

Data Management Plan (DMP) for “Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) 1993 [Supporting Datasets]

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS),
U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
2021-03-03

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Change log:

2021-03-03: Initial DMP written

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0. Dataset and Contact Information

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

Title of Dataset: Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) 1997 [Supporting Datasets]

URL: <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520914>

This is an ☒ initial DMP or a ☐ revised DMP.

Organizational Contact Information

Name: Commodity Flow Survey

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1. Data Description:

The 1993 Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) is the most comprehensive effort to identify where and how goods are shipped in the United States since 1977. It measures the value and weight of commodities shipped by manufacturing, mining, wholesale trade, and selected retail and service industries. Prior surveys only measured shipments by manufacturing firms. The CFS is undertaken through a partnership between the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) in the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Bureau of the Census in the U.S. Department of Commerce. Census collected quarterly data in 1993, as part of its Economic Census,

under the technical guidance of BTS. From a sample of 200,000 establishments, commodity flows were estimated for a universe of approximately 800,000 businesses. Funding was provided by the Bureau of the Census, BTS, and the Federal Highway Administration. Subsequent surveys are scheduled for 1997 and every five years thereafter.

CFS Coverage and Limitations: The CFS covers employer establishments that are located in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Surveyed establishments were selected by geographic location and industry. Each surveyed business reported on a sample of individual shipments made during a two-week period in each quarter of 1993. CFS data on individual shipments include total value and weight, commodity type, modes of transport, and domestic origin and destination. The CFS also reports on whether the commodity is shipped in containers and whether it is a hazardous material. In addition, a sample of firms provides information on the availability of on-site shipping facilities, access to shipping sites, and transportation equipment ownership and leasing data. The 1993 CFS did not adequately cover shipments of crude petroleum, which primarily affect data for pipeline and water transportation. Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) has estimated commodity flows for these two modes, which are noted in table 1. Also, the survey excludes establishments classified in the Standard Industrial Classification as farms, forestry, fisheries, oil and gas extraction, governments, construction, transportation, households, and some retail and service businesses. Furthermore, the CFS does not cover shipments originating in Puerto Rico, other U.S. territories and possessions, or foreign countries. Commodities that are shipped from a foreign location to another foreign destination, through the United States (e.g., from Canada to Mexico) are also excluded from the survey.

Associated reports can be found by searching “Commodity Flow Survey 1993” in the Repository & Open Science Access Portal (ROSA P) at: <https://doi.org/10.21949/1398953>

2. Standards Employed:

The data files collected here are saved in the ubiquitous and common .csv file format.

Documentation will include this data management plan, and the metadata and readme files created in 2021. Documentation will also include the variable definitions, tables, data dictionary, and relevant supporting files created alongside the data from 1993.

A DCAT-US v1.1 (Project Open Data Metadata Schema Version 1.1) .json metadata file will be created to describe the archival location of this data, and that .json file will be uploaded to data.gov and transportation.data.gov

Necessary software tools: The file formats found in the zip files include: .txt files and .csv files, which can be opened using any text editor; .xlsx files, which can be opened with Microsoft Excel, and other free available software, such as OpenRefine; .json files, which can be opened in text editors or xml editors; and, .pdf files which can be opened with PDF readers.

3. Access Policies:

These data files are in the public domain, and can be shared without restriction. The data files contain no sensitive information.

4. Re-Use, Redistribution, and Derivative Products Policies:

These data are managed by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. The data are in the public domain, and may be re-use without restriction.

Citation of the data is appreciated. Please use the following recommended citation:

U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics. (1997). Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) 1993 [Supporting Datasets]. <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520915>

5. Archiving and Preservation Plans:

The dataset will be archived in the National Transportation Library Repository and Open Science Access Portal (ROSA P). Prior to archiving, the data are stored on the secured BTS networks and drives, which are backed up

nightly. The US DOT systems are secured from outside users and backed up daily.

Files in ROSA P are backed up in NTL drives at US DOT, daily; at the Centers for Disease Control, the repository managing facility, daily; and in Amazon Web Service Cloud servers in Virginia and Oregon daily.

The dataset will be retained in perpetuity.

NTL staff will mint persistent Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for each dataset stored in ROSA P. These DOIs will be associated with dataset documentation as soon as they become available for use.

The DOIs associated with this dataset include: <https://doi.org/10.21949/1520915>

The assigned DOI resolves to the repository landing page for the “Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) 1997” dataset, so that users may locate associated metadata and supporting files.

ROSA P meets all the criteria outlined on the “Guidelines for Evaluating Repositories for Conformance with the DOT Public Access Plan” page: <https://ntl.bts.gov/publicaccess/evaluatingrepositories.html>

6. Policies Affecting this Data Management Plan

This data management plan 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 March 03, 2021.