



PRIORITY AREA: INFORM AND COMMUNICATE

Communicating Cancer Statistics Using Online Tools

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To better track and communicate cancer statistics, we have developed and manage a series of interactive online platforms for disseminating cancer statistics. These platforms make the latest cancer statistics available to the broader community. These resources also help inform public health priorities and ensure that efforts remain guided by the latest available evidence, increasing their potential to effectively improve cancer outcomes.

What is the study?

Queensland Cancer Statistics Online (QCSOL) and Australian Childhood Cancer Statistics Online are interactive platforms designed to communicate key cancer statistics. QCSOL provides the latest available statistics on cancer diagnoses, survival, deaths and prevalence for the most common cancers among Queensland residents. The Australian Childhood Cancer Statistics Online focuses on reporting statistics on the most common cancers diagnosed among children under 15 across Australia. Both platforms present statistics by sex and age group, along with trends in these statistics over time, enabling valuable insights into the cancer patterns in these populations. Development of these tools is ongoing as we develop additional ways to effectively visualise and communicate these cancer statistics.

A variety of additional online tools are being developed to improve the communication of cancer statistics to a wide audience. This includes an intuitive platform for cancer registries and organisations to create their own dashboards for visualising and publishing population-level cancer statistics. Additional initiatives include developing a dashboard for taking data from within our Australian Cancer Atlas and summarising them by

other geographical boundaries, including for example the Commonwealth Electoral Districts or the Public Health Network areas. We have also developed a more user-friendly interface to improve the process by which people can access the data included within our Australian Cancer Atlas for research and public use.

Why is this project important?

The routine reporting of the latest cancer statistics and making them freely available to everyone is critical to ensure that all efforts to understand, monitor, and improve the outcomes for people diagnosed with cancer is based on the best available evidence. Regular reporting of cancer statistics allows us to track temporal trends, identify geographical disparities, and pinpoint areas requiring intervention. This supports evidence-based decision-making around prevention strategies, access to health and support services, and resource allocation to effectively address disparities and improve cancer outcomes.