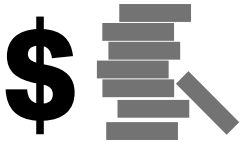
THE VALUE OF AVIATION TÜRKİYE

The economic impact of aviation in Türkiye

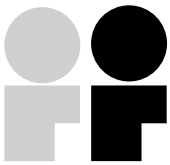
The aviation sector and its quantifiable economic effects made up 6.4% of Türkiye's GDP and 5.4% of the country's employment in 2025. This covers the sector itself, its supply chain, employee spending, and international air transport-enabled tourism to Türkiye.

GDP and employment created by aviation in Türkiye in 2025



102.1
USD billion

6.4%
of GDP



2
million jobs

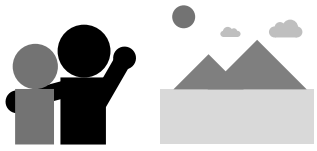
5.4%
of employment

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 20 billion	USD 24.9 billion	USD 57.3 billion
310.4 thousand jobs	544.9 thousand jobs	1.1 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 = TRY 39.46

Air transport brings millions of people safely to global destinations

Around 84.5 million air passengers departed from Türkiye in 2025, based on Origin-Destination(O-D) traffic, making Türkiye the 12th largest air passenger market globally.

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

84.5
million
passenger departures

GROWTH

40.7%
10-year growth

9.2%
year-on-year growth

RANK

12th
Global
No change since 2015

6th
in Europe
No change since 2015

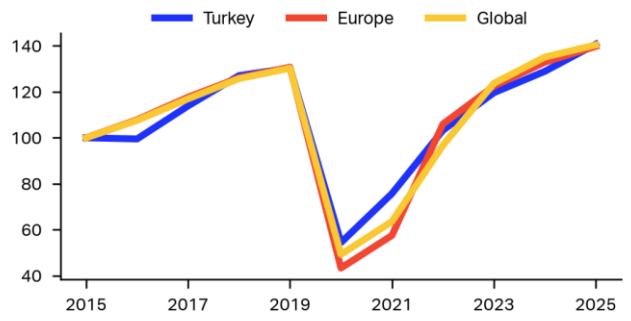
SHARE

2.0%
of global departures

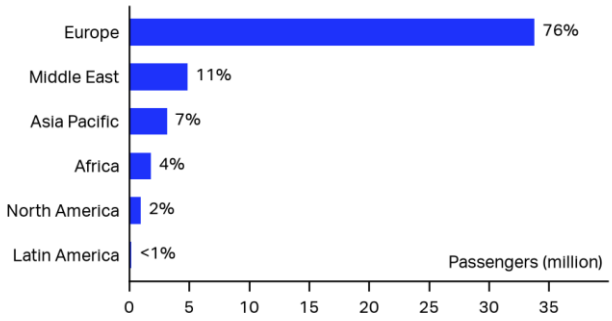
7.7%
of European departures

International: 44.8 million passenger departures, 72.0% 10Y growth, 6.7% YoY growth
Domestic: 39.7 million passenger departures, 16.8% 10Y growth, 12.1% YoY growth, % share of total market: 47.0%

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. Germany	1. London	1. Ercan
2. United Kingdom	2. Moscow	2. Madinah
3. Russia	3. Duesseldorf	3. Jeddah
4. Cyprus	4. Manchester	4. London
5. Saudi Arabia	5. Frankfurt	5. Paris

Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using IATA DDS data.
Note: O-D (origin-destination) departures measures passengers beginning their journey in Türkiye, to their final destination, excluding transfer and transit passengers.
Top air travel markets based on total O-D passenger traffic between Türkiye 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 Türkiye to 129 different countries

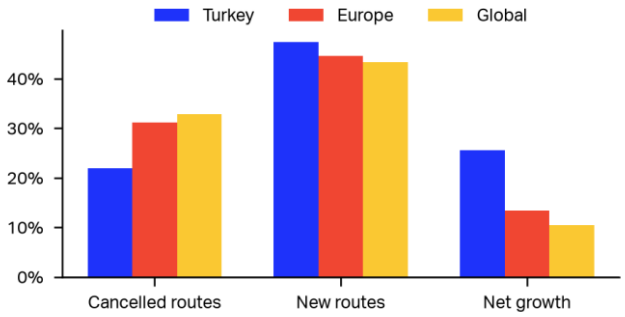
In 2025, there were 50 airports and 150 operating airlines in Türkiye, providing a total of 1286 regularly scheduled commercial passenger routes for Türkiye, connecting to 129 countries with about 1028 daily international departures.

