

**README text file for “National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO): 2000” dataset.**  
Office of Survey Programs (OSP), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS),  
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)  
2021-12-16

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**LINKS TO DATASET**  
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A. Dataset archive link:

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1523097>

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**SUMMARY OF DATASET**  
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The National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO) is a census of all known ferry boat operations within the United States and its territories, encompassing the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition to ferry operations providing domestic service within the U.S. and its territories, operations providing services to or from at least one U.S. terminal are also included. Ferry operations included within the scope of the NCFO are those providing itinerant, fixed route, common carrier passenger and/or vehicle ferry service. Railroad car float operations are also included within the scope of the NCFO. Ferry operations that are exclusively non- itinerant, such as excursion services (e.g., whale watches, casino boats, day cruises, dinner cruises, etc.), passenger only water taxi services not operating on a fixed route, LoLo (Lift- on/Lift-off) freight/auto carrier services, or long distance passenger only cruise ship services are not included within the scope of the census.

This bts\_osp\_national\_census\_ferry\_operators\_2000\_README\_20211216.txt file was generated on 20211216 by Leighton Christiansen <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0543-4268>, National Transportation Library Data Curator, [leighton.christiansen@dot.gov](mailto:leighton.christiansen@dot.gov).

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
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- A. General Information
- B. Sharing/Access Information
- C. Data File and Related Files Overview
- D. Data Dictionary

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**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**  
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0. Title of Dataset: National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO): 2000

1. Description of Dataset: The National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO) is a census of all known ferry boat operations within the United States and its territories, encompassing the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition to ferry operations providing domestic service within the U.S. and its territories, operations providing services to or from at least one U.S. terminal are also included. Ferry operations included within the scope of the NCFO are those providing itinerant, fixed route, common carrier passenger and/or vehicle ferry service. Railroad car float operations are also included within the scope of the NCFO. Ferry operations that are exclusively non- itinerant, such as excursion services (e.g., whale watches, casino boats, day cruises, dinner cruises, etc.), passenger only water taxi services not operating on a fixed route, LoLo (Lift- on/Lift-off) freight/auto carrier services, or long distance passenger only cruise ship services are not included within the scope of the census.

2. Dataset homepage link: <https://www.bts.gov/NCFO>

3. Authorship Information

Dataset Contact Information

Name: National Census of Ferry Operators

Institution: U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Office of Survey Programs

Address: 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Email: [ferry@dot.gov](mailto:ferry@dot.gov)

Repository Contact Information

Name: National Transportation Library Data Curator

Institution: U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, National Transportation Library

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

Email: [ntldatacurator@dot.gov](mailto:ntldatacurator@dot.gov)

4. Date of data collection: 1999

5. Geographic location of data collection: United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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**B. SHARING/ACCESS INFORMATION**  
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0. Recommended citation for the data:

U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Office of Survey Programs. (2000). National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO): 2000 (Dataset). Repository & Open Science Access Portal (ROSA P). Accessed [date] from: <https://doi.org/10.21949/1523097>

1. Licenses/restrictions placed on the data:

None. BTS datasets are in the Public Domain: <http://www.usa.gov/publicdomain/label/1.0/> and <https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/>

2. This dataset and its documentation was created and shared 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 2021-12-16.

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**C. DATA FILE & RELATED FILES OVERVIEW**  
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1. File List

A.1. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_Operator.csv`

Short description: The Operator data table contains information about ferry operators and details about their operation.

A.2. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_OpSegPub.csv`

Short description: The Operator Segment data table contains information related to route segments such as ferry operators who provide service, segment length, average trip time, passenger volume, and season start and end dates.

A.3. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_Segment.csv`

Short description: The Segment data table contains information about each route segment such as the terminals it connects, the type geographic area it serves, and whether it serves a National Park Service location.

A.4. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_Terminal.csv`

Short description: The Terminal data table contains information about ferry terminals, their location, and facilities.

A.5. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_Vessel.csv`

Short description: The Vessel data table contains information about ferry vessels such as the passenger and/or vehicle capacity, speed, and fuel type.

A.6. Filename: `bts_osp_national_census_ferry_operators_2000_Terminal_Vendor_Info.csv`

Short description: The Terminal Vendor Info data table contains information about ferry operators and the services they provide.

B. Filename: bts\_osp\_national\_census\_ferry\_operators\_2000\_README\_20211216.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.

C. Filename: bts\_osp\_national\_census\_ferry\_operators\_2000\_Metadata\_20211216.json

Short description:

The machine-readable .json metadata file based on DCAT-US Schema v1.1 (Project Open Data) metadata.

D. Filename: bts\_osp\_national\_census\_ferry\_operators\_2000\_DMP\_20211216.txt

bts\_osp\_national\_census\_ferry\_operators\_2000\_DMP\_20211216.pdf

Short description:

The human-readable data management plan associated with this dataset. Available in .txt and .pdf formats

E. Filename: bts\_osp\_ncfo-query-database-schema.pdf

Short description:

The human-readable variations on the variables for the six (6) individual data tables (Operator, Vessel, Terminal, Terminal Vendor Info, Operator Segment, and Segment) sectioned by the individual data tables, to identify how they match with their general variable name and associated table. Available in .pdf format

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**D. Data Dictionary**  
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For Data Dictionary information, please see the file: bts\_osp\_ncfo-query-database-schema.pdf

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Readme UPDATE LOG  
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20211216: Readme created.