

## PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Although some studies have suggested a saturation of passenger travel by car in some developed countries, the demand for passenger mobility continues to increase worldwide. There is a need for good and comprehensive data on passenger mobility in order to develop sustainable passenger mobility systems. Comparability of transport data between countries is not always possible worldwide due to the lack of harmonised definitions and methods. The *Glossary for Transport Statistics (4th edition)* provides common definitions to all member states of the European Union, the International Transport Forum and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

### Overview

The economic crisis had a relatively small impact on rail passenger transport. If rail passenger-kilometers fell in 2009 in the OECD and the EU, volumes have recovered since then and in 2011 they are back to the pre-crisis levels. However there are marked differences between countries. Indeed, some European countries showed a decrease in their rail passenger traffic in 2011, notably Slovenia (minus 5%). A few countries resisted the otherwise downward trend; Austria (5%), the Slovak Republic (5%), the United Kingdom (5%), Denmark (5%) and France (4%). Outside Europe, rail passenger-kilometres for the Russian Federation and Japan show close to zero growth in 2011. Rail passenger-kilometers continues to show strong growth in China and India which account for nearly 70% of the estimated global rail passenger transport.

There continues to be marked differences between countries in the EU. In France and Germany, passenger-kilometres have remained consistent at around their pre-crisis levels. Passenger transport by rail in the United Kingdom has experienced continuous growth in volumes while in contrast passenger traffic in Italy has continued to deteriorate since the economic crisis.

Data on passenger-kilometres travelled in private cars are less detailed and less up to date in many countries. Within the EU, the decline was on average 0.5% in the 13 countries where data are available for 2011. In the United States, passenger travel by car fell 1% in 2011. Some studies have suggested a saturation of passenger travel by car in some developed countries and while the data available does not lend itself to a detailed analysis, it seems that some levelling off of car travel has taken place in some of the developed economies. How much these trends are due to the economic crisis or to oil price changes, amongst other potential factors, is as yet uncertain.

### Definition

For this indicator, passenger transport data refer to the total movement of passengers using rail or road (passenger cars, buses or coaches) transport modes. Data are expressed in passenger-kilometres which represents the transport of one passenger over one kilometre. The distance to be taken into consideration is the distance actually run.

### Comparability

If passenger transport by rail or by regular buses and coaches can be estimated fairly easily, passengers transport by passenger car or by un-schedule coaches are much more difficult to track down. Some countries do not report passenger car transport at all, others carry out different types of surveys to estimate passenger travel on their territory. There is no common methodology for this and since no method provides a complete vision of passenger movements, data are not always comparable between countries.

### Sources

- International Transport Forum (ITF) (2012), "Inland passenger transport" (Database).

### Further information

#### Analytical publications

- ITF (2013), *ITF Transport Outlook 2013: Funding Transport*, ITF, Paris.
- OECD (2014), *OECD Tourism Trends and Policies*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2012), *Strategic Transport Infrastructure Needs to 2030*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD and ITF (2010), *Improving Reliability on Surface Transport Networks*, OECD Publishing.

#### Statistical publications

- ITF (2013), *Trends in the Transport Sector*, OECD Publishing.

#### Methodological publications

- ITF, Statistical Office of the European Communities and United Nations Economic Commission (2010), *Illustrated Glossary for Transport Statistics 4th Edition*, OECD Publishing.

#### Websites

- International Transport Forum, [www.internationaltransportforum.org](http://www.internationaltransportforum.org).

