Chances are if you’ve deployed Perl in your organization, you’ve deployed a version that may no longer be supported by the open source community. ActiveState has been providing commercially supported versions of Perl for more than 20 years, and continues to provide extended support and maintenance for many End Of Life (EOL) versions that are no longer supported by the community. That list currently includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Release</th>
<th>Community Support</th>
<th>Community Security Patches</th>
<th>ActiveState EOL Extended Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.38 (July 2023)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ends July 2026</td>
<td>Starts Q3 2026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.36 (May 2022)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ends May 2025</td>
<td>Starts Q2 2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.34 (May 2021)</td>
<td>Ended May 2022</td>
<td>Ends May 2024</td>
<td>Starts Q2 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.32 (June 2020)</td>
<td>Ended May 2022</td>
<td>Ended June 2023</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.30 (May 2019)</td>
<td>Ended May 2021</td>
<td>Ended May 2022</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.28 (June 2018)</td>
<td>Ended June 2020</td>
<td>Ended June 2021</td>
<td>Ends Q4 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many enterprises still have significant amounts of Perl legacy code because it is neither easy to sunset nor simple to migrate. However, given the Perl community no longer supports, maintains or provides security fixes for older Perl versions, security-conscious organizations require some way to mitigate risk and ensure their EOL Perl interpreter remains secure.

* ActiveState did not create a Perl 5.30 release
EOL Extended Support

ActiveState’s commercially supported Perl distribution is used by millions of developers worldwide, and is 100% compatible with open source Perl. ActiveState continues to provide security updates for many versions of the core language beyond the community EOL date. An ActiveState EOL support subscription entitles you to:

- **Core Language** - support for the features and functionality of the core Perl language and standard libraries.
- **Patches** - vulnerabilities will be addressed with backported patches from community supported versions of Perl, community contributors, and our own Perl experts.
- **Other Security Issues** - issues identified exclusively in a version of Perl will be fixed by ActiveState in conjunction with community contributors.
- **Scheduled Updates** - patches and updates will be made available on at least a quarterly basis. Critical vulnerability patches may be provided on a more timely basis.
- **Ongoing Support** - communicate with our Perl experts via phone, email and chat.

Migration/Upgrade Support

As part of our EOL support offering, ActiveState can provide you with a safety net while you undertake the migration or upgrade of your application. Our experts can help provide guidance such as:

- Which third-party Perl packages and modules have suitable upgrade targets, and which are no longer supported, and/or have modified their licensing terms.
- Advice that can help minimize the time, complexity and cost to upgrade your codebase. For example:
  - Ensure adequate test coverage
  - Setup CI for all versions
  - Scale back or halt active development
  - Reduce dependencies
  - Perform incremental upgrades
  - Use advanced environment management

ActiveState
A Trusted Name in Open Source

No matter how you choose to deal with EOL versions of Perl, it’s always a good idea to have an expert to consult with to smooth the way. For more than 20 years, ActiveState has been providing commercially-backed, secure, stable and comprehensive OSS language distributions that have become renowned for quality, and are now the de-facto standards for millions of developers around the world. 100% compatible with community open source code, ActiveState’s open source language distributions can be freely downloaded, but crucially also offer guaranteed support SLAs and regular maintenance updates, as well.