

The Ministry of Transport and Communications' functions can be grouped as follows:

- **Policy formulation:** Preparation of cases to be submitted to the Storting, including the government budget and revisions, proposals for laws and law amendments; plans for the transport and communications sector; and matters related to the organisational set-up and affiliation of enterprises under the ministry.
- Agency and enterprise management: Implementation of guidelines and requirements laid down by the Storting for the administrative bodies and enterprises for which the ministry is responsible. Where the administrative bodies are concerned, management consists in following up and checking that appropriations are spent as intended, that laws and regulations are complied with and that each entity has an organisational form suited to its functions. Where companies are concerned, the ministry is responsible for administering government ownership in the interest of both corporate profitability and the society at large.
- Administration: Handling of matters under relevant legislation within the ministry's jurisdiction, or on behalf of the central administration in general. Enquiries from individuals or institutions, and matters circulated for comment by other ministries etc., are also handled.

Subordinate agencies and enterprises

As from 1. January 2003 the following bodies are subordinate to the Ministry of Transport and Communications:
Six administrative agencies: Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority, Norwegian Railway Inspectorate, Civil Aviation Authority, Accident Investigation Board/Norway, Norwegian National Rail Administration and The Public Roads Administration. And five state-owned companies: Norway Post, Norwegian State Railways, Flytoget AS, Avinor AS and Mesta AS
Det Norske Veritas is responsible for inspection of cableways in accordance with the authority delegated by the Ministry of Transport and Communications

Ministry leadership

The Ministry of Transport and Communications is headed by the Minister. The ministry's political leadership otherwise comprises a State Secretary and one Political Adviser. The State Secretary stands in for the Minister and can act on the Minister's behalf as head of the Ministry. The Political Adviser's role is to lighten the workload of and assist the Minister, but he/she has no formal role on a par with that of the State Secretary. The Ministry of Transport and Communications' administrative apparatus - the bureaucracy - is headed by the Secretary General. The Secretary General is the principal adviser to the Minister and other politicians in matters handled by the Ministry. The Secretary General has directly below him/her four Director Generals, each in charge of a Department and its respective sectors and specialist spheres. The Information Section is a staff unit subordinate to the Secretary General.

Staff and budget

As of 1 January 2003 the Ministry had 135 employees: 32 managers, 93 advisers/executive officers and 10 office staff, and an operating budget of NOK 92,1 million.

DEPARTMENTS AND SECTIONS

Information Section

Coordination of the Ministry's press and information activities and management of the professional information work.

Communication counselling. Assisting the media and helping to ensure compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Internal information tasks with an emphasis on keeping political staff informed about media coverage of matters within the transport and communications sector. Maintenance and development of the Ministry's internet pages.

Department of Planning, Administration and Economic Affairs

Planning Section

Long-range planning across transport sectors, particularly associated with preparation of the National Transport Plan. Investigation and analysis of issues in all areas of transport and communications. Competition between modes of transport and framework conditions between transport sectors. Development of planning and analysis tools. Study and planning of transport corridors involving two or more modes of transport. Work on planning matters and Reports to the Storting (white papers) from other ministries. Coordination and overall responsibility for research and investigation conducted within the Ministry's budget. International matters with a main emphasis on planning and infrastructure, particularly associated with the Trans-European Network (TEN) and the Barents Sea Initiative. Coordination of the cooperation between the governments of the Nordic countries in the area of transport and communications.

Economic Affairs Section

Coordination and control of the Ministry's budgetary work, including the Ministry's internal budget. Joint matters in the area of finance, including general control systems, financial instructions, powers of attorney, budget development and presentation of accounts. Interpretation and application of rules for state procurements, etc. Matters concerning the Office of the Auditor Generals not dealt with by other departments.

Administrative Affairs Section

Coordination of the Ministry's work on internal planning processes associated with organizational planning and IT development. The Ministry's administration of pay and personnel matters, working environment, IT activities, library and records. Personnel matters for subordinate agencies including matters of principal concerning pay and working conditions, interpretation of legislation and measures associated with major changes in the workforce.

Department of Civil Aviation, Postal Services and Telecommunications

Civil Aviation Section

Framework conditions for civil aviation. Work on drafting of legislation. State ownership interests in Avinor AS. Management, etc. of the Civil Aviation. Authority and the Accident Investigation

Board/Norway. Study, planning, finance and budget matters. Tenders for regional air services. General legal matters, licensing, appeals and interpretation matters pursuant to the Aviation Act. General work on air safety. Aircraft noise and other environmental issues in civil aviation. International aviation matters, including bilateral aviation negotiations and EEA/EU civil aviation matters. International and Scandinavian civil aviation cooperation.

