National EMS Database

NEMSIS Public Release Research Data Set v3.4.0



2022 User Manual

April 2023

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Acknowledgement

The Office of Emergency Medical Services, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration established the NEMSIS National EMS Database as a public service. The National EMS Database is a repository of EMS related data voluntarily reported by participating EMS agencies and states. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration funds and administers the NEMSIS Program



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Please be advised of the following Terms and Conditions of Use. In order to request the NEMSIS Public Release Research Data Set, you must agree to these terms and conditions (below), and complete the data application form.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) established the NEMSIS National EMS Database as a public service. The National EMS Database is a repository of EMS related data voluntarily reported by participating EMS agencies and states. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PUBLIC RELEASE RESEARCH DATASET IS NOT A POPULATION BASED DATA SET.

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A copy of the final printed material must be forwarded to NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center staff https://nemsis.org/support.



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HISTORY OF NEMSIS

In 1973, the *Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act* is passed. Administered by The Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the EMS Systems Act provides funding for the development of local EMS systems. The Act identifies 15 essential components of an EMS system, including the need for EMS data collection. This is the first federal legislation requiring EMS data collection and documentation of EMS services.

In 1991, the *Utstein Style for Uniform Reporting of Data* is published. This is the first major document to publish data points that specifically addressed data collection for EMS systems. The data points are specific to prehospital cardiac care and include variables on patient outcomes.

In 1994, the NHTSA *Uniform Pre-hospital EMS Dataset (Version 1.0)* is published. The EMS Community recognizes that EMS systems across the country are collecting different data elements for identical types of incidents, emergencies, EMS operations, and prehospital clinical care. There is clearly a need for standardization. In response, NHTSA works with representatives of national EMS organizations and EMS technical experts to develop the NHTSA Uniform Prehospital EMS Dataset, a national consensus document that defines 81 elements determined important to an EMS information system.

In 1996, NHTSA's *EMS Agenda for the Future: A Vision for the Nation's EMS System* (Agenda) is published. The Agenda is a collaborative effort involving representatives from State Offices of EMS, National EMS Organizations, and Federal Partners. The Agenda identifies 14 EMS Attributes for continued development and improvement of EMS systems. The Information Systems Attribute includes 5 recommendations related to uniform EMS data elements, information systems for collecting and transmitting data electronically, and integration with other public safety and healthcare data.

In 1997, *Data Elements for Emergency Department Systems* is published. The data elements, developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Control and Prevention, extends the concept of information systems for emergency departments by providing standards for data collection and linkages back to EMS.

In 1998, NHTSA's *EMS Agenda for the Future: Implementation Guide* is published. The *Implementation Guide*, a follow-up compendium to the *EMS Agenda for the Future*, identifies approaches for implementing the Agenda's 89 recommendations.

In 2001, the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) and the National EMS Database are developed. The development of NEMSIS is a collaborative effort by The National Association of State EMS Directors with funding from NHTSA and the Trauma and EMS Systems Program at the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

In 2003, an EMS data collection Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) is signed by 51 U.S. States and Territories. The MOU establishes the need for standardized EMS data element definitions, standardized data collection at the state level, and a defined set of national NEMSIS data



elements. By 2008, all states, the District of Columbia and the 5 U.S. Incorporated Territories have signed the MOU.

After 18 months of working with an expert consensus panel, a 400-page NEMSIS data dictionary is completed. The data dictionary includes data element labels, definitions, and standardized value codes.

In 2004, NEMSIS physical database schemas, element traits, and database development scripts are made available. These standardized implementation templates are provided to EMS software vendors for the development of EMS electronic patient care (ePCR) software and to states for development of state-level EMS data collection systems.

Also, during this time, Extensible Markup Language (XML) is designated as the standard to transmit EMS data from EMS agencies at the local-level to state-level EMS data collection systems, and onto the National EMS Database. XML's open format provides an easy way to transmit data for different ePCR software formats.

In 2005, the NEMSIS Version 2.2 Data Standard is created. The Version 2.2 Data Standard is developed using a national consensus process during a NEMSIS project pilot phase administered collaboratively by NHTSA, HRSA, and the CDC.

As a result of the pilot phase, NHTSA, HRSA, and the CDC recognize the value of the NEMSIS Project and initiate funding for a NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC). Initial development and testing of the NEMSIS standard are completed by the EMS Performance Improvement Center (EMS-PIC) at the University of North Carolina. The TAC agreement is awarded to the University of Utah School of Medicine (Utah). Utah works with closely with the EMS-PIC to ensure an accurate transfer of NEMSIS knowledge and technology developed by the EMS-PIC.

In 2009, NEMSIS Version 3 is created. NEMSIS Version 3 expands the number of NEMSIS data elements, incorporates ICD-10-CM codes for 19 data elements, establishes software business rules to improve data quality, expands recommendations for state EMS datasets, and establishes a data export and transmission standard based on Web Services to facilitate automated and near real-time EMS data transfer.

In 2012, NEMSIS Version 3.2.6 Data Standard ePCR software compliance testing is initiated to ensure adherence to the NEMSIS standard. Also, during this time, NEMSIS Version 3 works with a Standards Development Organization (Health Level Seven) and meets the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements to become a National healthcare data standard. A Data Standard for Trial Use (DSTU) period is initiated and continued for 18 months.

Also, during this time, the number of states submitting Version 2 NEMSIS data to the National EMS Database reaches 37 states and territories.



