

Maryland Cancer-Related Database Summary

Database/System Contact Phone Number Website	Main Purpose	Demographic and Geographic Coverage	Years of Available Data	Data Availability	Examples of Data Collected	Comparability With U.S. and Other State Reports on Cancer Outcomes	Notes/Limitations
Maryland Cancer Registry (MCR) Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control, Family Health Administration, DHMH 410-767-4055 http://fha.maryland.gov/cancer/mcr_home.cfm	To register cancer incidence and mortality among Maryland residents and others diagnosed in-state	Maryland residents; age, race/ethnicity, date of diagnosis, county of residence	1992-2007	Aggregate data available; release of county or case-based data requires approval by the DHMH Institutional Review Board	Cancer site and stage; patient's age at diagnosis, race, gender, county of residence	NAACCR contributors, other states, Canada, Mexico, SEER on basic cancer measures	No information on survival status; limited detail on stage of cancer, occupation, and other risk factors (e.g., smoking, screening)
Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Office of Health Policy and Planning, Family Health Administration, DHMH 410-767-5159 http://www.marylandbrfss.org	To collect population-based behavioral health data about chronic diseases, injuries, and preventive health services that contribute to premature morbidity or mortality	Telephone surveys of English-speaking adults age 18 and older in Maryland; stratified sample based on urban or rural telephone prefix exchange; age, race, ethnicity, gender, marital status, education, employment, income, county of residence	1987-2008	User-generated reports available on MD BRFSS website site; CD-ROM data available from CDC	Percent of Maryland residents age 40 and older who have had a colonoscopy within the past 2 years; percent of women age 50 years and older who have had a mammogram within the past 2 years; weight classification based on body mass index	National and other state BRFSS studies; Maryland Cancer Survey	Annual data are not available for some counties; non-English-speaking residents and households without land-line phones are not included; data are self-reported and respondent can refuse to answer the survey or any part of it; estimates based on sample sizes less than 50 should be interpreted with caution

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Maryland Cancer Survey (MCS) Cigarette Restitution Fund Program, Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control, Family Health Administration, DHMH 410-767-0791 http://fha.maryland.gov/cancer/survey_data-reports.cfm#anch3	To collect population-based behavioral and health data related to cancer surveillance and screening practices	Telephone surveys of English-speaking adults age 40 and older in Maryland; stratified sample based on urban or rural telephone prefix exchanges; same demographics as BRFSS	Statewide reports for 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008. One-time surveys: Physician survey (2004); Montgomery County Latino Survey (2005); and Baltimore City Cancer Survey (2007).	User-generated reports available on Maryland BRFSS website (statewide surveys only); all survey reports available on CCSC website	Maryland adults age 40 and older who have undergone cancer screening; similar to BRFSS	National and state BRFSS	Persons younger than 40 years of age not captured; non-English-speaking residents and households without land-line phones are not included; data are self-reported and respondent can refuse to answer the survey or any part of it; estimates based on sample sizes less than 50 should be interpreted with caution
Maryland Vital Statistics Administration (VSA) DHMH 410-764-3038 http://vsa.maryland.gov	To administer birth/death certification and summarize mortality statistics for administrative and public health use	Births/deaths among Maryland residents; year of death, place, data and age at death, place of birth, race, ethnicity, gender, cause(s) of death	Data files 1970 to present; vital statistics reports 1960 to present	Aggregate and county-level data available upon request; release of single-record data requires DHMH Institutional Review Board approval; public-use data available through CDC	Age, race, Hispanic origin, sex, marital status, education, occupation, residence, place of death, cause of death, manner of death	National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) collected by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS); standards set by NCHS	Verification of cause of death information is not possible; lack of automated death registration delays public health analysis
Maryland Hospital Discharge Database Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) 410-764-2605 www.hscrc.state.md.us	To provide a standard set of data about each hospital discharge or ambulatory care visit; hospital rate setting	Patients served by Maryland's general hospitals, not including specialty hospitals (e.g., chronic care)	Data files 1980 to present Electronic files 1996 to present	Confidential and unidentified formats available; hospital and patient's jurisdiction are captured; out-of-state patients are normally excluded from analysis	Discharges include ICD codes for primary, secondary diagnosis and CPT codes of procedures or procedures due to cancers listed as the primary diagnosis, by jurisdiction of residence or hospital	National Hospital Discharge Survey (NHDS) collected by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and other states' hospital discharge databases	Does not assure that cancer is captured if cancer is not listed as one of discharged diagnoses

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Maryland Medical Care Database (MCDB) Maryland Health Care Commission 410-764-3570 http://mhcc.maryland.gov/health_care_expenditures/mcdb.html	To support policy decision making: health options, health market, and cost and utilization patterns	Practitioner fee-for-service encounters and prescription drug coverage among Maryland residents insured through payers who are licensed to sell coverage in Maryland	1996-2008	Detailed data available down to Zip code and county level; patient ID is encrypted; data available 2 years after year in which services were obtained	Coverage type, service data, diagnosis code, procedure code, reimbursement amount	System does not encompass entire Maryland population	Excludes services provided for self-pay, Medicaid, and uninsured populations; excludes some Maryland residents who work out of state or are insured through self-funded employers; does not include institutional bills; data for Exclusive Provider Organizations (EPOs) excludes some primary care; rates not available due to lack of insured population denominators

NAACCR – North American Association of Central Cancer Registries
 SEER – Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results
 CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 CCSC – Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control
 ICD – American Medical Association *International Classification of Diseases*
 CPT – American Medical Association *Current Procedural Terminology*, National Cancer-Related Surveillance Systems