ORR rail statistics

Newsletter

1 July 2022

This is our fifth 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.

Upcoming publications

Following the publication over the last two months of our set of quarterly statistical releases covering January to March 2022, we will be publishing over the next few months our set of annual releases, e.g. Occupational health, Train Operating Company Key Statistics, Rail emissions, Rail Safety, Rail infrastructure and assets, Estimates of station usage, and Rail industry finance. The publication dates for these and all our other 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.

Proposal for changes to Rail safety statistics

Following a review of the quality of our Rail safety statistics data tables, we are proposing to make some changes which will be implemented for the next set of annual statistics due out on 29 September. This is to improve the comparability of our statistics across the mainline rail network, London Underground and other non-mainline networks by making the categories consistent across the three sources. Please review the proposed changes to our rail safety statistics and email us your feedback **by 7 July 2022.**

Rail Statistics Management Group – 23 June

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 on 23 June are available on the RSMG page of the data portal. This includes a presentation on our new annual Common safety indicators report which was published on 19 May. If anyone would like to present or join the group please email us.

Data portal table changes

You may have seen over the last year changes to the format of data tables on the portal. This has been done to meet the requirements of The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations (2018). These changes will continue to be rolled out as we publish updated releases.

These changes include:

- The addition of a Cover Sheet tab including definitions, publication dates and contact details
- The addition of a Notes tab providing users with explanatory information related to specific sections of the data tables
- Changes within the data table itself including
  - presentation of time period data (e.g. Q1 = Apr to Jun, Q2 = Jul to Sep, Q3 = Oct to Dec, Q4 = Jan to Mar)
  - presentation of notes e.g. [note 1] and shorthand e.g. [r] for revised data
  - titles updated to include geographical coverage and time periods covered
  - more descriptive column headings

If anyone has any feedback or queries about the table changes please email us.

Video, blog and podcast

We recently launched a short video about how we deliver rail industry official statistics. The short version (one minute) is on Twitter and the longer version (2.5 mins) is on ORR's You Tube channel.

There is also a blog "Britain's Railway in Numbers" with some short animations about some of our statistics which were used on social media.

In case you missed it, we also produced a podcast at the end of last year (23 December 2021), including a guest speaker from the Office for Statistics Regulation.