

AIS Data Sources

Table of Government & Open-Source AIS Data Sources

In addition to the sources listed below, it may be possible to obtain data sets from the responsible agency of a country whose water's are of interest. This will likely entail an application and justification process.

Name	Source /Publisher	Region	Description	Notes	Cost	Tags
AISHub	Crowdsourcing	Global Coastal Coverage Map	Raw NMEA AIS data sharing centre; only contains current data of ships in range and geographic statistics organized by receiving station. Users must regularly query the system for current data and store it on their own.	Requires contribution of data feed in order to gain access to the community of sources	Free	AIS open
MarineCadaastre	NOAA Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	US Coastal	Historical, anonymous data (encrypted MMSI, call sign, & vessel name) of US waters 2009-14 from the US Coast Guard. Downloadable or viewable in free online "National Viewer 3.0" tool. Free data handling tools also available.	Download in GIS software format (.dgb); NMEA not available)	Free	AIS government USA
HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission	Baltic Sea	The whole Baltic Sea area has been covered by land-based AIS stations since 1 July 2005. HELCOM has a regional system for real-time traffic surveillance and statistics.	Access to the system is granted to user groups that contact the secretariate .	Free	AIS government europe
CruiseMapper	CruiseMapper	World	Location, tracking, and particulars of major cruise vessels	Data is not unique; can also be found in free features of commercial sources.	Free	AIS cruise
shipAIS		UK	live vessel movements from around the UK derived from AIS data	Probably not unique data		AIS free
marinecadaastre	US Coastguard	US	U.S. coastal waters for calendar years 2009 through 2017. Records are filtered to one minute and formatted in zipped, monthly files by Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) zone. Ship name and call sign fields have been removed, and the MMSI (Maritime Mobile Service Identity) field has been encrypted for the 2010 through 2014 data			AIS free
dma	DMA	Denmark	Historical and real-time AIS data		Web access, annual fee proxy, annual fee	AIS government Denmark
kystverket	kystverket	Norway	Free viewer, other data otherwise upon request, acceptance depends on purpose of use.			AIS government Norway
sailwx		Global				
AMSA		Australia	Historical terrestrial and satellite data	Download from site	Free	AIS government Australia
MSA		China	real time data.			AIS government China

Table of Private & Commercial AIS Data Sources

They may provide a limited set of features for free, but their primary functions and datasets are commercialized and must be purchased.

Name	Source /Publisher	Region	Description	Notes	Cost	Tags
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Marine Traffic	Marine Traffic	Global	Historical data since 2009. Terrestrial and satellite AIS data.	Blog post and email contact regarding AIS data for research.	(Historical) or Subscription (Live) or api services via credits	AIS private
VesselFinder	VesselFinder Ltd.	Global Coastal	Real time data streaming (NMEA) and API (XML/JSON) services as well as historical terrestrial data (NMEA/CSV) on ship positions since 2009. Site includes vessel and port directories with images. Also real time satellite AIS data. And possibility to become a partner by adding your own AIS-receiving station. Same data as VTE Explorer. See more on the time resolution under that provider.		Credit (Historical) terrestrial or Subscription (Live) for a real time viewer of satellite data, API's for terrestrial and satellite data via credit or monthly fee.	AIS private
ExactAIS Archive	ExactAIS	Global	Satellite AIS, from July 2010. Also near-realtime data possible. Also specific AIS class B tracking.		Credit or Subscription Indication: 340 dollar /ship/year	AIS private
FleetMon	own terrestrial, satellite via ExactEarth	Global	satellite and terrestrial, real time and historical. Probably limited number of terrestrial stations. Database has better consistency starting in 2014.		Credit or Subscription	AIS private
Orbcomm	Orbcomm satellite partners for terrestrial AIS	Global	Terrestrial and satellite AIS data services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • own satellite constellation with 16 gateways around the world. • Partnerships with terrestrial AIS providers, with 10,000+ receivers around the world. • Proven reliability in congested waterways, ports and open ocean Data from 2014 in production system. Older data is more difficult for them.			AIS private
Cloudeo	Orbcomm /Maerospace	Global	Near real-time feed of ship positions ten times more accurate than raw Automatic Identification System (AIS) datasets. Based on combined terrestrial and satellite AIS data.		Subscription period	AIS private
Cloudeo	spacequest	Global	Satellite AIS archive		Upon request	AIS private
SRT Marine		Global	satellite data – Radar, AIS, IR, Optical, Tracking etc – from multiple sources. Looks like they provide solutions, not data.			AIS private
Spire	Spire	Global	Satellite AIS data, also terrestrial data possible. Many small satellites. Mainly focusing of real time data, but historical data sets are also available. Not sure about the processing quality. Reliable satellite data from 2017.		Upon request	AIS private
VesselTracker		Global	Real time and historical data, terrestrial and satellite No information about algorithms/methods.		data services or online accounts	AIS private
VTE Explorer		Global	Real time and historical data since 2009. Terrestrial: jan 2009 - dec 2011: 1-hour, only ships with IMO number; since 2012: 5 minutes, all MMSI numbers, Since October 2014: 30 seconds, Since April 2018: all received records. Satellite data: mid 2016-mid 2017, again from November 2018. No information about algorithms/methods. Looks like this is the company behind VesselFinder. Some pages on their sites are exactly similar.		real time via subscription, historical data or time streams by request	AIS private
spacequest		global	satellite. Looks like it's not active anymore.		via partners	AIS private
oceanering		global	satellite and terrestrial, real time and historical. Probably limited number of terrestrial stations		custom solutions	AIS private

shiptracks		global	satellite and terrestrial data, both real time and historical			AIS private
MadeSmart		global	historical satellite and terrestrial data, also real time data		custom solutions	AIS private
BigOceanData		global	satellite and terrestrial data, both real time and historical			AIS private

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