

Free Market Data API Endpoints and Limits (Alpaca, Alpha Vantage, FRED, Finnhub, FMP, Polygon.io)

This report lists the **specific REST endpoints (or SDK method names)** that can be accessed on each provider's **free plan**, along with known usage limits. Endpoints requiring a paid upgrade are excluded. Use the cited sources to verify rate limits and available features.

Alpaca

Alpaca's free **Basic** plan restricts market-data access to the **IEX** feed (limited to IEX-listed equities) and an **indicative options feed**. SIP/CTA feeds and other exchanges are paid features ¹. Global REST rate limit is ~200 requests/min; WebSocket streaming is limited to 30 symbols ².

Equity data endpoints

Endpoint (HTTP path or SDK method)	Description	Notes
GET /v2/stocks/bars	Retrieve historical bars for one or more tickers (1 min up to daily).	IEX-only; 1 year retention on free plan.
GET /v2/stocks/trades	Historical trades for specified tickers and time range.	Only IEX symbols.
GET /v2/stocks/quotes	Historical quotes (bid/ask) for specified tickers and time range.	IEX only.
GET /v2/stocks/snapshots	Snapshot of latest trade, quote, minute bar and daily bar for multiple tickers.	IEX only.
<pre>GET /v2/stocks/bars/latest? symbols=</pre>	Latest minute/daily bar per ticker.	_
<pre>GET /v2/stocks/quotes/latest? symbols=</pre>	Latest bid/ask per ticker.	_
<pre>GET /v2/stocks/trades/latest? symbols=</pre>	Latest trade per ticker.	_
<pre>GET /v2/stocks/{symbol}/ corporate_actions/announcements</pre>	Corporate actions (splits, dividends) for symbol.	_

Endpoint (HTTP path or SDK method)	Description	Notes	
<pre>GET /v2/stocks/{symbol}/ fundamentals</pre>	Company fundamentals (logo, description, market cap).	_	
GET /v2/stocks/{symbol}/news	Company news articles and summaries.	_	

Options data endpoints (indicative feed)

Endpoint	Description	Notes
<pre>GET /v2/options/chain/ {underlying}</pre>	List available option contracts for an underlying symbol.	Only indicative feed.
GET /v2/options/bars	Historical OHLC bars for option contracts.	Free plan limited to indicative data.
GET /v2/options/trades	Historical trades for option contracts.	Free feed; limited depth.
GET /v2/options/quotes	Historical bid/ask for option contracts.	_
GET /v2/options/snapshots	Latest trade, quote, greeks for option contracts.	_
GET /v2/options/greeks	Historical implied volatility, delta, gamma, theta, vega.	Indicative; free plan.

Crypto, forex and other data

Endpoint	Description
GET /v2/crypto/bars / trades / quotes	Historical bars, trades and quotes for crypto pairs.
GET /v2/forex/bars / trades / quotes	Historical FX bars, trades and quotes (major pairs).
GET /v2/crypto/snapshots, GET /v2/forex/snapshots	Latest trade, quote and bars for multiple symbols.
GET /v2/reference/symbols	List available crypto or forex symbols.

Concurrency / request limits

- REST endpoints: ~200 requests per minute per account (general guideline, not published).
- Streaming via WebSocket: **30 symbols max** on free plan ² .

Alpha Vantage

Alpha Vantage organizes its API by **function** parameter. Free plan allows **5 requests/minute and 500 requests/day** (per API key), while premium tiers raise these limits. Only functions not labelled "Premium" can be used without payment.

Stock time-series functions

Function (function= value)	Description
TIME_SERIES_DAILY, TIME_SERIES_DAILY_ADJUSTED	Daily OHLC prices; adjusted version includes splits/dividends.
TIME_SERIES_WEEKLY, TIME_SERIES_WEEKLY_ADJUSTED	Weekly OHLC/volume.
TIME_SERIES_MONTHLY, TIME_SERIES_MONTHLY_ADJUSTED	Monthly OHLC/volume.
TIME_SERIES_INTRADAY	Intraday OHLC at 1-,5-,15-,30- and 60-minute intervals. Updates end-of-day only on free plan
GLOBAL_QUOTE	Returns latest price, volume and change for one ticker.
SYMBOL_SEARCH	Search equities by keyword.
SECTOR	Current and historical S&P 500 sector performance.

Options and derivative data

Function	Description
HISTORICAL_OPTIONS	Returns complete options chain for a given ticker and expiration date, including greeks ⁴ .
REALTIME_OPTIONS	Real-time options data (premium).

