



stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

STATISTICAL RELEASE

P7162

Land transport (Preliminary)

May 2025

**Embargoed until:
22 July 2025
11:00**

ENQUIRIES:
JP Terblanche
Tel: 066 470 2112

FORTHCOMING ISSUE:
June 2025

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE:
19 August 2025



Dipalopalo tsa Aforikabora • Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Ezezibalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • Tshitatistika Afrika Tshipembe • Tinhlayohlayo Afrika-Dzonga
Statistieke Suid-Afrika • Dipalopalo tsa Afrika Borwa • Telubalo zaseNingizimu Afrika • EzeeNkcukacha maNani zoMzantsi Afrika • Iimbabalo zeSewula Afrika

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



Contents

Freight transportation: results for May 2025	2
Table A – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation (income at current prices)	2
Table B – Freight transportation income at current prices for the latest three months by type of commodity	2
Table C – Seasonally adjusted payload for the latest three months by type of transport	3
Figure 1 – Freight transportation: seasonally adjusted payload	3
Figure 2 – Freight transportation: year-on-year percentage change in payload	3
Passenger transportation: results for May 2025	4
Table D – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation (income at current prices)	4
Table E – Seasonally adjusted passenger journeys for the latest three months by type of transport	4
Figure 3 – Passenger transportation: seasonally adjusted passenger journeys	4
Figure 4 – Passenger transportation: year-on-year percentage change in passenger journeys	5
Tables	6
Table 1 – Freight transportation (income at current prices)	6
Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation (income at current prices)	6
Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted freight transportation (income at current prices)	7
Table 4 – Month-on-month percentage change in seasonally adjusted freight transportation (income at current prices)	7
Table 5 – Freight transportation income at current prices by type of commodity (R million)	8
Table 6 – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation income at current prices by type of commodity	8
Table 7 – Contribution of each type of commodity to the year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation income at current prices (percentage points)	8
Table 8 – Passenger transportation (income at current prices)	9
Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation (income at current prices)	9
Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted passenger transportation (income at current prices)	10
Table 11 – Month-on-month percentage change in seasonally adjusted passenger transportation (income at current prices)	10
Explanatory notes.....	11
Technical notes.....	12
Glossary	14
Technical enquiries	14
General information.....	15

Freight transportation: results for May 2025

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

	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
Freight payload	-6,9	-4,7	-4,1	-3,8	-5,5	-3,7
Freight income	-6,2	-3,0	-3,4	-0,8	-1,5	-0,4

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 3,7% in May 2025 compared with May 2024. The corresponding income decreased by 0,4% over the same period.

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

Type of commodity	Mar – May 2024 (R million)	Weight (%)	Mar – May 2025 (R million)	% change between Mar – May 2024 and Mar – May 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Agriculture and forestry primary products	3 190	5,9	2 625	-17,7	-1,0
Primary mining and quarrying products	18 682	34,4	18 784	0,5	0,2
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	6 249	11,5	6 453	3,3	0,4
Textiles, clothing and leather goods	1 433	2,6	1 451	1,3	0,0
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	2 532	4,7	2 623	3,6	0,2
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	734	1,4	580	-21,0	-0,3
Non-metallic products	484	0,9	450	-7,0	-0,1
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	1 195	2,2	1 301	8,9	0,2
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1 490	2,7	1 648	10,6	0,3
Paper and paper products	297	0,5	233	-21,5	-0,1
Commercial products	1 487	2,7	1 520	2,2	0,1
Used household and office products	1 146	2,1	1 108	-3,3	-0,1
Containers	3 318	6,1	2 981	-10,2	-0,6
Parcels	1 577	2,9	1 653	4,8	0,1
Other freight	10 548	19,4	10 457	-0,9	-0,2
Total income	54 360	100,0	53 868	-0,9	-0,9

