

11 February 2022

**Passenger Transport Statistics (PT)**  
December 2021. Provisional data

**The number of passengers using public transport increases by 31.0% in December, as compared with the same month of 2020**

**The annual rate for city transport increases by 30.7% and for inter-city transport by 36.4%**

**In 2021 the number of passengers using public transport increases by 25.4%**

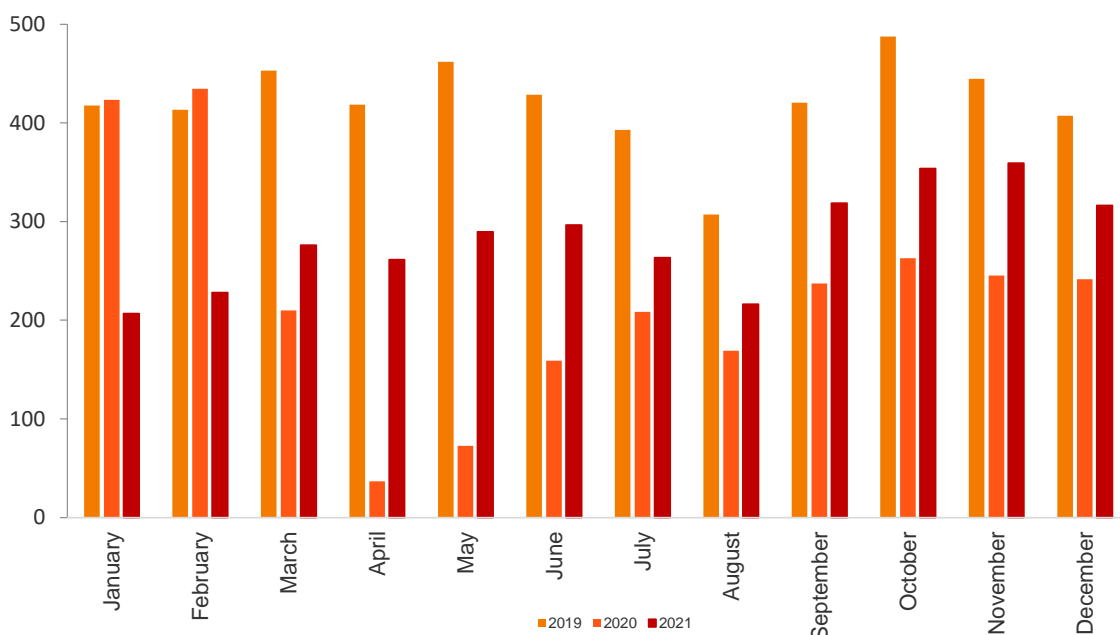
**Evolution of passenger transport**

More than 316.2 million passengers used public transport in December, 31.0% more than in the same month of 2020.

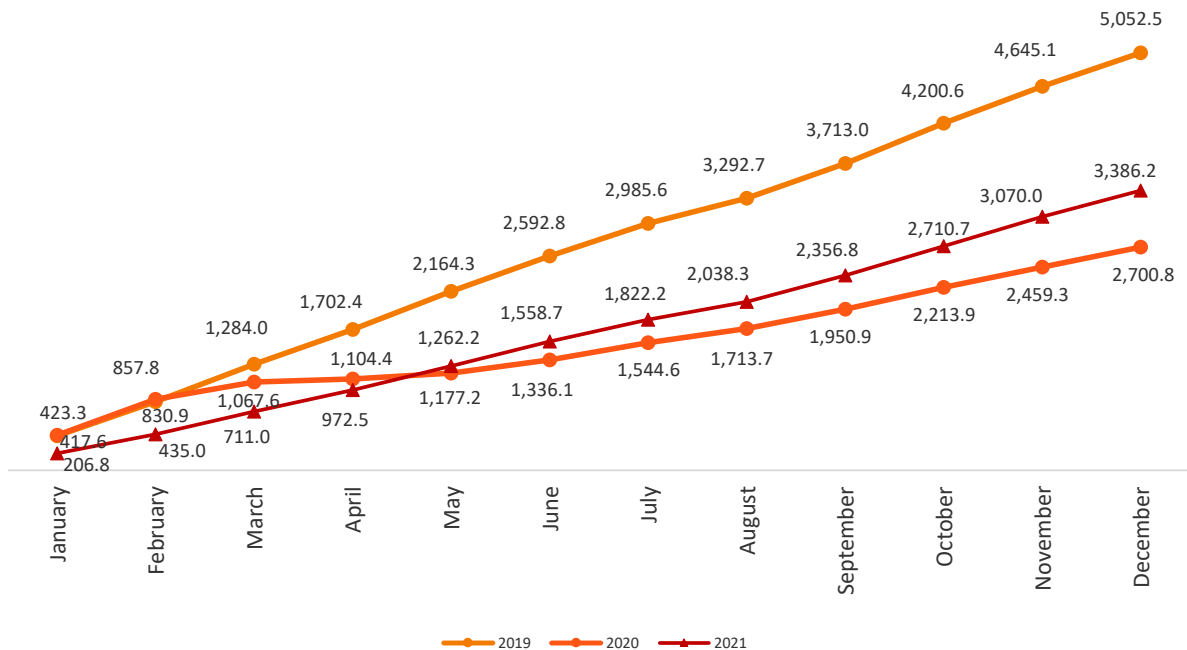
The annual rate for city transport increases by 30.7% and for inter-city transport 36.4%. Within the latter, it is worth noting the 141.9% rise in the air transport.