In 2015, the National EMS Database reaches over 30 million NEMSIS Version 2.2.1 Data Standard records of EMS activations from 49 U.S. States and Territories. NEMSIS Version 3.4.0 is rolled out in 13 states with several additional states planning migration for early 2016.

In 2017, NEMSIS Version 2.2.1 has closed (Dec 31, 2016) for ePCR software compliance testing by the NEMSIS-TAC and for submission to the National EMS Database. The NEMSIS-TAC begins exclusively collecting Version 3 NEMSIS data from states and territories on January 1, 2017. For calendar year 2017, the NEMSIS-TAC collects 7,907,829 NEMSIS Version 3.3.4/3.4.0 records of EMS activations from 4,016 agencies located in 35 states and territories.

In 2019, the date to close NEMSIS Version 3.3.4 submissions is extended to March of 2021. NEMSIS Version 3.5.0 is completed and provided to software companies for implementation. Using NEMSIS Version 3.4.0, 10,062 EMS agencies serving 47 states and territories submit 34,203,087 EMS activations to the National EMS Repository. Over 900 scholarly reports, peered reviewed papers, and other publications are now available online, using NEMSIS data.

In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 12,000 EMS agencies serving 50 states and territories submitted in excess of 44 million EMS activations to the NEMSIS National EMS Repository. Many scholarly reports were published during that same year highlighting the reduced EMS call volume, excess at-home deaths, decreased vehicular crashes, additional opioid overdoses and increased mental-health related EMS calls that were occurring during the pandemic. The migration to NEMSIS v3.5.0 that was to occur during 2020 was delayed by the pandemic.

NEMSIS CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

The NEMSIS National Database is maintained on a secure database with limited internal access. External users must gain permission to the dataset by completing a request form available on the web site (https://nemsis.org/using-ems-data/request-research-data/). Use of the National EMS Dataset is in strict compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). The NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center does not distribute or report data identifying a patient, EMS agency, health care facility, or reporting state in any manner that allows for identification without the express written permission of the entity to be identified. The dataset collected by the NEMSIS TAC is considered a "limited" dataset under HIPAA, and the research dataset that the NEMSIS TAC releases is a "de-identified" dataset.



CURRENT LIMITATIONS OF NATIONAL EMS DATA

1. Data Quality in the National EMS Database

The National EMS Database is a large convenience sample— it consists solely of data submitted by participating EMS agencies within states/territories and it is not a population-based data set. In addition, the National EMS Database inherits the individual deficiencies originating from its contributing entities. However, the NEMSIS TAC is continually cleaning and standardizing the data to improve data quality. Data files received from contributing EMS agencies and states are checked for completeness, logical consistency, and proper formatting. Any data files not passing the NEMSIS validation and data cleaning processes are rejected or flagged, based upon the type of the discovered errors. A data profile report is generated for each submitted file from a state/territory allowing the opportunity to review the quality of submitted data, correct errors and resubmit their data if needed. Any remaining data limitations, errors, or inconsistencies are allowed into the database. These errors remain for two reasons: 1) it would be extremely difficult to flag individual errors and request corrections from thousands of EMS agencies submitting millions of records and; 2) allowing states (and associated EMS agencies) to view data as submitted, will hopefully facilitate efforts to further refine data collection techniques to increase the accuracy of data collected.

The NEMSIS TAC employs edit checks to identify invalid or out of range values for the variables included the research data set. There are currently over 450 edit checks. For further information about the edit checks please see Appendix B.

2. The National EMS Database is not a Population-based Dataset

The National EMS Database is subject to the limitations of any "convenience sample". It probably includes a disproportionate number of EMS agencies with the resources and leadership necessary to be an adopter of the NEMSIS standard. The data may not be representative of all states or EMS agencies in the nation.

In addition, users of the National EMS Database should understand that the data are "event-based" and not "patient-based". That is, a single patient may be represented in more than one record for a variety of reasons. A patient may request EMS assistance frequently, and therefore, be represented in the dataset more than once. In addition, several agencies may respond to the same event (i.e., one patient) and each submit a patient care record to the National EMS Database. For example, a patient may be treated by first responders, who transfer care to a ground ambulance crew, who deliver the patient to a soccer field for transport to a tertiary hospital via air ambulance. In this case, three patient care reports (records) would exist in the National EMS Database for the single event. Thus, we refer to the National EMS Database as a registry of "EMS activations".



3. Selection and Information Bias in the National EMS Database

As a "convenience sample", the National EMS Database is subject to various forms of bias. The NEMSIS national data are submitted voluntarily from EMS agencies and states that have demonstrated a commitment to monitoring and improving the care of patients treated and transported by EMS. These may not be representative of all EMS agencies and states. In addition, states have differing criteria for including patients in statewide EMS databases. Some states include all 9-1-1 calls, while other states limit case additions to patient contacts or patient transports.

Some of the theoretical issues resulting from the use of registries have been noted²⁻⁴. The most obvious problems are selection bias, the inconsistency with which clinical variables can be measured, and inter-agency differences in treatment and transport practices.

Selection bias refers to an apparent difference between two groups that is actually caused by different inclusion criteria. For example, if a state includes all "no-treatment, left on scene" patients in its registry and another state does not, the state not including this patient population may appear to have more "higher acuity" events (e.g., frequent treatment and medication events) compared to the state including patient refusals. Any difference in inclusion/exclusion criteria could produce a selection bias.

