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## Rail's transformation in numbers

Dataset on rail industry finances, performance and investment since 1997-98

December 2016

## Highlights

- Sustained rise in passenger journeys and freight carried
- Train companies making record contributions to government industry income covers day-to-day costs and supports investment
- Taxpayers paying smaller share of rail costs and customers a larger share - the result of policy of successive governments
- Safety, satisfaction, number of services and fleet size have improved significantly
- Delay incidents down but more congested network means worse impact on customers
- Government spending funds extra capital expenditure to boost capacity and improve services


## Rail finances today - a snapshot

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- The £10.5bn of revenue generated by the rail industry now more than covers the day-to-day running costs of the railway (£10.3bn)

- Train operating companies in 2015-16 paid central government a net total of $£ 0.8 \mathrm{bn}$, whereas in 2002-03 they received £1.4bn from central government in real terms.
- Grant to Network Rail peaked in 2006-07 (£4.3bn) but in 2015-16 was under £4bn

- Operating margins as a proportion of revenue are lower than when franchising began
- In every year since 1997-98, at least 95p from every pound generated by train operators has gone towards running and improving the railway

TOC operating margins


- From 2011-2015:
- Government funding to TOCs decreased by £1.1 bn (24\%), equivalent to a $37 \%$ drop in government funding per passenger journey;
- Passenger fare income increased by £1.2 bn (17\%), largely due to the $22 \%$ increase in passenger journeys (to 1,654 million journeys). Over the period, the average fare per journey fell by $4 \%$.

Passenger Income, Industry Expenditure and Government Funding per Passenger Kilometre


- Passenger share of total rail industry income has increased from 57\% in 2010-11 to $71 \%$ in 2014-15
- In 2010-11, passengers contributed £6.6bn compared to £9.6bn in 2014-15. Over the same period the average price paid per journey in real terms changed from $£ 5.60$ to £5.38

Passenger income as a share of rail industry income


## A vital and growing public service

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- Passenger numbers have doubled since 1997-98, the first full year of rail franchising
- Average annual journey growth has been $3.9 \%$, compared to $0.6 \%$ in the $18 y r s$ prior
- Rail journeys per head of population have increased by $79 \%$


| Passenger Journey Growth |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Period | CAGR ${ }^{1}$ |
| 64 years to 2015-16 | $0.78 \%$ |
| $1978-79$ to $1996-97$ | $0.57 \%$ |
| $1997-98$ to 2015-16 | $3.92 \%$ |
| ${ }^{1}$ Compound Annual Growth Rate |  |
| Rail journeys per head of population |  |
| Year | Annual journeys per capita |
| $1981-82$ |  |
| $1997-98$ | 13.12 |
| $2015-16$ |  |

[^0]- UK passenger journey growth since 1997-98 has outstripped France, Germany and Spain

Passenger journey growth


[^1]- Since 1997-98, journey growth has been more than double GDP growth

Rail journey and GDP growth


[^2]- Since 1997, National Rail has increased its modal share of all travel by $3.3 \%$, while domestic air travel has remained broadly flat and road travel has fallen by 4.0\%
- Passenger KMs by road have increased by 19 bn since 1997 to 704 bn passenger KMs with National Rail increasing by 28 bn to 63 bn

Change in Transport modal share since 1997


- Growth in UK rail's share of passenger transport has far outstripped other European countries
- Spain, Germany and France have all seen around 1 percentage point increase in rail's modal share since 1997 whereas UK rail's share has increased by 3.6 percentage points

European passenger transport modal share between 1997 and
2014

- Train Bus - Car

- National Rail as the chosen mode of transport to work has increased by $61 \%$ since 2002, compared to a $7 \%$ increase in car commuting a $47 \%$ increase in other types of rail and an overall increase of $10 \%$


[^3]- Journey growth is not just due to increased demand from commuters - since 1997-98 total rail journeys in London and the South East have increased by more than rail commuting into Central London
- Rail journeys have also increased faster than journeys on the London Underground

Growth in rail journeys versus growth in commuter numbers
—Total rail commuters into Central London ——otal LSE rail journeys


| Journey growth - Rail versus London Underground |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 1997-98 to 2015-16 | Journey growth |
| London Underground | $62.1 \%$ |
| London and South East rail | $105.4 \%$ |

Source: ORR data portal, LUL Statutory Accounts

- Before 1997-98, rail freight was in steady decline (down 59\% between 1953 and 1996-97)
- It has since stabilised with growth in 13 of the 19 years since then
- A sharp fall in coal moved (from 6.5 to 2.3 bn tonne kilometres) almost single-handedly drove the decline between 2014-15 and 2015-16

Freight carried


- Long-term increase in domestic intermodal freight moved by rail
- Domestic intermodal carried has increased by 82\% since 1998-99

Freight Carried by Commodity


[^4]- UK freight mode share growth has exceeded France and Spain, and is comparable to Germany which has a favourable regulatory environment (where lorries are not permitted on roads on Sundays)

Rail freight modal share growth


Source: Eurostat database from 2006, UIC Rail ISA pre 2006

- Already a relatively green mode of transport, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ emissions generated per kilometre by passenger operators have decreased by $21 \%$ since 2005-06.