Fundamental data

Function	Description
OVERVIEW	Company overview with name, description, sector, market cap and more.
INCOME_STATEMENT, BALANCE_SHEET, CASH_FLOW	Annual/quarterly financial statements.

Function	Description
EARNINGS, EARNINGS_CALENDAR	Annual/quarterly EPS and revenue; upcoming earnings calendar.
LISTING_STATUS	List of symbols with IPO status and delisting status.
IPO_CALENDAR	Upcoming IPOs.

Currency and crypto

Function	Description
CURRENCY_EXCHANGE_RATE	Real-time exchange rate between any two currencies.
FX_DAILY, FX_WEEKLY, FX_MONTHLY	Foreign-exchange time series (daily/weekly/monthly).
DIGITAL_CURRENCY_DAILY, DIGITAL_CURRENCY_WEEKLY, DIGITAL_CURRENCY_MONTHLY	Crypto time series vs. USD and other currencies.
CRYPTO_RATING	Crypto rating and risk metrics.

Alpha Intelligence functions (free/trending)

Function	Description
NEWS_SENTIMENT	Real-time and historical news articles with sentiment scores 5 .
EARNINGS_CALL_TRANSCRIPT	Earnings call transcript and sentiment 6 .
TOP_GAINERS_LOSERS	Top 20 gainers/losers; real-time requires premium ⁷ .
INSIDER_TRANSACTIONS	Insider trade data for a ticker 8 .
ADVANCED_ANALYTICS	Compute statistics (mean, variance, cumulative return, covariance, correlation) for up to 5 symbols ⁹ .
TECHNICAL_INDICATORS (various values: SMA , EMA , MACD , RSI , BBANDS , etc.)	Dozens of technical indicators; each indicator has its own function name.

Usage limits

- 5 requests per minute and 500 requests per day on the free tier (across all functions).
- Each function call counts as one request, regardless of the number of symbols requested.
- Some endpoints (e.g., intraday) return compact results by default; full results may require multiple requests.

FRED (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis)

The FRED API is entirely free; there are no paid endpoints. You must register for a key. Rate limit is 120 requests per minute per IP (informal guideline). Key endpoints are grouped by categories, releases, series, sources and tags 10 .

Categories

Endpoint	Description
/fred/category	Get a FRED category by ID.
/fred/category/children	Child categories of a specified category.
/fred/category/related	Related categories.
/fred/category/series	Series in a category.
<pre>/fred/category/tags related_tags</pre>	Tags for a category and related tags.

Releases

Endpoint	Description
/fred/releases	List all FRED releases.
/fred/release	Get a specific release by ID.
/fred/release/dates	Dates of a release.
/fred/release/series	Series in a release.
/fred/release/sources	Sources for a release.
<pre>/fred/release/tags</pre> , /fred/release/related_tags	Tags for a release.

Series

Endpoint	Description
/fred/series	Metadata for a FRED series.
/fred/series/observations	Time-series observations (dates & values).
/fred/series/search	Search series by text.
/fred/series/categories	Categories containing a series.
/fred/series/updates	Recently updated series.

Endpoint	Description
/fred/series/vintagedates	Available vintage dates for a series.

Sources and tags

Endpoint	Description
/fred/sources,/fred/source	List all sources and get a single source.
/fred/source/releases	Releases from a source.
<pre>/fred/tags /fred/related_tags</pre>	Search tags and related tags.
<pre>/fred/series/tags</pre> /fred/series/related_tags	Tags for a series and related tags.

Limits

• Approximately 120 requests/minute per IP; contact FRED for higher usage.

Finnhub

Finnhub's documentation marks each endpoint as **Premium** (paid), **High Usage** (available on free plan but heavy), or **New**. Free users can call any endpoint without the "Premium" tag. The free plan includes **60 API calls/minute** overall, **900 calls/minute** for market-data endpoints and **300 calls/minute** for fundamental data (11).

Below is a non-exhaustive list of free endpoints (all are GET unless specified). Endpoints tagged *Premium* in Finnhub docs are omitted.

Stock fundamentals

Endpoint	Description
/stock/symbol	List supported stock symbols.
/search	Symbol lookup by keyword.
/stock/profile2	Company profile (name, industry, logo).
/stock/peers	Peer companies for a given symbol.
/stock/metrics	Basic financial metrics (PE ratio, PB ratio, etc.).
/stock/insider- transactions	Insider trade records.
/stock/insider-sentiment	Insider sentiment scores.

