

The transportation sector in Iran, due to the country's vast geographical area and diversity of resources and also its geopolitical position among neighboring landlocked countries, merits special attention. Nowadays, economic experts believe that transportation is a potentially robust industry which could be substituted for oil in terms of revenue generation.

Based on national accounts data, in 1390, value-added of "transport, storage, and communication" group grew by 8.6 percent at constant 1383 prices. Therefore, share of this sector in GDP reached 8.2 percent at current prices.

In the land transport sector (rail and road), 941.6 million passengers and 613.1 million tons of goods were transported, showing 1.8 and 6.7 percent increase, respectively, compared with the year before. In the sea and air transport sectors, a total of 35.4 million passengers and 135.3 million tons of goods were transported, indicating 7.9 percent increase and 3.5 percent decrease, respectively, compared with the year before.

### Government Investment

According to the Budget Law for 1390, a sum of Rls. 40,988.1 billion was approved as credits for acquisition of non-financial-national assets projects of transportation sector (road, air, sea, and rail), up by 1.4

percent compared with the approved figure of the previous year. According to the Treasury General, the government spent Rls. 34,614.1 billion for the implementation of transportation sector projects, showing 84.4 percent realization compared with the approved figure and 30.7 percent rise compared with the year before.

**Table 6.1. Performance of Transportation Fleet in 1390**

	Passengers		Goods	
	Number (million persons)	Share (percent)	Weight (million tons)	Share (percent)
Road	913.0	93.5	580.0	77.5
Rail	28.6	2.9	33.1	4.4
Sea	10.2	1.0	135.2	18.1
Air	25.2	2.6	0.14	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>977.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>748.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Statistical Yearbooks of the Islamic Republic of Iran Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization, and Islamic Republic of Iran Railways; Ports and Maritime Organization; Ministry of Roads and Urban Development; and Civil Aviation Organization

**Table 6.2. Credits Paid for Acquisition of Non-financial-National Assets in Transportation Sector** (billion rials)

	1388	1389	1390	Percentage change	
				1389	1390
Transportation sector	27,068.0	26,492.3	34,614.1	-2.1	30.7

Source: Treasury General, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance

In this year, road and rail transport sectors accounted for the highest shares of paid credits by 63.6 and 31.8 percent, respectively. Performance figures for the road and rail transport sectors revealed 31.4 and 28.8 percent increase, respectively.

### Freight and Passenger Transport

#### Road Transport

In 1390, the share of road transport sector in total carried passengers was 93.5 percent and in total carried goods, 77.5 percent. Moreover, 580 million tons of goods (with and without bill of lading) were carried by road, showing 7.2 percent rise compared with 1389. Approximately 9.2 million tons of goods were transited by road, showing 13.2 percent increase compared with the year before.

Table 6.3. Road Transport

	1388	1389	1390	Percentage change	
				1389	1390
<b>Carried goods (million tons)</b>	<b>516.0</b>	<b>541.0</b>	<b>580.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Transited goods (million tons)	5.8	8.2	9.2	41.4	13.2
<b>Carried passengers</b>					
Total carried passengers (million persons)	898.0	896.0	913.0	-0.2	1.9
Public transport (million persons)	493.0	452.0	434.0	-8.3	-4.0
Share of public transport in carried passengers (percent)	54.9	50.4	47.5	-4.5 <sup>1</sup>	-2.9 <sup>1</sup>

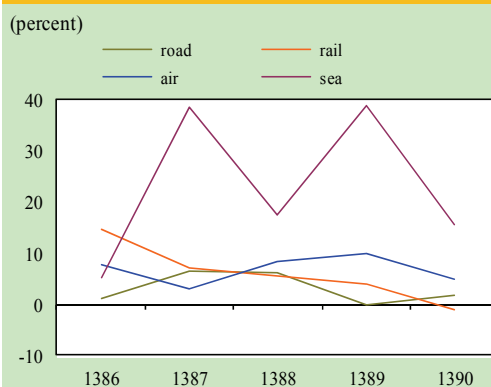
Source: Statistical Yearbook of Islamic Republic of Iran Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization

<sup>1</sup> In percentage points

In this year, 236 million passengers, using the public transport system, were carried by road (based on manifest), indicating 3.7 percent decline compared with the previous year. The number of carried passengers measured in person-kilometers decreased by 2.5 percent and reached 58.4 billion person-kilometers. In 1390, the average number of carried passengers was 12.4 persons and the

