

Tool visualizes the flow of goods into and across the U.S.

April 6 2021, by Stephanie G Seay



Public and private planners can use a FAF5 online tool to create maps to visualize the flow of goods into and across the U.S., for example, when making critical transportation infrastructure and equipment decisions. Credit: Hyeonsup Lim, ORNL/U.S. Dept. of Energy

A newly released dataset that tracks the movement of everything from food to gasoline across the United States by air, water, truck, rail and

pipeline showed the value and tonnage of those goods rose significantly between 2012 and 2017.

The Freight Analysis Framework, or FAF, is the most comprehensive public database of freight [movement](#) in the country, compiled by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and released every five years by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The recent release, [FAF5](#), revealed that 20 billion tons of U.S. goods valued at nearly \$19 trillion were moved in 2017 compared with 17 billion tons valued at about \$18 trillion in 2012. Trucks consistently transport about 64% of that freight.

"We help DOT build a comprehensive picture of where and how goods traveled and what commodities are being moved. The [goal](#) is to provide federal and state planners with critical data to inform infrastructure investment decisions," said ORNL's Ho-Ling Hwang.

More information: FAF5 online tool: faf.ornl.gov/faf5/dtt_total.aspx

Provided by Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Citation: Tool visualizes the flow of goods into and across the U.S. (2021, April 6) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://techxplore.com/news/2021-04-tool-visualizes-goods.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.