2013-14 Quarter 3 Statistical Release

Passenger Rail Usage

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Timetabled train kilometres (TTKM), passenger kilometres, passenger journeys and passenger revenue

2013 – 14 Quarter 3 (1 October to 31 December 2013)
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Contents

Introduction

This release contains information on passenger rail usage in Great Britain covering the period from 2002-03 with the latest data in this release referring to 2013-14 Quarter 3 (1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013). The data covered within the release are:

- Timetabled Train Kilometres (TTKM) – the number of train kilometres each train operator would achieve if they operated 100% of their timetable;
- Passenger Kilometres - the number of kilometres travelled by passengers on the network;
- Passenger Journeys[1] - the number of passenger journeys made on the network; and
- Passenger Revenue - all ticket revenue and miscellaneous charges associated with passenger travel on national railways, but not including government support or grants.

Measures of rail usage are key indicators of the levels of rail use in Great Britain. They show the number of passengers using the network and journeys made on it, providing an indication of the levels of demand for rail travel. This can help in both short-term and long-term planning for the industry and wider stakeholders, both at a National level and within the rail sectors[2].

Passenger kilometres and passenger journeys data are linked, as the number of journeys made by a passenger impacts the number of kilometres travelled. For example, if the number of passenger journeys increases, you would expect to see an increase in the number of passenger kilometres travelled.

Passenger revenue data provides an insight into revenue levels within the industry as well as the levels of revenue generated through each ticket type, which can highlight changes in ticket purchasing trends.

An increase in passenger revenue is generally a direct consequence of increased passenger journeys. The percentage change in passenger revenue can often outstrip the equivalent passenger journeys and passenger kilometres measures as a result of the fare increases usually announced in January each year.

All the data contained within this release are sourced from the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC), the rail industry's ticketing and revenue database (LENNON) and the train operating companies (TOCs). For more detail on data collection, the methodology used to calculate the data within this release

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[1] A journey is based on travel from an origin station to a destination station. A train journey may include one or more changes of train, and one journey is generated for each train used.

[2] The rail network is divided into 3 sectors – London and South East, Long distance and Regional. A list of train operating companies is available at http://www.atoc.org/train-companies/

and details of which services are included in each sector, please see the accompanying quality report which can be found at: Quality Reports

This is a quarterly release and the data in this release refers to 2013-14 Q3, 1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013. All the data contained and referred to within this release can be accessed via the ORR Data Portal

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

For more details please contact the Statistics Head of Profession Jay Lindop at Jay.Lindop@orr.gsi.gov.uk or on 020 7282 3978 or contact rstats@orr.gsi.gov.uk

Summary of key results

- Rail usage has steadily increased in the last ten years with growth across all measures. Timetabled train kilometres have increased in each of the last ten years to meet the increasing demand for rail travel. The largest increase for timetabled train kilometres was in 2009-10 mainly as a result of the upgrade to the West Coast Mainline being completed which increased the volume of services operated by Virgin Trains and London Midland. Passenger journeys, kilometres and revenue have followed a similar growth trend in the last decade with kilometres and revenue increasing every year since 2002-03. Passenger journeys did experience a fall in 2009-10 when journeys on season tickets fell, possibly as a result of the recession; however 2009-10 was an exception and journeys have continued to grow since then.

- The total number of timetabled train kilometres in 2013-14 Q3 increased by 0.4% compared to 2012-13 Q3. The largest increase in franchised operators was for London Overground with a 6.5% increase in its timetabled train kilometres.

- The number of timetabled train kilometres for the non-franchised operators increased by 4.3% in 2013-14 Q3 compared to 2012-13 Q3, partly due to Grand Central trains operating an additional train per weekday between Hartlepool and London King's Cross from December 2012.

- In 2013-14 Q3 there were 15.1 billion franchised passenger kilometres, an increase of 2.8% compared to 2012-13 Q3. This is the highest number of passenger kilometres recorded since the time series began. Non-franchised passenger kilometres increased by 4.4% compared to 2012-13 Q3 last year, aided by additional weekday service by Grand Central services and growth in travel on advance purchase tickets.

