

# Road freight transport by type of goods

Statistics Explained

*Data extracted in September 2024.  
Planned article update: October 2025.*

**" 'Metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium' was the product group with the highest share in tonnes transported by road in the EU in 2023 (23.9%). "**

**" 'Food products, beverages and tobacco' was the product group with the highest share in tonne-kilometres transported by road in the EU in 2023 (16.7%). "**

**" 'Flammable liquids' had the highest share in EU transport of dangerous goods in 2023, with 48.0%. "**

This article presents [road freight transport](#) in the [European Union \(EU\)](#), with a focus on the various types of goods transported. It examines the total national and international road freight transport performed, classified by the type of goods. It also provides information on the transport of dangerous goods. Finally, it offers an overview of road freight transport categorised by cargo type. This article and the articles '[Road freight transport statistics](#)', '[Road freight transport by vehicle characteristics](#)', '[Road freight transport by journey characteristics](#)' and '[Road freight transport statistics – cabotage](#)' present a complete overview of road freight transport in Europe.

## Road freight transport by product good ( NST 2007 classification )

Tables 1a and 1b present road freight transport by product group, measured in tonnes and [tonne-kilometres \(tkm\)](#), respectively, over the period 2019-2023.

In terms of tonnes of freight carried, EU road transport declined by 3.4% in 2023 compared with 2022. The number of tonnes carried registered a negative average annual growth rate of 0.8% in the period 2019-2023. In 2023, the product group 03 'metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium' was the largest product group transported in terms of tonnage, accounting for 3 142.2 million tonnes; its share in the total EU tonnes transported was 23.9% (see Table 1a and Figure 1). This was followed by product group 09 'other non-metallic mineral products' (1 561.3 million tonnes and a share of 11.9%) and product group 04 'food products, beverages and tobacco' (1 550.8 million tonnes and a share of 11.8%). Another major product group was 01 'products of agriculture, hunting, and forestry; fish and other fishing products', accounting for 1 267.4 million tonnes and a share of 9.6%.

From 2022 to 2023, the tonnage carried by road decreased for 13 product groups. The highest declines were observed in groups 09 'other non-metallic mineral products' (-11.2%) and 20 'other goods n.e.c.' (-6.6%). The highest increases were observed in groups 12 'transport equipment' (+12.4%), 13 'furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.' (+9.7%) and 02 'coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas' (+7.7%) – n.e.c. stands for 'not elsewhere classified'.

In terms of average annual growth rate in the period 2019-2023, product group 15 'mail, parcels' recorded the highest growth, at 5.6%, followed by group 18 'grouped goods: a mixture of types of goods which are transported together' and group 20 'other goods n.e.c.' (+3.6% each). The highest negative average annual growth rates were recorded by groups 02 'coal and lignite' and 05 'textiles and textile products; leather and leather products' (-3.0% each).

**Road freight transport by product group, EU, 2019-2023**  
(million tonnes)

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average annual growth rate 2019-2023	Growth rate 2022-2023
							%	%
TOT	Total transported goods	13 574.8	13 047.8	13 685.5	13 620.0	13 152.6	-0.8	-3.4
01	Products of agriculture, hunting, and forestry; fish and other fishing products	1 210.9	1 235.9	1 270.8	1 278.4	1 267.4	1.1	-0.9
02	Coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas	110.4	77.8	84.6	90.9	97.9	-3.0	7.7
03	Metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium	3 463.7	3 263.0	3 388.6	3 341.6	3 142.2	-2.4	-6.0
04	Food products, beverages and tobacco	1 573.2	1 595.8	1 612.8	1 596.8	1 550.8	-0.4	-2.9
05	Textiles and textile products; leather and leather products	57.4	46.5	49.7	52.9	50.9	-3.0	-3.8
06	Wood and products of wood and cork (except furniture); articles of straw and plaiting materials; pulp, paper and paper products; printed matter and recorded media	537.1	518.9	551.3	501.4	494.4	-2.0	-1.4
07	Coke and refined petroleum products	445.2	415.3	401.7	406.9	403.3	-2.4	-0.9
08	Chemicals, chemical products, and man-made fibers; rubber and plastic products ; nuclear fuel	547.3	544.1	562.3	526.9	506.7	-1.9	-3.8
09	Other non-metallic mineral products	1 689.4	1 597.7	1 730.1	1 758.6	1 561.3	-2.0	-11.2
10	Basic metals; fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	556.0	507.5	564.7	530.0	533.5	-1.0	0.7
11	Machinery and equipment n.e.c.; office machinery and computers; electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.; radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus; medical, precision and optical instruments; watches and clocks	249.0	233.6	260.7	254.3	254.1	0.5	-0.1
12	Transport equipment	300.8	251.1	271.4	244.9	275.2	-2.2	12.4
13	Furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.	115.3	113.0	122.2	116.5	127.8	2.6	9.7
14	Secondary raw materials; municipal wastes and other wastes	908.2	869.8	902.0	875.4	859.2	-1.4	-1.9
15	Mail, parcels	225.6	230.3	269.8	287.4	280.8	5.6	-2.3
16	Equipment and material utilized in the transport of goods	285.0	282.6	292.5	286.3	288.9	0.3	0.9
17	Goods moved in the course of household and office removals; baggage and articles accompanying travellers; motor vehicles being moved for repair; other non-market goods n.e.c.	122.1	111.7	110.8	110.4	110.9	-2.4	0.5
18	Grouped goods: a mixture of types of goods which are transported together	828.7	818.2	874.0	942.8	954.6	3.6	1.3
19	Unidentifiable goods: goods which for any reason cannot be identified and therefore cannot be assigned to groups 01-16	165.6	158.7	164.3	190.5	180.6	2.2	-5.2
20	Other goods n.e.c.	183.9	176.3	201.2	227.1	212.1	3.6	-6.6

