

The National Transit Map

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Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Office of Spatial Analysis and Visualization

We are the Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Principal Federal Statistical Agency that provides objective, comprehensive, and relevant information on:

- extent and use of the Nation's transportation system
- how well the system performs
- effects of the system on society and the environment.

The Need

- Premise: Transit benefits the United States.
- Provides critical ladders of opportunity for millions of Americans
 - Make transportation available to people that don't have cars.
 - Provides access to Jobs, Healthcare, Education, etc...
 - Better for the environment, Saves fuel and money, and reduces congestion
 - Provides economic opportunities and drives community growth
- We should study transit and demonstrate its benefits at national and regional levels.

The Problem

- Most transit agencies publish GTFS Feeds
- We'll collect, compile, & publish the data
- Problem
 - Agencies set a variety of restrictive terms on the use of the data.
 - The data must be requested on a case-by-case basis.
 - Each dataset would have different terms of use

The Solution

- Create The [National Transit Map](#) (NTM)
 - a national repository of voluntarily provided, public domain transit data.
- The public, researchers and government agencies can access the repository and use the data for research

Registration

- Transit Agencies use [FACES](#) to opt-in and
- Grant a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 United States (CC-BY-3.0) license to the USDOT
- Register the URLs from which their GTFS feeds can be downloaded
- The registration is forwarded to BTS

Vetting the Feeds

- The URLs submitted are checked to ensure they are valid end points
- If they are not we search for the correct end point
- Sometimes valid end points cant be found

Scrapping

- The URLs are read from the Registry
- Each URL points to a zipped GTFS file
- Each .zip file is saved to a versioned directory

Building the database

- Each Zip file is opened
- Each GTFS file is opened and each record is inserted into the NTM database
- Each record is assigned an NTM ID so they maintain their unique identity

Products and Services

- Spatial
 - Participating agencies
 - Agencies by Volume
 - Stops
 - ¼ mile stop buffers
 - ½ mile stop buffers
 - ¾ mile stop buffers
- Tabular
 - Agencies
 - Feeds
 - Routes
 - Trips
 - Stop Times
 - Stops
 - Calendar
 - Others...

Anticipated Products

- User Guides
- System Documentation
- Agency provided routes
- Inferred Routes
 - (Eventually conflated to road networks)
- National GTFS Files
- APIs and Applications to query the data

Resources

- [National Transit Map Website](#)
- [OSAV Data Catalog](#)
- Email:
 - NationalTransitMap@dot.gov

Thank you!

Questions and Comments

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