

How do I get more information about the Central Cancer Registry?

If any topics in this brochure are not clear, or if you would like to discuss them further, please feel free to call or write to us.

N.C. Central Cancer Registry
State Center for Health Statistics
1908 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1900
Telephone: (919) 715-4574
Fax: (919) 715-7294
www.schs.state.nc.us/units/ccr/

Other Resources

If you are interested in support groups, you may contact the **American Cancer Society (ACS)** at (800) 227-2345.

The Cancer Information Service can give you additional information about various types of cancer. Its number is: (800) 4CANCER or (800) 422-6237.

ACS: Cancer Facts and Statistics
www.cancer.org/research/cancerfactsstatistics/index

ACS: Cancer Statistics Center
<https://cancerstatisticscenter.cancer.org/#>

N.C. Central Cancer Registry
www.schs.state.nc.us/units/ccr/

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR)**
www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr

CDC: United States Cancer Statistics (USCS)
<https://nccd.cdc.gov/uscs>

**National Cancer Institute (NCI):
Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program**
<http://seer.cancer.gov>

**North American Association of Central Cancer
Registries (NAACCR)**
<http://naaccr.org>

The Central Cancer Registry is established by North Carolina General Statute Chapter 130A - Article 7. Its administrative rules are codified as North Carolina Administrative Code Title 10A - Chapter 47 SubChapter B.

2017 N.C. Projected New Cancer Cases

Breast, Female (<i>includes in situ</i>)	10,353
Bronchus/Lung	8,888
Prostate	7,577
Colon/Rectum	4,602
Melanoma of the Skin	2,805
Bladder	2,516
Uterus	1,667
Leukemia	1,486
Ovary	712
Cervix	399
All Other	18,344
Total	59,349

Projected new cancer cases were updated February 2017.

State of North Carolina

Department of Health and Human Services
www.ncdhhs.gov



Division of Public Health
www.publichealth.nc.gov



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North Carolina Central Cancer Registry

In the fight
against cancer,
information
is power.



What is cancer?

Although the term “cancer” is often used as if it were one disease, cancer is actually a group of over 100 different diseases affecting different parts of the body. They all have one common characteristic—the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells that can invade and damage healthy body tissues and organs. Cancer is not caused by injuries, nor is it contagious.

What causes cancer?

Cancer is usually not caused by only one factor, but is almost always caused by a combination of factors including:

- External factors, which are cancer-causing substances in the environment such as chemicals, radiation, or viruses.
- Internal factors that include things like hormones, immune conditions, or genetic mutations.

Ten years or more may pass between exposures or genetic mutations and detectable cancer.

Who gets cancer?

Anyone. Scientists don't know for sure why some people develop cancer and others don't, but advancing age increases the risk of nearly all types of cancer. Four out of every 10 North Carolinians will have some type of cancer in their lifetime. It is a very common disease.

What is a cancer registry?

Cancer registries collect information about new cancer cases, cancer treatment, and cancer deaths. Many hospitals have registries that contain information about cancer patients at their hospitals. The North Carolina Central Cancer Registry (CCR) is the cancer data center for the population of North Carolina.

What cases get reported to the Central Cancer Registry?

All cancer cases and benign brain/central nervous system tumors diagnosed in North Carolina are reported to the CCR. North Carolina state law requires that all health care providers report information to the CCR about all newly diagnosed patients with reportable conditions.

How does a case get reported?

Usually the hospital where a patient was treated reports the information to the CCR, but laboratories, clinics, and doctors' offices are also required to report new cancer cases.

Why do we need a Central Cancer Registry?

The CCR responds to questions and concerns and publishes facts about cancer in North Carolina. It monitors cancer trends by looking for problems in specific groups or communities, helps to focus cancer education and screening activities in areas where they are most needed, and promotes and conducts cancer research to find causes and cures that may save lives in the future.

Is the information kept confidential?

Absolutely. State law requires that the information gathered by the CCR be kept confidential.

- The CCR does not publish information about individuals in its reports.
- With special permission, names are occasionally given to researchers who promise to keep them confidential and use the information to try to save lives. Before researchers begin these studies, many people in the universities and the federal and state governments, including boards that have ethical oversight of research, review the study proposals to be sure that the information will be protected and that the results will benefit the public.
- If you are a cancer patient, you may be asked to participate in a research study. If you are contacted, the study will be explained to you and you will be given an opportunity to ask questions before you decide to participate.
- These studies are important tools to help us understand the causes of cancer, **but the final decision about participating is yours.**

