

# Analysis Berlin

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# Introduction

Inleidende tekst.

# Chapter 1

## Types of transport

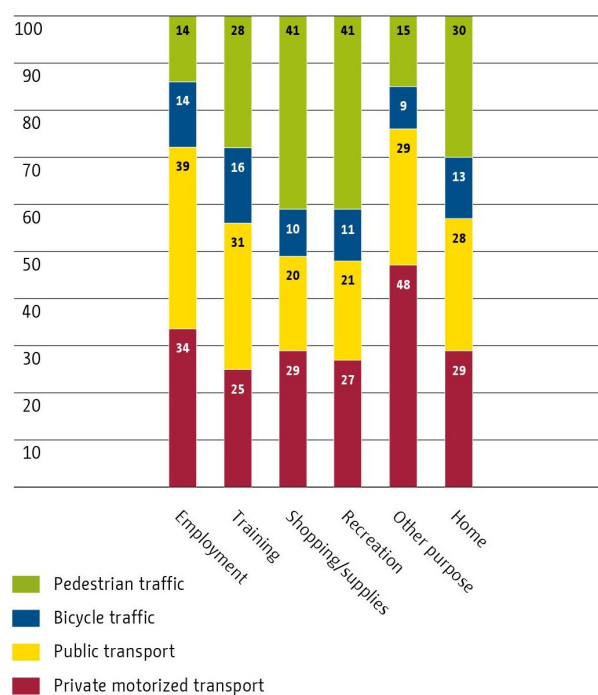


Figure 1.1: Use of transport mode by purpose of journey. [8]

### 1.1 Car

With a length of approximately 5400 km of roads the car remains the most used mean of transport to commute to work. Improving the roads and making more parking spaces available makes the car an attractive option. However, only 20% of the road vehicles traveling in Berlin are private cars. The other 80% cars are vehicles belonging to flexible, non-binding schemes and with a fixed pick-up point. The main traffic roads<sup>1</sup> ensures that people coming from Berlin's suburbs or nearby cities reach the minor roads efficiently (Figure 1.2). The vast majority of these minor roads (370 km) have a speed limit of 30 km/h upon them, which is due to safety reasons and noise control [8].

The demand for parking spaces is significantly higher than the supply, but this is where Berlin's parking policy plays a big role. A 100,000 parking spaces across 45 parking zones provides a reasonable amount of place to store the commuters vehicle during day or night. Nevertheless parking in Berlin can

<sup>1</sup>Main traffic roads: they have a total length of 160 km.



system [19]. By 1967, due to the Cold War and the division of Berlin in East and West Berlin, most tram lines that ran along West Berlin had closed, resulting in only two operational tram lines. The trace of the division is still visible, seeing that most tram lines are still in East Berlin [2]. It's made of 22 lines and measuring almost 190 km in route length. Also here there are nine Metrotrams that give service 24 hours per day with small intervals [19].

## 1.4 Train

### 1.4.1 S-Bahn

Since 1930, the *Berliner S-Bahn* has been operational in and around Berlin. This rapid transit railway system<sup>6</sup> works complementary with the U-Bahn and connects the city centre with the suburbs. Through the high frequency and travel possibilities throughout Berlin and beyond, the S-Bahn has the characteristics of the combination between a commuter rail service and a rapid transit system. This railway system has three characteristics that make this public transportation mode unique. Vehicles that use the term S-bahn, are provided of a third-rail electrical power transmission<sup>7</sup>, the Berlin S-Bahn loading gauge<sup>8</sup> and a communications-based train control system specific to the S-Bahn, in opposite of the usual automated mechanical train control system. The S-Bahn network consists of 16 lines serving 166 stations and has a total route length of 332 km. Three core lines can be seen when look at the S-Bahn: a central, elevated east-west line, a central, mainly underground north-south line and a circular line. All lines begin to disperse upward of the *S-Bahn Ring* [12]. Per year the S-Bahn transports 334 million passengers and one million commuters per work day [4].

Opposed to trams and buses, which are operated by the BVG, the S-Bahn is part of the *S-Bahn Berlin GmbH*, a company that is completely owned by the *Deutsche Bahn*, a private, joint-stock and German railway company, with the Federal Republic of Germany being its single shareholder [16].

### 1.4.2 U-Bahn

Together with the tram network and the S-Bahn, the U-Bahn is definitely the main means of transport in the German capital. The *U-Bahn* opened in 1902 and serves currently 175 metrostations across nine lines, which make a total length of 155 km. The metro vehicles run every five minutes during the day, every ten minutes during the evening and from two to five minutes during peak hours. The U-Bahn is operated by the BVG [13].

## 1.5 Ticketing system and price

As shown on Figure 1.5, Berlin's divided into three tariff zones A, B and C. Zone A surrounds the city centre and the circular *S-Bahn Ring*, zone B reaches the city limits and zone C includes the suburbs and Potsdam. The latter also belongs to the counties surrounding the city. Depending on the destination tickets can be bought for AB, BC or ABC [3]. A normal one way ticket costs respectively €3.00, €3.50 or €3.80. Moreover there are short distance tickets<sup>9</sup>, 24 hour tickets, group tickets ... Tickets can be bought at ticket machines located at train stations, on buses, in trams, ticket counters in larger stations or the mobile app. Tickets must be validated by stamping them at the means of transport [5].

