

CAL FIRE

Office of the State Fire Marshal
Webinar Series

March 17, 2025

National Emergency Response Information System

Presented by the Cal Stats Program



Welcome!

- If you experience technical difficulties during this presentation, please contact Kara Garrett at (916) 201-5539 or Kara.Garrett@fire.ca.gov.



National Emergency Response Information System

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Deputy Chief

California Incident Data & Statistics



Overview

1. **Background**
2. **What is NERIS**
3. **Timelines**
4. **Onboarding**
5. **NFIRS Transition**
6. **Information Pipeline**



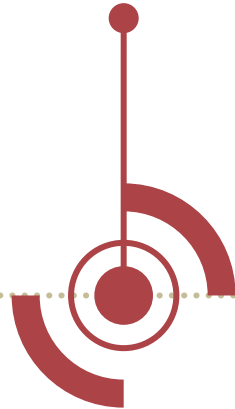
Legacy System NFIRS

NFIRS Begins

America Burning released in 1973 lead to the establishments of USFA in 1974 with the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act in 1974. NFIRS launches in 1975.



1985



NFIRS 4.0

First public release of NFIRS collected data.

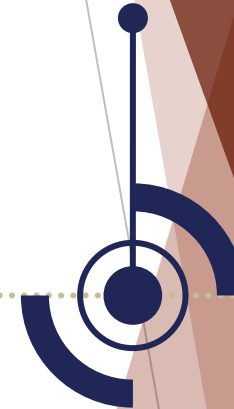
NFIRS 5.0

NFIRS becomes an “all-hazard” data collection system with the addition of EMS data, wildfire data, and juvenile firesetter module.



1999

2025



Sunsetting NFIRS

Driven by security concerns, outdated data models, and costs in maintaining code base, at the start of calendar year 2026, NFIRS will sunset, and decommissioning will begin.

The Road Here

Things that have changed in the fire service over the past 25 years:

Bunker Gear & PPE

Mission / Incident Types

Apparatus and Equipment

Communications

Tactics and Strategies

The workforce

Training

Available Technology



Things that haven't changed in the fire service over the past 25 years:

Our incident reporting system - NFIRS



The goal of NERIS is to empower the local fire and emergency services community by equipping them with near real-time information and analytic tools that support data informed decision-making for enhanced preparedness and response to incidents involving all hazards.

NERIS Perception

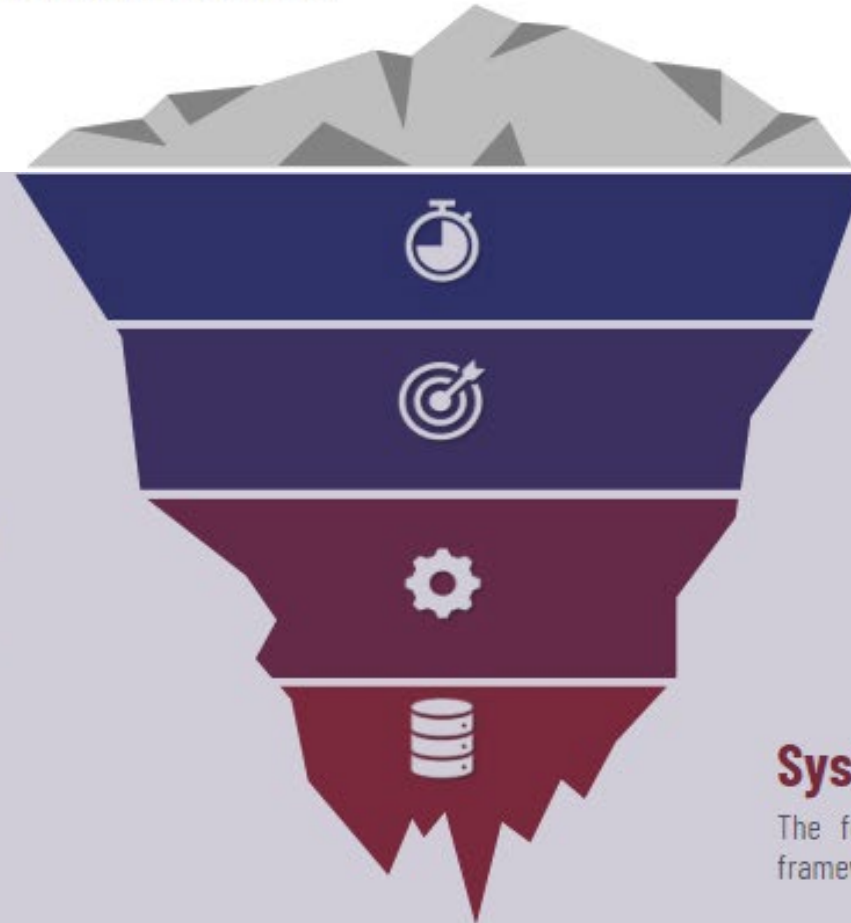
What people have been able to see/touch/interact with has been limited as the system has been developed

