

README for “Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) 1997” dataset.
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
2021-03-24

LINKS TO DATASET

A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1521118>

SUMMARY OF DATASET

The Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) provides data on the physical and operational characteristics of the Nation’s truck population. The 1997 VIUS is a probability sample of private and commercial trucks registered (or licensed) in the United States as of July 1, 1997. This survey excludes vehicles owned by Federal, state, or local governments; ambulances; buses; motor homes; farm tractors; unpowered trailer units; and trucks reported to have been sold, junked, or wrecked prior to July 1, 1996. A sample of about 131,000 trucks was surveyed to measure the characteristics of nearly 75 million trucks registered in the United States.

The survey was first conducted in 1963. It has since been conducted every 5 years as part of the economic census. Title 13 of the United States Code (Sections 131, 191, and 224) directs the U.S. Census Bureau to take the economic census every 5 years, covering years ending in 2 and 7.

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A. GENERAL INFORMATION

0. Title of Dataset:

Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) 1997 [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:

The Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) provides data on the physical and operational characteristics of the Nation's truck population. The 1997 VIUS is a probability sample of private and commercial trucks registered (or licensed) in the United States as of July 1, 1997. This survey excludes vehicles owned by Federal, state, or local governments; ambulances; buses; motor homes; farm tractors; unpowered trailer units; and trucks reported to have been sold, junked, or wrecked prior to July 1, 1996. A sample of about 131,000 trucks was surveyed to measure the characteristics of nearly 75 million trucks registered in the United States.

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2. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1521118>

3. Authorship Information:

Principal Data Creator or Data Manager Contact Information

Institution: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S.

Department of Transportation

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

Email: http://transportation.libanswers.com/form.php?queue_id=1810

Associate Data Creator or Data Manager Contact Information

Name: Office of Data Development and Standards

Institution: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S.

Department of Transportation

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

Email: VIUS@dot.gov

Organizational Contact Information

Name: National Transportation Library Data Curator

Institution: National Transportation Library, Office of Information and Library Sciences,
Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation

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

Email: ntldatacurator@dot.gov

4. Date of data collection and update interval:

Every 5 years

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

B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION

0. Recommended citation for the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics. (1997). Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) 1997 [datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1521118>

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. 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_VIUS_1997_DATA_and_Documentation.zip collection

A. Filename:

bts_vius_1997_data.csv

Short description:

A CSV file that contains the dataset for the survey data that was collected for 1997.

B. Filename:

bts_vius_1997_DMP.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_vius_1997_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_vius_1997_Metadata.json

Short description:

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

E. Filename:

bts_VIUS_1997_technical_documentation.pdf

Short description:

A PDF file that contains the technical documentation for the data, including the data dictionary for the 1997 VIUS dataset.

D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

Due to limited documentation the methodology behind the Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) 1997 dataset isn't complete.

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.

E. DATA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1. `bts_VIUS_1997_data.csv` data table.

A. Number of variables (columns):

202 variables are present in the data table. The data dictionary found in `bts_VIUS_1997_technical_documentation.pdf` provides definitions for the variables.

B. Number of cases/rows:

104546 total rows are present in the data table: 1 header row and 104545 rows of data.

C. Each row represents:

Each of the 104545 rows represents the results from a single completed questionnaire for 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_VIUS_1997_technical_documentation.pdf` for names, definitions, and formats of variables.

E. Missing data codes:

In the case of blanks found in the dataset, means either not reported, not applicable, or as reported depending on the question.

F. UPDATE LOG

This `bts_vius_1997_README.txt` file was originally created on 2021-03-24 by Jesse A. Long <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4962-1380> NTL Data Management and Data Curation Fellow, jesse.long.ctr@dot.gov

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

2021-03-24: Original file created