**Monthly passengers. Comparative 2019-2021.**

Millions.



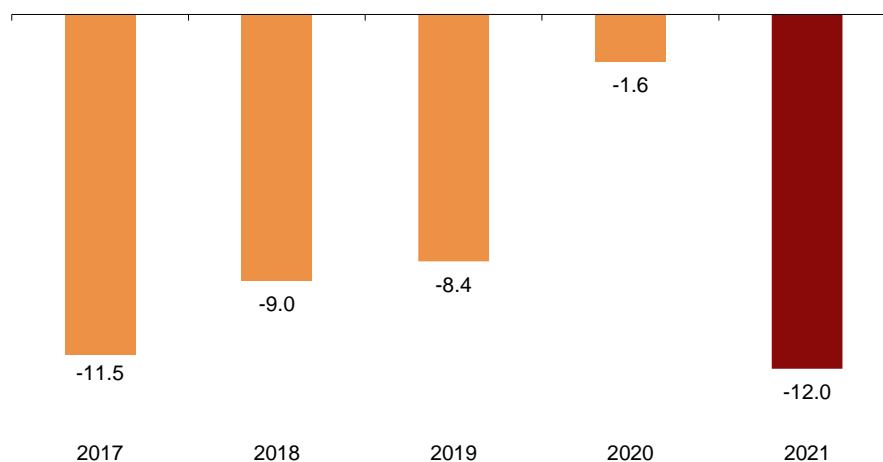
**Cumulative passengers. Comparative 2019-2021.**  
Millions.



**Evolution of the monthly rate**

The variation rate of the number of public transport passengers in December as compared with November was -12.0%. In order to contribute to the analysis and interpretation of data, the evolution of the monthly rate of public transport passengers in recent years is shown in the following chart.

**Evolution of the monthly rate of number of public passengers transport**  
**Month-on-month rate of December as compared with November**



## City transport

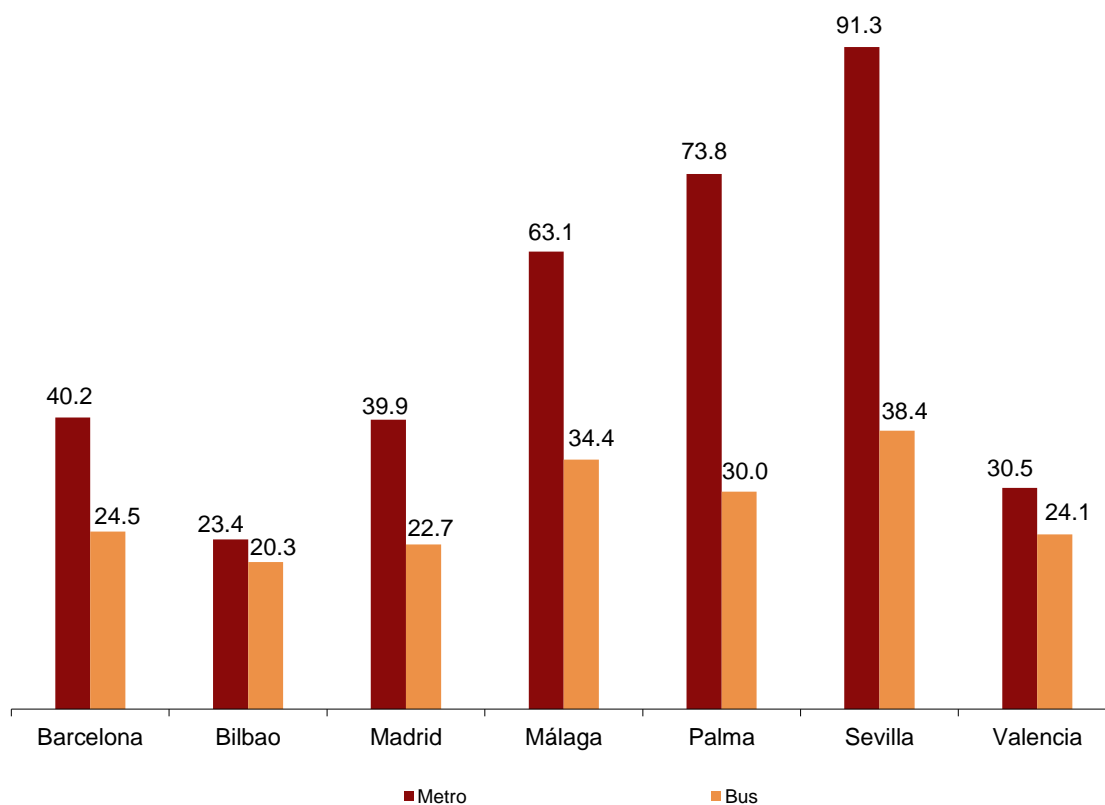
City transport was used by more than 197.0 million passengers in December, 30.7% more than in the same month of 2020.

