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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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ABOUT US

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is a Principal Federal Statistical Agency that provides objective, comprehensive, and relevant information on the extent and use of the Nation's transportation system, how well the system performs, and the effects of the system on society and the environment

WHO IS INCLUDED?

The geographic scope of the 2022 National Census of Ferry Operators includes the U.S. and its possessions (i.e., the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the remaining territories, commonwealths and other political units of the U. S.). This includes political units that are an unincorporated territory of the U.S., maintain a Compact of Free Association with the U.S., or are a commonwealth associated with or in political union with the U.S. In addition to ferry operators providing domestic service within the U.S. and its possessions, operators providing services from locations in the U.S. and its possessions to and from a foreign country are also to be included (for example, the British Virgin Islands).

WHO SHOULD COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE?

The specific types of ferry operations to be included within the scope of this census are those providing itinerant, fixed route, common carrier passenger and/or vehicle roll-on, roll-off (RoRo) ferry service, as well as railroad car float operations. More specifically, the following types of operations should complete the census questionnaire:

- Ferry or water taxi operations that have fixed routes between two or more different ports of call.
- Ferry or water taxi operations that provide service on a fixed schedule or on demand within a fixed window of time.
- Common Carriers (e.g. for-hire carriers) who serve the general public at reasonable rates and without discrimination.
- Railroad car float operations that utilize a tug and barge combination having two to three parallel tracks, onto which rail cars are rolled for transit across a body of water.

WHO SHOULD NOT COMPLETE THE CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE?

The following types of operations will not be included in the National Census of Ferry Operators:

- Non-itinerant ferry operations (e.g., "cruise-to-nowhere" services).
- Excursion services (e.g., whale watches, casino boats, day/dinner cruises, etc.).
- Passenger only water taxi services not operating on a fixed route.
- LoLo (Lift-on/Lift-off) freight/auto carrier services.
- Long distance passenger only cruise ship services.

If you are not sure whether your operation should not be included in the census, please contact the U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, at 1-800-853-1351 or email Ferry@dot.gov (link sends email).

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics is conducting a nationwide survey of ferry boat operators for the U.S. Department of Transportation. This census is authorized by law [Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114-94, sec. 1112)] that requires BTS to maintain a database of existing ferry operations across the United States. The Federal Highway Administration also uses the data collected on passengers, vehicles, and route miles to set the specific formula for allocating federal ferry funds (23 USC 147(d)). Your company's participation in this census is strictly voluntary. By law (5 United States Code 552(b)(4)), any confidential business information we may collect will be kept confidential and will not be made public or shared outside of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Under federal law (18 United States Code 1905), employees and contractors working on this census are subject to penalties if they make public ANY information that could reveal confidential business information. At the end of this census questionnaire, we ask that you identify any information that you consider confidential business information. Please note that information which your business releases to the public on a routine basis or is in the public domain, generally, does not qualify as confidential business information.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 states that no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this survey is 2139-0009 (Expires September 30, 2022). If you have questions or comments about this survey, please call 1-800-853-1351 or email Ferry@dot.gov.

FEDERAL FERRY FUNDS

Information provided on number of passengers, vehicles, and route miles will be used by the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for funding allocation purposes as outlined by the funding formula described in 23 USC 147(d).

CONTACT US

NCFO Project Manager
Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Office of Survey Programs
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States
Email: Ferry@dot.gov
Phone: 800-853-1351

Business Hours:
9:00 am - 5:00 pm ET, M-F

PRINTABLE NCFO QUESTIONNAIRE (FOR SUBMITTAL OUTSIDE OF THE ONLINE TOOL)

The most time efficient and easiest way to access and complete the NCFO questionnaire is by logging into the web questionnaire from this page using your ferry operation's unique log-in and password sent to your ferry operation by email. If you do not remember or have misplaced the unique log-in credentials for your ferry operation, please call the Ferry Census Project Manager at (202) 366-2468.

The hardcopy version supplied [here](#) can be saved or printed and used as a helpful guide to the order and questions that will be asked in the web questionnaire.

If you do not wish to or cannot complete your operation's questionnaire online, please print and complete the hardcopy supplied [here](#). Once completed, please call the number above and request a paid return envelope to be sent to you.

NCFO Frequently Asked Questions

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE 2018 CENSUS OF FERRY OPERATORS?

The geographic scope of the 2018 National Census of Ferry Operators includes the U.S. and its possessions (i.e., the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the remaining territories, commonwealths and other political units of the U. S.). This includes political units that are an unincorporated territory of the U.S., maintain a Compact of Free Association with the U.S., or are a commonwealth associated with or in political union with the U.S. In addition to ferry operators providing domestic service within the U.S. and its possessions, operators providing services from locations in the U.S. and its possessions to and from a foreign country are also to be included.

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HOW IS THE SURVEY DATA USED FOR FUNDING PURPOSES?

Information provided on passengers, vehicles, and route miles will be used by the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for funding allocation purposes as outlined by the funding formula described in 23 USC 147(d).

