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### Transport volume on Austrian roads decreased by 7.7% in 2020

**Vienna**, 2021-10-14 – According to Statistics Austria, the **transport volume** carried out by domestic and foreign road freight vehicles on Austrian roads amounted to 552.1 million tonnes in 2020 and decreased by 7.7% compared to the previous year (598.0 million tonnes). With 52.4 billion domestic tonne-kilometres, the **transport performance** declined by 3.9% in the reference year (2019: 54.5 billion tonne-kilometres).

The increases in freight transport on Austrian roads in previous years (2016/17: +3.7% to 557.0 million tonnes; 2017/18: +3.3% to 575.2 million tonnes; 2018/19: +4.0% to 598.0 million tonnes) were interrupted by the Corona crisis in 2020. Thus, the transport volume fell to a similar level as in 2017. The transport performance, which had also increased steadily in recent years (2016/17: +4.7% to 49.6 billion tonne-kilometres; 2017/18: +5.0% to 52.1 billion tonne-kilometres; 2018/19: +4.6% to 54.5 billion tonne-kilometres), decreased to a value comparable to 2018.

While the amount of goods carried by **Austrian vehicles** declined by 7.3% to 369.4 million t compared to the previous year (398.4 million t), the decrease in transport performance was with 0.9% to 18.7 billion tkm significantly lower (2019: 18.9 billion tkm). In comparison, the decline in transport volume and transport performance of **vehicles registered abroad** was with 8.5% to 182.7 million t (2019: 199.6 million t) and 5.5% to 33.6 billion tkm (2019: 35.6 billion tkm) higher.

### Transport volume declined in all types of transport; smallest decrease in transit transport

In 2020, which was first affected by the Corona pandemic, the **transport volume** decreased in all types of transport. **National transport**, which accounted with 357.5 million tonnes for the main part of the transport volume, fell by 7.4%. **International receipt** (64.6 million tonnes) and **dispatch** (55.8 million tonnes) showed a decline by 8.8% and 11.5% compared to the preceding year. In 2020, **transit transport** (74.2 million tonnes) recorded the smallest decrease with a minus of 4.7% compared to 2019.

Two-thirds of the total **transport volume** (66.9% resp. 369.4 million tonnes) was performed by **Austrian road freight vehicles**. While national transport was carried out primarily by Austrian vehicles (97.5% and 348.5 million tonnes respectively), the share of domestic road freight vehicles in international receipt and dispatch reached only 14.8% (9.6 million tonnes) and 18.0% (10.1 million tonnes). With 1.6% (1.2 million tonnes) Austrian vehicles contributed only marginal to transit traffic.

With 35.8% (18.7 billion tonne-kilometres), the share of Austrian road freight vehicles in the domestic **transport performance** was lower than in transport volume. This is mainly due to the long journeys foreign vehicles conduct in transit transport. More than one third of the total transport performance (18.4 billion tonne-kilometres) was carried out in transit transport, where 99.3% were performed by foreign vehicles.

For more detailed results and further information concerning road freight transport statistics please refer to our [website](#).

**Information on methods, definitions:** In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2012 (amendment of Regulation (EG) No 1172/98), all EU member states have to collect statistical data on freight transport conducted by freight vehicles registered in the respective countries since 1999. Like in Austria, data collection is usually arranged as a sampling survey. Thereby small vehicles may be excluded, which is carried out differently among some member states. The states transfer the statistical data regularly to the statistical office of the European Union, Eurostat. From this data pool, Eurostat provides results (so-called **D-Tables**) in accordance with Regulation (EG) No 6/2003 to the national statistical authorities to complete their own national statistics.

Included are all reported journeys which start or/and end in or transit through Austria and which were conducted with freight vehicles registered in one of the reporting countries (EU-27 without Malta, as well as United Kingdom, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland). Journeys of smaller freight vehicles (mostly up to 3.5 tonnes loading capacity or 6 tonnes permissible maximum weight) are not included. As the results are derived from sampling surveys, there can be partly significant sampling errors.

From reporting year 2018, data from the Austrian **toll collection system** - which are provided by the "Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs-Aktiengesellschaft" (ASFINAG) - are used for weighting the results from the D-tables. Furthermore, results from so-called third countries - countries that are not included in the D-tables - can now be provided. With the help of this additional data source, the results were weighted starting from the reporting year 2015

**Transport volume** is the amount of transported goods in tonnes.

**Domestic transport performance** is the product of the transport volume and the distance travelled within Austria in kilometres.

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