

Metadata

File Identifier

f69ddad9-43ae-6b55-b725-1daa021be7e2

Language

Language Code

eng

Character Set

Character Set Code

utf8

Hierarchy Level

Scope Code

dataset

Hierarchy Level Name

dataset

Contact

Responsible Party

Individual Name

Geospatial Team

Organisation Name

Stats NZ

Contact Info

Contact

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Address

Address

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Online Resource

Online Resource

Linkage

URL

<https://datafinder.stats.govt.nz/>

Role

Role Code

Owner

Date Stamp

Date

2017-12-04

Metadata Standard Name

ISO 19139 Geographic Information - Metadata - Implementation Specification

Metadata Standard Version

2007

Spatial Representation Info

Vector Spatial Representation

Topology Level Code

geometryOnly

Geometric Object Type Code

composite

Integer

53589

Reference System Info

Reference System

Reference System Identifier

Identifier

Code

2193

Code Space

EPSG

Version

8.6.2

Identification Info

Data Identification

Citation

Citation

Title

MB2018_V1_00

Presentation Form

Presentation Form Code

mapDigital

Abstract

This dataset is the definitive set of meshblock boundaries as at 1 January 2018 as defined by Stats NZ. Stats NZ maintains an annual meshblock geography for collecting and producing statistical data. This allows data to be compared over time. A meshblock is the smallest geographic unit for which statistical data is collected and processed by Stats NZ. A meshblock is defined by a geographic area, which can vary in size from part of a city block to a large area of rural land. Each meshblock borders on another to form a network covering all of New Zealand, including coasts and inlets and extending out to the 200-mile economic zone. Meshblocks are added together to build up larger geographic areas such as statistical area 1 (SA1), statistical area 2 (SA2), and urban rural. They are also used to define electoral districts, territorial authorities, and regional councils. There are two ways of amending meshblock boundaries. Splitting is subdividing a meshblock into two or more meshblocks. Nudging is shifting a boundary to a more appropriate position. Reasons for splits and nudges include: to accommodate changes to local government boundaries, which are required by the Local Government Act 2002 to follow meshblocks for electoral purposes to accommodate changes to parliamentary electoral boundaries, following each Electoral Representation Commission review after each five-yearly Census of Population and Dwellings to make changes to statistical boundaries such as statistical area 1 (SA1), statistical area 2 (SA2), and urban rural to enable changes to census collection districts to improve the size balance of meshblocks in areas where there has been population growth to separate land and water – e.g. mainland, islands, inlets, and oceanic are defined separately to accommodate requests from other users of the meshblock pattern e.g. NZ Police for their station, area, and district boundaries. Meshblock numbering process until 2014 (MB 2014) Meshblocks were allocated a unique seven-digit number. The first five digits were unique, and referred to the original 1976 meshblock code. The two end numbers referred to sequential meshblock splits to the original meshblock. When a meshblock was split the final two digits of the original meshblock number were changed. Stats NZ maintains a concordance file to ensure that boundaries relating to earlier meshblock patterns can also be produced. Meshblock numbering process from 2015 (MB 2015) Due to new technology being introduced for splitting and nudging meshblocks, the process for allocating a unique seven-digit number has changed. New meshblock numbering is approximately sequential. The first meshblock number in this new sequential numbering pattern is 4000000. This differentiates meshblocks split from MB2015 onwards, and allows for a large number of unique seven digit identifiers to be allocated. Now when a meshblock is split it takes on the next available number, rather than following the former process described above. For example, a meshblock numbered 3254000 is split into two meshblocks. Using the new numbering process the system will assign the first available sequential numbers. The following table shows how the two meshblocks would be numbered based on the old and new processes.

Original meshblock	Old numbering	Original meshblock	New numbering
3254000	3254001	3254000	4000000
3254001	3254002	4000000	3254002
4000000	3254003	4000001	3254003

The digital geographic boundaries are defined and maintained by Stats NZ. Meshblocks cover the land area of New Zealand, the water area to the 12-mile limit, the Chatham Islands, Kermadec Islands, sub-Antarctic islands, off-shore oil rigs, and Ross Dependency. The following 16 meshblocks are not held in digitised form.

