

# *The Address from a USPS® Perspective*

**Census Bureau Address Summit  
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United States Postal Service®**

## *Defining A Quality Address*

### **USPS® Defines a Quality Address as:**

*Containing complete and correct elements that comply with USPS Address Management System standards, allowing the address to be:*

- Mailable
- **Deliverable**
- Locatable
- Geocode-able



## *Address Management System Contents*

The USPS® Address Management System (AMS) database currently contains:

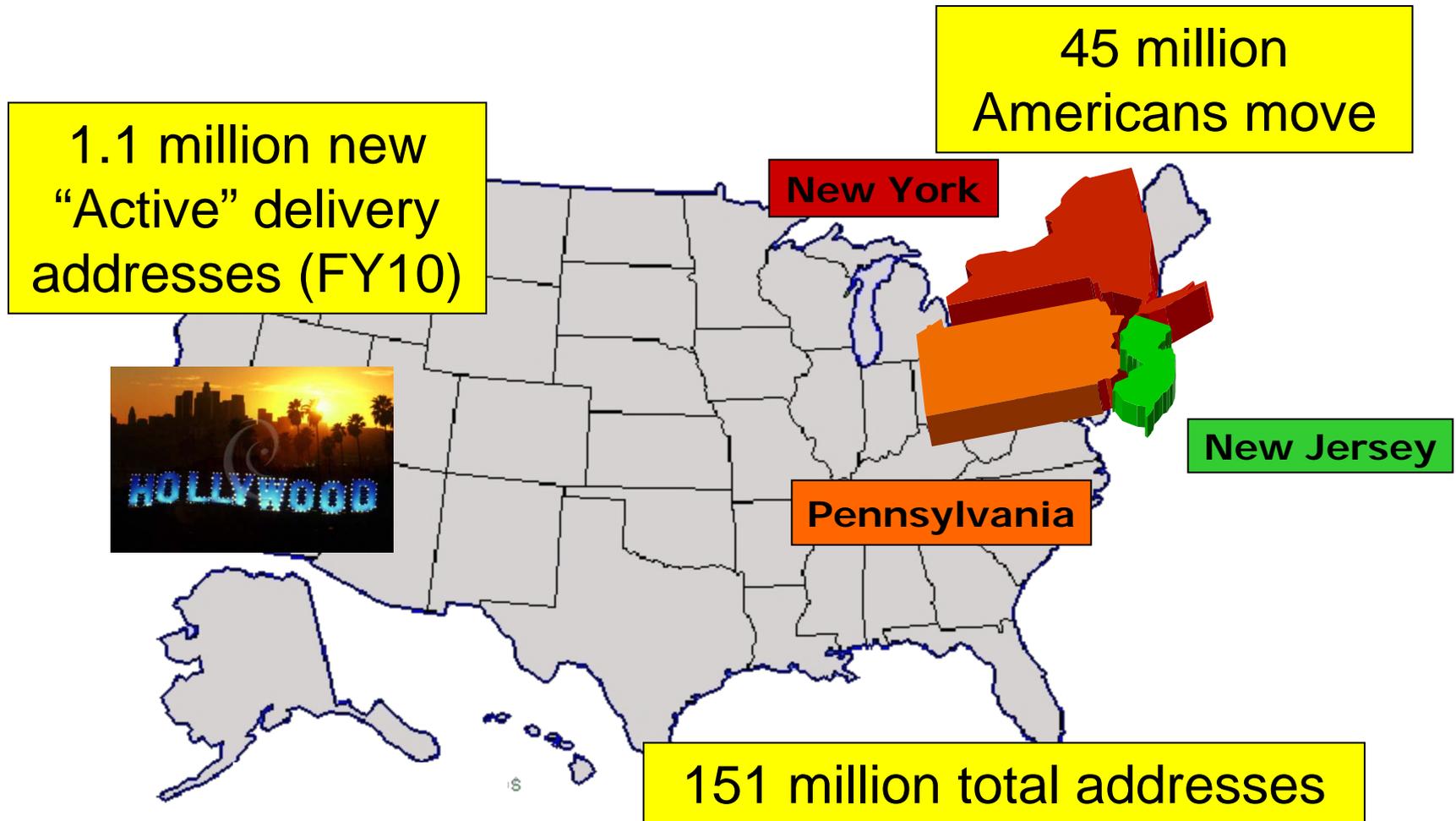
- 151 million “Active” deliveries
  - 173 million “Possible” deliveries
- 270,000 delivery routes
- 42,000 ZIP Codes
- 37,000 facilities nationwide
- 8 terabytes of address information data

## *Address Management System Contents*

The USPS® AMS database may/does NOT contain:

- Addresses where delivery is *NOT* made by USPS
  - Gated communities, multi-building campuses
- Street addresses associated with Group E PO Boxes
  - Free PO Box in lieu of carrier delivery to street
- Longitude/Latitude coordinates
- Names of residential or business customers
- Demographics not associated with mail delivery