## Inland passenger transport

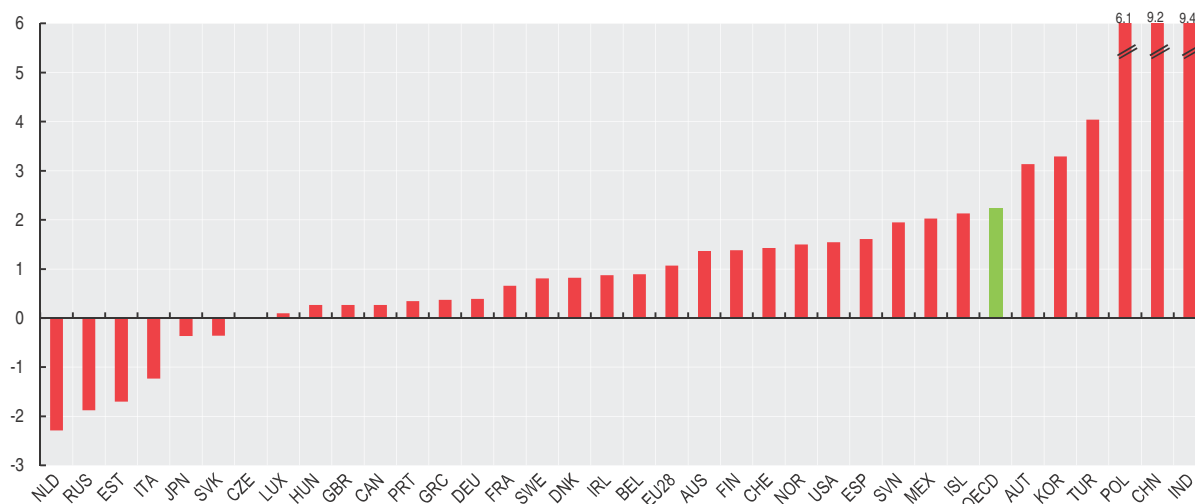

Billion passenger-kilometres

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Australia	264.9	270.2	288.5	274.4	281.1	293.2	294.0	293.3	296.5	297.4	297.5	300.3	303.3
Austria	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.5	9.3	9.6	10.8	10.7	10.3	10.9
Belgium	123.8	127.2	129.5	132.2	133.0	135.5	136.1	137.6	140.7	139.1	140.6	140.3	..
Canada	502.5	503.5	482.6	494.6	486.4	489.8	514.2	511.6	504.9	494.0	494.4	..	..
Chile	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	78.0	80.6	81.4	81.6	83.3	82.7	83.9	86.1	88.0	88.6	88.3	81.0	81.5
Denmark	70.1	69.7	69.1	69.2	69.9	71.5	71.7	72.5	74.2	74.3	73.6	73.1	74.4
Estonia	2.5	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	..
Finland	65.9	66.8	68.0	69.3	70.6	71.9	72.9	73.5	75.1	75.0	75.7	76.2	76.9
France	856.1	866.3	898.2	911.8	917.7	923.5	919.5	924.3	938.9	935.0	937.6	946.6	952.8
Germany	990.2	975.7	997.1	1 001.9	996.5	1 009.1	998.9	1 008.2	1 011.0	1 017.3	1 024.7	1 033.0	..
Greece	41.9	42.1	42.9	43.6	43.6	44.3	44.3	44.1	44.5	43.8	..	..	..
Hungary	73.8	74.3	74.5	75.2	76.4	78.1	76.5	79.2	79.2	79.3	78.6	76.5	76.3
Iceland	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.5	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.4
Ireland	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.6
Israel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	798.7	854.6	860.0	854.6	854.5	865.1	828.1	829.5	829.5	828.3	869.7	847.8	769.1
Japan	1 340.7	1 335.5	1 339.7	1 337.7	1 339.2	1 333.0	1 324.2	1 313.6	1 324.6	1 310.5	..	..	..
Korea	46.9	49.6	326.7	296.9	289.8	242.9	255.4	260.4	260.9	364.3	366.3	437.2	..
Luxembourg	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mexico	387.7	381.8	389.4	393.3	399.1	410.1	423.0	437.1	450.0	464.0	437.3	452.9	466.5
Netherlands	171.4	172.0	172.6	175.1	176.2	181.5	179.6	179.5	182.2	178.5	..	150.5	140.1
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	57.9	58.7	59.7	60.6	60.9	61.7	61.5	62.5	64.4	65.7	66.3	67.0	68.3
Poland	197.8	201.1	206.9	214.0	222.0	230.2	244.5	265.6	286.1	320.5	328.1	337.4	352.0
Portugal	97.5	98.0	98.9	99.5	100.1	101.4	101.3	101.1	101.7	101.0	..	..	..
Slovak Republic	32.3	35.2	35.1	35.9	35.3	34.4	35.7	35.9	35.9	35.3	33.4	33.7	34.0
Slovenia	24.8	24.5	24.9	25.4	25.6	26.0	26.3	26.9	28.4	28.9	29.8	29.6	..
Spain	361.0	350.4	357.3	383.8	392.3	404.0	412.6	412.4	424.3	427.4	430.6	415.0	412.6
Sweden	117.7	119.1	120.3	123.5	124.2	124.7	125.1	125.4	128.6	127.8	128.1	127.8	129.3
Switzerland	94.2	96.0	97.0	98.6	99.7	100.8	102.9	104.1	105.6	106.7	108.9	110.2	..
Turkey	181.4	191.5	173.8	168.5	170.2	179.5	187.2	192.9	214.7	211.2	217.8	232.4	248.1
United Kingdom	726.2	724.5	736.2	759.2	756.4	759.7	754.7	761.2	768.3	761.6	757.4	754.3	754.1
United States	4 285.1	4 362.7	4 364.7	4 459.5	4 492.3	4 573.3	4 590.9	4 538.8	5 855.6	5 663.2	5 007.5	5 009.6	..
EU 28	4 889.2	4 942.2	5 032.0	5 129.8	5 154.6	5 225.7	5 206.0	5 263.3	5 336.7	5 363.1	..	..	..
OECD	12 004.8	12 148.9	12 492.3	12 657.5	12 713.9	12 845.9	12 884.0	12 897.6	14 334.6	14 260.5	..	..	..
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China	1 033.5	1 119.0	1 197.4	1 277.5	1 248.4	1 446.1	1 535.4	1 675.3	1 872.3	2 025.5	2 139.0	2 378.3	2 637.3
India	2 262.7	2 534.0	2 903.9	3 330.0	3 611.2	4 044.7	4 867.6	5 240.8	5 630.0	6 034.0	6 100.5	6 535.0	..
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	312.9	340.4	329.6	323.1	323.1	332.6	314.1	313.4	323.6	327.6	292.7	279.2	278.0
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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## Inland passenger transport

Average annual growth rate in percentage, 2001-11 or latest available period

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