README for "Metropolitan Statistical Areas 1996-2007" dataset.
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)
2021-09-07

LINKS TO DATASET

A. ROSA-P archive dataset link(1996-2007):
   https://doi.org/10.21949/1520794

SUMMARY OF DATASET

The United States MSA Boundaries database is a geographic database of metropolitan statistical area boundaries in the United States containing information on location, identification, and size. The database includes boundaries for all 50 states.

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A. GENERAL INFORMATION
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0. Title of Dataset:
   Metropolitan Statistical Areas 1996-2007 [datasets]

1. Description of Dataset:
   The United States MSA Boundaries database is a geographic database of metropolitan statistical area boundaries in the United States containing information on location, identification, and size. The database includes boundaries for all 50 states.

2. Dataset archive link:
   https://doi.org/10.21949/1520794

3. Authorship 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

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, Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)

B. SHARING/ACCESS & POLICIES INFORMATION
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0. Recommended citation for the data:
  U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics [distributor]. (2021). Metropolitan
  Statistical Areas 1996-2007 [datasets]. https://doi.org/10.21949/1520794.

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
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1. File List for the bts_NTAD_MSA_Data_Package.zip collection

   A. Filename:
    bts_MSA_DMP_20210907.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.

   B. Filename:
    bts_MSA_20210907_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 MSA_XXXX.zip collection. Posted are the archived shapefiles, classified by vintage year
(_XXXX). Datasets will be archived as they become available.

   A. Filename:
    MSA.shp
      Short description:
      A shapefile containing the geospatial data for MSA 1996-2007 dataset. This includes associated files
with extensions .prj, .dbf, .sbn, .sbx, .shx.

   B. Filename:
    MSA.txt or MSA.met
      Short description:
      A text file containing key metadata and documentation information such as methodology, procedures,
      data dictionary, etc.

D. METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION
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1. Description of methods used for collection/generation of data:
  N/A

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 the original metadata (MSA.txt, MSA.met) provides definitions for the attributes.

B. Data Dictionary/Variable List:
   Because of the large number of variables, please refer to the Data Dictionary found within the file MSA.txt (or .met) 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_MSA_20210907_README.txt file was originally created on 2021-09-07 by Dominic Menegus, Geographer, dominic.menegus@dot.gov

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

2021-09-07: Original file created
2023-09-18: Review and updates as needed
2023-10-16: Updating end year