# *America is Growing and on the Move!*



# USPS® Operational Needs Prioritized

## Find a ZIP + 4® Code By Address Results

### You Gave Us

95 POPLAR ACRES RD  
PIPERTON TN 38017

[Lookup Another ZIP Code™](#)

### Full Address in Standard Format ?

95 POPLAR ACRES RD  
PIPERTON TN 38017-5129

## Find a ZIP + 4® Code By Address Results

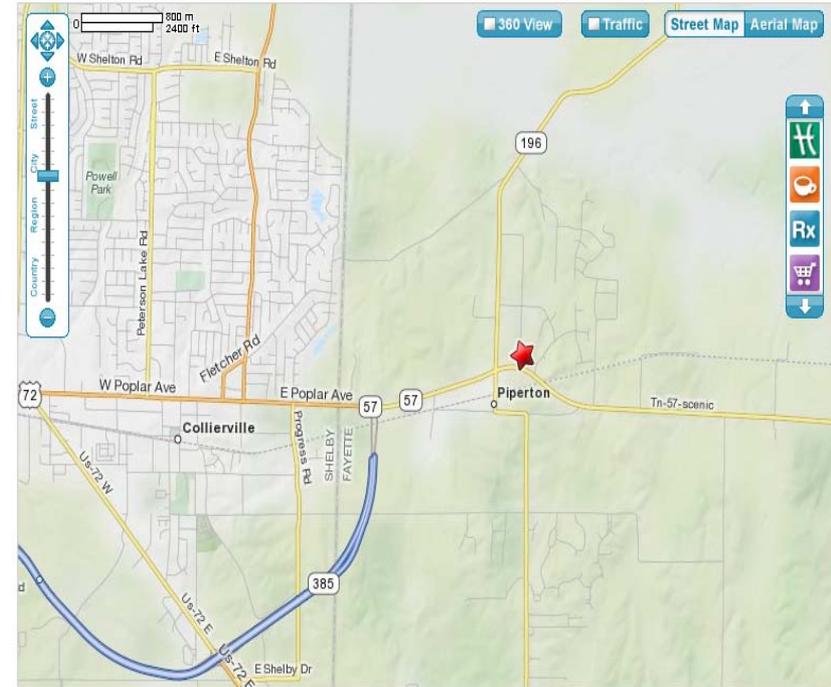
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38017

[Lookup Another ZIP Code™](#)

### Full Address in Standard Format ?

95 POPLAR ACRES RD  
COLLIERVILLE TN 38017-5129



Courtesy MapQuest

Postal Service™ ZIP Code™ boundary alignments do not follow municipal lines!

# *Maintaining Current Address Data is Critical*

## Mail Processing Operations



# *Maintaining Current Address Data is Critical*

## Mail Delivery



## *39 USC Section 412 – Nondisclosure of lists of names and addresses*

- a) Except as specifically provided by subsection (b) or other law, no officer or employee of the Postal Service™ shall make available to the public by any means or for any purpose any mailing or other list of names or addresses (past or present) of postal patrons or other persons.
  
- b) The Postal Service shall provide to the Secretary of Commerce for use by the Bureau of the Census such address information, address-related information, and point of postal delivery information, including postal delivery codes, ...

## *The Challenge*

The Postal Service™ must align with local planning authorities during address assignments to:

- Obtain official addresses in a timely manner
- Ensure assignments follow USPS® address standards
- Avoid addressing conflicts
- Ensure no duplicate addresses
- Ensure timely 9-1-1 address conversions
- Ensure the security of the mail

## *Opportunities*

### County Project Data Exchange

- Cross-comparison of USPS® and County address information to identify
  - Missing / incomplete addresses in USPS data
- USPS provides data updates back to the County
  - Address standardization
  - ZIP + 4® code assignments
  - Municipality data
  - County Code / Congressional District mismatches
  - Vacant address indicators (Future)

# Example of County Project Data

	D	E	F	G	L	M	N	O	P	Q
1	County	TOTAL RECORDS RECEIVED	TOTAL RECORDS MATCH ALL	% MATCH ALL	RECORDS DID NOT MATCH AMS	% NOT MATCHED AMS	CONG CODE NOT MATCHED AMS	% CONG CODE NOT MATCHED AMS	COUNTY CODE NOT MATCHED AMS	% COUNTY CODE NOT MATCHED AMS
2	1	1,142,388	1,004,468	87.93%	59,956	5.25%	7,366	0.64%	1,086,213	95.08%
3	2	30,102	22,233	73.86%	5,856	19.45%	0	0.00%	24,870	82.62%
4	3	168,524	151,943	90.16%	9,476	5.62%	778	0.46%	157,322	93.35%
5	4	67,903	59,087	87.02%	7,487	11.03%	74	0.11%	59,389	87.46%
6	5	533,676	494,314	92.62%	15,257	2.86%	9,464	1.77%	0	0.00%
7	6	127,420	111,780	87.73%	2,669	2.09%	2,869	2.25%	0	0.00%
8	7	21,953	19,699	89.73%	1,108	5.05%	450	2.05%	695	3.17%
9	8	34,226	31,098	90.86%	2,327	6.80%	0	0.00%	149	0.44%
10	9	3,044	1,093	35.91%	1,678	55.12%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
11	10	82,551	48,191	58.38%	22,646	27.43%	48	0.06%	93	0.11%
12	11	48,826	44,179	90.48%	4,041	8.28%	70	0.14%	142	0.29%
13	12	102,256	94,107	92.03%	2,076	2.03%	126	0.12%	4	0.00%
18		<b>2,362,869</b>	<b>2,082,192</b>	<b>88.12%</b>	<b>134,577</b>	<b>5.70%</b>	<b>21,245</b>	<b>0.90%</b>	<b>1,328,877</b>	<b>56.24%</b>