National Census of Ferry Operators

	BTSTest3
	

Log in

For ease of use, it is recommended you set your browser to full screen mode while using this tool

Company / Operator Information

Please ensure that the information below is complete and correct. If the information is not correct, please update it where necessary.

* Indicates a required field

Company/Operator Name*

Address Line 1*

Address Line 2

City*

State/Territory/Province*

Zip*

Company Website

Company Telephone*

ex. (555) 555-1212

Was this ferry operation being serviced under contract by a company other than the operator name stated above in 2022?

☒ YES

☐ NO

Name of Company Contracted to
Operate

Contracting Inc

Are you completing this census on behalf of a federal, state, or local government agency?

☐ YES

☒ NO

Contact Information

* indicates a required field

Survey Respondent Name

(Person completing this survey)

Primary Contact Name*

Primary Contact Email*

Primary Contact Phone

ex. (555) 555-1212

Secondary Contact Name

Secondary Contact Email

Secondary Contact Phone

Contact Information

Trip Purpose

Operational Trip Purpose(s)- Please Check All that Apply

- ☐ Commuter and/or Public Transit
- ☐ Pleasure, Recreational, and/or Tourism
- ☐ Lifeline Service ⓘ
- ☐ Roadway Connector
- ☐ National Park Service Access
- ☐ Emergency Service
- ☐ Other, please specify

Hover over ⓘ for additional information about a field

Revenue

Revenue

Please indicate the percentage of your operation's annual revenues for calendar year 2022 that came from each of the following sources. (Percentages must add up to 100%)

- %: Individually purchased tickets or fares (including fare cards)
- %: Payments from private contracts (charters, concessions, etc.)
- %: Payments from advertising contracts
- %: Payments from contracts with public agencies
- %: Public funding (grants, etc.): Federal
- %: Public funding (grants, etc.): State
- %: Public funding (grants, etc.): Local
- %: Other funding

Total: 0%

Previous

Next

Funding Information

Does this Operation Receive Public Funding Sources? ☒ YES
☐ NO (Public Funding Sources Are Not Accepted)

Note: Click on a column header to sort by a value, or use the "Search Sources" field above the table to find a particular funding source.

Agency Name	Program Name	Agency Type	
Agency A	Program B	FEDERAL	Edit

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 rows 10 rows per page

Add a New Funding Source

PreviousNext

Vessel Information

Please verify and/or edit each vessel listed below to specify if the vessel was in-service for your operation during calendar year 2022 and complete the additional information on each vessel. Add vessels in your fleet that are not included on the list, if applicable. Include unpowered barges and powered tugs used for ferry service.

Note: Click on a column header to sort by a value, or use the "Search Vessels" field above the table to find a particular vessel.

Vessel Name	Information Completed	
Vessel 1	Complete	Verify / Edit
My Vessel 2	Complete	Verify / Edit

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 rows 10 rows per page

Add a New Vessel

Vessel Information

Please indicate the vessel name, vessel number(s) and whether or not it was in service in 2022.

* indicates a required field

Vessel Name *:

USCG Vessel Number:

If unknown, you can search by vessel name [here](#)

MMSI Number:

Call Sign:

Vessel In-Service Type*

- ☒ Powered Ferry
☐ Barge (Unpowered)
☐ Tug

Vessel In-Service (for your operation) *

- ☒ YES
☐ NO

Cargo Type and Capacity

Please include the cargo type, and passenger (not including crew) and vehicle carrying capacity whether or not it was in service in 2022. Vehicle capacity is the number of cars that each vessel can carry (assuming all cars are 20 feet long).

Vessel Cargo Type (check all that apply): ☐ Passengers ☐ Vehicles ☐ Freight

Fuel

During calendar year 2022, please list the fuel type and either the typical fuel mileage (gallons per hour) or vessel service hours.

Fuel Type Used By This Vessel Fuel Mileage ⓘ

- ☐ Diesel
☐ Gasoline
☐ Biodiesel
☐ Electric
☐ Diesel-Electric Hybrid
☐ Other

Gallons/Hour

Service Hours:

Hover over ⓘ for additional information about a field

Ownership

Please indicate whether the vessel was publicly or privately owned and/or operated, during calendar year 2022. If publicly owned or operated (in whole or in part), please list the name of the public owner and/or operator.

* Indicates a required field

Ownership *	☐ Private Ownership ☒ Public Ownership ☐ Both	Public Ownership Name *	
Operation *	☐ Private Operation ☒ Public Operation ☐ Both	Public Operator Name *	

Other Characteristics

During calendar year 2022, please denote if the vessel was accessible to persons with disabilities, state the year the vessel was built, the lifespan of the vessel, the number of nautical miles the vessel traveled in 2022, as well as the typical operating speed of the vessel.

Hover over ⓘ for additional information about a field

* Indicates a required field

Accessible to Persons with Disabilities?	☐ YES ☐ NO
Year Built ⓘ	
Expected Lifespan (Remaining) ⓘ	 In Years
Distance Traveled in 2022 ⓘ *	4000 In Nautical Miles, rounded to the nearest whole number
Operating Speed ⓘ	 In Knots

Terminal Information

Please verify and/or edit each terminal listed below to specify if the terminal was in-service for your operation during calendar year 2022 and complete the additional information on each terminal. Add terminals in your operation that are not included on the list, if applicable.