Note: Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources')  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_tg)

eurostat

**Table 1a: Road freight transport by product group, EU, 2019-2023 (million tonnes) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_tg)**

When looking at road freight transport performance in tonne-kilometres, in 2023 the total EU performance was 3.2% lower than in 2022. The leading goods category was product group 04 'food products, beverages and tobacco', accounting for 308.4 billion tkm; its share in the total EU tkm was 16.7% (see Table 1b and Figure 1). This was followed by product groups 18 'grouped goods' (230.3 billion tkm and a share of 12.4%) and 01 'products of agriculture, hunting, and forestry; fish and other fishing products' (197.8 billion tkm and a share of 10.7%). Another product group that recorded significant transport performance was 09 'other non-metallic mineral products', with 138.0 billion tkm and a share of 7.5%.

The largest increases in terms of tkm from 2022 to 2023 were recorded for product group 02 'coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas' (+105.4%, although the values in tkm are rather small), followed by groups 12 'transport equipment' (+8.7%) and 13 'furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.' (+8.1%). At the other end of the scale, the highest decreases were recorded for product groups 20 'other goods n.e.c.' (-15.9%) and 09 'other non-metallic mineral products' (-13.3%), followed by group 08 'chemicals, chemical products, and man-made fibers; rubber and plastic products ; nuclear fuel' (-8.3%).

The highest positive average annual growth rates in the period 2019-2023 were recorded for product group 02 'coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas' (+23.2%), followed by groups 19 'unidentifiable goods' (+5.9%) and 13 'furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.' with 5.4%. The highest negative average annual growth rates were recorded for groups 08 'chemicals, chemical products, and man-made fibers; rubber and plastic products; nuclear fuel' (-2.8%) and 05 'textiles and textile products; leather and leather products' (-1.9%).

