

Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System Annual Updates

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Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System



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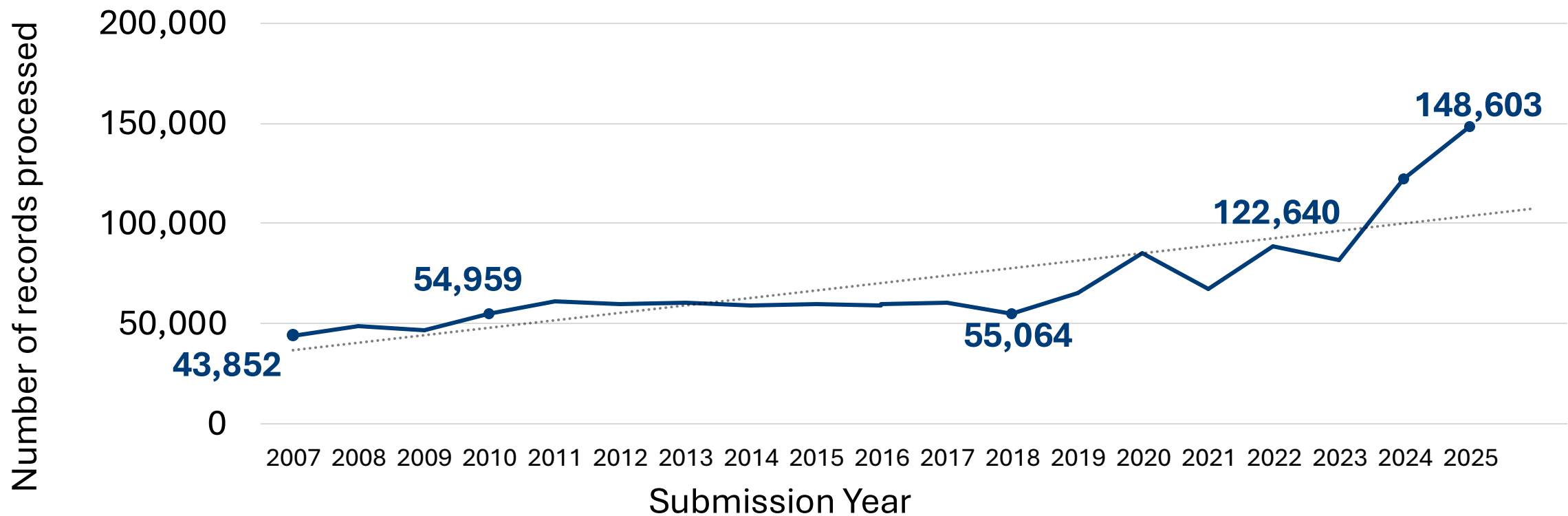
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Records Received

The number of records WCRS processes every year continues to rise.



WCRS Celebrates 50 Years!

WCRS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System

Wisconsin Cancer Reporting



Cancer became a reportable disease in Wisconsin in 1932, with voluntary reporting by physicians to the state health department. WCRS was established by the Wisconsin state legislature in 1976, making it the 9th oldest state population-based cancer registry in the United States.

Submission of data is mandated under [Wis. Stat. § 255.04](#).

All-Time Data Collection



WCRS database contains
2,350,550 abstracts

Award Winning Quality and Completeness



- NAACCR Gold Certification
 - 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019
- NPCR Registry of Excellence
 - 2025
- NPCR Registry of Distinction
 - 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019



Impact on Research at the National Scale

WCRS data and staff have contributed to various posters, publications, and presentations.

Comparative Study > [Prev Chronic Dis](#). 2013 Nov 27;10:E197. doi: 10.5888/pcd10.130153.

Look local: the value of cancer surveillance and reporting by American Indian clinics

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PMID: 24286271 PMCID: PMC3843605 DOI: 10.5888/pcd10.130153

Abstract

Introduction: Cancer incidence and mortality rates for American Indians in the Northern Plains region of the United States are among the highest in the nation. Reliable cancer surveillance data are essential to help reduce this burden; however, racial data in state cancer registries are often misclassified, and cases are often underreported.

Methods: We used a community-based participatory research approach to conduct a retrospective ascertainment of cancer cases in clinic medical records over a 9-year period (1995-2003) and compared the results with the state cancer registry to evaluate missing or racially misclassified cases. Six tribal and/or urban Indian clinics participated in the study. The project team consisted of participating clinics, a state cancer registry, a comprehensive cancer center, an American Indian/Alaska Native Leadership Initiative on Cancer, and a set of diverse organizational partners. Clinic personnel were trained by project staff to accurately identify cancer cases in clinic records. These records were then matched with the state cancer registry to assess misclassification and underreporting.

Results: Forty American Indian cases were identified that were either missing or misclassified in the state registry. Adding these cases to the registry increased the number of American Indian cases by 21.3% during the study period ($P = .05$).

Conclusions: Our results indicate that direct reporting of cancer cases by tribal and urban Indian health clinics to a state cancer registry improved the quality of the data available for cancer surveillance. Higher-quality data can advance the efforts of cancer prevention and control stakeholders to address disparities in Native communities.

North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, Inc. (NAACCR)

Discharge and Claims Data Best Practices Guide November 2023



Journal of Registry Management 

> [J Registry Manag](#). 2024 Dec 1;51(4):173-174.

Interfacing with CDC Guidelines for Unusual Patterns of Cancer and Environmental Concerns: A 2023 Wisconsin Case Study

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PMCID: PMC11917985 PMID: [40109765](#)

Background

Interfacing with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s *Guidelines for Unusual Patterns of Cancer and Environmental Concerns 2022* remains a challenge for many state and territorial public health agencies.¹ The Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System (WCRS) received notice of a community cancer concern in February 2023. Cases of concern were pediatric and adolescent leukemias in a small, rural Wisconsin community.

Methods

We used the CDC guidelines to design aggregate tables and record-level case listings from the WCRS cancer incidence database. Data were prepared and approved for release in approximately 1 month's time ([Figure 1](#)). We provided data to the bureau leading this investigation. Challenges and key takeaways were documented.