

# Protect Cancer Registries: An Essential Tool in America's War on Cancer

Over 2 million cases of cancer will be diagnosed in the U.S. in 2025. Population-based cancer registries in individual states, in partnership with the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) Program and the National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR),<sup>1</sup> will collect information on **all** of these diagnoses. Because of this information, we can answer:

- **WHO** is getting cancer?
- **WHAT** types of cancers are being diagnosed?
- **WHERE** are larger burdens of cancer found?
- **WHEN** are screening and other prevention strategies working?
- **HOW** uniformly are novel therapies being adopted, and how well are they working?

**Data collected by cancer registries are the only way that Americans can measure progress in the fight against cancer. Because of the U.S. cancer registration system, we know:**

- 1 in 3 Americans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.
- 1 in 5 deaths in men and women are due to cancer each year.
- Childhood cancer survival has improved over the last half century, to over 90% for some cancers.
- Rates of colorectal cancer have increased over 30% among young adults in the past 20 years.
- Death rates from uterine cancer have increased by 30% in the past 20 years.

## The Ask

Prioritize **stable and robust funding** for America's cancer registration system through the **National Cancer Institute's SEER Program** and the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's NPCR**.

## Reductions in Funding and Reductions in Force Risk...

- Weakening America's ability to fight cancer effectively – we can't manage what we can't measure!
- Interruptions in data collection and reporting, causing delays in recognizing emerging cancer trends and treatment gaps.
- Stalling research breakthroughs, including for cancers occurring in children and young adults.
- Loss of cancer burden data to guide efficient allocation of healthcare resources at cancer treatment centers.
- Inability to develop national and tailored state-specific cancer prevention and control strategies.
- Inability to respond to constituent concerns about cancer risk in their community.
- Undermining Congressional initiatives including counting veterans' cancer; Childhood Cancer Survivorship; Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act; and the National Firefighter Registry. These efforts rely on cancer registry data to track progress and target investments for maximum impact.

## Benefits Provided by Robust Data Collection at Central Cancer Registries

- Critical data for evidence-based policymaking and efficient allocation of health resources.
- Advances and innovation in cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and patient quality of life.
- Ability to identify cost effective prevention and screening efforts, saving billions of healthcare dollars.
- Quantifying advancements in survival among all Americans, including pediatric cancer patients.
- Prolonging lives and improving quality of life through earlier detection and better care.

[Click here to visit the New York State Department of Health Cancer Registry and Cancer Statistics Page](#)

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<sup>1</sup> The National Cancer Act of 1971 led to the creation of the SEER Program; the Cancer Registries Amendment Act of 1992 led to creating and enhancing state cancer registries to achieve true nation-wide cancer registry coverage.