

QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY
Traffic in the Inland Waterway Ports (PR/M-21)
for 2025

Organisational unit: Spatial Statistics Directorate, Transport Statistics Department

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0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal, and subject of the survey

The purpose of the survey is to collect and disseminate the data on the transport of goods and traffic of passengers on inland waterways of the Republic of Croatia. Collected are the data on quantity of goods transported as well as on tonne kilometres as units of transport performance, traffic of vessels, capacity of vessels, flag of vessels, transport by countries of loading and unloading of goods, type of goods, type of freight, transport of dangerous goods and kilometers travelled, as well as arrived and departed passengers.

- Reference period

Month

- Legal acts and other agreements

– Regulation (EU) 2018/974 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 on statistics of goods transport by inland waterways (codification)

– Commission Regulation (EC) No 425/2007 of 19 April 2007 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1365/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on statistics of goods transport by inland waterways

– Commission Regulation (EC) No 1304/2007 of 7 November 2007 amending Council Directive 95/64/EC, Council Regulation (EC) No 1172/98, Regulations (EC) No 91/2003 and (EC) No 1365/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council with respect to the establishment of NST 2007 as the unique classification for transported goods in certain transport modes

- Classification system

Dangerous goods in river transport

Standard Goods Classification for Transport Statistics, 2007 version

Codebook of Harbour Master's Offices – inland waterways

Codebook of Types of Vessels

Codebook of Types of Traffic – inland waterways

Codebook of Countries

Codebook of Types of Cargo

Codebook of Rivers

Codebook of Ports/Landing Places

Codebook of Coast Side

Codebook of Arrivals/Departures of Vessels

Codebook of Vessel Operators

Classification of Spatial Units for Statistics

- Statistical concepts and definitions

Statistical data on the transport of goods on inland waterways are collected on the basis of territorial principle, which includes loading and unloading of goods on the territory of the Republic of Croatia. Data collected relate to the transport of goods by type of goods, flag and type of the vessel as well as the transport of containers. Goods transport on vessels under 50 t capacity is excluded.

Navigable inland waterway is a stretch of water, not part of the sea, which by natural or man-made features is suitable for navigation, primarily by inland waterway vessels. This term covers both navigable rivers and lakes and navigable canals.

Inland waterway vessel is a loading craft designed for the carriage of goods, public transport of passengers or specially fitted out for a specific commercial duty which navigates predominantly in navigable inland waterways or in waters within, or closely adjacent to sheltered waters or areas where port regulations apply. Vessels under repair are included. Vessels suitable for inland navigation but which are authorised to navigate at sea (mixed seagoing and inland waterway vessels) are included. This category excludes: harbour craft, seaport lighters and seaport tugs, ferries, fishery vessels, dredgers, vessels performing hydraulic work and vessels used exclusively for storage, floating workshops, houseboats and pleasure craft.

Inland waterway transport (IWT) means any movement of goods and/or passengers using inland waterway vessels which is undertaken wholly or partly in navigable inland waterways.

National inland waterway transport means any movement of goods and/or passengers using an inland waterway transport (IWT) vessel between two places (a place of loading/embarkation and a place of unloading/disembarkation) within a national territory, irrespective of the country in which the IWT vessel is registered. It may involve transit through another country, although for this country this type of transport has to be reported as transit.

International inland waterway transport means inland waterway transport between two places (a place of loading/embarkation and a place of unloading/disembarkation) located in two different countries. It may involve transit through one or more other countries. For these other countries this type of transport has to be reported as transit.

Inland waterway transit is inland waterway transport through a country between two places (a place of loading/embarkation and a place of unloading/disembarkation) that are both located in another country or in other countries, provided the total journey within the country is performed by an IWT vessel and that there is no loading/embarkation and unloading/disembarkation in that country.

Inland waterway traffic is any movement of an IWT vessel on a given network.

Types of vessels:

Self-propelled barge is an IWT freight vessel having its own means of mechanical propulsion.

Self-propelled tanker barge is a self-propelled barge intended for the bulk transport of liquids or gases.

Self-propelled pusher barge is a self-propelled barge designed or fitted to push pushed or pushed-towed barges.

Dumb barge is an IWT freight vessel designed to be towed which does not have its own means of mechanical propulsion.

Pushed barge is an IWT freight vessel which is designed to be pushed and does not have its own means of mechanical propulsion.

Pushed-towed barge – IWT freight vessel which is designed to be either pushed or towed and does not have its own means of mechanical propulsion.

Self-propelled pusher tanker barge – self-propelled pusher barge for the bulk transport of liquids or gases.

Dumb tanker barge – dumb barge for the bulk transport of liquids or gases.

Pushed tanker barge – pushed barge for the bulk transport of liquids or gases.

Pushed-towed tanker barge – pushed-towed barge for the bulk transport of liquids or gases.

Other goods carrying vessel – any other inland waterway freight vessel intended for carrying goods not covered in the previous categories.