- The continued growth of passenger kilometres is likely to be due to the opening of new lines (London Overground's Surrey Quays to Clapham line); additional train services (Chiltern mainline service, First ScotRail service and additional weekday train by Grand Central); major schemes involving regeneration of areas ; and the redesign and improvements to stations such as London Bridge Station.

- In 2013-14 Q3, franchised passenger journeys reached 402.8 million, a 4.5% increase on the same quarter in 2012-13. This is the highest number of franchised passenger journeys since the time series began. The number of non-franchised passenger journeys was 4% higher than in 2012-13 Q3, which reflects the fact that passenger kilometres for non-franchised operators had also seen an increase this quarter over the same quarter last year.

- The passenger journeys figures highlight the effect of traffic growth and the corresponding increase in use of the rail system. There are a number of possible factors behind recent increases in rail usage such as the opening of new lines and stations, additional services/trains, ticketing initiatives including special offers/discounts and more competitive pricing.

- In 2013-14 Q3, total franchised passenger revenue was £2.08 billion, a 6.2% increase on 2012-13 Q3. This was the highest amount of revenue generated within any quarter since the time series began. Non-franchised passenger revenue rose to £13.2 million in 2013-14 Q3; a 3.5% increase compared to the same quarter last year.

- The increase in passenger revenue is generally a direct consequence of increased passenger journeys. The percentage change in passenger revenue can often outstrip the equivalent passenger journeys and passenger kilometres measures as a result of the fare increases usually announced in January each year.

1. Timetabled Train Kilometres (TTKM)

About TTKM

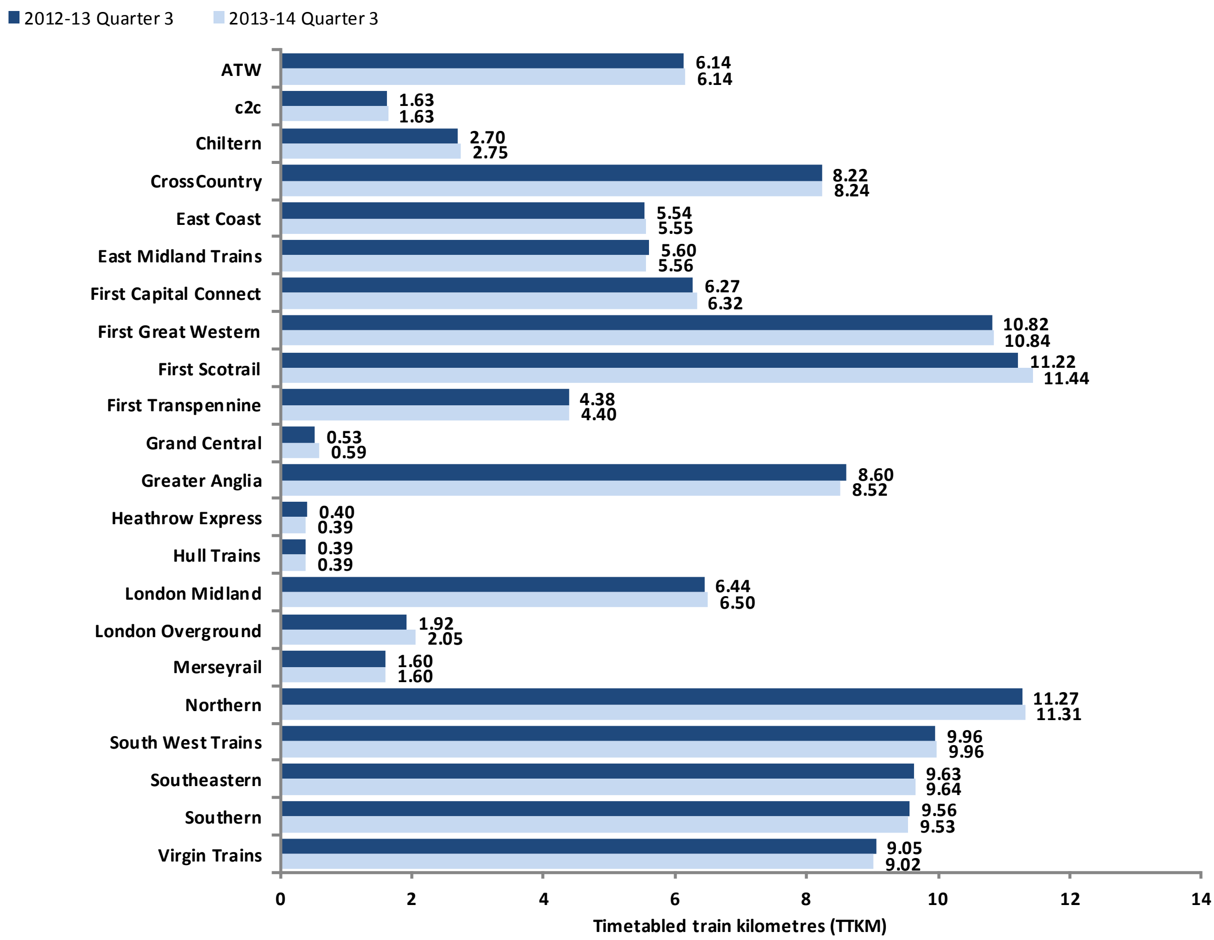
This timetabled train kilometres (TTKM) chart shows the number of train kilometres each train operator would achieve if they operated 100% of their timetable. The data are calculated from the summer and winter train timetables, operational in May and December each year. Measures of train kilometres are used by the rail industry to show the volume of service provision.

