

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.

NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health/SCHS/CCR

1908 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1908
Telephone: (984) 236-7400
Fax: (919) 715-7294

<https://schs.dph.ncdhhs.gov/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.
(800) 4CANCER or (800) 422-6237

ACS: Cancer Facts and Statistics <https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics.html>

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

N.C. Central Cancer Registry
<https://schs.dph.ncdhhs.gov/units/ccr>

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

CDC: United States Cancer Statistics (USCS)
<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/uscs/index.htm>

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

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

The Central Cancer Registry is established by
North Carolina General Statute
Chapter 130A - Article 7.

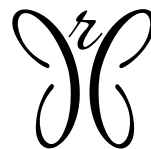
Its administrative rules are codified as
North Carolina Administrative Code
Title 10A - Chapter 47 SubChapter B.

2026 N.C. Projected New Cancer Cases

Breast, Female (includes in situ)	13,597
Prostate	10,424
Bronchus/Lung	9,867
Colon/Rectum	5,162
Melanoma of the Skin	4,363
Bladder	3,036
Brain, CNS (benign included)	2,953
Kidney, Renal Pelvis	2,892
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	2,645
Pancreas	2,253
All Other Cancers	18,521
Total	75,713

Projected new cancer cases were updated April 2026.

*"In situ" refers to abnormal cells that remain non-invasive and confined to their original location in the body.



NORTH CAROLINA
**Central Cancer
Registry**

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NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Public Health
State Center for Health Statistics



NORTH CAROLINA
**Central Cancer
Registry**



From understanding
Cancer today
to **transforming**
lives tomorrow.

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 NC CCR plays a vital role in supporting the NC Comprehensive Cancer Control and Prevention Branch, the NC Advisory Committee on Cancer Coordination and Control (ACCCC), public health partners and advocates across the state. It provides critical data for developing objectives and serves as the state’s key source of population-based data to assess the effectiveness of cancer control efforts.

- The CCR’s aggregated data is used in the publication of the North Carolina Cancer Plan and the Cancer Burden documents.
- CCR data informs outreach activities focused on Prevention, Early Detection, Care & Treatment, and Education Surveillance and Research.
- CCR data supports the implementation of clinic-level screening, outreach, education, and adherence to nationally recommended colorectal and lung cancer screening guidelines.
- The CCR data is utilized by public health

professionals, researchers, medical community, and epidemiologists to understand the impact of cancer among North Carolinians and inform decisions about targeting cancer control resources.

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.
- Under North Carolina law, CCR is only permitted to release cancer information for research purposes which contributes to the early detection and prevention of cancer in North Carolina. Researchers who request cancer data undergo a legal review process and individual projects must be approved by an institutional review board. All data that is released by CCR for research is done so under an executed Data Use Agreement (DUA) which protects the confidentiality of the data and ensures the data are used for approved purposes. Additionally, research projects that involve participant contact require consultation and approval from the NC ACCCC.
- If you are a cancer patient, you may be contacted to participate in a research study. 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.**

