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Freight transportation: results for February 2025

Table A – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation (income at current prices)

	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Freight payload	-12,1	-10,3	-10,6	-6,9	-4,7	-4,5
Freight income	-11,9	-5,8	-6,1	-6,2	-3,0	-3,4

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 4,5% in February 2025 compared with February 2024. The corresponding income decreased by 3,4% over the same period.

Table B - Freight transportation income at current prices for the latest three months by type of commodity

Type of commodity	Dec 2023 – Feb 2024 (R million)	Weight (%)	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 (R million)	% change between Dec 2023 – Feb 2024 and Dec 2024 – Feb 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Agriculture and forestry primary products	3 267	6,1	2 597	-20,5	-1,3
Primary mining and quarrying products	18 379	34,5	18 502	0,7	0,2
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	6 388	12,0	6 279	-1,7	-0,2
Textiles, clothing and leather goods	1 257	2,4	1 418	12,8	0,3
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	2 610	4,9	2 409	-7,7	-0,4
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	686	1,3	708	3,2	0,0
Non-metallic products	429	0,8	388	-9,6	-0,1
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	1 173	2,2	1 322	12,7	0,3
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1 482	2,8	1 506	1,6	0,0
Paper and paper products	286	0,5	246	-14,0	-0,1
Commercial products	1 350	2,5	1 462	8,3	0,2
Used household and office products	1 176	2,2	1 106	-6,0	-0,1
Containers	3 132	5,9	2 941	-6,1	-0,4
Parcels	1 354	2,5	1 464	8,1	0,2
Other freight	10 306	19,3	8 695	-15,6	-3,0
Total income	53 279	100,0	51 043	-4,2	-4,2

Income from freight transportation decreased by 4,2% in the three months ended February 2025 compared with the three months ended February 2024. The main negative contributors to this decrease were:

- 'other' freight (-15,6% and contributing -3,0 percentage points); and
- agriculture and forestry primary products (-20,5% and contributing -1,3 percentage points) see Table B.

Table C - Seasonally adjusted payload for the latest three months by type of transport

Payload	Sep – Nov 2024 (000 tons)	Weight (%)	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 (000 tons)	% change between Sep – Nov 2024 and Dec 2024 – Feb 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Rail	39 948	17,3	41 771	4,6	0,8
Road	191 469	82,7	194 235	1,4	1,2
Total	231 418	100,0	236 006	2,0	2,0

Seasonally adjusted payload increased by 2,0% in the three months ended February 2025 compared with the previous three months. Road freight increased by 1,4% (contributing 1,2 percentage points) and rail freight increased by 4,6% (contributing 0,8 of a percentage point) – see Table C.

Figure 1 - Freight transportation: seasonally adjusted payload

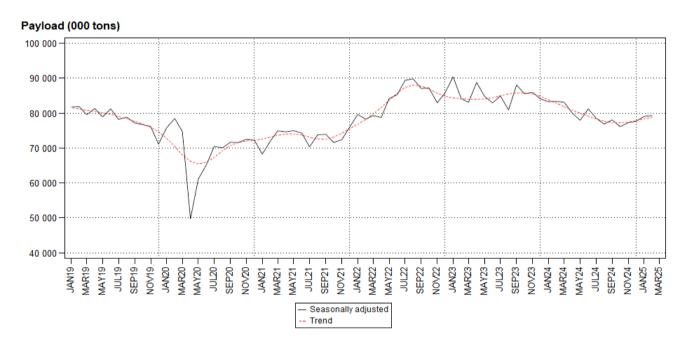
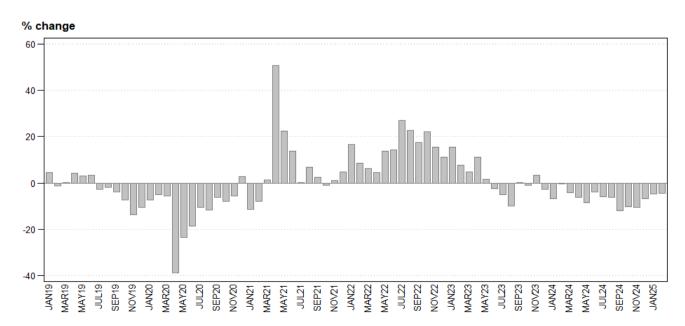


Figure 2 - Freight transportation: year-on-year percentage change in payload



Passenger transportation: results for February 2025

Table D – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation (income at current prices)

	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Passenger journeys	4,3	14,2	1,3	2,5	11,0	3,6
Passenger income	3,4	2,3	-4,0	-4,1	1,4	-1,7

The number of passenger journeys increased by 3,6% in February 2025 compared with February 2024. The corresponding income decreased by 1,7% over the same period.