1.1 Timetabled train kilometres by train operating company

2013-14 Quarter 3 Results

Timetabled train kilometres (TTKM) by train operating company – chart

Train operating company data 2013-14 Q3 on 2012-13 Q3



- The total number of timetabled train kilometres in 2013-14 Q3 increased by 0.4% compared to 2012-13 Q3. The largest increase in franchised operators was for London Overground with a 6.5% increase in its timetabled train kilometres. London Overground's timetabled train kilometres have steadily increased since the opening of the Surrey Quays to Clapham line in December 2012 and the introduction of a new timetable in May 2011, which improved train capacity and frequencies on many routes. The next largest increase was Chiltern, with an increase of 2.1% in 2013-14 Q3 compared to 2013-13 Q3. This is due to the introduction of additional Sunday services from Aylesbury to London Marylebone via Amersham in May 2013. As has been the case in the previous two quarters, the largest reduction in timetabled kilometres for franchised operators was Greater Anglia, with a reduction of 1% this quarter compared to the same quarter last year. This was probably related to an on-going programme of rolling stock refurbishment; however the timetabled kilometres have been increasing since 2012-13 Q4.
- The number of timetabled train kilometres for the non-franchised operators (First Hull Trains, Grand Central and Heathrow Express) increased by 4.3% in 2013-14 Q3 compared to 2012-13 Q3. Grand Central who have been operating an additional train per weekday between Hartlepool and London King's Cross since December 2012, have had a 12.7% increase in timetabled kilometres. Heathrow Express's timetabled train kilometres decreased by 2.5% from 2012-13 Q3 to 2013-14 Q3 as a result of a small timetable change resulting in fewer trains after 22:00 hours on weekdays and Sunday between February and December 2013.

TTKM by quarter data are presented here: Data Portal

A list of pre-created TTKM tables available on the data portal is presented in Annex 2.

Revisions: Details of any revisions in the future will be found at: Revisions Log

