

## Summary

# Transport volumes in Norway 1946–2020

TØI Report 1865/2021

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Oslo 2021, 59 pages Norwegian language

*Domestic passenger travels in Norway decreased by 14.1 per cent in 2020. The decrease in passenger transport volume was highest for public transport, with 46.4 per cent. Road transport by passenger cars decreased by 7.1 per cent. Domestic freight transport, including cabotage, decreased by 4.6 per cent in total in 2020. The amount of tonne kilometres transported by rail increased 3.6 per cent, while freight transport by sea decreased by 9.2 per cent, by road 1.4 per cent, and freight transport by air decreased 6.9 per cent. Estimated freight transport, excluding cabotage, decreased by 0.9 per cent from 2019 to 2020.*

## General Trends

Domestic passenger transport volume in Norway decreased by 14.1 per cent in 2020, compared to 0.5 per cent growth the previous year. The number of passenger-kilometres in public transport decreased more than private transport, with a 46.4 per cent decrease. The number of person-kilometres by passenger car decreased by 7.1 per cent. The passenger transport volume by air, rail and sea, was all more than halved, while passenger transport by bus was reduced by 38 per cent. However, air, rail and sea transport altogether only constitutes a relatively small share of 8 per cent of the total domestic passenger transport volume. Around 92 per cent of all motorized travel undertaken in Norway was by road. Air transport accounted for four per cent of the transport volume, rail transport about three per cent, and sea transport less than one percent. After many years with stable market shares, the Covid-19 pandemic and the measures associated with it led to a shift of the market shares from sea, rail and air to private transport by road.

The freight transport work including cabotage is estimated to have decreased 4.6 per cent in 2020, compared to an increase of 2.6 per cent in 2019. Freight transport by rail was the only transport mode to increase, by 3.6 per cent. Freight transport work by sea decreased 9.2 per cent, by road 1.4 per cent, and by air 6.9 per cent. Excluding cabotage, freight transport work decreased by 0.9 percent from 2019 to 2020.

Figures from the Norwegian national accounts show that the gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by 0.8 per cent in 2020, while consumption in private households decreased by 6.7 per cent. Private consumption for transport decreased 10.8 per cent in 2020. This means that there was a stronger decline in consumption for transport than private consumption otherwise in 2020, which must be seen as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, with extensive use of private home offices and travel restrictions.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 1.3 per cent in 2020. The partial index for transport increased by 1.6 per cent.

## Private Transport

By the end of 2020, the stock of vehicles mainly used for private transport was nearly 3.4 million, of which 2.8 million were private passenger cars, including 340,000 electric vehicles. About 157,500 private passenger cars were registered for the first time in 2020, about 3 percent less than in 2019.

The road traffic volume decreased by 6.1 per cent in 2020. The number of road accidents with personal injury was 3,585 in 2020, about the same amount as the year before. In total 93 persons were killed in traffic accidents in Norway in 2020, which is an all-time low.

## **Public Transport**

The number of journeys by bus decreased by 144 million from the previous year, to 290 million in 2020, or a 33 per cent decrease.

The traffic with tramway around Oslo was 22 million, a decrease by 31 million, or 58.5 per cent from the previous year. The traffic with metro around Oslo decreased from 119 million in 2019 to 74 million in 2020. Altogether, with trams also in Bergen and Trondheim included, there were 110 million trips made by tram and metro in Norway in 2020, a reduction of nearly 43 per cent.

There were 43 million passenger trips by rail in Norway in 2020, a decrease by 37 million. The Airport Express Train reported 2.2 million passenger trips by rail to and from Oslo Airport in 2020, 67 per cent less than the year before. Only 146,500 passenger trips were made by the tourist railway Flåmsbana, a reduction of 84 per cent compared to 2019.

Around 35 million passengers were transported by ferries and other boats, a decrease by 37 per cent from 2019. However, passenger transport work at sea was reduced by even more, from 1,098 to 533 million passenger kilometres, which is a decrease of 51 per cent. About 6.6 million domestic air flights were undertaken (including domestic transfer journeys to abroad) in 2020, which is about half of the number of trips compared to the previous year.

## **Trips Abroad**

In 2020 about 5.5 million trips to and from Norway by airplane were registered, which was a reduction in number of trips by almost 78 per cent. Around 1.9 million ferry trips and 78 thousand trips by train were taken between Norway and abroad in 2020, a reduction of 70 and 84 per cent respectively.

## **Freight Transport**

Domestic freight transport, measured by tonne-kilometres transported, including cabotage, decreased in 2020. Freight transport by rail was the only one that increased, by 3.6 per cent, transport work by sea decreased by 9.2 per cent, by road 1.4 per cent, and by air 6.9 per cent. As aggregated over all transport modes, the number of tonne-kilometres including cabotage decreased by 4.6 per cent, compared to an increase of 2.6 per cent the year before. Estimated excluding cabotage, domestic freight transport decreased 0.9 per cent.

About 42 per cent of all freight tonne-kilometres occur at sea, road transport accounts for 52 per cent, and rail transport constitute for 6 per cent. Less than 0.05 per cent of the freight transport occur by air.

The volume of goods imported was 38.7 million tonnes, compared to an export volume of 59.6 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 per cent is carried by road transport, and 3 per cent by rail. These shares have remained stable over the last ten years.

179 million tonnes of oil and gas were exported directly from the Norwegian continental shelf in 2020, compared to 165 million tonnes in 2018. Total exports of oil and gas by pipeline was 95 million tonnes in 2020, while ships carried 84 million tonnes. Oil and gas constitute 65 per cent of the total export (measured in tonnes) from Norway.