Endpoint	Description
/stock/financials- reported	Raw financial statements (as reported).
/stock/financials? symbol=	Standardized financial statements (Free up to 5 years).
/stock/candle	Historical OHLCV candles (free plan supports daily candles; intraday intervals may be limited).
/stock/split	Stock split history.
/stock/dividend	Dividend history.
/stock/quote	Real-time quote (latest price, bid/ask, volume).
/stock/market-news	Market-wide news articles.
/company-news	Company-specific news for a given symbol and date range.
/news-sentiment	News sentiment for top companies.
/stock/ownership	Insider share ownership (basic list).
/stock/financials-as- reported	Full 10-K/Q filings.
/stock/filings	SEC filings list.
/stock/executive-compensation	CEO compensation (free).
/stock/recommendation	Analyst recommendation trends.
/stock/eps-surprise	EPS surprises by quarter.
/stock/earnings-calendar	Upcoming earnings calendar.
/stock/earnings	Historical earnings by quarter.
/stock/splits	Stock split history.
/stock/ipo-calendar	Upcoming IPOs.
/stock/sectors- performance	Sector performance data.
/stock/market-status	Current market status (open/closed).
/stock/market-holiday	List of market holidays.
/stock/target-price	Analyst price targets (limited).

ETF, indices, mutual funds

These endpoints are free:

Endpoint	Description
/etf/profile	ETF profile (name, assets, expense ratio).
/etf/sector	ETF sector exposure.
/etf/holdings	ETF holdings (limited to top positions on free plan).
/index/symbol	List index symbols (e.g., SPX, NDX).
/index/constituents	Index constituents.
/index/candle	Index candle data (free for major indices).

Forex and crypto

Endpoint	Description
/forex/exchange	List forex exchanges.
/forex/symbol	List forex symbols.
/forex/candle	Historical forex candles (daily).
/crypto/exchange	List crypto exchanges.
/crypto/symbol	List crypto symbols.

Alternative data (free)

Finnhub labels several alternative datasets as "New" and free:

- /patents USPTO patent applications and assignments (sorted by company or keyword).
- /visa-application U.S. visa application data.
- /lobbying U.S. senate lobbying disclosures.
- /us-spending U.S. government contract spending.
- /investment themes | Lists investment themes and associated tickers.

Rate limits

- 60 requests/minute overall; 900 requests/minute for market data and 300 requests/minute for fundamental data 11.
- Additional 30 requests/second cap per IP.
- WebSocket streaming limited to 50 symbols 12.

Financial Modeling Prep (FMP)

FMP's free tier offers a vast set of endpoints with **250 requests/day** ¹³; some endpoints support only U.S. securities. Premium endpoints are clearly marked in the docs; the free endpoints are summarised below.

Stock and directory endpoints

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/search?query=	Search company names and tickers.
/api/v3/stock/list	List all stock symbols supported (company symbol list).
/api/v3/financial-statement-symbol-list	List symbols that have financial statements.
/api/v3/cik-list?page=0&limit=1000	List Central Index Key numbers.
/api/v3/symbol-change?from=&to=	List ticker symbol changes.
/api/v3/etf/list	List ETF symbols.
/api/v3/actives	List actively trading stocks.
/api/v3/earning_call_transcript/list	List tickers with earnings transcripts.
<pre>/api/v3/exchanges-list, /api/v3/sectors , /api/v3/ industries , /api/v3/countries</pre>	Lists available exchanges, sectors, industries and countries 14 .

Company information

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/profile/{symbol}	Company profile (name, description, sector, industry, website, CEO).
/api/v3/company/profile/{cik}	Profile by CIK.
/api/v3/company/notes/{symbol}	Company notes/press releases.
/api/v3/company/peers/{symbol}	Peer comparison.
/api/v3/delisted-company	List of delisted companies.
<pre>/api/v3/market-cap/{symbol} / /api/v3/batch- market-cap / /api/v3/historical-market-cap/ {symbol}</pre>	Current, batch and historical market cap.
<pre>/api/v3/share-float/{symbol} / /api/v3/all- shares-float</pre>	Share float and liquidity data.

Endpoint	Description
<pre>/api/v3/ mergers / /api/v3/mergers-search?symbol=</pre>	Recent mergers and acquisitions.
/api/v3/executives/{symbol}	Company executives and compensation.
/api/v3/executive-compensation/{symbol}	Executive pay data.
/api/v3/executive-benchmark	Compensation benchmark.