In Figure 1.4 the average cost for public transport in cities around the world is displayed. The data is based on the price of a single ticket in 2017 for public transport for a journey of approximately 10 km or at least 10 stops. The first five cities are indeed the five most expensive countries for using public transport and that includes Berlin, which makes the German capital almost 45% more overpriced than Brussels.

<sup>6</sup>Rapid transit: type of high-capacity public transport generally found in urban areas.

<sup>7</sup>Third rail: A method of providing electric power to a train, through a semi-continious rigid conductor placed alongside the rails of the track [18].

<sup>8</sup>A loading gauge defines the maximum height and width for railway vehicles and their loads to ensure that they can pass safely through tunnels and under bridges [17].

<sup>9</sup>Short distance tickets cost €2.00 and are valid for three stops of the S- and U-Bahn or six stops of buses and trams.

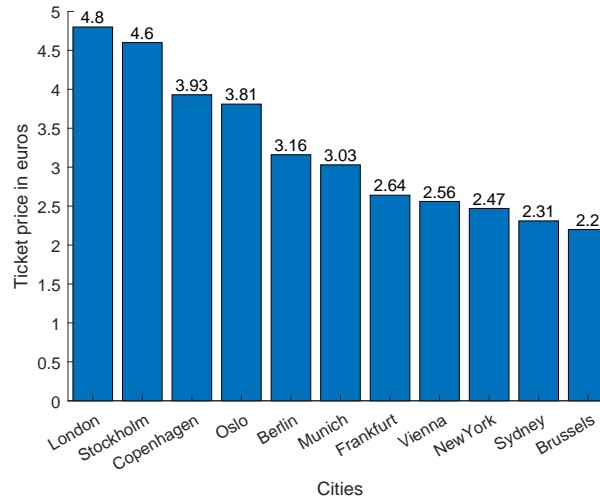


Figure 1.4: Average cost for public transport (bus, tram or metro) in selected cities around the world in 2017 [11].

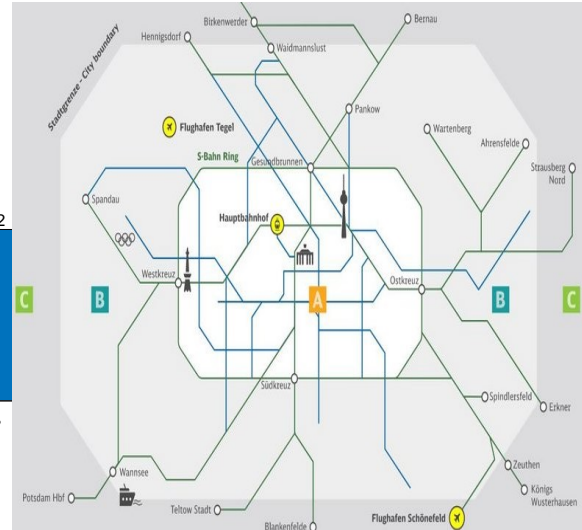


Figure 1.5: Tariff zones of Berlin demarcated according to the S-bahn train lines [3].

## 1.6 Bike (sharing system)

On average, the Berliners make 44 % of their journey on foot or by bicycle. Plus, since 2001, over 450 new crossing facilities have been constructed on the Berlin roads. and the city has currently well over 1,000 km of cycle paths, which concludes that the mobility in the city certainly is oriented towards the pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The bicycle paths can differ extensively in type: mandatory paths, off-road routes, shared bus lanes open to cyclists ... Additional *Fahrradstrassen* give priority to the cyclists and make the cars slow down to 30 km/h. If a bike ticket is purchased, it's possible to take your bike on the S- and U-Bahn, on trams and on night buses [8] [15].

In the beginning of 2018 bike sharing companies were booming immensely, but now a few decent companies survived the hype. Currently there are five active bike sharing companies operating in Berlin. The best known dealers are Nextbike, Call a Bike and Lime bikes. Their prices all lay around the same number: €1-1.5 for the first 30 minutes and then €1-1.5 per 30 minutes after that. All three of them do require to drop the bike off within the S-Bahn circular ring, so it isn't possible for people who live in the suburbs to take the bike to their front door [9].

