

README for “Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present” dataset.
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of
Transportation Statistics (BTS)[distributor]
2021-04-12

LINKS TO DATASET

A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520848>

B. Dataset Documentation Link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1519109>

SUMMARY OF DATASET

The Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) dataset is from the 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 data included in the GIS Traffic Version database have been collected by the FHWA from the State DOTs through 24/7 permanent count data. Location referencing information was derived from State offices of Transportation. The attributes on the point elements of the database are used by FHWA for its Travel Monitoring and Analysis System and by State DOTs. The attributes for these databases have been intentionally limited to location referencing attributes since the core station description attribute data are contained within the Station Description Tables (SDT). Here is a separate Station Description Table (SDT) for each of the station types. The attributes in the Station Description Table correspond with the Station Description Record found in Chapter 6 of the 2001 Traffic Monitoring Guide. The SDT contains the most recent available for each state and station type. This table was derived from files provided by FHWA. The Station Description Table can be linked to the station shapefile via the STNNKEY field. Some station were not located in the US, and were beyond available geographic extents causing display problems. These were moved to Lat and Long 0,0. This is in recognition that the locations of these were in error, but were moved to a less obtrusive area.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A. General Information
- B. Sharing/Access & Policies Information
- C. Data and Related File Overview
- D. Methodological Information
- E. Data-Specific Information for: Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present [datasets]
- F. Update Log

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

0. Title of Dataset:

Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present [dataset]

1. Description of Dataset:

The Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) dataset is from the 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 data included in the GIS Traffic Version database have been collected by the FHWA from the State DOTs through 24/7 permanent count data. Location referencing information was derived from State offices of Transportation. The attributes on the point elements of the database are used by FHWA for its Travel Monitoring and Analysis System and by State DOTs. The attributes for these databases have been intentionally limited to location referencing attributes since the core station description attribute data are contained within the Station Description Tables (SDT). Here is a separate Station Description Table (SDT) for each of the station types. The attributes in the Station Description Table correspond with the Station Description Record found in Chapter 6 of the 2001 Traffic Monitoring Guide. The SDT contains the most recent available for each state and station type. This table was derived from files provided by FHWA. The Station Description Table can be linked to the station shapefile via the STNNKEY field. Some station were not located in the US, and were beyond available geographic extents causing display problems. These were moved to Lat and Long 0,0. This is in recognition that the locations of these where in error, but were moved to a less obtrusive area.

2. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1520848>

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 mid-April

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

B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION

0. Recommended citation for the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)[distributor]. (2020). Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present [datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520848>

1. Licenses/restrictions placed on the data:

These data are in the Public Domain.

2. Was data derived from another source?:

Yes. The data is submitted to FHWA from state DOT to Federal Highway Administration.

3. This document was created to meet the requirements enumerated in the U.S. Department of Transportation's 'Plan to Increase Public Access to the Results of 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_NTAD_TMAS_Data_Package.zip collection

A. Filename:

tmass_XXXX.zip

Short description:

Compressed file folders containing the geospatial data for Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present dataset. Listed below are the names of the compressed file folders, classified by vintage date: tmas_2013.zip, tmas_2015.zip,

B. Filename:

bts_tmas_DMP_20210407.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_tmas_20210407_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 tmas_XXXX.zip collection

A. Filename:

tmas.shp

Short description:

A shapefile containing the geospatial data for Travel Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) 2013-Present dataset. This includes associated files with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

B. Filename:

tmas.txt

Short description:

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

D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

The Travel Monitoring Analysis (TMAS) Station Dataset is created through a collaboration of both state and federal agencies. States upload all data to the FHWA. FHWA takes this data and checks lat/longs to verify accuracy. Functional classes are checked to match HPMS then the data is sent back to the states to correct. FHWA then takes final versions and populates consumer websites.

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 mid-April. 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 tmas.txt for names, definitions, and formats of variables.

C. Missing data codes:

None

F. UPDATE LOG

This bts_TMAS_Station_20210412_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-04-12 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, dominic.menegus@dot.gov

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

2021-04-12: Original file created

2023-10-17: Link Correction