**Road freight transport by product group, EU, 2019-2023**  
(billion tonne-kilometres)

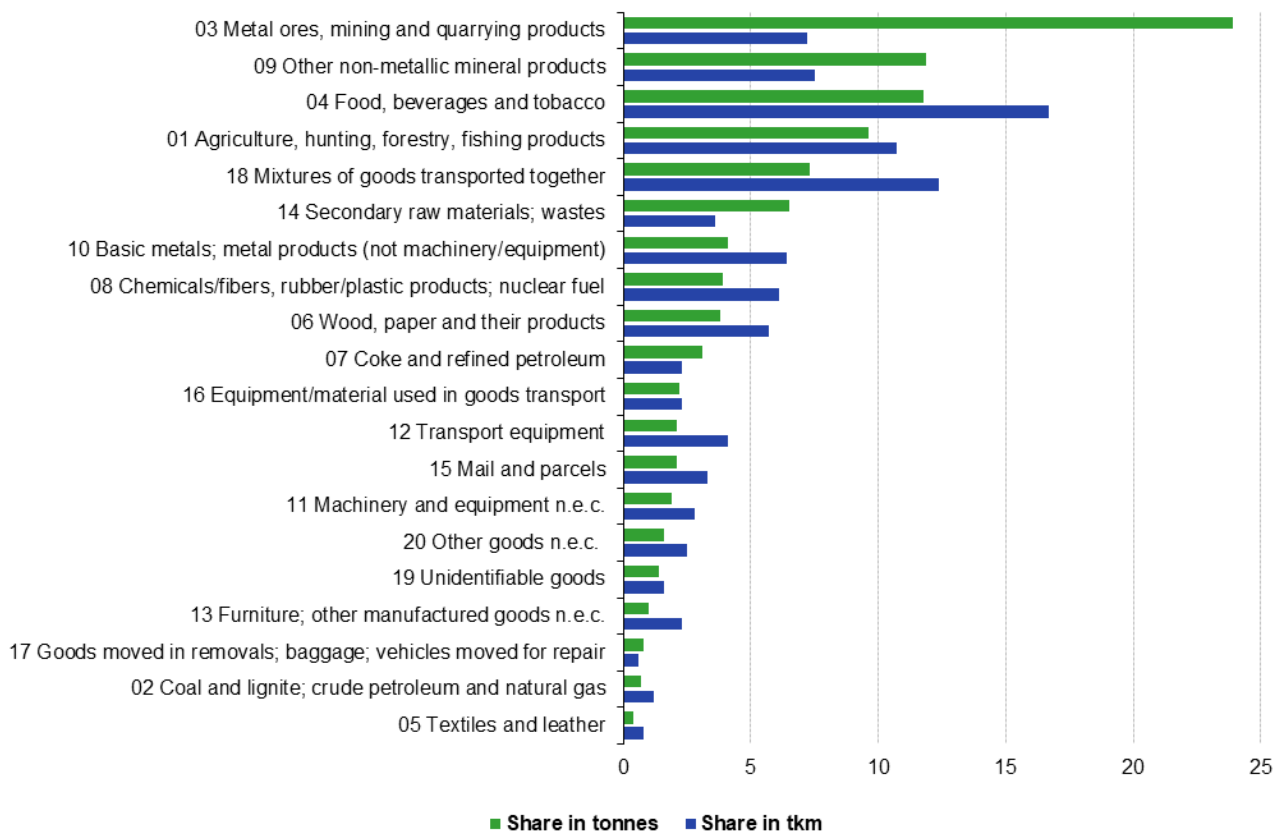
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average annual growth rate 2019-2023	Growth rate 2022-2023
						%	%
TOT Total transported goods	1 810.3	1 793.7	1 914.9	1 912.0	1 850.3	0.5	-3.2
01 Products of agriculture, hunting, and forestry; fish and other fishing products	193.6	198.7	202.8	202.9	197.8	0.5	-2.5
02 Coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas	9.9	10.1	11.2	11.1	22.8	23.2	105.4
03 Metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium	136.4	137.2	145.7	141.5	132.3	-0.8	-6.5
04 Food products, beverages and tobacco	299.3	310.5	319.6	316.8	308.4	0.8	-2.7
05 Textiles and textile products; leather and leather products	15.9	13.8	15.3	15.6	14.7	-1.9	-5.8
06 Wood and products of wood and cork (except furniture); articles of straw and plaiting materials; pulp, paper and paper products; printed matter and recorded media	113.0	108.8	116.5	110.3	104.9	-1.8	-4.9
07 Coke and refined petroleum products	45.5	43.1	43.6	44.8	43.2	-1.3	-3.6
08 Chemicals, chemical products, and man-made fibers; rubber and plastic products ; nuclear fuel	125.9	122.4	130.6	122.4	112.2	-2.8	-8.3
09 Other non-metallic mineral products	146.4	143.6	154.7	159.1	138.0	-1.5	-13.3
10 Basic metals; fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	123.8	112.5	127.0	122.2	118.5	-1.1	-3.0
11 Machinery and equipment n.e.c.; office machinery and computers; electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.; radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus; medical, precision and optical instruments; watches and clocks	50.4	48.4	54.8	54.9	51.0	0.3	-7.1
12 Transport equipment	79.4	70.5	73.8	69.9	76.0	-1.1	8.7
13 Furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.	34.5	39.1	42.1	39.4	42.6	5.4	8.1
14 Secondary raw materials; municipal wastes and other wastes	68.3	66.7	72.2	68.5	67.0	-0.5	-2.2
15 Mail, parcels	51.5	51.8	62.7	65.7	61.3	4.5	-6.7
16 Equipment and material utilized in the transport of goods	40.7	39.3	40.2	42.7	42.5	1.1	-0.5
17 Goods moved in the course of household and office removals; baggage and articles accompanying travellers; motor vehicles being moved for repair; other non-market goods n.e.c.	11.8	10.1	10.0	10.3	11.0	-1.7	6.8
18 Grouped goods: a mixture of types of goods which are transported together	201.0	202.4	218.6	228.4	230.3	3.5	0.8
19 Unidentifiable goods: goods which for any reason cannot be identified and therefore cannot be assigned to groups 01-16	23.3	23.8	29.2	30.2	29.3	5.9	-3.0
20 Other goods n.e.c.	39.7	40.9	44.3	55.3	46.5	4.0	-15.9

Note: Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources')  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_tg)

eurostat 

**Table 1b: Road freight transport by product group, EU, 2019-2023 (billion tonne-kilometres) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_tg)**

## Road freight transport by product group (NST 2007), EU, 2023 (% share in tonnes and tonne-kilometres)



Note: Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources'); ranked based on share in tonnes  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_tg)

