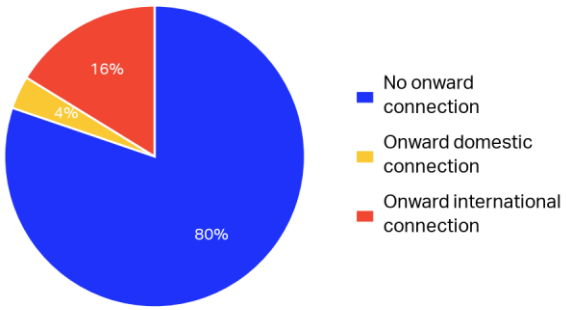


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	130	22	96
	Global rank	69th	101st	62nd
	S-America rank	4th	5th	4th
2015	Total	120	25	78
	Global rank	74th	82nd	65th
	S-America rank	6th	4th	5th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

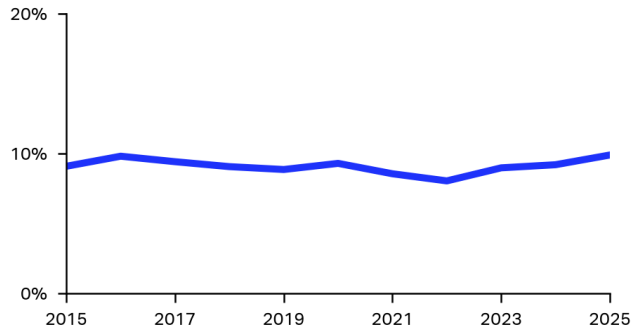


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Chile. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Chile timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.2% of Chile's traded goods by weight, it carried 9.9% of their total value.
Chile's airports handled around 463.7 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Chile as the world's 34th largest air cargo handler market and the 3rd largest in South America.

Chilean air cargo, value, % of total, 2015-2025



Chilean air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.2% of trade by weight

9.9% of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Chile, 2025

463.7 thousand tonnes air cargo handled

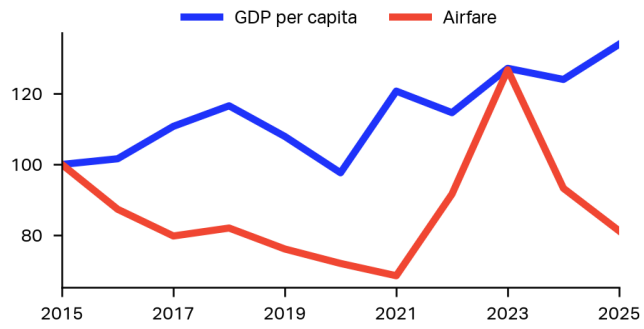
34th Globally 3rd in S-America

Source: Airports Council International (ACI) for air cargo handled, Global Trade Tracker (GTT) for imports and exports by air.
Note: Chile's trade by air includes imports and exports. It is based on the country's self reported customs data.

International air travel from Chile has become more affordable over the past decade

Chile's nominal GDP per capita increased by 33.9%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Chile decreased by 18.8%, over the past decade. Therefore, international air travel has become more affordable for local residents over this time period.

Nominal GDP per capita & average international fare, Chile, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



Source: IATA DDS, World Bank. Nominal GDP per capita and fare developments measured in USD terms.