



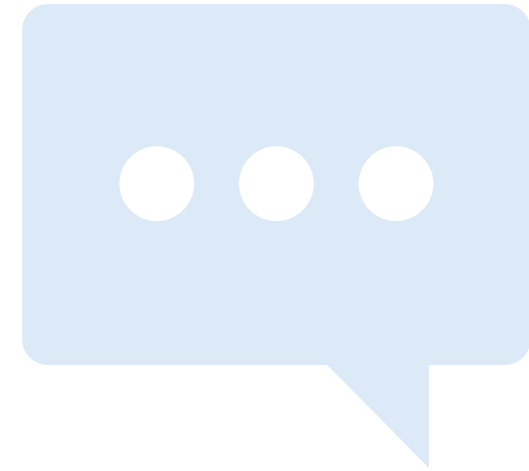
National Freight Strategic Plan

National Engagement Webinar

July 21, 2025

Welcome to the Webinar

- Closed captioning
- Question & Answer pod
- Interactive polls



Your Opinions Count! RFI Open Now through August 14.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/07/15/2025-13219/national-freight-strategic-plan-2025-update-request-for-information>

Agenda

Introduction

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure & Policy

Overview

Update Approach to the 2025 NFSP

Q&A

Submit your questions to the question pod throughout today's webinar – we'll address questions at the end!



Cathy Gautreaux

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight
Infrastructure and Policy

NFSP Update Overview

- New statutory requirements
- Planned approach and analyses
- Timeline

2020: The First-Ever NFSP

- FAST Act Requirement
- Described:
 - Conditions and performance of the multimodal freight network
 - Key trends and challenges
 - Strategic goals and objectives to improve the Nation's freight movements

NFSP Vision Statement:

The freight transportation system of the United States will strengthen our economic competitiveness with safe and reliable supply chains that efficiently and seamlessly connect producers, shippers, and consumers in domestic and foreign markets.



IJA Statutory Requirements



Define System Characteristics

- Multimodal Conditions & Performance Analysis
- Volume forecasts (5, 10, 20 years)
- Identify trade gateways
- Identify major agricultural, energy, manufacturing, and natural resource corridors
- Identify nationally significant bottlenecks



Identify Trends and Challenges

- Statutory, regulatory, technological, financial and other barriers to better freight performance
- National or global trends affecting goods movement



Develop Strategies

- Process for addressing multistate projects and multijurisdictional coordination
- Improving intermodal connectivity
- Improving NFMN performance



Highlight Effective Practices

- Mitigating freight's impacts on local communities
- Reducing environmental impacts
- Increasing system resiliency
- Promoting economic growth and competitiveness
- Identifying unique impacts on rural and underserved communities
- Decarbonizing freight movement
- Addressing impacts of eCommerce on the freight system

What requires updates?

Trends & Challenges

- Freight trends have changed since original NFSP's drafting in 2019
- Descriptions of social, geopolitical, economic, and business trends affecting goods movement will be re-analyzed



GROWING POPULATION AND ECONOMY

The population and economy of the United States are growing at a steady pace contributing to increased demand for freight. The fastest growing regions of the country are primarily in southern and western States.



DIVERSIFYING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

International trade is growing and supply chains are becoming increasingly global, increasing congestion at ports, border crossings, and on the infrastructure that connects these trade gateways to the broader transportation system.



RISING DOMESTIC FUEL PRODUCTION

Rapidly increasing domestic fuel production requires new and expanded infrastructure to safely and efficiently move fuel from production areas to refineries and export terminals.



CHANGING URBAN-RURAL DYNAMICS

Furthering a long-term trend, the population of the United States is becoming more concentrated in increasingly congested metropolitan areas, creating challenges for delivery of goods. Declining rural populations must support critical freight corridors, while providing essential goods to sustain urban markets.



INCREASING E-COMMERCE

Online shopping is rapidly increasing as a share of retail sales, creating new demands for faster and cheaper delivery of goods straight to consumers. This trend is changing land use patterns and contributing to increased truck traffic and competition for curb space in residential areas.



ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY

Emerging technologies from automation to delivery drones to the Internet of Things have the potential to transform the freight industry, disrupting old business models and changing the nature of freight jobs.



EVOLVING WORKFORCE

Changing technologies and workforce expectations, coupled with low unemployment, are making it difficult for some freight companies and government agencies to attract and retain qualified employees.

What requires updates?

New Draft National Multimodal Freight Network

Once finalized, the NMFN will:

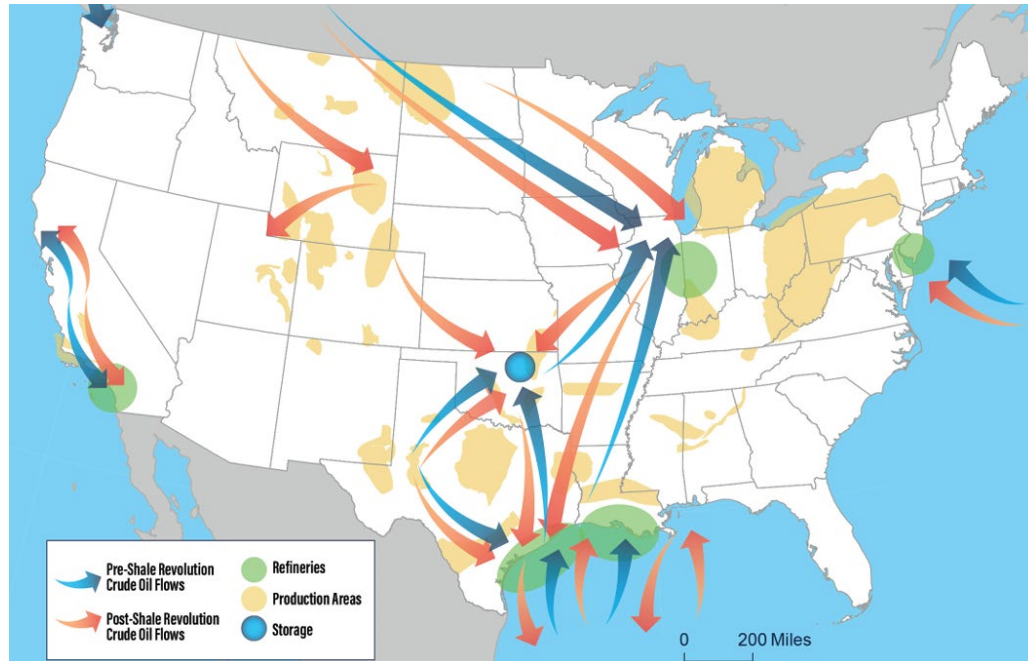
- Assist States in strategically directing resources toward improved system performance for the efficient movement of freight on the Network
- Inform freight transportation planning, to assist in the prioritization of Federal investment
- Assess and support Federal investments to achieve the national multimodal freight policy goals and the national highway freight program goals



