

Monitoring and Evaluating Hospital Reporting Timeliness to Improve Registry 12-Month Completeness

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SUMMARY

During a townhall meeting last year, CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) shared that they were considering reinstating the Advanced National Data Quality standard that would require 12-month data to be 90% complete. To meet this requirement, Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS) developed a new data quality report to monitor and evaluate hospital reporting completeness and timeliness.

CHALLENGE

- In accordance with Ohio laws and rules¹ cancer must be reported to OCISS within 6 months of date of diagnosis or first contact with the facility.
- Most Ohio reporting facilities do not meet the 6-month reporting timeline for many reasons, including staffing, funding, and treatment data requirements.
- Per NPCR program standards,² 24-month data submitted to NPCR must be at least 95% complete and 12-month data are encouraged to be 90% complete.
- Since 2001, Ohio has met the 90% threshold for 12-month data only once, in 2018.

SOLUTION

- The vast majority of Ohio's overall volume is reported by hospitals.
- OCISS developed a method to monitor timeliness and completeness of hospital submissions.
- This report displays the completeness and timeliness of the 12-month data that will be submitted to NPCR in November.
- The timeliness report helps identify hospitals that are not reporting on schedule for follow-up.

RSID	Total DxYear 2023		% expected records		% of reporting year		% of A records submitted w/in 6 months of date 1st contact	
	Received	Total Expected	received	elapsed	On track?	contact		
58	23	46	50%	75%	-25%	0%		
59	90	129	70%	75%	-5%	11%		
60	0	4	0%	75%	-75%	0%		
61	250	283	88%	75%	13%	77%		
62	320	476	67%	75%	-8%	15%		
65	0	655	0%	75%	-75%	0%		
66	10	0	0%	75%	-75%	0%		
67	121	216	56%	75%	-19%	4%		
70	339	391	87%	75%	12%	71%		
71	1309	1258	104%	75%	29%	73%		
72	6198	7595	82%	75%	7%	59%		

RESULTS

- OCISS created the timeliness report by:
 - Determining report structure and content.
 - Developing queries and a spreadsheet template for generating the report.
 - Executing queries, calculating percentages, and formatting the report each quarter.
 - Sharing reports with hospitals.
 - Comparing reports for each quarter and reviewing results.
- Ohio's advisory committee—comprised of hospital registries, local health departments, and researchers—provided feedback on the development of the report.
- Ohio's data submission results:
 - For data submission year 2021, Ohio's 12-month data were 74.02% complete.
 - For data submission year 2022, Ohio's 12-month data were 81.37% complete.
 - For data submission year 2023, Ohio's 12-month data were 80.32% complete.
 - Data submission results for 2024 are not yet available. However, Ohio submitted an additional 1,200 cases for 12-month data this year, which is about a 2% increase for the NPCR incidence count.

- Lessons learned:
 - Use a larger year range for calculating the average expected number of cases.
 - Provide additional definitions for each column in the report using comment functionality.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- The timeliness report provides consistency, efficiency, and transparency in monitoring, evaluating, and improving hospital reporting timeliness.
- By creating a template and queries, this process is sustainable and is now incorporated into our standard operating procedures.
- The new report encourages accountability for the central registry and hospitals. It holds the registry accountable to follow-up with facilities that do not meet reporting requirements. It holds hospitals accountable to improve their reporting timeliness.
- To take this a step further, we plan to create a certificate or award for hospitals that are consistently performing well. We have also considered expanding the report to include non-hospital facilities, which make up the next-highest reporting volume. Also, our goal is to complete the version 25 upgrade in 2025.

REFERENCES

- Ohio Administrative Code. <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3701-4-02>
- CDC NPCR Program Standards. <https://www.cdc.gov/national-program-cancer-registries/about/npcr-standards.html>



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