Information bias refers to an apparent difference between two groups that is actually caused by a difference in the data available to compare them. Many fields among the national NEMSIS elements allow for null values and differences in the proportion of cases with missing (or null) data may be responsible for apparent differences among EMS agencies between or within states. If one state demonstrates incomplete data on patients when reporting treatment complications, for example, it may falsely appear to be delivering better quality care than a state that diligently requires every treatment complication to be recorded.

4. Missing data in the National EMS Dataset

The proportion of missing data varies across data elements in National EMS Database, and it is important to decide how to deal with missing data when doing analyses. In most cases, NEMSIS data are not missing at random and analyses, therefore, are subject to bias if missing data are ignored. That is, the results may be misleading when excluding all observations with missing data or null values. Excluding observations with missing values is the default for most software programs when running statistical analyses.

Another available option is to provide plausible values for the missing data, either by single value or multiple value imputation. A single imputation of a value may be an educated guess at the value, substitution of the mean value, or substitution based on a regression equation using other (observed) values. For example, one might assume that a patient has suffered an injury (eSituation.02 = Yes) if the complaint reported to dispatch was "Traumatic Injury". Most statistical software packages can do imputations without much difficulty. However, it is



important to explore the impact of missing data with sensitivity analyses. That is, repeat an analysis with and without imputation and see whether there are any important differences.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further assistance in using the National EMS Dataset contact:

https://nemsis.org/support/

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GETTING STARTED WITH NATIONAL EMS DATA

The 2022 NEMSIS Public-Release Research Dataset includes 51,379,493 Version 3.4.0 EMS activations collected from 13,946 agencies located in 54 states and territories. This dataset is organized into a set of relational tables and consists of 42 data files each (including 6 reference tables and 1 computed table). These files are provided in ASCII format (pipe-separated values), SAS and STATA formats. Both types of files can be used to export the data to other formats (e.g., R, SPSS, etc.).

The table named "Pub PCRevents" includes all of the single-entry elements contained in the NEMSIS standard that have been approved for release. All other tables include elements for which multiple entry values are possible. The data element "PcrKey" is the unique key to match elements for each record contained in the Event Table and all other tables. This "PcrKey" (also known as "Primary Key") is the unique ID for each record contained in each table and can be used to match elements across tables associated with the same EMS event. A Foreign key is also found in all tables, except the Pub PCRevents Table, and is used to match multiple entries (for multiple entry elements) to the same EMS event. For most multiple entry elements, the included PcrKey is the same PcrKey found in the Pub PCRevents table. MedsGivenComplications, ProceduresComplications and Vitals related elements all contain a foreign key that matches multiple instances to a primary key in the MedsGiven, Procedures and vitals tables.

Please note that the time format changed in 2020 from YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS to DDMMMYYYY:HH:MM:SS.

Contact us with any concerns or suggestions you might have regarding table by opening a help desk support ticket. A detailed data dictionary of each variable can be found on the NEMSIS website (https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/version-3-data-dictionaries/).

Additional information regarding file size:

UNCOMPRESSED ASCII 162 GB SAS 140 GB STATA 126 GB

COMPRESSED ASCII 18 GB SAS 17 GB STATA 16 GB



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT USING NATIONAL EMS DATA

1. What are the system requirements for downloading the NEMSIS data?

Relational Tables

Minimum of 250 GB of storage for ASCII files

Minimum of 250 GB of storage for SAS files

Minimum of 250 GB of storage for STATA files

Minimum of 16+ GB of RAM strongly recommended

Files are encrypted using Bitlocker which requires a Windows 10 PC.

2. Can I estimate a number of patients based on the National EMS Database?

The National EMS Database is an incident database and there are no patient identifiers in the database. If a patient has more than one EMS reported incident during a year, or several agencies submit a run report for the same incident, this patient will be in the database more than once.

3. How can I merge the data sets in the National EMS Database?

The National EMS Database files can be merged by using the unique incident key for each incident (e.g., PcrKey).

4. What are the patient inclusion criteria for the National EMS Database?

States have differing criteria for including patients in statewide EMS databases. Some states include all 9-1-1 calls, while other states limit case additions to patient contacts or patient transports.

5. How can I gain access to the Additional Variables Requiring Approval?

Data variables found on page 20 are submitted by states to the NEMSIS TAC, but are prohibited from release by existing State Data Use Agreements. Researchers can gain access to these variables by making a direct request to each state for which the researcher wishes access. In addition, the NEMSIS TAC can make use of the HIPAA de-identification clause to statistically "mask" these elements in a fashion that allows for the investigation of a specific hypothesis.

As an example, if a researcher is working with a hypothesis that requires access to geographic boundaries (such as the element "EMS Agency State"), the NEMSIS TAC can collapse data from several states into categories, based on the hypothesis, and provide the researcher a new "blinded" categorical element and include a primary key element for merging to the publicly accessible patient-level data. To make use of this process, contact the Technical Assistance Center by opening a help desk support ticket.



SELECTED NEMSIS PUBLICATIONS

Additional publications can be found at: https://nemsis.org/using-ems-data/articles-and-publications/

Mears, G., Dawson, D., and Ornato, J. Emergency Medical Services Information Systems and a Future EMS National Database. *Prehospital Emergency Care*, 2002 Jan-Mar; 6(1) pp.123-30.

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APPENDIX A: PUBLIC USE VARIABLE DESCRIPTION LIST

This section includes the data table name, variable name, and variable description as defined in the v3.4.0 Public Use NEMSIS National EMS Database. Variable definitions and value codes can be found in the NEMSIS Data Dictionary (v3.4.0) https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/version-3-data-dictionaries/.