Postal Services and Telecommunications Section Framework conditions for post and telecommunications activities. Work on drafting of legislation. Licences subject to post and telecommunications legislation. Management of Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority. State ownership interests in Norway Post. Research and development within telecommunications and IT. International cooperation in the area of post and telecommunications.





Department of Public Roads and Rail Transport

Framework conditions and control systems for the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. Management of the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. Responsibilities associated with planning, construction, maintenance and use of road infrastructure. Long-range planning and budget work in the public road sector. Toll matters and road financing. State ownership interests in Mesta AS. Environmental matters regarding the public road sector. International road matters. Road Traffic Act and regulations and

matters associated with the Planning and Building Act.

Rail Transport Section Matters regarding rail transport and cableways. Framework conditions for the railway sector. Drafting of legislation. Management of the Norwegian Railway Inspectorate, the Norwegian National Rail Administration and cableway inspection carried out by Det Norske Veritas. State ownership interests in NSB AS and Flytoget AS. Budget and finance matters, negotiations concerning state purchase of railway passenger services. Analyses and studies concerning the railway sector, international railway matters including EU and EEA matters and international rail transport legislation. Supervisory responsibilities. Long-range planning. General legal matters. Appeals and interpretation matters pursuant to the Railway Act and the Act relating to cableways and other legal and administrative matters. General railway safety.

Section for Traffic Safety and Civil Emergency Planning Coordination and control of work on safety across the various forms of transport. Coordination and control of work on civil emergency preparedness in the Ministry's sphere of competence. Study, analysis and

formulation of policy in connection with road safety. Matters subject to road traffic legislation, the Act relating to approval of car repair workshops and the Security Act.Management and coordination of the Transport Readiness Council. International cooperation within road transport and civil emergency preparedness.

Transport Department

Road and Sea Transport Section

Framework conditions for road and sea transport, pursuant to the

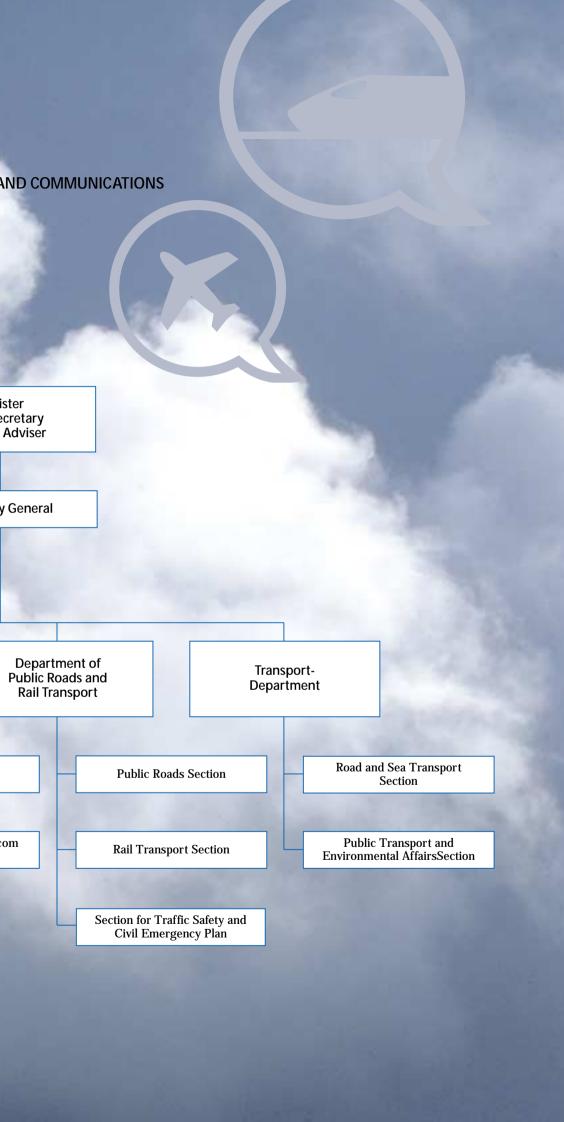
Professional Transport Act. Work on drafting of legislation. General legal matters, appeals and interpretation of the Professional Transport Act. General purpose grants scheme for counties and municipalities concerning transport and communications matters, grants to the Coastal Express (Hurtigruten) and public road ferries, including the state guarantee for public road ferries. International transport matters, including bilateral contracts of carriage. General research and development.

Public Transport and Environmental Affairs Section

Coordination of the Ministry's work on public transport and environmental issues. Studies and analyses in connection with transport and communications and the environment, including assessment of the use of instruments in relation to environmental issues in the transport and communications sector. Studies and analyses in connection with public transport issues in general, particularly measures aimed at increasing the proportion of public transport. Tax policy matters, particularly associated with environmental and transport taxes.International public transport and environmental matters.