Table E - Seasonally adjusted passenger journeys for the latest three months by type of transport

Passenger journeys	Sep – Nov 2024 (000)	Weight (%)	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 (000)	% change between Sep – Nov 2024 and Dec 2024 – Feb 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Rail	22 259	25,8	22 556	1,3	0,3
Road	63 977	74,2	64 668	1,1	0,8
Total	86 236	100,0	87 225	1,1	1,1

Seasonally adjusted passenger journeys increased by 1,1% in the three months ended February 2025 compared with the previous three months. Road passenger journeys increased by 1,1% (contributing 0,8 of a percentage point) and rail passenger journeys increased by 1,3% (contributing 0,3 of a percentage point) – see Table E.

Figure 3 - Passenger transportation: seasonally adjusted passenger journeys

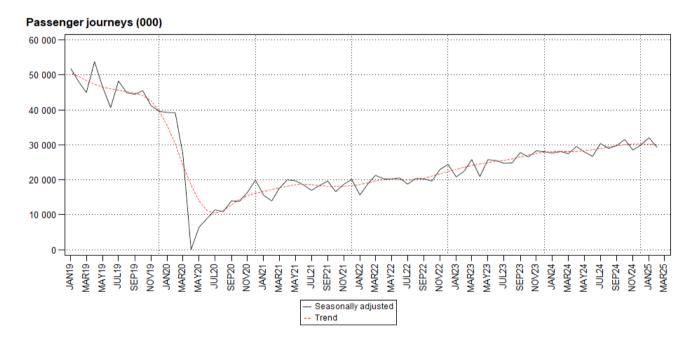
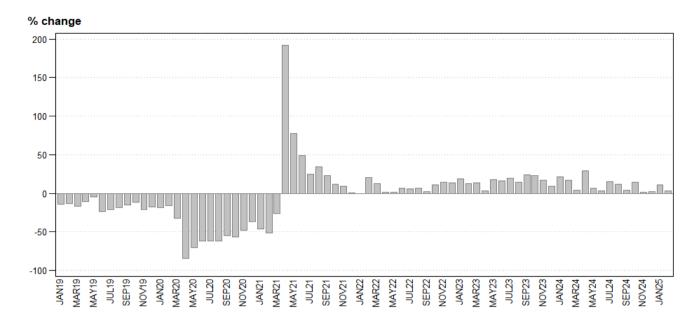


Figure 4 – Passenger transportation: year-on-year percentage change in passenger journeys



Risenga Maluleke Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Freight transportation (income at current prices)

		R	ail	Ro	ad	Total		
Year and month		Payload Income (000 tons) (R million)		Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)	Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)	
2024	Jan	12 773	3 343	65 829	14 257	78 602	17 600	
	Feb	13 855	3 617	64 879	14 253	78 734	17 870	
	Mar	13 293	3 528	66 301	14 394	79 595	17 922	
	Apr	13 761	3 656	65 789	14 433	79 549	18 089	
	May	13 227	3 703	66 825	14 646	80 053	18 349	
	Jun	13 358	3 642	67 007	14 488	80 366	18 130	
	Jul	13 036	3 517	67 563	14 738	80 599	18 256	
	Aug	13 597	3 758	68 417	14 897	82 014	18 655	
	Sep	14 072	3 740	65 312	14 052	79 384	17 792	
	Oct	12 515	3 428	66 845	14 811	79 360	18 239	
	Nov	13 151	3 538	67 942	14 957	81 092	18 495	
	Dec	14 356	3 818	58 460	12 887	72 816	16 705	
	Total	160 994	43 288	791 169	172 813	952 164	216 102	
2025	Jan	13 688	3 567	61 247	13 504	74 935	17 071	
	Feb	14 799	3 866	60 422	13 401	75 221	17 267	

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation (income at current prices)

