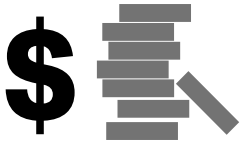
THE VALUE OF AVIATION MONGOLIA

The economic impact of aviation in Mongolia

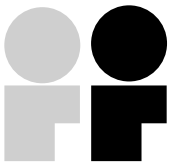
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 2.2% of Mongolia's GDP and 2.4% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Mongolia.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Mongolia in 2025



546.6
USD million

2.2%
of GDP



34.4
thousand jobs

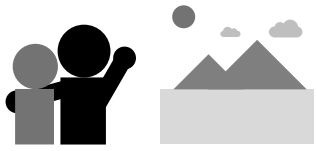
2.4%
of employment

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 86.8 million	USD 183.6 million	USD 276.2 million
4.6 thousand jobs	7.8 thousand jobs	22.1 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 = MNT 3,545.14

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 1 million air passengers departed from Mongolia in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Mongolia the 137th largest air passenger market globally.

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

1
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

91.4%
10-year growth

11.8%
year-on-year growth

RANK

137th
Global
No change since 2015

28th
in Asia
No change since 2015

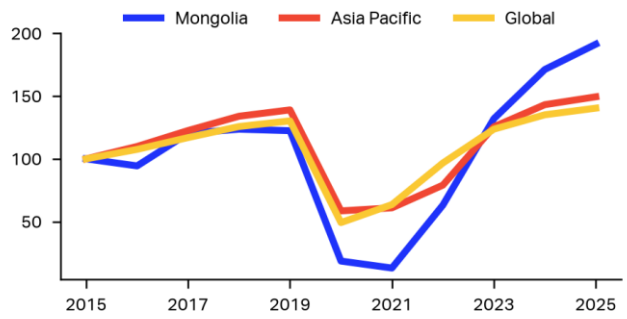
SHARE

0.02%
of global departures

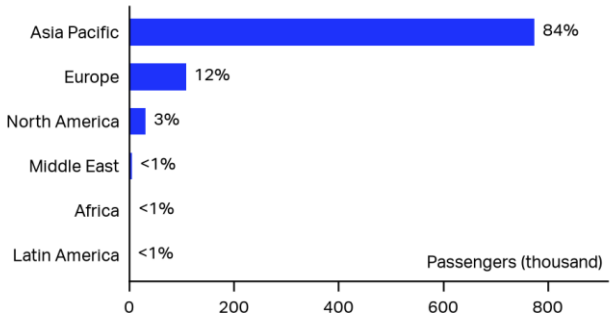
0.1%
of Asian departures

International: 922.4 thousand passenger departures, 129.9% 10Y growth, 11.0% YoY growth
Domestic: 81.2 thousand passenger departures, -34.1% 10Y growth, 21.7% YoY growth, % share of total market: 8.1%

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. South Korea	1. Seoul	1. Seoul
2. China	2. Tokyo	2. Beijing
3. Japan	3. Frankfurt	3. Tokyo
4. Germany	4. Busan	4. Hong Kong
5. Hong Kong (SAR)	5. Hong Kong	5. Hohhot

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Mongolia, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Mongolia 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 Mongolia to 13 different countries

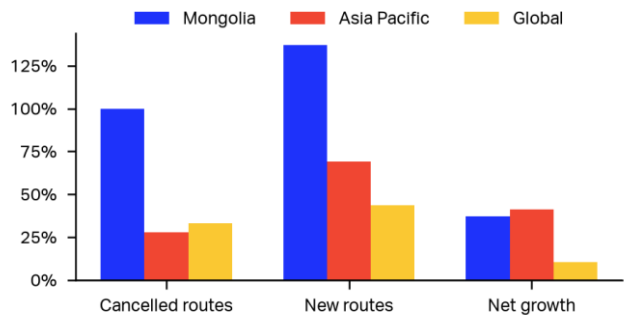
In 2025, there were 9 airports and 17 operating airlines in Mongolia, providing a total of 48 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Mongolia, connecting to 13 countries with about 16 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Mongolia

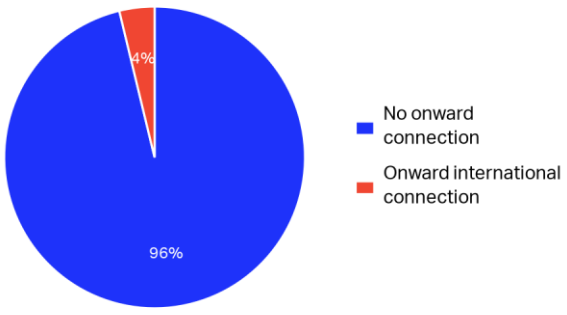


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	48	13	16
	Global rank	127th	139th	144th
	Asia rank	26th	25th	26th
2015	Total	35	10	9
	Global rank	136th	156th	173rd
	Asia rank	27th	28th	29th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

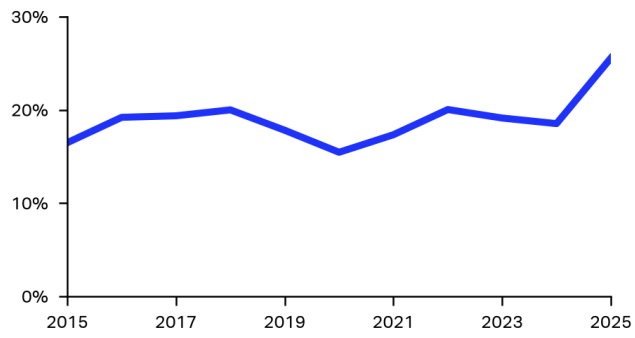


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Mongolia. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Mongolia timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 1.8% of Mongolia's traded goods by weight, it carried 25.2% of their total value.
Mongolia's airports handled around 12.5 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Mongolia as the world's 126th largest air cargo handler market and the 24th largest in Asia.

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



Mongolian air cargo, share of trade, 2025

1.8% of trade by weight

25.2% of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Mongolia, 2025

12.5 thousand tonnes air cargo handled

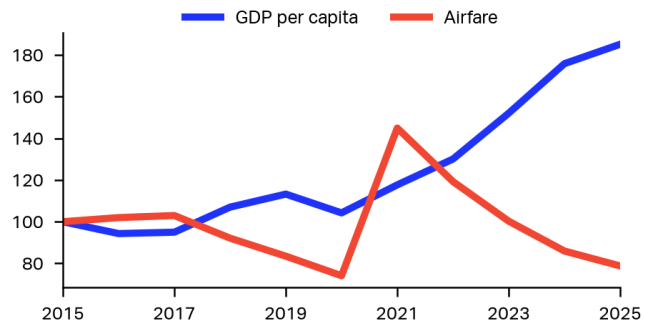
126th Globally 24th in Asia

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

Mongolia's nominal GDP per capita increased by 85.2%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Mongolia decreased by 21.2%, 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, Mongolia, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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