

**Documentation of statistics for
Maritime Transport over Danish Ports 2015 Quarter 3**

1 Introduction

The purpose of statistics on maritime transport over Danish ports is to describe the volume of and the development in ship traffic to and from Danish ports.

The statistics have been compiled in the present form since 1997. Maritime statistics have been produced since 1834 and published annually from about 1900. In the period from 1991 to 1996, Statistics Denmark compiled only summary statistics on the throughput of ports.

2 Statistical presentation

The most important variables used in the statistics are: Calls at port, type of ship, size of ship, flag state, port of loading/unloading, weight of goods and type of goods and passengers.

The statistics are based on two separate data collections: Maritime traffic on larger Danish ports (quarterly) and Maritime traffic on minor Danish ports (annually). It is supplemented with information on goods on ferries from the data collection on Ferries and Passenger ships (quarterly).

2.1 Data description

The statistics contain information on calls at port, type of ship, size of ship, flag state, port of loading/unloading, weight of goods and type of goods and passengers.

The statistics are based on two separate data collections: *Maritime traffic on larger Danish ports* (quarterly) and *Maritime traffic on minor Danish ports* (annually). It is supplemented with information on goods on ferries from the data collection on *Ferries and Passenger ships* (quarterly).

The larger ports that handles at least 1 mill. tonnes of goods annually report every single port call with detailed information on the vessel, origin or destination port and type of goods. The minor ports reports annual summary information on the number of port calls, tonnes of goods, type of goods and regions. Quarterly statistics therefore only contain information on the major ports while annual statistics includes all ports unless otherwise stated.

Data are published in [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik \(Danish only\)](#) og i [Statbank.dk](#).

The statistics have been compiled in the present form since 1997. Maritime statistics have been produced since 1834 and published annually from about 1900. In the period from 1991 to 1996, Statistics Denmark compiled only summary statistics on the throughput of ports.

2.2 Classification system

Classifications used

- Classification of goods, NST 2007
- Classification of countries, ISO-3136
- Ports classification, UNLOCODE
- Other classifications as defined in EC-legislation

2.3 Sector coverage

Ports.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Ferry: A passenger ship without cabin accommodation for all or any passengers.

Freight vessel: A ship primarily designed to carry goods.

Gross tonnage (GT): Gross tonnage (GT) is a unitless measure of the size of a ship defined by the volume of all enclosed spaces.

Maritime Transport Statistics: Maritime Transport Statistics is comprised by the two statistics *Goods Transport in Danish Ports* and *Ferry Transport*

Merchant ship: Ship designed for the carriage of goods, transport of passengers or specially fitted out for a specific commercial duty. In maritime transport statistics on vessels that carry goods or transport passengers are included. Fishing vessels are not included.

Nationality of registration (flag state): The country authorising the registry of a seagoing vessel (Flag state)

Passenger ship: A ship designed to carry more than 12 paying passengers. Ro-Ro passenger ships are excluded.

Port: A place with facilities for merchant ships to moor and to load and unload cargo or to disembark or embark passengers to and from vessel

Port call: Port call with the objective to load or unload goods or disembark or embark passenger

Ro-Ro unit: Wheeled equipment for carrying goods, e.g. a lorry or trailer.

Ship: A seagoing self-propelled surface-displacement vessel.

TEU - Twenty-foot equivalent Unit: TEU is a standardised measure of the number of containers recalculated to units equivalent to a 20 foot container.

2.5 Statistical unit

The statistical unit is the port.

2.6 Statistical population

Danish sea ports

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

1997 onwards

2.9 Base period

Not applicable in this statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Used measures

- Passengers in thousands
- Goods in thousand metric tonnes
- Containers in TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units)
- Transport performance in million tonnes-kilometres

2.11 Reference period

01-07-2015 - 30-09-2015

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Quarterly and annually.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The Act on Statistics Denmark (Lov om Danmarks Statistik), Section 8, subsection 1, cf. Order no. 599 of 22 June 2000.

Council Directive 2009/42/EC of May 6th, 2009 on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passengers by sea (Recast).

2.14 Cost and burden

The burden of response for 2013 in fixed 2004-prices are estimated at

- 598,000 DKK on *Maritime transport in major Danish ports*
- 53,000 DKK on *Maritime transport in minor Danish ports*

2.15 Comment

Maritime transport statistics have a [theme page](#).

3 Statistical processing

Annual statistics cover all Danish ports handling goods or passengers. Quarterly statistics cover only major ports.

The statistics are collected through a spreadsheet solution via the data collection portal, Virk.dk. Response rate is 100 percent.

Data are validated for the correct use of codes and classifications and for internal consistency within each report. Furthermore the development over time is validated at both micro and macro level.

3.1 Source data

The statistics are based on three sources:

- Monthly reports from major Danish ports (with an annual throughput of at least 1 million tonnes of goods) on each port call of freight vessels or cruise ships, cf. [information for data providers \(in Danish only\)](#)
- Annual reports from minor traffic ports on calls of vessels, cruise passengers and throughput of goods, cf. [information for data providers \(in Danish only\)](#)
- Monthly reports from passenger ships and ferry lines on transported vehicles, passengers and goods, cf. separate documentation of statistics and [information for data providers \(in Danish only\)](#)

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected monthly from major ports and passenger ships and ferry lines and published quarterly.

Data on minor ports are collected annually.

3.3 Data collection

Data on both major and minor ports are provided either as data files or on spreadsheet based on a template defined by Statistics Denmark and is collected through the data collection portal, Virk.dk using digital signature.

