

Transportation sector, due to its high value-added and its contribution to infrastructural services that are rendered to other sectors of the economy, merits special attention in all countries, particularly developing countries. According to preliminary estimates, transportation sector enjoyed a favorable growth in 1386, compared with the year before. Based on national accounts data, "transport, storage, and communication", with a share of 8.5 percent in GDP, at current prices, experienced 14.6 percent growth at constant prices.

In the land transport sector (rail and road), 74.0 billion person-kilometers of passengers and 163.1 billion ton-kilometers of goods were transported, showing 8 and 6.9 percent increase, respectively. In the air and sea transport sector, 21.8 million passengers were transported, remaining relatively unchanged compared with the previous year. Moreover, 107.2 million tons of goods, representing 2.9 percent reduction compared with the previous year, were transported in the review year.

Government Investment

According to the Budget Law for 1386, a sum of Rls. 16,589.3 billion was approved for the implementation of acquisition of non-financial–national assets projects of transportation sector (road, air, sea, and rail), showing 18.8 percent rise compared with the previous year. According to the Treasury General, the government spent Rls. 13,590.7 billion

for the implementation of transportation sector projects, showing 81.9 percent realization compared with the approved figure and 11 percent increase compared with last year's performance.

In this year, according to the Budget Law for 1386, foreign exchange equivalent of Rls. 4,450 billion out of the OSF was allocated for the renovation of national air fleet (Rls. 2,225 billion) and rail fleet (Rls. 2,225 billion).

In this year, the Cabinet approved the issuance of Rls. 1,500 billion participation papers by the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways, Rls. 3,000 billion by Iran Road Development Organization, Rls. 800 billion by the Ports and Maritime Organization, Rls. 200 billion by the Islamic Republic of Iran Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization, and Rls. 500 billion by the Iranian Airports Holding Company, totaling Rls. 6,000 billion, with a provisional profit rate of 15.5 percent. Of the total approved amount, Rls. 5,581.1 billion participation papers were sold, indicating a realization of 93 percent.

Government Acquisition of Non-financial–National Assets (Development Expenditures)
(billion rials)

	1385	1386	Percentage change
Transportation sector	12,248.4	13,590.7	11.0

Source: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, Treasury General

Freight and Passenger Transport

Road Transport

In 1386, the share of road transport sector in total carried passengers was 94.5 percent and in total carried goods, 77.8 percent. Moreover, 485 million tons of goods were carried through roads, indicating 10.8 percent increase compared with the previous year, and about 4.9 million tons of goods were transited through land, up by 9.1 percent compared with the year before.

In the review year, 794.5 million passengers were carried through roads, up by a mere 1.1 percent compared with the previous year. Of this number, 455.6 million passengers were carried by public transport, showing 8.5 percent growth compared with the previous year. This was mainly attributable to the rationing of gasoline, which increased public tendency toward using public transport. Average carried passengers were 14 persons and average distance traveled by public transport ⁽¹⁾ was 192 kilometers. The number of carried passengers measured in person-kilometers posted 7.3 percent growth and reached 60.1 billion person-kilometers.

The length of the roads under the supervision of the Ministry of Road and Transportation (excluding rural roads) reached 73.5 thousand kilometers, of which 2.2 percent were freeways, 8.4 percent highways, 29.4 percent main roads, and 59.2 percent side roads.

According to the IRIP (Islamic Republic of Iran Police), 2.2 million vehicles were numbered in 1386, representing a rise of 12.8 percent compared with the previous year. In line with the development of public transport fleet, buses and minibuses numbered in this year registered a remarkable rise of 127.1 percent.

(1) Based on number of trips through public transport which have transport manifest document.

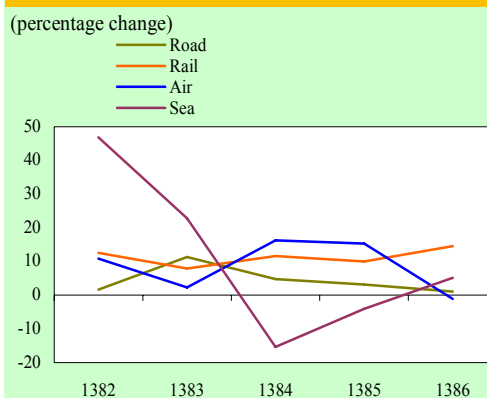
Reviewing the performance of road transport fleet ⁽²⁾ reveals that 234.7 thousand trucks were active in transporting goods and 52 thousand buses, minibuses, and taxis were active in carrying passengers.

Road Transport

	1384	1385	1386	Percentage change	
				1385	1386
Carried goods (million tons)	406.8	437.6	485.0	7.6	10.8
Transited goods (million tons)	3.8	4.5	4.9	19.3	9.1
Carried passengers					
Total carried passengers (million persons)	761.6	786.2	794.5	3.2	1.1
Public transport (million persons)	417.7	419.8	455.6	0.5	8.5
Share of public transport in carried passengers (percent)	54.8	53.4	57.3		

Source: Islamic Republic of Iran Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization

Figure 6.1. Number of carried passengers



(2) Based on smart cards database.

Rail Transport

According to the Raja Passenger Trains Company, 24.5 million passengers were carried by rail in 1386, showing 14.6 percent growth compared with the previous year. Accordingly, rail share in total carried passengers rose from 2.6 percent in 1385 to 2.9 percent in the review year. Railway traffic measured in person-kilometers amounted to 13.9 billion person-kilometers, representing a rise of 10.8 percent compared with the year before. Meanwhile, total goods carried by rail decreased by 6 percent to 31 million tons. Railway freight traffic measured in ton-kilometers fell by 1.5 percent to 20.2 billion ton-kilometers. Rail share in total freight transport was 5 percent, indicating a fall of 0.7 percentage point. Moreover, 1.5 million tons of goods were transited by rail, showing 0.3 percent decline compared with the previous year.

