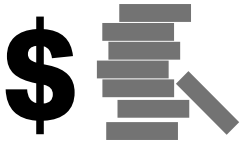
THE VALUE OF AVIATION PHILIPPINES

The economic impact of aviation in Philippines

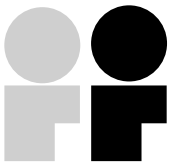
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 4.7% of Philippines' GDP and 3.9% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Philippines.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Philippines in 2025



23
USD billion

4.7%
of GDP



2.1
million jobs

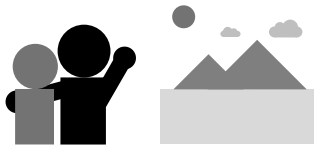
3.9%
of employment

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 7.3 billion	USD 4.6 billion	USD 11 billion
353.2 thousand jobs	347.3 thousand jobs	1.4 million 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 = PHP 57.51

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 47.2 million air passengers departed from Philippines in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Philippines the 21st largest air passenger market globally.

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

47.2
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

49.5%
10-year growth

5.3%
year-on-year growth

RANK

21st
Global
No change since 2015

8th
in Asia
No change since 2015

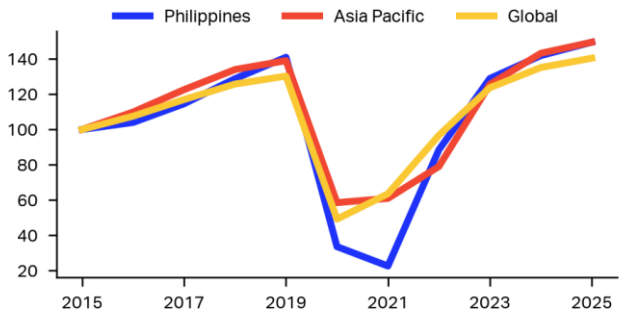
SHARE

1.1%
of global departures

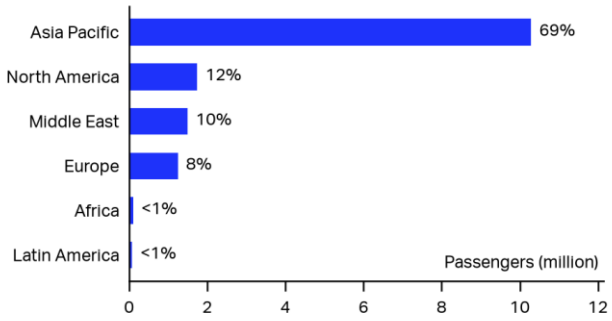
3.0%
of Asian departures

International: 15.0 million passenger departures, 42.0% 10Y growth, 8.7% YoY growth
Domestic: 32.2 million passenger departures, 53.2% 10Y growth, 3.9% YoY growth, % share of total market: 68.3%

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. Hong Kong
2. Japan	2. Singapore	2. Bangkok
3. United States	3. Tokyo	3. Tokyo
4. Hong Kong (SAR)	4. Busan	4. Singapore
5. Singapore	5. Taipei	5. Taipei

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Philippines, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Philippines 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 Philippines to 31 different countries

In 2025, there were 41 airports and 59 operating airlines in Philippines, providing a total of 305 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Philippines, connecting to 31 countries with about 205 daily international departures.

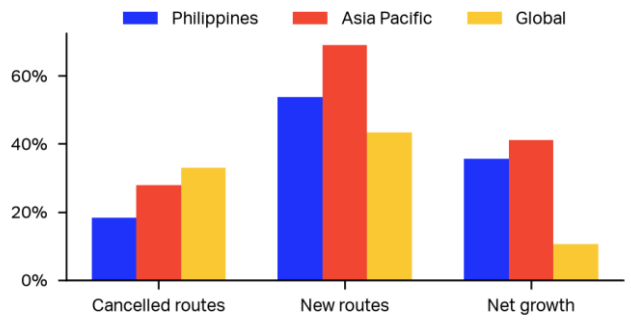
Air Connectivity in Philippines

41
Airports in 2025
43 in 2015

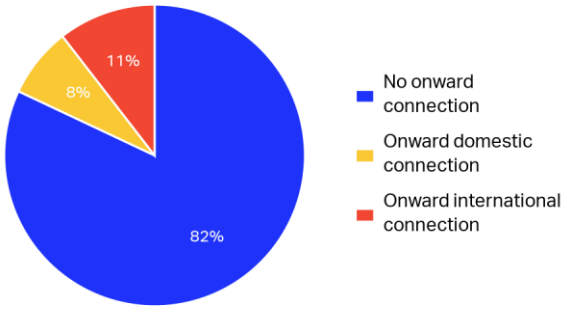
59
Airlines in 2025
47 in 2015

		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	305	31	205
	Global rank	41st	74th	39th
	Asia rank	9th	13th	12th
2015	Total	225	30	162
	Global rank	42nd	66th	42nd
	Asia rank	10th	10th	12th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

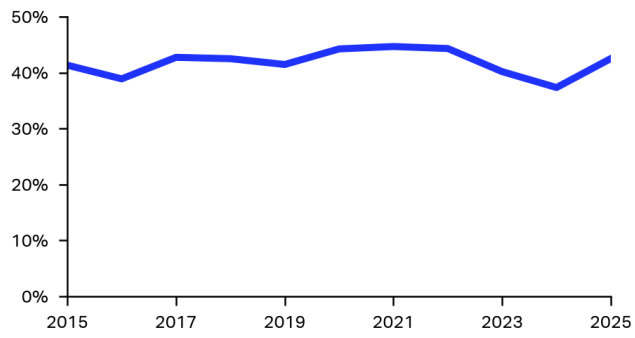


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Philippines. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Philippines timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.4% of Philippines' traded goods by weight, it carried 42.5% of their total value.
Philippines' airports handled around 958.6 thousand tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Philippines as the world's 29th largest air cargo handler market and the 12th largest in Asia.

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



Philippine air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.4%
of trade by weight

42.5%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Philippines, 2025

958.6
thousand tonnes
air cargo handled

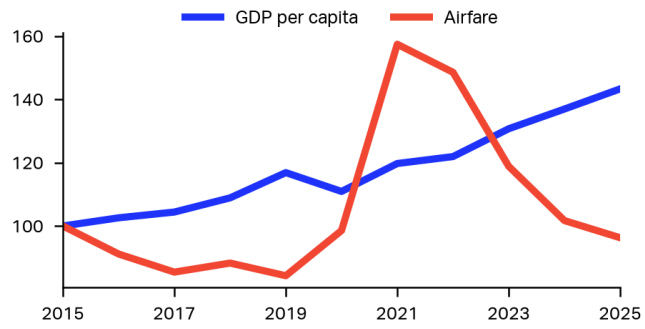
29th
Globally
12th in Asia

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

Philippines' nominal GDP per capita increased by 43.3%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Philippines decreased by 3.7%, 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, Philippines, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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