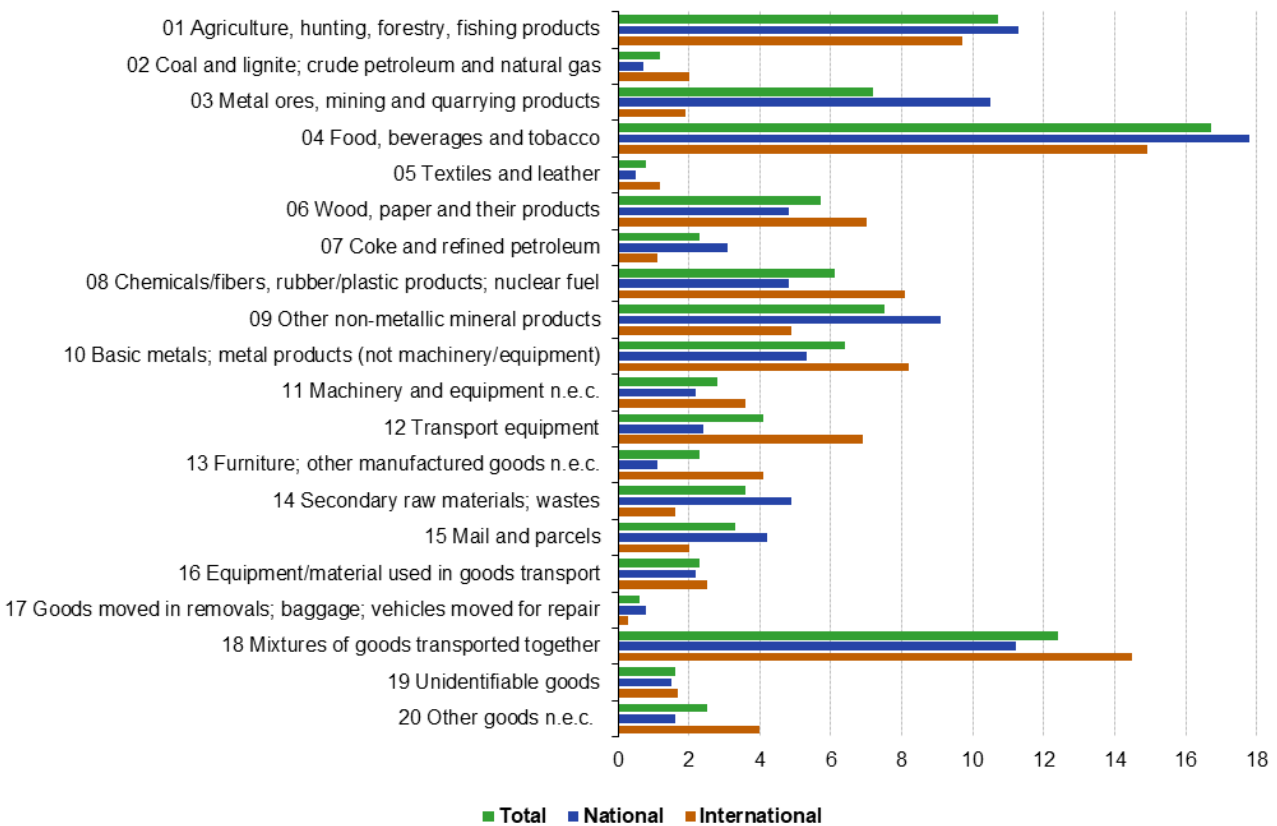
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**Figure 1: Road freight transport by product group (NST 2007), EU, 2023 (% share in tonnes and tonne-kilometres) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_tg) Full names and description of NST 2007 codes**

Figure 2 shows the tonne-kilometre share of each NST 2007 product group in the EU total for **national** and **international** road freight transport. In 2023, the following groups had a higher share in national transport than in international transport: 01 'agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing products', 03 'metal ores, mining and quarrying products', 04 'food, beverages and tobacco', 07 'coke and refined petroleum products', 09 'other non-metallic mineral products', 14 'secondary raw materials; wastes', 15 'mail and parcels', and 17 'goods moved in removals; baggage; vehicles moved for repair'. For the remaining groups, their share for international road freight transport was higher than for national transport.

## Road freight transport of each product group (NST 2007) by type of operation, EU, 2023

(% share in tonne-kilometres)



Note: Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources')

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: road\_go\_ta\_tg, road\_go\_na\_tggt)

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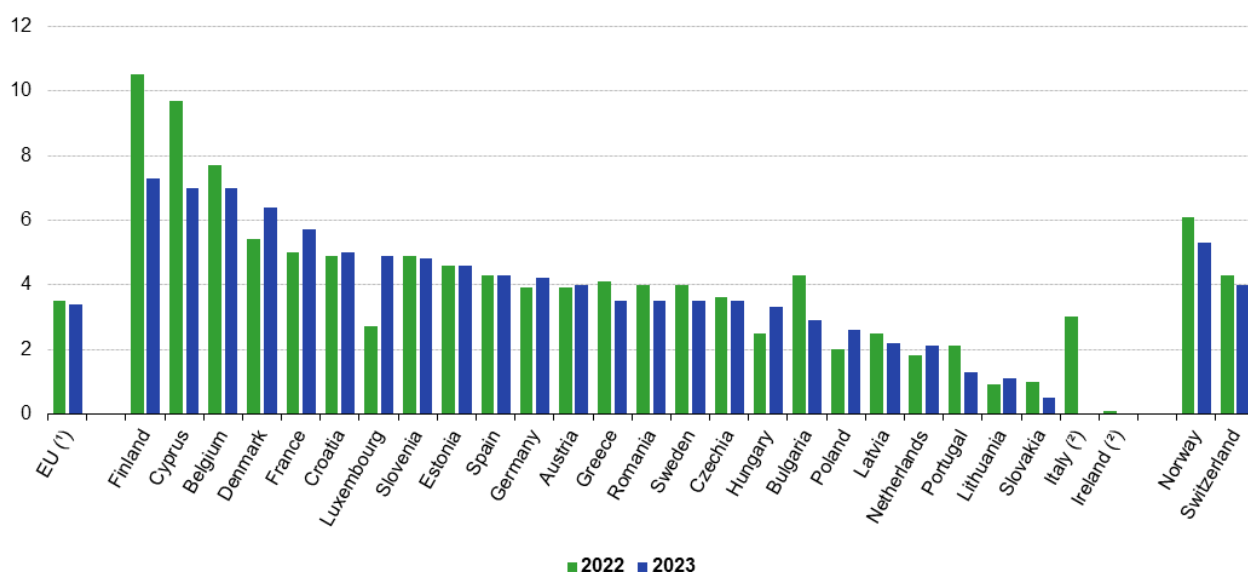
**Figure 2: Road freight transport of each product group (NST 2007) by type of operation, EU, 2023 (% share in tonne-kilometres)** Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_tg), (road\_go\_na\_tggt) Full names and description of NST 2007 codes

