Summary

Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2019

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Author: Eivind Farstad, Bjørg L. Flothe & Kjetil Haukås
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Domestic passenger travel in Norway increased by 0.5 per cent in 2019. The growth in passenger transport volume was highest for buses, with 5.9 per cent. Road transport rose by 0.3 per cent. Domestic freight transport, including cabotage, increased by 2.9 per cent in total in 2019. The amount of tonne kilometres transported by rail increased 3.7 per cent, by sea 3.0 per cent, and by road 2.7 per cent, while freight transport by air decreased 7.4 per cent. Estimated freight transport, excluding cabotage, increased by 2.1 per cent from 2018 to 2019.

General Trends

For 2019 the growth in the passenger transport volume in Norway is estimated to be 0.5 per cent, compared to 1.1 per cent the previous year. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car increased by 0.3 per cent in 2019, while the number of passenger-kilometres in public transport showed a 0.2 per cent increase. The growth in passenger transport volume was 5.9 per cent for bus transport. Passenger air transport decreased by 2.4 per cent, while sea passenger transport decreased with 7.9 per cent. However, air, rail and sea transport altogether only constitutes a relatively small share of 14 per cent of the total domestic passenger transport volume. Around 86 per cent of all motorized travel undertaken in Norway is by road. Air transport accounted for seven per cent of the transport volume, rail transport about five per cent, and sea transport around one percent. These market shares have been quite stable since 2010.

The freight transport work including cabotage is estimated to have increased 2.9 per cent in 2019, compared to a decrease of 5.5 per cent in 2018. Freight transport by rail increased the most, by 3.7 per cent. Freight transport work by sea increased 3.0 percent, by road 2.7 per cent, while transport work by air decreased 7.4 per cent. Excluding cabotage, transport work increased by 2.1 percent from 2018 to 2019.

Annual population growth was about 0.7 per cent in 2019, indicating slightly lower growth in passenger transport than in the population. Figures from the Norwegian national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 0.9 per cent in 2019, while consumption in private households rose by 1.3 per cent. Private consumption for transport increased 0.2 per cent in 2019, after a decrease by 0.4 per cent in 2018.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 2.2 per cent in 2019. The partial index for transport increased by 3.0 per cent.

Private Transport

By the end of 2019, the stock of vehicles mainly used for private transport was nearly 3.4 million, of which 2.8 million were private passenger cars, including 260,000 electric vehicles. About 162,000 private passenger cars were registered for the first time in 2019, around 7 percent less than in 2018.

The road traffic volume increased by 0.3 per cent, about the same growth as in 2018. The number of road accidents with personal injury was 3,579 in 2019, and decreased by 319
accidents compared to the previous year. In total 108 persons were killed in traffic accidents in Norway in 2018, which is same amount as in 2018, and two more than all-time low with 106 killed in traffic in 2017.

**Public Transport**

The number of journeys by bus increased by 30 million from the previous year, to 434 million in 2019, or 7.5 per cent increase.

The traffic with tramway around Oslo was 53 million, an increase by 2 million from the previous year. The traffic with metro around Oslo, on the other hand, decreased from 122 million in 2018 to 119 million in 2019. Altogether, including trams also in Bergen and Trondheim, 192 million trips were made by tram and metro in Norway in 2019, up 3 million from 189 million in 2018.

In 2019, 80.4 million passenger trips were made by rail in Norway, an increase by 2.7 million from the previous year. Airport Express Train reported 6.7 million passengers trips by rail to and from Oslo Airport in 2019, and almost one million passenger trips were made by the tourist railway Flåmsbana.

Around 55 million passengers were transported by ferries and other boats, a decrease by 0.6 from 2018. About 13.2 million domestic air flights were undertaken (including domestic transfer journeys to abroad) which is about 300,000 or 2.4 per cent less than in 2018.

**Trips Abroad**

In 2019 about 24.3 million trips to and from Norway by airplane were registered, which was up 0.3 million trips from 2018. Around 6.4 million ferry trips and 0.5 million trips by train were taken between Norway and abroad in 2019.

**Freight Transport**

Domestic freight transport, measured by tonne-kilometres transported, including cabotage, increased in 2019. Freight transport by rail increased 3.7 per cent, by sea 3.0 percent, and by road 2.7 per cent, while transport work by air decreased 7.4 per cent. As aggregated over all transport modes, the number of tonne-kilometres including cabotage increased by 2.9 per cent, compared to a decrease of 5.5 per cent the year before. Estimated excluding cabotage, however, domestic freight transport increased 2.1 per cent.

About 44 per cent of all freight tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 51 per cent, while rail and air transport constitute the remaining five per cent.

The volume of goods imported was 39.8 million tonnes, compared to an export volume of 56.8 million tonnes. Ships dominate the scene with respect to shipments to and from abroad, as 83 per cent of the volume of freight to and from the mainland is carried by ship, while 14 percent is carried by road transport, and 3 per cent by rail.

165 million tonnes of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2019, compared to 170 million tonnes in 2018. Total exports of oil and gas by pipeline was 92 million tonnes in 2019, while ships carried 73 million tonnes. Oil and gas constitute 63 per cent of the total export (measured in tonnes) from Norway.