Source	Global Scope	Subdivision Available				Common File Format Available		Open License	Commercial Use	From Gov. Source	Clear Source Lineage	Regularly Updated
		ADM0	ADM1	ADM2	ADM3	Shapefile	GeoJSON					
geoBoundaries	●	●	●	●	◐	●	●	●	●	◐	●	●
GADM	●	●	●	●	◐	●	●	○	○	○	○	○
OpenStreetMap	●	●	●	◐	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●
Natural Earth	●	●	●	◐	○	●	○	●	●	○	○	○
OCHA COD	○	●	◐	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●
UN SALB	○	◐*	◐*	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	●	●
World Bank	●	●	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
US State Department (LSIB)	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	●
Who's on First	●	●	●	◐	◐	○	●	●	●	◐	●	●
ESRI Living Atlas	●	●	●	◐	◐	●	●	○	●	○	●	●
OpenDataSoft	●	●	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	○
thematicmapping	●	●	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	○
IPUMS International	●	●	●	◐	◐	●	○	○	○	●	○	○
Cshapes	●	●	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	○	●	●

● Yes

○ No

◐ Mixed

*derivable

geoBoundaries
Contact
Advantages: Open license, clear source lineage, regularly updated, global scope, high level ADMs available
Limitations: Only partially available from government sources
The main advantage of using the geoBoundaries dataset is that it is entirely available in open licenses and for commercial use. The dataset is able to retain this aspect for spatial data at a global scope and relatively high administrative levels for most of the data, and the data is able to be easily downloaded from the geoBoundaries website. The main challenge for use of this dataset is that its data is not completely acquired from government sources, which leads to questions of data accuracy.

GADM
Contact