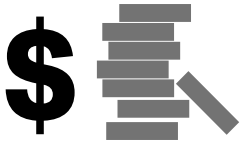
THE VALUE OF AVIATION GUATEMALA

The economic impact of aviation in Guatemala

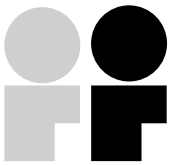
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 0.8% of Guatemala's GDP and 0.9% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Guatemala.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Guatemala in 2025



927.7
USD million

0.8%
of GDP



72.1
thousand jobs

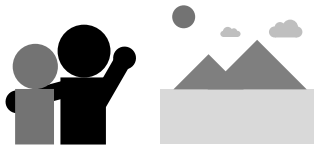
0.9%
of employment

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 80.7 million	USD 194.1 million	USD 652.9 million
5.6 thousand jobs	12.6 thousand jobs	53.8 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 = GTQ 7.68

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 2.7 million air passengers departed from Guatemala in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Guatemala the 94th largest air passenger market globally.

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

2.7
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

130.1%
10-year growth

6.4%
year-on-year growth

RANK

94th
Global
No change since 2015

4th
in Central America
No change since 2015

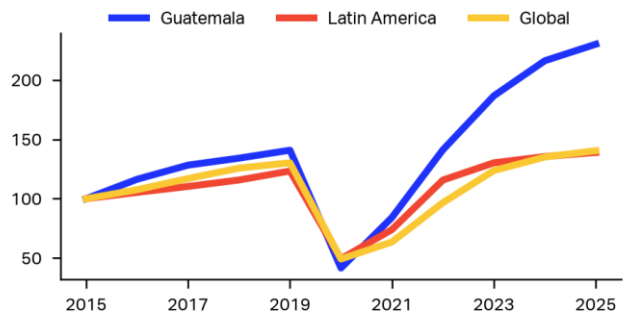
SHARE

0.1%
of global departures

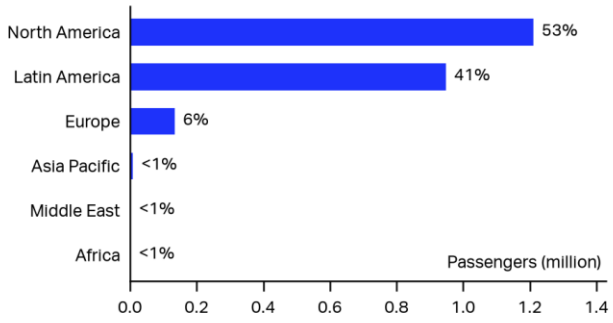
2.7%
of Central American departures

International: 2.3 million passenger departures, 107.9% 10Y growth, 6.7% YoY growth
Domestic: 439.1 thousand passenger departures, 424.2% 10Y growth, 5.1% YoY growth, % share of total market: 16.0%

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. San Jose	1. Mexico City
2. Mexico	2. Los Angeles	2. Panama City
3. Costa Rica	3. Mexico City	3. Miami
4. Colombia	4. New York	4. San Jose
5. Panama	5. Washington	5. Los Angeles

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Guatemala, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Guatemala 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 Guatemala to 14 different countries

In 2025, there were 6 airports and 23 operating airlines in Guatemala, providing a total of 37 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Guatemala, connecting to 14 countries with about 48 daily international departures.

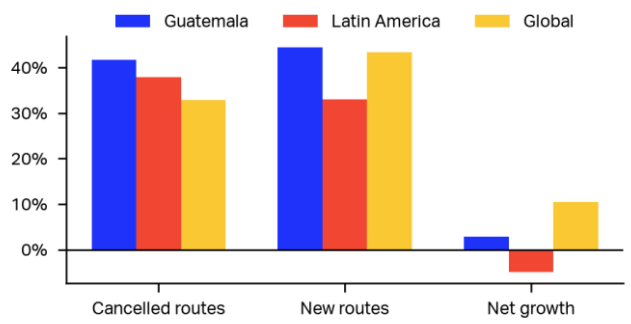
Air Connectivity in Guatemala

6
Airports in 2025
2 in 2015

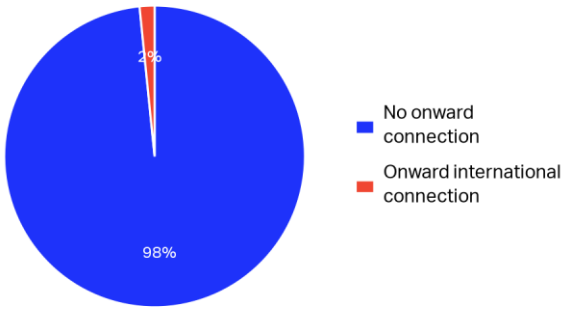
23
Airlines in 2025
15 in 2015

		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	37	14	48
	Global rank	138th	136th	93rd
	C-America rank	6th	4th	5th
2015	Total	36	11	38
	Global rank	133rd	148th	97th
	C-America rank	6th	5th	5th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

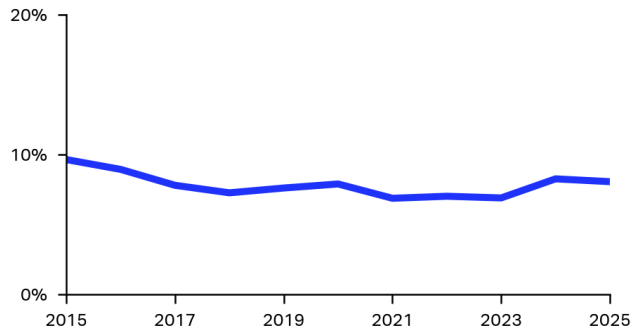


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Guatemala. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Guatemala timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.2% of Guatemala's traded goods by weight, it carried 8.1% of their total value.
Guatemala's airports handled around 52.5 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Guatemala as the world's 79th largest air cargo handler market and the 5th largest in Central America.

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



Guatemalan air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.2% of trade by weight

8.1% of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Guatemala, 2025

52.5 thousand tonnes air cargo handled

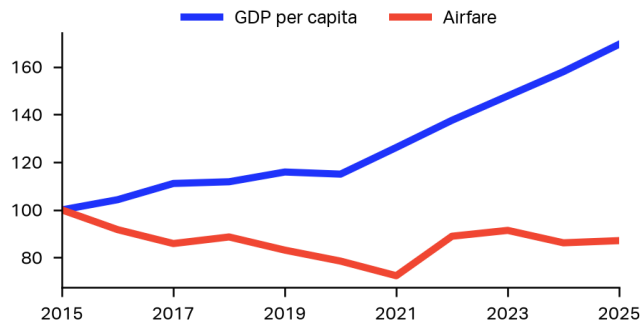
79th Globally 5th in C-America

Source: Airports Council International (ACI) for air cargo handled, Global Trade Tracker (GTT) for imports and exports by air.
Note: Guatemala'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 Guatemala has become more affordable over the past decade

Guatemala's nominal GDP per capita increased by 69.5%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Guatemala decreased by 12.9%, 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, Guatemala, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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