SUBORDINATE AGENCIES AND ENTERPRISES

Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority

The Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority is a separate administrative body with responsibility for administering legislation in the area of post and telecommunications and for helping to ensure access to good and reasonably priced post and telecommunications services for users in Norway.

The responsibilities of the Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority include: drafting and following up regulations, supervision of actors in the area of post and telecommunications, standardization, granting and control of licences, competition regulation, management of frequencies, authorization of suppliers and installers and international work in the post and telecommunications sector.

Key figures

Appropriations over the government budget for 2002	
Operating revenues	NOK 159.3 million
Operating expenditure	NOK 169.3 million
Employees (full-time equivalents) (2002):	174



Norway Post

Norway Post is a wholly state-owned limited company. The Ministry of Transport and Communications administers the ownership interests of the state and the Minister of Transport and Communications functions as the company's General Meeting. Norway Post's board of directors has nine members.



Norway Post is responsible for operating postal services and other associated services. The company performs universal services and provides basic banking services throughout the postal network, and is thus obliged to provide efficient nation-wide postal services at reasonable prices and high quality. The main activities are dissemination of information, transport of light goods and performance of banking and payment transmission services for Postbanken. By means of international cooperation, Norway Post provides efficient postal services between Norway and other countries. Norway Post is the parent company of the Ergo Group AS, and has also ownership interests in a number of countries.

Key figures

State purchase of postal services (2002):	NOK 372 million
Turnover (2002):	NOK 15 167 million
Pre-tax result (2002):	NOK 718 million
Employees (full-time equivalentes, 2002):	Approx. 23,500

Norwegian Railway Inspectorate

The Norwegian Railway Inspectorate is a separate administrative body with responsibility for ensuring safe and appropriate operation of railways, including tramways and underground and suburban railways. The inspectorate issues regulations, instructions, etc., permits for operation of railways and safety certificates to foreign operators. It is also responsible for approval of rolling stock and routes, inspection, including systems audits of the Norwegian National Rail Administration and railway operators, and permits and market control of the Norwegian part of the European railway system pursuant to the traffic coordination regulations.

Key figures

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Appropriations over the Government budget for 2003	
Total expenditure:	NOK 21.2 million
Employees (full-time equivalentes):	18

Norwegian Railway Administration

The Norwegian National Rail Administration is a separate administrative body with responsibility for operation and maintenance of and investment in railway infrastructure. It is also responsible for rail traffic control, distribution of track capacity between railway operators and collection of track access charges from railway operators.

The budget of the Norwegian National Rail Administration is part of the fiscal budget. The level of activity for the Norwegian National Rail Administration's operations, maintenance and investment in railway infrastructure is based on long-range planning and the annual fiscal budgets.

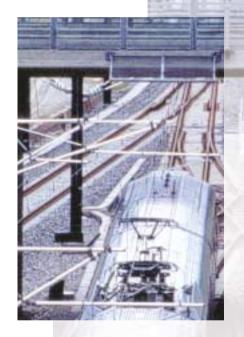
The Norwegian National Rail Administration is organized as a head office and two organizational lines, respec-

tively for infrastructure and traffic. These are divided into local and regional offices.

The Norwegian Railway Museum, which is responsible for documenting and providing information on Norwegian railway history, is also part of the Norwegian National Rail Administration.

Key figures

5 0	
Fiscal budget allocations for 2003	
Operation and maintenance of railway lines	NOK 3.0 billion
Investment in railway lines	NOK 1.35 billion
Employees (fulltime equivalents, 2002)	3 577





Flytoget AS runs an express train service to and from Oslo/Asker and Oslo Airport Gardermoen. The company is a wholly state-owned limited company. The Ministry of Transport and Communications administers the state's ownership interests and the Minister of Transport and Communications functions as the General Meeting for the company. The company's board of directors has eight members.

Flytoget AS was established as a separate company from the NSB Group on 1 January 2003.

Key figures

Operating revenues (2002)	NOK 472 million
Operating profit/loss before tax (2002)	NOK -104 million
Employees (full-time equivalents, 2002)	260



Norwegian State Railways (NSB AS)

NSB AS is a wholly state-owned limited company. The Ministry of Transport and Communications administers the ownership interests of the state and the Minister of Transport and Communications functions as the General Meeting for the company.

The board of directors of NSB AS has eight members. The NSB Group consists of the parent company NSB AS and nine partly or wholly owned subsidiaries, including the rail freight carrier CargoNet AS of which NSB owns 55 per cent. NSB owns 50 per cent of the Norwegian-Swedish passenger transport operator LINX and 35 per cent of Celexa Property Investors. The NSB Group is Norway's largest transport group. The group is divided into four business segments: Passenger trains, bus transport, goods trains and property. The main activities are passenger transport by train and bus and goods transport.

