

EM-DAT GraphQL API (GNU R version)

[Code ▾](#)

We illustrate how to use the EM-DAT GraphQL API in R.

We will use the package `ghql` (<https://docs.ropensci.org/ghql/index.html>) as an example but as shown below, the same result is possible with a simple HTTP GET request.

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```
# Setup your API key
api_key = '...'

# Setup your GraphQL query string
query_str = '
  query floods {
    api_version
    public_emdat(
      cursor: {limit: 1, offset: 1}
      filters: {
        from: 1990,
        to: 2019,
        classif: ["nat-hyd-flo"],
        include_hist: true
      }
    ) {
      total_available
      info {
        timestamp
        filters
        cursor
      }
      data {
        disno
        classif_key
        type
        subtype
        river_basin
        total_dam
        total_dam_adj
        total_deaths
        total_affected
        entry_date
        last_update
      }
    }
  }
'
```

Using the `ghql` package

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```
library("ghql")
library("dplyr", quietly = TRUE)

# Initializing the client
client <- GraphQLClient$new(
  url = "https://api.emdat.be/v1",
  headers = list(Authorization = api_key)
)

# Parsing the query string
q <- Query$new()
q$query('floods', query_str)

# Executing prepared queries on the client
json_resp <- client$exec(q$queries$floods)
jsonlite::prettify(json_resp)
```

```

{
  "data": {
    "api_version": "v1",
    "public_emdat": {
      "total_available": 4112,
      "info": {
        "timestamp": "2023-11-15T16:29:01Z",
        "filters": {
          "classif": [
            "nat-hyd-flo-*"
          ],
          "from": 1990,
          "include_hist": true,
          "to": 2019
        },
        "cursor": {
          "limit": 1,
          "offset": 1
        }
      },
      "data": [
        {
          "disno": "1990-0002-TUN",
          "classif_key": "nat-hyd-flo-riv",
          "type": "Flood",
          "subtype": "Riverine flood",
          "river_basin": null,
          "total_dam": 242800,
          "total_dam_adj": 543835,
          "total_deaths": 37,
          "total_affected": 152000,
          "entry_date": "2006-07-19",
          "last_update": "2023-09-25"
        }
      ]
    }
  }
}

```

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```
# The conversion from the json response to a list is straightforward
resp <- json_resp |> jsonlite::fromJSON()

# The dataset is translated to a tibble
tbl <- tibble(resp$data$public_emdat$data)
tbl
```

disno	classif_key	type	subtype	river_basin	total_dam	total_dam_a
<chr>	<chr>	<chr>	<chr>	<lgl>	<int>	<in
1990-0002-TUN	nat-hyd-flo-riv	Flood	Riverine flood	NA	242800	5438

1 row | 1-7 of 11 columns

Using the httr2 package

It is also possible to pass a query through a HTTP GET request, passing the GraphQL query in the request body.

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```
library("httr2")

# Prepare the request with the query as a raw string in the body (see above)
req <- request("https://api.emdat.be/v1") |>
  req_method("GET") |>
  req_headers(Authorization = api_key) |>
  req_body_json(list(query = query_str))

# Execute the request
resp <- req |> req_perform()
resp |>
  resp_body_string() |>
  jsonlite::prettify()
```

```
{
  "data": {
    "api_version": "v1",
    "public_emdat": {
      "total_available": 4112,
      "info": {
        "timestamp": "2023-11-15T16:29:01Z",
        "filters": {
          "classif": [
            "nat-hyd-flo-*"
          ],
          "from": 1990,
          "include_hist": true,
          "to": 2019
        },
        "cursor": {
          "limit": 1,
          "offset": 1
        }
      },
      "data": [
        {
          "disno": "1990-0002-TUN",
          "classif_key": "nat-hyd-flo-riv",
          "type": "Flood",
          "subtype": "Riverine flood",
          "river_basin": null,
          "total_dam": 242800,
          "total_dam_adj": 543835,
          "total_deaths": 37,
          "total_affected": 152000,
          "entry_date": "2006-07-19",
          "last_update": "2023-09-25"
        }
      ]
    }
  }
}
```