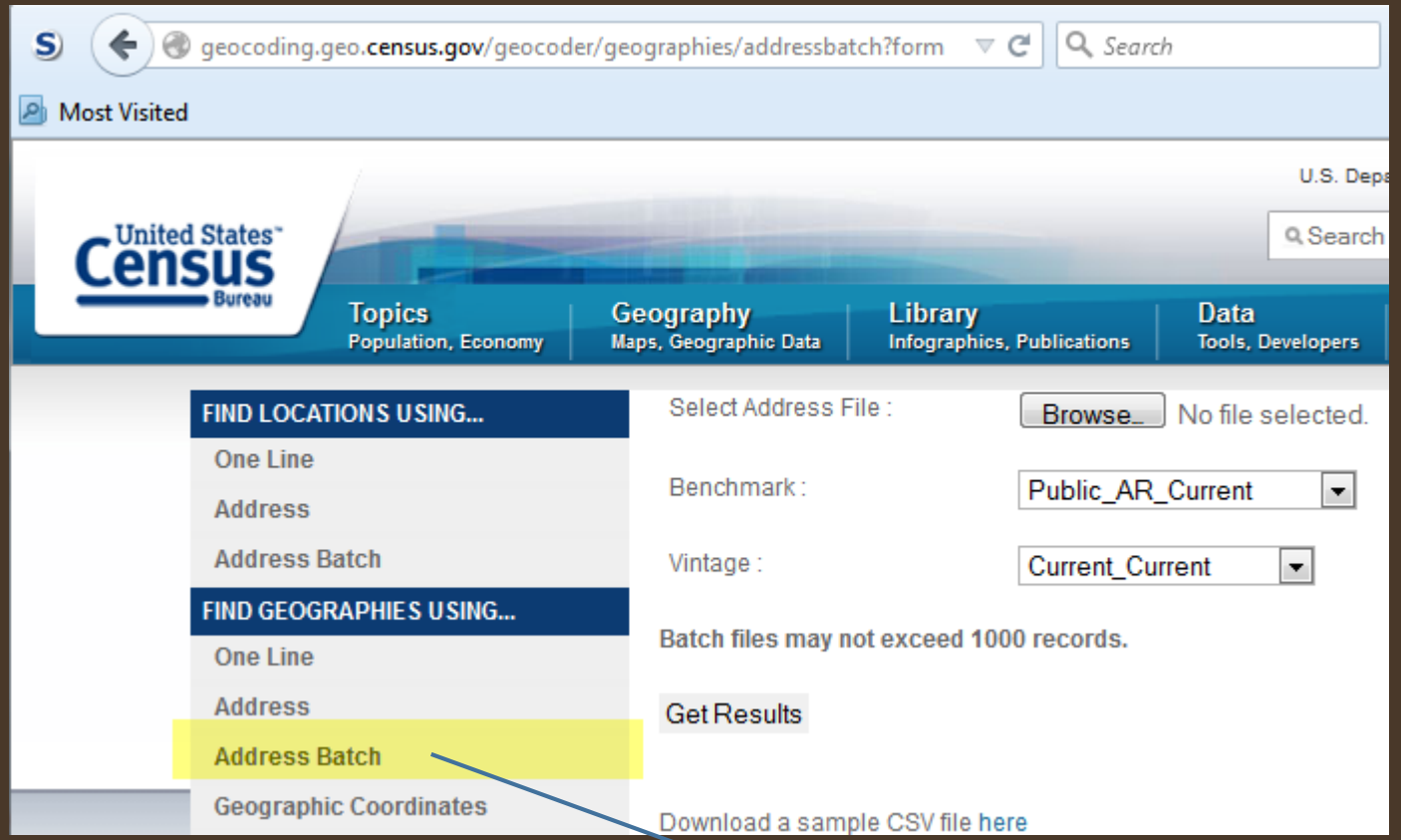
US Census Bureau: Address bulk look-up

The US Census Bureau website has a bulk look-up tool for addresses: upload as many as 1,000 and it will tell you:

- Matched or unmatched.
- How close the match was: Exact, Non-Exact (usually due to abbreviations), and Tie.
- County, census tract, and census block (useful for later apply demographics to the address).

In the results, "Tie" means more than one Census record exists for the address in question. This most often happens when an address for an apartment building is passed without an apartment number specified.



Use the "Find Geographies/Address Batch" option.

