

## **README for “Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 2003-Present” dataset.**

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

2021-03-22

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### **LINKS TO DATASET**

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A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520832>

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### **SUMMARY OF DATASET**

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The Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) 2003-Present dataset is from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS's) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). The United States Metropolitan Planning Organizations dataset is the geographic boundaries of Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The dataset provides users with transportation planning locations, sizes and names and is intended for metropolitan area multimodal transportation planning and programming.

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## A. GENERAL INFORMATION

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0. Title of Dataset:

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) 2003-Present [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:

The Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) 2003-Present dataset is from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS's) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). The United States Metropolitan Planning Organizations dataset is the geographic boundaries of Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The dataset provides users with transportation planning locations, sizes and names and is intended for metropolitan area multimodal transportation planning and programming.

2. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520832>

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](mailto: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](mailto:ntad@dot.gov)

4. Date of data collection and update interval:

As needed/continuous

5. Geographic location of data collection:

United States of America.

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

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

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## 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). MPO 2003-Present [datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520832>

1. Licenses/restrictions placed on the data:

These data are in the Public Domain.

2. Was data derived from another source?:

Yes. State DOTs or MPOs submit their MPO boundaries to USDOT FHWA who reviews it according to Metropolitan Planning Organization regulations.

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.

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## C. DATA & RELATED FILE OVERVIEW

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### 1. File List for the bts\_MPO\_202004.zip collection

#### A. Filename:

mpo\_XXXX.zip

#### Short description:

Compressed file folders containing the geospatial data for Metropolitan Planning Organizations 2003-Present dataset. Listed below are the names of the compressed file folders, classified by vintage date: mpo\_2003.zip, mpo\_2005.zip, mpo\_2006.zip, mpo\_2007.zip, mpo\_2009.zip, mpo\_2012.zip, mpo\_2013.zip, mpo\_2014.zip

#### B. Filename:

bts\_MPO\_DMP\_20210322.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\_MPO\_20210322\_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 mpo\_XXXX.zip collection

#### A. Filename:

mpo.shp

#### Short description:

A shapefile containing the geospatial data for Metropolitan Planning Organizations 2003-Present dataset. This includes associated files with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

#### B. Filename:

mpo.txt

#### Short description:

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

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## D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries are compiled through a collaboration of state, MPO and federal agencies. State DOTs or MPOs submit their MPO boundaries to USDOT FHWA who reviews it according to Metropolitan Planning Organization regulations. If the submitted boundaries do not meet federal regulations, it is sent back to the State or MPO to correct. The data is then published by FHWA.

### 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.

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## E. DATA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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### 1. XXXXXX data table

Data is updated as needed/continuously. 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 mpo.txt for names, definitions, and formats of variables.

#### C. Missing data codes:

None

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## F. UPDATE LOG

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This bts\_MPO\_20200417\_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-03-22 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, [dominic.menegus@dot.gov](mailto:dominic.menegus@dot.gov)

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

2021-03-22: Original file created