2. Passenger Kilometres

About Passenger Kilometres

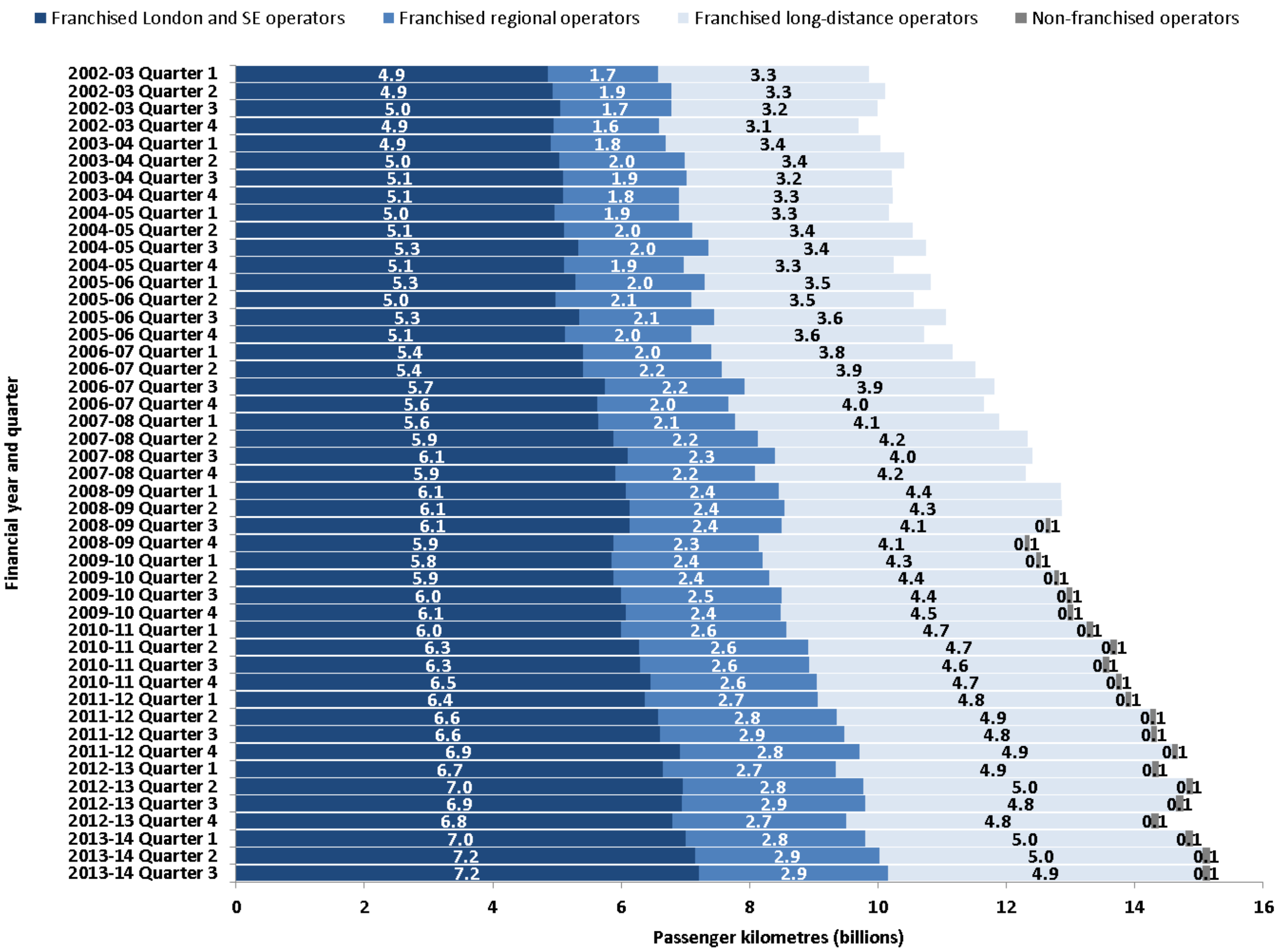
The number of kilometres travelled by passengers on the network. The data used to derive passenger kilometres are sourced from the LENNON (Latest Earnings Network Nationally Over Night) database and train operating companies.

2.1 Passenger kilometres by sector

2013-14 Quarter 3 Results

Passenger kilometres by sector – chart

Great Britain data 2002-03 Q1 to 2013-14 Q3



- In 2013-14 Q3 there were 15.1 billion franchised passenger kilometres, an increase of 2.8% compared to the same quarter last year. This is the highest number of passenger kilometres recorded since the time series began, and a marginal increase of 0.1% over the last quarter. Non-franchised passenger kilometres increased by 4.4% compared to Q3 last year.

