

# NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports

## User Tip Sheet

To access the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB) Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports, you must have a valid User ID and Password for the Commission on Cancer (CoC) Datalinks system. If you do not recall your User ID and Password, please e-mail [CoCDatalinks@facs.org](mailto:CoCDatalinks@facs.org).

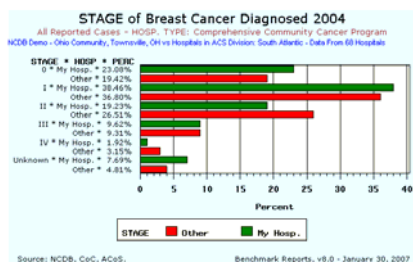
Step 1. Log into CoC Datalinks using your assigned User ID and Password at <https://Web.facs.org/datalinks>.

Step 2. From the Activity Log, click on the link under Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports: NCDB Diagnosis and Treatment Comparisons. This will take you to the interactive NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports Web tool.

Note: You will only be able to access facility-specific data for the hospital(s) with which you are affiliated. *If you are affiliated with more than one hospital, you will see the facility name and ID number with a drop down arrow. Select the facility of interest and click "Go."*

For comparative purposes, the Web tool will grant you access to 1) aggregated data from all CoC-approved programs and 2) when applicable, to CoC-approved facilities within your hospital system or network. Aggregated data are available for the nation, American Cancer Society region and individual states. You may also choose to view data by hospital category such as teaching/research hospitals, community cancers centers, comprehensive community cancer centers and other types facilities. It is important to note that you cannot compare your facility to specific/individual facilities. To maintain confidentiality, the Web tool will also suppress comparisons when there are five or fewer facilities in the aggregate.

Step 3. Once you are on the page, you will notice selection criteria in the center of the screen. Along the left-hand side is a Help menu that defines all selection criteria.



**Try this simple test query:**

- Type of Report – Comparison Report
- Hospital Type/System – Comprehensive Community Cancer Center
- Geography – ACS Division; then select South-Atlantic
- Dx Year – 2004
- Primary Site (56 sites total) – Breast
- Class of Case Type – All Reported Cases
- Analysis Variable 1 (13 variables total) – Stage (Leave the other variables blank)
- Table or Graph – Graph – Horizontal Bars

Scroll to the bottom and click Submit.

You will see a horizontal bar graph displaying stage at diagnosis for breast cases diagnosed at your facility as compared to Comprehensive Community Cancer Centers in the South-Atlantic Division of the American Cancer Society.

STAGE	N (cases)		% (percent)	
	Sum		Sum	
	Other	My Hosp.	Other	My Hosp.
0	2,425	12	19.42	23.08
I	4,595	20	36.80	38.46
II	3,310	10	26.51	19.23
III	1,142	5	9.52	9.62
IV	393	1	3.15	1.92
Unknown	601	4	4.81	7.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,486</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

To copy this chart to a MS Word or PowerPoint document, simply right-click your mouse over the image, and select Copy. Go to your MS Word or PowerPoint document, right-click your mouse and select Paste. Below the image you will see a data table displaying the same information. To copy a **table** to a MS Word or PowerPoint document, highlight the contents of the table, right-click your mouse over the image, and select Copy. Go to your MS Word or PowerPoint document, right-click your mouse and select Paste. **Please be sure to reference the NCDB in all presentations. If you plan to use these data in publications, complete the permissions form found under the Terms and Conditions heading on the left-hand side of the screen.**

(over)

You may also try to generate the following queries, selecting tables or charts as the output, to help your facility plan and develop quality improvement and/or community outreach programs:

Breast Cancer – Stage by First Course of Treatment

Colon Cancer - Stage by First Course Surgery

Prostate Cancer – Stage by Race

You can perform the above analyses for your facility. However, if you would like to compare data for your facility versus the aggregate using two or more analysis variables (such as the three examples above), perform a single hospital report for your facility first, and then generate a separate aggregate report (Type of Report).

#### *Other Uses for the NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports*

- *Clinical Trials Accrual Estimates* – Obtain a list of active clinical trials and utilize the eligibility criteria as the selection criteria on the NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmarks. For example, NSABP Protocol B-39/RTOG 0413-Randomized Phase III Study of Conventional Whole Breast Irradiation (WBI) Versus Partial Breast Irradiation (PBI) for Women with Stage 0, I, or II Breast Cancer is currently open for accrual. Using the NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmark Reports, facilities can produce Stage by First Course Treatment table to determine an estimated number of cases that may potentially qualify for the current time period. Researchers can take this table to the cancer registry to determine other patient and tumor characteristics necessary for accrual.
- *Manuscript Development* – Rates of gastric resection by Hospital Type and Geography can be investigated using these reports. Use the Benchmarks to compare your facility's rates with those in your hospital category across the nation. Or, look at the trends over time in different geographic areas, such as the Southeastern Division of the American Cancer Society, compared to the Great West. The states comprising these regions are defined on the Help Screens on the Web page. These reports may develop support for studies of interest.
- *Advocacy Issues* – Payor type may be linked to treatment issues in your state or at your hospital. Perhaps you have noticed that several of your patients that may be potential candidates for clinical trials are declining participation due to coverage issues. Use the NCDB Hospital Comparison Benchmarks to determine the payor mix of your population. Can these data support legislative issues and state cancer planning?
- *Facility Planning* – What is the lung, breast, or prostate cancer burden in your state compared to neighboring states? Do these figures warrant the development of a new breast center in your state or region? Do these data support recruitment efforts of additional clinical staff such as a pulmonologist or urologist?
- *Keep Abreast of Recently Published Studies* – Professional journals and meetings report on the most up to date findings of new studies. JAMA published a study on the benefits of radiotherapy for Stage IC, grade specific endometrial cancer (*JAMA* 2006;295:389-397). Use the reports to obtain a Stage by Treatment table to see how many of your uterine cancer patients received this effective treatment in recent years. Take these data to your cancer registry to obtain specific information (T stage and grade) to see how many patients this could affect annually.

#### **Public Resources**

The NCDB Benchmark Reports and Survival Reports are also available under the Public Resources section of the Commission on Cancer Website. These reports offer nationally aggregated data for 11 disease sites. In addition, five-year survival rates by AJCC stage are available for patients diagnosed in 1999. Data can be aggregated at the national level, by ACS region, by state and hospital category. No facility level data are available to the public.