V		Ra	ail	Ro	ad	Total	
Year and month		Payload	Income	Payload	Income	Payload	Income
2024	Jan	-3,5	12,0	-7,3	-2,9	-6,7	-0,4
	Feb	6,9	21,5	-1,5	2,9	-0,1	6,2
	Mar	11,1	23,7	-6,6	-3,9	-4,1	0,5
	Apr	1,5	11,4	-7,6	-1,9	-6,1	0,6
	May	9,4	21,0	-11,4	-5,4	-8,6	-1,1
	Jun	0,6	4,1	-4,7	-2,0	-3,8	-0,8
	Jul	15,9	23,1	-9,0	-5,6	-5,8	-1,1
	Aug	-1,8	7,8	-7,2	-5,4	-6,3	-3,0
	Sep	-25,8	-22,5	-8,4	-8,6	-12,1	-11,9
	Oct	5,7	12,3	-12,8	-9,2	-10,3	-5,8
	Nov	-1,4	2,3	-12,2	-8,0	-10,6	-6,1
	Dec	2,2	-0,1	-8,9	-7,9	-6,9	-6,2
	Total	0,4	7,8	-8,3	-4,9	-6,9	-2,6
2025	Jan	7,2	6,7	-7,0	-5,3	-4,7	-3,0
	Feb	6,8	6,9	-6,9	-6,0	-4,5	-3,4

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted freight transportation (income at current prices)

		R	ail	Ro	oad	To	otal
Year a	and month	Payload Income (000 tons) (R million)		Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)	Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)
2024	Jan	13 012	3 491	70 259	15 028	83 271	18 520
	Feb	13 242	3 562	70 109	15 281	83 350	18 842
	Mar	13 727	3 712	69 385	15 106	83 112	18 819
	Apr	13 227	3 529	66 753	14 537	79 981	18 066
	May	13 564	3 730	64 381	14 183	77 944	17 913
	Jun	13 211	3 542	67 993	14 804	81 204	18 346
	Jul	14 665	3 863	63 911	13 955	78 576	17 818
	Aug	12 869	3 551	63 991	14 102	76 861	17 653
	Sep	13 127	3 488	64 935	14 017	78 062	17 506
	Oct	13 693	3 668	62 413	13 868	76 107	17 536
	Nov	13 128	3 555	64 121	14 049	77 249	17 603
	Dec	13 795	3 647	63 861	13 950	77 655	17 597
2025	Jan	13 915	3 721	65 136	14 235	79 052	17 956
	Feb	14 061	3 793	65 238	14 334	79 299	18 127

Table 4 – Month-on-month percentage change in seasonally adjusted freight transportation (income at current prices)

V		R	ail	Ro	ad	Total		
Year and month		Payload	Income	Payload	Income	Payload	Income	
2024	Jan	-4,1	-5,1	-0,3	-1,4	-0,9	-2,1	
	Feb	1,8	2,0	-0,2	1,7	0,1	1,7	
	Mar	3,7	4,2	-1,0	-1,1	-0,3	-0,1	
	Apr	-3,6	-4,9	-3,8	-3,8	-3,8	-4,0	
	May	2,5	5,7	-3,6	-2,4	-2,5	-0,8	
	Jun	-2,6	-5,0	5,6	4,4	4,2	2,4	
	Jul	11,0	9,1	-6,0	-5,7	-3,2	-2,9	
	Aug	-12,2	-8,1	0,1	1,1	-2,2	-0,9	
	Sep	2,0	-1,8	1,5	-0,6	1,6	-0,8	
	Oct	4,3	5,2	-3,9	-1,1	-2,5	0,2	
	Nov	-4,1	-3,1	2,7	1,3	1,5	0,4	
	Dec	5,1	2,6	-0,4	-0,7	0,5	0,0	
2025	Jan	0,9	2,0	2,0	2,0	1,8	2,0	
	Feb	1,0	1,9	0,2	0,7	0,3	1,0	

Table 5 – Freight transportation income at current prices by type of commodity (R million)