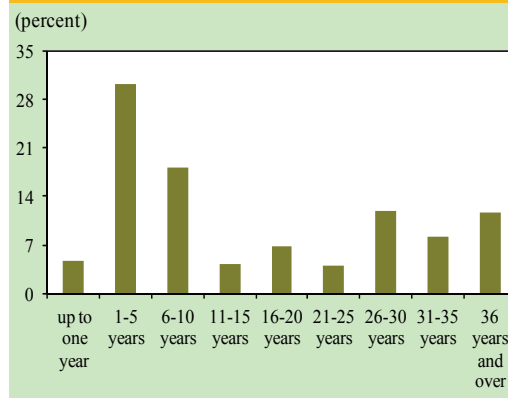
average distance traveled by public transport was 190 kilometers (based on manifest). Total number of passengers carried by road in this year was estimated at 913 million persons, 434 million of whom were using the public transport system.

Figure 6.1. Growth in the number of carried passengers



The length of the roads under the supervision of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (excluding rural roads) reached 79.8 thousand kilometers, of which 2.6 percent were freeways, 14.6 percent highways, 27.6 percent main roads, and 55.2 percent side roads.

Figure 6.2. Shares of passenger and freight vehicles based on age of vehicles by end-1390



## Rail Transport

In 1390, a total of 28.6 million passengers were carried by rail, registering 0.9 percent fall compared with the previous year. Accordingly, rail share in total carried passengers was 2.9 percent.

Total goods carried by railway decreased by 1.1 percent to 33.1 million tons. Rail share in total freight transport was 4.4 percent. Furthermore, about 1.0 million tons of goods (including oil and non-oil goods) were transited by rail, down by 33.2 percent compared with the year before.

The number of locomotives reached 750 at year-end, revealing 6.5 percent growth compared with the previous year. The ratio of locomotives in service to total locomotives (operation coefficient) was 58.5 percent, showing 0.3 percentage point decrease compared with the previous year. Moreover, 133.8 kilometers of railroads were renovated and 149.6 kilometers of new railroads were established.

**Table 6.4. Rail Transport**

	1388	1389	1390	Percentage change	
				1389	1390
Carried passengers (million persons)	27.7	28.8	28.6	4.0	-0.9
Carried goods (million tons)	32.8	33.5	33.1	2.0	-1.1
Transited goods (thousand tons)	1,487.0	1,432.0	956.0	-3.7	-33.2

Source: Statistical Yearbook of Islamic Republic of Iran Railways

## Air Transport

The total number of air passengers in 1390 grew by 5.0 percent to 25.2 million persons. Therefore, air share in total passenger transport equaled 2.6 percent. The share of non-public sector in domestic flights

was 76.7 percent and in international flights, 58.9 percent. The number of passenger aircraft belonging to the national air fleet decreased by 5.4 percent to 122 in this year.

In 1390, the amount of cargo carried by air (domestically and internationally) amounted to 142.5 thousand tons, indicating 0.5 percent fall compared with the previous year.

**Table 6.5. Air Transport**

	1388	1389	1390	Percentage change	
				1389	1390
<b>Carried passengers (million persons)</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Domestic flights	14.4	16.1	16.5	11.8	2.5
International flights	7.4	7.9	8.7	6.8	10.1
<b>Carried goods (thousand tons)</b>	<b>121.0</b>	<b>143.2</b>	<b>142.5</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
<b>Transit flights (thousand)</b>	<b>153.5</b>	<b>157.0</b>	<b>160.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Source: Ministry of Roads and Urban Development, and Civil Aviation Organization

## Sea Transport

The nominal capacity of commercial ports (oil and non-oil goods) reached 172.0 million tons in 1390, indicating 5.5 percent growth compared with the previous year. Moreover, the capacity of the commercial sea transportation fleet was 5.7 million tons in this year, remaining unchanged compared with 1389.

Port container traffic grew by 5.7 percent, from 2,993.6 thousand TEU<sup>1</sup> in 1389 to 3,164.6 thousand TEU in 1390. Furthermore, port container capacity amounted to 5.7 million TEU, up by 14.0 percent compared with the previous year.

<sup>1</sup> Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit

## Chapter 6 TRANSPORTATION

Performance of ports in 1390 indicates that loading and unloading of oil products amounted to 42.6 million tons and loading and unloading of non-oil goods reached 92.5 million tons, down by 0.9 and 4.7 percent respectively, compared with the previous year.

**Table 6.6. Loading and Unloading of Goods at Ports** (million tons)

	1388	1389	1390	Percentage change	
				1389	1390
Non-oil goods	86.1	97.1	92.5	12.7	-4.7
Oil products	44.8	43.0	42.6	-3.9	-0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>130.9</b>	<b>140.1</b>	<b>135.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>-3.5</b>

Source: Ports and Maritime Organization

