

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Road Freight Transport Statistics

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Executive Summary

Transport statistics cover surveys referring to the transport modes road, rail, inland waterways, air and pipelines. These surveys differ regarding concepts, legal basis, applied methods as well as types of data collection. **Road freight transport statistics** is one important pillar and offers basic findings about transport volumes and the transport performance in national and also cross border road freight transport within certain observation periods.

The data collection is performed using as **sample survey** which is carried out following the **nationality principle**. Therefore, only road freight vehicles registered in Austria from 2 tonnes load capacity, as well as semi-trailers are included. The basic population for the sample survey covers about 66 000 vehicles. Thereof a stratified sample of 26 000 vehicles is drawn according to load capacity classes, regional classification of the location (former “place of work”), size classification resp. category of the vehicle and type of transport (hire or reward/own account). For the 26 000 vehicles it is obligatory to report all journeys for one week. The vehicles are assigned to the local units of employment – not to the enterprises – due to the fact that information about the journeys and the carried goods is available at these locations. In total there are about 8 000 local units of employment and 7 200 enterprises affected yearly which have to report a maximum of four weeks per year.

In the context of the national survey the journeys performed by Austrian road freight vehicles on foreign territory are also collected. Thus, results referring to the total performance of Austrian companies in the field of road transport can be provided. Additionally, results referring to the total road freight transport performance on Austrian territory can be provided by including the consolidated European road freight transport statistics.

The most important key figures (flash estimates) of each quarter of the road freight transports statistics are published on the homepage of Statistics Austria one month after the reporting period and the complete quarterly data five month after the reporting period. The Yearly data are released via press release once a year at the end of May. Quarterly and yearly are released in the data base STATcube at the homepage of Statistics Austria, in the publication “Verkehrsstatistik”, in the “Statistisches Jahrbuch”, in the “Statistische Übersichten” and at irregular intervals in articles in the “Statistischen Nachrichten”.

Five months after a reporting period provisional data referring to the first three months of a reporting year are transmitted to the **Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat)**. Five months after a reporting year final data (yearly data of a reference year as well as the fourth quarter) resp. revised data are transmitted to Eurostat.

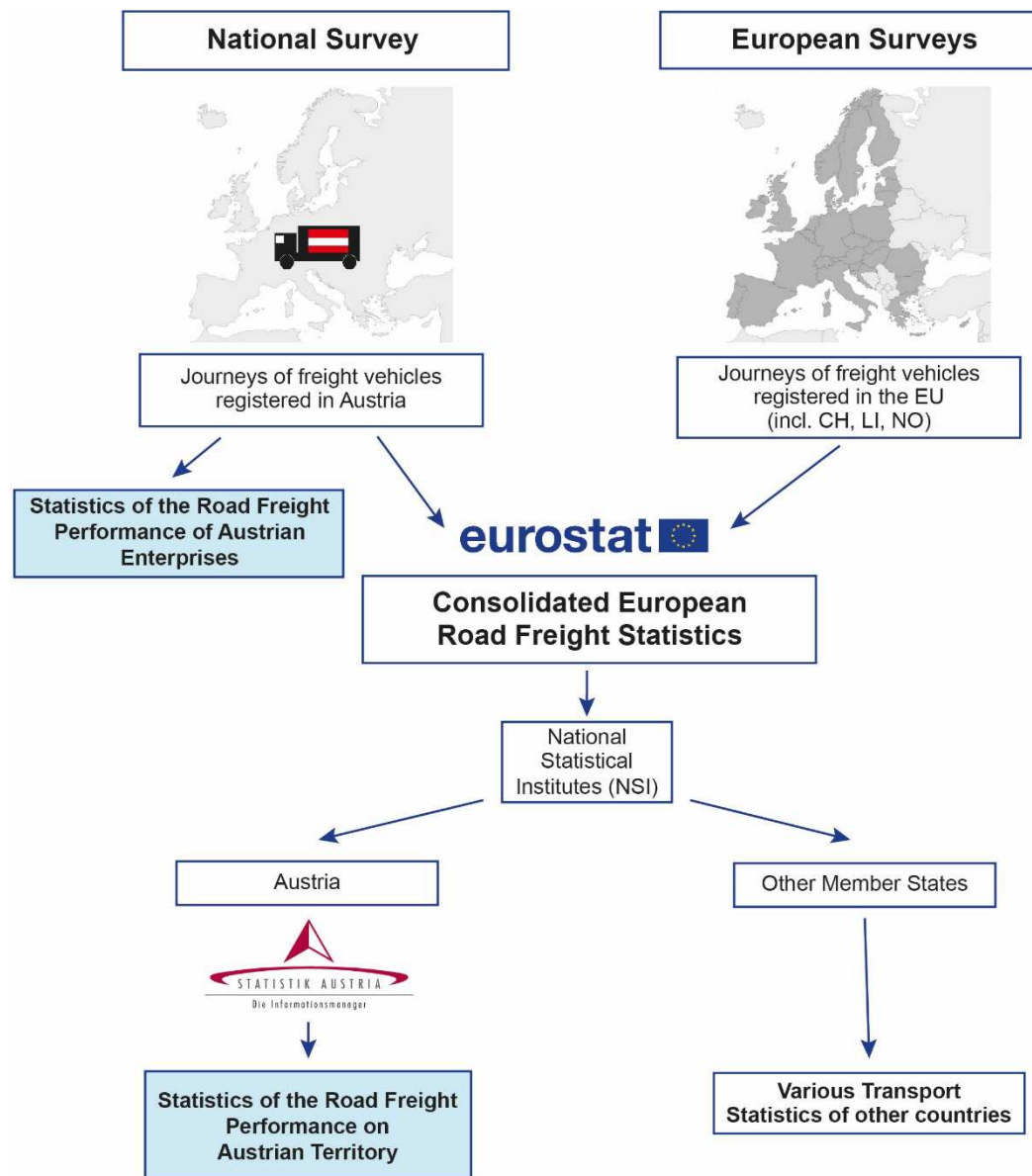
According to regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council all member states of the EU have to collect data for the statistical survey of the road freight transport with the vehicles registered in the respective countries. The data collection usually takes place as a sample survey, like in Austria. Furthermore it is allowed to exclude smaller vehicles from the survey. The member states transmit data regularly to Eurostat. Based on the regulation (EC) No 6/2003 Eurostat delivers consolidated data out of this data pool to the national authorities of the member states in order to be able to complete the national statistics. In Austria, Statistics Austria receives this information. All reported journeys with starting or ending point in Austria as well as transit through Austria which are performed with freight transport vehicles from the reporting countries (EU-28 without Malta) as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland are included in this data.