Type of commodity	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Agriculture and forestry primary products	1 073	1 058	962	897	796	904
Primary mining and quarrying products	6 277	6 142	6 381	6 082	6 110	6 310
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	2 158	2 265	2 262	2 118	2 116	2 045
Textiles, clothing and leather products	446	538	567	497	442	479
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	772	857	872	822	827	760
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	273	268	224	215	249	244
Non-metallic products	174	160	151	123	124	141
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	402	421	476	397	436	489
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	547	570	582	491	477	538
Paper and paper products	85	84	80	81	80	85
Commercial products	501	523	515	467	491	504
Used household and office products	358	376	388	394	346	366
Containers	1 025	1 033	1 086	907	978	1 056
Parcels	480	583	638	474	484	506
Other freight	3 222	3 363	3 312	2 738	3 116	2 841
Total	17 792	18 239	18 495	16 705	17 071	17 267

Table 6 – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation income at current prices by type of commodity

Type of commodity	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Agriculture and forestry primary products	-11,9	-18,4	-25,4	-16,9	-27,2	-17,4
Primary mining and quarrying products	-10,6	-3,5	-5,9	-2,6	1,5	3,2
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	-3,0	-1,9	0,2	-0,8	-1,4	-2,9
Textiles, clothing and leather products	-2,4	2,1	5,8	10,2	16,0	12,7
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	-21,3	-4,0	-7,2	-6,4	-8,7	-8,0
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	6,2	-4,3	10,9	-4,0	15,8	-1,2
Non-metallic products	16,0	-7,0	-17,5	-10,9	-3,1	-13,5
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	26,0	15,7	22,4	18,5	18,2	4,3
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	6,6	9,8	3,4	14,5	-7,2	-0,2
Paper and paper products	-18,3	-20,0	-27,9	-6,9	-10,1	-22,7
Commercial products	22,5	23,3	17,6	4,9	11,1	8,9
Used household and office products	-8,9	-8,1	-10,2	-10,5	-10,1	4,3
Containers	17,7	22,5	17,0	-1,5	-5,9	-9,9
Parcels	-2,6	12,3	5,1	8,7	15,5	1,4
Other freight	-32,7	-22,4	-18,1	-23,2	-9,7	-13,6
Total	-11,9	-5,8	-6,1	-6,2	-3,0	-3,4

Table 7 - Contribution of each type of commodity to the year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation income at current prices (percentage points)

Type of commodity	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Agriculture and forestry primary products	-0,7	-1,2	-1,7	-1,0	-1,7	-1,1
Primary mining and quarrying products	-3,7	-1,2	-2,0	-0,9	0,5	1,1
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	-0,3	-0,2	0,0	-0,1	-0,2	-0,3
Textiles, clothing and leather products	-0,1	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,3
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	-1,0	-0,2	-0,3	-0,3	-0,4	-0,4
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	0,1	-0,1	0,1	-0,1	0,2	0,0
Non-metallic products	0,1	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	0,0	-0,1
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,1
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	0,2	0,3	0,1	0,3	-0,2	0,0
Paper and paper products	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2	0,0	-0,1	-0,1
Commercial products	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,1	0,3	0,2
Used household and office products	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2	-0,3	-0,2	0,1
Containers	0,8	1,0	0,8	-0,1	-0,3	-0,6
Parcels	-0,1	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,4	0,0
Other freight	-7,7	-5,0	-3,7	-4,6	-1,9	-2,5
Total	-11,9	-5,8	-6,1	-6,2	-3,0	-3,4

Table 8 – Passenger transportation (income at current prices)

Year and month		R	ail	Ro	Road		otal
		Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)
2024	Jan	4 078	151	21 880	885	25 958	1 036
	Feb	5 404	149	22 701	832	28 105	981
	Mar	5 096	151	23 974	923	29 070	1 074
	Apr	5 168	145	21 248	839	26 416	984
	May	5 255	134	21 311	859	26 566	993
	Jun	4 676	124	20 925	938	25 601	1 062
	Jul	6 989	117	21 262	925	28 251	1 042
	Aug	7 311	149	21 418	855	28 729	1 004
	Sep	7 529	175	23 251	935	30 780	1 110
	Oct	8 466	166	23 686	841	32 152	1 007
	Nov	8 160	153	21 368	811	29 528	964
	Dec	5 425	89	18 907	900	24 332	989
	Total	73 557	1 703	261 931	10 543	335 488	12 246
2025	Jan	6 927	166	21 882	884	28 809	1 050
	Feb	7 926	173	21 200	791	29 126	964

Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation (income at current prices)