- The continued growth of passenger kilometres is likely to be due to the opening of new lines (London Overground Surrey Quays to Clapham line) and additional train services (introduction of additional Sunday services from Aylesbury to London Marylebone via Amersham by Chiltern mainline service and an additional weekday train by Grand Central). Other possible factors contributing to this increase could include major schemes involving regeneration of areas, the redesign and improvements to stations such as London Bridge Station and the general upturn in the economy in the past year.

- London and South East franchised operators, typically used by a higher proportion of commuters, had 7.2 billion passenger kilometres during 2013-14 Q3, a 3.8% increase on 2012-13 Q3 due to increases in usage for season ticket travel and advance purchase tickets.

- Long distance franchised operators had the lowest growth rate of the three sectors increasing by only, 1.1% on the same quarter last year. This was the only sector to have seen a reduction in passenger kilometres from the last quarter, a reduction of 2.5% possibly due to the adverse weather that affected the national rail network this quarter.

- There were 2.9 billion passenger kilometres by franchised regional operators in 2013-14 Q3, an increase of 2.2% increase compared to Q3 last year and was driven by an increase in advance ticket travel.

Passenger kilometres data are presented here: Data Portal

A list of pre-created passenger kilometres tables available on the data portal is presented in Annex 2.

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3. Passenger Journeys

About Passenger Journeys

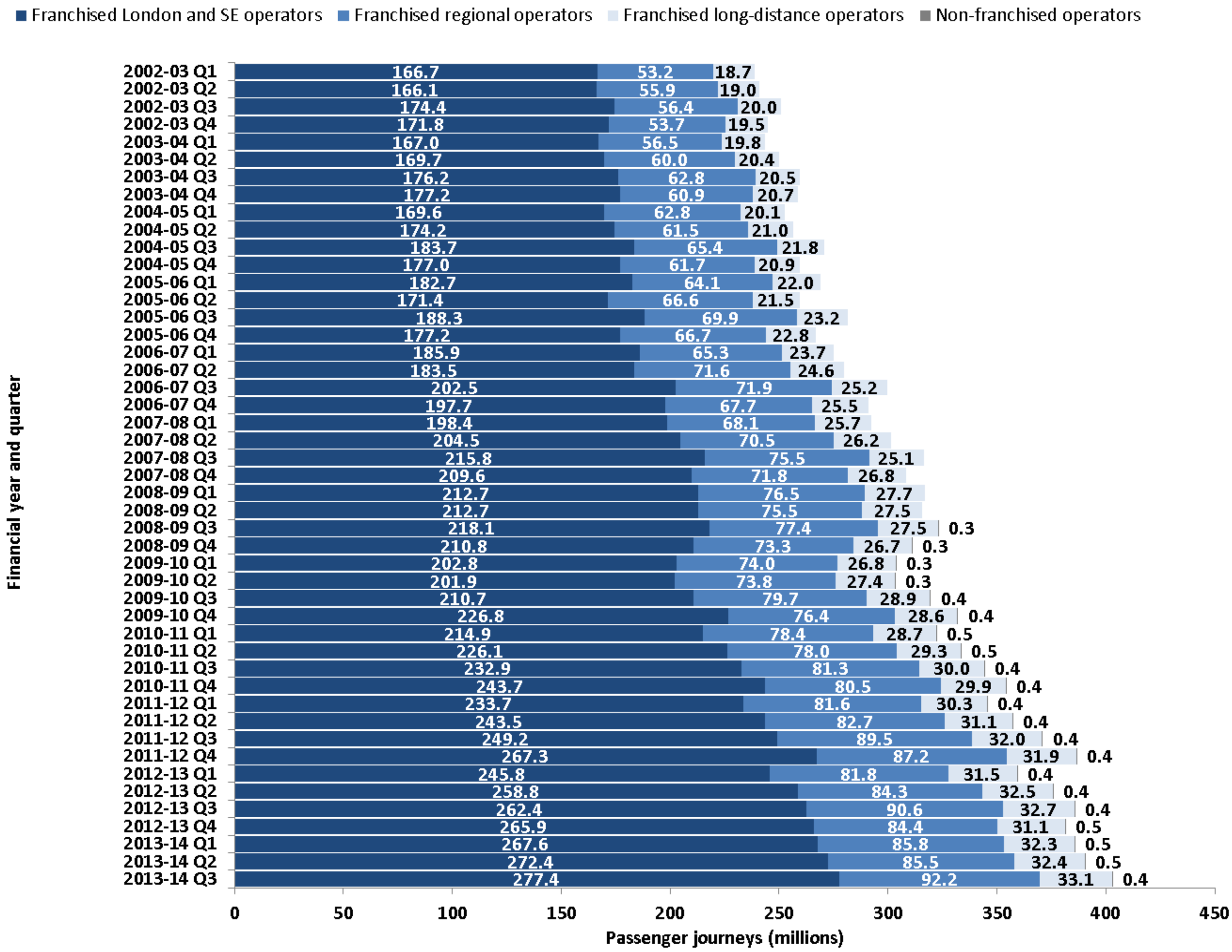
The number of passenger journeys made on the network. The data used to derive passenger journeys are sourced from the LENNON database and train operating companies.