## Road freight transport of dangerous goods

Figure 3 presents the share of dangerous goods in the total transport performance (in tkm) of each EU country in 2022 and 2023. At EU level, the share of dangerous goods transport was 3.5% in 2022 and 3.4% in 2023. The EU countries that recorded the highest shares of dangerous goods in their road transport were Finland (with 10.5% in 2022 and 7.3% in 2023) and Cyprus (with 9.7 in 2022 and 7.0% in 2023), followed by Belgium (with 7.7% in 2022 and 7.0% in 2023). In both 2022 and 2023, several EU countries recorded figures between 4.0% and 6.0%, including the big countries France and Spain. Germany, a big country in terms of road freight transport, recorded shares of 3.9% in 2022 and 4.2% in 2023, while Poland recorded shares of 2.0% in 2022 and 2.6% in 2023. Slovakia, Lithuania and Ireland recorded shares of dangerous goods transport performance of less than 2.0% for both years where data is available. High differences between the two years can be seen for Luxembourg, which increased its share of dangerous goods in total tkm transported from 2.7% in 2022 to 4.9% in 2023.

## Road freight transport of dangerous goods, 2022 and 2023

(% share in total tonne-kilometres transported)



Note: ranked based on 2023 data

(\*) Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources')

(\*) 2023 data not available

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: road\_go\_ta\_dg, road\_go\_ta\_tott)

eurostat

**Figure 3: Road freight transport of dangerous goods, 2022 and 2023 (% share in total tonne-kilometres transported) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_dg), (road\_go\_ta\_tott)**

EU transport of dangerous goods accounted for 63 496 million tkm in 2023 (see Table 2) and presented a negative average annual growth rate of 3.6% in the period 2019-2023.

Between 2019 and 2023, 15 EU countries registered a negative average annual growth rate in the transport of dangerous goods. The highest negative rates were recorded for Slovakia (-20.3%), Portugal (-17.2%) and Belgium (-11.1%). At the other end of the scale, the highest positive average annual growth rates were registered in Bulgaria (+41.7%), Denmark (+9.5%) and Czechia (+9.2%).

When looking at the changes between 2022 and 2023, the growth rate in the transport of dangerous goods in the EU decreased by 5.9%. Fifteen EU countries registered decreases in the transport of dangerous goods, the highest ones in Slovakia (-59.7%), Portugal (-47.3%), Finland (-36.2%) and Bulgaria (-36.1%). Substantial increases were observed in Luxembourg (+71.4%), Lithuania (+41.4%) and Poland (+29.9%).

## Road freight transport of dangerous goods, 2019-2023

(million tonne-kilometres)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average annual growth rate 2019-2023	Growth rate 2022-2023
						%	
<b>EU</b>	73 539	71 357	72 589	67 453	63 496	-3.6	-5.9
Belgium	3 591	3 221	2 991	2 579	2 244	-11.1	-13.0
Bulgaria	240	907	869	1 515	968	41.7	-36.1
Czechia	1 611	2 081	2 153	2 376	2 294	9.2	-3.5
Denmark	728	832	874	819	1 047	9.5	27.8
Germany	12 793	11 758	11 771	11 818	12 055	-1.5	2.0
Estonia	211	126	154	210	191	-2.5	-9.0
Ireland	112	77	80	12	:	-	-
Greece	941	882	949	876	701	-7.1	-20.0
Spain	12 710	11 609	12 502	11 503	11 441	-2.6	-0.5
France	8 287	9 089	8 747	8 731	9 591	3.7	9.8
Croatia	820	707	751	665	712	-3.5	7.1
Italy	9 293	9 215	7 986	4 458	:	-	-
Cyprus	79	87	80	92	72	-2.3	-21.7
Latvia	272	311	354	371	291	1.7	-21.6
Lithuania	629	445	591	484	683	2.1	41.1
Luxembourg	495	386	305	199	341	-8.9	71.4
Hungary	1 017	1 150	1 186	949	1 114	2.3	17.4
Malta (*)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	1 496	1 375	1 331	1 195	1 345	-2.6	12.6
Austria	995	912	955	1 051	1 018	0.6	-3.1
Poland	9 441	8 255	9 247	7 701	10 000	1.4	29.9
Portugal	750	649	731	670	353	-17.2	-47.3
Romania	1 936	1 711	2 260	2 546	2 283	4.2	-10.3
Slovenia	1 068	1 248	1 405	1 195	1 086	0.4	-9.1
Slovakia	300	462	451	300	121	-20.3	-59.7
Finland	2 294	2 189	2 045	3 224	2 056	-2.7	-36.2
Sweden	1 431	1 676	1 818	1 913	1 486	0.9	-22.3
Norway	1 115	936	1 607	1 496	1 300	3.9	-13.1
Switzerland	813	488	749	555	473	-12.7	-14.8

(-) Not applicable

(:) Not available

(\*) Data not available (see chapter 'data sources')

