

**README for “Omnibus Household Survey (OHS) 2008-11” dataset.**  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
2019-12-09

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## **LINKS TO DATASET**

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A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1506120>

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## **SUMMARY OF DATASET**

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The Omnibus Surveys were designed as a convenient way to get very quick input on transportation issues, as well as to gauge public satisfaction with the transportation system and government programs. The Omnibus Surveys consisted of two vehicles: (1) a recurring household survey of 1,000 households that collected data on core questions about general travel experiences, satisfaction with the system, and some demographic data; and (2) a series of targeted surveys to address specific transportation issues or domains. The OHS program was suspended in 2009.

In support of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Performance Plan, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) Omnibus Household Survey assesses the public's satisfaction with the transportation system and its interactions with DOT agencies. Data for the survey are from approximately 1,000 randomly selected telephone households and are weighted to allow inferences about the noninstitutionalized population aged 18 years or older who are currently living in the United States.

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## A. GENERAL INFORMATION

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### 0. Title of Dataset:

Omnibus Household Survey (OHS) 2008-11 [dataset]

### 1. Description of Dataset:

The Omnibus Surveys were designed as a convenient way to get very quick input on transportation issues, as well as to gauge public satisfaction with the transportation system and government programs. The Omnibus Surveys consisted of two vehicles: (1) a recurring household survey of 1,000 households that collected data on core questions about general travel experiences, satisfaction with the system, and some demographic data; and (2) a series of targeted surveys to address specific transportation issues or domains. The OHS program was suspended in 2009.

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### 2. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1506120>

### 3. Authorship Information:

#### Principal Data Creator or Data Manager Contact Information

Institution: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S.

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4. Date of data collection and update interval:  
20081102-20081207

5. Geographic location of data collection:  
United States of America

6. Information about funding sources that supported the collection of the data:  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation

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## **B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION**

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0. Recommended citation for the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics. (2008). Omnibus Household Survey (OHS) 2008-11 [datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1506120>

1. Licenses/restrictions placed on the data:  
These data are in the Public Domain.

2. Was data derived from another source?:  
No.

3. This dataset and its documentation was created and shared to meet the requirements enumerated in the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Plan to Increase Public Access to the Results of Federally-Funded Scientific Research" Version 1.1 <<  
<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Official%20DOT%20Public%20Access%20Plan%20ver%201.1.pdf>>> and guidelines suggested by the DOT Public Access website <<  
<https://ntl.bts.gov/publicaccess/>>>, in effect and current as of April 10, 2019.

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## C. DATA & RELATED FILE OVERVIEW

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### 1. File List for the `bts_Omnibus_Household_Survey_200811_DATA_and_Documentation.zip` collection

#### A. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_NATdata.csv`

Short description:

A CSV file that contains the dataset for the national sample of the survey data that was collected for 2008-11.

#### B. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_DMP_20191209.pdf`

Short description:

A PDF file containing the Data Management Plan that was created for current and future management of the data and associated files.

#### C. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_README.txt`

Short description:

The README.txt file that includes human-readable information about the data, variable definitions, contact information, and other contextual information. The file you are reading now.

#### D. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_documentation.pdf`

Short description:

A PDF file containing documentation information, such as methodology, procedures, data dictionary, survey questionnaire, etc.

#### E. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_NATtables.xls`

Short description:

A XLS file that contains the tables generated from the national sample dataset, these tables can also be found within the file `bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_documentation.pdf`.

#### F. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_MSAtables.xls`

Short description:

A XLS file that contains the tables generated from the metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) sample dataset, these tables can also be found within the file `bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_documentation.pdf`.

#### G. Filename:

`bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_Metadata.json`

Short description:

The machine-readable .json metadata file based on Project Open Data metadata schema v1.1.

H. Filename:

bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_200810\_DataDictionary.xls

Short description:

A XLS file that contains the data dictionary for the 2008-11 OHS dataset, the data dictionary can also be found within the file bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_200811\_documentation.pdf.

I. Filename:

bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_200811\_MSAdata\_note.txt

A TXT file that notes that the MSA data is missing from the data package.

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## **D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

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1. Description of methods used for collection/generation of data:

The methodology for the Omnibus Household Survey (OHS) 2008-11 dataset can be found within the file bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_2008-11\_documentation.pdf, listed above in the zip file collection for this dataset.

2. Instrument- or software-specific information needed to interpret the data:

The data and documentation files can be opened with any text reader. Some versions of the documentation files may be opened with PDF reading software.

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## **E. DATA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

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1. bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_200811\_NATdata.csv data table

A. Number of variables (columns):

180 variables are present in the data table. The data dictionary found in bts\_omnibus\_household\_survey\_200811\_documentation.pdf provides definitions for the variables.

B. Number of cases/rows:

1031 total rows are present in the data table: 1 header row and 1030 rows of data.

C. Each row represents:

Each of the 1030 rows represents a single Household that completed the survey.

#### D. Data Dictionary/Variable List:

Because of the large number of variables, please refer to the Data Dictionary found within the file `bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_documentation.pdf` for names, definitions, and formats of variables.

#### E. Missing data codes:

S = Appropriate Skip

R = Refused

D = Don't Know

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#### F. UPDATE LOG

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This `bts_omnibus_household_survey_200811_README.txt` file was originally created on 2019-12-09 by Jesse A. Long <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4962-1380> NTL Data Management and Data Curation Fellow, [jesse.long.ctr@dot.gov](mailto:jesse.long.ctr@dot.gov)

[Note changes or update to the `readme.txt` file, e.g.:]

2019-12-09: Original file created