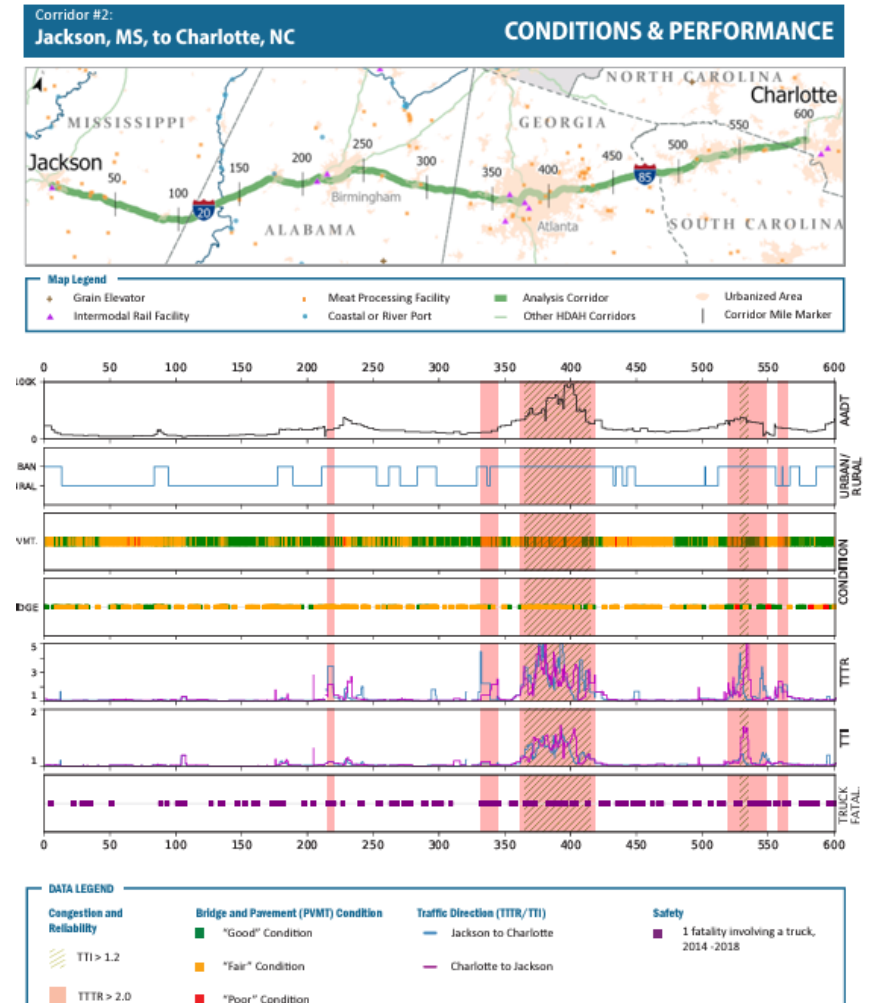
Draft National Multimodal Freight Network (NMFN) as posted in the National Register (January 2025)

What requires updates?

Corridor Identification



Energy sector corridors (2020 NFSP)



