

# PTV Postcode Boundaries

USA



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# 1 Introduction

Once a year PTV releases the product PTV Postcode Boundaries which includes different polygon and point layers containing postcode information. The attribution described in this document is limited to the layers provided for **USA**. There are also release notes with changes compared to the last version. The territory status depends on the revision date of the respective country.

The data set PTV Postcode Boundaries USA is based on HERE Postal Code Boundaries. The data is built on the most accurate and reliable information possible. However, data gaps or errors cannot be excluded.

## 2 General Information

Product name:	PTV Postcode Boundaries
Content of the data record:	Postcode Boundaries/centroids in different variations
Subset:	USA (all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands)
Source:	HERE Technologies, Amsterdam; PTV Planung Transport Verkehr GmbH, Karlsruhe
Data type:	Postcode boundaries/centroids
Geometry type:	Polygon/Point
Status of the data:	Depending on the time of the last country update, see region related release notes
Standard data format:	MapInfo TAB, ESRI-Shape, FGDB (upon request)
Projection/Datum information:	Projection Geographic Datum World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) Units Decimal degrees (Precision Five decimal degrees)
Character Set:	Windows Latin-1 ANSI (Windows-1252)
Language:	English
Update interval:	Annual

### 3 Content and Field Description

The product includes three distinct versions of the 5-digit postcode (aka ZIP codes) boundaries (polygons), one version for 3-digit postcodes boundaries (polygons) and two centroid layers (points) based on the boundary layers. What distinguishes them in detail is described below:

- Ungeneralized with water holes: represents polygonal water features as holes in the postcode polygons if the features are greater than 5 square kilometers. Note: all the water features on coastlines (ocean and lake) will be kept for added detail (feature types that are affected: oceans, bays, etc.).
- Generalized without water holes: represents postcode polygons as a spanning set that limits the representation for polygonal water features or “water holes”. Water holes will exist for only the Great Lakes and Great Salt Lake. The coastline water features are generalized to lessen the impact on loading.
- High Definition, with county: Relative to the standard postcode boundaries, a significant amount of line work has been created for this HD version, to better segregate delivery to adjacent ZIP codes. Boundaries have increased detail to reflect postcode delivery more closely. Water holes will exist for only the Great Lakes and Great Salt Lake. Multi-part ZIP Code boundaries are allowed more often, when needed to reflect non-contiguous postal delivery.
- Centroid layers: centroids of all postcode boundaries

The polygon layers do not have gaps, or voids, in postal coverage, even if such a gap may exist in reality (such as a remote mountainous areas). This is by design, for aesthetic purposes and to ensure that a postcode is assigned to all geographic areas.

The data does also include 3-digit generalized postcode layers: a polygon and point layer. This data has been generalized from the 5-digit postcodes.

## Attributes for 5-digit polygon and point layers:

Field name	Description	Data type
POSTCODE	5-digit postcode reference	String
ISO_CTRY	Country Abbreviation	String
ADMIN1	Country	String
ADMIN2	State	String
ADMIN3	County	String
ADMIN4	City	String
ADMIN5	Not applicable	String
STATE	State abbreviation for the state within which the applicable postcode falls	String
AREA*	Polygon area	Double
PC_NAME	Name of postcode (ZIP) - for non-unique and PO box postcodes this represents the post office name and for unique organizations postcodes this represents the company or large user name	
PC_TYPE	Postcode classification for each postcode reference. Postcode types are as follows: NON UNIQUE = General delivery postcode. UNIQUE ORGANIZATION = Unique postcode records for companies receiving large quantities of mail. PO BOX = Post Office box postcodes. MILITARY** = APO, FPO, and DPO	
COUNTY	USPS county name within which the applicable postcode falls	
PA_NAME	Postal area name (Last line city name from USPS sources)	
FIPS_PA	Postal Area (Last Line City) Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code	
FIPSCO	County FIPS code	
FIPSST	State FIPS code	
GNIS	US County GNIS feature ID from the official geographic names repository for the United States.	
ACCURACY**	Relates to the source for the positional accuracy of each postcode point location. Values are provided as follows: S= Street level accuracy T= Town centroid accuracy PC= Polygon centroid accuracy from FSA boundary CS= Division, Province centroid accuracy	
ENC_PC**	Postcode reference the postcode point falls within	
LINK_ID**	Nearest HERE Map street link_id reference to the applicable point	String

\* Included only in polygon layer

\*\* Included only in point layer

## Attributes for 3-digit polygon and point layers:

Field name	Description	Data type
POSTCODE	3-digit postcode reference	String
ISO_CTRY	Country Abbreviation	String
ADMIN1	Country	String
ADMIN2	State	String
ADMIN3	County	String
ADMIN4	City	String
ADMIN5	Not applicable	String
STATE	State abbreviation for the state within which the applicable postcode falls	String
AREA*	Polygon area	Double
LINK_ID**	Nearest HERE Map street link_id reference to the applicable point	String

\* Included only in polygon layer

\*\* Included only in point layer