## 1.7 Sharing systems

## Chapter 2

# Problem and solution

### 2.1 Problem statement

#### 2.1.1 Road Congestions

After Munich, Berlin is the city with the most traffic jams in Germany. Peak hour traffic jams are mostly caused by the commuting people. According TomTom [10] data commuting people need to add 12 minutes per 30 minutes in the morning and 16 minutes per 30 minutes in the evening. As a normal employee works around 48 weeks per year and 5 days per week this results in an average time lost of 48 hours in the morning 64 hours in the evening per 30 minutes additional travelling time per year. At figure ?? the average percentages of the weekly congestion per hour are visible.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM	8%	5%	5%	6%	6%	6%	8%
	6%	5%	5%	6%	5%	5%	6%
02:00 AM	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	4%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
04:00 AM	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%
	1%	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	3%
06:00 AM	2%	24%	24%	23%	21%	18%	4%
	4%	39%	38%	36%	34%	30%	6%
08:00 AM	5%	44%	44%	41%	39%	32%	8%
	8%	37%	36%	35%	34%	30%	14%
10:00 AM	12%	32%	32%	32%	31%	31%	20%
	16%	33%	33%	33%	32%	33%	25%
12:00 PM	18%	33%	33%	34%	34%	39%	28%
	19%	34%	35%	36%	36%	45%	30%
02:00 PM	21%	40%	41%	42%	43%	52%	31%
	20%	49%	52%	51%	54%	53%	28%
04:00 PM	19%	49%	52%	51%	55%	44%	25%
	21%	38%	41%	41%	45%	34%	24%
06:00 PM	20%	29%	32%	32%	35%	29%	23%
	16%	19%	21%	21%	22%	22%	19%
08:00 PM	13%	14%	15%	15%	15%	17%	16%
	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%	13%	14%
10:00 PM	8%	9%	10%	10%	10%	12%	13%
	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	10%	11%

Figure 2.1: The average percentage of weekly congestion per hour in Berlin



### 2.1.2 Train Delay

A second big problem for commuting people is train delay. Typically the commuters use the S-Bahn train 1.4.1 to enter the city and the fast ICE train if they live at a greater distance of Berlin. As Jens-Peter Schulz, CEO of Dresdner Real Estate Investment Holding & Chairman told in an article for expo real: 'Germany travellers cheer if their train arrives less than 10 minutes late'. Because the majority of the commuting people live near Berlin we will only analyse the S-Bahn train. People mostly complain that the complete railway system in Germany is not very flexible, once a train has a delay it starts a series of events that causes a lot of delays for other trains as well. Especially when the train becomes very crowded, when this happens the stop time of the trains increases every time. As that train arrives in a transfer station with a delay the other trains wait on that train so it's possible for the passengers to transfer, this results in more trains with a delay.

### 2.1.3 Ticket price

The ticket prices for public transport in Berlin are the 5th most expensive of the whole world, this is visibly at figure 1.4. As a single ticket costs around 3.16 € and majority of the commuting people need to cover on average 14.3 Km (figure ?? 2012) to go working. With an average fuel consumption of 4.1 L/100Km (2020) and a fuel price of 1,65 €/L (2021) this means going to work with the car cost around 1 € (parking payment not included). So for people that own a car and do have a parking spot near their work it financially seems to be more attractive to take the car .

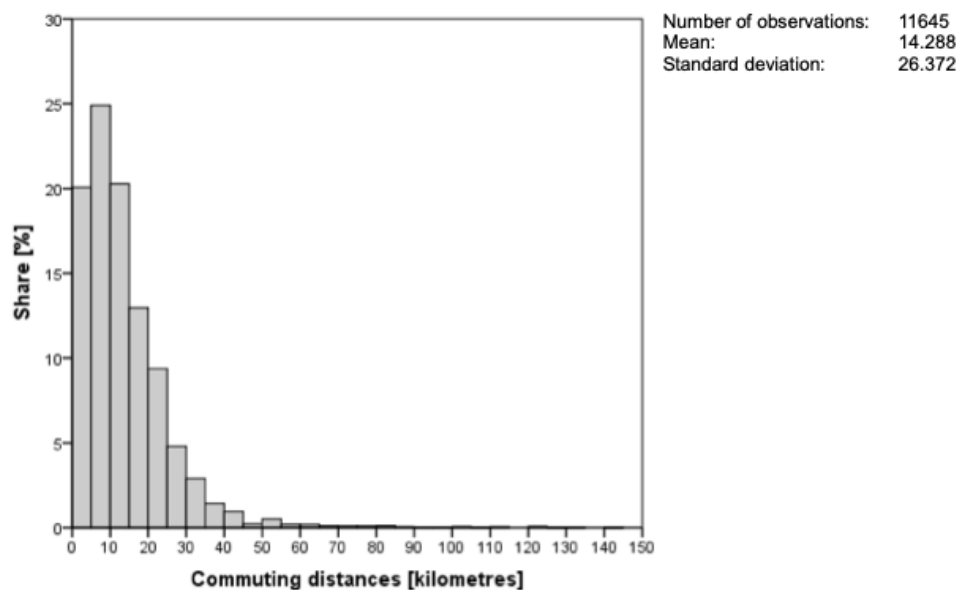


Figure 2.2: The average distance the commuting people cover.

## 2.2 Upcoming changes

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## **2.3 Proposals**

**2.3.1 Dynamic road Tax**

**2.3.2 Parking on calm places**

**2.3.3 Dynamic train ticket pricing**

**2.3.4 Train reservation system**

**2.3.5 Political change**

# Conclusion

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