

# How to retrieve data efficiently

It is crucial to understand how to get bigger amount of data from S2S archive. The dedicated [web data portal](#) should be used only to get smaller data samples (approximately up-to 20 000 retrieved fields per request). The batch access via ECMWF's Web-API should be used for most common types of work and especially for big data samples retrievals. Please read [here](#) for more information.



As par [S2S FAQ](#) users should be aware that because of the agreed data policy with the data providers, the S2S realtime type of forecast **can be accessed only with 3 weeks delay**. There should not be any such restriction for the reforecasts.