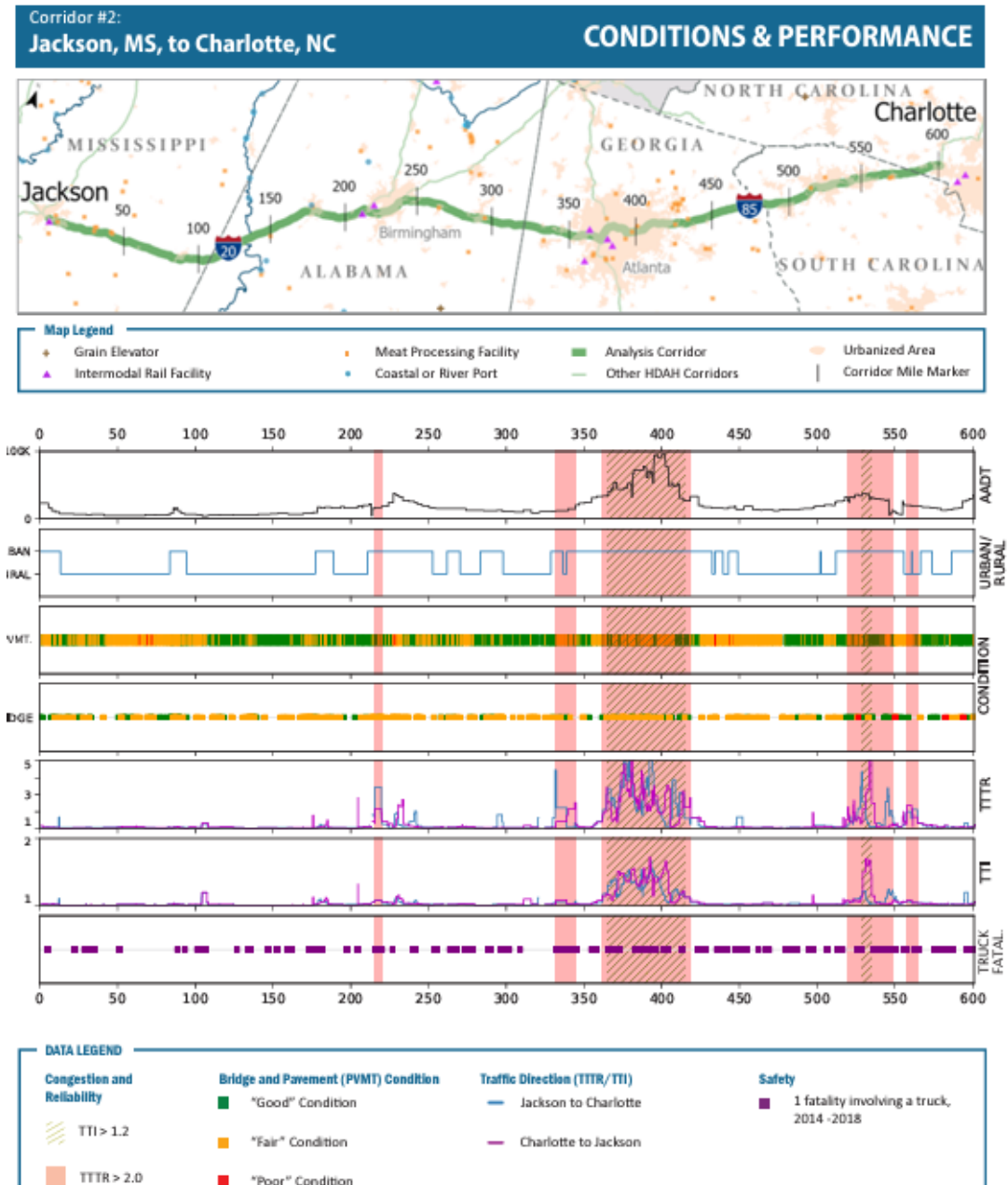
Agriculture sector corridors (2020 USDA report)

What requires updates?

Corridor Identification

Describe conditions and performance trends on the highest volume commodity corridors:

- Average Annual Daily Traffic
- Urban/rural areas
- Infrastructure conditions (e.g., pavement cracking, bridge conditions, lock conditions)
- Reliability
- Congestion
- Freight-involved fatalities

