

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Overview: The Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) mission is to develop high-quality transportation data and information. The FY 2004 budget request of \$35.5 million - \$31.5 million from the Highway Trust Fund and \$4 million from the Airport and Airways Trust Fund - reflects a proposal to sharpen the agency's focus around five core data programs and two cross-cutting research programs. Resources will be used to develop timely and reliable freight, travel, economics, airline, and geospatial data. The research programs will develop and publish key indicators of national transportation system performance, and improve statistical methods and standards to address transportation-specific problems.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS BUDGET (Dollars in Millions)

	2002 Actual	2003 1/ Request	2004 1/ Request
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (TF)	[31]	[31]	[32]
Office of Airline Information (TF)	0	4	4
TOTAL	[31]	[35]	[36]

1/ Excludes estimated accrual payments for civil service retirement and health benefits.

FY 2004 Budget

BTS' activities are aimed at informing transportation policymakers, planners, and researchers - the people who solve transportation problems. Planned outputs in 2004 include:

- Freight and travel flow - replace infrequent, incomplete freight and passenger flow surveys with continuous data collection programs that fill critical gaps.
- Measurement - develop reliable indicators of transportation system performance.
- Economic analysis - explain how transportation activity, investment, and disruption impacts the larger economy.
- Geospatial data - map transportation and related data for planning, policy, and homeland and national security.
- Airlines statistics - deliver timely data and analysis on airline activity, performance, and financial condition.