Table Name	Variable Name	Variable Description
EINJURY_01REF	DiagnosisCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
EINJURY 01REF	eInjury_01	Cause of Injury
EPROCEDURES 03REF	ProcedureCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
EPROCEDURES 03REF	eProcedures_03	Procedure
ESITUATION_09REF	DiagnosisCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
ESITUATION_09REF	eSituation_09	Primary Symptom
ESITUATION_10REF	DiagnosisCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
ESITUATION_10REF	eSituation_10	Other Associated Symptom
ESITUATION_11REF	DiagnosisCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
ESITUATION_11REF	eSituation_11	Provider's Primary Impression
ESITUATION_12REF	DiagnosisCodeDescr	ICD 10 code description
ESITUATION 12REF	eSituation_12	Provider's Secondary Impression
FACTPCRADDITIONALRESPONSEMODE	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRADDITIONALRESPONSEMODE	eResponse 24	Additional Response Mode
	_	Descriptors
FACTPCRADDITIONALSYMPTOM	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRADDITIONALSYMPTOM	eSituation_10	Other Associated Symptoms
FACTPCRADDITIONALTRANSPORTMODE	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRADDITIONALTRANSPORTMODE	eDisposition_18	Additional Transport Mode
		Descriptors
FACTPCRALCOHOLDRUGUSEINDICATOR	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRALCOHOLDRUGUSEINDICATOR	eHistory_17	Alcohol/Drug Use Indicators
FACTPCRARRESTCPRPROVIDED	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRARRESTCPRPROVIDED	eArrest_09	Type of CPR Provided
FACTPCRARRESTRHYTHMDESTINATION	eArrest_17	Cardiac Rhythm on Arrival at
	_	Destination
FACTPCRARRESTROSC	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRARRESTROSC	eArrest_12	Any Return of Spontaneous
		Circulation
FACTPCRARRESTWITNESS	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRARRESTWITNESS	eArrest_04	Arrest Witnessed By
FACTPCRBARRIERTOCARE	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRBARRIERTOCARE	eHistory_01	Barriers to Patient Care
FACTPCRCAUSEOFINJURY	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRCAUSEOFINJURY	eInjury_01	Cause of Injury
FACTPCRDESTINATIONREASON	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
Table Name	Variable Name	Variable Description
FACTPCRDESTINATIONREASON	eDisposition_20	Reason for Choosing Destination
FACTPCRDESTINATIONTEAM	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table



FACTPCRDESTINATIONTEAM eDisposition_25 Date/Time Destination Pre-Arrival Alert or Activation FACTPCRDISPATCHDELAY PerKey Primary Key for relational table FACTPCRINJURYRISKFACTOR PerKey Primary Key for relational table FACTPCRINJURYRISKFACTOR PerKey Primary Key for relational table FACTPCRINJURYRISKFACTOR elnjury_04 Vehicular, Pedestrian, or Other Injury Risk Factor Injury Risk Factor PerKey Primary Key for relational table PACTPCRMEDICATION PerMedicationKey Primary Key for Medication FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_01 Date/Time Medication Administered Medication Administered Prior to this Unit's EMS Care eMedications_03 Medication Given FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_05 Medication Dosage FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_06 Medication Dosage FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_07 Response to Medication FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_07 Response to Medication FACTPCRMEDICATION eMedications_03Des compared to the destrian of the de	FACTPCRDESTINATIONTEAM	eDisposition_24	Destination Team Pre-Arrival Alert or Activation
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FACTPCRTURNAROUNDDELAY	eResponse 12	Type of Turn-Around Delay
FACTPCRVITAL	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRVITAL	PcrVitalKey	Primary Key for Vitals
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 01	Date/Time Vital Signs Taken
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 02	Obtained Prior to this Unit's EMS
		Care
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 04	ECG Type
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 06	SBP (Systolic Blood Pressure)
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 08	Method of Blood Pressure
	0 . 1	Measurement
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 10	Heart Rate
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 12	Pulse Oximetry
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 14	Respiratory Rate
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 16	End Tidal Carbon Dioxide (ETCO2)
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 18	Blood Glucose Level
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 19	Glasgow Coma Score-Eye
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 20	Glasgow Coma Score-Verbal
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 21	Glasgow Coma Score-Motor
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 26	Level of Responsiveness (AVPU)
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 27	Pain Scale Score
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 29	Stroke Scale Score
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 30	Stroke Scale Type
FACTPCRVITAL	eVitals 31	Reperfusion Checklist
FACTPCRWORKRELATEDEXPOSURE	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
FACTPCRWORKRELATEDEXPOSURE	eOther 05	Suspect EMS Work Related
TACTI CK WORKNELATEDEAT OSORE	comer_03	Exposure, Injury, or Death
PUB PCREVENTS	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 01	Cardiac Arrest
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 02	Cardiac Arrest Etiology
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 05	CPR Care Provided Prior to EMS
TOB_TCKEVENTS	CAIICSI_03	Arrival
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 07	AED Use Prior to EMS Arrival
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 11	First Monitored Arrest Rhythm of the
TOD_TCREVENTS	CAIICSI_II	Patient
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 14	Date/Time of Cardiac Arrest
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 16	Reason CPR/Resuscitation
TOD_TCKEVENTS	cArrest_10	Discontinued
PUB PCREVENTS	eArrest 18	End of EMS Cardiac Arrest Event
PUB PCREVENTS	eDispatch 01	Complaint Reported by Dispatch
PUB PCREVENTS	eDispatch_02	EMD Performed
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition 12	Incident/Patient Disposition
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition 16	EMS Transport Method
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition_17	Transport Mode from Scene
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition_17	Final Patient Acuity
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition_19	Type of Destination
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition_21	Hospital In-Patient Destination
PUB PCREVENTS	eDisposition_22	Hospital Capability
PUB PCREVENTS	eOutcome 01	Emergency Department Disposition
Table Name	Variable Name	Variable Description
PUB PCREVENTS	eOutcome 02	Hospital Disposition
PUB PCREVENTS	ePatient 13	Gender
PUB PCREVENTS	ePatient 15	
TOD_FUNE VENTS	eranem_13	Age