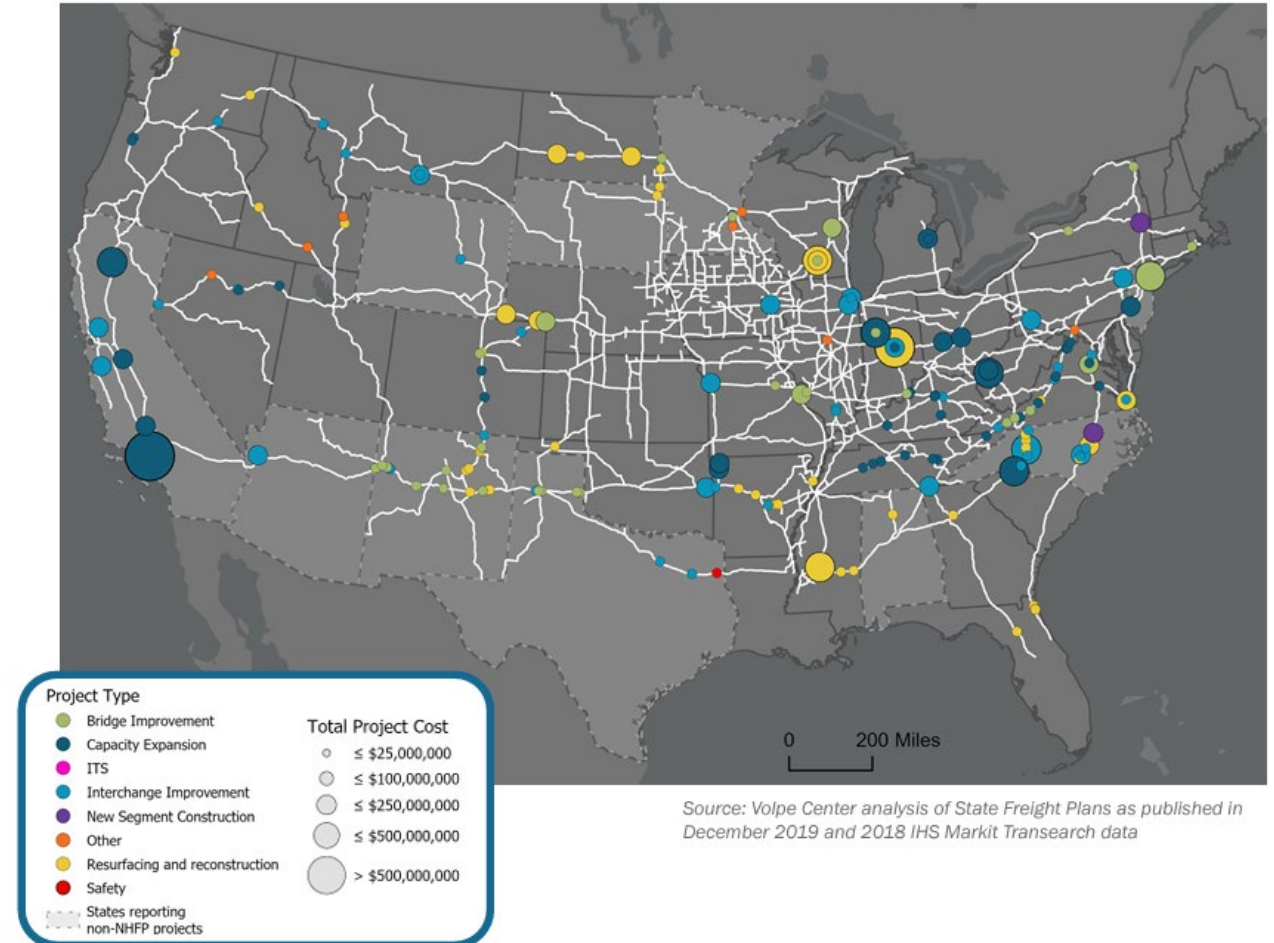


Agriculture sector corridors (2020 USDA report)

Identify State Freight Plan (SFP) Investments

- NMFN conditions and performance trends help us to identify multimodal challenges – **SFPs tell us how states plan to address them.**
- Mapping planned projects will provide a **snapshot of investment priorities and near-term system improvements.**

Figure 63: State Freight Plan Projects Affecting the High-Volume Domestic Agriculture Highways by Type and Cost, Fiscal Years 2016-2020



Identify Freight-Related Competitive Awards

Competitive Programs To Be Analyzed (2022-2026 Awards)



MARINE

- Port Infrastructure Development Program [PIDP]
- Marine Highway Program



RAIL

- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements [CRISI]
- Railroad Crossing Elimination Grants
- Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grants (where ROW is shared)



MULTIPLE

BUILD/RAISE
INFRA
MEGA

Rural
PROTECT
SMART



TRUCK

- Bridge Investment Program [BIP]

State Freight Plan (SFP) Synthesis

- Aggregate state-identified **multimodal bottlenecks and choke points**
- Collect **notable practices** on topics specified in NFSP requirements:
 - Mitigating community impacts
 - Improving performance on the NMFN
 - Reducing environmental impacts (emissions, runoff, habitat loss)