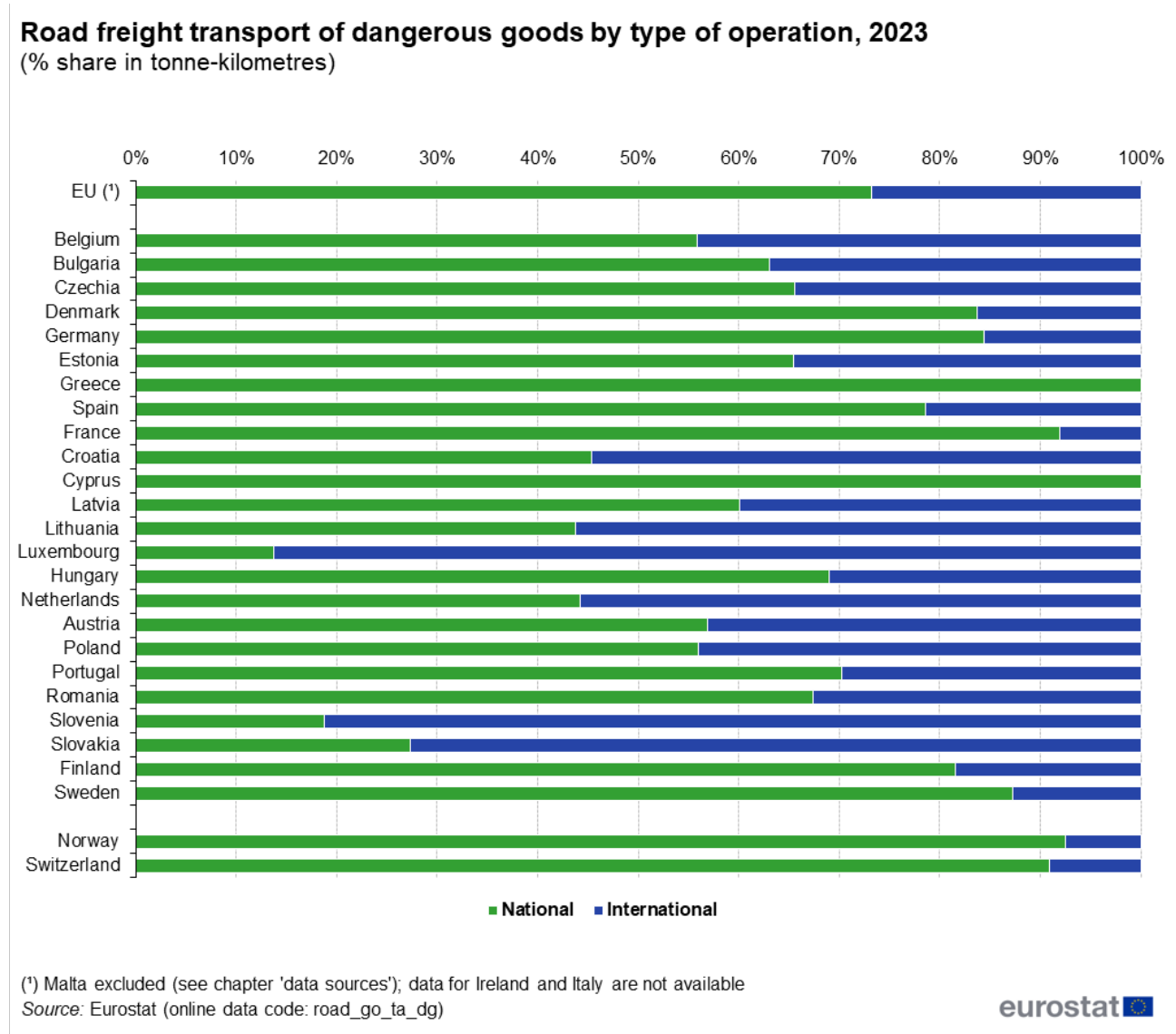
Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_dg)

eurostat 

**Table 2: Road freight transport of dangerous goods, 2019-2023 (million tonne-kilometres) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_dg)**

Figure 4 illustrates the share of national and international transport performance (in tonnes-kilometres) involving dangerous goods in 2023. At EU level, 73.2% of the transport of dangerous goods was performed within the national borders.

For most countries, in 2023, the share of tkm performed in international transport involving dangerous goods is aligned with the share in tkm of international transport for all types of goods (see article 'Road freight transport by journey characteristics', Figure 2). This means that, in general, countries with high shares in tkm of international transport of all types of goods tend to have a higher share of tkm performance in international transport involving dangerous goods. Notable exceptions are Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal and Romania: although international transport of all types of goods represented more than half of the road transport of these countries, most of their transport of dangerous goods was performed in national territory.

