



**TRANSPORT
SCOTLAND**
CÒMHDHAIL ALBA

Scottish Transport Statistics 2021

Transport Finance

Contents

1. Introduction	3
Key points	3
2. Main Points	3
Motorways & Trunk Roads	3
Local Authorities	4
Gross Capital Expenditure	5
Travel Costs.....	5

I. Introduction

1.1 This chapter provides information on finance, such as expenditure on transport within Scottish Ministers' responsibility and on transport controlled by Local Authorities. It shows capital and current expenditure on motorways and trunk roads, Local Authority revenue and capital income and expenditure on roads and transport, government grants for the construction and improvement of harbour facilities, petrol and diesel prices and duties, and average weekly household expenditure on transport.

1.2 Almost all the figures in this chapter are expressed in what are referred to as current, out-turn or cash prices: no table gives constant price (i.e. deflated) figures.

Key points

- **Scottish Government (including Transport Scotland) spent £3,202 million on transport in 2020/21. Local Authorities spent £853 million in 2020/21.**
- **Personal spend on transport and travel accounted for 15% of household spending between 2018 and 2020.**
- **In 2021 petrol prices started at 117.3 pence per litre in January before rising to 145.7 pence in December. Diesel prices also rose in 2021 from 121.7 in January to 149.2 pence by December.**

2. Main Points

Motorways & Trunk Roads

2.1 The total of capital and current expenditure on motorways and trunk roads in 2020-21 was estimated at £583 million, £51 million (8%) less than the 2019/20 figure, with less expenditure on the Forth Replacement Crossing. Total expenditure

on transport within Scottish Ministers' responsibility in 2020-21 was budgeted at £3,202 million, £874 million (38%) more than in the previous year. (*Table 10.1*)

2.2 Expenditure on the management and maintenance of the trunk road network totalled £224m in 2019-20. The expenditure is split £22.8 on capitalised maintenance and £201.4m on routine and winter maintenance, network management and network strengthening. (These figures do not include spending on new construction). (*Table 10.2*)

Local Authorities

2.3 In 2020-21, net revenue expenditure on transport controlled by local authorities was £456 million. In cash terms, this was 20 per cent more than in 2019-20. Road maintenance (£197 million in 2019-20) accounted for 48% of the expenditure. The other main categories of expenditure in 2019-20 were:

- Contributions to passenger transport (excluding concessionary fares) - £124 million;
- Road lighting - £58 million;
- Network and traffic management (excluding school crossing patrols) - £33 million;

In 2020-21, the net costs for parking was £4.5 million, £42 million less than 2019-20. (*Table 10.1*)

2.4 The Local Authorities with the highest net revenue expenditure on roads and transport (excluding loan charges) in 2020-21 were: Glasgow, (£45.2 million), Highland (£36.3 million), Fife (£28.8 million), and South Lanarkshire (£24.7 million). (*Table 10.3*) The table also shows local authorities' figures for other types of expenditure in 2020/21:

- **Road maintenance/Winter maintenance** Glasgow had the highest expenditure on road maintenance (£12.6 million), followed by Highland (£9.4 million). Highland spent the most on winter maintenance (£8.8 million).

- **Contributions to Public Transport** in terms of the total net revenue expenditure on 'local authority' and 'non LA' public transport, Shetland Islands (£14.6 million) made the largest contributions to passenger transport. Edinburgh spent £12.3 million.
- **Road Lighting** Glasgow spent most on road lighting (£10.7 million), followed by Edinburgh (£4.5 million).
- **Parking** Edinburgh had the largest and only net income from parking (£13.2 million).

Gross Capital Expenditure

2.5 Gross capital account expenditure by councils and boards on local authority roads and transport totalled £397 million in 2020-21, 16% less than the previous year. Of this total £225 million was spent on roads and £91 million on other public transport. (*Table 10.5*)

2.6 The local authorities with the highest gross capital account expenditure on roads and transport in 2019-20 were: Edinburgh(98.2 million), South Lanarkshire (£28.2 million) and Glasgow (£24.5 million). South Lanarkshire spent the most on roads (£22.8 million) followed by Glasgow (£17.3 million). (*Table 10.5*)

2.7 The **National Concessionary Travel** (NCT) bus scheme was introduced in April 2006 and is administered by Transport Scotland for Scotland as a whole. Previously local authorities administered their own schemes, therefore local expenditure on concessionary travel (and therefore overall totals of spend) shown in Table 10.3 will be greatly reduced from previous years, now only covering rail, subway, ferry and some taxi schemes. Further statistics on concessionary travel can be found in table 11.29.

Travel Costs

2.8 Between 2020 and 2021 the average price of unleaded petrol increased by 17.3 pence, and diesel increased by 15.8 pence per litre in Great Britain. In 2021,

petrol prices increased by 28.4 pence between January and December and diesel prices increased by 27.5 pence over the same period. Tax (duty plus VAT) represented 61% of the price for unleaded petrol and 59% of the price for diesel in Great Britain in 2021, lower than they were in 2010. (*Table 10.6*)

2.9 The UK Retail Prices Index (RPI) rose by 30% between 2011 and 2021. Most of the Transport components of the RPI increased more rapidly than this, and therefore rose in real terms. In cash terms, the costs of the maintenance of motor vehicles increased by 29%, and there was a 74% rise in the cost of vehicle tax and insurance. The cost of purchasing a motor vehicle also rose by 7.2% but the cost of petrol and oil fell by 1.9% in cash terms over the last ten years. As a result, motoring expenditure index fell by 10%, lower than the 30% increase in the RPI and therefore a real term fall between 2011 and 2021. Over the same period, fares and other travel costs rose by 47% in cash terms - rail fares by 34% and bus and coach fares by 68%, increases of 4% and 39% above general inflation. (*Table 10.7*)

2.10 Average weekly household expenditure in Scotland on transport and vehicles in 2018-20 was £75.30, representing 14.7% of total household expenditure. On average, £27.00 was spent on the purchase of vehicles, £28.50 on the operation of personal transport (including £19.70 on petrol, diesel and other motor oils) and £19.70 on transport services (such as bus and train fares). (*Table 10.8*)



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