



Transport

The Department of Transport's overarching objective is the sustainable and efficient movement of people and goods, locally, in the Southern African Development Community region and internationally, in a transport system that responds to the needs of both the first and second economies.

Agencies

The four bodies tasked with commercialising certain elements of government's operational activities are the South African National Roads Agency Ltd, the South African Maritime Safety Authority, the Cross-Border Road Transport Agency and the Civil Aviation Authority.

Transnet Limited

Transnet is a public company wholly owned by the Government. It is a dominant player in southern Africa's transport infrastructure.

Transnet consists of the following divisions – Spoornet, the National Ports Authority (NPA), South Africa Port Operations, Freight Dynamics, Petronet, Metrorail, Propnet, Transtel, Transwerk and South African Airways (SAA).

By March 2005, about R9 million was being spent on a multimedia road-safety project involving the training of 116 000 primary school educators in 2 300 workshops throughout the country.



Road transport

South Africa has the longest road network of any country in Africa. The Department of Transport continues to integrate and improve the road network, ensuring that it is well developed, well maintained and safe.

Expenditure on national roads has grown steadily in recent years, increasing by 10,6% annually from R1,1 billion in 2001/02 to R1,5 billion in 2004/05.

Minibus taxis are responsible for 65% of the 2,5 billion annual passenger trips in urban areas, as well as a high percentage of rural and intercity transport.

Buses and trains respectively account for 21% and 14% of all public transport. By May 2005, there were 34 interim bus contracts in the country that accounted for 67% of the total subsidy allocation of R2,28 billion. There was R2,5 billion in subsidies a year for train commuters.

By March 2005, the Operator Code of Practice for the bus industry was being implemented on a voluntary basis. The code requires improved quality management systems for the productivity and effectiveness of bus operations. This should lead to reduced operating costs and fewer accidents.

According to the National Household Travel Survey, 2003, about 26% of households in South Africa have access to a motor car. At 108 cars per 1 000 of the population, car ownership in South Africa remains in its infancy.



Transnet annually handles 176 million tons of rail freight, 2,8 million tons of road freight, 2,5 million passengers by road and 194 million tons of freight through the ports. At the same time, 15,3 billion litres of liquid fuels and 466 million cubic metres of gas are pumped through its pipelines. Annually the group flies more than 6,5 million domestic, international and regional passengers and provides 467 million rail-commuter trips. Transnet has R68,766 billion worth of assets and a workforce numbering some 76 000.

Vehicle sales continued to grow year-on-year, with March 2005 sales up 12,2% compared with the same month in 2004. By March 2005, some 43 651 new vehicles were sold, compared with 38 892 sold in March 2004. These comprised new cars, light commercial vehicles, bakkies and minibuses, and medium and heavy trucks.

In the new-car category, a record 28 722 units were sold in March 2005, representing the highest number of new cars ever sold in March.

Sales of new light commercial vehicles, bakkies and minibuses improved by 6,3% compared with March 2004, from 12 099 vehicles to 12 868 vehicles sold.

Medium-sized truck sales improved by 22,7% to 887 units in March 2005, compared with the corresponding month in 2004.

Sales of heavy trucks and buses also increased, with 18,6% more vehicles sold to bring the total to 1 174 units.

Taxi Recapitalisation Programme (TRP)

In 2005, Cabinet approved the detailed strategy for the roll-out of the TRP, which aims to replace the current ageing minibus taxi fleet with new, safer, purpose-built 18- and 35-seater vehicles which will be locally built.

Government intends to remove 10 000 old and unroadworthy vehicles from the roads by December 2006. The payment of a scrapping allowance of R50 000 to taxi operators who voluntarily hand in their vehicles will only take place after operating licensing boards have registered applications, evaluated them and verified the validity of permit/operating licences linked to the vehicle.

