# Arkansas

## Cancer Surveillance System

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<td>AR</td>
<td>STATUTE: A.C.A., Subchapter 2, 20-15-201 to 205 RULE: A.A.R., Sections I to VII for ACCR (AR Central Cancer Registry): <a href="http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/aboutADH/RulesRegs/CancerRegistry.pdf">http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/aboutADH/RulesRegs/CancerRegistry.pdf</a></td>
<td><strong>20-15-201. Reporting requirements.</strong> The Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services shall accumulate such data concerning cancer in Arkansas and its residents as is deemed appropriate for the purpose of describing the frequency of cancer, furnishing reports to health professionals and the public, and for planning and evaluating cancer prevention and control programs. The data shall be collected under the authority of regulations promulgated by the State Board of Health.</td>
<td><strong>SECTION IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.</strong> (emphasis added) … B. In order to insure the accuracy and completeness of the cancer registry within the Department of Health, staff and agents shall be permitted access to records of hospitals, other medical facilities, physicians (including surgeons), nursing homes and other individuals or agencies providing services wherein records concerning patients in which cases of cancer are identified are located. C. All reporting shall be made on forms or in an acceptable manner in accordance with directives of the Department of Health. All cancer cases shall be reported within six months after the date of discharge or diagnosis is made or within six months after a cancer case is known, even if diagnosed elsewhere. Where</td>
<td><strong>20-15-203. Confidentiality.</strong> Information accumulated and maintained in the Cancer Registry of Arkansas shall not be divulged except as statistical information which does not identify individuals and for purposes of such research as approved by the Arkansas State Board of Health. [emphasis added]</td>
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Updated August 2012. All state statutes and department rules originally accessed online July/Aug 2008. Statute/Rule data not inclusive. For comprehensive or updated language, access complete statute and rules online, at local library or through the state legislature. [www.cchfreedom.org](http://www.cchfreedom.org)

A task force consisting of public and private entities shall be established by the Director of the Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services to assist the Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services in developing a strategic plan for a coordinated, comprehensive, statewide network of cancer resources, services, and programs.

### SECTION III. Definitions.

**Registry.** Means the system for the reporting, collection, and analysis of cancer cases by the Arkansas Department of Health.

**Reporting.** Means the notification furnished to the Arkansas Department of Health of cases of in situ or invasive neoplasms of the human body, not including squamous cell and basal cell carcinoma of the skin.

### 20-15-204. Agreements with other states.

(a) The Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services may enter into agreements with other states and federal organizations authorized to exchange registry data.

(b) The agreements shall prohibit divulging information to entities without prior approval of the division.

### SECTION V. Confidentiality

All information reported to the Department of Health shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed under any circumstances except:

1. To other state cancer registries with which the Department of Health has agreements that insure confidentiality;
2. To other state health officials who are obligated to keep such information confidential; and
3. To approved cancer research centers under specific conditions where the names and identities of the individuals are appropriately protected, and when such research is conducted for the purpose of cancer prevention, control and treatment.