Note: Click on a column header to sort by a value, or use the "Search Terminals" field above the table to find a particular terminal.

Terminal Name	City	State	Information Completed	
North Irvington Terminal	Irvington	VA	Incomplete	Verify / Edit
Trial Removed Terminal	Annandale	VA	Complete	Verify / Edit
Southern Terminal	Yorktown	VA	Complete	Verify / Edit
			Incomplete	Verify / Edit

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 rows 10 rows per page

Terminal Information

Include the name and location (city and state or province) of each ferry terminal served by your operation in 2022.

* indicates a required field

Terminal Name*

Delete Terminal

City*:

State/Territory/Province*:

Terminal In-Service (for your operation) *:

☒ YES

☐ NO

Access Mode

Ownership

Access Mode

Indicate each mode of access that is within one block walking distance of the terminal (i.e., within 100 yards, or about the length of a football field)

Terminal Modes of Transportation Access (Mark all applicable)

☒ Parking ☒ Local Bus ☒ Intercity Bus

☐ Local Rail ☐ Intercity Rail ☐ Bike Share

☐ None ☐ Other

Ownership

Please indicate whether the terminal was owned and operated either publicly or privately, during calendar year 2022. If publicly owned or operated (in whole or in part), please list the name of the public owner and/or operator.

* indicates a required field

Ownership *: ☐ Private Ownership ☒ Public Ownership ☐ Both

Public Ownership Name *:

Operation*: ☐ Private Operation ☒ Public Operation ☐ Both

Public Operator Name *:

Segment Information

Please verify and/or edit each segment listed below to specify if the segment was in-service for your operation during calendar year 2022 and complete the additional information on each segment. Add segments in your operation that are not included on the list, if applicable.

Note: Click on a column header to sort by a value, or use the "Search Segments" field above the table to find a particular segment.

Origin	Destination	Information Completed	
Trial Removed Terminal	North Irvington Terminal	Complete	Verify / Edit
North Irvington Terminal	Southern Terminal	Complete	Verify / Edit
Southern Terminal	North Irvington Terminal	Complete	Verify / Edit
		Incomplete	Verify / Edit

Segment Information

* indicates a required field

Route Origin*:

North Irvington Terminal ▾

Delete Segment

Route Destination*:

Southern Terminal ▾

Segment In-Service (for your operation) *

☒ YES

☐ NO

Segment Operation Information

Individual route segments are defined by the direct (one-way) travel between two ferry terminals without stops. A given ferry route may be made up of multiple segments. Please list each segment separately, including the name of the departure and arrival terminals, the segment length, the segment travel time, the start and end dates during which the individual route segment was served.

* indicates a required field

Segment Length *

25

Nautical Miles ▾

Segment Travel Time *

1 ▾

Hours

5 ▾

Minutes

-- ▾

Seconds

Number of Trips/Year *

100

Segment is a Year Round Operation? (01/01 to 12/31)

☐ YES

☒ NO

Season Start (mm/dd)*

Season End (mm/dd)*

Segment Vessels

For each route segment, please list the name of the vessel(s) operated to serve the segment in calendar year 2022.

* indicates a required field

Which of your vessels are used for this route?
Select all that apply

My Vessel 2 ▾

Most Used Vessel on Segment *

My Vessel 2 ▾

Fare Regulations

Please indicate whether the route segment fares are regulated (set) by a public agency for calendar year 2022. If the fares are regulated, please include the name of the agency.

Fares Regulated?

☒ YES

☐ NO

Regulating Agency

Boardings

Please report the 2022 calendar year total and 2022 daily average of passenger and vehicle boardings for the route segment. Report only unique segment boardings (i.e., not those already onboard from a previous segment). Please include the total number of occupants in each vehicle in your passenger counts to avoid underreporting.

Hover over ⓘ for additional information about a field

* indicates a required field

Total Passenger Boarding Count *

Enter 0 if None

Total Vehicle Boarding Count *

Enter 0 if None

Average Passenger Daily Boardings ⓘ

Enter 0 if None

Average Vehicle Daily Boardings ⓘ

Enter 0 if None

☐ I do not
wish to
provide
boarding
data

Submit Survey

Please indicate whether your operation's boarding information or any other information you provided is business-sensitive information. (Please note: Information that you release to the public on a routine basis generally does not qualify as business-sensitive information).

- ☐ Boarding Information is NOT business-sensitive
- ☐ Boarding information is business-sensitive
- ☐ Other information is business-sensitive (Please indicate specific information in the next field)

☐ I hereby certify that my responses to the 2020 National Census of Ferry Operators are to the best of my knowledge accurate and have been prepared from approved company data. *

Respondent Title

Respondent Name*

Previous

Submit

Logout

Thank you!!!



If you have questions, edits, or corrections to make,
please contact us at:

FERRY@DOT.GOV 

or

1-800-853-1351

[Download Your 2022 Response](#)

If you have any feedback on the survey or ideas to improve the user experience, please share them via the box below!

Enter feedback here