Total market sales

Total market sales	Year	Sales
Total sales October	2005	50 697
Total sales October	2004	42 441
Total sales September	2005	54 560
Total sales September	2004	43 146
Total sales January-October	2005	468 717
Total sales January-October	2004	371 976

Source: National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa

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Government has committed R2,5 billion over the next five years to increase its capacity to enforce public transport laws.

The TRP roll-out strategy comprises the:

- introduction of safety requirements for the new vehicles
- scrapping of existing vehicles
- effective regulation of the taxi industry
- effective law enforcement in respect of public transport
- empowerment of the taxi industry.

On 22 February 2005, the South African National Taxi Council signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Absa, Nedbank, Standard Bank, Wesbank and Daimler Chrysler Services in Pretoria.

In terms of the MoU, taxi operators may receive finance from any of the participating institutions to replace their old fleet with the newly approved vehicles.

Goods transport

Eighty percent of all freight in South Africa is transported by road. Nearly 7% of gross domestic product is spent on freight transport.

About 69% of road-freight tonnage is carried by firms or operators transporting freight in the course of their business, and 29% by road haulage firms.

Rail transport

Spoornet is the largest division of Transnet. It operates in 18 African countries, and has interests in other parts of the world.

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On 17 March 2005, the Minister of Transport, Mr Jeff Radebe, launched the Arrive Alive Patrol Car Project, which will provide provincial and metropolitan/local traffic authorities with additional patrol vehicles.

During the first phase, 60 vehicles worth R6,29 million were distributed.

The Department of Transport has begun developing Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) strategies and charters for eight of the transport sectors. These will make a significant contribution towards economic growth, job creation, skills development and poverty alleviation.

The strategy is expected to ensure representivity for people with disabilities and women across most of the BBBEE indicators, such as ownership, management and employment equity. The strategy was expected to be implemented from 2005 to 2010.

Some 246 locomotives were overhauled or upgraded in 2004, compared with 204 in 2003 and 171 in 2002. In 2004, Spoornet announced a R14-billion, five-year programme to upgrade ageing assets and infrastructure, and procure new locomotives and wagons.

Sub-Saharan Africa boasts about 83% of all Africa's railways, and South Africa's share of the African total is some 35% or 42% of Sub-Saharan Africa's system.

South Africa accounts for about 47% of the total number of locomotives of all types in sub-Saharan Africa or 32% of the African total. However, South Africa's dominance of electric locomotives is nearly complete, with about 96% of sub-Saharan locomotives and 92% of the continent's total number of electric locomotives.

The African freight wagon fleet is small by international standards. However, South Africa dominates with about 62% of the total African fleet and 74% of the sub-Saharan total. The amount of rail freight tonnes moved also occurs mostly in the South African system, with about 71% of the African total and some 91% of sub-Saharan traffic.

Specialist Spoornet divisions

COALink – transports export coal from Mpumalanga to the Richards Bay Coal Terminal.

Orex – hauls iron ore over the 861-km track from Sishen in the Northern Cape to Saldanha Bay.

Shosholozha Meyl – offers daily intercity passenger rail services.

The newly developed electronic national road traffic information system (e-NaTIS) was expected to replace the NaTIS (paper-based) by December 2005. NaTIS administers driver and vehicle registration and deregistration. By May 2005, the new system was 65% complete.

A new state-of-the-art data centre has been created to host the centralised e-NaTIS database, which is linked to a back-up site. During 2004/05, four e-NaTIS pilot sites were launched in Benoni and Akasia in Gauteng, and in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

Metrorail – provides commuter rail services in the Witwatersrand, Pretoria, Western Cape, Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. Metrorail transports some 1,5 million commuters to and from work daily.

AFB Commercial – handles some 52% of its freight tonnage.

Luxrail – operates the Blue Train.

Spoornet International Joint Ventures – plans to be a global leader in operations on the 1 000 mm and 1 067 mm rail networks.

