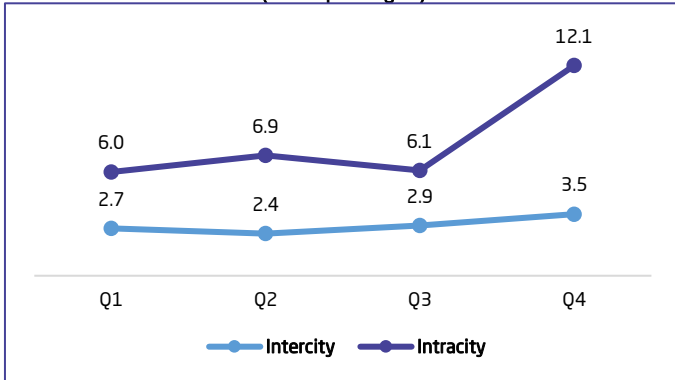


Railway passenger numbers in the Kingdom increase by 40.9% in 2024

Based on the results of Railway Transport Statistics 2024, the total number of railway passengers, both intracity and intercity, reached approximately 42.7 million, reflecting a 40.9% increase compared to 2023. Intracity railway transport accounted for 72.8% of the total number of passengers, covering a distance of approximately 2.6 million kilometers. In contrast, intercity railway transport represented 27.2%, spanning more than 35.6 thousand trips and covering over 12.5 million kilometers. Q4 of 2024 recorded the highest percentage of passengers transported by both intracity and intercity railway, accounting for 36.7% of the annual total. **Figure1**

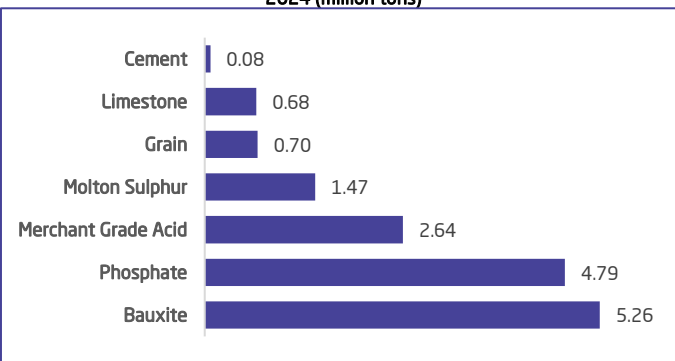
Figure1. Number of intracity and intercity railway passengers by quarter in 2024 (million passengers)



Railway freight

2024 railway transport data showed that Saudi Arabian Railway (SAR) executed 6,807 freight trips, covering a total distance of 6.3 million kilometers via the two main freight lines (North Train and East Train). Total goods transported in 2024 reached over 15.6 million tons, a 9.0% increase compared to 2023. North Train accounted for the largest share of this transport at 90.6%, approximately 14.2 million tons. Bauxite topped the list of transported goods at 33.7%, followed by phosphate at 30.7%. Additionally, approximately 887.9 thousand standard containers were transported via the East Train in 2024, showing a 27.0% increase compared to the previous year. Q3 of 2024 was the highest in terms of the volume of goods transported at 27.2%, while the highest percentage for standard containers transported was 28.5% during Q4 of 2024. **Figure2**

Figure2. Types of goods transported via the two railway lines (north and east) in 2024 (million tons)



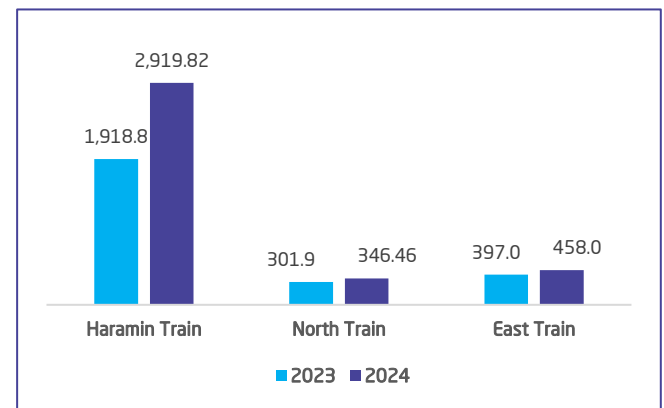
Railway infrastructure and rolling stock

2024 Railway Transport Statistics showed that the number of intercity passenger railway stations reached 15, with 93 passenger locomotives and 673 coach cars. This represented a 20.4% increase compared to 2023, bringing the total seating capacity to 18,359. The number of intercity freight railway stations reached 12, and the number of freight locomotives was 175, a 10.8% rise from 2023. Additionally, the number of freight wagons was 3,384, marking a 1.3% increase compared to the previous year. The total number of intracity passenger stations reached 110 in 2024.

Passenger-kilometers and freight tons

In 2024, intercity passenger railway lines recorded a 42.2% increase in total passenger-kilometers compared to 2023, reaching 3,724 million passenger-kilometers. Meanwhile, total freight traffic on the two freight lines (the North Train and the East Train) reached 16,427 million ton-kilometers in 2024, representing a 9.8% decrease compared to 2023. **Figure3**

Figure3. Intercity passenger kilometers by train for 2023 and 2024 (million passengers - kilometers)



Key Indicators of Railway Transport Statistics

Indicators	2023	2024	Unit
Intercity railway passenger trips	31,652	35,614	Number
Intercity railway passengers	8.3	11.6	Million passengers
Intracity railway passengers	21.9	31.1	Million passengers
Number of freight trips on railways	5,200	6,807	Number
Railway freight quantities	14.3	15.6	Million tons
	698.9	887.9	Thousand standard containers

Tables

Methodology and quality report

Railway Transport Statistics Publication is an annual register-based publication through which a broad base of statistics is created that is considered a reliable basis for conducting studies and research in the field of railway transportation. The publication includes information on the volume of freight, the number of trips, and the passengers arriving and departing via railway. It is based on administrative records provided by the General Transport Authority.

For more details, click Reference [Methodology and Quality Report](#)