National Transit Map

USDOT's **Bureau of Transportation Statistics** (BTS) created the **National Transit Map** in coordination with FTA to make it easy for planners, researchers, and transit agencies to find service information about transportation in the U.S. The map consists of data submitted to BTS in response to a request for data from 270 transit agencies that provided information on over 398,000 stops and stations and almost 10,000 routes.

Development of the National Transit Map is a continuing process. This openly available map of **fixed-guideway and fixed-route transit service** will support efforts by the U.S. Department of Transportation to demonstrate the importance and role of transit in American society and to identify and address gaps in access to public transportation. It will also support research, planning, and analysis on the benefits of transit, such as the economic impacts of transit on a community's economic development or on reducing poverty in low-income neighborhoods.

General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) data are the primary source data of the National Transit Map; more than 1,000 agencies in the U.S. already publish GTFS to provide their schedules to **Google Maps** and other public applications. To date, the National Transit Map has collected and stored GTFS data sets for about half of the agencies in the U.S., representing about 75% of all vehicles used in fixed-route service.

NTD reporters can submit GTFS data to the National Transit Map by logging into FTA's **FACES** and selecting the "Actions" tab. Transit agencies must use their FACES account to register their GTFS data. BTS conducted outreach in 2021 to encourage participation by agencies and improve the completeness of the national database. This outreach effort aims to foster nationwide GTFS data publication by 2024.

Many of the GTFS data sets published in the National Transit Map provide important route information but are missing some data elements or are not updated for every schedule change. To support high-quality data in the long term, BTS is also promoting the further development of GTFS by collaborating with organizations such as **MobilityData IO** and providing technical assistance to metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and departments of transportation interested in developing GTFS programs in their region or state. Interested organizations should contact **Derald Dudley**, Office of Spatial Analysis and Visualization.

