
Summary:

Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2014

TØI Report 1454/2015

Author: Eivind Farstad

Oslo 2015, 58 pages Norwegian language

Domestic travel in Norway increased by 2.3 per cent in 2014. The growth in passenger transport volume was highest for rail, with 5.2 per cent. Road traffic rose by 1.7 per cent. Domestic freight transport rose by 1.9 per cent in total in 2014. The amount of tonne-kilometres transported by airplanes showed the strongest relative growth, with an increase of 22.5 per cent, while road freight transport rose by 3.7 per cent.

General Trends

For 2014 the growth in the passenger transport volume in Norway is estimated to be 2.3 per cent, compared to 1.3 per cent the previous year. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car increased by 2.3 per cent in 2014, while the number of passenger-kilometres in public transport showed a 1.5 per cent increase. The growth in passenger transport volume was highest for rail, with 5.2 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, and sea transport around 1 per cent. These market shares have been quite stable since 2000.

The growth in freight transport in 2014 is estimated at 1.9 per cent, compared to 6.6 in 2013. The growth in freight transport volume was relatively highest for airplane, with 22.5 per cent, but air transport is still a marginal share of the total transport volume. Road transport showed an 3.7 per cent growth in 2014.

Figures from the national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 2.7 per cent in 2014, while consumption in private households rose by 1.9 per cent. Consumption in the transport sector rose by 0.1 percent compared to 1.1 percent the previous year. Annual population growth was about 1.1 per cent in 2014.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 2.0 per cent in 2014, compared to a 2.1 percent increase in 2013. The partial index for transport rose by 2.3 per cent.

Private Transport

At the end of 2014, the stock of vehicles that are mainly used for private transport was over 3.1 million. About 172,000 private passenger cars were registered for the first time in 2014.

The road traffic volume increased by 1.7 per cent, compared to 1.2 per cent the year before.

The number of road accidents with personal injury was 4,972 in 2014. The number decreased slightly by 269 in 2014 compared to the previous years. The number of fatalities in Norway has been decreasing gradually. It decreased again in 2014 after an

increase in 2013, and 147 persons were killed in traffic accidents in Norway in 2014. The number of persons with serious injury fell by 551 in 2014.

Public Transport

The number of journeys by bus increased somewhat from the previous year, from 340 million in 2013 to 344 million in 2014. The estimates are adjusted, with charter bus transport no longer included.

Ruter AS (the public transport authority for Oslo and Akershus counties) reported 139 million trips made on tramways and metro in 2014, compared to 134 million trips in 2013. Altogether there were 149 million trips made by tram and metro in Norway, up from 144 million in 2013.

The Norwegian State Railway (NSB) reported 59 million passenger trips in 2014. Together with amongst other 6.8 million trips by the Airport Express Train and 704,000 trips by the tourist railway Flåmsbana, this amounted to 69.9 million trips altogether by rail, compared to 66.7 million trips in 2013. This equals a 4.7 per cent increase.

11.0 million domestic air flights were undertaken in 2014, which is about 360,000 or 3.2 per cent less than in 2013.

Trips Abroad

In 2014 about 22.5 million trips to and from Norway by airplane were registered, which was up 0.9 million trips or 4.2 per cent from 2013. Around 5.9 million ferry trips were taken between Norway and abroad in 2014. The number of private car, train, and bus trips across the border was not calculated for 2014, due to lack of data on these modes after 2012.

Freight Transport

Domestic freight transport continued to grow in 2014, although not as much as the year before. The number of tonne-kilometres transported on road showed an increase by 3.7 per cent in 2014, following a an increase of 8.0 per cent in 2013. As aggregated over all transport modes, the increase in the number of tonne-kilometres in 2014 was 1.9 percent, compared to 6.6 per cent in 2013.

As of 2014, al little over 40 per cent of all freight tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 53 per cent, while rail and air transport takes the remaining seven per cent.

Ships dominate the scene with respect to shipments to and from abroad, as 86 per cent of the volume of freight to and from the mainland is carried by ship. The volume of goods imported was 34.1 million tonnes, compared to an export volume of 52.5 million tonnes in 2014.

159 million tonnes of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2014, compared to 156 million tonnes in 2013. Total exports of foil and gas by pipeline was 90 million tonnes in 2014, while ships carried 69 million tonnes. Oil and gas constitute 65 per cent of the total export (in tonnes) from Norway.