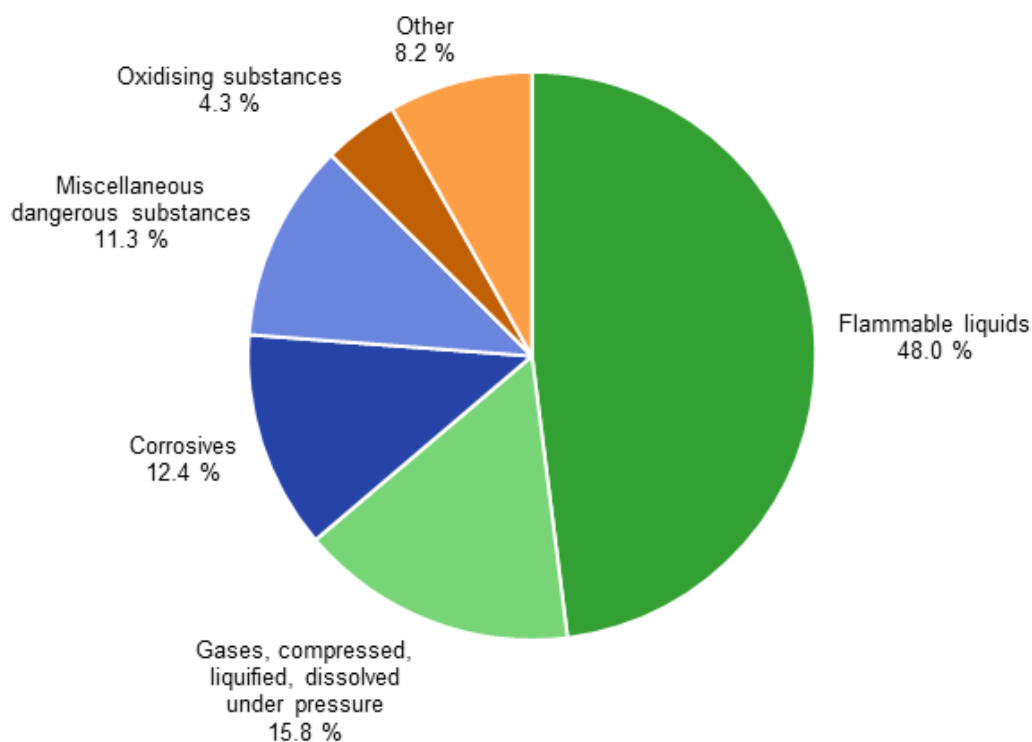


**Figure 4: Road freight transport of dangerous goods by type of operation, 2023 (% share in tonne-kilometres)**  
Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_dg)

Figure 5 shows the shares of the different types of dangerous goods in the tkm performed involving dangerous goods in the EU, in 2023. The largest group was 'flammable liquids', accounting for nearly half of the transport of dangerous goods (48.0%). 'Gases, compressed, liquified, dissolved under pressure' accounted for 15.8%, while 'corrosives' accounted for 12.4%. These three types of dangerous goods accounted for over three-quarters (76.2%) of the total tkm performed involving dangerous goods.



## Road freight transport of dangerous goods by type of goods, EU, 2023 (% share in tonne-kilometres)



Note: Malta excluded (see chapter 'data sources')

Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_dg)

eurostat 

**Figure 5: Road freight transport of dangerous goods by type of goods, EU, 2023 (% share in tonne-kilometres)** Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_dg)

It should be noted that, as dangerous goods represent only a small proportion of the freight transported by road, there are considerable uncertainties in the survey results regarding this category of goods.

### Road freight transport by type of cargo

In 2023, 'palletised goods' (i.e., goods transported on pallets), represented the main type of cargo in most of the EU countries (see Table 3). The only exception was Cyprus, for which 'solid bulk goods' represented the main type of cargo.

The EU countries with the highest shares of 'palletised goods' were Lithuania (72.5%), Romania (71.5%) and Portugal (64.4%), while Cyprus (9.3%), Finland (27.3%) and Austria (33.2%) had the lowest shares.

When looking at the sum of 'palletised goods' and 'solid bulk goods', the only countries with an accumulated share below 50 % were Finland (44.5%) and Cyprus (46.5%).

As road freight transport by type of cargo is an optional variable of the road freight transport survey, Ireland and Italy did not report it, while Denmark reported all data as 'unknown'.

## Road freight transport by type of cargo, 2023

(million tonne-kilometres)

	Liquid bulk goods	Solid bulk goods	Large freight containers	Other freight containers	Palletised goods	Pre-slung goods	Mobile, self-propelled units	Other mobile units	Other cargo not elsewhere specified	Unknown	Total	
	million tonne-kilometres										million tonne-kilometres	Growth rate 2022-2023 (%)
Belgium		11 091	1 845	692	12 942	999	986	787	7 373		36 714	-6.2
Bulgaria	3 331	6 280	981	338	18 224	2 659	404	105	833		33 156	-5.8
Czechia	3 435	10 600	1 489	1 853	35 506	696	1 477	345	9 536		64 938	-1.5
Denmark (*)										16 407	16 407	8.2
Germany	19 461	52 415	36 934	3 971	102 818	9 336	5 688	161	45 146		275 931	-5.9
Estonia	326	755	74	139	2 051	98	18	15	700		4 176	-7.6
Ireland												-
Greece	1 251	7 526	836	97	8 983	338	200	45	737	5	20 019	-5.5
Spain	14 888	46 548	4 159	2 750	140 053	6 352	5 630	31	42 968		263 378	-1.3
France	13 943	53 622	3 006	2 262	80 038	1 096	4 303	529	10 448		169 247	-2.4
Croatia	887	2 660	61	28	7 561	11	282	88	2 750		14 329	4.9
Italy												-
Cyprus	57	381	122	25	95		7		338		1 023	7.9
Latvia	506	1 810	179	109	5 402	1 391	183		3 513		13 092	-9.4
Lithuania	1 624	2 216	749	1 271	45 710	1 104	3 087		7 315		63 076	17.3
Luxembourg	763	2 166	152	91	2 477	347	85	80	803		6 964	-5.3
Hungary	2 427	8 754	343	448	15 797	1 187	444	142	3 613		33 154	-11.1
Malta (*)												-
Netherlands	6 670	9 253	4 741	3 088	29 811	742	1 796		5 673	905	62 678	-4.4
Austria	2 073	7 186	403	842	8 437	1 433	518	112	4 419		25 423	-2.3
Poland	17 757	61 545	3 719	13	171 586	11 237	6 454	576	105 004		377 891	-1.9
Portugal		851	5 166	598	17 235	1 060	276	318	1 264		26 767	-16.4
Romania	1 795	13 987	168	215	46 673	188	461	51	1 709		65 246	1.4
Slovenia	1 498	3 494	617	310	11 629	1 094	550	311	2 996		22 499	-7.4
Slovakia	701	7 864	296	391	14 714	864	318	41	1 140		26 331	-16.2
Finland	2 894	4 843	720	770	7 719	3 720	836	538	6 216		28 256	-7.6
Sweden	2 873	6 730	2 748	443	19 871	6 013	1 418	107	1 661		41 864	-11.6
Norway	1 986	5 061	2 333	451	7 371	760	745	88	1 947		20 742	1.5
Switzerland	1 113	2 684	826	112	4 242	693	360	10	1 643		11 684	-8.5

