

Office of Rail Transport

<https://utk.gov.pl/en/new/19898,Rail-transport-in-January-2023.html>
18.05.2024, 06:47

Rail transport in January 2023

06.03.2023

The start of 2023 for rail companies was very optimistic, with over 29.6 m people travelling by train. It is the best monthly result in passenger transport since January 2012. Nearly 20.4 m tonnes of freight were carried by rail operators. Compared to January 2022, it is an increase by 38.3% in the number of passengers and 3.7% in the total weight carried.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

In January 2023 29.6 m people travelled by train, which is a year-on-year increase by 8.2 m (+38.3%) passengers. The transport performance reached 1.9 bn pass-km and was just under 0.6 bn pass-km higher (+42.3%) than in January 2022. The operational performance, which amounted to 16.1 m train-km, increased by 0.5 m train-km (+3.2%). The average distance travelled by a passenger in January 2023 was 62.9 km, which was 1.8 km longer (+2.9%) than in January 2022.

When we compare these passenger transport results with previous years, this year's result was the highest of any January since 2012.

The number of passengers in January 2023 was also slightly higher than in December 2022, with 0.6 m more people choosing rail services (+2%). In the transport performance there was a slight decrease compared to December 2022 by 0.08 bn pass-km (-4%), while in the operational performance there was an increase by 0.4 m train-km (+2.2%). The average distance travelled by a passenger in January was 6.5 km shorter (-9.4%) than in December 2022.

In January 2023, compared to January 2022, all rail operators reported a significant rise in passenger numbers. In a month-on-month comparison, an increase in the number of passengers was recorded by most local carriers. Only PKP Intercity, PKP SKM in Tri-City, Koleje Mazowieckie and Koleje Śląskie had a slightly lower number of passengers.

Detailed data on rail passenger transport are available at dane.utk.gov.pl

RAIL FREIGHT

Almost 20.4 m tonnes of goods were transported by rail companies in January 2023, 0.7 m tonnes more (+3.7%) than in January 2022. The transport performance reached 5.4 bn tonne-km and was 0.8 bn tonne-km (+17.4%) higher than in January 2022. The operational performance amounted to 7.3 m train-km – 0.6 m train-km more (+9.4%) than last year. The average transport distance of one tonne of goods was 265 km, 31 km longer (+13.2%) than in January 2022.

Analysing rail freight performance over several years, we see that higher parameters in the total weight carried were only recorded in January 2018, when this value was 20.9 m tonnes. For the rest of the parameters, in January 2023 we had the highest values recorded for this month since 2012.

In January 2023 in terms of basic rail freight parameters on a month-on-month basis we also recorded better values. The total weight of goods carried increased by 1.4 m tonnes (+7.5%) compared to December, the transport performance was 0.5 bn tonne-km higher (+9.8%) and the operational performance increased by 0.4 m train-km (+5.4%). The average transport distance of one tonne of goods in January was 5.5 km longer (+2.1%) than December 2022.

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