

Transport of goods and passengers in 2023

29.05.2024


13.1%

Increase in passenger transport compared to 2023

In 2023, compared to the previous year, the number of passengers transported by all modes, except maritime transport, increased. On the other hand, the total volume of goods and the tonne-kilometres performed decreased slightly.

Transport of goods

In 2023, in relation to the previous year, the volume of goods and the transport performance decreased in all modes of transport. The exception was road goods transport for hire or remuneration, where a slight increase in the amount of transported goods was recorded. Tonne-kilometres performed, in relation to the previous year, lowered in most modes of transport; the increase was only observed in rail and maritime transport.

In 2023, all modes of transport carried less goods than in the previous year.

Table 1. Transport of goods by mode of transport

Specification	2022	2023		
	in thousand tonnes	2022=100	2021=100	
Total	2 277 093	2 226 309	97.8	98.8
Railway transport ^a	237 587	229 935	96.8	96.6
Road transport ^b	1 976 278	1 942 800	98.3	99.5
of which hire or reward	1 182 613	1 192 441	100.8	99.1
of which road transport entities ^c	888 705	884 686	99.5	93.1
Pipeline transport	52 591	44 433	84.5	89.1
Maritime transport ^d	8 442	7 363	87.2	76.8
Inland waterway transport	2 076	1 689	81.4	48.8
Air transport ^e	119	89	75.1	98.6

a Excluding shunting. b Data partially estimated. c Classified according to the Polish Classification of Activities 2007 into the section H „Transport and storage”, excluding division “Postal and Courier Activities”. d Owned and rented ships e Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

Table 1. Transport of goods by mode of transport (cont.)

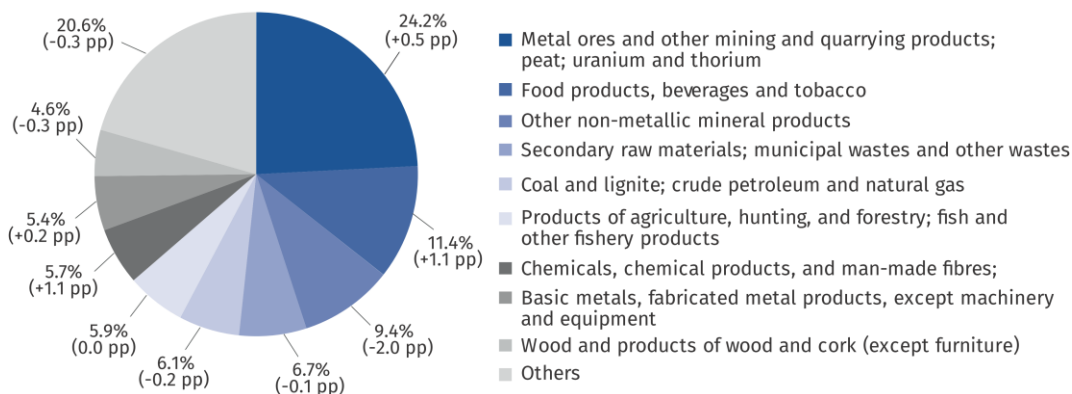
Specification	2022	2023		
		in million tonne-kilometres	2022=100	2021=100
Total	497 832	494 563	99.3	100.6
Railway transport ^a	59 306	61 085	103.0	112.3
Road transport ^b	406 902	400 624	98.5	97.7
of which hire or reward	352 777	349 042	98.9	98.5
of which road transport entities ^c	308 377	305 961	99.2	98.7
Pipeline transport	19 132	12 341	64.5	67.0
Maritime transport ^d	11 602	19 681	169.6	260.5
Inland waterway transport	445	408	91.7	82.8
Air transport ^e	445	424	95.3	124.5

a Excluding shunting. b Data partially estimated. c Classified according to the Polish Classification of Activities 2007 into the section H „Transport and storage”, excluding division “Postal and Courier Activities”. d Owned and rented ships e Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

In 2023 goods from the group of “metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium” had the biggest share (23.2%) in transport structure. In maritime transport, the “roll-on roll-off self-propelled units” group of goods constituted the largest part (60.2%).