Traction energy - $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ emissions per km


## A railway successful for customers

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- Safety has continued to improve. The UK continues to have the safest railway in Europe for customers and the fewest train accidents or workforce on-board fatalities

UK train accidents with passenger or workforce on-board
fatalities since 1965-66
-Train accidents with passenger and workforce fatalities - 10 year moving average


[^5]European comparison - workforce and passenger


Source: RSSB/Eurostat. The data covers the five-year period 2009-2013. Figures are normalised by train kilometres. Only accidents relating to railway vehicles in motion are included. The chart covers 25 members of the EU; the other two member states, Malta and Cyprus, no longer have railways

- Average earnings (+1.9\%) have grown faster in real terms than the average price paid per journey (-3.2\%) since 1999-2000
- The average price paid per journey in real terms was $£ 5.46$ in 2015-16
- In contrast, the average price paid per journey on a Season ticket has fallen in real terms by $12.8 \%$ since 1999-2000 and has been relatively flat since 2003-04

Average price per journey vs average earnings in real terms


- The average price paid per passenger mile has increased by $3.0 \%$ in real terms since 2010-11
- Prices paid for Anytime fares have increased over this period (by 2.7\%), compared to $1.8 \%, 5.7 \%$ and $1.5 \%$ increases for Seasons, Off-Peak and Advance respectively as operators price tickets to encourage people to travel on cheaper Advance fares

Price paid per mile, 2015-16 prices


- Since 1998 average rail journey price has fallen marginally in real terms by $0.6 \%$, whereas water prices increased by $17.3 \%$, electricity prices are up $42.5 \%$ and gas prices have doubled

- Nearly half of all passenger revenue now comes from discounted tickets (Off-Peak, Super Off-Peak and Advance), up from 39\% ten years ago, whilst the proportion of journeys on discounted tickets has also increased.

Journeys on regular and discounted fares

- Regular - Discounted


[^6]Revenue from regular and discounted fares


[^7]- Since surveys began in 1999 customer satisfaction has increased from $76 \%$ to $80 \%$
- The number of customers rating their journey as "satisfied" or "good" is now 1,350 million, up from 708m in 1999, an increase of $91 \%$


## Customers' Overall Satisfaction

- \% satisfied or good' ■ \% neither nor' ■ \% dissatisfied or poor'


| Annual-equivalent journeys in millions rated as <br> "Good" or "Satisfied" |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $1999-2000$ | 2015-16 | Difference |
| Journeys (m) | 708 | 1,350 | 642 |

Source: ORR data portal and National Rail Passenger Survey

[^8]- Customers in the UK score rail services higher on a number of measures than do those in France, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands
- Overall, rail customers in the UK were more satisfied than those of any other major European railway

Customers' Satisfaction vs European Peers on Key Metrics


# A railway successful for taxpayers 

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- In 1997-98, the railway ran at a £2bn a year loss in terms of its day-to-day costs, in 2014-15 it more than covered those costs

Running Costs vs Industry Generated Revenue
■ Industry-generated revenue ■ Day-to-day industry running costs


- Net payments from Train Operating Companies to government increased to $£ 809$ million in real terms, while government funding as a share of total rail industry income fell to $26 \%$ in 2014-15

TOC payments to Government Vs Government funding
TOC payments to Government (2015-16 prices)
—Government funding share of rail industry income


- Government investment in the railway was $£ 3.5 \mathrm{bn}$ in 2014-15
- Taken across GB as a whole, train operations make a net contribution to government totalling 5\% of industry income

The contribution of government funding to industry income


[^9]- Since 1997-98, passenger train company costs per passenger mile have declined by $26 \%$ in real terms

TOC operating costs per passenger miles


- Network Rail operating costs have fallen by $46 \%$ since 2003-04
- This reduction is primarily due to the introduction of new technology, innovation and insourcing some key activities

- Freight efficiency has improved as longer and heavier freight trains are now in operation. The number of trains has fallen by $41 \%$ since 2002-03 but tonnes per freight train have increased by 67\%

Productivity of freight services


## A capacity crunch

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- In 2015-16, $89.1 \%$ of train services (equivalent to 1.5 bn customers) arrived on time. This equates to 742 million more punctual journeys than in 1997-98
- Punctuality on long distance and regional \& Scottish services is static or improving slightly compared to 2012-13 but in London \& South East, where the railway is most congested, it is declining