PUB PCREVENTS	ePatient 16	Age Units
PUB PCREVENTS	ePayment 01	Primary Method of Payment
PUB PCREVENTS	ePayment_50	CMS Service Level
PUB PCREVENTS	eResponse 05	Type of Service Requested
PUB PCREVENTS	eResponse 07	Primary Role of the Unit
PUB PCREVENTS	eScene 09	Incident Location Type
_		
PUB_PCREVENTS	eSituation_01	Date/Time of Symptom Onset
PUB_PCREVENTS	eSituation_02	Possible Injury
PUB_PCREVENTS	eSituation_07	Chief Complaint Anatomic Location
PUB_PCREVENTS	eSituation_08	Chief Complaint Organ System
PUB_PCREVENTS	eSituation_13	Initial Patient Acuity
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_01	PSAP Call Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_03	Unit Notified by Dispatch Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_05	Unit En Route Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_06	Unit Arrived on Scene Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_07	Arrived at Patient Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_09	Unit Left Scene Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_11	Patient Arrived at Destination Date/Time
PUB_PCREVENTS	eTimes_12	Destination Patient Transfer of Care Date/Time
PUB PCREVENTS	eTimes 13	Unit Back In-Service Date/Time
PCRMEDCOMPGROUP	MedicationKey	Foreign key to match to Medication table
PCRMEDCOMPGROUP	PcrMedCompGroup Key	Primary Key for Medication Complication
PCRMEDCOMPGROUP	eMedications 08	Medication Complication
PCRPATIENTRACEGROUP	PcrPatientRaceGroup	Primary Key for Patient Race
	Key	
PCRPATIENTRACEGROUP	ePatient_14	Race
PCRVITALGLASGOWQUALIFIERGROUP	VitalKey	Foreign key For FactPcrVital table
PCRVITALGLASGOWQUALIFIERGROUP	eVitals 22	Glasgow Coma Score-Qualifier
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	PcrKey	Primary Key for relational table
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSDispatchCenter	Difference in seconds between
	TimeSec	eTimes.03 and eTimes.01.
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSSceneResponse	Difference in minutes between
	TimeMin	eTimes.06 and eTimes.05
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSSceneTimeMin	Difference in minutes between
		eTimes.06 and eTimes.09
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSSceneToPatient	Difference in minutes between
	TimeMin	eTimes.06 and eTimes.07
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSSystemRespons	Difference in minutes between
	eTimeMin	eTimes.03 and eTimes.06
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSTotalCallTime	Difference in minutes between
	Min	eTimes.13 and eTimes.03
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSTransportTime	Difference in minutes between
	Min	eTimes.09 and eTimes.11
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	EMSChuteTimeMin	Difference in minutes between
		eTimes.03 and eTimes.05
Table Name	Variable Name	Variable Description
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	USCensusDivision	US Census Bureau Divisions
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	USCensusRegion	US Census Bureau Regions
		<i>G</i>



COMPUTEDELEMENTS	Urbanicity	Based on 2013 USDA Urban Influence Codes
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	Ageinyear	Age in years
COMPUTEDELEMENTS	NasemsoRegion	NASEMSO Regions



Limited Use Variable Description List

This section includes the variable name and variable description for elements protected from public use in their native form. These variables can be made available as "de-identified data elements" (specified by the HIPAA Privacy Rule) by statistical manipulation to include masked anonymous value codes. Masked value codes can be grouped to address a specific hypothesis and made available to researchers through use of the master Primary Key (i.e., PcrKey) to link back to individual cases. Variable definitions and value codes can be found in the NEMSIS Data Dictionary (v.3.4.0) https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/version-3-data-dictionaries/.

Variable Name	Variable Description
eResponse_01	EMS Agency Number
eResponse_04	EMS Response Number
eResponse_14	EMS Unit Call Sign
ePatient_07	Patient's Home County
ePatient_08	Patient's Home State
ePatient_09	Patient's Home ZIP Code
eDisposition_05	Destination State
eDisposition_06	Destination County
eDisposition_07	Destination ZIP Code
eScene_18	Incident State
eScene_19	Incident ZIP Code
eScene_21	Incident County



APPENDIX B: OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL NEMSIS BUSINESS RULES BY NEMSIS ELEMENT

Information regarding individual data element business rules can be found on the NEMSIS website Schematron documentation library.

https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/version-3-schematron/

Additional data reduction methods applied to the data warehouse and public extracts:

For all 1-to-Many and Many-to-Many elements:

- 1) If a patient record has both null values and non-null values, exclude 1: Many records with null values.
- 2) If a patient record has multiple null values listed but does not have any non-null values, keep only the first null value listed and exclude all other 1: Many records with null values.
- 3) If a patient record has multiple non-null values listed and the same exact 1: Many values is listed multiple times, keep that specific value only for the 1st five times it is listed; exclude all other repetitions of the value.

