



**TRANSPORT  
SCOTLAND**  
CÒMHDHAIL ALBA

# Scottish Transport Statistics 2023

## Road Network

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## Introduction

This chapter provides information about public road lengths by local authority, road class, type and speed limit. It also includes statistics on the amount of trunk road constructed/re-surfaced and information on the residual life of the trunk road network.

Unusual year to year changes in the reported road lengths may be due to the gradual introduction of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to calculate road lengths by the data providers - see road network section of the user guide.

## Key Points

- **Scotland has 57,187 km of road network.**
- **Seven per cent is trunk road (1% is motorway).**
- **Scotland has 10.4 km of road per 1,000 people compared to 6.0 km in GB.**

## Main Points

### Road length

There were 57,187 kilometres of public road in Scotland at 31 March 2022. The trunk road network accounted for 7% of the total. Other (non-trunk) A roads represented 13% of the total. Minor roads (B and C roads, and unclassified roads) accounted for the remaining 80% of roads. (*Table 4.1*)

There was little change in the length of the motorway between April 2021 and April 2022. (*Table 4.1*)

Over a quarter of the total trunk road network, and about one-seventh of the Scottish road network, is within the area of the Highland Council. Around 10% of the Scottish road network is within the Aberdeenshire Council area and a further 8% is within the Dumfries and Galloway Council area. These three local authorities account for almost a third of Scotland's road network. (*Table 4.2*)

### Road Maintenance

Overall there was a decrease of 44% in the amount of trunk road that was newly constructed, reconstructed, strengthened or surface dressed in 2022-23 compared to the previous year. (*Table 4.3*)

In 2022-23, 16.4% of the motorway network, 13.6% of the dual carriageway and 13.9% of the single carriageway trunk road network required close monitoring of the state of the road surface. (*Table 4.5 (b)*)

In 2022-23 the National Road Condition Indicator (RCI) showed 27% of the local authority A road network may, following more detailed examination, require some kind of maintenance (see the road network section of the user guide. For the whole of the local authority network (all road categories), about 33% may similarly require some kind of maintenance. (*Table 4.6*)



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