(-) Not applicable

(-) Not available

(\*) All data reported as 'unknown'.

(†) Data not available (see chapter 'data sources')

Source: Eurostat (online data code: road\_go\_ta\_tcrq)

**Table 3: Road freight transport by type of cargo, 2023 (million tonne-kilometres) Source: Eurostat (road\_go\_ta\_tcrq)**

## Source data for tables and graphs

- [Road freight transport by type of goods](#)

## Context

Data presented in this publication were collected in the framework of [Regulation \(EU\) No 70/2012](#) on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (recast). These data are based on sample surveys carried out in the reporting countries, i.e., the EU countries, Norway and Switzerland, and record the freight transport undertaken by road vehicles registered in these countries.

Reporting countries use their own national surveys for the collection of data, based on returns from road hauliers. The results are microdata referring to vehicles and their linked journeys, providing detailed information on goods transported. At the European level, common [aggregation](#) procedures that might diverge from national practices have been used. Differences might therefore occur between the figures in this publication and national values.

## Country specific notes

**Croatia** : While Croatia had no obligation prior to their accession in 2013, it started to report data from the reference year 2008.

**Malta** : Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 does not apply to Malta, as long as the number of Maltese-registered goods road transport vehicles licensed to engage in international transport does not exceed 400 vehicles.

**Finland** : National and international surveys have been harmonised and follow a common methodology from Q1 2011 onwards, leading to a break in time series in 2011.

**Sweden** : A break in series occurred in 2014 following a change in methodology. On the basis of a specific survey, Sweden corrected the European road freight survey results for trucks participating in the sample which were not in use over the surveyed period.

## Methodological notes

**EU totals** calculated in this publication refer to road freight transport reported by the EU countries, excluding Malta which is exempt from reporting road freight statistics.

### Total international transport

Total international transport includes international transport [loaded](#) , [unloaded](#) , [cross-trade](#) and [cabotage](#) .

### Breakdown by goods groups

Starting with the reference year 2008, [Regulation \(EC\) No 1304/2007](#) establishes [NST 2007](#) as the sole classification for goods carried in road freight transport. For detailed information on the NST 2007 classification, please refer to ' [Classifications](#) ', in Eurostat's web pages about metadata.

### Dangerous goods

[Regulation \(EU\) No 70/2012](#) stipulates the collection of information on different categories of dangerous goods on an obligatory basis. Annex V of the Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 provides the categories to be used. As the carriage of dangerous goods by road represents only a small percentage of total road transport and the data are collected on the basis of sample surveys, the margins of error in any statistics will be substantial. Any figures for the transport of dangerous goods should be treated with caution.

**Type of cargo** is the appearance of the cargo unit on presentation for transportation. The provision of data according to the type of cargo is optional in the legal basis. As not all EU countries provide this optional variable, the EU aggregate is not calculated.

**Tonne-kilometre (tkm)** : Unit of measure of goods transport that represents the transport of one tonne by road over one kilometre. The distance taken into account is the distance actually run. It excludes the distance covered when the goods road vehicle is being transported by another means of transport.

## Other articles

- [All articles on freight transport](#)
- [Road freight transport statistics](#)
- [Road freight transport by journey characteristics](#)
- [Road freight transport by vehicle characteristics](#)
- [Road freight transport statistics - cabotage](#)

## Main tables

- [Transport](#) , see:

Road transport (t\_road)

## Database

- [Transport](#) , see:

Road transport (road)

Road freight transport measurement (road\_go)

## Dedicated section

- [Transport](#)

## Publications

- [Key figures on European transport — 2023 edition](#) - Key figures
- [Eurostat regional yearbook — 2023 edition](#) - Flagship publications
- [Key figures on Europe – 2023 edition](#) - Key figures

## Methodology

- [Road freight transport measurement](#) (ESMS metadata file)
- [Glossary for transport statistics — 5th edition — 2019](#) — Manuals and guidelines
- [Methodologies used in road freight transport surveys in Member States, EFTA and 3 candidate countries — 2023 edition](#) - Manuals and guidelines
- [Road freight transport methodology — Revised edition, August 2017](#) - Manuals and guidelines

## Legislation

- [Regulation \(EC\) No 70/2012](#) on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (recast)
- [Regulation \(EU\) No 1304/2007](#) of 7 November 2007 amending Directive 95/64, Regulation (EC) No 1172/98, Regulations (EC) No 91/2003 and (EC) No 1365/2006 with respect to the establishment of NST 2007 as the unique classification for transported goods in certain transport modes
- [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 202/2010](#) amending Regulation (EC) No 6/2003 concerning the dissemination of statistics on the carriage of goods by road