Meshblock	Location (statistical area 2 name)
0016901	Oceanic Kermadec Islands
0016902	Kermadec Islands
1588000	Oceanic Oil Rig Taranaki
3166401	Oceanic Campbell Island
3166402	Campbell Island
3166600	Oceanic Oil Rig Southland
3166710	Oceanic Auckland Islands
3166711	Auckland Islands
3195000	Ross Dependency
3196001	New Zealand Economic Zone
3196002	Oceanic Bounty Islands
3196003	Bounty Islands
3196004	Oceanic Snares Islands
3196005	Snares Island
3196006	Oceanic Antipodes Islands
3196007	Antipodes Islands

Meshblock boundaries generally follow road centre-lines, cadastral property boundaries or topographical features (e.g. rivers). Expanses of water in the form of lakes and inlets are defined separately from land. The annual pattern of digital boundaries is used for the full calendar year from 1 January. The following table shows the total number of meshblocks for each annual pattern since 1991 when meshblocks were first digitised.

Year	Meshblock total
1991	135,152 (Census)
1992	146,199
1993	235,163
1994	157,199
1995	370,356
1996	199,435
1997	584,356
1998	578,199
1999	536,235
2000	36,801
2001	199,736
2002	808,366
2003	801,199
2004	836,829
2005	822,199
2006	937,154
2007	1,472,000
2008	37,383
2009	37,367
2010	200,138
2011	366,385
2012	350,200
2013	238,378
2014	362,200
2015	338,685
2016	338,669
2017	200,439
2018	31,339
2019	297,200
2020	539,819
2021	39,803
2022	200,641
2023	392,413
2024	376,200
2025	741,512
2026	1,496,200
2027	842,982
2028	242,966
2029	200,943
2030	940,439
2031	242,010
2032	1046,252
2033	246,236
2034	201,146
2035	627,466
2036	1,120,124
2037	663,246
2038	616,201
2039	1346,637
2040	46,621
2041	201,446
2042	643,466
2043	627,201
2044	1547,062
2045	247,046
2046	201,647
2047	062,470
2048	462,017
2049	50,613
2050	597,201
2051	1853,589
2052	53,573

Digital boundary data became freely available on 1 July 2007.

Purpose

MB2018_V1_00 is the major released version of the annually released meshblock boundaries as at 1 January 2018 as defined by Stats NZ. This version contains 53,589 meshblocks.

Descriptive Keywords

Keywords

Keyword

Downloadable Data

Descriptive Keywords

Keywords

Keyword

meshblock

Keyword

MB

Keyword

Meshblock

Keyword

mb

Keyword

Statistics New Zealand

Keyword

Stats NZ

Keyword

Statistics NZ

Resource Constraints

Constraints

Use Limitation

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Spatial Representation Type Code

vector

Language

Language Code

eng

Character Set

Character Set Code

utf8

Version 6.2 (Build 9200) ; Esri ArcGIS 10.3.1.4959

Extent

EX_ Extent

Geographic Element

EX_ Geographic Bounding Box

Extent Type Code

Boolean

true

-180180-47.841491-33.559984

Distribution Info

Distribution

Distribution Format

Format

Name

File Geodatabase Feature Class

Transfer Options

Digital Transfer Options

On Line

Online Resource

Linkage

URL

<https://datafinder.stats.govt.nz/layer/92197-meshblock-2018-generalised/>

Data Quality Info

DQ_ Data Quality

Scope

DQ_ Scope

Level

Scope Code

Lineage

LI_Lineage

Statement

The digital meshblock boundaries are stored and maintained by Stats NZ. Non-alignment of meshblock and cadastral boundaries are one of a number of reasons for meshblock boundary adjustments. Other reasons include requests from local authorities, Local Government Commission, Electoral Representation Commission and to make census enumeration processes easier. From the generalised meshblock pattern, higher geographies are dissolved using the dissolve tool in the Arc GIS suite to create multiple output datasets. To derive the meshblock boundaries clipped to the coastline, meshblock polygons were dissolved to exclude meshblocks with a land/water attribute of Inlet or Oceanic.

Metadata Constraints

Legal Constraints

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Restriction Code

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