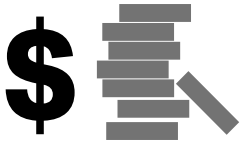
THE VALUE OF AVIATION KAZAKHSTAN

The economic impact of aviation in Kazakhstan

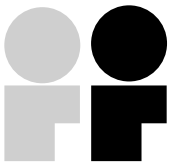
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 3.0% of Kazakhstan's GDP and 2.5% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Kazakhstan.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Kazakhstan in 2025



9.3
USD billion

3.0%
of GDP



246
thousand jobs

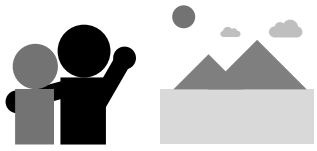
2.5%
of employment

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 4.1 billion	USD 3.8 billion	USD 1.5 billion
77.1 thousand jobs	113.3 thousand jobs	55.6 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 = KZT 521.04

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 13.9 million air passengers departed from Kazakhstan in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Kazakhstan the 47th largest air passenger market globally.

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

13.9
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

186.5%
10-year growth

49.0%
year-on-year growth

RANK

47th
Global
▲ 2 since 2015

13th
in Asia
▲ 2 since 2015

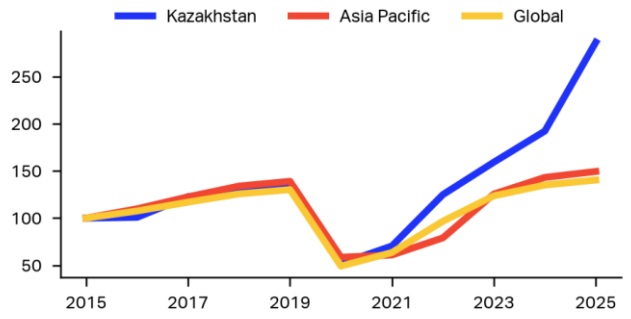
SHARE

0.3%
of global departures

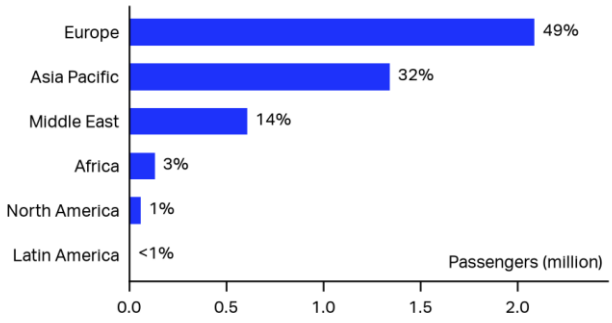
0.9%
of Asian departures

International: 4.2 million passenger departures, 113.8% 10Y growth, 16.8% YoY growth
Domestic: 9.7 million passenger departures, 236.4% 10Y growth, 69.3% YoY growth, % share of total market: 69.6%

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. Russia	1. Moscow	1. Istanbul
2. Türkiye	2. Tashkent	2. Moscow
3. China	3. Frankfurt	3. Tashkent
4. United Arab Emirates	4. Delhi	4. Dubai
5. Uzbekistan	5. Dubai	5. Antalya

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Kazakhstan, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Kazakhstan 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 Kazakhstan to 33 different countries

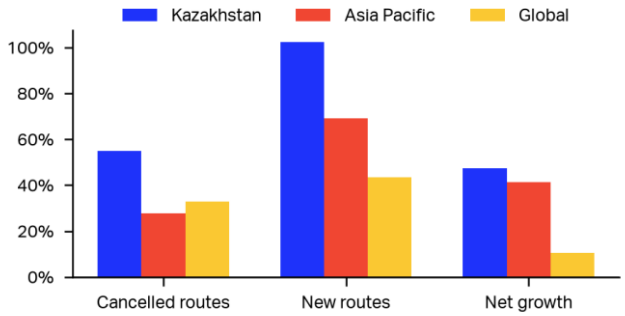
In 2025, there were 22 airports and 42 operating airlines in Kazakhstan, providing a total of 295 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Kazakhstan, connecting to 33 countries with about 75 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Kazakhstan

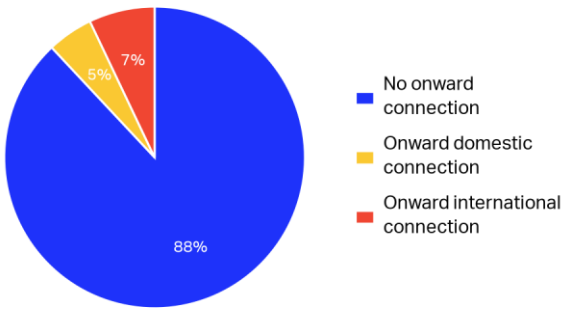


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	295	33	75
	Global rank	43rd	63rd	79th
	Asia rank	10th	11th	18th
2015	Total	200	28	56
	Global rank	48th	71st	81st
	Asia rank	12th	12th	18th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

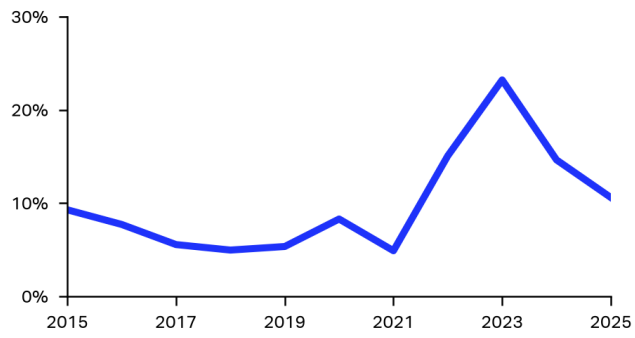


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Kazakhstan. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Kazakhstan timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.1% of Kazakhstan's traded goods by weight, it carried 12.4% of their total value.
Kazakhstan's airports handled around 139.3 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Kazakhstan as the world's 63rd largest air cargo handler market and the 16th largest in Asia.

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



Kazakh air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.1%
of trade by weight

12.4%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Kazakhstan, 2025

139.3
thousand tonnes
air cargo handled

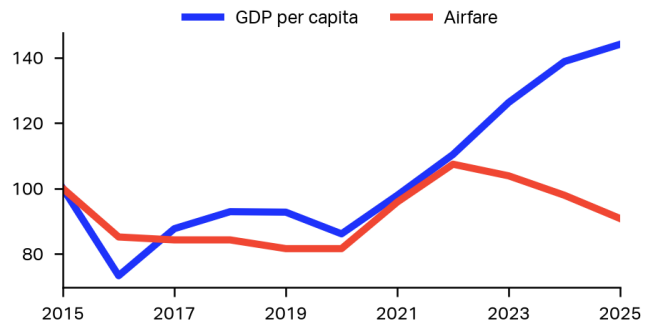
63rd
Globally
16th in Asia

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

Kazakhstan's nominal GDP per capita increased by 44.1%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Kazakhstan decreased by 9.2%, 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, Kazakhstan, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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