Analytics

The value return on the data collected. Provides intelligence to help improve prevention efforts and emergency response.

API

The API is the data hub for the system allowing the movement of data both internally (within NERIS) and externally (to/from entities).



Data Schemas

The elements we collect. Designed to describe the work done by the fire service to help the people in the communities they protect.

System Architecture

The foundation of the system - built on an elastic framework for reliability and scalability.

NFIRS is Going Away!

Keep using your current RMS/ eNFIRS system

2025 will be a “Hybrid” reporting year -
Using both NERIS & NFIRS, Not simultaneous

RMS vendors are already making changes

Stay Updated!

NFIRS will cease to exist after:
February 22, 2026

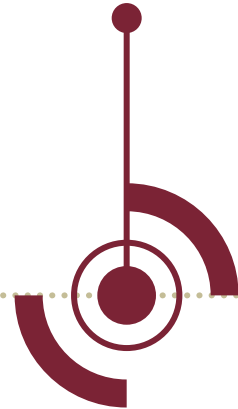
Building *With* the Fire Service

Panel Involvement & Schema Release

As part of the organization of NERIS, Technical and Senior Leadership panels were established to guide the framework and design of the system from the onset. NERIS data schemas were also released for public engagement, resulting in 1,600 comments.



March 2024



Prototype Testing

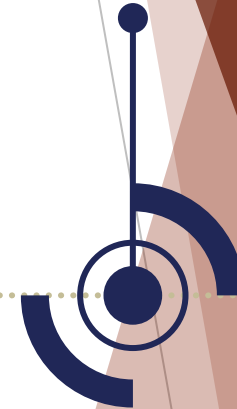
Six departments, representing a cross section of agency sizes and complexities, are used to evaluate the first version of NERIS.

Beta Testing

Building on feedback from the schema release and prototype testing, another 56 fire departments were onboarded into the NERIS platform and began identifying issues, opportunities to improve and logic alignment.

