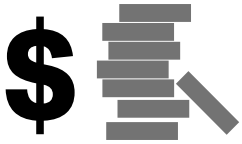
THE VALUE OF AVIATION THE NETHERLANDS

The economic impact of aviation in the Netherlands

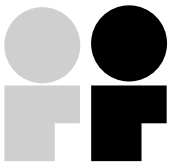
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 4.3% of the Netherlands' GDP and 4.8% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to the Netherlands.

GDP and employment created by aviation in the Netherlands in 2025



50.8
EUR billion

4.3%
of GDP



493.3
thousand jobs

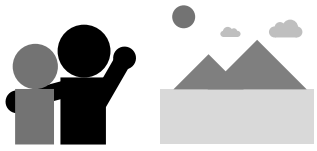
4.8%
of employment

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
EUR 13.9 billion	EUR 25.4 billion	EUR 11.5 billion
112.6 thousand jobs	243.1 thousand jobs	137.6 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: Converted to local currency using average 2025 exchange rate: USD 1 = EUR 0.88

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 26.2 million air passengers departed from the Netherlands in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making the Netherlands the 28th largest air passenger market globally.

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

26.2
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

33.6%
10-year growth

2.7%
year-on-year growth

RANK

28th
Global
▲ 1 since 2015

10th
in Europe
▲ 1 since 2015

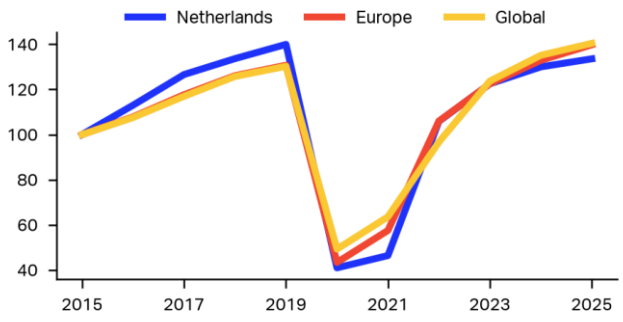
SHARE

0.6%
of global departures

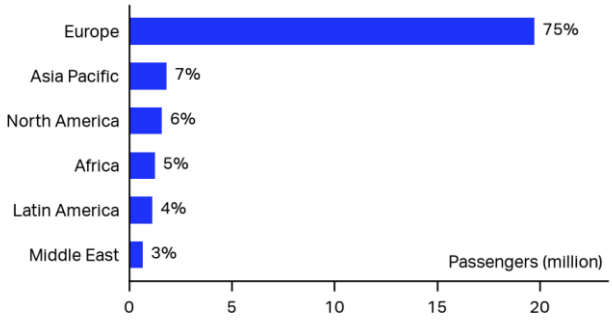
2.4%
of European departures

International: 26.2 million passenger departures, 33.8% 10Y growth, 2.7% 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. Spain	1. London	1. London
2. United Kingdom	2. Dublin	2. Malaga
3. Italy	3. Manchester	3. Barcelona
4. United States	4. Barcelona	4. Curacao
5. Greece	5. Milan	5. Milan

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in the Netherlands, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between the Netherlands 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 the Netherlands to 93 different countries

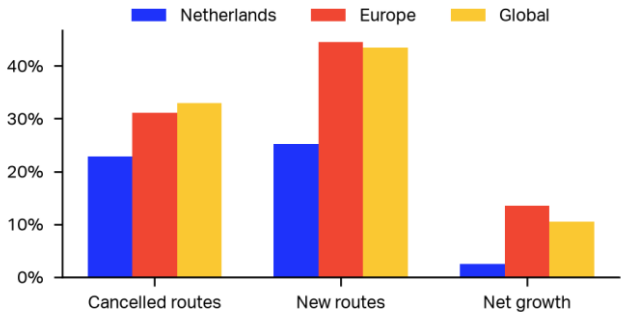
In 2025, there were 5 airports and 85 operating airlines in the Netherlands, providing a total of 426 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for the Netherlands, connecting to 93 countries with about 709 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in the Netherlands

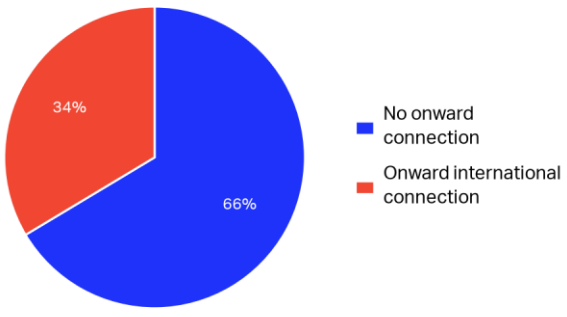


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	426	93	709
	Global rank	27th	7th	12th
	Europe rank	13th	5th	7th
2015	Total	416	91	640
	Global rank	25th	7th	11th
	Europe rank	13th	5th	7th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

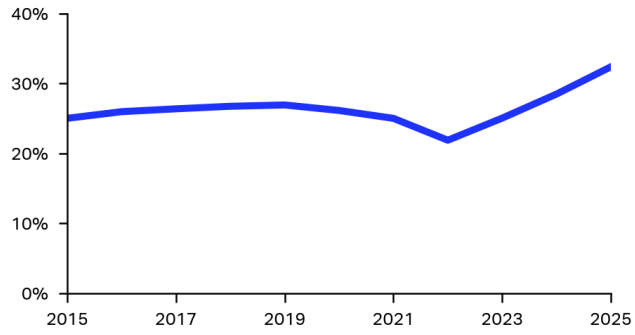


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from the Netherlands. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides the Netherlands timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.7% of the Netherlands' traded goods by weight, it carried 32.4% of their total value.
the Netherlands' airports handled around 1.5 million tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking the Netherlands as the world's 20th largest air cargo handler market and the 6th largest in Europe.

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



Dutch air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.7%
of trade by weight

32.4%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in the Netherlands, 2025

1.5
million tonnes
air cargo handled

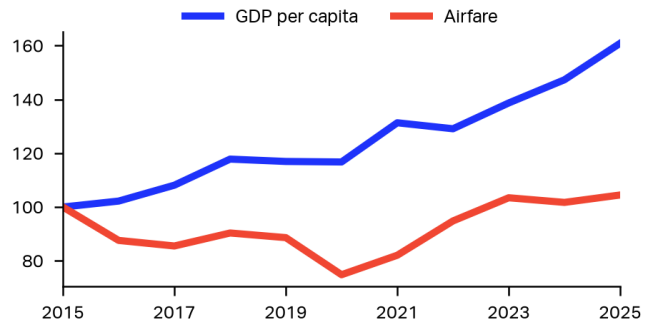
20th
Globally
6th in Europe

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

the Netherlands' nominal GDP per capita increased by 60.9%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from the Netherlands increased by 4.5%, 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, the Netherlands, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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