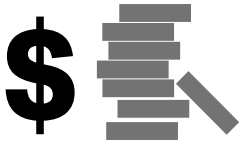
THE VALUE OF AVIATION ROMANIA

The economic impact of aviation in Romania

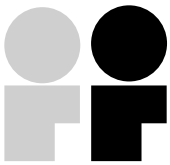
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 1.9% of Romania's GDP and 2.0% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Romania.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Romania in 2025



8.1
USD billion

1.9%
of GDP



161.9
thousand jobs

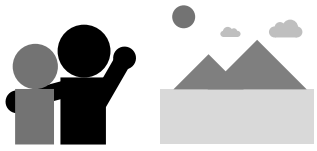
2.0%
of employment

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 1.6 billion	USD 5.5 billion	USD 1.1 billion
29.3 thousand jobs	109.6 thousand jobs	23 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 = RON 4.47

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 14 million air passengers departed from Romania in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Romania the 46th largest air passenger market globally.

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

14
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

115.1%
10-year growth

11.2%
year-on-year growth

RANK

46th
Global
▲ 1 since 2015

19th
in Europe
▲ 1 since 2015

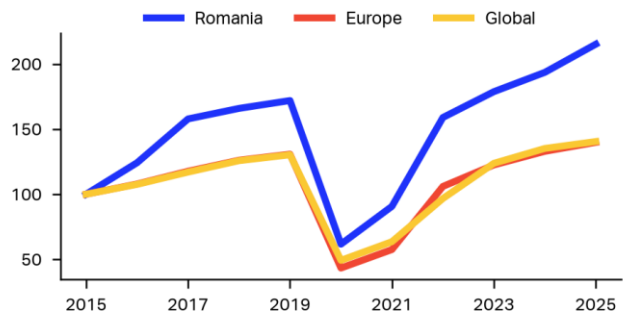
SHARE

0.3%
of global departures

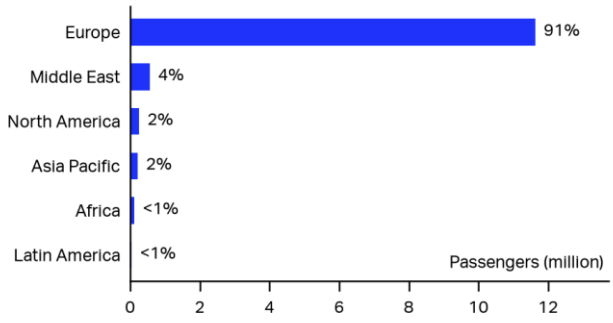
1.3%
of European departures

International: 12.9 million passenger departures, 111.3% 10Y growth, 9.3% YoY growth
Domestic: 1.1 million passenger departures, 171.5% 10Y growth, 37.5% 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. Italy	1. London	1. London
2. United Kingdom	2. Tel Aviv-Yafo	2. Milan
3. Germany	3. Paris	3. Paris
4. Spain	4. Milan	4. Rome
5. France	5. Dortmund	5. Brussels

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Romania, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Romania 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 Romania to 46 different countries

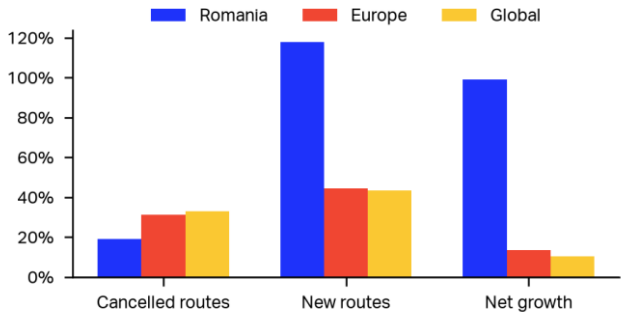
In 2025, there were 16 airports and 47 operating airlines in Romania, providing a total of 366 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Romania, connecting to 46 countries with about 205 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Romania

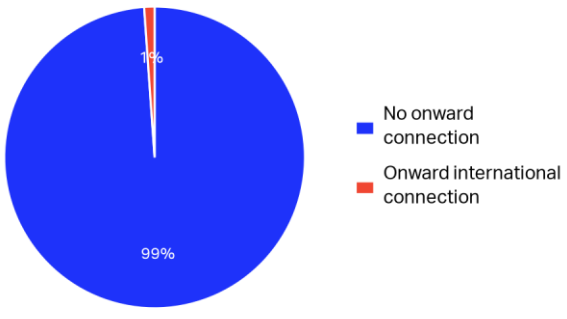


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	366	46	205
	Global rank	30th	36th	40th
	Europe rank	14th	20th	19th
2015	Total	184	32	142
	Global rank	54th	60th	44th
	Europe rank	24th	29th	21st

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

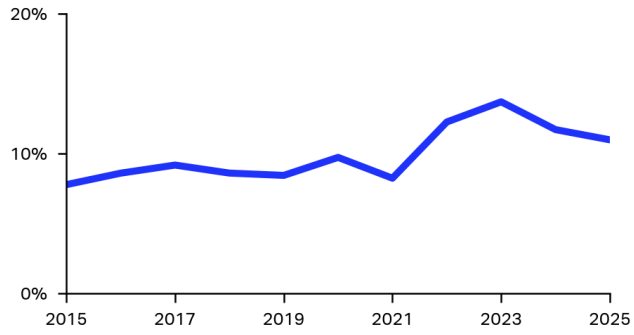


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Romania. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Romania timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.8% of Romania's traded goods by weight, it carried 11.0% of their total value.
Romania's airports handled around 57.3 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Romania as the world's 77th largest air cargo handler market and the 24th largest in Europe.

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



Romanian air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.8%
of trade by weight

11.0%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Romania, 2025

57.3
thousand tonnes
air cargo handled

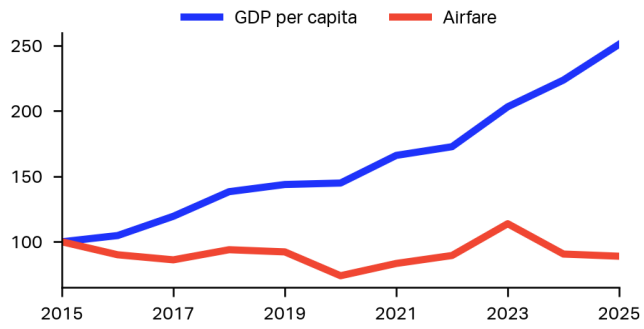
77th
Globally
24th in Europe

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

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

Romania's nominal GDP per capita increased by 151.1%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Romania decreased by 11.0%, 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, Romania, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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