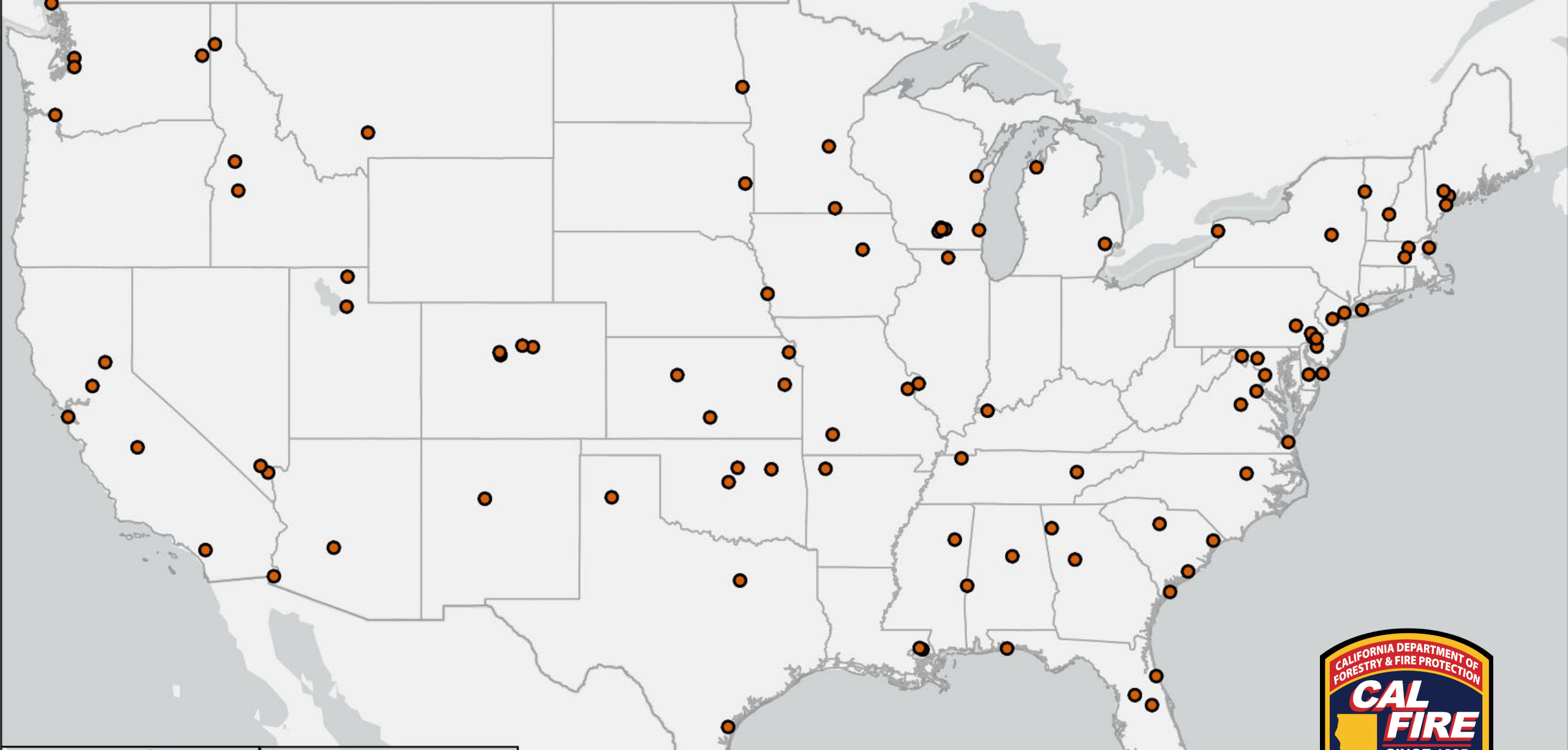


November 2024



Version 1 Release

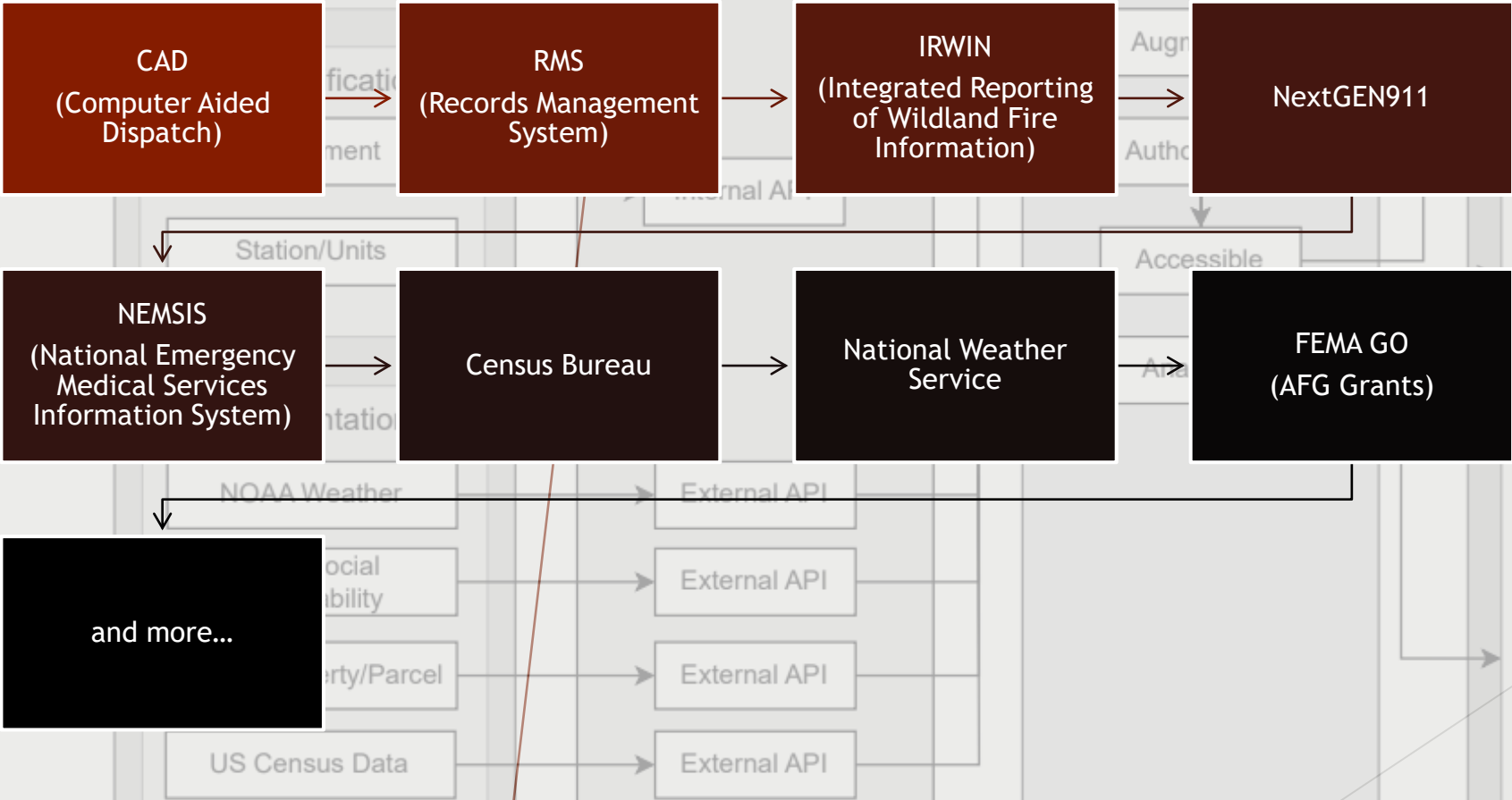
An additional 111 fire departments were onboarded into the NERIS platform as part of Version 1 release. The release of Version 1 represents a continued commitment.



