



CIQ Long-Term Support (LTS) for Rocky Linux

CIQ is the leading provider of Rocky Linux support including package updates for minor versions of Rocky Linux after they've been declared End-Of-Life (EOL) by the upstream rockylinux.org project.

To support [Rocky versions](#) after they are declared end-of-life (EOL), CIQ engineers apply fixes from newer Rocky Linux minor releases into EOL Rocky Linux releases. These backported packages are built by CIQ and released as available updates to subscribed customers via Mountain and CIQ's Repo-As-A-Service (RaaS) repositories.

Supported Minor Versions and Lifecycle

Rocky Linux declares the previous OS version EOL when a new version is released. For example, Rocky Linux 8.8 was released in May of 2023, expiring Rocky Linux 8.7 in the public project. After a version is declared EOL no new updates will be released.

To support [Rocky versions](#) after they are declared EOL CIQ offers a Long Term Support (LTS) product to develop updates that address security issues. LTS is given only to non-zero even-numbered releases, like: 8.6, 8.8, 9.2, 9.4, etc. The lifecycle for long-term update support is 18 months past release expiration.

For example, Rocky Linux 8.7 was released on November 11, 2022 - expiring Rocky Linux 8.6 in the public project. CIQ will offer standard extended support (LTS) to Rocky 8.6 for 18 months past that date, or Nov. 11, 2022 → May 11, 2024. LTS for 8.6 would end on May 11, 2024.

In this example, fixes from the upstream projects, or from the newer Rocky versions may be ported into 8.6 packages and released to customers as updates, even though the 8.6 release has been retired from the public project.

CIQ also offers an "Extended LTS" option that will continue to receive updates beyond the standard LTS product. Please reach out to CIQ for more information.

Final Version Support

The final minor version is the 10th release, such as 8.10 or 9.10, and occurs 5 years after the major version is introduced. This minor version is the last release of the OS. It will continue to receive minor/maintenance package updates for 5 more years - 2024-2029 in the case of Rocky Linux 8.

CIQ's LTS offering will provide additional security and bugfix updates during this long-term maintenance period as customer needs dictate.





Security Vulnerability Policy

- Packages with security issues marked as Important or Critical from upstream may be eligible for backports
- Generally, security related backports are done for packages that are marked with a CVSS score of 8.0 or higher.
- Packages with a CVSS score lower than 8.0 may receive backports, at CIQ’s discretion
- Backported packages may receive needed bug fixes, at CIQ’s discretion (not security related)

CIQ LTS & FIPs Timelines plus the Rocky Linux Release Schedule:

Rocky Linux 8 Release Timeline												*Planned EOL: May 31, 2029
OS Release	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
8.10 (Final)									*			
8.9												
8.8												
8.7												
8.6												
8.5												
8.4												

Rocky Linux 9 Release Timeline												*Planned EOL: May 31, 2032
OS Release	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
9.10 (Final)									*			
9.9												
9.8												
9.7												
9.6												
9.5												
9.4												
9.3												
9.2												
9.1												
9.0												

Rocky Linux Minor Release CIQ Standard Long Term Support / FIPs Support

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