Civil aviation

The Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA) owns and operates the 10 principal airports, including the three major international airports in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. The others are domestic airports in Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth, East London, George, Kimberley, Upington and Pilanesberg. Other airports in South Africa



The expansion and redesign of Pier 1 and the widening of the entrance at the Durban Harbour will cost about R2,9 billion. The construction of the container terminal at Ngqura and the expansion of the Cape Town Container Terminal will cost about R2,6 billion and R1,4 billion, respectively. The new multi-purpose pipeline from Durban to Gauteng will be a R3-billion investment.

By June 2005, there were 9 063 aircraft on the South African Civil Aircraft Register. A total of 4 810 (53%) of these aircraft represented aeroplanes, helicopters and agricultural aircraft. The other 4 253 (47%) represented sport and recreational aircraft. Micro-light aircraft (2 284) represented 25% of the total aircraft and 54% of the sport and recreational aircraft. At 2 459 (27%), aeroplanes with one-piston engines were by far the largest group of aircraft on the register. This group and the micro-lights have grown faster than all the other aircraft on the register. Helicopter aircraft (722) represented 8% of the register.

include Lanseria (Midrand), Gateway (Polokwane), Nelspruit and Kruger (Mpumalanga).

In 2003/04, ACSA upgraded the Port Elizabeth terminal, constructed new security gates and landside access roads at Johannesburg International Airport (JIA), opened a new R44-million domestic to international passenger transfer facility at JIA, completed a new R14,9-million access control facility at JIA, completed the first phase of a programme for the replacement of screening equipment, and invested R53 million in security infrastructure.

Revenue increased by 13,5%, from R1,7 billion in 2003/04 to R1,9 billion in 2004/05.

In 2003/04, ACSA recorded a 7,4% rise in total departing passenger traffic to 11,9 million. This was mainly due to an increase of 7,9% in domestic passenger volumes and 6,4% in international passenger volumes.

As part of preparations for the 2010 Soccer World Cup, ACSA has pledged about R3,58 billion over the next five years to increase capacity and efficiency at all airports.

Major plans include a multistorey parkade at Cape Town International with in-house check-in counters and an international passenger-transfer facility in the JIA terminal, which will be integrated with the Gautrain Rapid Rail Link between JIA, Sandton and Johannesburg to be constructed by the Gauteng Provincial Government. The JIA's capacity will be increased to accommodate the

new wide-body long-haul aircraft such as the A380 at connecting stands.

The number of airlines operating in South African airspace increased from nine in 1994 to more than 50 in 2004.

SAA

SAA is Africa's leading airline and serves more than 40 cities across the world, in 30 countries on six continents.

The SAA:

- carries more than 6,5 million passengers each year
- employs close to 12 000 people worldwide
- undertakes maintenance for more than 40 major airlines
- flies more than 20 domestic routes
- serves more than 700 destinations throughout the world.

Ports

The NPA manages South Africa's biggest ports: Richards Bay, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Mossel Bay, Cape Town and Saldanha, as well as Ngqura, which was set to become operational in 2005.

Handling 55 Mt of cargo through five cargo terminals annually, Durban is the busiest port in southern Africa.

The draft Maritime Agenda 2010 identifies 20 interventions required to develop the industry. The Department

Some of the South African Maritime Safety Authority's (SAMSA) recent achievements include:

- 1 011 ships with a gross tonnage of 238 196 tons were registered under the South African flag
- 219 foreign flagged ships were inspected and four detained
- 19 oil-pollution incidents were investigated
- 277 candidates passed various examinations conducted by SAMSA
- 3 082 safety certificates were issued out of 3 530 ship surveys
- 930 dry-dock certificates were issued out of 1 023 surveys.

of Transport continues to provide maritime information services to the seafaring community and has established an improved pollution prevention response.

The adoption and implementation of measures to enhance maritime security has resulted in South Africa being fully compliant with the International Ships and Ports Security Code since July 2004.

Petronet owns, maintains and operates a network of 3 000 km of high-pressure pipelines.