

How does API versioning work?

In some cases, an API endpoint needs to exist in more than one version. The platform supports this by inserting a version number into the URL.

For instance, if we chose to change the `/api/risks/newDraft` endpoint...

- `$/ROOT/api/v20.02/risks/newDraft ...` would be the new version, released in Feb 2020
- `$/ROOT/api/risks/newDraft ...` would continue to be the old version, forever
- `$/ROOT/api/v21.06/risks/newDraft ...` may happen, previous versions carry on

Most changes do not create a versioned endpoint.

- Most endpoints will only have one version – `vYY.MM` is only for exceptional cases
- Additions to the output format will not cause a version change
- Optional additions to the input format will not cause a version change
- Changes to the internal behaviour of the endpoint will not cause a version change

Observations

- Integrated systems will have a mixture of `/api`, `/api/v20.02`, `/api/v20.05` etc
- Documentation will need to be helpful to guide integrators to use the most up-to-date version