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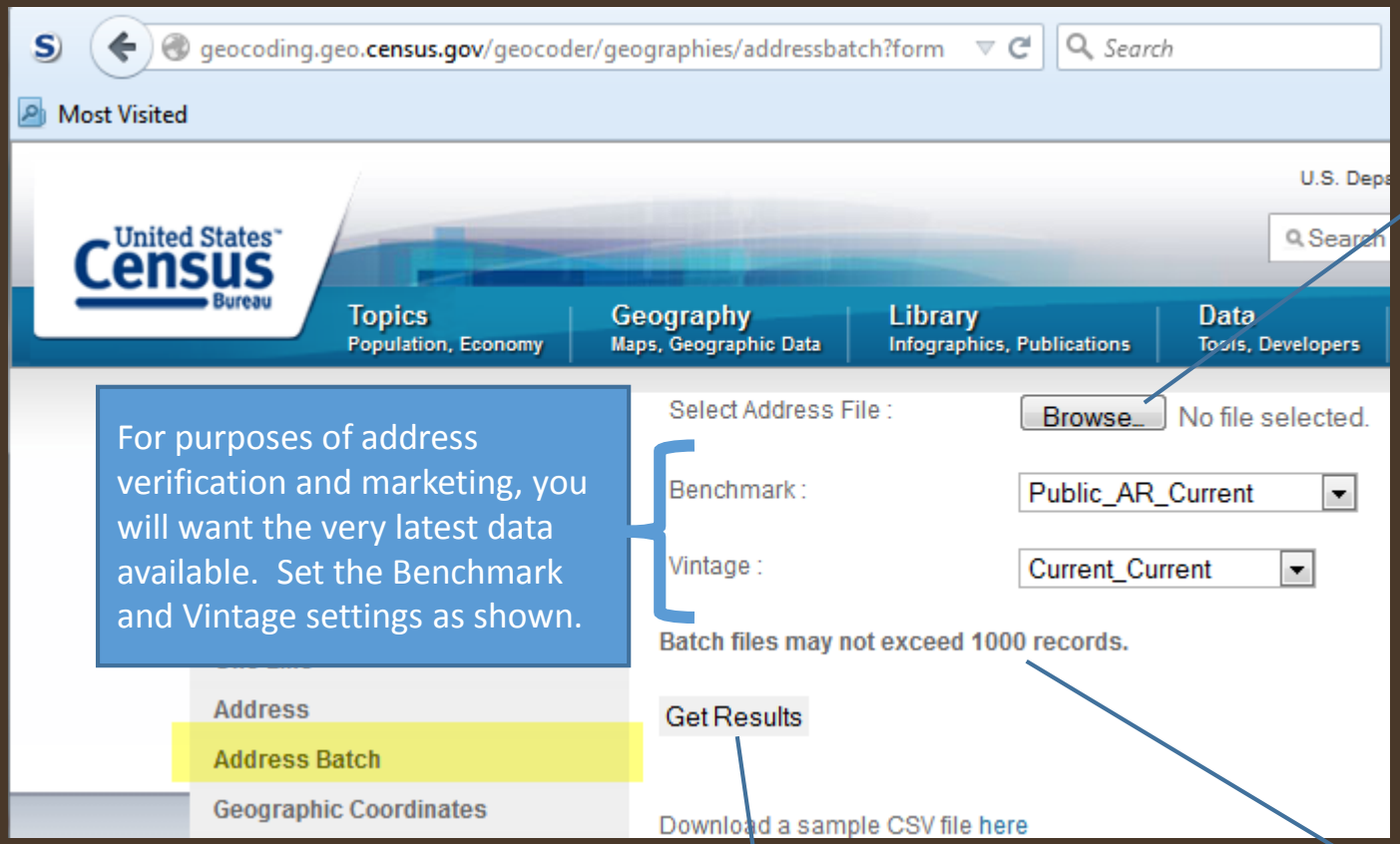

For purposes of address verification and marketing, you will want the very latest data available. Set the Benchmark and Vintage settings as shown.

You upload a comma-delimited file (.CSV) *without names*. Shown below is how each of your addresses must appear. Note that you must include a unique identifier for each of your addresses ("1" in the example below).

1,4600 Silver Hill Rd,Suitland,MD,20746

- 1 — Your unique record ID
- 4600 Silver Hill Rd — Address1 & 2 combined, but **NO COMMA** between them.
- Suitland — City
- MD — State
- 20746 — ZIP (+4 is OK)

If ZIP is unknown, **CITY + ST** will suffice. Also, **ZIP alone** will suffice if CITY and ST unknown.

You are limited to 1,000 addresses per file uploaded, but you can repeat uploads as many times as you want.

The search takes about two (2) minutes for 1,000 records (depending on connection speed).

