STAT VENTURES

CENSUS OPEN INNOVATION LABS

Stay tuned for opportunities to apply to Phase 1 in spring 2024.
Learn more about StatVentures and sign up for updates at: coil.census.gov/statventures
Join an upcoming information session: RSVP here.

How StatVentures Works

StatVentures works through multiphase competitions, in which the Census Bureau iteratively explores cutting-edge technologies and ideas. We provide direct partnership and feedback from the Census Bureau to make government adoption of new approaches faster and easier and offer opportunities for participants to engage with the government market.

StatVentures Address Geolocation Challenge

Propose new ways to produce more complete, accurate, timely, and granular data on the locations of residential addresses in the United States, especially in rural and remote locations that lack traditional mailing or city-style addresses. Up to 10 winners receive $10,000 each, and the opportunity to advance to Phase 2.

Challenge Background

The Census Bureau conducts dozens of national censuses and surveys, including the Decennial Census. This work involves sending survey- or census-takers out to doors across the nation—including in very remote or rural locations without traditional addresses. To support these operations, the Census Bureau creates and maintains a master address file that includes all addresses in the United States. Without this address data, we can not correctly send census-takers, known as enumerators, to people's doors to include them in critical data collection.

However, the methods currently used to build this database have some limitations, such as being relatively slow, costly, labor-intensive, and sometimes providing incomplete or inaccurate data.

We know the current methods used and the resulting data could be improved through new or emerging technologies or alternative data sources such as drone and satellite imagery, e-commerce data, and more.

Therefore, we've identified the need to explore additional data sources and techniques to evolve our current approaches. In this challenge, we are seeking new approaches, technologies, or data sources that provide a more complete, accurate, timely, and granular method to geolocate addresses in remote or rural locations.