

Railroad - summary paper -

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Countries

- New Zealand
- United Kingdom
- United States

Definition of Output

- Output of railroad firms is the operation of railroads for the transport of passengers and/or cargo over a long distance within a rail network.
 - Freight railroads
 - Passenger railroads

Pricing Methodology

- Tariff (USA)
- Contract transaction prices (USA)
- Prices obtained from CPI - for the rail passenger transport (NZ)
- Unit values; revenue divided by number of tonne kilometres (NZ)

Sampling

- Probability proportionate to size (USA)
 - The frame includes comprehensive and up-to-date employment and revenue data.
- Judgement samples (NZ)
 - Samples are selected on the basis of the knowledge and judgement of staff compiling the index.

Quality Adjustment

- Overlap method (USA)
- Explicit quality adjustment method (USA)
- In many instances, quality variations are extremely difficult to identify and quantify. (NZ)

Challenges

- Using the value of time for quality adjustment (UK)
 - A trial to develop a possible alternative method of quality adjustment.
 - Focusing on peoples' valuation of time; opportunity cost.
 - There are areas where alternative methodologies need to be considered (e.g., over-crowding).