



UFF Position Statement: National Fire Operations Reporting System (N-FORS)

It is recognized that data from various origins is necessary to inform fire service leaders and assist them in making the best decision for both their responding personnel and the public at large. Given the potential impact and the need for quality data to inform these decisions, the Urban Fire Forum and the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs support and embrace the National Fire Operations Reporting System (N-FORS).

The NFORS project has the goal of empowering local fire departments to measure and optimize their response availability, their capability to mitigate an incident, and the effectiveness of their on-scene performance, and thereby the outcome of the event for firefighters, civilians, and the property involved. N-FORS is a supplemental tool for local Fire Departments to use to learn, improve, and optimize fire department operations.

N-FORS will be useful to every local fire department. N-FORS will assist communities and fire service personnel in determining the most effective and efficient resource allocations that will have an immediate impact on the outcome of structural fires associated with firefighter safety, civilian safety, and property loss.

N-FORS also has the ability for fire departments to benchmark themselves with each other, identifying and promoting best practices.

The N-FORS software has been designed to be user friendly, encourage accurate and timely data entry, and data movement between systems. The N-FORS software includes linkage to existing data systems to avoid duplicate data entry by incorporating existing data from NFIRS and NEMSIS but with a focus on local fire department operations and safety.

N-FORS should be the next generation of fire service data collection and analytical systems. It is a way to get accurate, real-time information for improving fire department operations and safety through a simple-to-use online tool, developed through years of research and stakeholder input.

NFORS should also be added to any NFPA Standards regarding fire data.