README for "Freight Analysis Framework Regions (FAFR) 2013-Present" dataset.

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) [distributor]

2021-02-18

LINKS TO DATASET

A. Dataset archive link:
https://doi.org/10.21949/1520849

B. Dataset documentation link:
https://doi.org/10.21949/1519110

SUMMARY OF DATASET

The Freight Analysis Framework Regions (FAFR) 2013-Present dataset is from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). It is produced through a partnership between Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by integrating data from a variety of sources to create a comprehensive picture of freight movement among states and major metropolitan areas by all modes of transportation. The spatial component of the FAF network is derived from National Highway System Version 2016.09 and contains state primary and secondary roads, National Highway System (NHS), National Network (NN) and several intermodal connectors as appropriate for the freight network modeling. The network consists of over 440,000 miles of equivalent road mileage. The data set covers the 48 contiguous States plus the District of Columbia, Alaska, and Hawaii.

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A. GENERAL INFORMATION

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0. Title of Dataset:
   Freight Analysis Framework Regions (FAFR) 2013-Present [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:
   The Freight Analysis Framework Regions (FAFR) 2013-Present dataset is from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). It is produced through a partnership between Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by integrating data from a variety of sources to create a comprehensive picture of freight movement among states and major metropolitan areas by all modes of transportation. The spatial component of the FAF network is derived from National Highway System Version 2016.09 and contains state primary and secondary roads, National Highway System (NHS), National Network (NN) and several intermodal connectors as appropriate for the freight network modeling. The network consists of over 440,000 miles of equivalent road mileage. The data set covers the 48 contiguous States plus the District of Columbia, Alaska, and Hawaii.

2. Dataset archive link:
   https://doi.org/10.21949/1520849

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:
   Every 5 years.

5. Geographic location of data collection:
   The data set covers the 48 contiguous States plus the District of Columbia, Alaska, and Hawaii.

6. Information about funding sources that supported the collection of the data:
   U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION

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0. Recommended citation for the data:
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) [distributor]. (2020). FAFR 2013-Present [datasets]. https://doi.org/10.21949/1520849

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

2. Was data derived from another source?:
Yes. Some data derived from the states.

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

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1. File List for the bts_FAFR_20210218.zip collection

A. Filename:
faf_regions_XXXX.zip
Short description:
Compressed file folders containing the geospatial data for Freight Analysis Framework Regions 2013 Present dataset. Listed below are the names of the compressed file folders, classified by vintage date:
faf_regions_2013.zip

B. Filename:
bts_FAF_regions_DMP_20210218.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_FAF_regions_20210218_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 faf_regions_XXXX.zip collection

A. Filename:
faf_regions.shp
Short description:
A shapefile containing the geospatial data for Freight Analysis Framework Regions 2013-Present dataset.
This includes associated files with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

B. Filename:
faf_regions.txt
Short description:
A text file containing key metadata and documentation information such as methodology, procedures, data dictionary, etc.

D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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1. Description of methods used for collection/generation of data:
   Update and integrate intermodal terminals. States geo-location matched and attributes verified. Update NHS and intermodal connector links. States edge matched and NHS attributes verified with HPMS 2012. Modified NHS codes as per direction of the FHWA to align with the MAP-21 changes as reported to HPMS 2012 database. Update National Network (NN) codes based on the information from FHWA Truck Size and Weight Regulation Study, 1998 as well as the HPMS "Truck" attribute. Update LCV codes based on FHWA Truck Size and Weight Regulations. Verified with state specific input from DOT website or direct contact. Modified NHS based on amendments. Update truck route restrictions code and include restrictions due to height and hazmat designation using the State data sources, and the Rand McNally truck road atlas. Verified Intermodal terminals.

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

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1. XXXXXX data table
   Data is updated every 5 years. 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 (PDF documentation) 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 XXXXXXX.pdf for names, definitions, and formats of variables.

C. Missing data codes:
   None

F. UPDATE LOG

This bts_FAFR_20210218_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-02-18 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, dominic.menegus@dot.gov

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

2021-02-18: Original file created