

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Inland Waterways Statistics

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Executive Summary

Inland Waterways Statistics is an important part of transport statistics in addition to the surveys referring to the modes of transport road, railways, civil aviation and pipelines.

Inland Waterways Statistics refers to the Austrian part of the river Danube and includes two surveys:

- **Survey of goods transport**
- **Survey of vessel traffic**

The **survey of goods transport** includes the transport of goods with vessels of a load capacity of at least 50 tonnes, where loading or unloading places are located on Austrian inland waterways or lead over these. Due to the very low limit of 50 tonnes, a **full survey** can be assumed. In the statistics of **goods transport** the number of transportations is counted, whereof concerning **vessel bounds** (pushed or towed vessels) of each loaded unit – regardless whether it is equipped with its own motor – **each single unit** is counted separately. This means, that each loaded unit is counted as one transportation – this is the transport of a certain kind of goods from a loading place to an unloading place. One movement of a vessel bound therefore consists of several transportations. The **basic population** of the received reports covers about 8 000 transportations per reference year.

The aim is to provide results about the development of the **traffic and transport performance** provided in national and international transport within certain observation periods. The mapping of long-term time series also allows to obtain a good overview referring to the course of transport performance on Inland Waterways.

Data for **goods transport** are transmitted monthly to Statistics Austria by the offices of loading and unloading ports, the offices of the reporting places resp. the cargo handling companies (actually 14 in total) as well as by the lock Ottensheim.

Data for goods transport are mainly transmitted electronically to Statistics Austria, with exception of the reports for transit transport. After transmission, the data is subjected to extensive plausibility checks. An under-reporting that has existed since May 2004 (EU-enlargement, closure of the customs office) is corrected using a correction factor. For this purpose, the reported transportations are checked on their completeness and if necessary – based on the collected lockings – extrapolated.

The results for the **goods transport** are released monthly 90 days after the end of a reporting month at the latest, whereas monthly and quarterly data are provisional and can be regarded as final when annual data are published. Data referring to the 4th quarter and the reporting month December are available as final results together with the annual data. Quarterly results undergo some more checks before being transmitted to Eurostat.

The **results referring to the goods transport** on Inland Waterways are published in a yearly press release, at the homepage of Statistics Austria, in the data base STATcube (monthly, quarterly and annual data), as open data, in the Statistical Overviews of the “Statistische Nachrichten”, in the “Statistisches Jahrbuch”, in the publication “Verkehrsstatistik” and – in irregular intervals – in articles in the “Statistische Nachrichten”.

The survey concerning **vessel traffic** covers all journeys of loaded and unloaded goods vessels as well as passenger vessels passing locks on the Austrian part of the Danube. The full survey is performed monthly and is based on national law.

The number of the vessels passing locks is counted at the nine locks and then registered in the “elektronische Schleusentagebuch”, a so-called online application which is run by via donau (Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbH). Via donau is the responsible organization concerning sovereign duties in the area of supervision at the river Danube. Data is transmitted monthly electronically to Statistics Austria by via donau.

The **results of the vessel traffic** are released on a monthly and an annual basis on the homepage of Statistics Austria at the same time as data for goods transport.

Figure 1: Inland Waterways Statistics in Austria

Goods transport: Ports and reporting places on the river Danube



Vessel traffic: Locks on the river Danube



Source and graphics: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, transport statistics.

Inland Waterways Statistics – Main Features	
Subject Matter	Transportations and journeys of vessels at the Austrian part of the Danube
Population	All transportations of goods vessels at the Austrian part of the Danube and all lockings of vessels performed during a month resp. a year
Type of statistics	<u>Goods transport</u> : Primary statistical survey including minor statistical extrapolation for transit transport <u>Vessel traffic</u> : Primary statistical survey
Data sources/Survey techniques	<u>Goods transport</u> : Primary statistical survey at inland ports, reporting places resp. cargo handling companies, captains and the lock Ottensheim <u>Vessel traffic</u> : Primary statistical survey at the nine Austrian lock offices
Reference period or due day	<u>Goods transport</u> : All months of a calendar year <u>Vessel traffic</u> : All months of a calendar year
Periodicity	<u>Goods transport</u> : Monthly <u>Vessel traffic</u> : Monthly
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	<u>Goods transport</u> : Obligatory <u>Vessel traffic</u> : Obligatory
Main legal acts	<p>National: BGBl. I Nr. 163/1999 Bundesgesetz über die Bundesstatistik (Bundesstatistikgesetz 2000), idF: BGBl. I Nr. 136/2001, BGBl. I Nr. 71/2003, BGBl. I Nr. 92/2007 und BGBl. I Nr. 125/2009. BGBl. II Nr. 129/2005 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie über die Statistik im Bereich der Binnenschifffahrt (Binnenschifffahrts-Statistikverordnung) BGBl. II Nr. 443/2011 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie zur Änderung der Binnenschifffahrts-Statistikverordnung BGBl. II Nr. 18/2012 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie zur Änderung der Binnenschifffahrts-Statistikverordnung</p> <p>EU: Regulation (EU) 2018/974 of the European Commission of 4 July 2018 on statistics of goods transport by inland waterways (OJ L 2018 L 179/14 16.7.2018)</p>
Most detailed regional breakdown	Austria/federal countries/NUTS3/ports
Availability of results	<u>Goods transport</u> : t+90 <u>Vessel traffic</u> : t+90
Other	The methodology of goods transport is based on the “Reference Manual on Inland Waterways Transport Statistics”