Air Connectivity in Türkiye

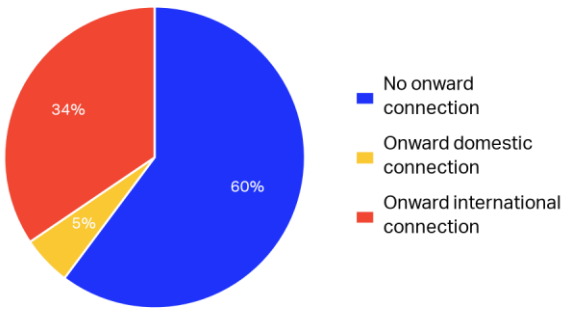


		Total		
		Available routes	Connected countries	Daily int. departures
2025	Total	1286	129	1028
	Global rank	11th	1st	7th
	Europe rank	7th	1st	6th
2015	Total	1024	113	676
	Global rank	12th	2nd	10th
	Europe rank	8th	2nd	6th

Route network change, 2015 to 2025, % of 2015



Onward connections of international arrivals, 2025

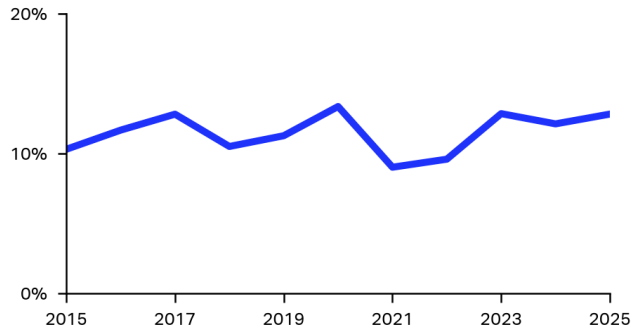


Source: IATA Sustainability & Economics using OAG & IATA DDS data.
Note: Airport, airline, and route counts include only those with regularly scheduled passenger services from Türkiye. Airports with fewer than 1,000 regularly scheduled seats in 2025 are excluded.

Air Cargo provides Türkiye timely and safe access to global markets

Although air transport accounted for an estimated 0.4% of Türkiye's traded goods by weight, it carried 12.8% of their total value.
Türkiye's airports handled around 2.1 million tonnes of air cargo in 2025, ranking Türkiye as the world's 13th largest air cargo handler market and the 4th largest in Europe.

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



Turkish air cargo, share of trade, 2025

0.4%
of trade by weight

12.8%
of trade by value

Air cargo handled in Türkiye, 2025

2.1
million tonnes
air cargo handled

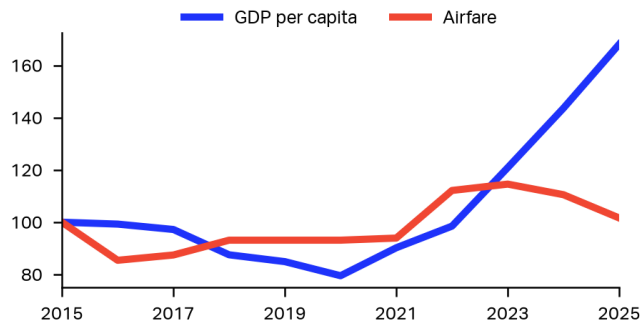
13th
Globally
4th in Europe

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

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

Türkiye's nominal GDP per capita increased by 68.1%, while the average nominal airfare for an international ticket from Türkiye increased by 1.6%, 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, Türkiye, 2015-2025, index 2015=100



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