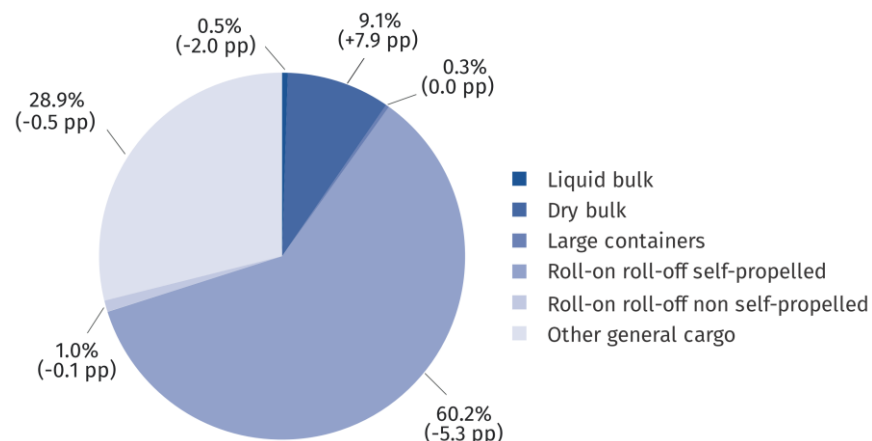
In 2023 self-propelled rolling units dominated the structure by groups of goods transported by sea (60.2%)

Graph 1. Structure of goods transport by groups of goods in 2023 and year-over-year fluctuations ^a



a Applies to railway transport, road transport and inland waterway transport.

Graph 2. Structure of maritime transport of cargo by cargo categories in 2023 and changes compared to the previous year



Considering directions of transport, in 2023 most of goods transported by road (81.7%) and rail (65.3%) were carried in national traffic, whereas international conveyance prevailed in other modes of transport.

Table 2. Transport of goods by direction of transport

Specification a – 2022 b – 2023	Total in thou- sand tonnes	National transport	International transport				
			export	import	transit	between foreign countries	
			in percent				
Railway transport ^a	a	237 587	64.3	12.4	20.3	3.0	.
	b	229 935	65.3	12.8	18.6	3.3	.
Road transport ^b	a	1 541 209	81.6	6.2	5.2	0.3	6.7
	b	1 524 740	81.7	6.1	5.2	0.3	6.7
Maritime transport ^c	a	8 459	2.5	46.9	43.2	0.2	7.3
	b	7 371	0.5	44.5	39.9	0.1	15.0
Inland waterway transport	a	2 076	32.1	9.8	2.2	0.1	55.8
	b	1 689	24.5	9.6	0.5	0.1	65.3
Air transport ^d	a	119	0.2	99.8			
	b	89	0.3	99.7			

a Excluding shunting b Data on the basis of results a sample survey. c Owned and rented ships. d Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

Table 2. Transport of goods by direction of transport (cont.)

Specification a – 2022 b – 2023	Total in million tonne- kilome- tres	National transport	International transport				
			export	import	transit	between foreign countries	
			in percent				
Railway transport ^a	a	59 306	55.0	14.4	23.3	7.3	.
	b	61 085	55.8	15.6	20.9	7.7	.
Road transport ^b	a	369 932	37.9	20.9	18.5	1.8	21.0
	b	362 694	37.2	20.8	18.7	1.8	21.5
Inland waterway transport	a	445	6.7	13.3	2.6	0.1	77.3
	b	408	5.4	13.3	0.8	0.1	80.4
Air transport ^d	a	445	0.0	99.9			
	b	424	0.0	99.9			

a Excluding shunting b Data on the basis of results a sample survey. c Owned and rented ships. d Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

Taking into account national traffic by distance classes, one can note that in 2023 the most goods were transported by road for a distance of up to 50 km, by rail for a distance of 150–299 km and up to 50 km, while by inland waterway for a distance of 50–149 km.

