# README for "Amtrak Stations 1996-Present" dataset.
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA); Bureau of
Transportation Statistics (BTS)[distributor]
2021-03-29

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## LINKS TO DATASET
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A. Dataset archive link:
   https://doi.org/10.21949/1520796

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## SUMMARY OF DATASET
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The Amtrak Station 1996-present dataset is from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and part of the
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS') National
Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). This database is a geographic dataset containing Amtrak intercity
railroad passenger terminals in the United States.

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## A. GENERAL INFORMATION
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0. Title of Dataset:
   Amtrak Stations 1996-Present [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:
     The Amtrak Station 1996-present dataset is from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and part of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS') National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD). This database is a geographic dataset containing Amtrak intercity railroad passenger terminals in the United States.

2. Dataset archive link:
   https://doi.org/10.21949/1520796

3. Authorship Information:
  Principal Data Creator or Data Manager Contact Information
     Institution: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
     Address: 1200 New Jersey Ave SE, Washington D.C. 20590
     Email: frapa@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

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 Railroad Administration

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## B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION
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0. Recommended citation for the data:
   U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA); Bureau of
Transportation Statistics. (2021). Amtrak Stations 1996-Present [datasets]. https://doi.org/10.21949/1520796

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

2. Was data derived from another source?:
   Yes. The dataset was created by obtaining the FRA spreadsheet for Passenger Rail Policy Division.

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_NTAD_Amtrak_Stations_Data_Package.zip collection

    A. Filename:
     amtrk_sta_XXXX.zip
       Short description:
       Compressed file folders containing the geospatial data for Amtrak Station 1996-Present dataset.

    B. Filename:
     bts_AmtrakStations_DMP_20210329.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_AmtrakStations_20210329_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 amtrk_sta_XXXX.zip collection

    A. Filename:
     amtrk_sta.shp
       Short description:
       A shapefile containing the geospatial data for Amtrak Station 1996-Present dataset. This includes
       associated files with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

    B. Filename:
     amtrk_sta.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 Amtrak Station 1996-present was created by obtaining the FRA spreadsheet for Passenger Rail Policy Division.

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 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 (.txt 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 amtrk_sta.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_AmtrakStations_20210329_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-03-29 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, dominic.menegus@dot.gov

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

2021-03-29: Original file created