National Fire Incident Reporting System Transition: Exporting Incident Data From eNFIRS

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) will be sunsetted in early 2026. At that time, all incident data in eNFIRS will no longer be available. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) will guide state agencies and local fire departments on successfully accessing and downloading historical NFIRS data.

How to export incidents

USFA provides a training video with instructions on how to generally export incidents: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/training/

Best practices for exporting incidents

- Active eNFIRS users with roles that permit incident export can begin exporting today.

- Best practices for using the Export Incidents Utility in eNFIRS:

  - Select up to 1 year at a time for exporting incidents; shorter date ranges are preferred.

  - Once exporting is complete, request the next year (or date range). **Please wait until the current export finishes before requesting the next one.**

  - Users are encouraged to submit export requests to run overnight and through the weekend.

  - Smaller files will take a shorter time to export. Please consider limiting your export requests to fewer than 750,000 incidents per request.

  - Use "Export Modified" to export incidents that were changed or added since the last time you made an export request.

  - Maintenance periods and unexpected downtime could delay or interrupt the export process. Please seek guidance from the NFIRS Support Center to determine the best next steps.

- Not following the above practices reduces performance quality for **all users** in eNFIRS, including crashing the system or causing server errors.

Guidance on creating an export plan

- When creating your export plan, determine if you need or require exporting the raw incident data files.

- Consult your agency, state or local jurisdiction records retention policies to determine how much you should export from NFIRS and where to store it.

- The NFIRS export is generally a subset of local incident data. Therefore, if your state or local fire department has a records management system, the local incident data may be more comprehensive than in NFIRS. You may not want or need to export incident data out of eNFIRS.

- It is not necessary to export all incident data immediately. There are 27 years available to export (1998-2025), which may help with your planning.

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Communicating our next steps

❱ State NFIRS Program Managers will determine how to communicate their state's export plan to their fire departments, as local fire departments may not need to export data independently.

> ❯ State NFIRS Program Managers are encouraged to provide the ability to export data or the actual data files to the local fire departments that request it.

❱ Please forward any questions from local fire departments about NFIRS decommissioning to the State NFIRS Program Manager.

❱ We expect all NFIRS-reporting fire departments will be able to report in the National Emergency Response Information System by the end of calendar year 2025.

❱ The NFIRS Support Center will invite all State NFIRS Program Managers and their staff to regular meetings (starting in February) to discuss the NFIRS decommissioning process and similar NFIRS-related topics.

Related topics in this process:

> ❯ Data Warehouse decommissioning.
> ❯ Considerations for Assistance to Firefighters Grants and other federal grants.
> ❯ Obtaining data and information for National Fire Academy classes.

❱ If you have questions, please get in touch with the NFIRS Support Center. We anticipate **many** questions from state and local users, so please be patient; our response may be delayed.

NFIRS Support Center
Phone: 888-382-3827
Help Desk webform: NFIRS Technical Assistance Request (fema.gov)
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