

Necessity and usage of high-speed rail connections



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Rail Baltica
conference

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Information about the research

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Research Description

- **Target group:** Population in Latvia between the age of 15 and 74
- **Survey period:** March 9 – 15, 2011
- **Method:** Direct interviews at respondents' places of residence, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interviews*). At respondent's choice the interview was conducted in Latvian or Russian.
- **Sample size:** 507 respondents
- **Sampling method:** Nationally representative; the research sample is made using stratified multistage random sampling method. So that the sampling would display allocation of population in Latvia by their age, sex, nationality, the type and region of the place of residence, prior to data tabulation the sampling was scaled according to the official data of Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia.
- **General population:** approx. 1 781 529 inhabitants in Latvia (*Source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, January 2009*).
- **Accuracy of results:** Having such an amount of the sample the total statistical error of the research is +/- 4,35% at 95% probability level.

Necessity and usage of high-speed rail connection

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MAIN CONCLUSIONS

More than 70% of population in Latvia between the age of 15 and 74 think that Latvia need high-speed rail connections Tallinn-Riga-Kaunas-Warsaw-Berlin and Riga-Moscow.

Two-fifths (40%) of population in Latvia think that at first it is necessary to build Rail Baltica line (Tallinn-Berlin), whereas 18% are sure that the construction of both high-speed rails must be performed concurrently. Every fourth (25%) thinks that at first it is necessary to build high-speed rail Riga-Moscow, but 12% expresses an opinion that high-speed rails are not necessary in the direction of the West and East.

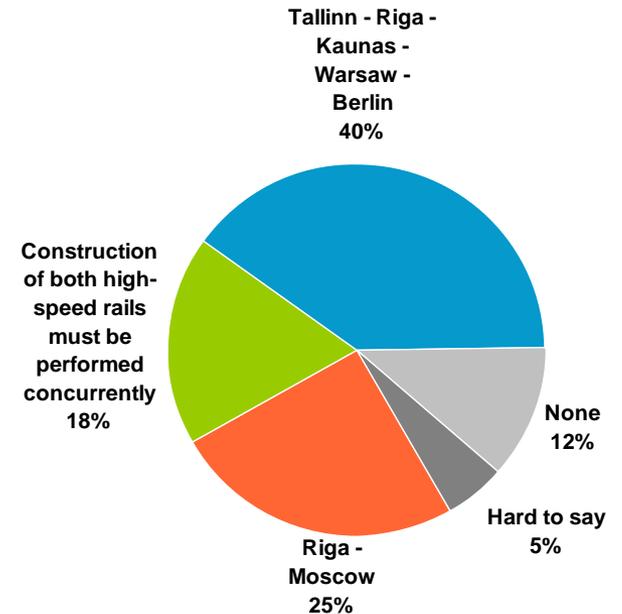
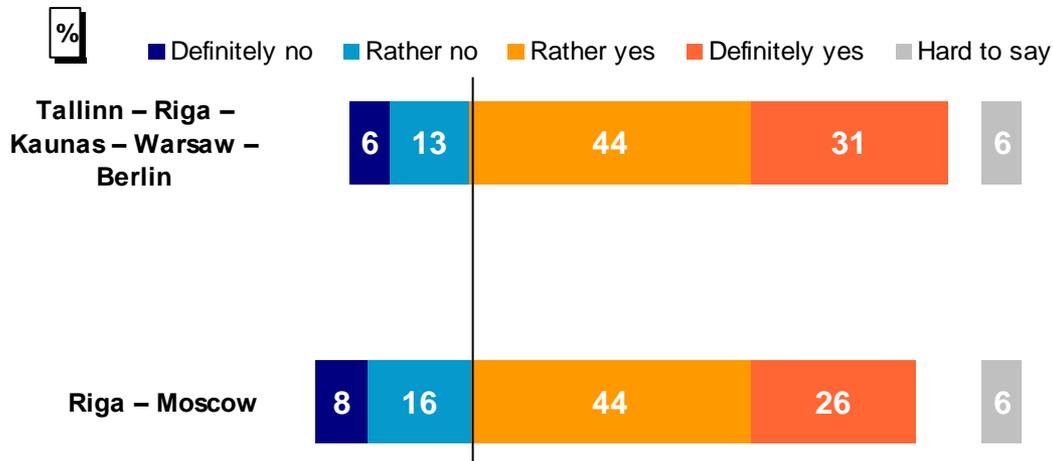


Necessity of high-speed rail connection

Q1. In your opinion, is it necessary to have a high-speed rail connection... in Latvia?

A high-speed rail means that, for instance, it could take about 2,5 hours to get from Riga to Tallinn, about 8 hours – from Riga to Berlin, but from Riga to Moscow – about 9-10 hours.

Q2. In your opinion, which of these high-speed rail lines must be built first?



Base: all respondents; n=507

Necessity of high-speed rail connection

The construction of Rail Baltica line comparatively more often is supported by people having a higher education, as well as people having a comparatively higher income (above 200 Ls per month after tax per one person in the family).

Comparatively more rarely the construction of Rail Baltica is supported by the residents of Kurzeme.