		Ra	il	Ro	ad	Tot	al
Year and month		Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income
2024	Jan	64,2	20,8	15,8	12,5	21,4	13,6
	Feb	73,0	22,1	8,8	8,1	17,2	10,0
	Mar	42,9	11,0	-1,5	2,2	4,2	3,4
	Apr	96,1	31,8	19,2	14,9	29,1	17,1
	May	51,5	18,6	-0,6	10,7	6,7	11,7
	Jun	45,1	6,9	-3,2	7,3	3,0	7,3
	Jul	121,0	21,9	-0,5	9,0	15,2	10,3
	Aug	87,4	27,4	-1,9	4,4	11,6	7,3
	Sep	95,9	22,4	-9,4	0,5	4,3	3,4
	Oct	93,3	8,5	-0,4	1,2	14,2	2,3
	Nov	66,0	7,0	-11,8	-5,8	1,3	-4,0
	Dec	77,4	12,7	-8,5	-5,5	2,5	-4,1
	Total	76,1	17,2	-0,2	4,6	10,3	6,2
2025	Jan	69,9	9,9	0,0	-0,1	11,0	1,4
	Feb	46,7	16,1	-6,6	-4,9	3,6	-1,7

Table 10 - Seasonally adjusted passenger transportation (income at current prices)

Year and month		Rail		Ro	Road		Total	
		Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	
2024	Jan	4 532	137	22 579	875	27 111	1 012	
	Feb	4 956	136	22 468	889	27 424	1 024	
	Mar	4 802	138	22 187	891	26 989	1 029	
	Apr	4 965	148	23 486	914	28 450	1 062	
	May	5 162	138	22 183	897	27 346	1 035	
	Jun	4 953	134	21 512	906	26 465	1 040	
	Jul	7 439	139	21 606	899	29 045	1 038	
	Aug	7 053	146	21 009	875	28 062	1 021	
	Sep	7 384	153	21 265	863	28 649	1 016	
	Oct	7 525	144	22 337	850	29 862	993	
	Nov	7 350	145	20 375	824	27 725	969	
	Dec	7 633	146	21 099	854	28 733	1 000	
2025	Jan	7 667	150	22 568	873	30 235	1 024	
	Feb	7 256	156	21 001	862	28 257	1 019	

Table 11 – Month-on-month percentage change in seasonally adjusted passenger transportation (income at current prices)

		Ra	il	Ros	ad	Total	
Year and month		Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income
2024	Jan	5,1	7,0	-2,2	-3,2	-1,1	-1,9
	Feb	9,4	-0,7	-0,5	1,6	1,2	1,2
	Mar	-3,1	1,5	-1,3	0,2	-1,6	0,5
	Apr	3,4	7,2	5,9	2,6	5,4	3,2
	May	4,0	-6,8	-5,5	-1,9	-3,9	-2,5
	Jun	-4,0	-2,9	-3,0	1,0	-3,2	0,5
	Jul	50,2	3,7	0,4	-0,8	9,7	-0,2
	Aug	-5,2	5,0	-2,8	-2,7	-3,4	-1,6
	Sep	4,7	4,8	1,2	-1,4	2,1	-0,5
	Oct	1,9	-5,9	5,0	-1,5	4,2	-2,3
	Nov	-2,3	0,7	-8,8	-3,1	-7,2	-2,4
	Dec	3,9	0,7	3,6	3,6	3,6	3,2
2025	Jan	0,4	2,7	7,0	2,2	5,2	2,4
	Feb	-5,4	4,0	-6,9	-1,3	-6,5	-0,5

Explanatory notes

Introduction

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey of the land transportation industry, covering passenger and freight transportation by rail and road (see points 3 and 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from the 2023 statistical business register (SBR) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT) and income tax. Published land transportation income estimates exclude VAT.

Purpose of the survey

2 The results of the monthly land transport survey are used to compile estimates of the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which are used in monitoring the state of the economy and formulation of economic policy. These statistics are also used in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance.

Scope of the survey

- 3 This survey covers enterprises involved in land transportation according to the following types of transportation:
 - railway transport (including passenger and freight transportation);
 - 'other' scheduled passenger land transport urban, suburban and inter-urban bus and coach passenger lines and school buses;
 - 'other' non-scheduled passenger land transport safaris and sightseeing bus tours, metered taxis and 'other' passenger transport including renting of motor cars with drivers; and
 - freight transport by road.

