

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Overview: The Bureau of Transportation Statistics' mission is to develop high-quality transportation data and information, and to advance their use in both public and private decision-making. The 2003 budget request for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) totals \$35.8 million. This includes a \$4 million direct appropriation for the Office of Airline Information (OAI), which collects critical data on airline schedules, fares, financial performance, and customer service.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS BUDGET (Dollars in Millions)

	2001 <u>Actual</u> [31]	2002 <u>Enacted</u> [32]	2003 <u>Request</u> [32]
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (TF)	[31]	[32]	[32]
Office of Airline Information (TF)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL 1/	[31]	[32]	[36]

1/ Includes estimated accrual payments of \$0.4 million in FY 2001 and \$0.6 million in FY 2002 for civil service retirement and health benefits.

FY 2003 Budget

Planned actions in 2003 include:

- Improve freight data - collect freight data annually, instead of every five years, vastly improving the completeness and timeliness of freight flow information.
- Streamline aviation data - develop new regulations to both reduce airlines' reporting burden and at the same time improve the quality and usefulness of the data collected.
- Integrate *TranStats* (the Intermodal Transportation Data Base) and the National Transportation Library (NTL) – create one-stop shopping for transportation information on the web.
- Review DOT data programs - help improve the accuracy, reliability, and timeliness of data used to make transportation management and policy decisions.