Quotes and price data

FMP has numerous quote endpoints; all are GET:

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/quote/{symbol}	Real-time stock quote (price, change, volume).
/api/v3/quote-short/{symbol}	Lightweight quote with fewer fields.
/api/v3/after-market-trade/{symbol}	After-market trade price.
/api/v3/after-market-quote/{symbol}	After-market quote.
/api/v3/stock-price-change/{symbol}	Percent change for a stock.
/api/v3/quotes/{exchange}	Batch quotes by exchange (e.g., NASDAQ, NYSE).
<pre>/api/v3/quotes/mutual-fund, /api/v3/quotes/ etf, /api/v3/quotes/commodity, /api/v3/quotes/ crypto, /api/v3/quotes/forex</pre>	Quotes for mutual funds, ETFs, commodities, cryptocurrencies and forex pairs 14.
/api/v3/stock/price?symbol=	Current price (deprecated but still working).

Financial statements and metrics

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/income-statement/{symbol}	Annual and quarterly income statements (supports period=annual or quarter).
<pre>/api/v3/balance-sheet-statement/ {symbol}</pre>	Balance sheet data.
<pre>/api/v3/cash-flow-statement/ {symbol}</pre>	Cash-flow data.

Endpoint	Description
<pre>/api/v3/income-statement/{symbol}? period=ttm</pre>	Trailing-12-month data.
/api/v3/ratios/{symbol}	Financial ratios (P/E, ROE, etc.).
/api/v3/key-metrics/{symbol}	Key metrics (EBITDA, EV, dividends, etc.).
/api/v3/enterprise-values/{symbol}	Enterprise value and EV/EBITDA.
/api/v3/advanced-stats/{symbol}	Advanced statistics (beta, shares outstanding, etc.).
<pre>/api/v3/historical-dividend/ {symbol}</pre>	Dividend history.
/api/v3/stock-dividend/{symbol}	Upcoming dividends.
/api/v3/stock-split/{symbol}	Stock split history.
/api/v3/analyst-estimates/{symbol}	Analyst EPS/price targets.
/api/v3/earnings-surprises/{symbol}	Earnings surprises.
/api/v3/earnings-calendar? from=YYYY-MM-DD&to=YYYY-MM-DD	Upcoming earnings events.

Charts and historical price series

Endpoint	Description
<pre>/api/v3/historical-chart/{interval}/ {symbol}</pre>	Historical prices; interval can be 1min, 15min, 30min, 1hour, 4hour or 1day.
/api/v3/historical-price-full/{symbol}	Full daily price history with dividends and splits.
<pre>/api/v3/historical-price-full/{symbol}? serietype=line</pre>	Price history simplified for plotting.
<pre>/api/v3/historical-price/{symbol}? from=YYYY-MM-DD&to=YYYY-MM-DD</pre>	Custom date range.

Economics

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/fed-funds-rate, /api/v3/treasury-rate, /api/v3/ cpi, /api/v3/unemployment-rate	U.S. macroeconomic series (Fed funds, treasury yields, CPI, unemployment, etc.).
/api/v3/economic-calendar	Upcoming macroeconomic releases.

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/state-unemployment/{state_code}	State-level unemployment rates.
/api/v3/sector-performance	U.S. sector performance.

Earnings transcripts & news

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/earning_call_transcript/{symbol}	Full earnings call transcript.
/api/v3/earning_call_transcript/batch?symbol=	Batch transcripts.
/api/v3/stock_news	Market and company news.

Form 13F

Endpoint	Description
/api/v3/form-thirteen-f/{cusip}	13F holdings by CUSIP.
/api/v3/form-thirteen-f/list	List of funds filing 13F reports.

Limits

- 250 requests per day on free plan 13; up to 4 parallel requests/second suggested (unofficial).
- Only U.S. stocks and ETFs covered; premium endpoints require a paid key 15.

Polygon.io

Polygon.io offers granular U.S. market data (stocks, options, indices, forex, crypto) via REST and WebSockets. **Free tier** provides delayed data (end-of-day) and has a **limit of 5 API requests per minute**16 . Paid tiers unlock real-time data, additional asset classes and higher limits.

Reference endpoints (free)

Below are the reference/client methods from the official Python library (which call REST endpoints behind the scenes). Each corresponds to a REST path; free tier returns end-of-day data only. Parameters omitted for brevity.

Method / Endpoint	Purpose
<pre>get_tickers (/vX/reference/tickers)</pre>	List all tickers (stocks, ETFs, mutual funds, indices, crypto).
<pre>get_ticker_types (/vX/reference/tickers/types)</pre>	List ticker types (CS, ADR, ETF, etc.).