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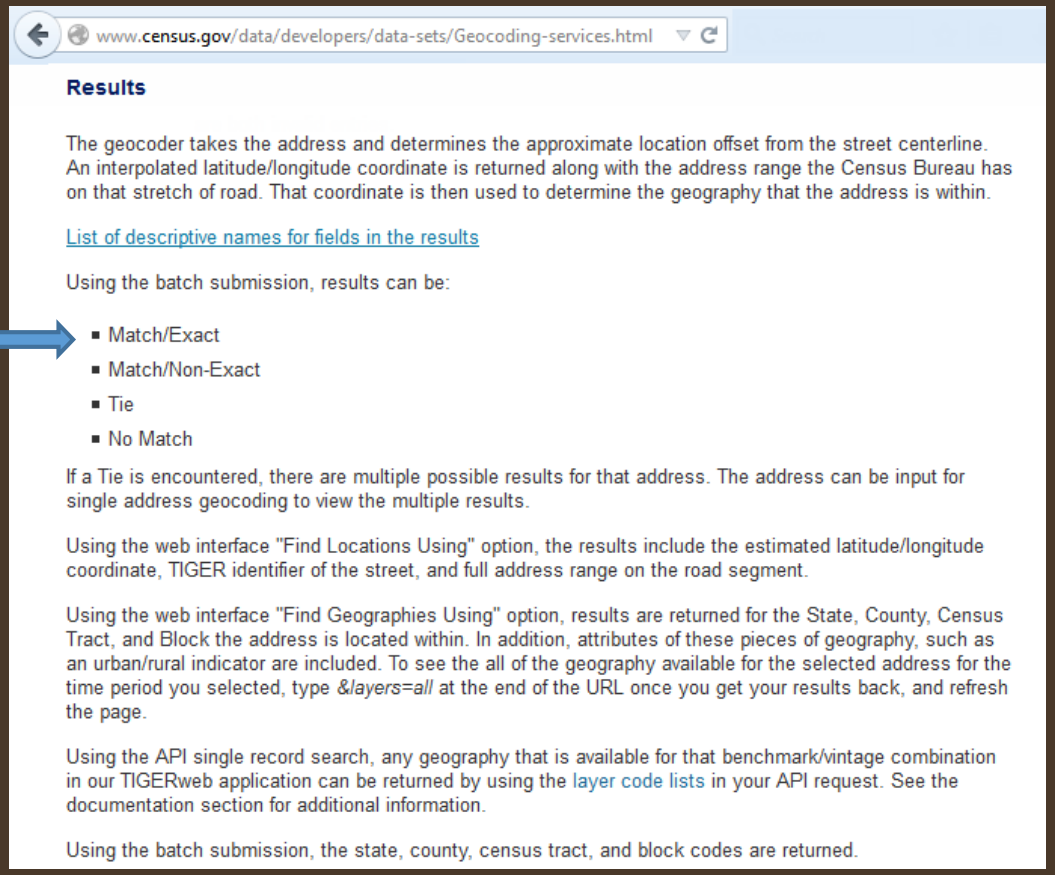
My_ID	My_Address	Matched?	Match type	Census' address on file	Lat./Long.	TIGER Line ID	TIGER side	State Code	County Code	Census Tract (last 2 digits are DECIMAL)	Census Block
2112	olis, MN, 55417	No_Match									
2113	th, MN, 55442	No_Match									
2121	t. Paul, MN, 55104	No_Match									
2133	56044	No_Match									
2135	olis, MN, 55414	No_Match									
2136	, MN, 55044	No_Match									
2146	, MN, 55441	No_Match									
1	neapolis, MN, 55415-1641	Match	Non_Exact					27	53	104400	2000
9	MN, 55057-2237	Match	Exact					27	131	70501	1033
12	en, MN, 55317-9755	Match	Exact					27	19	90601	1059
27	e, MN, 55044-9391	Match	Exact					27	37	60813	1014
28	dison, WI, 53719	Match	Exact					55	25	503	3001
29	MN, 55114-1108	Match	Non_Exact					27	123	31900	2026
31	le Grove, MN, 55311-1467	Match	Exact					27	53	26714	3008
32	TX, 78218-3601	Match	Exact					48	29	120501	1009

Shown left are the results returned by the US Census Bureau. Column titles and color-coding are added here for ease of understanding the results. Actual results are returned as a comma-delimited file with no column titles.

"**State Code**" and "**County Code**" are ID numbers that can be translated into actual names by look-up tables you will find on the US Census Bureau web site.

The grayed-out columns are unlikely to be of use for marketing purposes. They are:

CENSUS ADDRESS ON FILE: The full address according to the Census Bureau's records.
LAT/LONG: Latitude and longitude of the address.
TIGER Line ID: A reference used by the Bureau's TIGER mapping tool.
TIGER side: Right or Left.



www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/Geocoding-services.html

Results

The geocoder takes the address and determines the approximate location offset from the street centerline. An interpolated latitude/longitude coordinate is returned along with the address range the Census Bureau has on that stretch of road. That coordinate is then used to determine the geography that the address is within.

List of descriptive names for fields in the results

Using the batch submission, results can be:

- Match/Exact
- Match/Non-Exact
- Tie
- No Match

If a Tie is encountered, there are multiple possible results for that address. The address can be input for single address geocoding to view the multiple results.

Using the web interface "Find Locations Using" option, the results include the estimated latitude/longitude coordinate, TIGER identifier of the street, and full address range on the road segment.

Using the web interface "Find Geographies Using" option, results are returned for the State, County, Census Tract, and Block the address is located within. In addition, attributes of these pieces of geography, such as an urban/rural indicator are included. To see the all of the geography available for the selected address for the time period you selected, type *&layers=all* at the end of the URL once you get your results back, and refresh the page.

Using the API single record search, any geography that is available for that benchmark/vintage combination in our TIGERweb application can be returned by using the layer code lists in your API request. See the documentation section for additional information.

Using the batch submission, the state, county, census tract, and block codes are returned.