ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics
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agenda item 3 (c))

INTERSECRETARIAT WORKING GROUP ON
TRANSPORT STATISTICS (IWG)

Glossary of Transport Statistics

Transmitted by the Eurostat

### I.02. Metro

**IWG**

An electric railway for the transport of passengers with the capacity for a heavy volume of traffic and characterised by exclusive rights-of-way, multi-car trains, high speed and rapid acceleration, sophisticated signalling to allow a high frequency of trains, and high platform load. Metros are also characterised by frequent stations, normally meaning a distance of 700 - 1200 m between the stations.

“High speed” refers to the comparison with trams and light rail, and means here approximately 30-40 km/h on shorter distances, 40-70 km/h on longer distances. Also known as “subway”, “metropolitan railway” or “underground”.

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### I.03. Light Rail

**IWG**

A railway for the transport of passengers that often uses electrically powered rail-borne cars operating singly or in short trains on fixed duo-rail lines. Stations/stops generally have a distance between them of less than 1200 m.

In comparison to metros, light rail is more lightly constructed, is designed for lower traffic volumes and usually travels at lower speeds. It is sometimes difficult to make a precise distinction between light rail and trams; trams are generally not separated from road traffic, whereas light rail may be separated from other systems.

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### 01. Railway Body

**Following the Working Group on Rail Statistics 10/11.10.02**

Any private or public body acting mainly as a railway undertaking, an infrastructure manager or as an integrated company.

A body whose main business is not related to railways should be included if it has a railway market share that is not marginal. Only the activities related to railways should be reported.

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### III.02. Railway undertaking

**Following the Rail Regulation and the Working Group on Rail Statistics 10/11.10.02**

Any public or private undertaking which provides services for the transport of goods and/or passengers by rail.

Included are all undertakings that dispose of/provide traction. Excluded are railway undertakings which operate entirely or mainly within industrial and similar installations, including harbours, and railways undertakings which mainly provide local tourist services, such as preserved historical steam railways. Sometimes the term railway operator is used.

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### V.05 Rail Transit

**Following the Rail Regulation and the Working Group on Rail Statistics 10/11.10.02**

Railway transport through the reporting country between two places (a
place of loading/embarkation and a place of unloading/disembarkation outside the reporting country.

Wagons loaded/unloaded at the frontier of that country onto/from another mode of transport are excluded.