

Summary:

Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2011

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Domestic travel in Norway increased by 2.0 per cent in 2011. Road traffic rose by 1.5 per cent. International passenger transport in 2011 increased from the previous year, about 64 million trips being taken across the Norwegian border. Domestic freight transport decreased by 0.5 per cent in total in 2011, but freight transport by rail increased by 2.9 per cent.

General Trends

For 2011 the growth in the passenger transport volume in Norway is estimated to be 2.0 per cent, compared to 1.2 per cent the previous year. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car increased by 1.7 per cent in 2011, while the number of passenger-kilometres in public transport showed a 2.6 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 2011 is estimated at 0.5 per cent. There was a downward trend for all modes; except for rail.

Preliminary figures from the national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 1.4 per cent, while consumption in private households increased by 2.5 per cent. Annual population growth was about 1.3 per cent in 2011.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 1.2 per cent in 2011 compared to 2010. Petrol prices increased on average by 9.6 per cent in 2011.

Private Transport

At the end of 2011, the stock of vehicles that are mainly used for private transport was about 2.93 million. About 168,500 private cars were registered for the first time in 2011.

The number of road accidents with injury decreased in 2011 compared to the previous years. The number of fatalities continue to decrease, and 168 persons were killed in traffic accidents in 2011.

Public Transport

The number of journeys by bus has increased somewhat from last year, to 356 millions.

Ruter AS (the public transport authority for Oslo and Akershus) reported a solid increase in rail traffic in 2011, from 121 million trips made on tramways and metro in 2010 to 129 million trips in 2011.

The Norwegian State Railway (NSB) reported 51.1 million trips in 2011. Together with amongst other 5.9 million trips by the Airport Express Train and 618,000 trips by the tourist railway Flåmsbana, this means altogether 58.8 million trips by rail, compared to 57.9 million trips in 2010.

11.1 million domestic air flights were undertaken in 2011, the highest figure recorded ever.

Trips Abroad

It is estimated that about 38.9 million people travelled out of or into Norway by road in 2011. About 18.4 million air trips and 5.8 million ferry trips were taken between Norway and foreign countries in 2011, 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 decreased since 2008, but in 2011 freight transport by sea was down by only 0.3 per cent, after a decline of 9.4 per cent in 2010. Freight transport by rail increased by 2.9 per cent in 2011 after two years with reduction. The number of tonne-kilometres and the volume transported on road showed a decline of 1.2 per cent in 2011 following an increase of 6.6 per cent the previous year. As aggregated over all transport modes, the decline in the number of tonne-kilometres in 2011 was 0.5 per cent.

As of now 42.4 per cent of all tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 50.3 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 89 per cent of the volume of freight to and from the mainland is carried by ship. The volume of goods imported was 33.8 million tonnes in 2011, compared to an export volume of 50.9 million tonnes the same year.

160 million tons of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2011, compared to 168 million tons in 2010. Slightly more than half of the oil and gas export are being transported by pipeline, the other half by ship. Oil and gas constitute 65 per cent of the total export (in tonnes) from Norway.