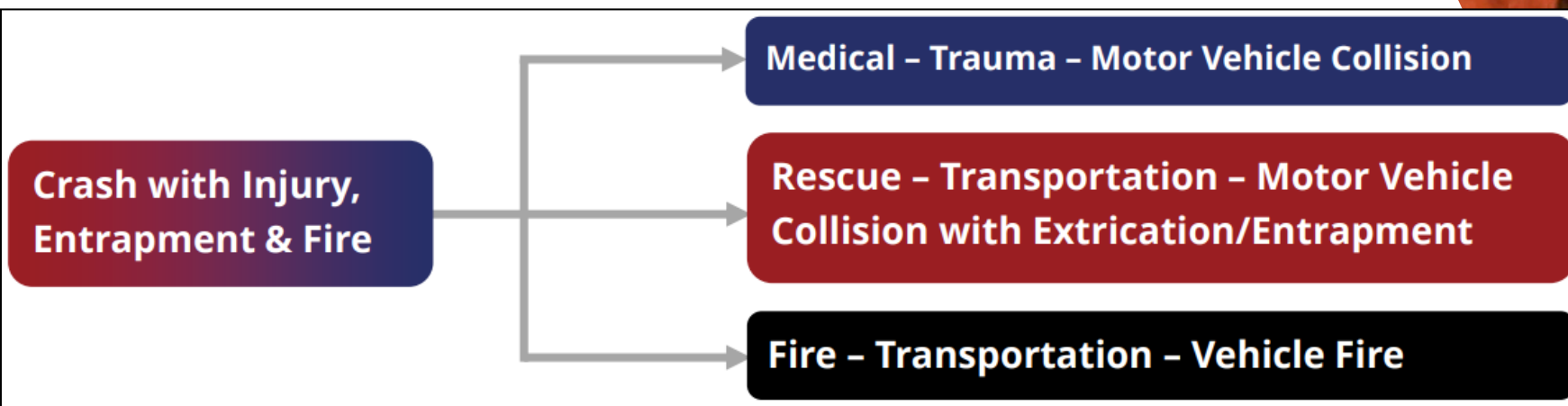
NERIS Version 1 Departments - Early Adopters



NERIS Integration



Multi Incident Type Example



Department Profile

- ▶ Each Fire Department has their own landing page.
- ▶ Core information on FD operation, deployment, staffing, and other characteristics.
- ▶ Used to help all departments understand their effective response force, deployment and other metrics.

