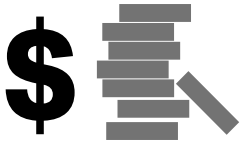
THE VALUE OF AVIATION GHANA

The economic impact of aviation in Ghana

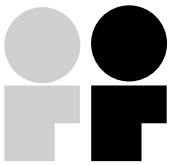
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 1.7% of Ghana's GDP and 2.0% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Ghana.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Ghana in 2025



1.9
USD billion

1.7%
of GDP



266.2
thousand jobs

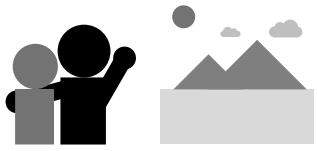
2.0%
of employment

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 315.6 million	USD 761.7 million	USD 826.3 million
38.2 thousand jobs	98.7 thousand jobs	129.3 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 = GHS 12.56

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 2.1 million air passengers departed from Ghana in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Ghana the 104th largest air passenger market globally.

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

2.1
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

36.5%
10-year growth

7.4%
year-on-year growth

RANK

104th
Global
▲ 1 since 2015

11th
in Africa
▲ 1 since 2015

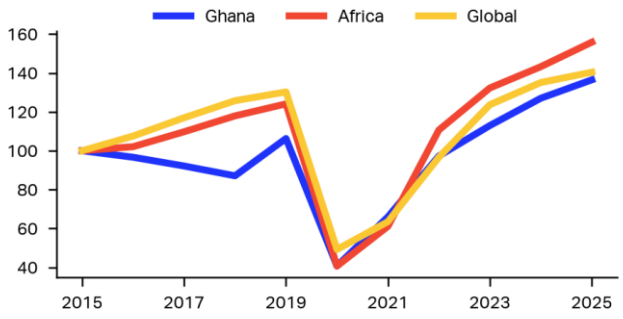
SHARE

0.05%
of global departures

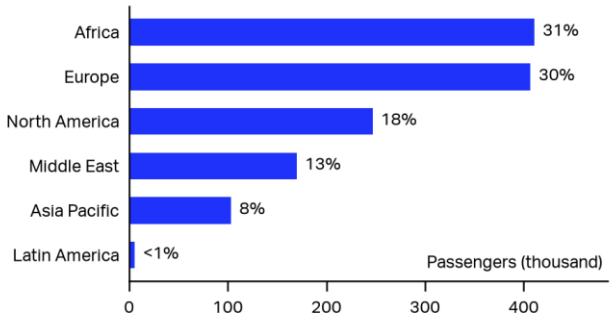
1.6%
of African departures

International: 1.3 million passenger departures, 52.6% 10Y growth, 4.7% YoY growth
Domestic: 755.5 thousand passenger departures, 14.8% 10Y growth, 12.6% YoY growth, % share of total market: 36.0%

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. United States	1. London	1. Dubai
2. United Kingdom	2. Lagos	2. London
3. Nigeria	3. New York	3. Lagos
4. United Arab Emirates	4. Washington	4. Johannesburg
5. Germany	5. Amsterdam	5. Guangzhou

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Ghana, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Ghana 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 Ghana to 28 different countries

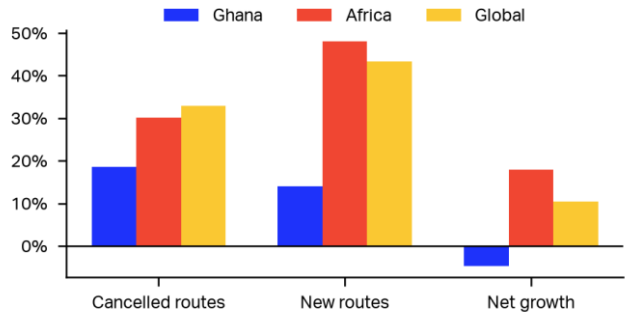
In 2025, there were 6 airports and 24 operating airlines in Ghana, providing a total of 41 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Ghana, connecting to 28 countries with about 32 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Ghana

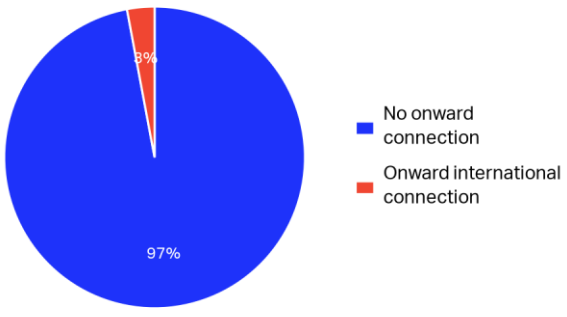


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	41	28	32
	Global rank	132nd	83rd	108th
	Africa rank	22nd	13th	12th
2015	Total	43	31	26
	Global rank	123rd	62nd	116th
	Africa rank	21st	9th	12th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

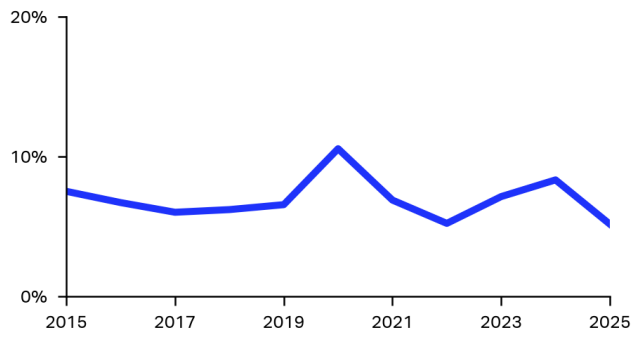


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Ghana. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Ghana timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.3% of Ghana's traded goods by weight, it carried 5.3% of their total value.
Ghana's airports handled around 44.8 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Ghana as the world's 81st largest air cargo handler market and the 9th largest in Africa.

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



Ghanaian air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.3%
of trade by weight

5.3%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Ghana, 2025

44.8
thousand tonnes
air cargo handled

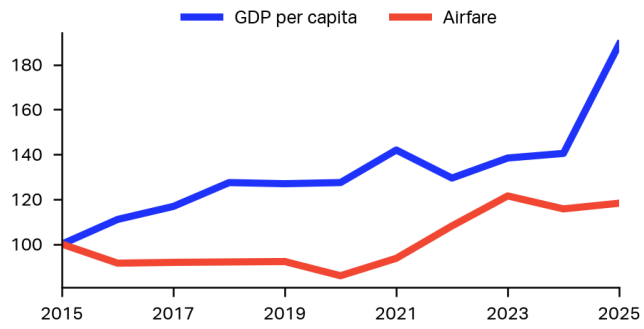
81st
Globally
9th in Africa

Source: Airports Council International (ACI) for air cargo handled, Global Trade Tracker (GTT) for imports and exports by air.
Note: Ghana's trade by air includes imports and exports . It is based on a sample of 50 countries that report their trade by means of transport in 2025, which represents around 40% of the total global goods trade.

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

Ghana's nominal GDP per capita increased by 89.1%, while the average nominal air fare for an international ticket from Ghana increased by 18.2%, 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, Ghana, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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