

README for “National Bridge Inventory (NBI) 2008-Present” dataset.

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of
Transportation Statistics (BTS)
2021-02-09

LINKS TO DATASET

A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520766>

B. NBI Coding Guide Link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1519105>

SUMMARY OF DATASET

The National Bridge Inventory (NBI)2008-Present dataset is from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics’ (BTS’) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). The NBI is a collection of information (database) describing the more than 615,000 of the Nation's bridges located on public roads, including Interstate Highways, U.S. highways, State and county roads, as well as publicly-accessible bridges on Federal and Tribal lands. The inventory data present a complete picture of the location, description, classification, and general condition data for each bridge. The element data present a breakdown of the condition of each structural and bridge management element for each bridge on the National Highway System (NHS).

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A. GENERAL INFORMATION

0. Title of Dataset:

National Bridge Inventory (NBI) 2008-Present [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:

The National Bridge Inventory (NBI)2008-Present dataset is from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS') National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). The NBI is a collection of information (database) describing the more than 615,000 of the Nation's bridges located on public roads, including Interstate Highways, U.S. highways, State and county roads, as well as publicly-accessible bridges on Federal and Tribal lands. The inventory data present a complete picture of the location, description, classification, and general condition data for each bridge. The element data present a breakdown of the condition of each structural and bridge management element for each bridge on the National Highway System (NHS).

2. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520766>

3. Authorship Information:

Principal Data Creator or Data Manager Contact Information

Institution: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Address: 1200 New Jersey Ave SE, Washington D.C. 20590

Email: ExecSecretariat.FHWA@dot.gov

Data Distributor Contact Information

Name: National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD)

Institution: U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), The Office of Spatial Analysis and Visualization (OSAV)

Address: 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington D.C. 20590

Email: ntad@dot.gov

4. Date of data collection and update interval:

Annually in January

5. Geographic location of data collection:

Nation's bridges located on public roads, including Interstate Highways, U.S. highways, State and county roads, as well as publicly-accessible bridges on Federal and Tribal lands.

6. Information about funding sources that supported the collection of the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION

0. Recommended citation for the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) [distributor]. (2020). National Bridge Inventory 2008-Present[datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1519105>

1. Licenses/restrictions placed on the data:

These data are in the Public Domain.

2. Was data derived from another source?:

Yes. 23 CFR 650 Subpart C (National Bridge Inspection Standards) requires that States, federal agencies, and tribal governments maintain an inventory of all public highway bridges within their jurisdiction, and submit that data to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) annually or as requested. Bridges that are not federally or tribally owned (i.e. local or privately owned bridges) are submitted by the State. Regulation requires data to be submitted March 15th of each year, though there may be updates throughout the year.

3. This dataset and its documentation was created and shared to meet the requirements enumerated in the U.S. Federally-Funded Scientific Research" Version 1.1 << <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520559> >> and guidelines suggested by the DOT Public Access website << <https://doi.org/10.21949/1503647> >>, in effect and current as of December 03, 2020.

C. DATA & RELATED FILE OVERVIEW

1. File List for the bts_NBI_202102.zip collection

A. Filename:

nbi_XXXX.zip

Short description:

Compressed file folders containing the geospatial data for NBI 2008-Present dataset. Listed below are the names of the compressed file folders, classified by vintage date:

nbi_2008.zip, nbi_2009.zip, nbi_2010.zip, nbi_2011.zip, nbi_2012.zip, nbi_20013.zip, nbi_2014.zip.

B. Filename:

bts_NBI_DMP_20200408.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_NBI_20200408_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.

2. File List for the nbi_XXXX.zip collection

A. Filename:

nbi.shp

Short description:

A shapefile containing the geospatial data for NBI 2008-Present dataset. This includes associated files with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

B. Filename:

nbi.txt

Short description:

A text file containing key metadata and documentation information such as methodology, procedures, data dictionary, etc.

C. Filename:

nbi_coding_guide.pdf

Short Description:

A PDF containing the coding guide for the NBI geospatial attributes. DOI Link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1519105>

D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

The National Bridge Inventory (NBI) 2008-Present dataset was created for the 23 CFR 650 Subpart C (National Bridge Inspection Standards). The standard requires that States, federal agencies, and tribal governments maintain an inventory of all public highway bridges within their jurisdiction, and submit that data to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) annually or as requested. Bridges that are not federally or tribally owned (i.e. local or privately owned bridges) are submitted by the State. Regulation requires data to be submitted March 15th of each year, though there may be updates throughout the year. The dataset is archived on December 31st and typically published in January.

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

The data and documentation files can be opened with Esri ArcMap and any GIS software package.

E. DATA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1. XXXXXX data table

Data is updated annually. Dataset Manager is contacted to verify changes to data resulting in NTAD update. The metadata is updated in the same manner. For the most recent data, please visit the NTAD catalog at <https://data-usdot.opendata.arcgis.com/>

A. Number of variables (columns):

The data dictionary found in nbi.txt provides definitions for the variables

B. Data Dictionary/Variable List:

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

C. Missing data codes:

None

F. UPDATE LOG

This bts_NBI_20200408_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-02-09 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, dominic.menegus@dot.gov

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

2021-02-09: Original file created