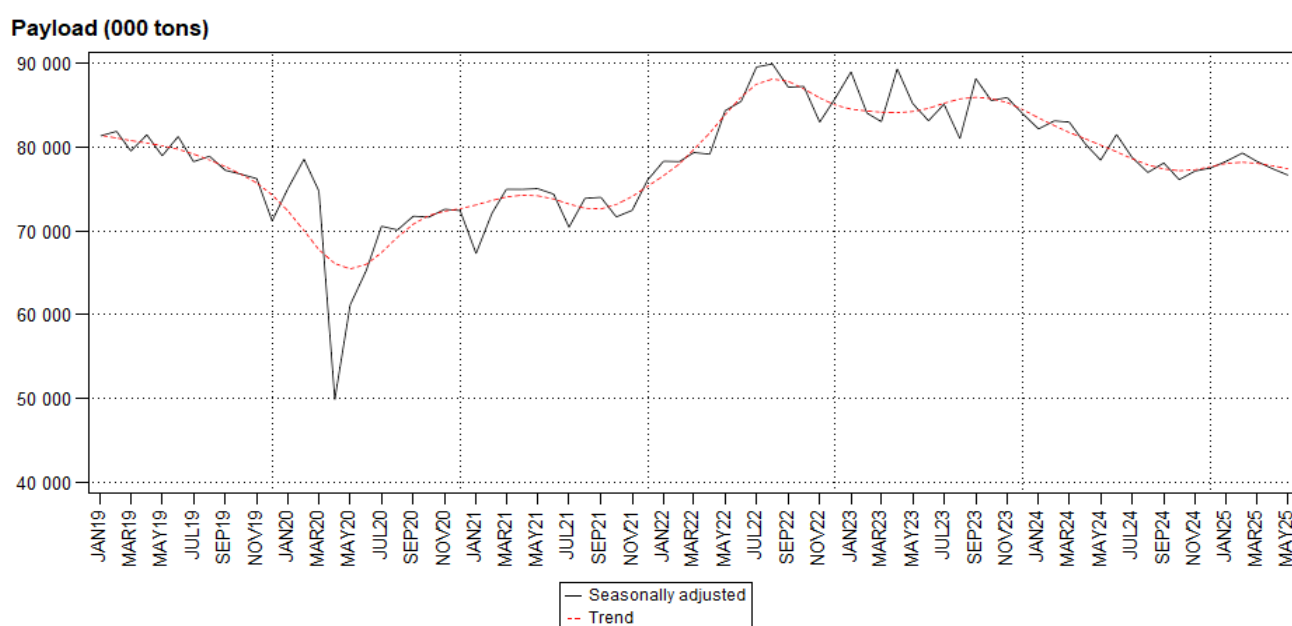
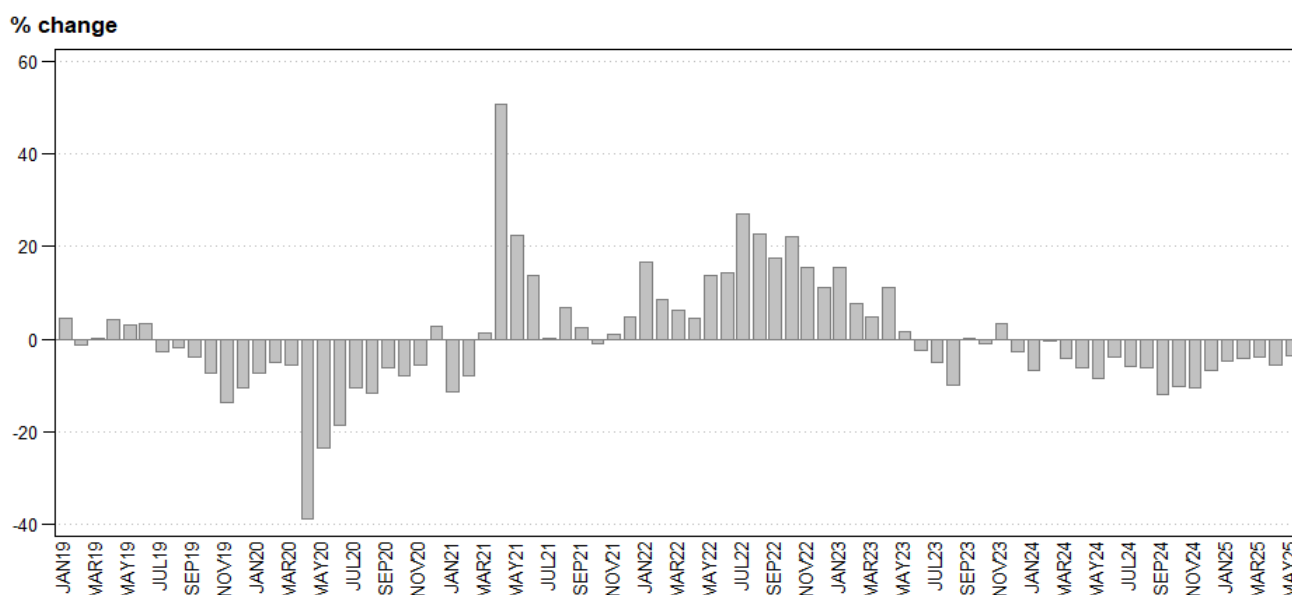
Income from freight transportation decreased by 0,9% in the three months ended May 2025 compared with the three months ended May 2024. The main negative contributors to this decrease were:

- agriculture and forestry primary products (-17,7% and contributing -1,0 percentage point); and
- containers (-10,2% and contributing -0,6 of a percentage point) – see Table B.

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

Payload	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 (000 tons)	Weight (%)	Mar – May 2025 (000 tons)	% change between Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 and Mar – May 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Rail	41 965	17,9	42 095	0,3	0,1
Road	193 101	82,1	190 211	-1,5	-1,2
Total	235 068	100,0	232 304	-1,2	-1,2

Seasonally adjusted payload decreased by 1,2% in the three months ended May 2025 compared with the previous three months. Road freight decreased by 1,5% (contributing -1,2 percentage points), while rail freight increased by 0,3% (contributing 0,1 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 May 2025

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

	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
Passenger journeys	2,5	11,0	3,9	11,5	2,6	8,7
Passenger income	-4,1	1,4	-1,6	4,1	1,7	-5,1

The number of passenger journeys increased by 8,7% in May 2025 compared with May 2024. The corresponding income decreased by 5,1% over the same period.

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

Passenger journeys	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 (000)	Weight (%)	Mar – May 2025 (000)	% change between Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 and Mar – May 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Rail	22 760	26,0	23 449	3,0	0,8
Road	64 855	74,0	64 712	-0,2	-0,1
Total	87 615	100,0	88 162	0,6	0,6

Seasonally adjusted passenger journeys increased by 0,6% in the three months ended May 2025 compared with the previous three months. Rail passenger journeys increased by 3,0% (contributing 0,8 of a percentage point), while road passenger journeys decreased by 0,2% (contributing -0,1 of a percentage point) – see Table E.

Figure 3 – Passenger transportation: seasonally adjusted passenger journeys

Passenger journeys (000)