With putting into operation of 146 kilometers of main lines, the length of the main and branch lines reached 8,702 and 2,737 kilometers in 1386, respectively.

Rail Transport

	1384	1385	1386	Percentage change	
				1385	1386
Carried goods (million tons)	30.3	33.0	31.0	8.9	-6.0
Transited goods (thousand tons)	1,324	1,546	1,541	16.8	-0.3
Carried passengers (million persons)	19.4	21.3	24.5	10.0	14.6

Source: Islamic Republic of Iran Railways

Air Transport

In 1386, the total number of air passengers fell by 1.1 percent to 17.9 million. Therefore, air share in total passenger transport equaled 2.1 percent. In this year, aircraft fleet productivity reached 7.3 hours a day,

indicating 1.4 percent fall compared with the previous year. The shares of non-public sector in domestic and international flights were 43.9 and 53.1 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, the number of national air fleet increased to 123, showing 10.5 percent growth compared with the year before and 89.1 percent realization compared with the target set in the 4th FYDP for this year.

In the review year, the amount of cargo carried by air (domestically and internationally) amounted to 161.3 thousand tons, up by 4.2 percent compared with the previous year.

Air Transport

	1384	1385	1386	Percentage change	
				1385	1386
Carried passengers (million persons)	15.7	18.1	17.9	15.3	-1.1
Domestic flights	10.6	12.4	12.9	17.0	4.0
International flights	5.1	5.7	5.0	11.8	-12.3
Carried goods (thousand tons)	118.2	154.8	161.3	31.0	4.2
Transit flights (thousand)	129.8	145.8	153.0	12.3	4.9

Source: Ministry of Road and Transportation

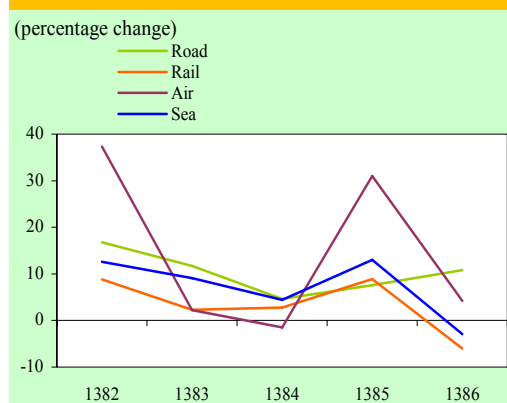
Sea Transport

The nominal capacity of commercial ports reached 137 million tons (oil and non-oil), showing 11.8 percent increase compared with the previous year. Moreover, the capacity of the commercial sea transportation fleet was 3.9 million tons, up by 3.4 percent compared with the year before.

Container operations in commercial ports grew by 18 percent, from 1,663 thousand TEU ⁽¹⁾ in 1385 to 1,963 thousand TEU in 1386. Meanwhile, in the review year, container capacity in ports increased by 65.2 percent to 3,800 thousand TEU.

(1) Twenty-foot Equivalent Units

Figure 6.2. Volume of carried goods



In the review year, 9,266 cargo ships (with over 1,000 tons capacity), holding a total capacity of 101.9 million tons, entered 14 ports of which, 2,362 were domestic and the remainder foreign ships. Traffic flow, therefore, grew by 1.2 percent in terms of number of cargo ships compared with the previous year.

Ports Container Traffic

(million tons)

				Percentage change ○	
	1384	1385	1386	1385	1386
Non-oil goods	54.8	63.6	66.7	16.0	4.9
Unloading	35.3	41.9	43.3	18.8	3.3
Loading	19.5	21.7	23.4	10.9	7.9
Oil products	42.7	46.6	40.3	9.1	-13.5
Unloading	27.0	31.4	28.5	16.5	-9.3
Loading	15.7	15.2	11.8	-3.6	-22.1
Total	97.5	110.2	107.0	13.0	-2.9

Source: Ports and Maritime Organization

Performance of ports in 1386 indicates that imports of goods by oil tankers and non-oil cargo ships amounted to 7.1 and 41.5 million tons, recording 26.6 percent decrease and 5.5 percent increase, respectively, compared with the previous year.

Performance of Ports

(million tons)

				Percentage change ○	
	1384	1385	1386	1385	1386
Oil tankers					
Import	7.3	9.7	7.1	33.3	-26.6
Export	14.0	12.4	10.0	-11.1	-19.1
Transit	4.1	6.7	5.4	63.1	-19.0
Cabotage ⁽¹⁾	17.3	17.7	17.6	2.3	-0.2
Non-oil cargo ships					
Import	33.0	39.3	41.5	19.2	5.5
Export	16.9	18.7	20.9	10.6	11.7
Transit	1.3	1.1	1.1	-18.4	0.3
Cabotage	3.6	4.5	3.3	25.0	-27.3

Source: Ports and Maritime Organization

(1) Cross ports operations in goods transportation from one point to another via sea or border river in the same country

Passenger traffic in 8 ports showed 5.2 percent growth in 1386. Of total 3.9 million port passengers, 2 million were disembarking and the remainder embarking.

Performance of Ports by Passenger

Traffic (thousand persons)

				Percentage change ○	
	1384	1385 ▲	1386	1385	1386
Embarking	1,869	1,764	1,912	-5.6	8.4
Disembarking	1,992	1,944	1,990	-2.4	2.4
Total	3,861	3,708	3,902	-3.9	5.2

Source: Ports and Maritime Organization