Metro transport increased by 38.8% in annual rate. Sevilla's metro registered the highest increase (91.3%) and Bilbao's metro the lowest (23.4%).

Among the cities with metro, the highest increase in bus transport was registered in Sevilla (38.4%) and the lowest in Bilbao (20.3%)

### City transport passengers in cities with metro. December 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage



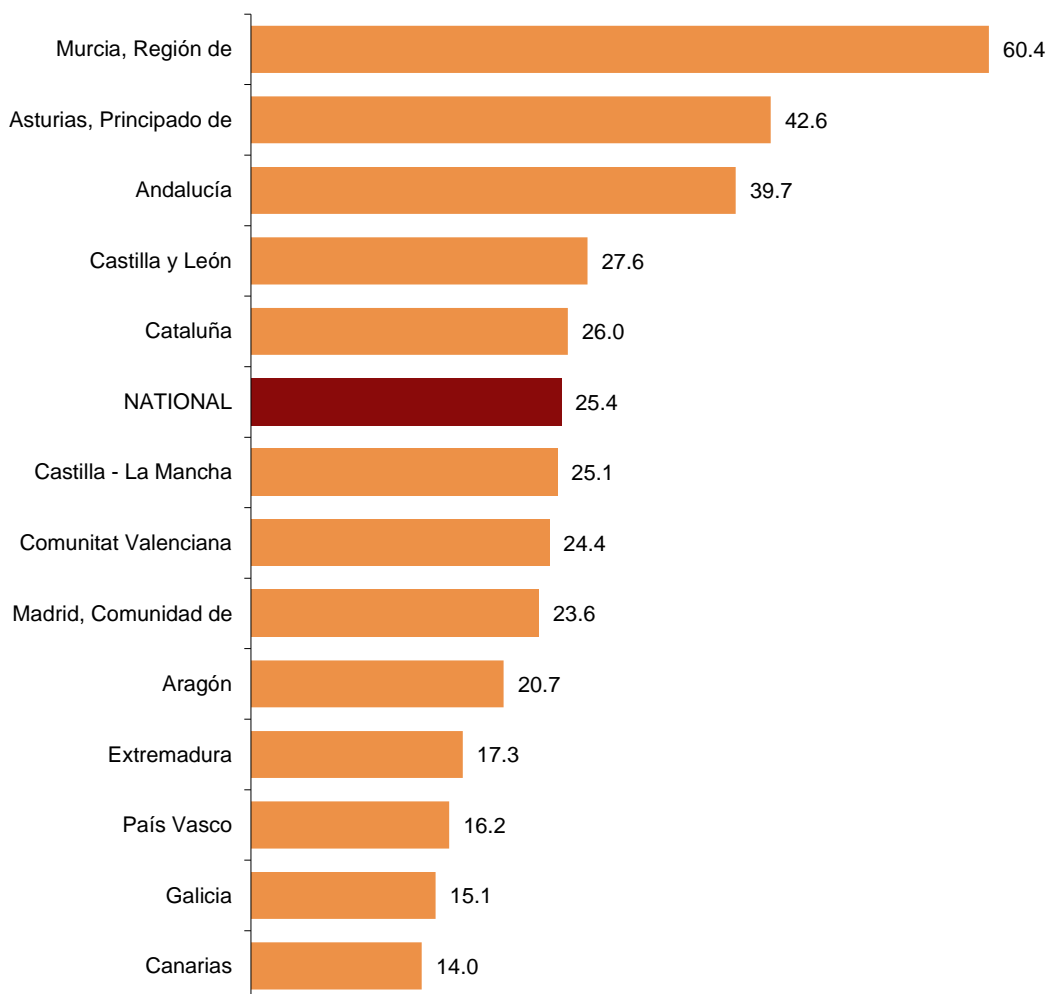
City transport by bus increased by 25.4% in December, as compared with the same month of 2020.