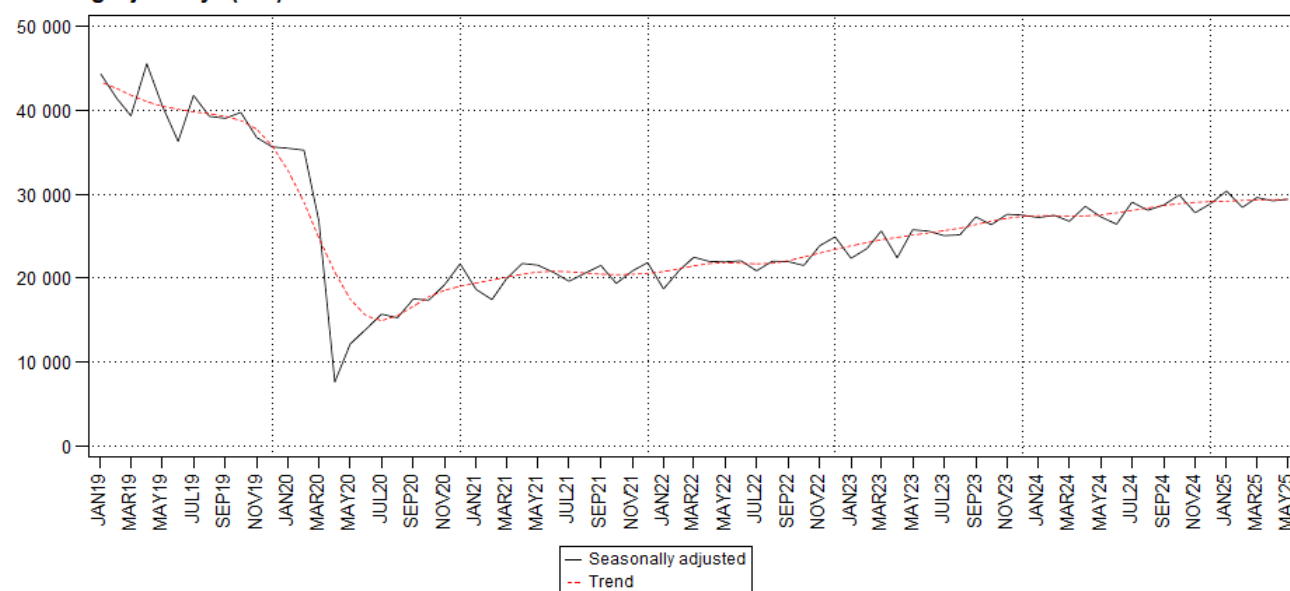
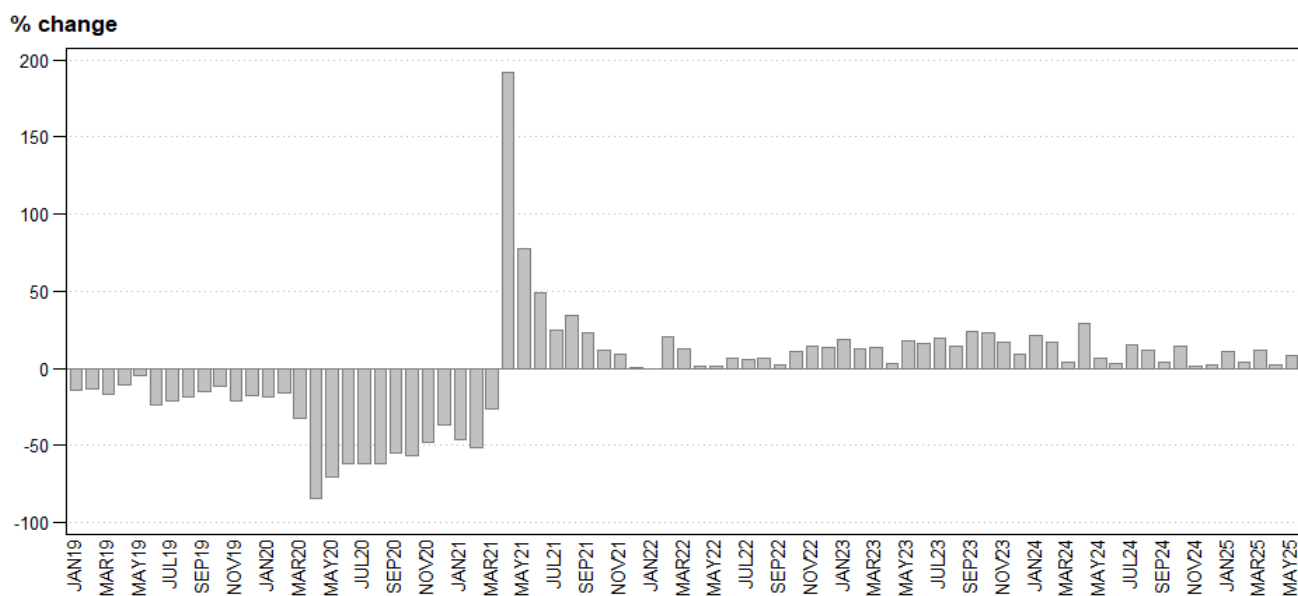


Figure 4 – Passenger transportation: year-on-year percentage change in passenger journeys

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Freight transportation (income at current prices)

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		Payload (000 tons)	Income (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	14 809	3 866	60 678	13 401	75 487	17 267
	Mar	13 856	3 670	62 726	14 117	76 582	17 787
	Apr	14 831	4 076	60 334	13 738	75 166	17 814
	May	13 453	3 862	63 671	14 405	77 124	18 267

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

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		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	6,9	6,9	-6,5	-6,0	-4,1	-3,4
	Mar	4,2	4,0	-5,4	-1,9	-3,8	-0,8
	Apr	7,8	11,5	-8,3	-4,8	-5,5	-1,5
	May	1,7	4,3	-4,7	-1,6	-3,7	-0,4