Table 3. National transport of goods by distance classes

Specification a – 2022 b – 2023	Total in thousand tonnes	Distance classes					
		49 km and less	50-149	150-299	300-499	500 km and more	
		in percent					
Railway transport ^{ab}	a	151 768	28.4	19.8	28.4	12.8	10.6
	b	150 148	25.7	20.1	29.8	12.7	11.7
Road transport ^c	a	1 257 522	46.3	26.4	24.7		2.5
	b	1 245 393	47.8	25.3	24.3		2.6
Inland waterway transport	a	668	38.4	61.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
	b	414	37.2	59.2	0.2	3.4	0.0

a Excluding shunting. b Excluding official consignments. c Data on the basis of results a sample survey.

Table 3. National transport of goods by distance classes (cont.)

Specification a – 2022 b – 2023		Total in million tonne- kilometres	Distance classes				
			49 km and less	50-149	150-299	300-499	500 km and more
			in percent				
Railway transport ^{ab}	a	32 590	1.5	9.3	34.2	24.5	30.5
	b	34 101	1.4	9.1	35.2	23.4	30.9
Road transport ^c	a	140 032	7.6	20.5	58.9		13.0
	b	134 808	8.2	20.4	57.8		13.6
Inland waterway transport	a	29	8.0	87.5	0.5	1.0	3.0
	b	22	9.5	69.5	0.5	20.3	0.2

a Excluding shunting. b Excluding official consignments. c Data on the basis of results a sample survey.

Transport of passengers

In 2023, there was an increase in passenger transport by all modes, a slight decrease was noted only in maritime traffic. In total, 13.1% more passengers were conveyed year-over-year. The largest increase was recorded in air transport (by 26.1%), as well as in road transport (by 18.7%), railway transport (by 9.2%) and in inland waterway transport (by 2.5%).

In 2023, 26.1% more passengers were transported by air than a year ago

Table 4. Transport of passengers

Specification	2022	2023	
	in thousand passengers		2022=100
Total	572 048	646 808	113.1
Railway transport	342 139	373 528	109.2
Road transport ^a	214 443	254 507	118.7
Maritime transport ^{bcd}	1 472	1 388	94.3
Inland waterway transport	1 101	1 128	102.5
Air transport ^e	12 893	16 257	126.1

a Excluding urban transport and provided by entities employing up to 9 persons. b Owned and rented ships. c Excluding truck drivers on board ferries. d Including coastal shipping. e Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

In 2023, 57.5% of all passengers were carried by railway transport

Table 4. Transport of passengers (cont.)

Specification	2022	2023	
		in million passenger-kilometres	2022=100
Total	63 393	71 145	112.2
Railway transport	23 827	25 746	108.1
Road transport ^a	11 623	10 551	90.8
Maritime transport ^{bcd}	167	152	91.4
Inland waterway transport	14	12	90.6
Air transport ^e	27 762	34 684	124.9

a Excluding urban transport and provided by entities employing up to 9 persons. b Owned and rented ships. c Excluding truck drivers on board ferries. d Including coastal shipping. e Scheduled and non-scheduled (Polish carriers).

When quoting data from the Statistics Poland, please include the following information: "Source of data from the Statistics Poland", and in the case of publishing calculations made on the data published by the Statistics Poland, please include the following information: "Own study based on Statistics Poland data".

Prepared by:

Statistical Office in Szczecin

Deputy director Katarzyna Dmitrowicz-Życka

Phone: (+48 91) 459 77 00







Issued by:

Press Office

Mobile: (+48) 695 255 032

Phone: (+48 22) 608 38 04, (+48 22) 449 41 45,
(+48 22) 608 30 09

e-mail: obslugaprasowa@stat.gov.pl

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Terms used in official statistics

[Transport of goods](#)

[Transport of passengers](#)

[Tonne-kilometres](#)

[Passenger-kilometres](#)