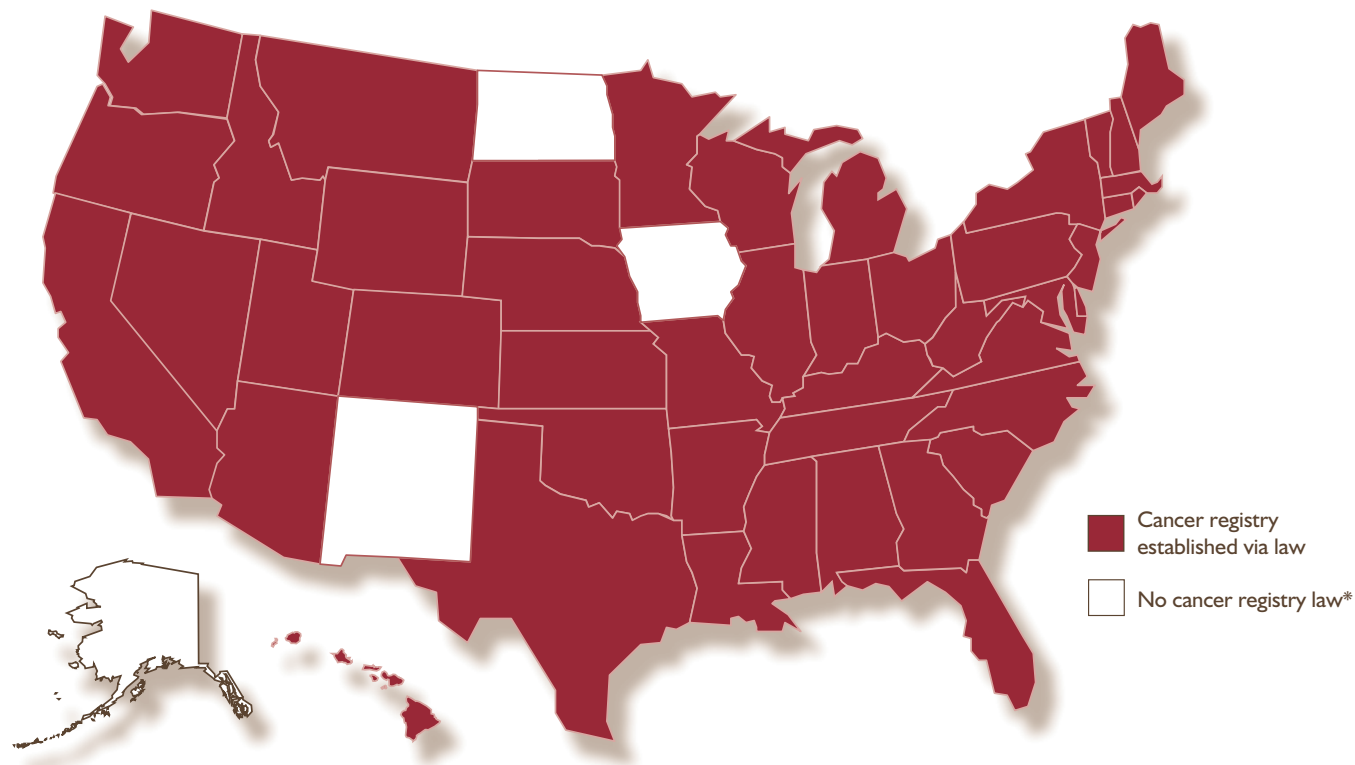


STATES WITH LAWS ADDRESSING CANCER SURVEILLANCE

(AS OF MARCH 31, 2002)



Forty-six states and the **District of Columbia** (collectively, states) have enacted laws that authorize or require the creation of repositories or surveillance systems for patient information or data related to cancer diagnosis or treatment (collectively, cancer registries). While a majority of the states have established formal state cancer registries, including reporting requirements and operational procedures, via statute, others have established cancer registries or reporting procedures via mechanisms other than state legislation.

Forty-six states have laws addressing the confidentiality of cancer registry information. In general, these laws require that information reported to the registry must remain confidential and privileged and may not be released except in specified circumstances.

Twenty-four states' cancer registry laws contain provisions that authorize the exchange of cancer registry data with other registries in other states. Generally, such reciprocity

provisions specify that the exchange of information with any cancer registry is contingent upon the receiving state's agreement to maintain the confidentiality of such information. Other reciprocity provisions restrict the sharing of information to only the information related to residents of the receiving state, or to only those states that have in place reciprocal agreements to exchange cancer registry data.

Thirteen states have laws that provide penalties and/or fines for failure to maintain confidentiality or for the illegal disclosure or misuse of cancer registry data and 15 states have laws that provide penalties for the failure to comply with reporting requirements.

The laws in 10 states impose time limits for reporting entities to provide cancer patient information to a cancer registry. For the states imposing time limits, reporting requirements range from within 30 days of diagnosis to within six months of treatment.

* Cancer surveillance measures other than state-level legislation and resolutions fall outside the scope of the SCLD Program. However, we have confirmed that cancer registries have been established via mechanisms other than legislation (i.e., administrative rule or regulation) in Alaska, Iowa, New Mexico, and North Dakota. Information related to those cancer registries and reporting requirements or procedures are not shown.