

# Importing Spreadsheets or CSV files

QGIS Tutorials and Tips



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## CSV files

GIS files are often in CSV format. This page shows how to open a CSV file in GIS software.

### Open a CSV file

Open a CSV file in QGIS.

### Download a CSV file

NOAA has a database of significant earthquakes. [Learn more.](#)

Download [Significant Earthquake Database](#) text file.

or [\[NGDC\]](#)

### Instructions

1. Open the CSV file in a text editor. In QGIS, go to **File > Open...** and select the file. In the 'Save As' dialog, choose **Tab Delimited File** and **Comma Separated Values (CSV)** as the file type. Save the file with a new name.

STATE	LOCATION_NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	REGION_CODE	DEATHS	DEATHS_DESCRIPTION
10	ISRAEL	ISRAEL: ARIHA (JERICHO)	31.500	35.300	140	
		9713	Tsu	-480	9	29
		1				2
103.900	30					
GANSU PROVINCE:	LONGXI	34.900	104.700	30	3	
3		41	23			
		UKRAINE	UKRAINE: BLACK SEA		51	57
		1	3	1001	4	33.300
					67	155
					79	340
350	10					
438	2					
119		477	9	25		
		139	Tsu	551	7	9
				147		128
				558	12	521
549	9	12			5.5	25
715						
175	745	6	5			7.9
2	3	187		778		
	199	811				
844	9	18				
	219	853				
857	4					

2. QGIS: **Layer > Add Delimited Text Layer...**



**Create a Layer from a Delimited Text File**

File Name:

Layer name:  Encoding:

File format: ☐ CSV (comma separated values) ☒ Custom delimiters ☐ Regular expression delimiter

☐ Comma ☒ Tab ☐ Space ☐ Colon ☐ Semicolon  
 Other delimiters:  Quote:  Escape:

Record options: Number of header lines to discard:  ☒ First record has field names

Field options: ☐ Trim fields ☐ Discard empty fields ☐ Decimal separator is comma

Geometry definition: ☒ Point coordinates ☐ Well known text (WKT) ☐ No geometry (attribute only table)

X field:  Y field:  ☐ DMS coordinates

Layer settings: ☒ Use spatial index ☐ Use subset index ☐ Watch file

	I_D	FLAG_TSUNAMI	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	HOUR	MINUTE	SECOND	FOCAL_DEPTH	EQ_MAG_MW	EQ_MAG
1	1		-2150								
2	3		-2000						18		7.1
3	2	Tsu	-2000								
4	8		-1566								
5	11		-1450								

4. □□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□ □□□. □ □□□ □□ X, Y□□□ □□□ □□ □□□□□□. □ □□□□□ □□□ □□□□ □□□ □ □□□□. □□□□ □□□ □□□□□ □□□□□□.

**Delimited text file errors**

Errors in file C:/Users/ujaval/Downloads/signif.txt  
 49 records discarded due to missing geometry definitions  
 6 records discarded due to invalid geometry definitions  
 The following lines were not loaded into QGIS due to errors:  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 306  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 2253  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 3239  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 3324  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 3365  
 Invalid X or Y fields at line 3420

5. □□□□ :guilabel: `Coordinate Reference System Selector` □□ □□□ CRS□ □□□□ □□□□. □□ □□□ □□□ □□□□□ `WGS 84`□ □□□□ :guilabel: `OK`□ □□□□□□.



6. □□□ □□□□ □□□□□ QGIS□□□□ □□□□ □□ □ □ □□ □□□□.