All the Autonomous Communities showed positive annual rates. The highest increases were showed in Región de Murcia (60.4%), Principado de Asturias (42.6%) and Andalucía (39.7%).

In turn, Canarias (14.0%), Galicia (15.1%) and País Vasco (16.2%) showed the lowest increases in bus transport.

### City transport by bus<sup>1</sup>. December 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage



<sup>1</sup> In order to maintain statistical secrecy, data of Autonomous Communities of Illes Balears, Cantabria, Comunidad Foral de Navarra and La Rioja, and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla are not separately published.

## Inter-city transport

More than 88.7 million passengers used inter-city transport in December, representing a 36.4% increase as compared with the same month of 2020.

By mode of transport, the air transport increased by 141.9%, the maritime transport by 96.0%, the rail transport by 36.8% and the bus transport by 32.1%.

Commuter transport increased by 26.4% by bus and by rail transport by 30.8%. Regional transport increased by 46.4% by bus and by 84.5% by rail transport.

Finally, long distance transport increased by 125.5% by bus and by 182.2% by rail transport. Within the latter, AVE (high speed railway) increased by 204.7%.

## Inter-city transport by mode of transport and distance. December 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Annual rate %
<b>Bus</b>	45,780	32.1
Local	32,870	26.4
Regional	12,161	46.4
Long-distance	749	125.5
<b>Rail <sup>1</sup></b>	39,634	36.8
Local	35,482	30.8
Regional	1,990	84.5
Long-distance	2,162	182.2
AVE train	1,455	204.7
Rest of long-distance rail	707	145.0
<b>Air (domestic)</b>	2,644	141.9
Mainland Spain	940	181.3
Mainland-Rest of territory	1,339	170.8
Inter-island	366	38.2
<b>Maritime (cabotage)</b>	658	96.0

<sup>1</sup> Local rail includes RENFE and all autonomic rail operators and regional and long-distance rail include only RENFE

## Special and unscheduled transport

More than 30.4 million passengers used special and unscheduled transport in December, indicating an increase of 18.6% in annual rate.

The number of special transport passengers increased by 2.2%, reaching more than 23.4 million users. Within this, school transport increased by 2.9%, whereas work transport decreased by 0.1%.

Finally, unscheduled transport increased by 158.3% as compared with the same month of 2020, with more than 6.9 million passengers.

## Results for the whole of the year 2021

In the whole of 2021, the number of passengers that used public transport exceeded 3,386.2 million, which represents an increase of 25.4% compared to 2020, but it is 33.0% lower than in 2019.

City transport increase by 23.8% and inter-city transport did so by 24.1%.

Within urban transport, bus transport increase by 22.4% and metro transport by 25.8%.

The number of passengers using inter-city air transport increase by 54.3%, maritime transport by 36.5%, bus by 23.8% and railway by 22.8%.

Special and unscheduled transport increase by 39.5% in 2021. Unscheduled transport increase by 42.7%, and special transport by 38.7%.

### Passenger transport. Year 2021.

	Passengers transported (thousands)	% Annual rate Year 2021
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,386,217</b>	<b>25.4</b>
City transport	2,082,424	23.8
Metro	846,012	25.8
City bus	1,236,412	22.4
Inter-city transport	939,666	24.1
Road	496,099.0	23.8
Local	360,351	22.4
Regional	128,340	27.4
Long-distance	7,408	28.6
Rail	409,821.9	22.8
Local rail	371,062	20.8
Regional rail	19,906	35.0
Long-distance rail	18,854	58.6
AVE train	12,282	61.5
Rest of long-distance rail	6,572	53.4
Air (domestic)	26,084.7	54.3
Mainland Spain	8,453	53.5
Mainland-Rest of territory	13,664	63.4
Inter-island	3,968	30.4
Maritime (cabotage)	7,660	36.5
Special and unscheduled transport	364,128	39.5
Special	293,201	38.7
Unscheduled	70,927	42.7

## Revisions and data update

On the press release day, INE has updated PT data for the same month of the previous year. Results are available at INEBase.

## Methodological note

The purpose of the Passenger Transport Statistics (PT) is to provide monthly information regarding the number of passengers transported by city transport (bus and metropolitan), inter-city transport (road, rail, air and sea) and special and unscheduled bus transport.

