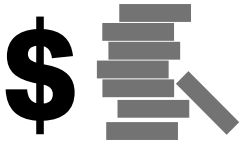
THE VALUE OF AVIATION HUNGARY

The economic impact of aviation in Hungary

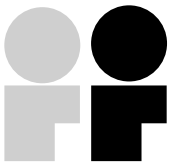
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 2.4% of Hungary's GDP and 2.1% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Hungary.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Hungary in 2025



5.8
USD billion

2.4%
of GDP



102.2
thousand jobs

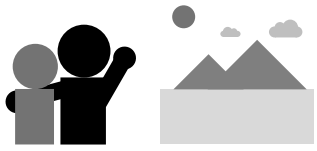
2.1%
of employment

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 1.1 billion	USD 4 billion	USD 803.2 million
16.1 thousand jobs	65.4 thousand jobs	20.7 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 = HUF 353.14

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 9.9 million air passengers departed from Hungary in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Hungary the 51st largest air passenger market globally.

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

9.9
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

90.1%
10-year growth

11.3%
year-on-year growth

RANK

51st
Global
▲ 3 since 2015

20th
in Europe
▲ 3 since 2015

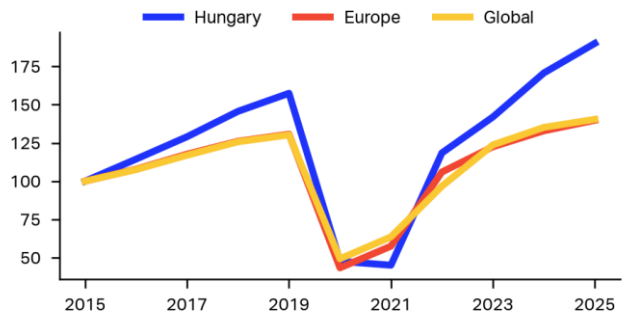
SHARE

0.2%
of global departures

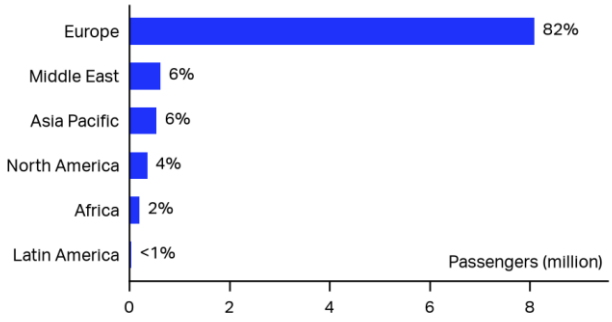
0.9%
of European departures

International: 9.9 million passenger departures, 90.1% 10Y growth, 11.3% YoY growth

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. Italy	1. London	1. London
2. United Kingdom	2. Tel Aviv-Yafo	2. Paris
3. Spain	3. Paris	3. Rome
4. Germany	4. Madrid	4. Istanbul
5. France	5. Brussels	5. Malta

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Hungary, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Hungary 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 Hungary to 52 different countries

In 2025, there were 3 airports and 57 operating airlines in Hungary, providing a total of 176 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Hungary, connecting to 52 countries with about 149 daily international departures.

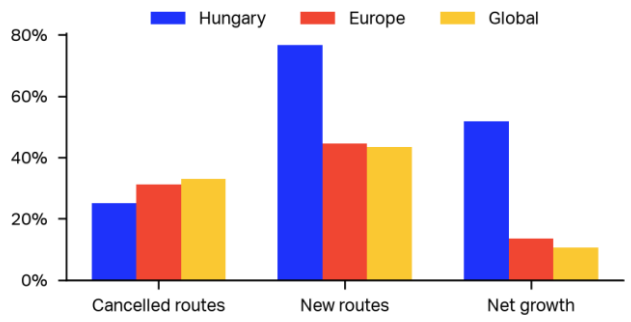
Air Connectivity in Hungary

3
Airports in 2025
3 in 2015

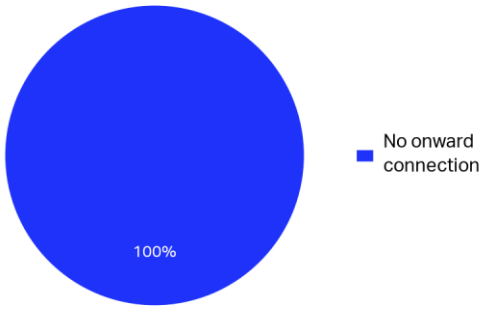
57
Airlines in 2025
49 in 2015

		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	176	52	149
	Global rank	58th	28th	48th
	Europe rank	25th	16th	22nd
2015	Total	116	37	111
	Global rank	76th	47th	54th
	Europe rank	27th	24th	23rd

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

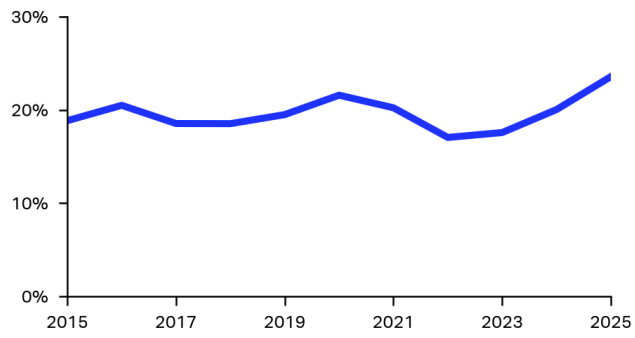


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Hungary. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Hungary timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.5% of Hungary's traded goods by weight, it carried 23.6% of their total value.
Hungary's airports handled around 366.1 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Hungary as the world's 40th largest air cargo handler market and the 12th largest in Europe.

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



Hungarian air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.5%
of trade by weight

23.6%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Hungary, 2025

366.1
thousand tonnes
air cargo handled

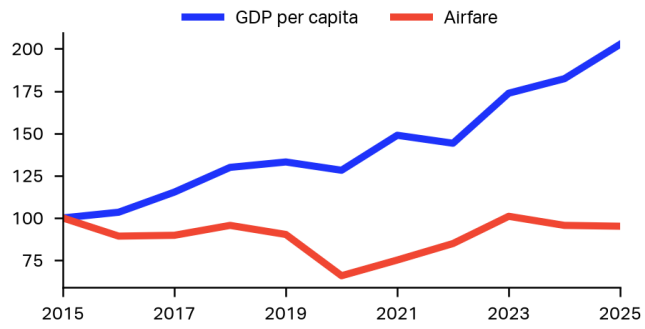
40th
Globally
12th in Europe

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

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

Hungary's nominal GDP per capita increased by 102.7%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Hungary decreased by 4.9%, 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, Hungary, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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