3.1 Passenger journeys by sector

2013-14 Quarter 3 Results

Passenger journeys by sector – chart

Great Britain data 2002-03 Q1 to 2013-14 Q3



- In 2013-14 Q3, franchised passenger journeys reached 402.8 million, a 4.5% increase on the same quarter in 2012-13. This is the highest number of franchised passenger journeys since the time series began. Most of the increase is accounted for by growth in the number of season ticket journeys being made, which saw an increase of 7.8% this quarter compared to the same quarter last year. The number of non-franchised passenger journeys was 4% higher than in 2012-13 Q3.

- The number of franchised passenger journeys increased in all three sectors compared to 2012-13 Q3. London and South East sector had 277.4 million journeys in 2013-14 Q3, a 5.7% increase on Q3 last year. London and South East sector trains typically cover shorter commuter distances and stop at a greater number of stations; therefore the large number of passenger journeys is expected. The main reason behind the increase is the growth in season and advance ticket travel across all operators within this sector.

- The long distance sector had 33.1 million journeys in 2013-14 Q3, a 1.4% increase on the same quarter last year. This quarter has seen the lowest increase in passenger journeys for the long distance sector since 2007-08 Q3. The main reason for this could possibly be the prolonged adverse weather conditions impacting the rail network leading to alterations in people's travel plans. Long distance sector has historically been the sector with the weakest growth and this may be understood in terms of competition from coach travel at the low end and air travel at the high end of the travel industry.

- The Regional sector had 92.2 million journeys, a 1.9% increase on the same time last year with the main driver being an increase in the advance ticket travel.

- The passenger journeys figures highlight the effect of traffic growth and the corresponding increase in use of the rail system. There are a number of possible factors behind recent increases in rail usage such as the opening of new lines and stations, additional services/trains particularly on London Overground, Chiltern Railways, redesign of stations/platforms such as at London Bridge, area regeneration such as Stratford station for the 2012 Olympics, improvements to station facilities including car parking, wi-fi and bicycle storage - the latter two seen at Greater Anglia stations, changes in the economic environment in a given area, the occurrence of (special) events and improved links to other transport modes, such as airports, as seen with Southend Airport station.

- The figures for passenger journeys do include an element of inflation since 2010-11 when Oyster PAYG data were first included but there was also an increase in travel across all ticket types (advance, anytime/peak and off-peak). Ticketing initiatives including more competitive pricing and special offers/discounts, such as savings on days out when travelling by train, cheaper advance and on the day fares, group travel savings and so on could have also contributed to the increase in passenger journeys.

Passenger journeys data are presented here: Data Portal

A list of pre-created passenger journeys tables available on the data portal is presented in Annex 2.

