

Summary:

Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2012

TØI Report 1277/2013

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Oslo 2013, 54 pages Norwegian language

Domestic travel in Norway increased by 1.2 per cent in 2012. The growth in passenger transport volume was highest for rail, with 3.8 per cent. Road traffic rose by 1.7 per cent. Domestic freight transport rose by 2.5 per cent in total in 2012. The number of tonne-kilometres transported on road showed an increase of 5.0 per cent, while rail transport rose by 4.6 per cent.

General Trends

For 2012 the growth in the passenger transport volume in Norway is estimated to be 1.2 per cent, compared to 1.7 per cent the previous year. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car increased by 1.2 per cent in 2011, while the number of passenger-kilometres in public transport showed a 0.1 per cent increase. The growth in passenger transport volume was highest for rail, with 3.8 per cent. Around 88 per cent of all motorized 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 growth in freight transport in 2012 is estimated at 2.5 per cent, after a decline in 2011. Both road and rail showed a five per cent growth.

Preliminary figures from the national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 3.1 per cent, as did consumption in private households. Annual population growth was about 1.3 per cent in 2012.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 0.8 per cent in 2012 compared to 2011. Petrol prices increased on average by 4.7 per cent in 2012.

Private Transport

At the end of 2012, the stock of vehicles that are mainly used for private transport was 3 million. About 171,800 private cars were registered for the first time in 2012.

The number of road accidents with injury increased slightly in 2012 compared to the previous years. The number of fatalities continue to decrease, and 145 persons were killed in traffic accidents in 2012.

Public Transport

The number of journeys by bus has increased somewhat from last year, from 322 to 333 millions. The estimates are adjusted with charter transport not longer included.

Ruter AS (the public transport authority for Oslo and Akershus) reported 130 million trips made on tramways and metro in 2012, compared to 129 million trips in 2011.

The Norwegian State Railway (NSB) reported 52.4 million trips in 2011. Together with amongst other 6.1 million trips by the Airport Express Train and 635,000 trips by the tourist railway Flåmsbana, this means altogether 60.4 million trips by rail, compared to 58.8 million trips in 2011.

10.9 million domestic air flights were undertaken in 2012, a slightly smaller figure than in 2011.

Trips Abroad

It is estimated that about 40.9 million people travelled out of or into Norway by road in 2012. About 19.8 million air trips and 5.8 million ferry trips were taken between Norway and foreign countries in 2012, 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, and in 2012 freight transport by sea was down by 0.7 per cent. Freight transport by rail increased by 4.6 per cent in 2012. The number of tonne-kilometres transported on road showed in 2012 again an increase, by 5.0 per cent, following a decline of 1.2 per cent in 2011. As aggregated over all transport modes, the increase in the number of tonne-kilometres in 2012 was 2.5 per cent.

As of now 41.1 per cent of all tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 51.6 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 89 per cent of the volume of freight to and from the mainland is carried by ship. The volume of goods imported was 34.2 million tonnes in 2012, compared to an export volume of 51.5 million tonnes the same year.

166 million tons of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2012, compared to 161 million tons in 2011. Slightly more than half of the oil and gas export are being transported by pipeline, the other half by ship. Oil and gas constitute 66 per cent of the total export (in tonnes) from Norway.