Information for data providers are available at Statistics Denmark's website

- [Information for data providers for major ports \(in Danish only\)](#)
- [Information for data providers for minor ports \(in Danish only\)](#)

3.4 Data validation

Collected data are validated for use of correct coding and classification and validated at both micro and macro level for the development compared to previous data.

3.5 Data compilation

The statistics cover all ports with regular goods or passenger transport. No enumeration is therefore necessary. Data are usually complete and imputing is normally not necessary. In rare instances imputing is done in case of incomplete reports. In these cases, it is usually use of wrong codes.

3.6 Adjustment

Adjustments are made in the type of vessel if the reported type is contradictory to the type of goods.

4 Relevance

The statistics are widely used by the ports, news media, ministries and others.

4.1 User Needs

The main users are the European Commission, Danish ministries, business organisations, ports and other enterprises. The statistics are mostly used for monitoring the market and setting up transport policies.

4.2 User Satisfaction

User satisfaction is not monitored systematically and feedback from users is rare.

4.3 Data completeness rate

The published statistics are in accordance with the EC-directive and Eurostat guidelines.

5 Accuracy and reliability

Maritime statistics are based on censuses among all goods handling ports and accuracy is assessed to be quite high.

Revision is minor and without systematic bias.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The statistics are for the most part based on monthly reports on individual port calls in the major ports and for the remaining on annually summary data. On the main variables coverage is 100 percent.

Accuracy on the main variables is assessed to be less than 3 percent, i.e. the true amount of handled goods is within +/- 3 percent interval of the published data.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

Compilation of statistics by flag state, and by country of loading/unloading are only based on reports from the major ports. In 2012 those ports had 83 percent of the goods unloaded, 89 percent of the goods loaded and 76 percent of the port calls of cargo ships in Danish ports.

Occasionally port calls with goods occur on the smallest ports not included at all. It is assessed to be of very modest extent.

There are no sampling errors as the statistics are compiled on the basis of censuses.

Revision is minor and without systematic bias.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The overall quality assessment is high. The coverage is high with 100 percent response rate and very few data revisions.

On the main variables, amount of goods and national transport performance (tonnes-km) the quality is high and fully covered.

To the extent that small ports without regular goods transport occasionally handles goods, the statistics is underestimated. Based on information from partner ports in Denmark, at least some transactions with the smallest ports can be identified and the underestimation is assessed to be less than 0.1 percent of total tonnes handled.

On specific variables accuracy is less due to the ports limited access to information on type of goods, type of vessel and ports of origin and destination.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Preliminary figures are published and revisions occur. Figures are revised 4-8 quarters back in connection to the quarterly disseminations.

Revisions are usually of minor significance.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

Statistics are usually published around 80 days after the end of a quarter. It is always published at the preannounced time.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics are published quarterly and annually.

The time lag for publishing quarterly statistics since 1st quarter 2013

- 2013, 1st quarter: 82 days
- 2013, 2nd quarter: 86 days
- 2013, 3rd quarter: 80 days
- 2013, 4th quarter: 80 days
- 2014, 1st quarter: 80 days
- 2014, 2nd quarter: 80 days
- 2014, 3rd quarter: 80 days
- 2014, 4th quarter: 79 days

Until statistics for 2012 annual statistics were published in *Statistiske Efterretninger*. Afterwards annual statistics are only published in tables in Statbank.dk.

6.2 Punctuality

Since 1st quarter 2013 the statistics has been published without delays compared to the preannounced time of dissemination.

7 Comparability

The statistics are consistent from 2000 and onwards and directly comparable to similar statistics from other EU and EFTA member states.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Eurostat publishes comparable statistics for Europe collected within the EU and EFTA member states.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics for the key variables are fully comparable with the previous statistics on throughput in ports.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

Comparable statistics are not available.

Statistics on *Passenger ships and Ferry lines* are related since it contains passenger transport by sea vessel and goods transport by ferries.

Prior to 1997 the Port Database within the Ministry of Transport contained similar statistics with few deviations due to methodological and classification differences.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Not relevant for these statistics.

8 Accessibility and clarity

Maritime statistics are published quarterly in *Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik* (Statistical News) and data can be found in Statbank.dk.

Annual tables are published in *Statistical Yearbook* and *Statistical 10-year Review*.

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

The quarterly statistics are published in [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik \(in Danish only\)](#).

8.5 Publications

Maritime transport are published together with other transport statistics in [Statistical Yearbook](#) and [Statistical Ten-Year Review](#).

8.6 On-line database

The statistics is available in the online database, Statbank.dk.

8.7 Micro-data access

For the major ports the database contains the reported information per port call. Data are available from 1997.

- For the period 1991-1996, summary annual port data are stored in the database on annual basis.
- From 1997 the reported summary data from minor ports are stored in the database on annual basis.
- From 1992 all reported variables concerning passenger ships and ferries are stored in the database.

Access to micro-data is possible through Statistics Denmark's [Research Services](#).

8.8 Other

Special statistics can be produced within the limits given by the data confidentiality rules.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

Due to the public character of Danish ports, statistics are not generally not confidential.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

At the level of goods and passenger transport by port or ferry route, data are not confidential since the data are considered publically available.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Additional methodology descriptions can be found in Eurostats *Guidelines for Maritime Statistics*.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics are in the division of Short term statistics. The person responsible is Peter Ottosen, tel. +45 39 17 30 25, e-mail: pot@dst.dk

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