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4. Passenger Revenue

About Passenger Revenue

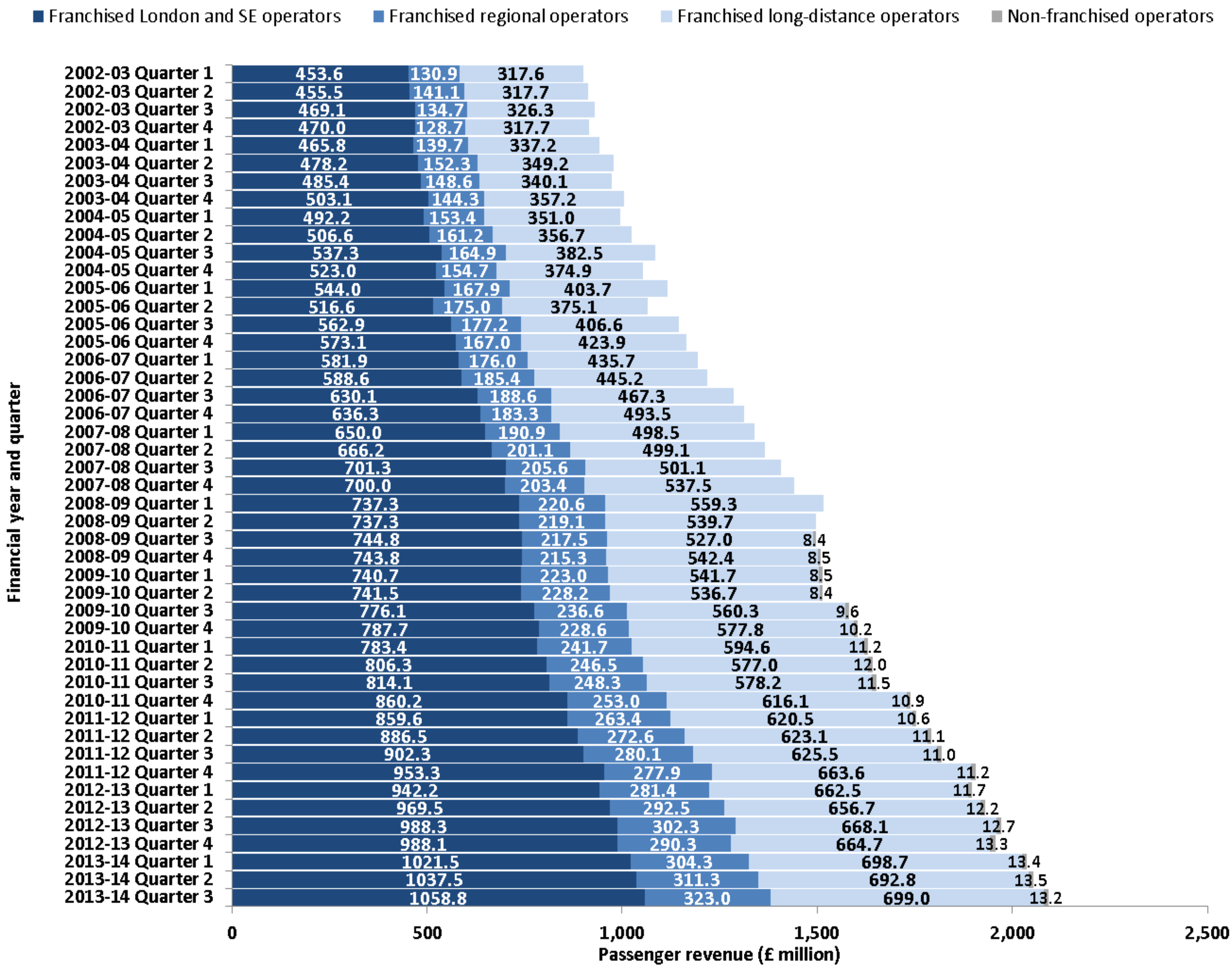
These data show all ticket revenue and miscellaneous charges associated with passenger travel on national railways, but not including government support or grants. The data used to derive passenger revenue are sourced from the LENNON database.

4.1 Passenger revenue by sector

2013-14 Quarter 3 Results

Passenger revenue by sector – chart

Great Britain data 2002-03 Q1 to 2013-14 Q3



- In 2013-14 Q3, total franchised passenger revenue was £2.08 billion, a 6.2% increase on 2012-13 Q3. This was the highest amount of revenue generated within any quarter since the time series began. Non-franchised passenger revenue rose to £13.2 million in 2013-14 Q3; a 3.5% increase compared to the same quarter last year. It was however the lowest revenue generated in a quarter since 2012-13 Q3. This reduction in revenue for non-franchised operators reflects the lower passenger kilometers and passenger journeys this quarter over the last.

