

Sweden

Swedish Road Administration (SRA)

The SRA is the national authority assigned the overall sectoral responsibility for the entire road transport system in Sweden. The SRA is also responsible for drawing up and applying road transport regulations. In addition, the SRA is responsible for the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the state roads. Sweden has 139 000 km of public roads. SEK 10.3 billion was invested in state roads in 2004, and SEK 6.9 billion was used for operation and maintenance. The population of Sweden is about 9 million inhabitants and the BNP per capita 2004 was USD 38 400.

Organisation

There were 6 600 employees at the SRA in 2004. The SRA is organised into:

- a head office
- seven regional offices (see picture)
- two support and development units (Society and Traffic, Information and Administration)
- three profit centres (Traffic Registry, Driving Tests, Training & Development Centre)
- and three business divisions (Ferry Operations, Consulting Services, Construction & Maintenance).

The SRA manages State shares in SweRoad (Swedish National Road Consulting AB), which offers consultancy services abroad, and 50% of the shares in SVEDAB (Svensk-Danska Broförbindelsen SVEDAB AB).



Roads and road traffic

The Swedish road network comprises approximately 139 000 km of public roads (of which 99 000 km are state roads and 40 000 km are municipal roads), 75 000 km of private roads receiving state subsidies, and a very large number of private roads without state subsidies, mostly forest motor roads. There is also an estimated 33 000 km of pedestrian and bicycle paths in the municipalities.

20 289 km of state roads are gravel roads. There are 37 ferry routes on the state road network.

Most human transport within Sweden takes place by road. Road transport accounts for just below 90 per cent of the total volume of travel. There has been a dramatic increase in lorry traffic during the last 30 years, both in terms of weight and number of vehicles.

At the end of 2004 there were 7.1 million vehicles registered in Sweden, of which 4.6 million (passengers cars, lorries and buses) were in use. An estimated 495 people were killed in road traffic accidents in 2004, which is a slight reduction on 2003. The number of seriously injured has decreased to 4 150 according to police reports. On October 9, 1997 the Road Traffic Safety Bill founded on "Vision Zero" was passed by a large majority in the Swedish Parliament. This represents an entirely new way of thinking with respect to road traffic safety. Vision Zero is conceived from the ethical base that it can never be acceptable that people are killed or seriously injured when moving within the road transport system. It centres around an explicit goal, and develops into a highly pragmatic and scientifically-based strategy which challenges the traditional approach to road safety. The long term goal is that no-one will be killed or seriously injured within the Swedish road transport system.

Road policy

The overall aims and objectives of the operations give cause to set down the Administration's approach to certain prioritised areas in policy documents. At present, these areas are road safety, the environment, disabled persons issues, information, personnel, safety and security and total quality.

The road transport system is to be designed so that no one is killed or seriously injured in traffic. It will therefore gradually be designed to reflect human ability and the level of external violence that the human body can withstand. **The road safety policy** adopted by the SRA emphasises that our work in this field is based on protecting human life and well-being.

The road transport system is to be developed in a way that does not jeopardise the environment or public health and welfare either now or in the future. **The environmental policy** adopted by the SRA lays the ground for developing the road transport system, including our own activities, towards a situation in which the climatic impact of road transports is acceptable, the energy supply is environmentally sound, the level of vehicle emissions is acceptable, noise levels

are tolerable, natural resources are being conserved and the infrastructure is adapted to the natural and cultural environment.

In 2004 total investment volume amounted to SEK 10.3 billion. The five main projects that opened to traffic in 2004 represent an investment volume of almost SEK 9.8 billion, of which "Södra länken" cost SEK 7.6 billion.



Contact information and links to web pages

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Addresses to the regional offices are available at:
http://www.vv.se/templates/page3____8269.aspx

You can find information in different languages, mostly in English, at:
http://www.vv.se/templates/page3____954.aspx
There you can read general facts about the SRA, road traffic safety, policy documents, publications and more.