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According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), the share of aviation in the world's energy-related CO₂ emissions stood at 2% in 2022, while its share within the transport sector – which emitted 7.63 Gt CO₂ that year – was 10%, behind road transport (77%) and shipping (12%) and ahead of rail (1%).

Despite the sector's relatively small share of emissions, aviation is considered hard to abate due to aircraft having a long lifespan – typically up to 30 years – but also because sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), seen as key in helping decarbonise aviation, remains expensive and in short supply.

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