- The largest increase in revenue for franchised operators was for advance purchase tickets with an increase of 8.8% over the same quarter last year. Revenue from season tickets saw the highest amount of revenue collected (£523 million) within any quarter since the time series began with an increase of 7.7% over the same quarter last year. However, the revenue from advance and ordinary fares have reduced slightly from the previous quarter, reflecting the disruption in travel owing to adverse weather.

- Revenue for franchised operators within London and South East increased by 7.1% during 2013-14 Q3 when compared to the same quarter last year, with a revenue of over £1.0 billion. This is the highest amount of revenue generated within a single quarter by franchised London and South East operators since the time series began. There is evidence of continuing strong growth in advance and season ticket sales in this sector. Promotional advance fares like those introduced by operators may have contributed to this increase, encouraging more people to travel. Furthermore, the regeneration and promotion of areas such as Stratford and the opening of Westfield shopping centre in Stratford may have also contributed to the London and South East sector increase.

- Franchised passenger revenue for long distance services increased by 4.6% in 2012-13 Q3 to reach £699 million. Despite a reduction in growth of the number of passenger journeys and passenger kilometres, this quarter recorded the highest amount of revenue generated by franchised long distance operators since the time series began helped by the increase in tickets prices.

- During 2013-14 Q3 regional franchised operators generated £323 million, a 6.8% increase on the same quarter last year. This is the highest amount of revenue generated in a quarter by franchised regional operators since the time series began. Advance ticket revenue growth was strong for this quarter compared to the same quarter last year, reflecting the Christmas holiday season. The majority of the revenue for this sector however comes from the anytime/Peak travel tickets.

Passenger revenue data are presented here: Data Portal

A list of pre-created passenger revenue tables available on the data portal is presented in Annex 2.

Revisions: Details of any revisions in future will be found at: Revisions Log

Annex 1 – Statistical release themes and publication timetable

Statistical release	Data	Publication schedule
Passenger & Freight Rail Performance - Quarterly	Public performance measure Freight performance measure Cancellations and significant lateness	Q1: 5th September 2013 Q2: 14th November 2013 Q3: 6th February 2014 Q4: 8th May 2014
Passenger Rail Usage – Quarterly	Passenger kilometres Passenger journeys Passenger revenue Timetabled train kilometres	Q1: 19th September 2013 Q2: 28th November 2013 Q3: 20th February 2014 Q4: 22nd May 2014
Freight Rail Usage - Quarterly	Freight moved Freight lifted Freight delay minutes per 100 train kilometres Freight market indicators (Q4 only)	Q1: 3rd October 2013 Q2: 12th December 2013 Q3: 6th March 2014 Q4: 5th June 2014
Passenger Rail Service Satisfaction - Quarterly	Complaints Complaints comments received by London TravelWatch and Passenger Focus National rail enquiries	Q1: 17th October 2013 Q2: 19th December 2013 Q3: 20th March 2014 Q4: 19th June 2014
Regional Usage - Annual	Regional usage profiles	August 2014
Key Safety Statistics - Annual	Key safety facts Passenger key safety facts Public key safety facts Workforce key safety facts Train accident facts	August 2014
Rail Finance - Annual	Government support to the rail industry Rail fares index Private investment Subsidy	August 2014

Rail Infrastructure, Assets and Environmental - Annual	Infrastructure on the railways Average age of rolling stock Sustainable development	August 2014

Annex 2 – List of pre-created Passenger Rail usage reports available on ORR Data Portal

Timetabled Train Kilometres

- Timetabled Train Kilometres by train operating company and quarter – table Data Portal

Passenger Kilometres

- Passenger Kilometres by sector – table Data Portal
- Passenger Kilometres by ticket type– table Data Portal

Passenger Journeys

- Passenger Journeys by sector– table Data Portal
- Passenger Journeys by ticket type– table Data Portal

Passenger Revenue

- Passenger Revenue by sector – table Data Portal
- Passenger Revenue by ticket type – table Data Portal; and
- Revenue per passenger kilometre and per passenger journey – table Data Portal