Due to the enlargements of the European Union in 2004 and 2007 and the availability of data from Switzerland and Croatia since 2008 the cover of data is good as all countries which are relevant for Austria take part at the survey. Therefore, the **consolidated European road freight transport statistics** is an important source for the presentation of the total road freight transport on the Austrian territory as well as for the comparison of the shares of the single transport modes (modal split). The results are usually transmitted to the national authorities by Eurostat in the following August of a reporting year.

Since the reporting year 2018, a model-based weighting of the parameters of the consolidated European road freight statistics as well as an imputation of missing third countries has been carried out on the basis of the ASFINAG toll data collected for the higher-ranking road network.

After internal analysis of the D-tables and the weighting process based on the toll data, the results of the consolidated European road freight transport statistics referring to Austria are published yearly – usually in October - via press release and at the homepage of Statistics Austria (www.statistik.at). Moreover, detailed results are published in the publication “Verkehrsstatistik” and at irregular intervals in articles of the “Statistische Nachrichten”.

Figure 1: Road Freight Transport Statistics in Austria



S: Statistics Austria, Transport Statistics.

Road Freight Transport Statistics – Main Features	
Subject Matter	Transport performance of Austrian enterprises on national territory and abroad (national results) as well as the representation of the total freight transport (national and foreign goods transport vehicles) at the Austrian road network
Population	National: approx. 15 000 enterprises resp. 16 000 local units of employment with totally about 67 000 reportable vehicles build the basis for the sample survey. European consolidated: varies according to the member state (see methodological handbook)
Type of statistics	National: primary statistical sample survey of about 26 000 road freight vehicles at approx. 8 000 local units of employment resp. 7 200 enterprises. European consolidated: Primary statistics carried out by other member states, based mainly on sample surveys (see methodological handbook)
Data sources/Survey techniques	National: journeys of approx. 500 vehicles at 270 local units of employment or rather 250 enterprises are collected weekly. European consolidated: Mostly surveys of the vehicle owners (see methodological handbook)
Reference period or due day	National: quarterly/yearly European consolidated: yearly
Periodicity	National: Final results yearly, provisional results quarterly, Flash estimates quarterly European consolidated: yearly
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Obligatory
Main legal acts	National: BGBl. Nr. 142/1983 : Bundesgesetz vom 21. Februar 1983 über statistische Erhebungen im Bereich des Straßen- und Schienenverkehrs (Straßen- und Schienenverkehrsstatistikgesetz). BGBl. Nr. 393/1995 : Verordnung des Bundesministers für öffentliche Wirtschaft und Verkehr über statistische Erhebungen im Bereich des Straßen- und Schienengüterverkehrs (Straßen- und Schienengüterverkehrsstatistik-Verordnung) idF: BGBl. II Nr. 119/2005 . EU: Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (OJ L 32, 3.2.2012) Regulation (EC) No 6/2003 Commission Regulation concerning the dissemination of statistics on the carriage of goods by road (OJ L1, 4.1.2003)
Most detailed regional breakdown	National: data is available at NUTS3 level. The representation of transport relations (loading region with unloading region) is only possible at NUTS2 level due to reasons of statistical accuracy and partly due to secrecy reasons. European consolidated: data is available at NUTS3 level.
Availability of results	National: Flash estimates: quarterly t+1 provisional data: quarterly t+5 months final data: t+5 months (150 days) after the reference year European consolidated: Usually 10 months after the reference year
Other	Since the reporting year 2018, a model-based weighting of the parameters of the consolidated European road freight statistics as well as an imputation of missing third countries has been carried out on the basis of the ASFINAG toll data collected for the higher-ranking road network. Detailed information referring to other member states can be read in the methodological handbook „Methodologies used in surveys of road freight transport in Member States, EFTA and Candidate countries – 2017 edition“, which can be downloaded at the homepage of Eurostat.