Springdale Fire Department
Member Parent Co. Department
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At A Glance

Address: 417 Holcomb Street, 2nd Floor
City: Springdale
State: AR
Zipcode: 72764
NERIS ID: FD-05143-001
Website: https://www.springdalear.gov/firefd
Staffing: Career

Population Protected: 69,797
Area Protected (square miles): 43.9
Number of Stations: 3
Total Number of Active Apparatus: 21
Number of Engines: 3
Number of Trucks: 2
Number of Ambulances: 5

Springdale Fire Department Stations

Station Name	Address
Station 1 (HQ)	417 Holcomb Street
Station 2	1660 W Don Tyson Parkway
Station 3	730 Glass Drive

Department Overview(Public)

Report

30 Day Avg Travel Time
47 sec Expected
55 sec Actual

147 Total Events
23 Open Incidents

Springdale Fire Department
Member Parent Co. Department
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Springdale Fire Department Stations

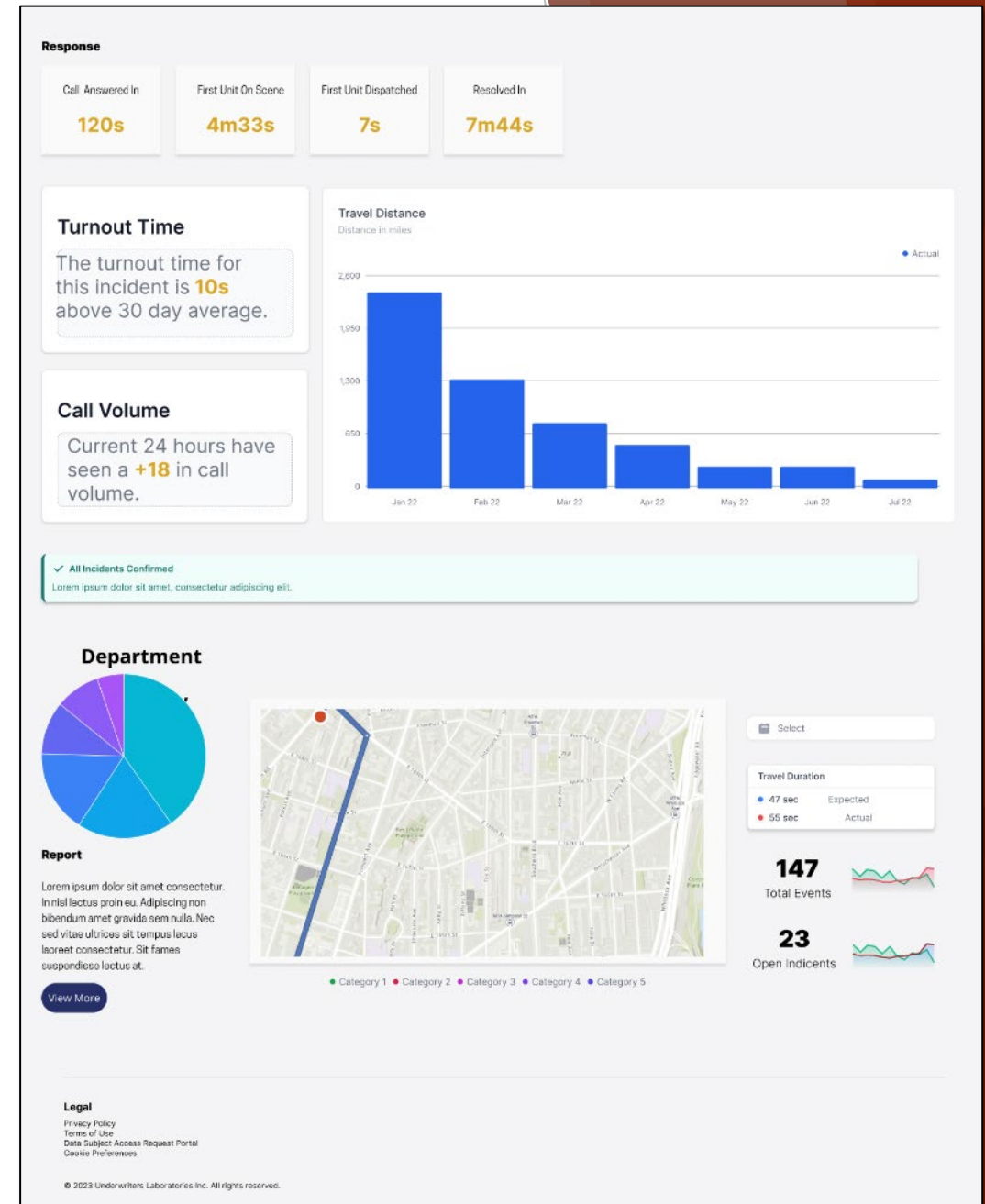
Station Name	Address
Station 1 (HQ)	417 Holcomb Street
Station 2	1660 W Don Tyson Parkway
Station 3	730 Glass Drive