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

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)	Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)	Payload (000 tons)	Income (R million)
2024	Jan	13 064	3 504	69 093	15 010	82 158	18 513
	Feb	13 287	3 576	69 835	15 268	83 122	18 845
	Mar	13 598	3 697	69 368	15 059	82 966	18 757
	Apr	13 110	3 500	67 265	14 541	80 375	18 041
	May	13 584	3 717	64 837	14 247	78 421	17 964
	Jun	13 198	3 543	68 290	14 828	81 488	18 370
	Jul	14 676	3 869	64 094	13 978	78 769	17 848
	Aug	12 880	3 551	64 074	14 112	76 954	17 663
	Sep	13 146	3 492	64 946	14 010	78 092	17 502
	Oct	13 725	3 674	62 370	13 859	76 095	17 533
	Nov	13 164	3 562	63 965	14 031	77 129	17 592
	Dec	13 847	3 657	63 638	13 928	77 486	17 585
2025	Jan	13 984	3 737	64 320	14 217	78 305	17 954
	Feb	14 134	3 814	65 143	14 324	79 277	18 138
	Mar	14 131	3 826	64 151	14 375	78 282	18 202
	Apr	14 126	3 911	63 267	14 326	77 392	18 236
	May	13 838	3 866	62 793	14 173	76 630	18 039

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

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

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

Type of commodity	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
Agriculture and forestry primary products	897	796	896	860	815	950
Primary mining and quarrying products	6 082	6 110	6 310	6 215	6 272	6 297
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	2 118	2 116	2 066	2 196	2 087	2 170
Textiles, clothing and leather products	497	442	467	494	458	499
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	822	827	766	882	868	873
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	215	249	244	187	208	185
Non-metallic products	123	124	144	148	154	148
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	397	436	482	451	426	424
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	491	477	525	546	559	543
Paper and paper products	81	80	83	74	74	85
Commercial products	467	491	504	509	502	509
Used household and office products	394	346	375	369	404	335
Containers	907	978	1 026	992	997	992
Parcels	474	484	494	557	526	570
Other freight	2 738	3 116	2 886	3 307	3 464	3 686
Total	16 705	17 071	17 267	17 787	17 814	18 267

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

Type of commodity	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
Agriculture and forestry primary products	-16,9	-27,2	-18,1	-13,0	-20,0	-19,7
Primary mining and quarrying products	-2,6	1,5	3,2	-1,3	0,9	2,2
Manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products	-0,8	-1,4	-1,9	5,5	1,7	2,6
Textiles, clothing and leather products	10,2	16,0	9,9	13,8	-11,6	3,7
Chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products	-6,4	-8,7	-7,3	8,1	-0,2	3,2
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	-4,0	15,8	-1,2	-26,1	-18,1	-18,5
Non-metallic products	-10,9	-3,1	-11,7	0,7	-5,5	-14,9
Electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment	18,5	18,2	2,8	3,7	0,0	26,9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	14,5	-7,2	-2,6	16,2	9,0	7,1
Paper and paper products	-6,9	-10,1	-24,5	-25,3	-24,5	-15,0
Commercial products	4,9	11,1	8,9	4,3	-1,0	3,5
Used household and office products	-10,5	-10,1	6,8	-6,3	6,0	-9,7
Containers	-1,5	-5,9	-12,5	-13,7	-14,4	-1,2
Parcels	8,7	15,5	-1,0	6,7	-4,4	12,9
Other freight	-23,2	-9,7	-12,2	-1,2	3,3	-4,2
Total	-6,2	-3,0	-3,4	-0,8	-1,5	-0,4

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

Table 8 – Passenger transportation (income at current prices)

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		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	21 281	792	29 207	965
	Mar	8 381	179	24 040	939	32 421	1 118
	Apr	7 838	154	19 269	847	27 107	1 001
	May	8 390	136	20 483	806	28 873	942

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

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		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	-6,3	-4,8	3,9	-1,6
	Mar	64,5	18,5	0,3	1,7	11,5	4,1
	Apr	51,7	6,2	-9,3	1,0	2,6	1,7
	May	59,7	1,5	-3,9	-6,2	8,7	-5,1