Kev figures

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Operating revenues (2002)	NOK 7 710 million
Profit/loss after tax (2002)	NOK 6 million
Public purchase of services	(2002) NOK 1 386
Employees (full-time equiva	alents, 2002) 7836

Civil Aviation Authority

The Civil Aviation Authority is a separate administrative body with responsibility for ensuring that civil aviation in Norway is operated safely and efficiently. The authority issues regulations, lays down standards for civil aviation activities in Norway, grants licences and authorizes persons and companies that seek to operate within civil aviation and related activities. One of its responsibilities is issuing licences to pilots.

The Civil Aviation Authority is also responsible for supervising and ensuring compliance with regulations and conditions. Supervision is carried out, among other ways, through system supervision and inspections of Avinor AS, airlines, workshops and other operators and persons

who perform civil aviation activities. Producers and materials are also subject to supervision by the authority.



Fiscal budget allocations for 2003
Operating revenues
(charges, etc.) NOK 84.6 million
Operating expenditure
NOK 120.0 million
Employees (full-time
equivalents, 2003): 145





Accident Investigation Board / Norway

The Accident Investigation Board / Norway is a separate administrative body subject to the authority of the Ministry of Transport and Communications but, in all professional matters, is independent. The board has responsibility for investigating civil aviation- and railway accidents and incidents. The purpose of the investigations is to reveal the causes of accidents and incidents, and to provide recommendations for the improvement of air and railway safety. The investigations do not aim to apportion blame or liability.

Key figures

5 0	
Fiscal budget allocations (2003)	NOK 20.2 million
Employees (2003)	16.5



Avinor AS

Avinor AS is a wholly state-owned limited company. The Ministry of Transport and Communications administers the state's ownership interests, and the Minister of Transport and Communications functions as the General Meeting for the company.

The company is responsible for planning, operation and maintenance of civil aviation infrastructure. Avinor AS also provides airport and air navigation facilities for airlines and other users of civil aviation installations.

Avinor's responsibilities include:

- planning, construction and maintenance of airport installations
- arrangement and production of services for passengers and airlines
 - services in the areas of information, navigation and communications
 - fire prevention, accident and terminal services Avinor is organized in five regions, each with a regional director. The head office is in Oslo. Avinor's board of directors has seven members. Avinor has two wholly owned subsidiaries: Oslo Lufthavn AS and Avinors Parkeringsanlegg AS.



Key figures

approx. NOK 2.5 billion
approx. NOK 2.5 billion
approx. NOK 0.5 billion
2 900

Avinor AS is a self-financing company. Operating costs and investment are thus in principle covered by operating income. For 2003, NOK 250 million has been allocated over the fiscal budget for the purchase of airport services to maintain operations and investments at small, commercially unprofitable airports. The major part of operating income is derived from airport charges while the remaining income is derived from business activities at the airports.

Norwegian Public Roads Administration

The Norwegian Public Roads Administration has responsibility for planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the national and county road network and for supervision of vehicles and road users. The agency also draws up provisions and guidelines for road design, road traffic, driver instruction and vehicles. The agency is also responsible for road ferries.

The Directorate of Public Roads is an independent directorate under the Ministry of Transport and Communications and is the head office of the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. Under the Directorate of Public Roads, the Public Roads Administration is divided into five regions each consisting of from three to five counties with a Regional Road Office in each region. Each region is divided into districts, of which there are 30 in the country as a whole. In each district there is a District Road Office. In national road matters, the Norwegian Public Roads Administration is subject to the authority of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. In county road matters, the

Key figures

authorities.

Fiscal budget allocations for 2003 Traffic control, operation and maintenance of national roads, etc. NOK 5 502 million National road investments

NOK 4 728 million Compensation for increased employer's contributions NOK 122 million Grant for national road ferry operations NOK 1 091 million Number of employees, 1 January 2003 5 2 7 9

In addition to national road investments over the fiscal budget for 2003, it is estimated that approximately NOK 2 025 million will be made available from road toll companies.



Mesta AS is a wholly state-owned limited company. The Ministry of Transport and Communications administers the state's ownership interests and the Minister functions as the General Meeting for the company. The board of directors of Mesta AS has eight members. The company includes all production activities that were previously organized under the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. The company was founded on 1 January 2003 as a result of the decision by the Storting to establish the production activities of the Norwegian Public Roads Administration as a separate company. Mesta AS has the business segments operations, installations and asphalt and materials production.

Kev figures

Expected turnover (2003)	NOK 6 billion
Employees (full-time equivalents, 2003)	Approx. 4 600