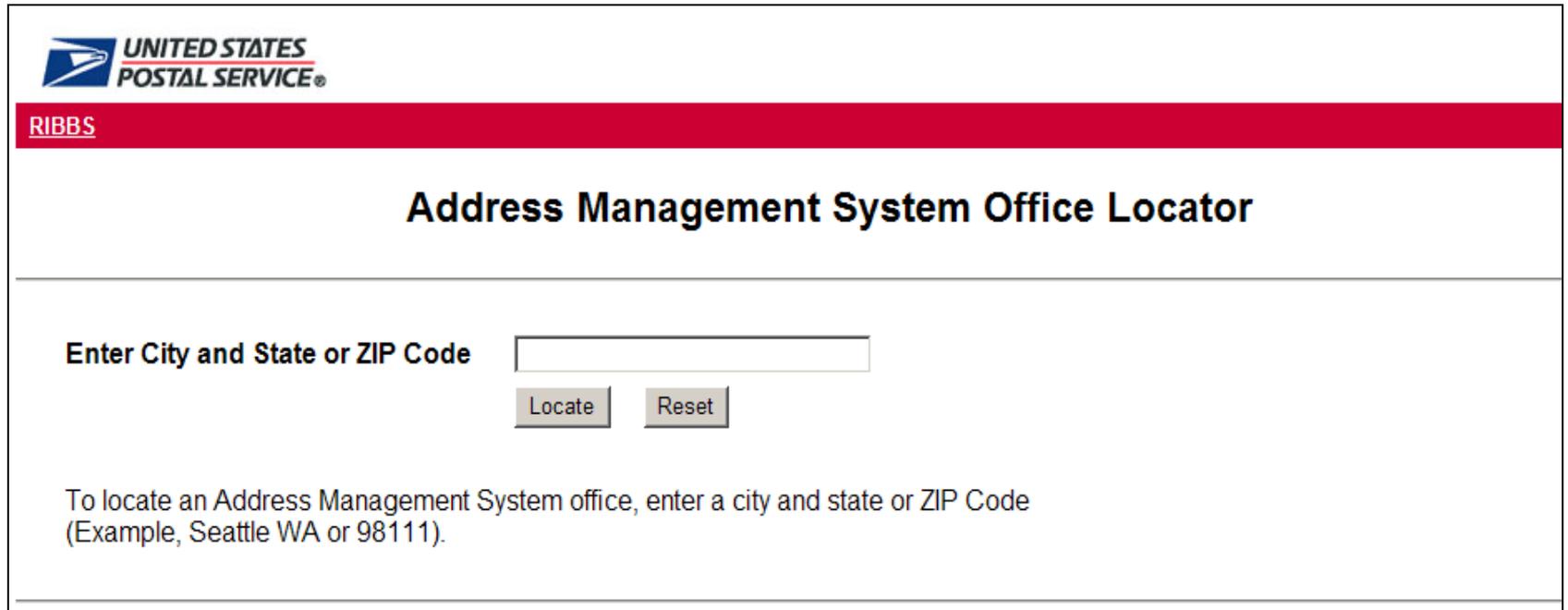
## Going Forward

*The Postal Service™* must continue to build relationships with other Addressing Organizations to maintain quality address information.

- U.S. Census Bureau
- National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)
- National Emergency Number Association (NENA)
- Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)
- State, County & Local Addressing Authorities

# Contact Your Local AMS Office

<https://ribbs.usps.gov/locators/find-ams.cfm>



The screenshot shows the RIBBS (Retail Information Business System) interface for finding an Address Management System (AMS) office. At the top left is the United States Postal Service logo. Below it is a red horizontal bar with the word "RIBBS" in white. The main heading is "Address Management System Office Locator". Below this is a form with a text input field labeled "Enter City and State or ZIP Code". To the right of the input field are two buttons: "Locate" and "Reset". Below the form is a paragraph of instructions: "To locate an Address Management System office, enter a city and state or ZIP Code (Example, Seattle WA or 98111)."

 **UNITED STATES  
POSTAL SERVICE®**

**RIBBS**

## Address Management System Office Locator

Enter City and State or ZIP Code

To locate an Address Management System office, enter a city and state or ZIP Code  
(Example, Seattle WA or 98111).

Thank You!

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