## Public Performance Measure by Operating Sector

——ong Distance -London \& South East
—Regional \& Scot _ All Franchised Operators


- The number of planned train services has increased by $29 \%$ since 1997-98
- 1.4 million more trains ran in 2015-16 compared to 1997-98, over 3,800 extra trains per day
- Until 2011-12 extra services were accommodated on the railway with increasing punctuality

- Individual incidents of delay fell by $40 \%$ between 2006-07 and 2014-15
- However, the impact of each delay has grown as the railway is more congested Number of Incidents and Delay Minutes per Incident

- Compared to key commuter stations in Italy, Germany, France and Switzerland, there are typically more trains departing from key London commuter termini in the peak and the platforms are used more intensively


[^10]- Britain's busiest stretch of railway is used more intensively (trains per hour) than comparable European railways, including purpose built high speed railways

Number of passenger trains per hour by route


Source: GB working timetable, www.bahn.de and Thomas Cook European timetable, summer 2014. Does not include
freight traffic.
Note that routes selected are only high speed services with speed above 140kph.

- Delay minutes suffered by freight companies have reduced by $39.5 \%$ since 2004-05. Similarly, delay caused by freight companies has reduced by $43.4 \%$



## Investing for the future

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- Investment has already enabled a $29 \%$ increase in services since 1997-98
- Frequency of services on many key long distance routes has doubled

|  |  | 1997-98 | 2015-16 | \% change |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | lanned <br> year (m) <br> Rail | 5.69 | 7.34 | 29\% |  |  |
|  |  | s per day |  | Off-pe | hourly freq | ency |
| Year | 1994 | 2014 | \% Change | 1994 | 2014 | \% Change |
| Manchester to London | 17 | 47 | 176\% | 1 | 3 | 200\% |
| Leeds to Edinburgh | 2 | 15 | 650\% | 0 | 1 | n/a |
| London to Norwich | 19 | 36 | 89\% | 1 | 2 | 100\% |
| Leeds to London (1) | 17 | 32 | 88\% | 1 | 2 | 100\% |
| London to Sheffield | 15 | 31 | 107\% | 1 | 2 | 100\% |
| Bristol to London (2) | 23 | 33 | 43\% | 1 | 2 | 100\% |
| Glasgow Queen Street to Edinburgh (3) | 37 | 62 | 68\% | 2 | 4 | 100\% |
| Leeds to Huddersfield to Manchester ( | 48 | 80 | 67\% | 3 | 5 | 67\% |
| Cardiff to London | 22 | 29 | 32\% | 1 | 2 | 100\% |

Source: Network Rail
(1) Virgin East Coast only; excludes East Midlands Trains
(2) Bristol Temple Meads only ; excludes Bristol Parkway
(3) Express services via Falkirk only; excludes other routes
(4) Includes services to Manchester Victoria

- Compared to 1996-97 there are 2,500 more carriages on the railway, a $25 \%$ rise
- The average age of rolling stock will decrease, and the fleet size will increase, with over 5,500 new vehicles due to be delivered by 2020

| Change in total fleet size | 1996-97 | 2015-16 | Growth |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Total vehicles in passenger use | 10,400 | 12,968 | $25 \%$ |  |

Average Rolling Stock Age


- The cost of running the railway has fallen by $29 \%$ since 2003-04
- This has supported a $225 \%$ increase in investment by governments on enhancements over the same period


Source: Network Rail Regulatory Accounts

Network Rail renewal and enhancement expenditure (2015-16


Note: * Network Rail funded enhancements only Source: Network Rail Regulatory Accounts

- In the early 2000s, most of government's funding was to address the maintenance backlog
- Since 2006-07, the majority of government funding has been used to renew and enhance the network

Government funding per passenger journey


- Private investment in rail has increased $41.6 \%$ since 2007-08 driven by the increased investment in rolling stock, up $55.3 \%$ to $£ 622 \mathrm{~m}$ in 2015-16

Private investment in the rail industry


## Methodology

- All data is the most recent data available at the time of compiling
- Where possible, data is from 1997-98 as this was the first full financial year after all franchises had been let
- Earliest data available from the most reliable data sources presented whenever data from 1997-98 is not available
- RPI has been used where figures are adjusted for inflation and set at 2015-16 prices


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[^0]:    Source: ORR data portal

[^1]:    Source: Eurostat database from 2006, UIC Rail ISA pre 2006

[^2]:    Source: ORR data portal and Cebr Economic Forecast

[^3]:    Source: Department for Transport Statistics and ORR data portal. (N.B. Oldest available data is 2002)

[^4]:    Source: ORR data portal

[^5]:    Source: ORR data portal

[^6]:    Source: LENNON data

[^7]:    Source: LENNON data

[^8]:    
    

[^9]:    Source: ORR "GB rail industry financial information 2014-15"

[^10]:    Source: www.bahn.de and www.realtimes.com