Other value limits: (usually based upon the number of possible values, excluding null and NOT values, contained within an element.)

eHistory.17	shall have no more than six values per event.
eArrest.14	time before 2022.01.01 set to null, keep 2023.01.01
eArrest.03	shall have no more than three values per event.
eArrest.04	shall have no more than three values per event.
eDisposition.20	shall have no more than six values per event.
eDisposition.25	time before 2022.01.01 set to null, keep 2023.01.01
eDisposition.07	all 00000 set to 'not recorded'
eSituation.11	shall have no more than 14 values per event.
eSitutation.12	shall have no more than 14 values per event
eInjury.04	shall have no more than six values per event.
eMedication.03	shall have no more than 29 values per event.



eMedication.01	time before 2022.01.01 set to null, keep 2023.01.01
eProcedure.03	shall have no more than 29 values per event.
eProcedure.01	time before 2022.01.01 set to null, keep 2023.01.01
eResponse.24	shall have no more than seven values per event.
eSituation.01	removed time after 2022.12.31
eScene.19	set all 00000 to not recorded
eSituation.09	shall have no more than 20 values per event.



eSituation.10	shall have no more than 20 values per event.
eTimes01	eTimes.13 time before 2022.01.01 set to null, keep 2023.01.01
eDisposition.18	shall have no more than five values per event.
eInjury.03	shall have no more than seven values per event.
eResponse.12	shall have no more than nine values per event.
eOther.05	shall have no more than one value per event.
ePatient.14	shall have no more than six values per event.
eProcedure.07	shall have no more than nine values per event.
Vital Signs	shall have no more than 30 values per event.
eVitals.05	shall have no more than three values per event.
eArrest.17	shall have no more than seven values per event
ePatient.09	set all 0000 to not recorded
eResponse.10	shall have no more than nine values per event

Derived elapsed times are excluded from the dataset if outside the range listed below.

EmsDispatchCenterTimeSec	0-3599 in seconds
EmsChuteTimeMin	0-59 in minutes
EmsSystemResponseTimeMin	0-1439 in minutes
EmsSceneResponseTimeMin	0-1439 in minutes
EmsSceneTimeMin	0-1439 in minutes
EmsSceneToPatientTimeMin	0-719 in minutes
EmsTransportTimeMin	0-1439 in minutes
EmsTotalCallTimeMin	0-1439 in minutes



APPENDIX C: 2022 CONTRIBUTING STATES & TERRITORIES

New Hampshire Alabama Indiana Texas Alaska Iowa New Jersey Utah Arizona New Mexico Kansas Vermont Arkansas Kentucky New York Virginia California Louisiana North Carolina Virgin Islands Colorado Maine North Dakota Washington Connecticut Northern Mariana Islands West Virginia Maryland Delaware Massachusetts Ohio Wisconsin District of Columbia Wyoming Michigan Oklahoma Florida Minnesota Oregon Georgia Mississippi Pennsylvania Guam Missouri Rhode Island South Carolina Hawaii Montana Idaho Nebraska South Dakota Illinois Nevada Tennessee



APPENDIX D: EXTENDED DEFINITION DOCUMENT, VERSION 3.4.0

(https://nemsis.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Extended-Data-Definitions v3 Final.pdf)

These extended definitions explain field values of a specific number of v3 variables.



May 2016

NEMSIS Version 3.4.0

This document represents an effort to continue the process of defining field values, which was started with NEMSIS v2.2.1. The NASEMSO Data Managers Council (DMC), with help from the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC), built off the extended data definitions contained in the 2008 Extended Definition Document, NEMSIS 2.2, to create value definitions contained in the NEMSIS v3.4.0 dataset.

The DMC and NEMSIS TAC are confident that this document will continue to promote the development, standardization, and improvement of state and national EMS data systems.



APPENDIX E: COMPUTED VARIABLE DESCRIPTION LIST*

Variable Name	Short Variable Definition
AgeinYears	Age in Years, computed from Age and Age Units
EMSDispatchCenterTimeSec	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.03 and eTimes.01. Note: if > 3,599 seconds, set to null.
EMSChuteTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.03 and eTimes.05. Note: if > 59 minutes, set to null.
EMSSystemResponseTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.03 and eTimes.06. Note: if > 1,439 minutes, set to null.
EMSSceneResponseTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.06 and eTimes.05. Note: if > 1,439 minutes, set to null.
EMSSceneTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.06 and eTimes.09. Note: if > 1,439 minutes, set to null.
EMSSceneToPatientTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.06 and eTimes.07. Note: if > 719 minutes, set to null.
EMSTransportTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.09 and eTimes.11. Note: if > 1,439 minutes, set to null.
EMSTotalCallTimeMin	Time difference in minutes between eTimes.13 and eTimes.03. Note: if > 1,439 minutes, set to null.
USCensusRegion	Stratifies events into the five major U.S. Census regions
USCensusDivision	Stratifies events into the ten U.S. Census divisions
NasemsoRegion	Stratifies events into the four NASEMSO regions
Urbanicity	Stratifies events by four Urbanicity Codes, based upon USDA Urban Influence Codes

^{*} For all elapsed times, negative elapsed time values are set to null.



APPENDIX F: NEMSIS 2022 PUBLIC RELEASE RESEARCH DATASET REFERENCE TABLES

Reference Tables

These reference tables contain only code descriptions for ICD-10 codes for user references. These tables should not be linked to a particular PCRkey. They are used to translate ICD-10-CM numerical values to text values.

Table Name: EINJURY 01REF

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
DiagnosisCodeDescr	
eInjury_01	Cause of the injury

Table Name: EPROCEDURES_03REF

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
ProcedureCodeDescr	
eProcedures_03	Procedure performed on the patient

Table Name: ESITUATION 09REF

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
DiagnosisCodeDescr	
eSituation_09	Primary symptom

Table Name: ESITUATION 10REF

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
DiagnosisCodeDescr	
eSituation_10	Other associated symptoms

Table Name: ESITUATION_11REF

Elements:

Licincia.	
Original Variable	Description
DiagnosisCodeDescr	
eSituation_11	Provider's primary impression

Table Name: ESITUATION 12REF

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
DiagnosisCodeDescr	
eSituation_12	Provider's secondary impression



NEMSIS 2022 Public Release Research Dataset

The PCRkey is the unique ID for each record in each table and the primary key to link the tables. There are foreign keys that are used to match multiple instances (for multiple-entry elements) to the same EMS event. PCRMEDCOMPGROUP, PCRPROCCOMPGROUP, and Vitals tables contain foreign keys that match multiple instances to a primary key in the FACTPCRMEDICATION, FACTPCRPROCEDURE, and FACTPCRVITAL tables. PcrMedCompGroupKey, PcrPatientRaceGroupKey, and PcrProcCompGroupKey are Group Keys, which are used to link together multiple vital signs, medications, etc. *DestinationCountyNotValueKey and DestinationZipcodeNotValueKey are* NotValue keys for counties and zip codes.

Table Name: COMPUTEDELEMENTS **Elements:**

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event
USCensusRegion	US Census Region
USCensusDivision	US Census Division
NasemsoRegion	NASEMSO Region
Urbanicity	Urbanicity
ageinyear	Age in Years, computed from Age and Age Units
EMSDispatchCenterTimeSec	Difference in seconds between Unit Notified by Dispatch
_	Date/Time (eTimes.03) and PSAP Call Date/Time (eTimes.01).
EMSChuteTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Notified by Dispatch
	Date/Time (eTimes.03) and Unit En Route Date/Time
	(eTimes.05).
EMSSystemResponseTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Notified by Dispatch
	Date/Time (eTimes.03) and Unit Arrived on Scene Date/Time
	(eTimes.06).
EMSSceneResponseTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Arrived on Scene
	Date/Time (eTimes.06) and Unit En Route Date/Time
	(eTimes.05).
EMSSceneTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Arrived on Scene
	Date/Time (eTimes.06) and Unit Left Scene Date/Time
	(eTimes.09).
EMSSceneToPatientTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Arrived on Scene
	Date/Time (eTimes.06) and Arrived at Patient Date/Time
	(eTimes.07).
EMSTransportTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Left Scene Date/Time
	(eTimes.09) and Patient Arrived at Destination Date/Time
	(eTimes.11).
EMSTotalCallTimeMin	Difference in minutes between Unit Back In-Service Date/Time
	(eTimes.13) and Unit Notified by Dispatch Date/Time
	(eTimes.03).



Table Name: FACTPCRADDITIONALRESPONSEMODE

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eResponse 24	Additional response mode descriptors

Table Name: FACTPCRADDITIONALSYMPTOM

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eSituation_10	Other associated symptoms

Table Name: FACTPCRADDITIONALTRANSPORTMODE

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eDisposition_18	Additional transport mode descriptors

Table Name: FACTPCRALCOHOLDRUGUSEINDICATOR

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eHistory_17	Alcohol/drug use indicators

Table Name: FACTPCRARRESTCPRPROVIDED

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eArrest 09	Type of CPR provided

Table Name: FACTPCRARRESTRESUSCITATION

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eArrest 03	Resuscitation attempted by EMS

Table Name: FACTPCRARRESTRHYTHMDESTINATION

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eArrest_17	Cardiac rhythm on arrival at destination

Table Name: FACTPCRARRESTROSC

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay

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eArrest 12	Any return of spontaneous circulation
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Table Name: FACTPCRARRESTWITNESS

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eArrest_04	Arrest witnessed by

Table Name: FACTPCRBARRIERTOCARE

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eHistory_01	Barriers to patient care

Table Name: FACTPCRCAUSEOFINJURY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eInjury_01	Cause of injury

Table Name: FACTPCRDESTINATIONREASON

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eDisposition_20	Reason for choosing destination

Table Name: FACTPCRDESTINATIONTEAM

Elements:

Dichicity.	
Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eDisposition_24	Destination team pre-arrival alert or activation
eDisposition_25	Date/Time of destination pre-arrival alert or activation

Table Name: FACTPCRDISPATCHDELAY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eResponse_08	Type of dispatch delay

Table Name: FACTPCRINJURYRISKFACTOR

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eInjury_04	Vehicular, pedestrian, or other injury risk factor

Table Name: FACTPCRMEDICATION

Elements:



Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
PcrMedicationKey	Foreign key
eMedications_01	Date/Time medication administered
eMedications_02	Medication administered prior to this unit's EMS care
eMedications_03	Medication given
eMedications_05	Medication dosage
eMedications_06	Medication dosage units
eMedications_07	Response to medication
eMedications_10	Role/Type of person administering medication
eMedications_03Descr	

Table Name: FACTPCRPRIMARYIMPRESSION

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eSituation_11	Provider's primary impression

Table Name: FACTPCRPRIMARYSYMPTOM

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eSituation_09	Primary symptom