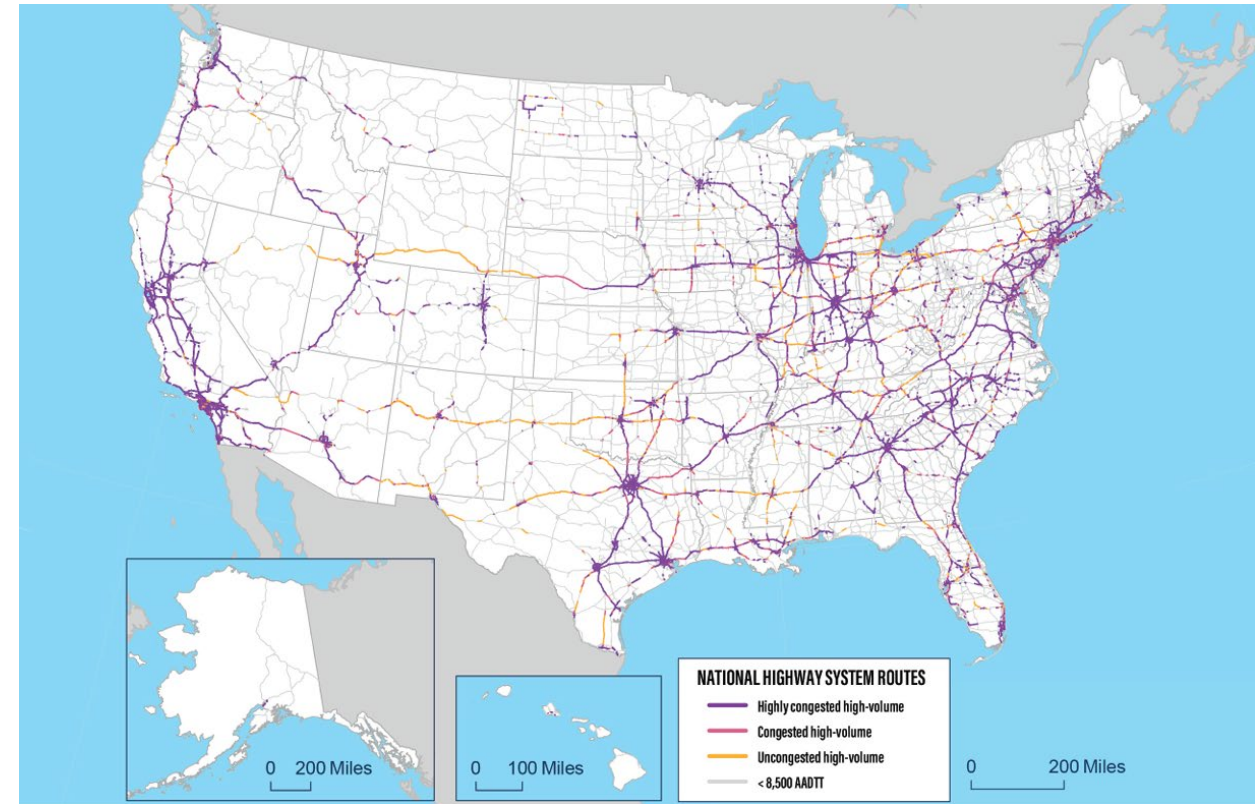


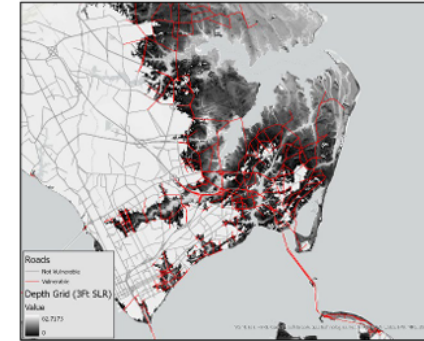
FIGURE 22. PEAK PERIOD CONGESTION ON THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM IN 2045¹²³

Resiliency Analyses

- Exposure analyses of known threats to the NMFN by mode and threat type (e.g., rockslides or cyber threats)
- Demonstrate publicly available tools states and regions to demonstrate to translate resiliency analyses into their project identification/ prioritization processes

RDR Exposure Analysis Tool

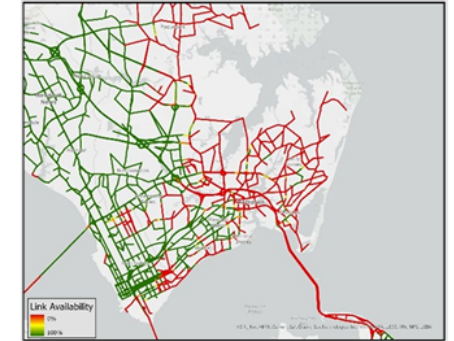
Which of my network assets are vulnerable under a given hazard condition?



Maximum network exposure on each link

RDR Link Capacity Loss Calculation

What will link level capacity loss be under a given hazard condition?



Capacity reduction on each link

Project Ranking by ROI

Which resilience-focused projects give the most benefit across the range of hazards of concern?



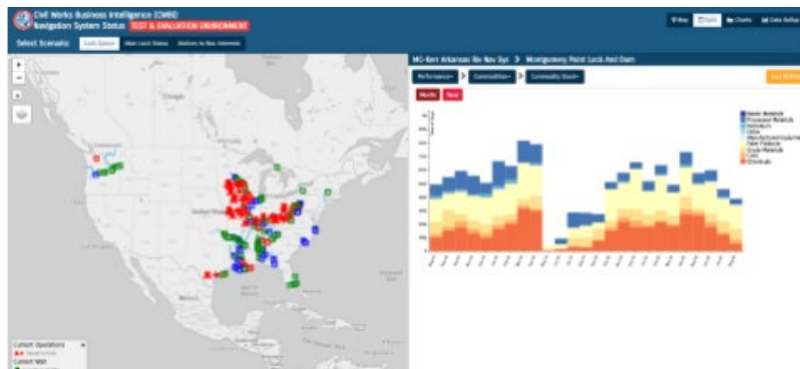
Performance Under Uncertainty

Under which hazard conditions does a project perform well? How is project performance distributed across the range of hazards?

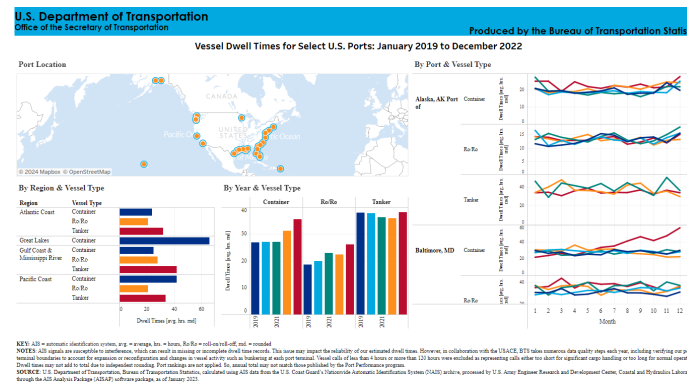


Include Existing Modal Indicators

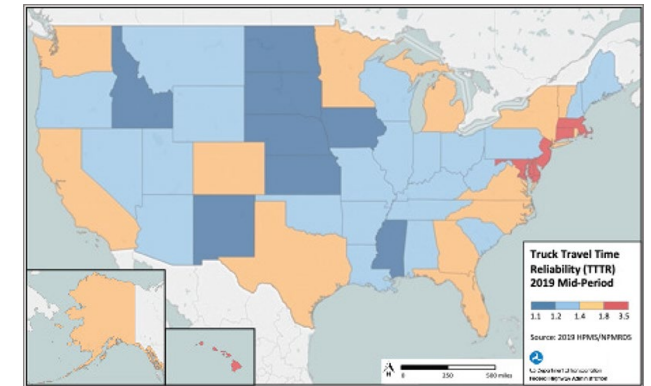
- Aggregate various freight performance indicators already published and updated by the modes
- Where possible, integrate these national measures into updated NFSP



USACE Corps Lock Dashboard



BTS Port Performance



FHWA Truck Travel Time Reliability



Questions?



Coming Fall 2025



Questions

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Comments

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