

Barchart Data Now Available in New Format, Read the Announcement for Full Details

Barchart has made a significant update to how its commodity and financial data is accessed by clients, with a new structured format that aims to simplify integration across trading and analytics platforms. The change follows months of internal development and direct feedback from users who rely on the company's agricultural and market data feeds. Those who work with futures, options, or cash grain pricing will want to read the announcement to understand how the new format affects existing workflows and what steps are needed to transition.

The new format standardises field naming conventions and introduces a consistent timestamp schema across all endpoints. Previously, different data sets used slightly different column headers and date formats, which forced clients to build custom parsers for each feed. Barchart has now unified these into a single specification that applies to all current offerings. The company states that this will reduce development time for new integrations and make it easier to combine data from multiple sources without manual reformatting.

What the Update Covers

The revised data structure affects the core commodity price feeds, including the daily settlement prices for corn, soybeans, wheat, and livestock, as well as the historical archives that many analysts use for back-testing models. It also applies to the weather and crop condition indices that Barchart aggregates from government and private sources. Clients who receive data via the API will see new JSON field names, while those who use flat-file exports will encounter a reordered column layout and additional metadata fields.

Barchart has published a migration guide alongside the updated specification. The guide lists every changed field name, explains the new date format, and provides sample code for common programming languages. Clients who are already on the current version of the API can switch to the new format immediately, though the company will maintain backward compatibility for a limited period. The exact cutoff date is communicated in the documentation that accompanies the release. Anyone who manages a data pipeline connected to Barchart should [read the announcement](#) carefully to determine whether their system will be affected.

Why the Change Was Made

The previous data structure had grown organically over more than a decade. Different data sets were added at different times, often with their own conventions. That made it difficult to build a single dashboard that pulled from multiple feeds without writing conversion code for each one. Barchart says the new format was designed to eliminate those friction points. The

company also notes that the change positions its data to align more closely with industry-standard schemas used by major futures exchanges and clearinghouses.

Another motivation cited is the increased demand for automated trading and risk management tools. As more firms deploy algorithmic strategies that depend on real-time or near-real-time data, the need for clean, predictable data structures becomes more acute. The new format reduces the chance of parsing errors that can occur when field names or date formats vary. This should benefit both large institutional traders and smaller regional elevators that use Barchart data to set basis prices and manage inventory.

How to Prepare

Barchart has provided several resources to help clients prepare for the transition. A dedicated web page lists every affected data set, shows before-and-after examples of the field changes, and includes a checklist for testing. The company also runs a sandbox environment where clients can connect their systems to the new format and verify that their code handles the data correctly before switching over in production.

For clients who use third-party software that ingests Barchart data, the responsibility for updating falls on the software vendor. Barchart has contacted all known vendors and provided them with the same migration materials. Clients are advised to check with their software providers to confirm that an update is planned. In cases where a vendor does not intend to update, the client may need to build a custom adapter or switch to a different data ingestion method.

Timeline and Support

The new format is available now for testing. Barchart has not set a mandatory migration date, but the company recommends completing the transition within the next six months. After that point, the old format may be retired with limited notice. The company says it will give at least 90 days' warning before any endpoints are deactivated. Support staff have been trained to answer questions about the new structure, and the migration guide includes contact information for technical support.

Barchart also plans to host a series of online walkthrough sessions over the coming weeks. These sessions will cover the most common scenarios, such as connecting a new API key, mapping fields in a spreadsheet, and troubleshooting common errors. Registration is open to all current clients. Recordings will be made available afterward for those who cannot attend live.

For anyone who has not yet reviewed the details, the company encourages them to read the announcement on the Barchart developer portal. The portal contains the full specification, the

migration guide, and links to the sandbox environment. The announcement also includes a change log that documents every modification made to the data structure since the previous version, which may be useful for audit purposes.

Barchart has said it will continue to release updates to the specification as new data sets are added. The company has committed to maintaining the same naming conventions and timestamp format going forward, so future additions should not require further rework on the client side. This is the first major overhaul of the data delivery system in several years and is expected to set the standard for the foreseeable future.

Firms that rely on Barchart for price discovery, risk analysis, or operational reporting should treat this as a high-priority item. The data structure change touches every feed, and the transition period will close eventually. Waiting until the last minute could lead to service interruptions if the migration is not completed in time. The resources to make the switch are already available, and the company has made clear that support is on hand to help with any questions that arise.