MTA NaviLens Usage

Overview

General Description

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is a public-benefit corporation responsible for public transportation in the state of New York serving 12 counties in southeastern New York, along with two counties in southwestern Connecticut under contract to the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CDOT). The MTA is the largest transportation network in North America.

Subway service within New York City is operated by MTA New York City Transit (NYCT).

Bus service within New York City is operated by MTA agencies New York City Transit (NYCT) and MTA Bus Company (MTABC). [Some NYCT bus service is operated through the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority (MaBSTOA), which is a subsidiary of NYCT.]

NaviLens is an accessibility wayfinding system that uses colorful, scannable codes placed on transit assets (such as subway stations, bus stops, and vehicles). When a customer scans a code using the NaviLens or NaviLens GO smartphone app, the app can provide accessible information—such as audio and visual guidance and details about nearby points of interest and, in the MTA environment, also display information like train arrivals, elevator status, and system service status.

This dataset contains NaviLens usage data, meaning records of scan events (each row represents a time a NaviLens code was scanned). Scan records include the code identifier, the type of asset scanned (e.g., bus stop, bus vehicle, subway station, train car, or vehicle feature), the app used (NaviLens vs. NaviLens GO), the device language setting at time of scan, and timestamps. For certain asset types, scan events are also enriched with location fields such as bus stop identifiers and names or subway station identifiers and names. This data supports evaluation of the NaviLens deployment and related project reporting, including work funded through the USDOT SMART Grant.

This dataset was published through MTA's Open Data Program, which is committed to increasing transparency through high-quality open data and accompanying resources. We continually examine all our published and publishable data with a view to both providing datasets that can be effectively utilized by our customers and the public at large, and to providing regular, automated updates to these

datasets efficiently and sustainably. Consequently, this dataset may be restructured and/or combined with other similar datasets in the future.

Data Collection Methodology

NaviLens scan data are collected automatically by NaviLens every time a NaviLens code is scanned. The data is anonymized per MTA Cybersecurity requirements and delivered to the MTA by NaviLens in CSV format. The data was then changed to the local time zone for accuracy, and details for the locations of each code were added as well.

Operationally, NaviLens codes were deployed at select locations (including listed Manhattan and Bronx subway stations and on routes such as Bx12/Bx12-SBS, M23 SBS, and M66), and the scan data is specific to codes located in these environments as part of the MTA's USDOT SMART Grant Stage 1 project.

Statistical and Analytic Issues

There are no known statistical or analytic issues with the data at this time.

Limitations of Data Use

There are no limitations on the data at this time.

Release Notes

Version 1.0.0 initial release (01/09/2026)