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

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)	Passenger journeys (000)	Income (R million)
2024	Jan	4 575	137	22 628	878	27 202	1 014
	Feb	4 990	135	22 471	891	27 462	1 027
	Mar	4 830	136	21 918	878	26 748	1 014
	Apr	4 947	148	23 590	900	28 537	1 048
	May	5 047	141	22 242	902	27 288	1 042
	Jun	4 927	135	21 472	906	26 399	1 041
	Jul	7 420	139	21 611	898	29 031	1 037
	Aug	7 056	148	21 012	877	28 067	1 025
	Sep	7 393	152	21 304	865	28 698	1 018
	Oct	7 520	143	22 371	853	29 891	996
	Nov	7 383	145	20 389	828	27 772	973
	Dec	7 706	146	21 143	858	28 849	1 005
2025	Jan	7 745	150	22 620	876	30 365	1 026
	Feb	7 309	156	21 092	868	28 401	1 024
	Mar	7 628	160	21 956	891	29 584	1 052
	Apr	7 804	156	21 391	905	29 196	1 061
	May	8 017	144	21 365	848	29 382	992

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

Year and month		Rail		Road		Total	
		Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income	Passenger journeys	Income
2024	Jan	5,1	7,0	-2,2	-3,3	-1,0	-2,2
	Feb	9,1	-1,5	-0,7	1,5	1,0	1,3
	Mar	-3,2	0,7	-2,5	-1,5	-2,6	-1,3
	Apr	2,4	8,8	7,6	2,5	6,7	3,4
	May	2,0	-4,7	-5,7	0,2	-4,4	-0,6
	Jun	-2,4	-4,3	-3,5	0,4	-3,3	-0,1
	Jul	50,6	3,0	0,6	-0,9	10,0	-0,4
	Aug	-4,9	6,5	-2,8	-2,3	-3,3	-1,2
	Sep	4,8	2,7	1,4	-1,4	2,2	-0,7
	Oct	1,7	-5,9	5,0	-1,4	4,2	-2,2
	Nov	-1,8	1,4	-8,9	-2,9	-7,1	-2,3
	Dec	4,4	0,7	3,7	3,6	3,9	3,3
2025	Jan	0,5	2,7	7,0	2,1	5,3	2,1
	Feb	-5,6	4,0	-6,8	-0,9	-6,5	-0,2
	Mar	4,4	2,6	4,1	2,6	4,2	2,7
	Apr	2,3	-2,5	-2,6	1,6	-1,3	0,9
	May	2,7	-7,7	-0,1	-6,3	0,6	-6,5

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	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: • minibuses; • 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	5	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (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 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (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	6	The preliminary collection rate for the survey on land transportation for May 2025 was 72,3%. The revised collection rate for April 2025 was 74,6%.
Statistical unit	7	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	8	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
May-25	Additional information from respondents	Apr-25
Jun-25	Additional information from respondents	May-25
Jul-25	Additional information from respondents New sample	Jan-08–Jun-25
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
Feb-26	Additional information from respondents	Jan-26
Mar-26	Additional information from respondents	Feb-26
Apr-26	Additional information from respondents	Mar-26

- 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** 11 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** 12 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.
- 2 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:

$$n_h = n * (N_h * S_h) / [\sum (N_i * S_i)]$$

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** 3 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** 5 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.
- 6 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** 7 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 – May 2025

	Lower limit (R million)	Estimate (R million)	Upper limit (R million)	Relative standard error (RSE) %
Freight income	16 582	18 267	19 952	4,7
Passenger income	926	942	958	0,8

- Year-on-year percentage change** 8 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** 10 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.	
Industry	An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the <i>System of National Accounts</i> (SNA) in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.	
Symbols and abbreviations	GDP	Gross domestic product
	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

Technical enquiries

Kagisho Mathabatha	Telephone number: (012) 310 2153 / 076 512 1323 Email: kagishoma@statssa.gov.za
JP Terblanche	Telephone number: (012) 310 2965 / 066 470 2112 Email: juan-pierret@statssa.gov.za

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.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data: and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

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:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
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.

General enquiries

User information services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8600 Email: info@statssa.gov.za
Orders/subscription services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8619 Email: millies@statssa.gov.za
Postal address	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA