
Summary:

Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2010

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Domestic travel in Norway increased by 1.2 per cent in 2010. Road traffic rose by 1.1 per cent. International passenger transport in 2010 increased from the previous year, about 61 million trips being taken across the Norwegian border. Domestic freight transport decreased by 1.7 per cent in total in 2010, although road freight increased by 6.6 percent.

General Trends

For 2010 the growth in the passenger transport volume in Norway is estimated to be 1.2 per cent, compared to 0.7 per cent the previous year. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car increased by 1.0 per cent in 2010, while the number of passenger-kilometres in public transport showed a 1.6 per cent increase. Around 88 per cent of all travel undertaken in Norway is by road. Air transport accounted for 6 per cent of the transport volume and rail transport (railroads and tramways) accounted for about 5 per cent.

The decline in freight transport in 2010 is estimated at 1.7 per cent. There was a marked downward trend for all modes; except for road transport.

Preliminary figures from the national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 0.3 per cent, while consumption in private households increased by 3.7 per cent. Annual population growth was about 1.3 per cent in 2010.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 2.5 per cent in 2010 compared to 2009. Petrol prices increased on average by 8.3 per cent in 2010, after a decline by 4.8 percent in 2009.

Private Transport

At the end of 2010, the stock of vehicles that are mainly used for private transport was about 2.86 million. About 159,000 private cars were registered for the first time in 2010.

The number of road accidents with injury decreased in 2010 compared to the previous years. The number of fatalities varies considerably from year to year. 208 persons were killed and 9 338 persons were injured in traffic accidents in 2010.

Public Transport

The number of journeys by bus has increased somewhat from last year, to 353 millions.

Ruter AS (the public transport authority for Oslo and Akershus) reported a solid increase in rail traffic in 2010, from 117 million trips made on tramways and suburban railways in 2009 to 121 million trips in 2010.

The Norwegian State Railway (NSB) reported 51.1 million trips in 2010. Together with more than five million trips by the Airport Express Train and half a million trips by the tourist railway Flåmsbana, this means altogether 58.6 million trips by rail, compared to 57.5 million trips in 2009.

10.5 million domestic air flights were undertaken in 2010, the highest figure recorded ever.

Trips Abroad

It is estimated that about 38.1 million people travelled out of or into Norway by road in 2010. About 16.7 million air trips and 5.7 million ferry trips were taken between Norway and foreign countries in 2010, while the number of train and bus trips across the border was modest, about 0.9 million trips.

Freight Transport

The number of tonne-kilometres and the volume of goods transported by sea has increased substantially in the last years, but in 2009 freight transport by sea was down by 3.0 per cent, and in 2010 it went down by a further 9.1 per cent. Freight transport by rail declined by 8.7 per cent in 2010. The number of tonne-kilometres and the volume transported on road showed an increase of 6.6 per cent in 2010 after a decline of 8.3 per cent the previous year. As aggregated over all transport modes, the decline of the number of tonne-kilometres in 2010 was 1.7 per cent.

As of now 42.4 per cent of all tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 50.6 per cent, while rail transport takes the remaining seven per cent.

Ships completely dominate the scene with respect to shipments to and from abroad, as 88 per cent of the volume of freight to and from the mainland is carried by ship. The volume of goods imported was 33.3 million tonnes in 2010, compared to an export volume of 46.1 million tonnes the same year.

166 million tons of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2010, compared to 178 million tons in 2009. Slightly more than half of the oil and gas export are being transported by pipeline, the other half by ship. Oil and gas constitute 68 per cent of the total export (in tonnes) from Norway.