Road transport is researched through a simple survey. For rail transport, the number of passengers is calculated using the information provided by the railway operators (RENFE and other autonomous companies). The information for air transport is provided by Civil Aviation, and for sea transport, the number of passengers disembarked is compiled using information from State Ports.

**Survey Type:** ongoing monthly.

**Population scope:** companies involved in passenger transport irrespective of their main activity.

**Geographical scope:** the whole country.

**Reference period of the results:** month.

**Reference period of the information:** month.

**Sample size:** Approximately 1,500 companies.

**Type of sampling:** stratified random sampling of companies, by Autonomous Communities, number of employees and type of transport.

**Collection method:** fill in a questionnaire by respondent using one of the following methods: internet (IRIA system), email, fax, telephone or post.

Further information is available in the methodology:

[http://www.ine.es/dynqs/INEbase/en/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica\\_C&cid=1254736176906&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576820](http://www.ine.es/dynqs/INEbase/en/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176906&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576820)

And in the standardized methodological report:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30163>

INE's statistics are produced according to the European Statistics Code of Practice, that underlies the policy and strategy of the institution quality. For further information, take a look at the section [Quality at INE and Code of Practice](#) at INE Website

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For further information see **INEbase** – [www.ine.es/en](http://www.ine.es/en) Twitter: **@es\_ine**

All press releases at: [www.ine.es/prensa/prensa.htm](http://www.ine.es/prensa/prensa.htm)

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## Passenger Transport Statistics

December 2021

Provisional data

### 1. Passenger transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>BY TYPE OF TRANSPORT</b>	<b>316,227</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>25.4</b>
City transport	197,079	30.7	23.8
Inter-city transport	88,717	36.4	24.1
Special and unscheduled transport	30,432	18.6	39.5

### 2. City transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>CITY TRANSPORT</b>	<b>197,079</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>23.8</b>
Metro	83,030	38.8	25.8
Bus <sup>1</sup>	114,049	25.4	22.4

<sup>1</sup> Including trams and funiculars



## 2.1 City transport in major cities with Metro

		Passengers transported (thousands)	% variation	
			Annual	Year-to-date average
Barcelona	City bus	13,883	24.5	27.7
	Metro	27,288	40.2	27.7
Bilbao	City bus	2,570	20.3	25.2
	Metro	6,323	23.4	19.3
Madrid	City bus	27,690	22.7	22.8
	Metro	43,288	39.9	26.4
Málaga	City bus	2,900	34.4	18.1
	Metro	496	63.1	27.5
Palma	City bus	2,212	30.0	22.6
	Metro	80	73.8	45.4
Sevilla	City bus	5,368	38.4	20.2
	Metro	1,235	91.3	33.9
Valencia	City bus	5,681	24.1	12.7
	Metro	4,319	30.5	15.8

## 2.2 Urban transport by bus by Autonomous Cities and Communities

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>114,049</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Andalucía	14,562	39.7	21.9
Aragón	8,046	20.7	22.9
Asturias, Principado de	2,181	42.6	22.9
Balears, Illes	.	.	.
Canarias	4,516	14.0	20.5
Cantabria	.	.	.
Castilla y León	4,201	27.6	21.7
Castilla - La Mancha	1,223	25.1	18.2
Cataluña	19,693	26.0	28.1
Comunitat Valenciana	9,075	24.4	15.1
Extremadura	645	17.3	19.0
Galicia	3,720	15.1	16.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	31,875	23.6	22.9
Murcia, Región de	1,329	60.4	24.8
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	.	.	.
País Vasco	5,901	16.2	19.7
Rioja, La	.	.	.
Ceuta	.	.	.
Melilla	.	.	.

(.) Data not available due to statistical secrecy.

### 3. Inter-city transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>INTER-CITY TRANSPORT</b>	<b>88,717</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>24.1</b>
Bus	45,780	32.1	23.8
Local	32,870	26.4	22.4
Regional	12,161	46.4	27.4
Long-distance	749	125.5	28.6
Rail <sup>1</sup>	39,634	36.8	22.8
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Maritime (cabotage)	658	96.0	36.5

<sup>1</sup> Local rail includes RENFE and all autonomic rail operators and regional and long-distance rail include only RENFE

### 4. Special and unscheduled transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>SPECIAL AND UNSCHEDULED TRANSPORT</b>	<b>30,432</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>39.5</b>
Special	23,470	2.2	38.7
School	17,767	2.9	50.1
Work	5,703	-0.1	13.7
Unscheduled	6,962	158.3	42.7