Table Name: FACTPCRPROCEDURE

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
PcrProcedureKey	Foreign key
eProcedures_01	Date/Time procedure performed
eProcedures_02	Procedure performed prior to this unit's EMS care
eProcedures_03	Procedure
eProcedures_05	Number of procedure attempts
eProcedures_06	Procedure successful
eProcedures_07	Procedure complication
eProcedures_08	Response to procedure
eProcedures 10	Role/Type of person performing the procedure

Table Name: FACTPCRPROTOCOL

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eProtocol_01	Protocols used
eProtocol_02	Protocol age category

Table Name: FACTPCRRESPONSEDELAY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay

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eResponse 09	Type of response delay

Table Name: FACTPCRSCENEDELAY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eResponse_10	Type of scene delay

Table Name: FACTPCRSECONDARYIMPRESSION

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eSituation_12	Provider's secondary impressions

Table Name: FACTPCRTRANSPORTDELAY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eResponse_11	Type of transport delay

Table Name: FACTPCRTRAUMACRITERIA

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eInjury_03	Trauma center criteria

Table Name: FACTPCRTURNAROUNDDELAY

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eResponse_12	Type of turn-around delay

Table Name: FACTPCRVITAL

Elements:

Original Variable	Description	
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay	
PcrVitalKey	foreign key	
eVitals_01	Date/Time vital signs taken	
eVitals_02	Obtained prior to this unit's EMS care	
eVitals_04	ECG Type	
eVitals_06	SBP (Systolic Blood Pressure)	
eVitals_08	Method of blood pressure measurement	
eVitals_10	Heart rate	
eVitals_12	Pulse oximetry	
eVitals_14	Respiratory rate	
eVitals_16	End tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO2)	
eVitals_18	Blood glucose level	

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eVitals_19	Glasgow Coma Score – Eye
eVitals_20	Glasgow Coma Score – Verbal
eVitals_21	Glasgow Coma Score – Motor
eVitals_26	Level of responsiveness (AVPU)
eVitals_27	Pain scale score
eVitals_29	Stroke scale score
eVitals_30	Stroke scale type
eVitals_31	Reperfusion checklist

Table Name: FACTPCRWORKRELATEDEXPOSURE

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eOther_05	Suspected EMS work related exposure, injury, or death

Table Name: PCRMEDCOMPGROUP

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
MedicationKey	foreign key
PcrMedCompGroupKey	group key
eMedications_08	Medication complication

Table Name: PCRPATIENTRACEGROUP

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
PcrPatientRaceGroupKey	group key
ePatient_14	Race

Table Name: PCRPROCCOMPGROUP

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrProcCompGroupKey	group key
ProcedureKey	foreign key
eProcedures_07	Procedure complication

Table Name: PCRVITALECGGROUP

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrVitalECGGroupKey	group key
VitalKey	foreign key
eVitals_03	Cardiac rhythm / Electrocardiography (ECG)

Table Name: PCRVITALECGINTERPRETATIONGROUP

Elements:



Original Variable	Description
PcrVitalECGInterpretationGroupKe	group key
VitalKey	foreign key
eVitals_05	Method of ECG Interpretation

Table Name: PCRVITALGLASGOWQUALIFIERGROUP

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrVitalECGGroupKey	group key
VitalKey	foreign key
eVitals_22	Glasgow Coma Score – Qualifier

Table Name: PUB_PCREVENTS

Elements:

Original Variable	Description
PcrKey	primary key, unique for each event/delay
eArrest_01	Cardiac arrest
eArrest_02	Cardiac arrest etiology
eArrest_05	CPR care provided prior to EMS arrival
eArrest_07	AED use prior to EMS arrival
eArrest_11	First monitored arrest rhythm of the patient
eArrest_14	Date/Time of cardiac arrest
eArrest_16	Reason CPR/resuscitation discontinued
eArrest_18	End of EMS cardiac arrest event
eDispatch_01	Complaint reported by dispatch
eDispatch_02	EMD performed
eDisposition_12	Incident/patient disposition
eDisposition_16	EMS transport method
eDisposition_17	Transport mode from scene
eDisposition_19	Final patient acuity
eDisposition_21	Type of destination
eDisposition_22	Hospital in-patient destination
eDisposition_23	Hospital capability
eOutcome_01	Emergency department disposition
eOutcome_02	Hospital disposition
ePatient_13	Gender
ePatient_15	Age
ePatient_16	Age units
ePayment_01	Primary method of payment
ePayment_50	CMS service level
eResponse_05	Type of service requested
eResponse_07	Primary role of the unit
eResponse_15	Level of care of this unit
eResponse_23	Response mode to scene
eScene_01	First EMS unit on scene
eScene_06	Number of patients at scene
eScene_07	Mass casualty incident



eScene_08	Triage classification for MCI patient
eScene_09	Incident location type
eSituation_01	Date/Time of symptom onset
eSituation_02	Possibly injury
eSituation_07	Chief complaint anatomic location
eSituation_08	Chief complaint organ system
eSituation_13	Initial patient acuity
eTimes_01	PSAP call date/time
eTimes_03	Unit notified by dispatch date/time
eTimes_05	Unit En Route date/time
eTimes_06	Unit arrived on scene data/time
eTimes_07	Arrived at patient date/time
eTimes_09	Unit left scene date/time
eTimes_11	Patient arrived at destination date/time
eTimes_12	Destination patient transfer of care date/time
eTimes_13	Unit back In-Service date/time