Exclusions

- 4 Passenger transportation excludes:
 - minibus taxis:
 - metropolitan buses (including the Bus Rapid Transport system BRT); and
 - · rental of private cars/buses without drivers.

Freight transportation excludes:

- renting of trucks without drivers; and
- in-house transportation.

Classification

The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division (two-digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects its predominant activity.

Collection rate

The preliminary collection rate for the survey on land transportation for February 2025 was 71,9%. The revised collection rate for January 2025 was 75,1%.

Statistical unit

The statistical unit for which information is compiled and published is an enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its income activities. The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) administrative data.

Revised figures

Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the schedule on the following page. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Feb-25	Additional information from respondents	Jan-25
Mar-25	Additional information from respondents	Feb-25
Apr-25	Additional information from respondents	Mar-25
May-25	Additional information from respondents	Apr-25
Jun-25	Additional information from respondents	May-25
Jul-25	Additional information from respondents	Jan-08–Jun-25
3ul-23	New sample	3a11-00-3d11-23
Aug-25	Additional information from respondents	Jul-25
Sep-25	Additional information from respondents	Aug-25
Oct-25	Additional information from respondents	Sep-25
Nov-25	Additional information from respondents	Oct-25
Dec-25	Additional information from respondents	Nov-25
Jan-26	Additional information from respondents	Dec-25

Related publications

9 Users may also wish to refer to the *Stats in Brief* publication available from Stats SA.

Rounding-off of figures

10 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Historical data

Historical land transport data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link:
Click to download historical data.

Past publications

Past land transport releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link:
Click to download past releases.

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design

- 1 The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 784 enterprises from a population of 5 136 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Email and telephone reminders are used to follow up on non-respondents.
- A stratified random sample was drawn at the SIC four-digit level in April 2023 from Stats SA's statistical business register (SBR). Strata were formed using a combination of Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises (see paragraph 3 below).

The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum:

$$nh = n * (Nh * Sh) / [\Sigma (Ni * Si)].$$

Neyman allocation formula not only allocates sample sizes to each stratum but also calculates the relative precision for each stratum as well as the relative precision for all strata. The relative precision for these strata was 1,2%.

Sample design and class limits

The land transportation industry is divided into four size groups. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to medium (size group two), small (size group three) and micro (size group four) enterprises. The total value of income of the large enterprises (size group one) is added to the weighted totals of size groups two, three and four to reflect the total value of income.

Measure of size classes (Rand)

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limit	Upper limit
Very small	4	1 375 366	9 000 000
Small	3	9 000 001	39 000 000
Medium	2	39 000 001	78 000 000
Large	1	78 000 001	

Sample weighting

4 For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are the inverse ratio of the sampling fraction, modified to take account of non-response in the survey. Stratum estimates are calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form division estimates. These procedures are in line with international best practice.

Reliability of estimates

- Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the land transport industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.
- Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive months as a result of seasonal and economic factors.

Relative standard error

One measure is the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate.

Estimates of land transport within 95% confidence limits – February 2025

	Lower limit (R million)	Estimate (R million)	Upper limit (R million)	Relative standard error (RSE) %
Freight income	15 520	17 267	19 014	5,1
Passenger income	949	964	979	0,7

Year-on-year percentage change

The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Contribution (percentage points)

9 The contribution (percentage points) to the annual percentage change for any given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of commodity/service by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of commodity/service to total income in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Seasonal adjustment

Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. Therefore, the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for land transportation is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at:

Click to download seasonal adjustment land transport February 2022.

Trend cycle

11 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend cycle.

Glossary

Enterprise An enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly

controls all functions necessary to carry out its activities.

IndustryAn industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic

activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition,

Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

Symbols and GDP Gross domestic product

abbreviations ISIC International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities

SARS South African Revenue Service SBR Statistical Business Register

SIC Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities

Stats SA Statistics South Africa
VAT Value-added tax
* Revised figures

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General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 official languages. Since the releases are used extensively locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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Advance release calendar

A release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za.

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

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National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, Qonce
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Mbombela
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data is available via online services. For more details about our electronic services, contact Stats SA's user information service at (012) 310 8600.

You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za.

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