

LSA-Like Aircraft Around the World – 2015

COUNTRY	COUNT	NOTES
United States	3,000	Only manufactured fixed wing LSA airplanes counted; number increases by 25% when adding weight shift, powered parachutes, gyro, motorgliders, & others
U.S. LSA-like aircraft, <i>estimate</i>	10,000	Includes EAB kits that can be flown by a Sport Pilot; ELSA; two-seat ultralights converted to ELSA... counting only aircraft with 1,500 pounds or less gross weight
France	8,500	Including "ultralights" by the European definition
Italy	6,000	Estimated 13,000 "ultralights" (European definition) are registered but not all are active
Germany	4,000	European "ultralights" (<i>excludes</i> more than 10,000 sailplanes or motorgliders)
England	4,000	Covers "microlights" (European ultralights) and <i>excludes</i> 3,250 VLAs weighing 750 kg
All <i>Other</i> European Countries	7,000	Estimated figure seen as conservative; Czech Republic accounts for a significant share; includes Russia
Canada	7,000	Includes what Canada calls "ultralight," different from U.S. use of that term
South Africa	6,000	Including "Sport," "Recreational," and Experimental" categories
Australia	2,700	Australian regulations closely resemble America's
New Zealand	1,000	New Zealand once reported 1,850 "sport" aircraft
All South America	4,000	Rough estimate; Brazil accounts for many
All Asian countries	3,000	Rough estimate (including Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines, etc.)
All other countries	500	Rough estimate
Total Global LSA-like	66,200	Please see notes with each entry and below

Sources: LAMA and LAMA Europe, ByDanJohnson.com, GAMA, Recreation Aviation Australia, others

Best Effort Statement: While care was taken and broad experience was applied to the counting, considerable interpretation was needed to create this chart. National figures are based on reports from many countries, laboriously assembled by GAMA, a study made significantly more difficult by widely varying reporting systems that defines aircraft differently and groups them by differing methods.

Comparison: The U.S. single engine piston fleet (accounting for an estimated 80% of the global fleet) counts 137,500 aircraft. Worldwide, the SEP fleet may number 165-175,000 aircraft. ... With 13,000 LSA-like aircraft, the USA has about 20% of all such aircraft in the world; 80% are in other countries.