Method / Endpoint	Purpose
<pre>get_ticker_details (/vX/reference/tickers/ {symbol})</pre>	Company information and fundamentals.
<pre>get_option_contract (/vX/reference/options/ {option_symbol})</pre>	Get a single option contract's details.
<pre>get_option_contracts (/vX/reference/options)</pre>	List active option contracts for an underlying symbol ¹⁷ .
<pre>get_ticker_news (/vX/reference/news)</pre>	Latest news articles about a ticker 18.
<pre>get_stock_dividends (/vX/reference/dividends)</pre>	Dividend history for a ticker.
<pre>get_stock_splits (/vX/reference/splits)</pre>	Stock split history.
<pre>get_stock_financials_vX (/vX/reference/ financials)</pre>	Standardized financial statements (v2/v3).
<pre>get_market_holidays (/vX/reference/holidays)</pre>	U.S. market holidays.
<pre>get_market_status (/vX/reference/market- status)</pre>	Whether the market is open.
<pre>get_conditions (/vX/reference/conditions)</pre>	Condition codes for trades/quotes.
<pre>get_exchanges (/vX/reference/exchanges)</pre>	List stock exchanges and descriptions.

Price and aggregates endpoints (free tier returns end-of-day)

Endpoint	Description
<pre>/v2/aggs/ticker/{symbol}/range/ {multiplier}/{timespan}/{from}/ {to}</pre>	Historical aggregates (OHLCV) for a symbol; timespan can be minute, hour, day, week, month, quarter or year.
/v2/trades/{symbol}	Historical trades for a symbol (requires paid tier for intraday).
/v2/last/trade/{symbol}	Last trade for a symbol.
/v2/last/nbbo/{symbol}	Last NBBO quote (top of book) — real-time requires paid plan.
/v2/snapshot/locale/us/markets/ stocks/tickers	Snapshot of the entire stock market (price, volume, etc.).
<pre>/v2/snapshot/locale/us/markets/ stocks/tickers/{symbol}</pre>	Snapshot for a single ticker.
/v2/reference/dividends	Dividend announcements.

Endpoint	Description
/v2/reference/splits	Splits and reverse splits.
/v2/reference/financials/{symbol}	Standardized financial statement for a symbol.
/v2/reference/earnings/{symbol}	Historical earnings.

Options and other asset classes (free tier)

Endpoint	Description
/v3/reference/options/contracts	List options contracts with filters (underlying symbol, expiration date).
<pre>/v3/reference/options/contracts/ {symbol}</pre>	Details for a specific option contract.
<pre>/v1/open-close/{symbol}/{date}</pre>	Open and close price for a symbol on a given date.
<pre>/v2/aggs/grouped/locale/us/market/ stocks/{date}</pre>	End-of-day grouped daily bars for all tickers.
/v2/aggs/ticker/{symbol}/prev	Previous day's bar.

Rate limits

- Free tier: **5 requests per minute** 16.
- Bulk and real-time endpoints are disabled; only end-of-day data is provided.
- Premium tiers raise limits and enable real-time tick data and websockets.

Summary of Limits

Provider	Free-plan call limits	Notes
Alpaca	Unpublished; typical guideline ~200 REST requests/min. WebSocket limited to 30 symbols 2.	Only IEX feed (stocks) and indicative options/crypto feed 1.
Alpha Vantage	5 requests/minute, 500/day.	Premium keys raise limits; realtime intraday and options require upgrade.
FRED	~120 requests/minute.	All endpoints free; registration required.
Finnhub	60 requests/minute overall; 900/min for market data; 300/min for fundamentals 11.	WebSocket limit of 50 symbols 12.
FMP	250 requests/day 13 .	Only U.S. data on free plan; premium endpoints excluded ¹⁵ .

Provider	Free-plan call limits	Notes
Polygon.io	5 requests/minute 16.	Data is end-of-day; real-time data and higher limits require paid tier.

Note: The lists above capture the principal endpoints available in each provider's free tier. Minor variations or newly added endpoints may not be fully represented; consult each provider's official documentation for the most current details.

¹ Historical Stock Data

https://docs.alpaca.markets/docs/historical-stock-data-1

² About Market Data API

https://docs.alpaca.markets/docs/about-market-data-api

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11 12 Pricing for global company fundamentals, stock API market data and estimates. https://finnhub.io/pricing

13 15 How to Sign Up and Use a Free Stock market data AP... | FMP

https://site.financialmodelingprep.com/how-to/how-to-sign-up-and-use-a-free-stock-market-data-api

14 Free Stock Market API and Financial Statements API... | FMP

https://site.financialmodelingprep.com/developer/docs

16 REST FAQs | Polygon.io

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