Tug is a powered vessel developing not less than 37 kW and designed for the towing of dumb barges, pushed-towed barges, and rafts, but not for the carriage of goods.

Pusher vessel is a powered vessel developing not less than 37 kW and designed or fitted for the pushing of pushed or pushed-towed barges, but not for the carriage of goods.

Pusher tug – powered vessel developing not less than 37 kW and designed or fitted for the towing of dumb barges, pushed-towed barges, or rafts, and for the pushing of pushed and pushed-towed barges, but not for the carriage of goods.

Container is a special box to carry freight, strengthened and stackable and allowing horizontal or vertical transfers. A more formal technical definition of a container is that it is an article of transport equipment which is: a) of a permanent character and accordingly strong enough to be suitable for repeated use, b) specially designed to facilitate the carriage of goods, by one or more mode of transport, without intermediate reloading, c) fitted with devices permitting its ready handling, particularly its transfer from one mode of transport to another, d) so designed as to be easy to fill and empty, e) stackable, and f) having an internal volume of 1 m³ or more. Swap bodies are excluded.

TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit) is a statistical unit based on an ISO container of 20 foot length (6.10 m) to provide a standardised measure of containers of various capacities and for describing the capacity of container ships or terminals. One 20 Foot ISO container equals 1 TEU.

Swap body is a freight-carrying unit optimised to road vehicle dimensions and fitted with handling devices for transfer between modes, usually road/rail.

- Statistical units

Statistical unit is any arrived and departed vessel used to transport goods on inland waterways.

- Statistical population

Harbour master's offices in inland waterway ports.

1. Relevance

1.1. Data users

National Accounts Department

European Commission

Researchers and scientists, journalists

1.1.1. User needs

The standard in use at the level of the European Statistical System satisfies national and international users.

1.1.2. User satisfaction

The first user satisfaction survey of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics was carried out in 2013, and since 2024, the survey has been conducted annually. The survey results are available on the Croatian Bureau of Statistics website under [User satisfaction surveys](#).

1.2. Completeness

The statistical survey follows the requirements defined in Regulation (EU) 2018/974 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 on statistics of goods transport by inland waterways. All variables from required data sets are available, including most of non-mandatory variables.

1.2.1. Data completeness rate

Data completeness rate is 100%.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable.

2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

Not applicable.

2.2.1. Coverage error

Over-coverage means including of vessels with a capacity less than 50 tonnes.

2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2.3. Measurement error

During the statistical data processing, data validation is implemented according to the established algorithms for particular types of errors. A matrix with 57 check and control criteria for materials has been set up; of the total number of criteria, 47 of them are associated with non-tolerable errors, while 10 of them are warnings on checkable and tolerable errors.

2.2.4. Non-response error

Not applicable.

2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.6. Item non-response rate

The indicator is not computed.

2.2.7. Processing error

Processing errors can occur in relation to an unreliable estimate of the type of goods code at entering the data. Processing errors can be reduced by running additional checks on the internet or in other available sources.

2.2.8. Imputation rate

The indicator is not applicable.

2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not applicable.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, on the link [General Revision Policy of the CBS.](#)

2.3.2. Data revision – practice

Provisional figures are not published in this survey and therefore regular revisions are not planned. As a rule, unplanned revisions caused by events that could not be foreseen and prevented (later changes in data sources or errors in already submitted data that were detected only later) are disseminated as soon as possible.

2.3.3. Data revision – average size

The indicator is not applicable.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

3. Timeliness and Punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

45 days after the end of a month.

3.1.1. Time lag – first results

The indicator is not applicable.

3.1.2. Time lag – final results

Timeliness of final results is T + 44,25.

3.2. Punctuality

The percentage of editions/data delivered in a timely manner is 100%.

3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication

Delivery and publication is 1.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Data are disseminated in electronic form on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.1. News release

First Release [Transport, fourth quarter of 2025](#)

4.2. On-line database

Online databases available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.3. Micro-data access

The conditions under which certain users can access microdata are regulated by the [Ordinance on Conditions and Terms of Access and Use of Confidential Statistical Data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for Scientific Purposes](#) (NN, No. 5/23).

4.4. Documentation on methodology

Definitions used in data collection are available in Regulation (EU) 2018/974 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 on statistics of goods transport by inland waterways, while additional elements are available in the Glossary for Transport Statistics and the Reference Manual for Inland Waterway Transport Statistics.

5. Comparability over time

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Mirror flows statistics are performed annually among Member States on Eurostat's request. Depending on the largest possible differences in relation to a particular country, that country is contacted and efforts are made to find the reasons for these differences.

5.2. Comparability over time

Since 2005

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is:

Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Republic of Croatia	Tonnes of goods	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

Data have been comparable since 2005.

5.3. Coherence – subannual and annual statistics

The indicator is not applicable.

5.4. Coherence – national accounts

The indicator is not applicable.

5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

The indicator is not applicable.

5. Cost and burden

6.1. Cost

The indicator is not computed.

6.2. Burden

Statistical units are harbour master's offices in inland waterway ports. There is no information on the burden.