- **Engine 3:** Staffed With 3 Personnel
- **Medic 3:** Staffed With 2 Personnel, Provides Advanced Life Support
- **Hazmat:** Staffed With 0 Personnel



Incident Information

- Improved workflow and categories for incident types
- Property information and other incident area information
- Metrics of significance (rescues, evacuations, etc.)
- Actions taken
- Tactical timestamps from CAD within the incident report
- Enhanced response time calculations



Choose How You Report

BASIC

Department does not have a CAD or RMS, or not connected to NERIS. Reports through NERIS data capture apps.



INTERMEDIATE

Department has CAD, but not RMS. Reports some information through NERIS data capture apps.



ADVANCED

Department has CAD & RMS, or RMS integrated with CAD. Local data is pushed to NERIS from CAD & RMS via API.





Onboarding is a 2-Phase Process

- ▶ Phase 1: Connect - Fire departments will have the opportunity to add/edit information after they establish their connection to NERIS.
- ▶ Phase 2: Reporting -
 - ▶ A) If using the NERIS collection app, Fire departments can submit when they are ready, at their scheduled transition. The transition will be a 100% switch. There will be no overlapping in systems.
 - ▶ B) If using a 3rd party RMS - Fire departments can switch after their RMS is ready and they have enabled their RMS software in their department profile. This only occurs at the scheduled transition.



NERIS Rollout 2025

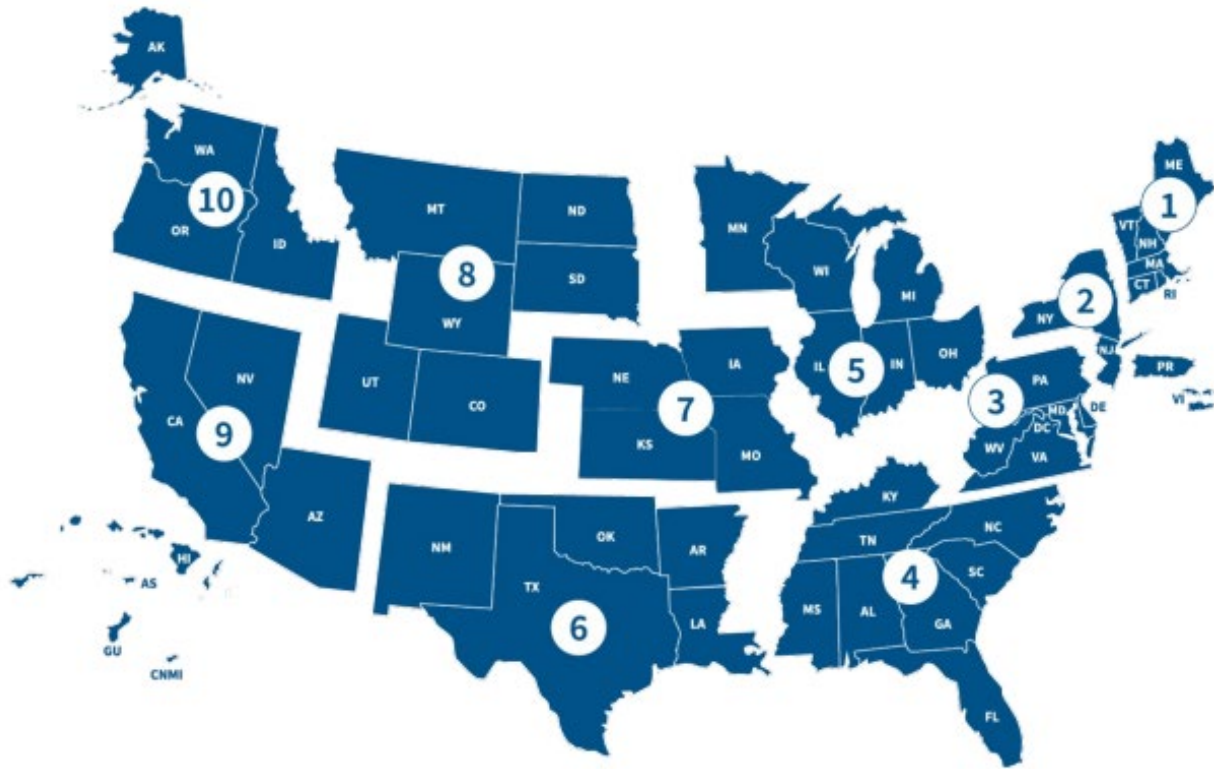
Phase 1: Platform Launch (2024)	Phase 2: Targeted Rollout: (Early Q2 2025)	Phase 3: Broader Adoption (Late Q2 2025)	Phase 4: National Deployment (Q3 2025)	Phase 5: Widespread Availability (End of Q4 2025)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Onboarding 165 departments to NERIS Version 1 by December 2024.• Establishing a strong foundation for national expansion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Onboarding 500 additional departments in early 2025.• Focused on departments that volunteered for Early Adopter status by October 15, 2024.• Tailored training and support to address regional and local needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adding 1,500 more departments by mid-2025.• Rollout from this point is organized by FEMA regions, in collaboration with State Fire Marshal offices and local leaders (see map on the reverse side of this flyer).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scaling up to 5,000 additional departments by early fall 2025.• Supported by Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) vendor-led integrations to streamline onboarding and data migration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing to 10,000 additional departments by end of calendar year 2025, with broad-based self-onboarding.

