

## Tools, Cubes & Reports FAQ

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**Q: When do the data refresh?**

**A:** The [Public EMS Data Cube](#) is typically reprocessed on **Mondays**; [state/public](#) dashboards also update **weekly**.

**Q: What is an “activation,” and why does the cube count activations (not patients)?**

**A:** An [EMS activation](#) is an occurrence that initiates an EMS response (911, interfacility, CCT, standby, scheduled transport, etc.). Because one person may generate multiple activations or multiple units may respond, the national repository is **activation-based**, not patient-based.

**Q: Do the cubes include all national EMS events?**

**A:** No. Participation varies. Check the [V3 State Map](#) for current submitting jurisdictions.

**Q: Why might totals change later?**

**A:** States may **delay or resend** records; weekly refreshes incorporate **late arrivals**, so cube totals can update after your previous pull.

**Q: Why do Cube and Public Research Dataset totals differ?**

**A:** The RDS is a **static annual snapshot**, while **cubes are refreshed weekly** with new or late data.

**Q: Why do some element totals exceed activation counts (e.g., medications)?**

**A:** Certain elements are **one-to-many (1:M)**, so totals can exceed activations (e.g., multiple medications per activation). See the [data dictionaries](#) for recurrence.

**Q: How timely are the data?**

**A:** NEMESIS cites a **fastest time of 7 minutes** from ePCR completion to national arrival; weekly refreshes make the data visible in tools soon after.

**Q: Can I view custom elements in national tools?**

**A:** **Custom elements** are state/local constructs and are generally **not** visible in the National EMS Repository unless incorporated into the [national standard/state datasets](#). (Click on the respective state to find its state dataset and other resources.)



**Q: Is the pivot-table download a live connection? Can I reproduce a query later?**

**A:** Downloads are **static**; to reproduce, copy the **MDX** for your query and re-run it later (post-refresh totals may differ).

**Q: Can I run my own statistics?**

**A:** Yes—**export** cube results and analyze in your preferred tool (Excel, R, Python, etc.).

**Q: Are there any training/education materials for the EMS Data Cube?**

**A:** Yes – there is a list of links at the bottom of the EMS Data Cube page with training videos. You can also use this link [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL52Yf\\_RYpVDaNnCYVJNTAgjaHSOACMRQf](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL52Yf_RYpVDaNnCYVJNTAgjaHSOACMRQf) to access the NEMESIS TAC Youtube playlist with training videos for the EMS Data Cube.