Among those inhabitants in Latvia who think that first of all there should be built a high-speed rail Tallinn-Berlin, comparatively more often there are Latvians, people between the age of 25 and 34, persons having a higher education, according to the occupation – managers/senior specialists, people having higher personal and family income.

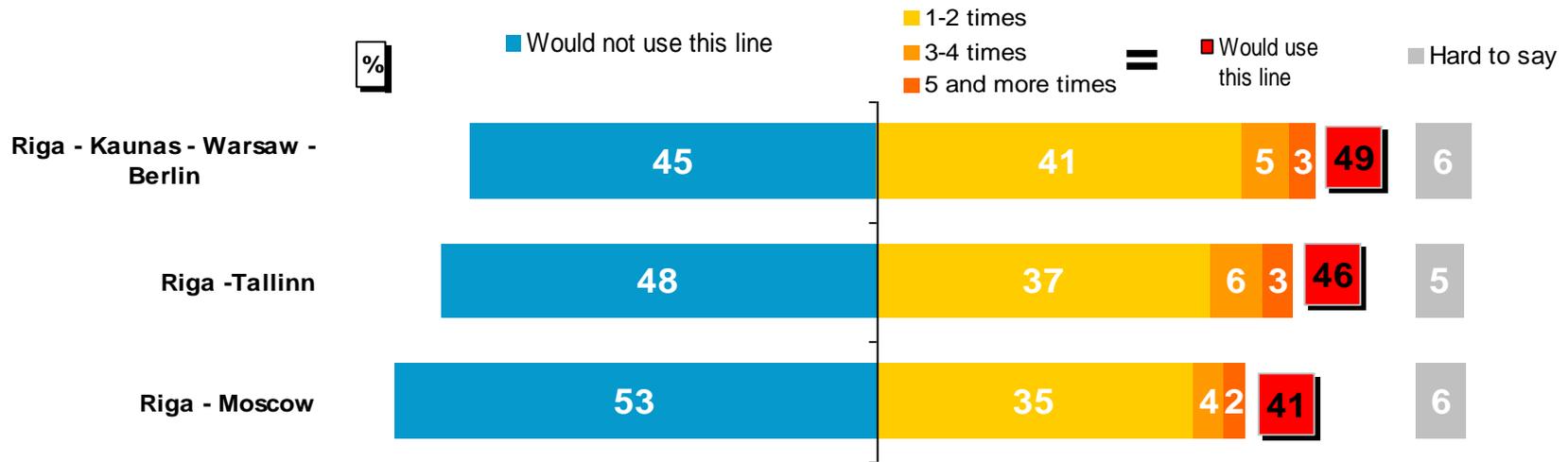
Among those inhabitants in Latvia who think that first of all there should be built a high-speed rail Riga-Moscow, comparatively more often there are Russians and people of other nationality, people having lower family income (till 150 Ls per month after tax per one person in the family), people from villages/countryside, as well as the residents of Latgale.

The construction of both high-speed rail concurrently comparatively more often is supported by 35-44 year old population in Latvia. Whereas among those people who think that such high-speed rails are not necessary in Latvia comparatively more often there are retired people.

Usage of high-speed rail connection

Q3. If high-speed rail lines Tallinn – Riga – Kaunas – Warsaw – Berlin and Riga – Moscow were available already now, approximately how many times per year would you use each of these lines?

Please consider one-way journey as one trip (e.g., a round trip by high-speed train would be two trips).



Base: all respondents, n=507

If high-speed rail lines Tallinn – Riga – Kaunas – Warsaw – Berlin and Riga – Moscow were available already now, then approximately a half of population Latvia would use these high-speed rails.

The line Riga-Berlin would be used by 49% of population in Latvia, Riga-Tallinn would be used by 46%. Whereas Riga-Moscow high-speed rail would be used by 41% of population between the age of 15 and 74 in Latvia.

Usage of high-speed rail connection

A wish to travel by high-speed train between Riga and Berlin comparatively more often has been expressed by Latvians, young people (15-34 years), people having a higher education, according to the occupation – managers/senior specialists, as well as students/pupils, people having higher personal and family income.

Comparatively more often by high-speed train there would not travel people having low personal income (less than 120 Ls per month), people having family income 121 – 200 Ls per one person in the family after tax, people having elementary education, aged inhabitants (55-74 years), retired people, people who live alone, as well as residents of Latgale.

Among those inhabitants in Latvia who have expressed a wish to travel by high-speed train between Riga and Tallinn, comparatively more often there are young people (15-34 years), according to the occupation – managers/senior specialists, as well as students/pupils, people having higher personal income, as well as single people.

Comparatively more often the high-speed line Riga-Tallinn would not use people having low personal income (less than 120 Ls per month), aged inhabitants (55-74 years), retired people, people who live alone, as well as residents of Latgale.

A wish to travel by high-speed train between Riga and Moscow comparatively more often has been expressed by Russians and people of other nationality, according to the occupation - workers.

Whereas by high-speed train between Riga and Moscow comparatively more often there would not travel people having family income 121 – 200 Ls per one person in the family after tax, aged inhabitants (55-74 years), retired people, people who live alone, as well as residents of Vidzeme.

We will be honoured if our experience and qualification would contribute to solution of issues of high importance for you.



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