NOW

SUMMER

End of 3rd Qtr

End of the Year



MONTH IN 2025	NUMBER OF FIRE DEPARTMENTS
MAY	
FEMA REGION 2	2,385
JUNE	
FEMA REGION 4	5,009
JULY	
FEMA REGION 6	3,632
AUGUST	
FEMA REGION 7	2,400
SEPTEMBER	
FEMA REGION 3	3,080
OCTOBER	
FEMA REGION 1 & 10	2,496
NOVEMBER	
FEMA REGION 8 & 9	2,701
DECEMBER	
FEMA REGION 5	5,460

NERIS Regional Rollout

California agencies expected to transition in November



Be NERIS Ready: Prepare for onboarding

Identify

Gather

Prepare

Share

- **Role:** NERIS Lead/ POC for your Fire Department
- **Responsibilities:** Coordinate onboarding, training, and administrative aspects of the transition.
- **Qualifications:** Deep understanding of your department's data structures and organizational infrastructure.
- **Authority:** Authorization letter from the fire chief or equivalent.
- **System Use & Requirements:** Confirm if your department will integrate with CAD, RMS, or stand alone.
- **Designate:** Primary IT and vendor representative.
- **User Information:** Compile a list of all users who will access NERIS.
- **Department Demographics:** Department Information and geographic service boundaries in an interoperable format: Geo JSON, Esri RESTful Feature Service, or a File Geodatabase (FGDB).
- **Unit & Apparatus Inventory:** Information on specifics such as unit capabilities, minimum staffing levels, and cross-staffing arrangements.
- **Relationship Information:** Obtain the most current version of your fire department / district boundaries
- **Training:** Guides and Video training will be available and coming out soon.
- **Communication:** Help spread the word about NERIS to other departments within your area.
- **Information:** Look out for more information from us & NERIS team.
- **How Can We Help?:** Reach out to us or to the NERIS Team if you have questions or need support.



