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# Transports by Austrian road freight vehicles declined in 2023

## Decrease mostly in transports for hire or reward

Vienna, 2024-05-31 – 370.6 million tonnes of goods were transported by road freight vehicles registered in Austria in 2023, according to Statistics Austria. This means that the tonnage transported is 5.1% lower than in the previous year. Transport performance decreased by 2.6% to 26.1 billion tonne-kilometres. Especially transport for hire or reward was affected by the decline (transport volume: –9,7%; transport performance: –5,5%).

In 2023, the **transport volume** of road freight vehicles registered in Austria fell to 370.6 million tonnes (million t). This is the lowest figure since 2015. The **transport performance** in Austria and abroad, i.e. the volume of goods transported multiplied by the distance travelled, decreased to 26.1 billion tonne-kilometres (billion tkm) and was thus slightly above the 2020 figure (26.0 bn tkm). These declines can mostly be attributed to a downturn in transports for hire or reward. In own account transport, i.e. when enterprises transport goods for their own purposes, the transport volume remained almost unchanged, while transport performance increased by 3.6%. Most of the transports took place within Austria and “metal ores; mining products; peat” was the most frequently carried type of goods.

### Decreases in all types of transport and transports for hire or reward

The transport volume of the national transport declined by 4.9% to 345.0 million t. Further decreases occurred in international dispatch (–3.3% to 10.5 million t) and international receipt (–3.0% to 10.0 million t). A drop of 22.6% to 4.1 million t in other transport abroad and a decrease of 12.8% to 1.0 million t in transit was observed.

In transports for hire or reward, the tonnage carried fell by 9.7% to 188.1 million t, whereas the tonnage in transports for own account remained stable (+0.2% to 182.5 million t). The changes can mostly be attributed to a declined national transport tonnage in transports for hire or reward (–9.8% to 170.9 million t), since 90.9% of the transport volume in transports for hire or reward took place in national transport. In addition, decreases in almost all other types of transport were observed.

### Most transports within Austria

For most transports, both origin and destination are on Austrian territory, e.g. 94.6% (25.4 million) laden journeys are of type national transport. Transport volume in national transport (345.0 million t) corresponds to 93.1% of total transport volume. Moreover, 83.5% (288.2 million t) of the transport volume in national transport were carried on routes up to 80 kilometres.

### Despite decline, “metal ores; mining products; peat” remains dominant

The goods type “metal ores; mining products; peat” represented the largest share of transport volume with 129.3 million t (–6.3% year-to-year), followed by “other non-metallic mineral products” with 64.5 million t (–10.2%) and “products of agriculture, forestry and fishing” with 31.5 million t (+2.6%). Together, these three groups represented 60.8% of the total transport volume.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

## Road freight transport of Austrian enterprises 2023

Type of transport	Number of laden journeys	Transport volume in Tonnes	Transport performance domestic in Thousand tkm	Transport performance abroad in Thousand tkm
<b>National transport</b>	25 437 347	345 014 218	16 547 578	616 575
Compared to previous year in %	-4.1	-4.9	-2.4	4.3
<b>International receipt</b>	538 690	9 983 095	991 240	2 219 224
Compared to previous year in %	-3.1	-3.0	-0.4	-4.6
<b>International dispatch</b>	626 114	10 530 118	1 060 477	2 706 028
Compared to previous year in %	1.0	-3.3	-1.5	4.2
<b>Transit</b>	50 620	(959 219)	134 033	668 634
Compared to previous year in %	-11.7	-12.8	-10.8	-15.2
<b>Other transportation abroad</b>	242 207	4 107 585	-	1 183 063
Compared to previous year in %	-18.8	-22.6	.	-12.0
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>26 894 977</b>	<b>370 594 236</b>	<b>18 733 328</b>	<b>7 393 524</b>
Compared to previous year in %	-4.2	-5.1	-2.3	-3.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road freight transport statistics. – For the value in parentheses, the range of sampling error is more than ±20% at 95% statistical confidence.

1) Rounding differences may occur.

### Information on methodology, definitions:

The national survey of road freight transport includes foreign and domestic transport services **performed by road freight vehicles** (road tractors, lorries with two or more tonnes load capacity) **registered in Austria**. Numbers on road freight transport on Austrian roads (including foreign vehicles) are not included here and will be published in October. Data is collected using a vehicle- and time-related sample survey. Yearly, about 26 000 vehicles are drawn and associated vehicle owners (companies) are obliged to send data covering a predefined reporting week.

**Transport volume:** weight of goods transported in tonnes.

**Transport performance:** product of transport volume and kilometres driven.

**Transport for hire or reward:** the carriage for remuneration of goods on behalf of third parties. ÖNACE 2008 classes: 49.41 and 49.42.

**Transport on own account:** transport of goods that is not for hire or reward.

**NST 2007:** Standard goods classification for transport statistics, which entered into force at EU level on 1 January 2008 with Regulation (EC) No 1304/2007. Further information on this classification can be found in our [classification database](#).

### Further enquiries:

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