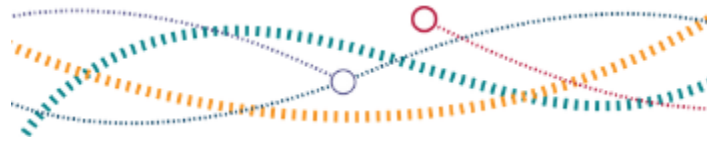


ORR rail statistics



Newsletter

25 February 2021

This is our second newsletter to update our statistics users about changes and improvements we are making over the next few months to the statistics we publish on the [ORR data portal](#). We post this information on our [user engagement page](#), however we'd like to ensure you are kept up to date directly with any changes to statistics you may use.

We hope you find the information useful and welcome any questions or feedback. Please email us at: rail.stats@orr.gov.uk. If you would **not** like to receive this newsletter in future please email us using this [unsubscribe](#) link.

Rail Statistics Management Group – 28 January meeting

The Rail Statistics Management Group (RSMG) is a forum where we discuss our statistics with stakeholders to ensure they continue to meet users' needs and are of good quality. The group also discusses industry research and shares other information and best practice.

The agenda, actions and presentation slides from the recent RSMG meeting are now available on the [RSMG page of the data portal](#). An invite to the next meeting (likely to be in April or May) will be sent out to members soon. If anyone would like to present or join the group please [email us](#).

Rail Fares Index – publication delay

Our rail fares index statistical release is usually published annually in April or May. This release contains information on the annual change in fares applicable from January. Following the Department for Transport's announcement that this year's [rail fares rise will be delayed from January until 1 March 2021](#), this release will be delayed. This is due to fares information not being available until two months later than initially anticipated.

As a result of this delay, as well as the impact of COVID-19 on the revenue weights used in this publication, we are taking advice from other producers of official statistics, our stakeholders and users on our approach to this year's release.

If you have any queries or feedback on this release please [email us](#). Similarly, if you are a user of these statistics and have any comments on your use of these statistics, we would welcome your feedback.

FOI and ad hoc requests – new portal page

There is a new page on the [data portal](#) which includes datasets we have provided in response to Freedom of Information and other ad-hoc data requests which may be useful to other users.

Estimates of Station Usage – National Statistics designation

Following an assessment by the [Office for Statistics Regulation \(OSR\) we achieved National Statistics status](#) for Estimates of Station Usage on 1 December 2020, coinciding with the publication of our [2019-20 statistics](#). Thank you to everyone who provided feedback during the assessment process and we hope you have found the improvements we made to the publication useful. Please email us to give any more feedback so we can try to further improve the statistics for the 2020-21 release later this year.

Publication dates

A reminder that the [publication dates](#) for all our statistics are available for the next 12 months. For some releases only the month has been set so far, however the exact date will always be set at least 4 weeks in advance of publication.

To note that the annual [Rail Emissions statistical release](#) will be published earlier this year, in August, rather than the usual October/November.