Vendor Readiness

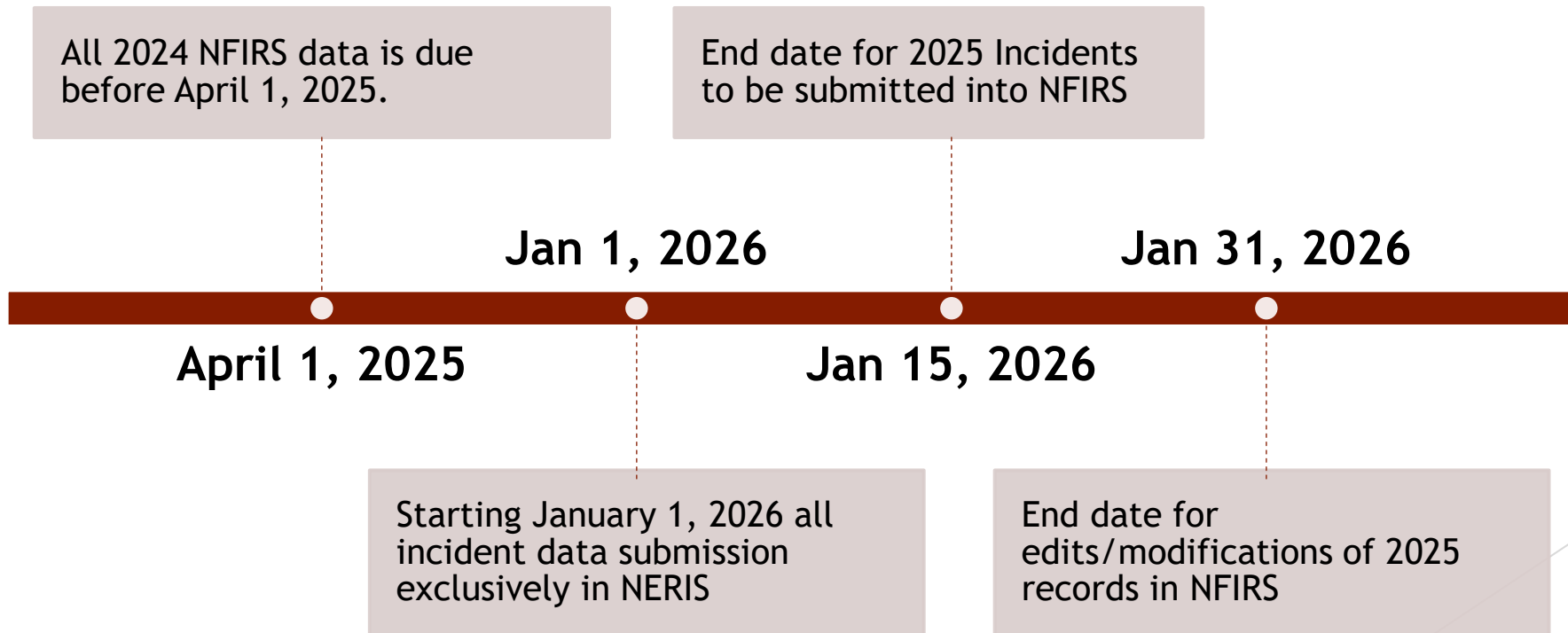
To earn a NERIS compatibility badge, a vendor must:

- Create an integration between their software and NERIS
- Submit a new incident in the test environment to the FSRI Fire Department
- Capture the unique incident number and submit an update to the incident that was created
- Establish a station and add a unit to the FSRI Fire Department



NFIRS Data Submission Deadlines

As fire departments migrate to NERIS throughout 2025, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has implemented new NFIRS data submission deadlines nationwide.



How do you keep up with NERIS:

NERIS FAQ: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/neris/about-neris/>

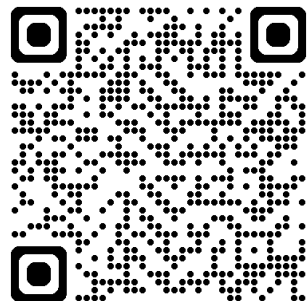
Sign Up for NERIS Emails: <https://fsri.org/subscribe-neris-mailing-list>

Stay informed by CAL FIRE - CalStats Team: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/resources/osfm-subscription-page>

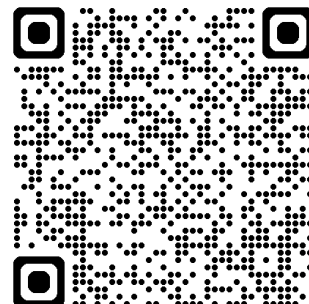
FSRI Website



NERIS Videos



CalStats Website



Questions?

- We will now be opening it up for questions.
- If you have a question, please use the “**raise hand**” feature and we will unmute you.



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- ▶ Subscribe for updates on all Office of the State Fire Marshal updates, including the CAL FIRE - OSFM Webinar Series at:
 - <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/resources/osfm-subscription-page>



Thank you!

